

The Gila River Indian News

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Tribal council election is beginning to heat up

Seventeen candidates were nominated in their respective districts to run for seven tribal council seats up for election May 5, and two others had declared their candidacy as of March 27.

Deadline for nominations was March 20. The deadline for declaring candidacy for a tribal council post is April 3.

In District 1, Drake Lewis and Ardell Ruiz were nominated to run for the district's tribal council seat up for election. That seat is currently held by Lewis.

In District 3, Lee Thompson, Joseph Manuel, Julia Naswyutewa and Georgette Chase were nominated. Currently holding the district's tribal council seat is Lloyd Notah Jr.

In District 4, two seats, those now held by Spencer Thomas and Harrington Luna, are up for election. Nominated to run for those seats were William Rhodes, Burdette

Morago and Larry D. Allison.

Nominated to run for two tribal council positions up for election in District 5 were incumbent Emmett White, Rod Dixon, Gerald Sunna, Dana Norris Sr. and Franklin Pete Jackson. The other incumbent is Gordon Santos.

In District 6, incumbent Carleton Giff, Ted Lewis and Betty Pablo were nominated to run for the tribal council seat.

There was one declaration of candidacy for the tribal council post from District 4. Freland Joe Howard Sr. submitted his declaration March 23.

In District 5, Ditshe Burdette declared on March 24 his intent to seek one of the two tribal council seats up for election in that district.

Doreen Allen, Election Chairperson for Gila River, said it is likely there will be more declarations of candidacy before the April 3 deadline.

Mul-Chu-Tha, Gila River's fair, rodeo is now into its 25th year at Sacaton

The 25th annual Mul-Chu-Tha, Gila River's rodeo and fair, will be held April 3, 4 and 5 at Sacaton.

The theme of this year's event is "25 Years of Prosperity," Preserving Tradition and Expanding Progress.

Features of the three-day celebration include two rodeo performances, a pow wow, parade, entertainment and dances.

Activities will begin Friday with night jackpot roping and a chicken scratch dance at the Exhibit Building.

Saturday at 10 a.m. there will a parade through Sacaton. At 1 p.m. will be the first performance of the rodeo, and also ceremonial dances in the Amphitheater near the rodeo grounds.

Also on Saturday there will be free entertainment in the Ramada Circle.

In the evening there will be a pow wow at Sacaton Middle School.

At night there will be another chicken scratch dance at the Exhibit Building.

Sunday will start with a church service in the morning, and the second rodeo performance beginning at 1 p.m.

Also starting at 1 p.m. will be ceremonial dances in the Amphitheater, and free entertainment in the Ramada Circle.

There will be a second pow wow late Sunday afternoon at Sacaton Middle School.

For a complete schedule of Mul-Chu-Tha's activities, see page 3.

Each day there will be a carnival and midway, fair exhibits, and arts and crafts displays and sales.

BIA retreats from plan to hire Mellon Bank to manage \$1.7 billion

A month ago the Mellon Bank of Pittsburgh was looking to manage \$1.7 billion in Indian trust funds, including lease payments to Gila River land owners, but today the bank is on the outside looking in as the BIA reopened competition for management of the trust money.

News that the Mellon Bank in two years would be issuing lease payment checks directly to landowners didn't sit well with some land holders at Gila River, particularly among the elderly.

That concern was told to Ross Swimmer, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, on March 5 by Gila River Lt. Gov. Thomas White.

White, along with other Indian leaders in Arizona, met with Swimmer in Phoenix to discuss the BIA's hiring the Mellon Bank to provide financial management services for Indian trust money.

White told Swimmer the tribe objected to the transfer of financial services from the BIA to Mellon Bank.

Though the tribe realizes the potential benefits of having the fund managed, he said there is uncertainty among landowners at Gila River about the arrangement.

Senior citizens in the community expressed grave concern about the arrangement, especially if it means having to pay for services not needed or used by the tribe.

There was even more concern, he said, about the reporting of financial activities to the Treasury Department without the rightful consent of the affected landowners.

White said the tribe supports the idea of contracting for financial services, but it should be done directly between the money management firms and those tribes that have the management capability to get into such a contractual arrangement.

See Mellon Bank, page 4

Arlene Howard of District Four Is chosen Miss Gila River 1987

Arlene Howard, a student at Phoenix Indian School, was chosen Miss Gila River 1987 at a pageant March 28 at Sacaton.

Howard, cited as pleasant and outspoken by members of the Miss Gila River committee, gave a speech on the Pima language as her talent demonstration.

The 18-year-old is the daughter of Everett and Barbara Howard of District 4. Her chaperon was Floretta Rhodes.

The first runnerup was 19-year-old Angela Santos, a student at Sherman Indian School in Riverside, Calif.

Santos is the daughter of Elvira and Gordon Santos of District 5.

Her mother served as her chaperon.

Santos received the talent award for her talent presentation, which was a traditional quail song. She was also named Miss Congeniality.

The second runnerup was Delma Williams, 18, a Coolidge High School student.

She is the daughter of Agnes and Roy Williams of District 1. Her chaperon was Betty Molina.

For her talent presentation Williams gave an analogy of education.

Howard replaces Martha Lane Reed who was Miss Gila River 1986.

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

For some teenagers, their only way to strike back is to run from home

It started out with a disagreement over a boyfriend.

The teenager felt her parents were telling her whom she could see, whom she couldn't see, and when she could see someone.

