

The Gila River Indian News

A Gila River Indian Community Publication
Sacaton, Az.



VOL.4 NO.3

MARCH 10, 1988 PAGE 1

Candidates to start readying for May 3 tribal council election

Nominations for representatives to the Gila River Tribal Council from four districts will begin March 20, leading to tribal council elections May 3.

Tribal council seats up for election are held by Leona Thomas from District 1, Lester Gage from District 4, Daniel Tree from District 5, and Lawrence Enos from District 6.

The term of office for each of the tribal council seats is three years.

The closing date for nominations is April 4, which is also the opening day for persons not nominated to declare their candidacy for the tribal council seat from their respective district.

The closing date for declarations of candidacy for office is April 14.

According to the Gila River Election Ordinance, nominations for office must be made at a district meeting that must be scheduled at least 30 days before the May 3

election date, but no more than 45 days before the election.

Those persons declaring themselves as a candidate for the tribal council seat must file a declaration of candidacy form with the chairman of the Gila River Election Board.

Persons either nominated or declaring their candidacy for office must be a qualified voter of the Gila River Indian Community, be at least 25 years of age, and file for the office for the district in which he or she resides.

For voters, only those eligible voters who reside in the districts that have a tribal council seat up for election may vote May 3.

To be eligible to vote, a community member must be at least 18 years of age, and must have his or her name appear on the official enrollment list of the Gila River community.

Malcom Eschief wins council seat in District 4 special election

Malcom Eschief beat out five other candidates in a Feb. 16 special election for the Gila River Tribal Council seat from District 4.

The council seat was left vacant by William R. Rhodes when he took the tribe's lieutenant governor post.

Eschief, who took 82 votes, was followed by Weldon Salkey who had 54 votes.

They were followed by Sherwin Whitman with 24 votes, Burdette Morago with 23 votes, Larry Dean Allison with 19 votes, and Neil Bantetewa with 7 votes.

In an unusual twist for a reservation election, there were no write-in votes cast.

Eschief will serve the remaining two years of the three-year tribal council term.



HOOPING IT UP—Dennis Alley of the Wisdom Indian Dancers from Phoenix does a hoop dance during the Wa:K Pow Wow March 5 and 6 at San Xavier. The Wisdom Indian Dancers, who have performed at Gila River, were among scores of Indian dance groups that participated in the event.

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

Letters:

Thanks for the vote

On behalf of the Casa Grande Union High School District governing board I want to thank all of those Gila River citizens who voted YES in the Feb. 9 bond election.

The purpose of this election was to

find out what you the citizens of our (school) district wanted us to do concerning our district's critical facility and equipment needs.

I am pleased to say that all of you who voted in Sacaton supported the district's request for new facilities.

Unfortunately, we still came up short as the issue was defeated by a 53 percent to 47 percent margin.

The big question is: Where do we go from here?

That is the question the CGUHS governing board will be discussing at future governing board meetings and will be making a decision whether or not to hold another bond election May 17.

If the decision is made to call for a May 17 bond election, we will once

again be asking for your help.

If you have any questions concerning the recent bond election or a possible May 17 bond election, do not hesitate to call my office, 836-8532.

As your high school district, we are your representatives, and by working together we can achieve the goal that we are all seeking: Better facilities and schools for all the children of the communities served by our district.

In the meantime, I want you to know that we are deeply appreciative of the effort you made to go to the polls to vote YES on Feb. 9.

Clark A. Stevens
Superintendent
Casa Grande Union
High School District



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Support housing bill

Good News! Senate Bill 1987 has been introduced to amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to establish a separate program to provide housing assistance for Indians and Alaska Natives.

If this bill can be passed it basically separates Indian housing from public housing, so changes can be made to Indian housing to better serve the needs of Indian people.

A change already contained in this bill is the lowering of the rental percentage from 30 percent to 20 percent of adjusted income.

This bill will probably meet very much staff opposition in Congress to prevent it from being passed.

You can help its chances of being passed if you write to your state senators and tell them why you support the bill.

They need your comments and will listen because they need your vote.

Both of our state senators are co-sponsors of the bill and their names and addresses are listed below so you can write to them.

They need to hear from you. Do not wait for someone else to do it for you if you want a better housing program.

