



The Gila River Indian News

A Gila River Indian Community Publication
Sacaton, Az.



VOL.3 NO.2

FEBRUARY 26, 1987 PAGE 1



CONGRATULATIONS IN ORDER—Gila River Indian Community Governor Donald Antone congratulates Greg Mendoza for winning a Congressional Award, the only award the Congress presents to young people in recognition of their voluntary public service and personal excellence. Mendoza received his award along with 20 other young Arizonans in Tucson in mid-January. See page 2 for related story.

New method of payment for leased land looms in the future

If you're a landowner who is leasing land, within two years you will no longer collect your lease payment at the Sacaton Pima Agency, but rather you will be paid directly by a bank in Pittsburgh.

The payment arrangement will work like this. Farmers leasing land from landowners will make lease payments directly to the Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh, which in turn will issue lease payment checks directly to the landowners.

The Pima Agency will monitor the payments and keep permanent records of the transactions.

The involvement of the Mellon Bank is tied to the BIA hiring the bank to provide financial management services for some \$1.7 billion in Indian trust funds.

The move is a historic one—for the first time giving a private entity day-to-day responsibility for managing the huge trust account.

The fund is composed of money derived from land settlements; sales of timber, grazing rights, oil, gas and other natural resources; and irrigation and power projects.

Hiring the bank is an effort by the bureau to increase investment yields and to get and use more timely information on investment possibilities and performance.

Other expected benefits are improved accounting and timely reporting of account information to tribes and individuals.

Among the services to be provided by the Mellon Bank are; collecting

and depositing cash receipts, investment advising, executing buy and sell orders from the BIA, maintaining custody of held securities, maintaining detailed accounts for both tribes and individuals, accounting for all transactions, reporting all financial activities to the bureau or the Department of the Treasury.

To prepare for the transfer of services to the Mellon Bank, the Pima Agency is bringing current all IIM Accounts and transferring all lease information to a BIA computer system called the Integrated Records Management System.

Because of this, as of Feb. 16, the agency finance office (IIM) is open to the public Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to noon, and from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The office will be closed the last week of each month for updating account information.

Also, requests for ledger copies will no longer be issued the same day of the request, but they will be available the following day.

And accountholders must now sign an Individual Account Application or send a letter of authorization in order for a check to be mailed.

The finance office is no longer accepting notes and telephone requests to have checks mailed. Application forms will be mailed upon request.

The Pima Agency realty office is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to noon, and from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

District One voters choose not to recall Drake Lewis, Leona Thomas

An effort to recall District 1 tribal council representatives Drake Lewis and Leona Thomas that started in November ended Feb. 24 with district voters choosing to keep the two in office.

About one hour after the polls closed in District 1, Cornelia Eschier, district election board alternate, said results showed that Lewis had 43 votes for recall, and 62 votes against his recall.

Two absentee ballots brought the total votes against his recall to 64.

Thomas had 50 votes for recall, and 60 votes against her recall, and with two absentee ballots her vote total against recall was 62.

Doreen Allen, Community Election Chairperson, said the total number of votes cast, both at the polls and absentee ballots, was 112.

There were 107 votes cast in the Lewis election, so apparently seven people chose not to cast a vote in that election.

The results of the election won't be certified by the tribal council until

March 4.

Before the election, Thomas said she was at odds about the reason behind the recall effort.

"I don't know what's behind their thinking. I don't really know the motivation behind it," she said.

When elected to her tribal council

position, she said, "They put me in there as their representative on the tribal council, and they told me to vote the way I thought was best."

Following the failed recall effort, Thomas said, "It was touch and go

See page 4, District 1 recall fails

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Gila River Indian News
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, Arizona 85247

Miss Gila River committee taking queen entries

The Miss Gila River Pageant Committee is accepting applications from young women planning to compete for the Miss Gila River 1987 title.

The pageant as well as other activities involving Miss Gila River are part of the annual Mul-Chu-Tha celebration scheduled this April 3-5.

The pageant will be held March 28 at Sacaton Middle School gymnasium.

Contestants will be judged for poise, appearance, traditional or modern talent, general knowledge and oral expression.

There will be interviews with judges in the categories of general, Indian and tribal knowledge.

Deadline for applications is March 6, and contestants must not be currently holding any national, state or tribal title at the time of entry.

A presentation of a traditional or modern talent is required, and all contestants must participate in scheduled events preceding the pageant.

A full schedule of events is planned for the contestants from March 23-27.

Contestants may be any enrolled female member of the Gila River Indian Community with one-fourth or more Indian blood, and must reside on the reservation.

They must never have been married or cohabitating, and must have no dependents, and they must be between the ages of 18 and 26 before March 28, 1987.

Women who have entered the contest in previous years may again enter. Contestants must be sponsored by a club, school, organization, business, district or family.

For applications or information contact committee members: Latricia Whitman, chairperson, 241-2159; Cora Johns, 562-3883; Doreen Allen, 562-3311 ext. 230; Martha Reed, current Miss Gila River, 562-3311; Harriet Manuel, 562-3411; Carleton Giff, 562-3311; Pamela Burnette, 562-3311 ext. 242; Gloria Allison and Lavina Davis both of Sacaton.