Her feelings move in the direction you'd expect. The young woman feels rejected, misunderstood.

She runs from the home. She becomes a runaway.

In another instance, the teenager, no more than 15, lives in a home where, because of alcohol, he is bombarded with comments that question his worth, that tell him his opinion doesn't count.

He too runs from his home. He becomes a runaway.

These youngsters head for a friend's house, or they may run to the home of a relative.

Like other teenagers who run from home, they'll be gone from their own homes two to three days, sometimes a week.

Christine Lowery, coordinator for the Gila River Runaway Youth Project, said the fortunate thing

about these runaway scenes is that they aren't happening frequently.

Since mid-November, the date the project started, there has been a small caseload, she said.

"We have 15 kids and their families whom we are counseling at least once a week," she said.

The runaways, mostly in their early teens, find their way into the project by referral.

Parents call the police to report a runaway, tribal court counselors follow up leads on runaways, and sometimes schools refer young people who show signs of being ready to run from home.

When these young people get into the counseling offered by the project, their first task is to read and sign a contract that says they intend to voluntarily work with the project.

Though there are several approaches to counseling the runaways, Lowery said one of the most effective is a Talking Circle.

It is group therapy. It is a relaxed, informal atmosphere where the teenagers sit and talk.

They talk about respect, they share the frustrations and hurt many of them feel.

Lowery said one of the things they want the young people to talk about is the messages they get from their parents.

Often a grown up will say something that a child interprets differently than what was meant by the adult.

Lowery said the group talks about these messages. It's not so much what the parents actually say, "It's what does the kid think the parents are saying to him."

The bottom line of the project is to get the families back together, to get them talking so they understand one another.

The project, which is funded with a 12-month, \$64,000 grant from the Administration for Native Americans, has worked the first five months to set up a foundation to deal with runaway youth at Gila River.

"What we have now," said Lowery, "we've established three councils that each have a different purpose."

There is a Youth Council, made up of young community members who "give us their perspective on the programs we're developing," she said.

And there is a Spiritual Council, which "is made up of four men who are recognized as cultural/spiritual leaders. They help us with cultural values," said Lowery.

"An Agency Council helps with coordinating and long-term planning. They helped us develop a plan for the year, establishing some priorities for us," she said.

The project will continue to develop its programs over the course of its funding year.

Some teenagers are thrown out of their homes

Christine Lowery went looking for information about young people who runaway from home.

She came away with information about another problem just as disturbing—young people, mostly in their early teens, who are thrown out of their homes.

Lowery, coordinator of the Gila River Tribal Social Services' Runaway Youth Project, spent several months gathering information about the problem of runaway youth on the reservation.

What she found out, she said, is fortunate. "Our stats are showing that the problems with runaway youth are not that great."

But, she said, "We have a small homeless population of throwaway kids. The parents don't know how to control them, so they just ask them to leave."

These youngsters are thrown out of their homes for a variety of reasons, she said.

One mother complained about her teenage son, who had been smoking pot and drinking until he was almost in a stupor.

He was abusive to the rest of the family and disrupting the home, so he was told to leave.

Most of these young people tend to be undisciplined and lean toward juvenile delinquency early.

"There aren't a lot of options for them. They just wander around. If they're not burglarizing before they leave home, they're burglarizing after they leave home," Lowery said.

The future for many of these throwaways isn't a promising one, she said.

Two teenage boys who followed the throwaway pattern were sent to a rehabilitation program for troubled youth, in this case Vision Quest.

When they came out of this institutionalized placement, Lowery said, within 90 days they were in jail.

She said the problem "is something we've known all along, something that the community has been aware of."

The Runaway Youth Project isn't designed to take care of the problem of throwaways.

"We're not equipped to deal with those types of problems, but what we're trying to do is to bring it to the attention of the tribal council," she said.

These are young people, she said, "14, 15, 16, 17 years old who drop out of school, who are reading at a sixth grade level, who are missing the boat. They have no hope, no skills, no training, no family."

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. These nominations for candidacy must be submitted to the Gila River Indian Community Election Chairperson by March 20, 1987. Persons wishing to declare their own candidacy may do so beginning March 23, 1987. Nominations for candidacy must be submitted to the Gila River Indian Community Election Chairperson by April 3, 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 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 beginning April 16, 1987. Absentee ballots are due May 4, 1987 by 5 p.m., or be postmarked by April 30, 1987.

All requests for election information should be addressed to

**Doreen Allen, Election Chairperson
Gila River Indian Community
P.O. Box 189
Sacaton, Arizona 85247
(602)562-3311 Ext. 230**

On top, St. John's festival is fun, underneath, it's serious business

From the outside, the St. John's Indian School Festival may seem all fun and games, but from the inside, it's serious business.

Proceeds from the yearly festival, which this year were a net \$27,000, go into the school's operating budget, but it isn't just extra money to be used as a buffer.

Sister Thelma Wiese, principal at the school, said the profits from the festival are estimated at the beginning of the year, a couple of months before the event, and penciled in as money to be used.

"We do our budget in December, and we know how much we have to try to work for," she said.

Depending on the festival's proceeds can be a gamble, a big one, she admitted, because a spell of bad weather could cause some mayhem with her budget.

In the five years she's been at St. John's, it hasn't rained once on the festival, she said.

This March 1 was a little touch and go, Sister Wiese said, but the weather cleared the day before the festival started.