Copies of the bill are available at the Gila River Indian Community Housing Authority offices.

Senator Dennis DeConcini
328 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
or
700 E. Jefferson, Ste. 200
Phoenix, AZ 85034

Senator John McCain
1123 Longworth House
Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
or
151 N. Centennial Way
Ste. 1000
Mesa, AZ 85201

Terrance Booth
Chairman, Board
of Commissioners
Gila River Housing



Papago Runner

PUBLICATION SERVICE

Posters	Books
Programs	Brochures
Photography	Promotion
Typesetting	Design

ADVERTISE

Local consumers should benefit from San Carlos Project improvements

The San Carlos Irrigation Project, which provides electric service to most of Gila River, is either completed or is involved with several projects that are expected to improve service to its reservation consumers.

The district in November established a new power supply connection facility in the northcentral area of the reservation.

This enables San Carlos to take electric power from the Parker-Davis Project transmission system at a location that is closer to industrial and agricultural customers in that part of the reservation.

The project involved the \$2.25 million construction of a transmission switchyard and substation.

San Carlos also awarded a \$1.5 million contract to Anderson and Wood Co. of Caldwell, Idaho for the rehabilitation of approximately 32 miles of 69,000 volt electric transmission line.

The project will eliminate older portions of the transmission line to provide more reliable service to reservation customers.

Also, a \$294,893 contract was awarded to ESS Corporation of Phoenix to build two electric distribution substations.

One of the substations, called the Pima-Chandler Project, involves the addition of a power transformer station to an existing substation. It is expected to be completed by mid-March.

Beginning this month, San Carlos also started billing its customers using an automated system.

The new system, which involves an IBM computer, replaces accounting equipment that was used for 22 years.

To set up the new system, including converting customer files, staff training and initial operations, San Carlos awarded a bid to ORCOM

Systems. ORCOM is a firm that specializes in utility system automation, and has

performed similar conversions with other utilities. The new bills contain more details

of customer use, and improve the utility's ability to process receipts and notices.



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

SACATON, AZ. 85247

Tribal Secretary's Office
P.O. Box 189
(602) 562-3311 or 963-4323

TRIBAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS May 1988

March 20, 1988	Beginning of Nominations
April 04, 1988	Deadline for Nominations
April 04, 1988	Beginning of time for declaration of Council Candidates
April 14, 1988	Deadline for Declarations
April 20, 1988	Tribal Council Meeting - Certification of Qualifications of Candidates
April 20, 1988	Absentee Ballots Available (upon written request)
April 23, 1988	Notice of Elections posted in Districts
April 29, 1988	Election Board Orientation, 8:00 a.m.
May 02, 1988	Absentee Ballots due by 5:00 pm or or post-marked by April 28, 1988
May 03, 1988	Tribal Council Elections (6:00 am to 6:00 pm) Districts 1,4,5, & 6
May 04, 1988	Tribal Council Certification of Newly Elected Council Members
June 01, 1988	Oath of Office

Elections Chairperson: Doreen V. Allen
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
P.O. Box 189
Sacaton, Arizona 85247

Sacaton Line: 562-3311 X230
Phoenix Line: 963-4323
Casa Grande Line: 836-8178

Dallas DeLowe is named judge of Children's Court



DALLAS DELOWE, an associate judge with the Gila River Tribal Court, was appointed judge of the tribe's Children's Court. DeLowe replaces Gregory Giff, who had served as the Children's Court judge for three years.

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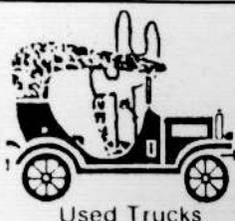
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76 Fiat 2-Door	475.00
77 Chev Monza	550.00
74 Camaro	950.00
76 Camaro	975.00
77 AMC Wagon	275.00
72 Ford Pinto	475.00
77 Olds Cutlass	550.00
74 Ford Pinto	375.00
77 Ford T-Bird	650.00
80 Chev Citation	825.00

Missing school can condemn youth

The academic and social success of a student can be greatly hindered by failure of that student to attend school classes.

As early as 1926, a study done by Healy and Bronner reported that 40 percent of the offenders in the Chicago and Boston areas had at one time been truant and had been considered an absentee problem in school.