Mul-Chu-Tha Rodeo committee taking applications for rodeo queen

The Miss Mul-Chu-Tha Rodeo Committee is accepting applications from girls and young women interested in seeking one of three titles up for grabs for this year's April 3, 4 and 5 rodeo.

The Mul-Chu-Tha Rodeo Queen title, currently held by Anita Galvan, is open to competition, and two new titles, Miss Mul-Chu-Tha Rodeo Queen Lil Bit for contestants ages 6-8, and Miss Mul-Chu-Tha Rodeo Queen Princess for 9-12 year olds, will be seeking title holders.

The regular rodeo queen title is for contestants 13-21 years old.

Applications and information packets may be obtained from

Award winner used hard work to overcome shyness

Being shy is something most of us live with, but for Greg Mendoza, winner of the Congressional Award, it is something he has worked hard to overcome.

If you've ever met Mendoza, 21, it is hard to think of him as shy, but he admits it is something he tackled early in high school.

"I took a speech class, and it gave me the opportunity to speak before non-Indians, it gave me the opportunity to speak about my culture, it gave me the opportunity to speak about my community," he said.

Mendoza, whose parents are Joe and Brenda Mendoza of Goodyear, said wanting to talk about those things came easily "because I was proud of being Indian, I was proud of being Pima."

What wasn't so easy was the fact that early on he knew little about Pima history and culture.

His interest was generated by not knowing about his tribal culture, so he researched and studied about Pima culture.

From that brief exposure to speaking out, he said, "I got more involved with school affairs, and just about practically everything else I could."

"I just had to overcome my shyness. I am told that I was very quiet—I learned that when I first went to high school."

Well, Mendoza has managed to overcome most of his shyness, but when he feels uncomfortable in a situation, he said, "I usually just barge in. I have to do that sometimes in order to get things done."

Getting things done appears to be what Mendoza enjoys doing. Part of the requirement for qualifying for the Congressional Award given by the U.S. Congress is to be involved with one's community.

Mendoza's resume listing of organizations with which he's been involved could make a good day's reading.

The medal requirement was 400 hours of volunteer work, Mendoza managed 1,007 hours; 200 hours of

personal development were needed, he accumulated 4,160; another 200 hours of physical development was required, he totaled 465.

Mendoza said he is a junior at Arizona State University majoring in political science, and is also employed full time by CPS Direct Marketing in Phoenix.

Four days a week his schedule starts at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 10 p.m. after classes.

"Sometimes it (the schedule) is hard, work can be very demanding for overtime hours," he said.

He wants to continue with school though, because "learning is fun, I enjoy it, I like to explore."

"I manage my time, I like it, I really like to be a busy person," Mendoza said.

Being outgoing, unshy and busy brings him in contact with lots of people, something he particularly enjoys.

"I like to learn from people, I like to meet people. I'm a very open person," he said.

And what about that focus on political science, will he ever become a politician?

"I eventually want to become one (a politician). I want to study about politics," he said. He also said that reservation politics interests him.

And, as if already gearing for politics by making sure helpful people are recognized, Mendoza said



Greg Mendoza

he is grateful to two people who helped him win the Congressional Award—Jacqueline Joyce Boni, his advisor for the award, and Harrington Luna, District 4 councilman for his support.



Discount tickets available to enrolled members of the Gila River Indian Community

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Children who live with foster families don't take family life for granted

Most of us take our families pretty much for granted. We look at our children and spouse and just know they'll be there.

There is a group of children in the Gila River Indian Community, however, who seldom take family life for granted.

At Children's Home, kids often receive what they don't get in their real homes

The house looks just like the others in the residential area at Sacaton. The only give-away that it is indeed different is the large number of children that seem to be in and around the home.

It is the Children's Home run by the Gila River Indian Community's Social Services Department, and it caters to unlucky children—from infants to 11 year olds—who for one reason or another, must be taken from their homes.

Social Services director Lewis Lane, said, "The home is an emergency shelter for children who become neglected, abused or abandoned."

And in spite of the circumstances that often bring the children to the home, Lane said the atmosphere is a good one, a home atmosphere.

"We don't try to project an image of an institution. We want to project a home atmosphere, we want to fit into the community. Basically, it's a home away from home," he said.

It's a regular home, it's in a housing area, there are no barriers, and there are no signs that say "Children's Home," he said.

"It's just like a home. When you walk in there is a living room, kitchen, bedrooms," Lane said, it just happens to have a lot more children than most other homes.

There are 12 beds, and the home is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A staff of nine serves around the clock in three shifts, he said.

"The services are organizing recreation programs for the kids, and therapeutic services (such as counseling for emotional and psychological needs)," Lane said.

To keep up with these needs of the children, he said, the staff, known as home parents, undergo ongoing training in basic child development and human behavior.

Those are the hard facts about the number of people who work in the home and what they are there for, but they are really much more than that.

"The house parents play a very important role...they become surrogate parents," said Lane.

They take children who have come from disorganized, disrupted, separated and problem families and try to instill a sense of order and compassion, he said.

Lane said, "We help the kids work through feelings of rejection, help them understand why they have to spend time away from home.

"We try to make them understand that they're not here because they're bad," but that they are in the home because of circumstances over which they have no control, he said.