With this year's school operating budget set at about \$180,000, the money raised at the festival contributes 15 percent of the budget, a pretty fair chunk.

And it's like this each year, she said. "I would say it (festival profits) has stayed clearing \$25,000 to \$29,000 at least the last five years."

"We get the bulk of our budget from the diocese in Phoenix. And we do get some donations throughout the year. They're scattered, \$5 here, \$10 there, sometimes we get lucky and get a check for \$100," she said.

Over the course of the year, she said, the donations can add up to \$6,000 or \$7,000.

Just as with every other school, St. John's is having to deal with rising costs.

One of the contributors is that "we have more lay people who are teaching, rather than religious people," Sister Wiese said.

The order of Franciscan Sisters, and the Community of Brothers (Christian Brothers) provide teachers to St. John's.

"The religious communities aren't getting that many young people coming in, so we don't have that many people to send over here," she said.

This year's teaching staff is made up of three sisters, two brothers, and five lay teachers, she said.

The lay teachers can cost two to three times more than having a religious teacher, she said.

The school has 107 students this year in kindergarten through the eighth grade. Last year there were 105 students.

Sister Wiese said the enrollment has been pretty stable the past few years.

"We've been staying steady pretty well. I don't know what it'll be next year. We've been over the 100 mark since we added our kindergarten four years ago," she said.

Despite schools that are nearby, parents continue to send their children to St. John's.

"I have had some parents say they feel their children are getting a good education, and some have said we are stricter over here at our school," which is something they prefer for their children, she said.

But of course the overriding reason parents send their children to St. John's is for the religious education the school provides, Sister Wiese said.

Santan Landowners' Corporation plans to meet April 11 in District 4

A meeting of the Santan Landowners, to elect new board members and to give a status report on the ranches, will be held April 11 in the District 4 Service Center.

The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue until all business of the Santan Landowners Corp. is

completed.

At the corporation's last annual meeting Dec. 21, only 23 landowners showed up, making it difficult to complete the scheduled business.

The April 11 meeting was scheduled in order give as many landowners as possible an opportunity to attend.



Mal-Ghu-Tha

25th ANNUAL FAIR

April 3, 4 & 5

Sacaton, Arizona

The Gila River Indian Community, 963-4323

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

- CARNIVAL & MIDWAY will be open at the rodeo arena area from the afternoon into the evening.
- JACKPOT ROPING at the rodeo arena from evening into the night, under arena lights.
- CHICKEN SCRATCH DANCE at night in the Exhibit Building. Admission \$4. Music by Virgil Jose & Friends.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

- CARNIVAL & MIDWAY the same as Friday, from morning until night.
- PARADE, "25 Years of Prosperity," starts at 10 a.m. at Pima and Main near the Tribal Building, heads west on Pima to the Chevron Station, turns south on Sacaton Road past the Catholic Church to Agency Road where it ends.
- RODEO, the first performance starts at 1 p.m. in the arena. Admission \$4, children \$2.
- CEREMONIAL DANCES start at 1 p.m. in the Amphitheater. Admission charged.
- ENTERTAINMENT will begin in Ramada Circle in the afternoon. Bands will play, admission is free.
- DUNK BOOTH will be open in the afternoon. Stop by. You may be surprised whose up for dunking, from politicians to who knows who.
- POW WOW will be at Sacaton Middle School in the evening. Admission is \$1.
- REGGAE ENTERTAINMENT in the Amphitheater at night. Admission charged.
- CHICKEN SCRATCH DANCE at night in the Exhibit Building. Admission \$4. Music by Virgil Jose & Friends.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

- CHURCH SERVICE in the Amphitheater Sunday morning.
- CARNIVAL & MIDWAY, the same as Friday & Sat.
- RODEO, second performance will start at 1 p.m. in the arena. Admission \$4, children \$2.
- CEREMONIAL DANCES will start at 1 p.m. in the Amphitheater. Admission charged.
- ENTERTAINMENT, free in Ramada Circle. Bands will provide music throughout the afternoon.
- DUNK BOOTH, those politicians and whomever else might just keep falling. Stop by in the afternoon.
- POW WOW will happen again in the late afternoon at Sacaton Middle School. Admission \$1.

THROUGHOUT EACH DAY'S ACTIVITIES THERE WILL BE FAIR EXHIBITS AND ARTS & CRAFTS DISPLAYS AND SALES IN THE EXHIBIT HALL.

Compton Terrace

AT FIREBIRD LAKE



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

Mellon Bank is now on the outside as BIA opens competition for service

Continued from page 1

This option, if used by Gila River, would allow tribal members to make personal contact with financial representatives of the tribe to talk about cash balance, depositing cash receipts, executing timely payments, maintaining detailed accounts for both the tribe and individual tribal members, and other financial matters.

One of the important factors about an arrangement such as this, said White, is that all financial activities would take place within an

acceptable distance of tribal members' homes and in a central location.

The reopening by the BIA of competition for management of the Indian trust fund apparently was prompted by opposition from Indian tribes throughout the country.

A news release by the BIA said the reopening of competition will give the tribes a chance for greater input in the decision, and that many tribes indicated strong interest, requesting additional consultation.

In 10 years it might be tough to find a good and willing man

Ten to 15 years from now, if things go the way a group of eighth graders at Sacaton Middle School predict they will, there'll be few people living on the reservation, and men and women will have a tough time getting together.