In another study done by Glueck and Glueck, it was found that 94 percent of a sample of 500 institutionalized delinquent boys had been attendance problems at school.

These are just two of the surveys and studies done that are a growing body of research that indicates attendance at school and success are related.

The statistical report for the first 40 days of attendance in the 1987-88 school year at Laveen School indicates that the students who live on the reservation have almost twice as many absences as do the students

who live off the reservation.

This is a significant problem knowing the relationship between good attendance and good grades.

For the student's sake, it is important that parents make sure they get their students to school, and that they check on their student's attendance and performance at school.

The above statement is made by Mr. Geisiking, principal of Laveen Elementary School, for us, Lucille Enos and Annette Lewis, elementary school counselor/tutors.

Because absences affect our Indian students academically, students are retained, which further results in some very unhappy children. I am sure other schools face the same problems with Indian youth.

Education is important because the world awaits us and expects us to reach goals, achieve fame, to prosper and progress. This is known as the American dream.

But for a golden people who are richly aware of our culture as well as our spirit of purpose, this wasn't our total dream because of the push-and-pull, step-on-toes-to-get-to-the-top kind of society we were not used to.

Yes, we were a golden people at one time, content to watch a hurried society buzz around us. But now, because our feet are planted to the earth, we envision ourselves holding onto our oneness with mother earth in one hand, and holding on to a progressive society in the other. This tells me that it is a kind of living that is not impossible.

My people, I urge you to consider the principal's problem for the student's sake.

Where our tribal government stands, were our O'odham education leaders stand or where you stand as a parent, maybe where one day your child will stand.

If they are encouraged, supported, if they are praised, if they are raised, if they are recognized, if they are special, then you as a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle, can provide this kind of nourishment.

The Gila River Indian Community provides help to anyone who asks, especially if you're dealing with adolescents; your church, social services, Parents Anonymous, Parents Are Teachers, Child Protective Services, Early Suicide Prevention, Boy Scouts, to name a few.

Get involved with your children for their sake.

by Lucille Enos

Students cited

Two members of the Gila River Indian Community were named to the Central Arizona College honors list for maintaining a high grade point average during the fall 1987 semester.

Bapchule resident Clementia Martinez and Christina M. Webb from Sacaton were recognized for their academic achievement.

Students named to the honors list are required to maintain a grade point average of 3.0 to 3.49 out of a 4.0 scale.

Three community residents received certificates of completion in cashier training from the Gila River Career Center.

They are Janice Rhodes and Florine Sabori of Sacaton, and Adrienne Lewis of Laveen.

SELLS SPRING CLASSIC II RODEO ALL-INDIAN MARCH 19-20, 1988

TWO PERFORMANCES

GENERAL ADMISSION	3.00 PERSON
SATURDAY	1:30 P.M.
SATURDAY & SUNDAY MORNING	8:00 A.M. (SLACK)
SUNDAY	1:00 P.M.

EVENTS	LIMITS	ENTRY FEE	ADDED PURSE
BARREL RACING/ SADDLE BRONC	30 EA.	\$50.00 EA.	\$100.00
BULL RIDING	75	\$60.00*	\$100.00
CALF ROPING/ STEER WRESTLING	30/30	\$50.00 EA.	\$100.00
TEAM ROPING(ENTER THREE)	75	\$80.00*	\$100.00
GIRL'S BARREL RACE	NO LIMIT	\$40.00	\$100.00
JUNIOR BARREL RACE (DAILY)	NO LIMIT	\$10.00	\$ 50.00

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ENTRY INFORMATION

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OPEN — MARCH 1, 1988 CLOSES — MARCH 11, 1988 P.O. BOX 428, SELLS, ARIZONA. 85634

NO PERSONAL CHECKS

CALL IN ENTRIES - MARCH 14, 1988 — ROUGH STOCK

(6 P.M.—10 P.M.) - MARCH 15, 1988 — TIME EVENTS

TELEPHONE NO. (602)-383-2298

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY MARCH 18, 1988

CALL BACKS — MARCH 17, 1988 6-10 P.M.