And the time the children spend in the home varies.

"The length of stay depends on the home situation. We've had kids who have stayed overnight...we've had kids who have been there two years," he said.

"A two-year stay is not uncommon," given the unstable family life from which some children come, he said.

The children who find their way through the Children's Home are usually referred by the tribal court, following notification, usually from the police, schools, hospitals or family members, that something is amiss with the child.

For some children, going back to their real homes may not be in their best interests, so efforts are made to place them in foster homes, Lane said.

"That's usually the next step, if they can't go home," he said.

But while at the Children's Home, life is pretty much normal for the children. They go to school, they come home, watch television and play.

And there are some things at the Children's Home that probably were missing in the children's real homes.

"There's a lot of hugging going on, there's a lot of contact. Most of the children really like that," Lane said.

They are children who live with foster families. Unfortunately for some of the children, there often aren't enough families to go around.

Lewis Lane, director of Social Services for the Gila River tribe, said there are about 25 to 30 homes on the reservation that have been licensed and certified as foster care homes.

"But that's not enough. Most of the homes have two kids, some have four kids, which is the limit," he said.

"We have about 30 kids in foster homes each month, and that number usually fluctuates."

Most of the time, there are more children who need foster home care than there are foster homes, he said.

The overflow is sent to the tribe's Children's Home, Lane said.

"So we really are desperate at this time for more foster families. It would be nice to have at least 40 homes total," Lane said.

For some of the children, foster home care ends up more than the temporary situation it is supposed to be, he said.

"We have some kids who have been in foster care for two years. That's considered too long," said Lane.

The job of the foster parent is to fill the role of the natural parent temporarily, and often, he said, "The kids relate to foster parents as real parents."

Of course being a real parent can be of immense help if someone wants to be a foster parent, but it isn't one of the requirements.

Lane said the tribe follows foster care standards based on community, cultural and economic conditions.

"It's most important for those who are interested that they have a real genuine interest in kids...and are willing to open up their home to a child who is in need," he said.

"And since the goal is to reunite the child with the natural parent," they must become a foster parent with the full understanding that the child will someday be back with the natural parent, said Lane.

Of course, anyone interested in being a foster parent must go through the process of application and interviewing.

Lane said some of the considerations are the social and economic conditions of the family, values, attitudes, personal philosophy of family life, how they discipline their own children.

He said the effort is to make the screening mechanism a thorough one.

"We have to do that in order to prevent anything from happening down the road either to the child or the agency (Social Services)," he said.

Part of the screening is directed at finding the motivation behind someone wanting to become a foster parent.

Since the agency provides a monthly financial reimbursement to foster families, Lane said the agency tries to find out "What is the real motivation behind this person wanting to become a foster parent? Is it, 'I want to be a foster parent because I want that income.'"

"We want to discourage that kind of thinking. Besides, it (reimbursement) is not very much. It's really a token," Lane said.

Great emphasis is placed on the psychological and emotional stability of the family, and in case someone never has been a parent or wants to improve parenting skills, the agency provides periodic orientation and training in that area, he said.

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- Commitment to training (six hours of orientation, nine hours of on-going training a year)
- Ability to model and parent in a positive way
- Commitment to work as member of the Tribal Social Services team with a caseworker AND the natural parent
- Be over 21; married, single, divorced or widowed
- Have space available for one or more children (or teens) to sleep, keep their clothing and their belongings
- Tribal Social Services provides monthly financial reimbursement

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District One recall effort fails as voters support Lewis and Thomas

Continued from page 1

there for a while. The papers just seemed to pile up."

"Drake and I didn't go around picking up people like they did. We left it up to the people who support us," she said.

Lewis was on a business trip for the community school board during and after the recall election and couldn't be reached for comment.

The recall effort was started and carried by Peter Miguel III and Eleanor Kumpula, who started

circulating petitions in November.

It stemmed from apparent disagreement over how money from the tribe's land judgement award, Docket 228, should be used.

Thomas and Lewis supported and continued to support investment of all of the money, which the tribal council agreed to do in a plan adopted Jan. 22, 1986.

Under pressure from some community members, the council reversed its decision June 28, 1986, choosing to invest 20 percent of the money and distribute 80 percent on a

per capita basis.

In a letter to the tribal council answering the recall charge, Lewis and Thomas wrote, "It is the responsibility of tribal government to provide for the general welfare (of the community)...to insure that the people are provided with those services necessary to address and maintain adequate health, social and educational needs. Our position (of

support for investing Docket 228 funds) was one that would complement and continue that obligation. The award would not have solved all our problems, but it would have helped."

"Although the position of per capita was a popular one, we strongly feel that our position would have also benefited the community today and in the future. This, we feel is our responsibility and duty."



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Cutting your chances of heart attack doesn't happen automatically

Deaths from heart disease are expected to decrease in the next 10 to 20 years, according to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, but cutting your own chances of having a heart attack doesn't happen automatically.

You have to take advantage of available knowledge on how to do it.

Following is an adaptation of the heart-health IQ test developed by the institute. If you score high and apply your knowledge, the chances are you'll live longer.

TRUE OR FALSE:

1. The three most dangerous conditions you can do something about are high blood pressure, high cholesterol in your blood, and smoking.