As part of a writing assignment, the students in Mrs. T. Allen's class were asked to predict how their lives would be 10 years down the road.

Most said they will be moving away—to Phoenix, Mesa, Chandler, some to California, one even to New York.

And as if that won't be enough to deplete the future population of the community, getting these boys and girls together 10 to 15 years from now may be no easy task.

Though just about all the girls said they will be getting married and having children, they might have to hunt long and hard to find a willing man, because most of the boys said they won't be getting married.

And what will these girls and boys who will be moving away and who may or may not be getting married do for work?

The preferences fell pretty much the way you would think they would. The girls think secretarial work and programming computers will be the way to go, some even mentioned becoming nurses.

For the boys the physical path seems the one to follow. They talked about driving trucks and working on construction jobs. Some, though, said they would like to be computer technicians.

One thing for sure, most of the students know what they don't want to be doing, and that is teaching.

The idea of being in school, going to school, and continuously working on improving one's education apparently seemed just to long a road to travel.

And speaking of traveling, most of these students plan to do it in some style.

The first major purchase when they start doing secretary stuff, programming computers, driving trucks and building buildings, will be a new car.

And the things that seem to worry adults now apparently will be the focus of worry for these eighth graders when they're adults.

War, crime, finding a job, and of course the curse of most people's worry—money.

Are these youngsters optimistic about the future? Well, yes and no.

Half of them said the world will be a better place 10 years down the road, the other half will be bracing themselves, because they think we will be worse off.

COME JOIN THE PARADE!

The 1987 Mul-Chu-Tha Parade Committee looks forward to another exciting fair, rodeo and PARADE!

THIS YEAR'S PARADE GRAND MARSHALS

- Jay Morago, former governor of Gila River
- Greg Mendoza, Congressional Award winner
- Francis Vavages, Pima traditionalist

PARADE HONOREE

- Letha Lamb, recognized high school gymnast

PARADE JUDGES

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Rhonda Notah | Darlina Milda |
| Denise Cupis | Jacob Garcia |
| Ritz Williams | Dhoebe Tracy |
| Lewis Lane | Stan Throssell |
| Stan Bennett | Eleanor Pasqual |

PARADE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Tina M. Notah, Chrprsn. | Eula Burnette |
| Harrington Luna | Paula Rhodes |
| Lucinda Rhodes | Carol Vavages |
| Marti Manuel | Carmen Pablo |
| Datty Jackson | |

SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| Steve Vavages | Augie Enas |
|---------------|------------|

IHS offering scholarships for health

The Indian Health Service is offering three scholarship programs, two of them open to Indian students only, in the health fields.

The first is a Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship Program that provides financial assistance for Indian students only, so they can enroll in courses that will prepare them for acceptance into health professions schools.

The courses may be those required to improve a student's science, mathematics or other basic skills, or those required in order to qualify for admission into a health professions program.

In order to be considered for funding for a scholarship in 1987-88, a student must be accepted or enrolled for fall classes in pre-nursing in preparation for entry into a bachelor of science nursing program, or pre-accounting to enter into an accounting program.

The second program, Health Professions Pregraduate Scholarship, is for Indian students only, and provides financial support to enroll in

courses that will lead to an undergraduate degree in either premedicine and predentistry. This program is for college juniors and seniors only.

In order to receive financial support in 1987-88, a student must be either accepted or enrolled in a program that begins in the fall of 1987.

The third program, the Health Professions Scholarship Program, provides financial assistance to students enrolled in health professions and other programs aligned closely to the health fields.

This program requires a service obligation and payback requirements when a student accepts scholarship funding.

Deadline for submitting applications is May 1, 1987.

Application packets are available from Jacqueline Boni of the Gila River Education Department, and from Sally Pablo of the tribe's Human Resources Department.

Packets and information are also available from Phoenix IHS Scholarship Coordinator Rosh Foley, 241-2066.



GILA INDIAN CENTER

A UNIQUE FAMILY EXPERIENCE

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They kick off their shoes, hike their designer clothes, and dash madly

They all look a little nervous, a couple of them walk in small circles, others primp their hair or tug at their clothing.

There is no doubt they are somewhat absorbed in the way they look, and well they should be.

The women—each of them Native American, each dressed to the hilt, each of them pretty, some beautiful—are just about to go center stage to model fashions designed by fashion designers who are Native American.

One by one they disappear through a doorway, a few minutes later they emerge from another doorway, some pull off their high heeled shoes, hike up their designer clothing and make a mad dash to the dressing room for a quick change into another outfit.

While changing, those who want it are touched up by a make-up specialist from Mary Kay Cosmetics, others pull jewelry from a cache supplied by another woman.

This hyper activity took place March 28 at the Camelback Inn in Phoenix, and it is repeated periodically throughout the year as fashion shows featuring Native American designers become more frequent.

The activity of the shows is the glitz and splash of fashion design, but what it doesn't show is the work and toil that goes into the fashions.

Sarah Curley, who is the primary designer for her mother, Pat Smith, owner of Pima Fashions located on the Gila River Indian Community near Laveen, can attest to the hard work and the mental toil that goes into designing clothing that people, mostly women, will want to wear.

Designers must draw on just about everything to make their fashions work, and Curley said the repetition of clothing trends helps.

"Trends repeat themselves. White people's trends change every 10 years, Indian people's trends change every 50 years," she said.