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Applications are being accepted for Miss Gila River 1988 pageant

The Miss Gila River Pageant Committee is accepting applications from young women planning to compete for the Miss Gila River 1988 title.

The pageant as well as other activities involving Miss Gila River are part of the annual Mul-Chu-Tha celebration scheduled April 15-17 at Sacaton.

The pageant this year will kick off Mul-Chu-Tha April 15 at the fair grounds amphitheater at Sacaton.

A banquet will be held April 14 at Grace Inn located at Interstate 10 and Elliott Road.

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 25. Contestants must not be currently holding any national, state or tribal royalty 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.

Contestants may be an enrolled 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 the pageant date.

Women who have previously entered the contest 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, 241-2159; Doreen Allen, 562-3311 ext. 230; Harriet Manuel, 562-3411; Carleton Giff, 562-3311; Gloria Allison, Arlene Joyce Hughes or Harriet James.

Sells Spring Rodeo Classic March 19, 20 at Tohono O'odham

The Sells Spring Classic Rodeo, which in its second year has grown beyond just a rodeo to feature activities that include a parade, pow wow, carnival, arts and crafts trade fair and other activities, will be held March 19 and 20 at Sells.

The event is staged by the Sells Spring Classic Rodeo, Inc., a non-profit organization which is working to raise money for youth sports on the reservation.

The weekend activities will start Saturday at 7 a.m. with a fun run and walk beginning at the Sells Shopping Center.

At 9 a.m. Saturday, there will be a parade starting on Big Fields Road.

For information call Mike Juan or Walt Wesch at 383-2601, ext. 226.

For the price of a \$3 admission into the Livestock Complex west of Sells, a person can get into Saturday's pow wow which starts at noon, the rodeo at 1 p.m., arts and crafts trade fair, carnival, food booths, a free barbecue following Saturday's rodeo performance, a Toka tournament which will be held in the morning with finals in the rodeo arena.

An added feature of the rodeo Saturday is a wild horse race. There will also be a basketball tournament held as part of the weekend activities.

A chicken scratch dance is also being planned for Saturday night.

Community Calendar

- March 11 - Well Child Clinic, District 4 Service Center, 9 a.m.
- March 12 - First Aid training, open to community, District 3 service center, 9 a.m.
- March 14 - Special community meeting on housing, District 3 service center, 7 p.m.
- March 17 - Diabetic clinic, District 4 service center, 8:30 a.m.
- March 19 - Gila Crossing School mini-carnival.
- March 19 - Swap Meet, Dist. 3 service center, 9 a.m.
- March 19 - First Aid training, District 4 service center, 9 a.m.
- March 20 - Nominations open for Gila River tribal council seats from Districts 1, 4, 5 and 6.
- March 21 - District 3 Community Meeting, service center, 7 p.m.
- March 21 - Diabetic Clinic, District 4 service center, 8:30 a.m.
- March 21 - District 4 Community Meeting, service center, 7 p.m.
- March 22 - Planning meeting for Elderly Recognition Week, District 4 service center.
- March 24 - Elderly annual Spring Picnic for all districts, Foley Park, Chandler.

Calendar courtesy of:

ARIZONA TRADERS, INC.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

PHONE 562-3355

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SACATON, ARIZONA

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The 50th annual **TOHONO O'ODHAM RODEO AND FAIR** is now on VHS cassette!

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It may be too late to cope with alcohol even in junior high and high school

It's no secret that alcohol abuse among young people is a problem on the Tohono O'odham Nation, but trying to deal with it among 12 and 13 year olds may be too late.

Stephen Wall, coordinator for the Behavioral Health Division of the Tohono O'odham Health Department, said that about a year ago Colorado State University's Western Behavioral Sciences did a drug and alcohol use pattern survey on the reservation, and the findings were unsettling.

"We found out that by the time they (young people) get to junior high, their use patterns are set. We can't go into junior high and high school and tell kids not to use drugs," he said.

What this prompted, Wall said, was to develop a prevention and health education effort in the division, one geared to the very young.

The Prevention/Health Education area is one the division's three working areas. Alcoholism and Drug

Abuse counseling, and Mental Health counseling are the other two.

Most often, young people turn to drugs or alcohol, driven by peer pressure, feelings of low self esteem, feelings of failure, feelings of inadequacy, he said.