TRUE. If you have all three of these risk factors, you have eight times the risk of heart disease as a person with none of them.

2. A heart attack or stroke is often the first symptom of high blood pressure or high cholesterol.

TRUE. Both conditions work silently until, without warning, a heart attack or stroke occurs.

3. People with high blood pressure are nervous and tense.

FALSE. Calm people also have high blood pressure. A reading is the only way to know if you have it.

4. A blood pressure of 140/90 or more is generally too high.

TRUE. A better reading would be 120/80. Reduce blood pressure by (a)losing weight; (b)decreasing salt intake; (c)taking prescribed medication. Exercise and relaxation

training also help.

5. It's only a theory that high blood cholesterol is related to heart disease.

FALSE. Too much cholesterol will make your blood stick and clog inside your arteries. Levels over 265 create a heart attack risk four times greater than normal.

6. The best way to lower blood-cholesterol levels is by eating less cholesterol.

FALSE. Cholesterol is in food we eat, but the liver also makes cholesterol. Substituting polyunsaturated fat actually will reduce your cholesterol level.

7. A product with the "no cholesterol" label is safe for people with high cholesterol levels.

FALSE. It may still contain saturated fats like coconut and palm oil. Look for oils high in polyunsaturated fats like safflower, corn and soybean.

8. Smoking increases your risk of heart attack.

TRUE. The rate among smokers is 70 percent higher than among nonsmokers.

9. Heart disease is the number two killer of women.

FALSE. It is the number one killer of women in the United States.

10. Physical inactivity is related to heart disease.

TRUE. Inactive people have more heart disease. Regular, sustained exercise can reduce blood pressure and help you to lose weight. It may even help some people stop smoking.

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Information about mail subscriptions and advertising rates is available from the newspaper's business office, Gila River Indian News, P.O. Box 459, Sacaton, Arizona 85247. (602)562-3311.

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(P.O. BOX 459 SACATON, ARIZONA 85247)

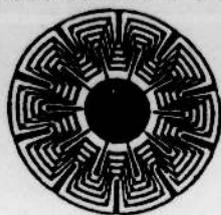
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Are you an impulsive buyer? Take heart, there is help on the way

If you have ever ruined your budget by making an impulsive and unplanned purchase, you've got lots of company.

People have been known to claim that they just "couldn't resist" the impulse to buy, that even though they fled to another part of the store, the desired article called them back.

That might be an extreme example, but similar feelings are common among people who engage in impulse buying, according to a professor at the University of Southern California.

Nine out of 10 people admit they have succumbed to the urge to make an unplanned purchase that they later regret, he said.

He recently surveyed hundreds of

people to find out how they feel when that happens, and how they resist the urge.

Many said the urge to buy is exciting, thrilling, and stimulating.

At the same time, it may trigger feelings of distress, guilt, and helplessness, all powerful forces.

While we have no apparent cure for finding shoes that "just stared at me," the sweater that "follows you through the store," or candy bars that seem to call to you, impulse buying can be avoided.

One of the more effective methods is to decide in advance what it is you are really shopping for, then look only for that particular item.

If you are a real impulse junkie, don't look at another thing!

Sacaton Auto Supply continues effort to pay off debt, get back on its feet

A \$700,000 debt run up by Sacaton Auto Supply continues to be paid off by the tribe as the business continues to get back on its feet.

Ruben Norris, who last year was retained by the tribe as an outside consultant to remedy the store's situation, but who now is the director of tribe's Economic Development office, said "We have a business that is going to need some time to get back on its feet."

"We're not in a negative cash flow. As a business, after we accepted the debt, Sacaton Auto Supply is dealing with its present business conditions," he said.

The tribally owned store accumulated a \$700,000 debt over three years, attributing the demise to lack of good management.

The tribal council decided to take a \$79,000 loss on the debt, and assumed another \$631,000 owed to an assortment of vendors.

Norris said Valley National Bank was repaid \$200,000, and the tribe negotiated with more than 10 other

vendors.

Most agreed to terms of payment, one vendor threatened to sue the tribe for payment.

CHANDLER SUPPLY

Efforts continue by the tribe to settle the debts of its Chandler Supply store, which closed its doors Nov. 13, citing insolvency.

Norris, who has also taken over the task of settling the Chandler store's problems, said, "I'm in the process of settling the debts of that business, at the governor's direction."

He said the total debt hasn't been fixed, as billings from vendors continue to come in.

The store, which is located in the city of Chandler, is closed and won't reopen, he said.

When it was determined the store was insolvent, bankruptcy proceedings were not considered since the tribe is the direct owner of the store, and in order for the store to file for bankruptcy, the tribe would have to declare bankruptcy, he said.

To claim dependents five and over Social Security number is needed

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 requires taxpayers to show the Social Security number for any dependent age 5 or over listed on tax returns filed after Dec. 31, 1987.

The Social Security Administration estimates that 9 million children will require original numbers because of this new legislation.

The agency urges people to apply early. A new number can be issued in about two weeks.

A parent or guardian can apply at any Social Security office or by mail

if the child is under 18.

Applicants must supply proof of the child's age, citizenship and identity.

A public record of birth is proof of age and citizenship, and a doctor's record or school ID is proof of identity. The person applying for the child must also have proof of identity.