Take boarding schools for example, she said, "If you look at old photographs, the styles the women wore then, the sleeves, collars," are familiar now.

Curley said she looks often at old photographs to catch "the different styles of clothing that they had in those boarding schools."

Though Pima Fashions sells its design clothes to upscale non-Indians who attend the fashion shows, Curley said they primarily design and make clothing for Indians.

"The person that buys the most from us are Indian people on reservations," she said.

"Indian people are the best customers because they're easy to work with, and since I'm Indian, I generally know what they want, what colors they want. Indian women are very creative," she said.

If you're a fashion designer, and you want people to know your work, fashion shows are a must, so there's more to designing and making clothes than toiling with needle, thread and cloth.

Mingling with people, getting up in front of audiences are all part of selling the fashions you make.

"I'm comfortable with my own presentation, so it doesn't make me nervous," Curley said.

And as far as being nervous about how her fashions will be accepted,

she said, "People know what to expect from Pima Fashions. There aren't any big surprises when we come out."

But once again, when talking about fashion design, its easy to come back

to the glitz and glamour.

The clothing that ends up in the shows and on the racks in the shop begins somewhere else.

Curley puts it aptly when she says, "I'm a very good seamstress."



FASHION, IT'S NOT ALL GLITZ AND GLAMOUR—The world of fashion design and fashion shows may seem glitzy and splashy, and at times that's exactly what it is, but most of the time it is not. It is just plain old hard work. Sarah Curley, left in photo, primary designer for Pima Fashions, helps her sister, Sandy Smith, as she prepares to model clothing from Pima Fashions during a fashion show last week at Camelback Inn in Phoenix.

"People recognize our work, they can tell by our seams."

The seams from Pima Fashions are a dead give-away.

Sarah Curley, designer for Pima Fashions, said, "People recognize our work, they can tell by our seams. We use commercial machines."

Those seams were on full display last week at a fashion show at the Camelback Inn in Phoenix, as Curley's sister, Sandy Smith, and others, modeled a variety of designs from Pima Fashions.

A fashion show at Camelback Inn, in front of an upscale audience, is a long way from the first dress made by Pima Fashions.

Curley said her mother, Pat Smith, started the business in 1978, "when somebody asked us to make a Pima dress for the Miss Gila River pageant."

That simple enough task done, she said the family moved on to designing blouses, packing them up and taking them to Sacaton where they were sold, and orders taken for more.

At first, Pima Fashions tended to very traditionally designed clothing, but the clothes modeled at the fashion show last week included very divergent, very contemporary lines.

The versatility, however, remains. Curley said, "This past week we made traditional clothing for a burial ceremony for the Maricopas."

"Our work now," she said, "it's

like art to wear. It's a garment, but its got its own personality."

Clothing on sale at the Pima Fashions shop near Laveen are modestly priced.

Curley said, "They can run anywhere from \$28 to \$85. They're just very reasonable."

And the custom, made to order jobs that come mostly from the fashion shows, "Anywhere from \$100 to \$300 an outfit. Three hundred dollars on the average, I'd say," said Curley.

For that kind of a custom design, the cost again is very reasonable, especially for some of the non-Indian customers who seem to be in the situation where money is no object, she said.

Lately, Pima Fashions has gotten into making costumes for actors in television commercials, which for designers and seamstresses, can be as hectic as working a fashion show.

Curley said she has to be on the set to adjust clothing, because the outfits are custom made for a certain actor.

Though the work is lucrative, the pressure of working, against deadlines is grueling, she said.

Curley said since 1978, Pima Fashions has probably designed and sewn somewhere in the neighborhood of 5,000 garments.

That's a lot seams from Pima Fashions that are floating around the country.



GILA RIVER FARMS,

an enterprise of the Gila River Indian

Community since 1951.



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EDUCATION

Thinking about technical school, watch out for high-pressure sales

So you're thinking about a trade or technical school. Well, you may be ripe for high-pressure sales pitches from representatives of various schools.

Each year members of the Gila River and Ak-Chin Indian Communities register for classes at various trade or technical schools.

An individual may be approached in the parking lot of a grocery store, Kmart, or on the street by someone representing a trade or technical school.

The school representative will tell the tribal member that he or she is conducting a survey and will ask for the person's name and phone number.

Eventually, the school representative will attempt to enroll the individual in school and will offer the person a loan to cover expenses.

High-pressure? Unethical?

Here is information that may protect you if you find yourself in one of these high-pressure situations.

WHAT IS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ALL ABOUT?

Before you decide to apply for financial aid, you need to learn about as many sources of financial aid as you can. Contact the financial aid administrator at each school in which you are interested in attending.

If you are in high school, talk to your guidance counselor. Contact the Tribal Office of Student Services. This office provides financial assistance and counseling to students wanting to attend colleges, universities or technical schools.

Assistance may be through tribal scholarships or other funding sources. Both financial counseling and career counseling are offered to individuals to assist in their decision making.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID

There are many different types of aid which may be available to students. The U.S. Department of Education offers five major student financial aid programs:

- PELL Grants
- Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG)
- College Work-Study (CWS)
- National Direct Student Loans (NDSL)
- Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL PLUS Loans)

Grants are awards that you do not have to pay back. Work-Study gives you the chance to work and earn money to help pay for school. Loans are borrowed money that you must repay with interest.

REPAYMENT OF LOANS

In general, an educational loan is no different from any other kind of loan. A person borrowing the money enters into a contract with the organization or institution that is lending the money.