The health education and prevention effort is geared to these problems, he said, "and right now working with the little kids is one of the primary focuses that we have."

Often the way a child feels about himself or herself is tied to the problems faced at home—parents are split, parents are alcoholics.

The thrust of community education, he said, "is to teach kids that while these things are going on around them, they don't have to feel personally responsible."

"The kids tend to take it on as a personal burden," said Wall, and we try to teach them that "they don't have to drink to escape from that kind of burden."

"Kids are kids, and when they open up, they tell everything, and honestly."

"Kids are kids, and when they open up, they tell everything, and honestly."

And Cynthia Lopez found out that what children tell when they open up can also be very painful.

Lopez is a member of the prevention team with the Behavioral Health Division of the Tohono O'odham Nation's Health Department. She works in the area of health education and prevention.

The stories she listens to come from children who talk about their parents' bouts with alcohol, about being physically abused, and about having to deal with the death of a parent.

These children for the most part are in grades kindergarten through fifth.

What Lopez has found out is that these children endure interminable stress of which their elders and parents have no idea.

Lopez job is to work with children in an effort to help them deal with an assortment of problems, from alcoholism within their families to physical abuse they may endure.

"Parents think they are just babies, that they won't know" or remember, Lopez said.

"And yet it's there—the kids have feelings too," she said.

She said in one session, a third grader told her she was admonished at home for crying—crying was taboo.

And a boy in the first grade told of being taken by family members far from his home and left to find his way back.

A girl in the third grade talked about the death of her mother, and her effort to hold back tears because she felt she had to do the things her mother once did.

These are all very solemn subjects for 5, 6 and 7 year olds to be talking about, but they show the stress that many children carry, out of sight of even their parents.

Lopez said the effect on the children is a tearing down of their self-esteem, a chipping away at what they see when they look at themselves.

What she tries to do is lead them through a series of steps to rebuild

their self image.

She said, "We use the school curriculum 'Children Are People.' We talk about feelings. Some kids feel ashamed to cry. Some kids feel like 'My parents are with each other and they're fighting because I was born.'"

Very often, because of home influences, children think emotions are something bad, but "we tell them it's okay to be said, it's okay to be angry."

Once the child accepts his feelings, thinking that there's nothing wrong with feeling frustrated, angry, hurt, sad, he or she then can choose how to deal those feelings.

"It's really up to the person, it's the individual's own choice," said Lopez, no matter what playmates may suggest, or what examples parents might be setting.

One of Lopez' main functions is to steer these children away from choosing alcohol or drugs as a way of dealing with their problems, but sometimes that's not so easy, especially if the children see their parents or elders choosing those things as solutions to their problems.

One child told her, Lopez said, "I would go drink like my parents"—and this was in kindergarten."

She said other choices were, "I would go ride my bike. I would go draw to get rid of my anger."

There's a step in the process called sharing, Lopez said, and it is here that the children open up, and in a sense vent much of the emotion and stress that they've built.

"They share what goes on in the home," said Lopez.

She said she sees about 400 children each week, and having to hear the sometimes painful stories can take a toll.

"I'm so burned out from everything I see and hear, and from my own personal life," she said.

"It's there all the time, at every session...it hurts...I cry with them, I laugh with them."

"I think though that they need someone. I really love my job because I can see that these children need help...they need someone to talk to."

"That's why I try not to miss a day," Lopez said.

Reservation consumer gets furniture, \$371, and a big sigh of relief

Things backfired on a rent-to-own company doing business on the Tohono O'odham Nation when a customer countersued the company and won.

According to the newsletter Winds of Law, Papago Legal Services in Sells won a case against Reed's Rentals, a Casa Grande based business.

The matter started when Reed's sued the O'odham woman in tribal court in an effort to get her to pay on a rental contract for furniture.

After reviewing the contract between the woman and Reed's, the legal office said it found violations of numerous Arizona and federal laws designed to protect consumers.

Prompted by that, Papago Legal Services filed a counterclaim on behalf of the woman against Reed's.

The tribal court decision found that the woman had paid more than the fair value of the furniture.

And because of apparent misrepresentations and problems both with the contract and with the company's recordkeeping, found that the terms of the contract had been

more than met by the woman.