The Social Security offices closest to the Gila River Indian Community are in Coolidge and Casa Grande.



GILA RIVER FARMS,

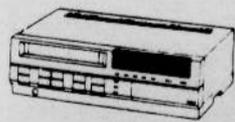
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Community since 1951.

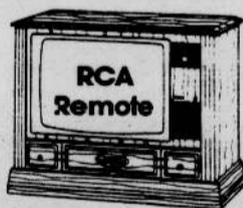


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TRIBAL INCOME TAX SERVICES

Gila River will again be providing Income Tax assistance to Community Members. Take advantage of local service, expert advice and inexpensive fees!

DATES

January 19 through March 20, 1987

WHERE & WHEN

Monday	Blackwater Service Center	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Sacaton Service Center	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Stotonic Service Center	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Thursday	District #5 Veterans Memorial Center	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	Gila Crossing Service Center	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

COST

Federal Short-Form 1040A or 1040EZ	\$5.00
Federal Form 1040	\$10.00
Federal Form 1040 Itemized	\$20.00
State Form 140 or 140A	\$5.00
State Form 140 Itemized	\$20.00

\$1.00 charge for each additional form accompanying these returns.

IMPORTANT

NO tax returns will be prepared at the Tribal Office until March 23rd and the charges for all returns prepared then will be \$20.00! So get yours done early.

Bring a copy of your last year's tax return with you.

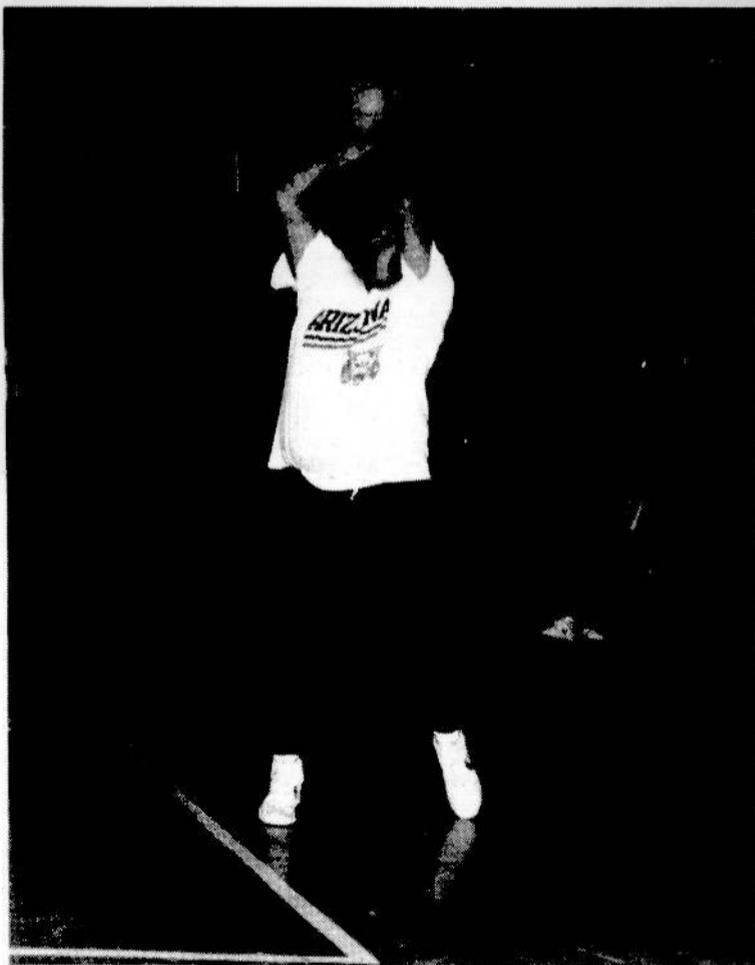
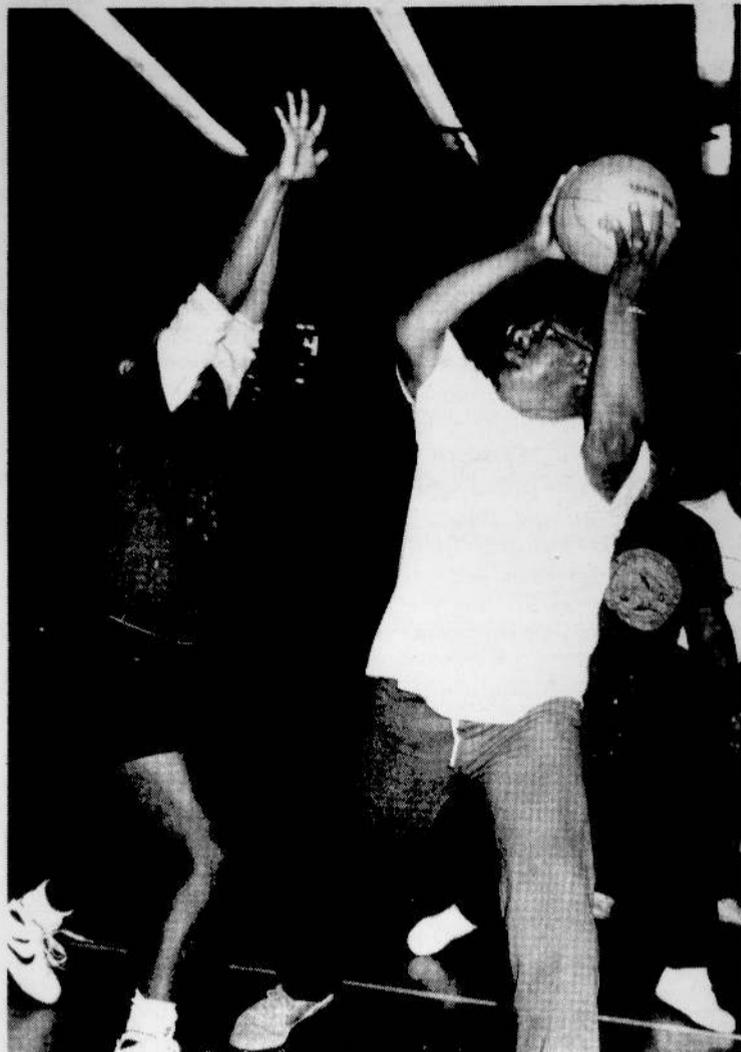
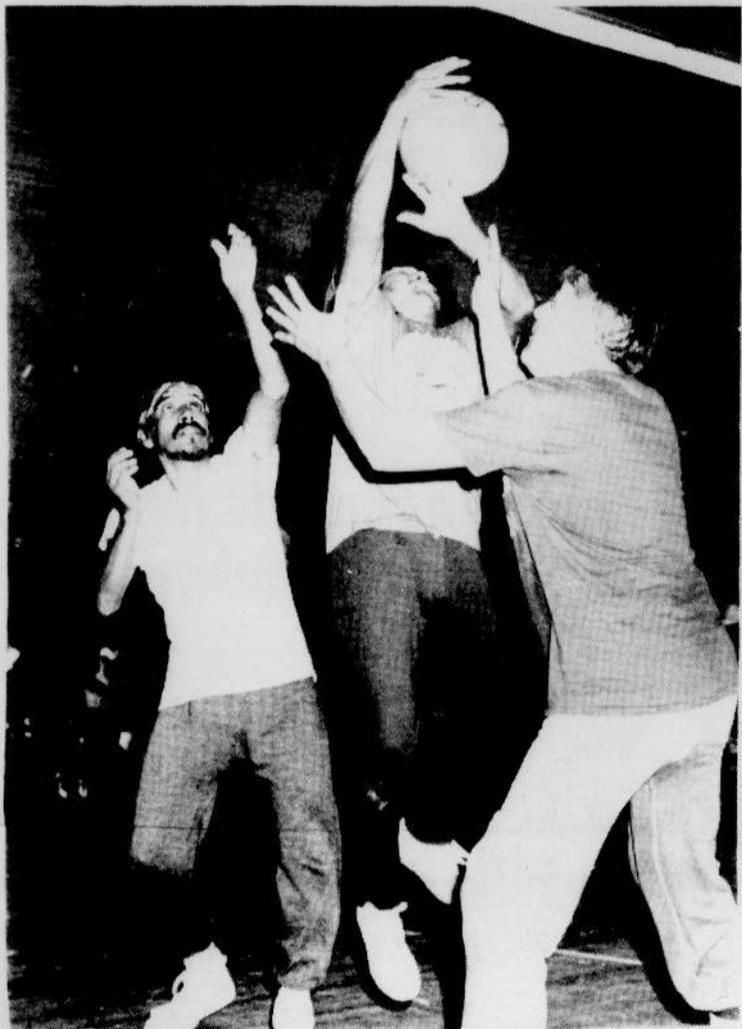
Please bring your 1986 tax return booklet if you have one.