Ordinarily, even if the student doesn't complete the school semester or school year, he or she must repay the money that was borrowed.

The obligation to repay a loan arises once the student has been awarded the loan, the promissory note has been signed, and the check has been disbursed to the educational institution.

Addition of interest to the loan and the actual repayment of the loan, however, does not start until the student stops his or her education, either by quitting school or graduating.

As long as a student attends school halftime, the repayment of the loan doesn't become due and no interest is added to the loan account.

When a student leaves school, he or she will have a nine-month grace period before the repayment starts, if the loan is a National Direct Student Loan (NDSL), and a six-month grace period if it is a Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL).

Payment may be made monthly or quarterly until the loan and interest are repaid in full.

In summary, if you are interested in going to school, go to the various schools and talk to the school representatives.

If you want financial aid, see a counselor at the Office of Student Services before enrolling in or beginning classes. Avoid representatives in parking lots.

Don't sign anything for financial aid until you know what your obligations will be under the contract. Get copies of anything you sign.

The school papers and loan papers usually contain important information about your rights and obligations to the school and to the lending institution.

If you should have problems with the school or with the loan in the future, you will need to have those papers.

Deciding to go to school after you have completed high school is a big step. It is one that should be considered carefully.

If you apply for financial aid, do so only after carefully reviewing the loan papers and the payment schedule to make sure that you will be able to repay the loan.

If you have any questions, talk to someone at the Office of Student Services. They are there to help you make these decisions.

(This article was prepared for the Gila River Indian News by the Office of Student Services and Four Rivers Indian Legal Services for the use of community members. It is not intended as legal advice. If you have a legal problem related to educational enrollment or student loans, talk to an attorney.)

Four members of the community complete training at career center

Four Gila River Community members received vocational training certificates from the Gila River Career Center.

Janice Blackwater and Diane Dalton, both from Sacaton, earned

certificates as nurses aides. Angelina Moyah, a resident of Blackwater, also received a nurse aide certificate.

Clement J. Harrison of Sacaton received a training certificate in the center's general cook program.

For Indian children, speech, hearing are among biggest handicaps

Did you know...

That Indian children have more speech, language, or hearing problems than any other handicap?

Or that speech, language, and hearing problems occur four times more often among American Indians than with other people in the U.S.?

Well, people who know about these things only know that they happen, but to explain why is much more difficult.

Robin Dilworth is the coordinator of a program at the University of Arizona that trains American Indians in therapy and rehabilitation for Indians with speech, language and hearing problems.

Many of these problems are tied to disorders that occur more among Indians than other groups—disorders such as cleft palate and otitis media, an infection in the middle ear, she said.

And testing to try to find out why speech, language and hearing problems prevail among Indians hasn't really produced any answers, Dilworth said.

Often there is skepticism about the usefulness of the tests, prompting questions about whether they are language or culturally sensitive, she said.

She said her program, American Indian Professional Training in Speech Pathology and Audiology, doesn't now try to find out why these problems occur, it tries to remedy the problems by training American Indians to work with American Indians who have these problems.

"One of the reasons for having a program like this is the language differences, the cultural differences," Dilworth said.

One of the program's eligibility preferences, though not a requirement, is that a student who wants to participate in the program be fluent in English and in their own tribal language as well.

The benefit is that a person who understands the native language is likely to have a better understanding of the cultural and ethnic influences in communication.

"Students come from all over the nation. We have students from Hopi, Navajo, Tohono O'odham, Cheyenne River Sioux, and we have one coming from Lakota Sioux," she said.

Students enrolled in the program study normal speech and language development, and how it is affected by the influences of American Indian culture.

The study of Indian languages and culture is integrated into the training program.

The sought after end result of the program, said Dilworth, is that these Indian professional speech pathologists and audiologists go to their communities where, because they speak their language and know about their culture, they can more appropriately provide therapy.

In training Indians for the task, the program also aims to qualify students for a master's degree in speech pathology or audiology.

For those students who qualify for the program, they are provided a monthly stipend, tuition and fees, and a dependent allowance.

Two aspects of the program that are unique, Dilworth said, are the "financial assistance for Native American students, and the tutorial support we offer before a student begins to fail. We tutor from the very beginning."

There currently are eight students in the program, which is funded for 10.

Dilworth said though the program is nearly full, openings do occur as people graduate.

For information about the program, contact Dilworth at the Speech and Hearing Sciences Dept., University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, or call (602)621-1969.

Thorough training programs offered through Gila River Career Center

If you're looking for a career and want thorough training, several courses in a variety of fields are available on an open entry/open exit format at the Gila River Career Center.

These programs are available year-round with students able to enroll each Monday.

For those considering bartending, there is a nine-week, 40-hour program available in the center's hospitality skills area. The cost is \$46 a person, plus an additional \$7 for textbooks and equipment.

For those persons who want to be a cook, the center offers a 23-week, 640-hour program costing \$736 a person, plus \$20 for books.

There is also a 15-week, 400-hour prep cook course for \$460 a person, plus \$20 for books.

In the area of office skills, the center offers a word processor, eight-week, 200-hour program costing \$230, plus \$20 for textbooks. There is also a 25-week, 700-hour general

secretary program that costs \$805, with an additional \$50 for textbooks.

In the area of health care skills, there is a 22-week, 600-hour program for a nurse aide. The cost is \$690 a person, plus another \$100 for uniforms and equipment.