The tribal court awarded the woman full ownership of the furniture and \$371 statutory damages under the federal truth-in-lending law, and awarded attorney's fees to Papago Legal Services.

The newsletter also warned consumers that rent-to-own contracts in general may look like a good deal with low weekly payments, but cautioned buyers to add up the total monthly payments.

The revelation may be sometimes shocking, it says, when buyers are asked to pay many times the value of the furniture or appliances.

The article also cautions buyers to be sure whether they are buying used or new items.

The contract has to make all of this clear, and if you don't understand the contract, don't sign.

There are consumer protection laws that can sometimes help if there are problems later, but it's better to know what you're getting into at the beginning, according to Winds of Law.

O'odham cable television company starts programming to Sells homes

A cable television effort that started over four years ago on the Tohono O'odham Nation started programming Feb. 25 to households in Sells.

Allen Garcia, a Tohono O'odham and owner of Oasis Cablevision in Sells, said, the company "is a cable service providing satellite programming, featuring HBO, Cinemax, Disney, and other superstations (such as) WTBS, WGN and WOR."

"Overall we're going to provide 27 channels, and there will be more additions as they become available," he said.

He said the Oasis Cablevision effort started "the latter part of '83. I started talking with the Sells community and the tribal council."

"It took about 1½ years for them (the tribe) to develop a cable ordinance," said Garcia, during which he continued to meet with the

community and district.

"There are approximately 750 to 800 electrical hookups (in Sells), if we can get at least 40 percent of that, then it would be worth it, it would work," he said.

As an opening special, he said, "If homeowners will turn in their TV antennas, we would waive the installation fee. If they want to keep their antennas we would take 50 percent off the installation fee. That's for the first 200 subscribers," he said.

Garcia said Western Cablevision, a Tucson company, is providing technical and management advise to his company.

"It's pretty difficult to get into this business unless you know someone who's been in it for awhile. You need that leverage to get in," he said.

"We plan to start hooking up tomorrow. At least we're going to hook up my mom anyway," he said.

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New \$11 million hospital at Sacaton is on schedule to open in August

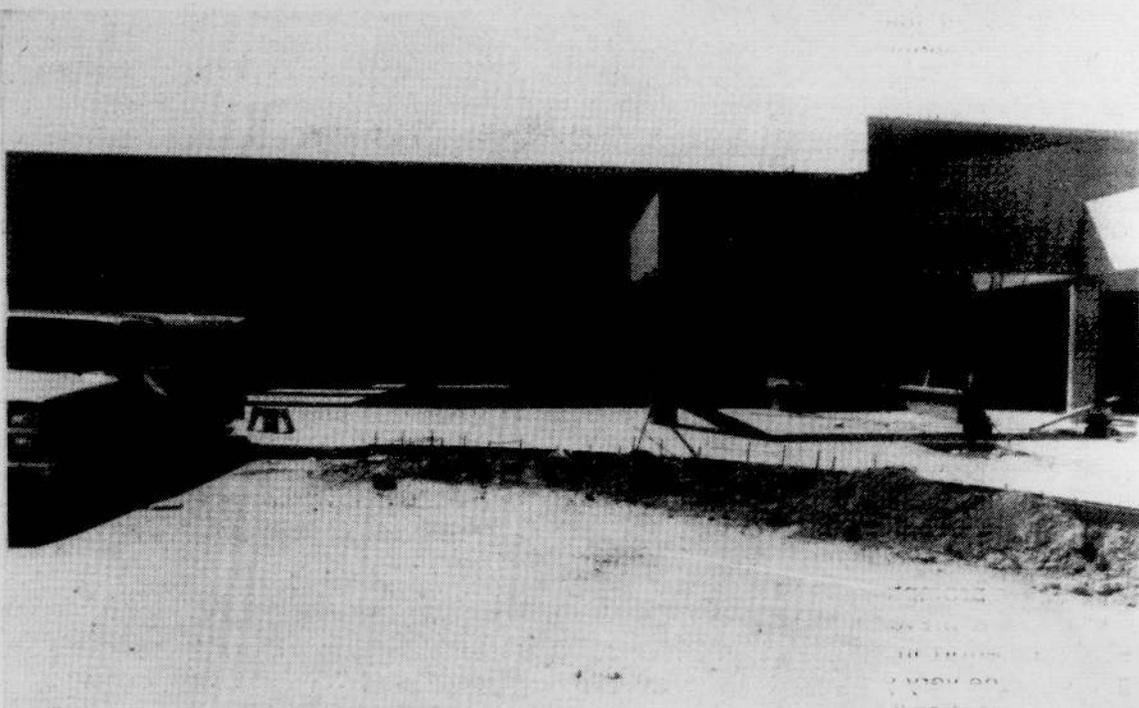
Sacaton's new HuHuKam Indian Health Service hospital is about 96 percent complete, and health officials are looking to an official opening of the \$11 million facility in late summer.