Gila River Tribal Council sweeps Tohono O'Odham in 2 games

The Gila River Tribal Council swept a two-game series with the Tohono O'Odham Nation Tribal Council, but it wasn't easy the first time around.

In the first game Jan. 24 at Sells, after leading in the second half by as many as 10 points, Gila River edged the Tohono O'Odham on a last second shot by District 1's Drake Lewis, 23-22.

In the return game Feb. 24, Gila River was never in danger as it won going away 56-36. Joining the members of the tribal council on the team were employees of the tribe's administrative office.



Teacher says Indian songs, stories measure up to American literature

College classes in American literature have excluded an entire body of traditional works that many scholars simply dismiss as myth or gibberish, according to a professor at the University of Arizona.

Larry Evers, who teaches American literature in the university's English department, says it's an omission he wants to correct.

Evers insists Native American songs and stories belong within the regular body of American literature because they measure up to the same literary standards.

He said, "These oral traditions possess all of the qualities we attribute to great literature. They address the great themes; they address them in exciting style; they address them in the kind of language that is separate from ordinary discourse.

"Until recently they've usually been considered as a kind of raw material for social science."

Native Americans have long been included in literature, but only when written by Anglo authors.

Evers said back at the beginning there were Indian stories that were works of art to be appreciated on their own.

"We're used to talking about the Indian in American literature, but here is a chance to talk about some American literature that has been composed and maintained by American Indian people," he said.