The career center's building trades skills program includes training in building repair and maintenance that runs for 22 weeks, covering 600 hours. The cost is \$690 a person, plus \$15 for supplies.

General building trades training is an 18-week, 500-hour program that costs \$575 a person, plus \$15 for supplies.

General building trades programs in electricity, masonry, plumbing and carpentry each run 33 weeks, covering 900 hours. The cost is \$1,035 a person, plus \$15 for supplies.

For more information about these comprehensive training programs, call the Gila River Career Center's director of student services at 562-3346.

You're what you eat, so don't dare be a donut, lard, soda or chip

When it comes to health, there are some things we can't do much about, such as choosing our parents and our genes.

On the other hand, many health factors are within our control, such as whether we smoke, drink excessively, exercise, or eat wisely.

Making the right choices for a healthy lifestyle requires effort—conscious, continuous, personal effort.

But the effort is worthwhile and far better than depending on modern medicine to cure us, or attempt to cure us, after disease strikes.

Doing something about our diet is an excellent way to start. Our diets have changed radically within the past fifty years, with great and often very harmful effects on our health.

Too much fat, too much sugar and salt can be linked directly to heart disease, cancer, obesity and stroke, among other killer diseases.

In all, six of the ten leading causes of death in the United States have been linked with our diet. Because eating is a habit, it doesn't always get the attention it deserves.

How does your diet measure up in terms of these: too much fat, too much sugar, too much salt, and just plain too much?

Quiz yourself. Place a check mark next to those items you eat on a regular basis.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> whole milk | <input type="checkbox"/> skim or low fat milk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> donuts, pastry, cake, pie | <input type="checkbox"/> bagel, English muffin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> cheddar, longhorn cheese | <input type="checkbox"/> mozzarella cheese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bacon, sausage | <input type="checkbox"/> lean ham |
| <input type="checkbox"/> potato chips, corn chips | <input type="checkbox"/> whole grain crackers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> butter, lard | <input type="checkbox"/> soft margarine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> soda, fruit drinks | <input type="checkbox"/> fruit juice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> white bread | <input type="checkbox"/> whole grain bread |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bologna, hot dogs | <input type="checkbox"/> fresh, frozen or canned fish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fatty beef, pork | <input type="checkbox"/> lean beef, chicken, turkey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sugar-coated cereals | <input type="checkbox"/> whole grain, plain cereals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> candy, cookies | <input type="checkbox"/> raisins, dried fruit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tuna packed in oil | <input type="checkbox"/> water-packed tuna |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fruit canned in syrup | <input type="checkbox"/> fruit canned in own juices |

Count the checks in each column. If you have more checks in the left-hand column than in the right, your total diet is probably too high in fat, salt, or sugar to be healthy for you.

What can you do about it? Celebrate each day of the month with a "Be Bright...Eat Right" choice.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase fiber. Start the day with a bowl of whole grain cereal. • Shake the salt habit. Leave the salt shaker off the table. • Eat a new vegetable. Try it raw. • Complement a protein - peanut butter on whole wheat. • Enrich your blood with iron food. • Serving size counts - cut down, not out. • Adults need milk products too. • Choose fresh fruit for dessert tonight. • Bake, broil, or boil instead of fry. • Walk it off - one donut takes an hour. • Learn to use nutrition labels. • Substitute juice or water for pop. • Exercise helps to keep you fit. • For A and C add an extra vegetable or fruit. • Trim all fat and skin from meat and poultry. • Steam a vegetable tonight. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch out for hidden sugar in prepared foods. • Try a vegetable salad tonight. • Switch to a low sugar cereal. • Say yes to less. • Dip a veggie instead of a chip. • Seeds and nuts add nutrients and crunch. • Try fruit. • Take time for breakfast. • To prevent decay, throw the candy away. • Try peas and beans without added fat. • Whole grain bread and cereal are a whole lot better. • Try soft margarine instead of butter. • Take a yogurt and juice to lunch. • Try low fat milk instead of whole milk. • Try mozzarella cheese instead of longhorn. |
|---|--|

for the Gila River Indian News
by Department of Human Resources
Gila River Indian Community

Scottsdale Pow wow is April 11-19

Scottsdale All-Indian Days and the 11th annual pow wow will be held April 11-19 at Scottsdale Community College.

Activities will include gourd dancing, exhibition dancing, arts and crafts booths, chicken scratch band and dance contest, buffalo barbecue, food booths, drum contest, and a teepee contest.

The exhibition dancing will include dancers from Hopi, Zuni, Navajo, Pueblo, Alaskan and the Eastern nations.

An activity added this year will be an open fine art competition offering \$250 as a top award, secondary

awards of \$150, and best of class awards of \$100.

Nine classifications for the fine arts competition are painting, sculpture, Kachina carvings, textiles, Indian culture, baskets, pottery, beadwork, and jewelry.

Proceeds from the pow wow and fine arts competition will go to set up scholarships for Native Americans attending Scottsdale Community College.

The Scottsdale All-Indian Days is sponsored by the Scottsdale Native American Indian Cultural Foundation. For information about the activity, call 244-8244, ext. 1409.