"American literature is defined more than anything by being the literature of the continent. To my way of thinking, American Indian stories and songs speak to that relationship between man and woman and place...between community and place...as eloquently as anything you can read in Hawthorne or Faulkner. I think where you really find the essence of that spirit of place is in American Indian story and song," said Evers.

He cites, as an example, Yaqui deer songs that develop relationships both in day-to-day life and in the larger world outside the Southwest.

"You get in deer songs the singer giving voice to various Sonoran desert plants and animals. There is a whole sequence of deer songs that take the point of view of the deer as he is being hunted and then killed by the hunters.

"As the hunt is proceeding, as the deer is being killed, and then, incredibly, after the deer has been killed, he is still speaking in these songs.

"There is a song that is sung at the moment when death seems inevitable that I think is one of the most eloquent, moving statements about death that I've encountered.

"There is a whole range of songs there, from those that comment on fundamental life-and-death processes to those that comment on particular things that I encounter in my own existence."

To change attitudes among scholars that Native American songs and stories are much more than myth or gibberish may take some doing for Evers.

He will start this summer with a seminar funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities for faculty at smaller schools who have little or no access to large research libraries.

The seminar's 10 participants will be able to use the UA's library, and work with Evers and other UA faculty.

The NEH grant to put on the seminar was given on the strength of the university's library and faculty in Native American studies, said Evers.

He said he wants people to leave the seminar excited about the possibility of bringing the wealth of American Indian imaginative material into American literature, and with the hope that it will find its way into other colleges, and eventually, high schools.

There is considerable difference in the way Anglo and Indian poets express their work. Contemporary American poets, said Evers, emphasize spare, one-of-a-kind, inventive language where individuals focus on their own personal struggle with the world.

By contrast, said Evers, American Indian oral tradition places a heavy value on community expression and a de-emphasis on the individual poet. And individual words, phrases, sentences, and whole ideas are repeated over and over again.

(Evers' interest in Native American literature began while he was a graduate student at the University of Nebraska. Working in legal aid, tutoring and other projects, Evers became involved with American Indian communities in Lincoln and began reading about their literature. The appeal was strong enough that he spent an additional year studying in the anthropology department at the University of Chicago.)

*from LoQuePasa
by Jeff Harrison
University of Arizona
Office of Public Information*

UCLA offering master's program in American Indian Studies

The University of California at Los Angeles has extended until March 15 its deadline for applying for the master's program in American Indian Studies.

The interdepartmental program uses a unique approach of drawing on the social sciences and humanities to train students for careers in teaching Indian studies, in developing Indian studies curricula in secondary schools, and in tribal government positions.

Students may concentrate in

history and law, expressive arts, social relations, language, literature or folklore.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree and experience in Indian programs or coursework in American Indian studies. Financial aid is available.

For information write Earl Dean Sisto, Coordinator, Student/Community Relations, American Indian Studies Center, 405 Hilgard Ave., University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024. Telephone (213)825-0893.

Those who want a tribal scholarship next school year should file now

Individuals wishing to apply for tribal scholarships to attend school in the fall of 1987 and spring of 1988 should file a federal assistance financial aid application as soon as possible, according to Gila River Student Services.

Student Services counselors will be making presentations to high school juniors and seniors the rest of February and in March.

Individuals may schedule appointments with a Higher

Education counselor by calling 562-3316 or 562-3317.

Students on scholarship who received a least a 3.0 grade point average for the fall semester were David Martinez, 3.74, University of Rhode Island, majoring in philosophy; John McKinn, 3.3, Arizona State University, liberal arts; Byron Sanderson, 3.0, Arizona State University, graduate student in social work; Cynthia Valenzuela, 3.4, San Antonio College, business technology.

St. John's Indian School will hold March 1 festival to raise school funds

St. John's Indian School will stage its annual Indian Festival March 1 to raise funds for the school.

There will be displays of Indian dances, art, jewelry, and sale of Indian food. There will also be bingo, a rummage sale, games, carnival rides and tethered balloon rides.

Included in the activities will be a cash drawing with a first prize of \$600.

There will be a crowning of the festival queen at noon, and Indian dances from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Proceeds from the festival will be used for regular operation of the school. For information call 237-2400.

Career day on communications jobs will be March 9 at Scottsdale college

A career day to acquaint high school students with jobs in the communications field will be held March 9 at Scottsdale Community College.

Activities will be from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Student Center at the college campus, 9000 E. Chaparral Rd., in Scottsdale.

Information, through invited speakers and handout materials, will be available on various career fields such as journalism, broadcasting, visual arts, graphics, photography, public relations.

The career day is co-sponsored by Scottsdale Community College's American Indian Programs and the Native American Press Association.

33 voters approve School District 18 budget override of \$475,000

Thirty-three voters out of 897 eligible to vote in Sacaton School District 18's budget override election Feb. 10 turned out and approved the spending of almost one-half million dollars in override funds.

With the school district's maintenance and operations budget set at \$1.8 million, voters agreed 32 to 1 to the 10 percent override of the budget.

That figure amounts to \$183,335, which school district officials said would likely be spent on salaries.

An additional \$91,665, or about five percent of the budget, was approved by voters to be spent to improve the academic achievement of low

achievers in grades kindergarten through third grade.

Voters also agreed unanimously to override the capital outlay budget by \$200,000, which will be used for building and improvements.

Override of the capital outlay budget isn't limited to 10 percent, but district officials felt the amount put to voters was what was needed.

The \$475,000 OK'd by voters is unspent money from the district's regular budget and involves no tax increase.

According to state law, in order for the district to use any cash balance, it must get voter approval and must limit the amount to 10 percent of the district's regular budget.

Conference on diabetes will have plenty of Gila River representatives

A conference on diabetes prevention and intervention for Indian communities will be held March 10 and 11 in Tucson.

A contingent from the Gila River Indian Community will make presentations at the conference, which has as its theme, "Diabetes in Native Americans: Ideas in Education and Prevention."

Those expected to make presentations include WIC director Lynn Rusch, Human Resources director Viola Johnson, director of Public Health Nursing Dianna Garcia

Smith, public health educator Sally Pablo, and Dr. Kermit Smith of the IHS Diabetes Project.

The conference will be held at the Inn at the Airport, 7060 S. Tucson Blvd., with sessions starting each day at 8 a.m.

There are planned workshops in nutrition, community programs and physical and mental well-being.

There is a \$10 registration fee to participate in the conference, and there will be free educational materials for those who attend.

Two-year-olds learn to read as quickly and as well as five-year-olds

American educators have long held that the best time to teach children to read is the first grade, but now a team from the University of Arizona is saying learning to read earlier breeds

success.

The team, Robert Hamblin, a professor at the university, and his wife June, a former UA professor of early childhood education, have

shown that their program works.

For his research in early childhood education, Hamblin asked his wife to teach a group of 2-year-olds to read. She discovered children learned

better with easy programs and by phonetically "sounding-out" new words.

After writing a new beginning reading series, Mrs. Hamblin taught a group of 2-year-olds and a group of 5-year-olds to read.

The result—the 2-year-olds learned to read almost as fast, and as well as the 5-year-olds.

"It's not a high-pressure program. The child has a choice between reading and playing," Hamblin said.

"At first, the majority keep playing, but as they see other children learning to read and receiving attention, they voluntarily join the reading group," he said.

The Hamblins said early reading successes establish positive self-concepts that carry throughout life. This is especially important, they say, since it has been estimated that as much as 30 percent of the nation's adults are functionally illiterate.

If a person is unable to read or write, he will be unable to function successfully in society, they say.

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION NOTICE OF REVOCATION OF TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP

The persons whose names appear on the following list are notified that their membership in the Tohono O'Odham Nation is revoked. For information or inquiries, please contact the Enrollment Office of the Tohono O'Odham Nation at Sells, Arizona. Telephone (602)383-2221, extension 242.

NAME	DISTRICT	ADDRESS
Socorro V. Miranda		132 West President St. Tucson, Arizona 85714
Victor Basil Acunia		General Delivery Polacca, Arizona 86042
Owen A. Mattia		Route 1, Box 11-N Maricopa, Arizona 85239

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY 1987 TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTION NOTICE

The 1987 election for public offices of the Gila River Indian Community Tribal Council will be held on the following date:

**May 5, 1987 — Tribal Council Election — for the offices of:
Representatives to the Gila River Indian Community
Tribal Council from Districts 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.**

CANDIDATES

Candidates for the offices of representatives to the Gila River Indian Community Tribal Council may be nominated by their respective districts beginning March 2, 1987. Persons wishing to declare their own candidacy may do so beginning March 24, 1987. Nominations and declarations of candidacy must be submitted to the Gila River Indian Community Election Chairperson by April 13, 1987.

VOTERS

Members of the Gila River Indian Community whose names appear on the official tribal roll, and who are 18 years old or older, are eligible to vote in the May 5, 1987 Tribal Council Election.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Any member of the Gila River Indian Community who is eligible to vote, and who is ill or physically disabled, or who may be absent from the district, may request an absentee ballot in person or in writing from the office of the Community Secretary or the District Chief Election Judge. Such requests for an absentee ballot may be made from April 15, 1987 to May 4, 1987 at 5 p.m., or be postmarked by May 1, 1987.

All requests for election information should be addressed to

**Doreen Allen, Election Chairperson
Gila River Indian Community
P.O. Box 97
Sacaton, Arizona 85247**

Housing program director elected to regional post

Steve Jones, executive director of the Gila River Housing Authority, has been elected president of a regional Indian housing association.

Jones was elected president of the Southwest Indian Housing Authorities Association, which represents 45 housing authorities in Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and California.

The election took place Jan. 15 in Tucson at the association's first quarterly meeting of the year.

Jones, in his two-year term, will preside over the association, which provides training and technical assistance to housing authorities, and keeps watch on legislation that could affect Indian housing.

Jones has headed the Gila River Housing Authority for the past five years.

BIA field crews will be mapping throughout year

Since early January the BIA's San Carlos Irrigation Project has been conducting field mapping and inventory of its electrical transmission and distribution system throughout Pinal County, and expects to continue the job through the rest of the year.

Residents of the Gila River Indian Community are urged to be cautious when mapping and inventory crews are on the reservation.

Most of the field crews' activities will be in the vicinity of power lines and electrical equipment.