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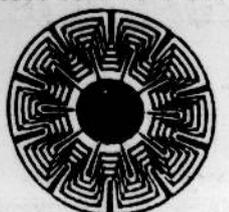
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Information about mail subscriptions and advertising rates is available from the newspaper's business office. Gila River Indian News, P.O. Box 459, Sacaton, Arizona 85247. (602)562-3311.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Concerned about poisoning by pesticides

Dear Editor:
At the Jan. 26, District 3 community meeting, the subject of pesticide spraying on the Gila River Reservation was presented by concerned community members.

District 3 councilman Lloyd Notah Jr. asked me to inform you about our concern. Thus, this letter.

We realize that the Gila River Indian Community, through the Pesticide Control Office, already has regulations about pesticide use, but we are concerned about several points in particular.

Specifically: The types of chemicals being sprayed, pesticide drift, the affect spraying and fertilizing are having on the animals and plants native to the desert, and the danger of residues and leaching.

We are not aware at this point of just which chemicals are being sprayed on the crops raised in this area. Pesticides are, by their nature, poison, and there is no such thing as a safe chemical pesticide.

Just because the residues are legal does not mean that they are safe. It is evident that pesticides used in agriculture pollute our air, contaminate our food supply, kill our wild plants and animals, and poison our ground water.

Recent medical studies show that pesticides are found in breast milk and in the blood and tissues of newborn babies.

Because of this, the effects of the

spraying on area residents has us worried that most any aerial or even ground spraying over or in a populated area is dangerous and should be stopped.

Nationwide there are many examples of how pesticide poisoning affects not only farms workers, area residents and consumers, but children as well.

The tribal regulations about spraying around schools is good, but forgets the children living out in the middle of sprayed fields.

Since those who produce, test, authorize, use and regulate these poisons won't exercise control, we who are endangered by them are going to have to demand that our health and safety be considered more important than the profits of the agribusiness-chemical industry.

What we are asking is for a thorough investigation into just which chemicals are being sprayed on us, the degree of their toxic affect on local animal, plant and human life, and prompt help in getting the most dangerous of these chemicals banned from use in, on and over our homeland.

Ruth Armstrong
Sacaton

(This is a portion of a letter addressed to Henry N. George, Pesticide Control Officer at Sacaton. Armstrong forwarded a copy to the editor of the Gila River Indian News for publication.)

Courage to take just one step further

Dear Editor:
To the Gila River Indian News readers: My name is Catherine Thomas, and I'm on a work experience basis parttime at the Employment Training Office under Marilyn Loonsfoot, employment and training coordinator.

On March 9, 1987, I had the opportunity to chauffeur the GED students from Employment and Training to Career Day at Scottsdale Community College. I would like to express and bring out a few fine points about what Career Day was all about.

One of the speakers was Howard Rainer, American Indian photographer/poet and a professor at Brigham Young University. His lecture impressed me very much, as it was he who spent most of the Career Day with all who attended.

After lunch was the part I enjoyed the most. We were placed in seven groups to compete against each other. Before we got into our groups, Rainer asked us to write our name, and numbers 1 through 5 below our name, on a piece of paper.

Then he said to ask ourselves, "What kind of Indian am I?" Well, after listening to his lecture, I came down to the conclusion that as a whole person I should believe that; (1) I am smart, (2) I am very creative, (3) I am courageous, (4) I am a doer, not a talker, and (5). Then stand like it, talk like it, and look like it—being an Indian. At one time he also said

"Indians should not be quitters." The subject of all the speakers there was that we should not be afraid of what we have to face out there in the real world. As Indians, or any other nationality, we each have a brain and we should put that brain to use. This was the main idea that I came out with.

I also feel that all our Indian youth today should attend a Career Day, or any other activity pertaining to education.

And if any of you have a chance to attend any lecture by Howard Rainer, believe me, it will change the whole concept in a person, because it turned my whole point of view about education around.

Right now I am planning to go on to more schooling, and I say "getting an education is never too late for anyone."

Furthermore, I took that one step already by sending this article to the Gila River Indian News.

And as Ira Englander, president of Englander Productions, said, "The most powerful decision is I can do it." And I did it by submitting this article.

If by chance anyone of the speakers on Career Day at Scottsdale Community College reads this, I give my thanks. You were all great because I benefited from it, and I also feel others who attended did too.

Catherine Thomas
Sacaton

Community Calendar

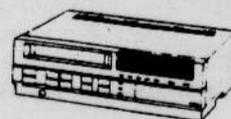
- April 1 — Gila River Indian Community regular monthly Tribal Council meeting, 9 a.m., District 3, Sacaton.
- April 3 — Deadline for political candidates to file Declarations of Candidacy with the Gila River Indian Community Election Chairperson for the May 5 Tribal Council election.
- April 3 — Mul-Chu-Tha, Gila River Indian Community annual rodeo and fair, Sacaton.
- April 4 — Mul-Chu-Tha, Gila River Indian Community annual rodeo and fair, Sacaton.
- April 5 — Mul-Chu-Tha, Gila River Indian Community annual rodeo and fair, Sacaton.
- April 11 — San Tan Landowners Corporation meeting, 8:30 a.m., District 4 Service Center.
- April 11-19 — Scottsdale All Indian Days and Pow Wow, Scottsdale Community College.
- April 16 — Absentee ballots become available upon written request for May 5 Tribal Council election.

Calendar Courtesy Of:

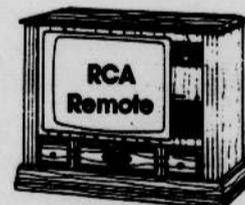
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