Lance Lewis, administrator for Sacaton Hospital, said, "We're still anticipating it will be completed by the end of April, and final inspection is going on right now."

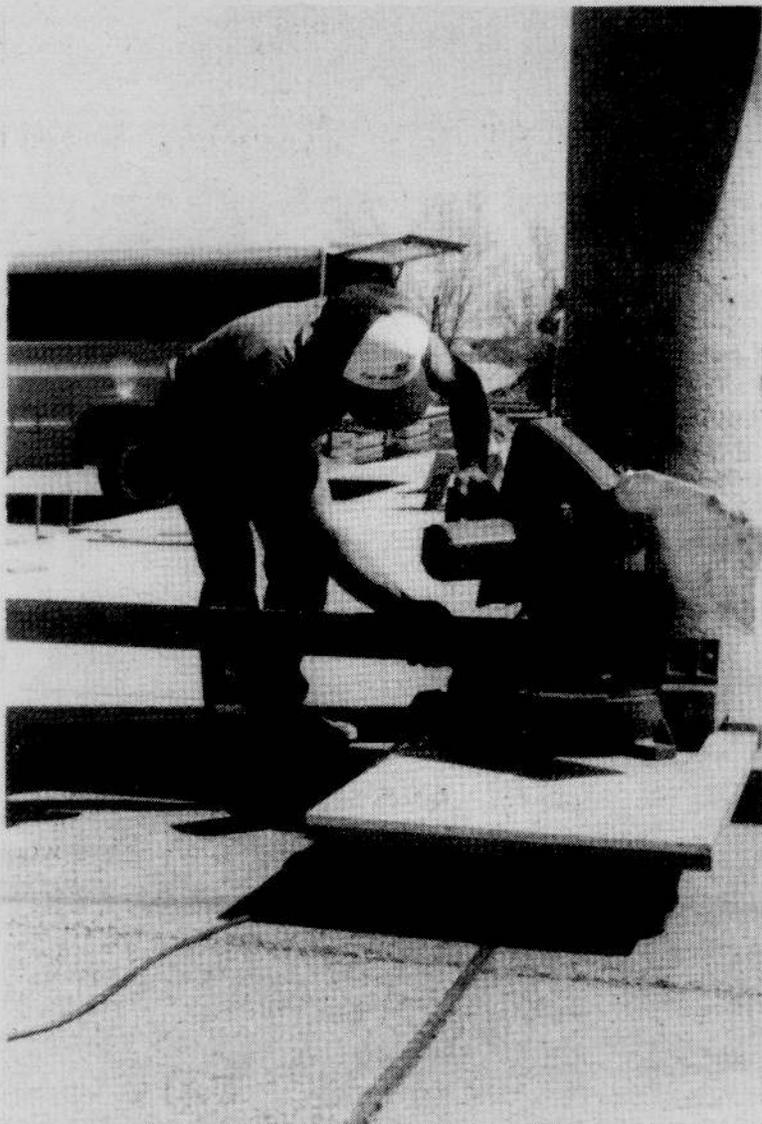
"The official opening will be on August 1 with ceremonies," he said, but it is likely the hospital will be operating before then.

"Our effort is to get in there as soon as possible after it is completed. We'll try to be in there before Aug. 1," Lewis said.

The federally funded project will include space for dental, X-Ray, in-patient and maternity facilities.



The front entry is the first thing you'll see.



Ray Rondeu pieces together a bench for visitors.

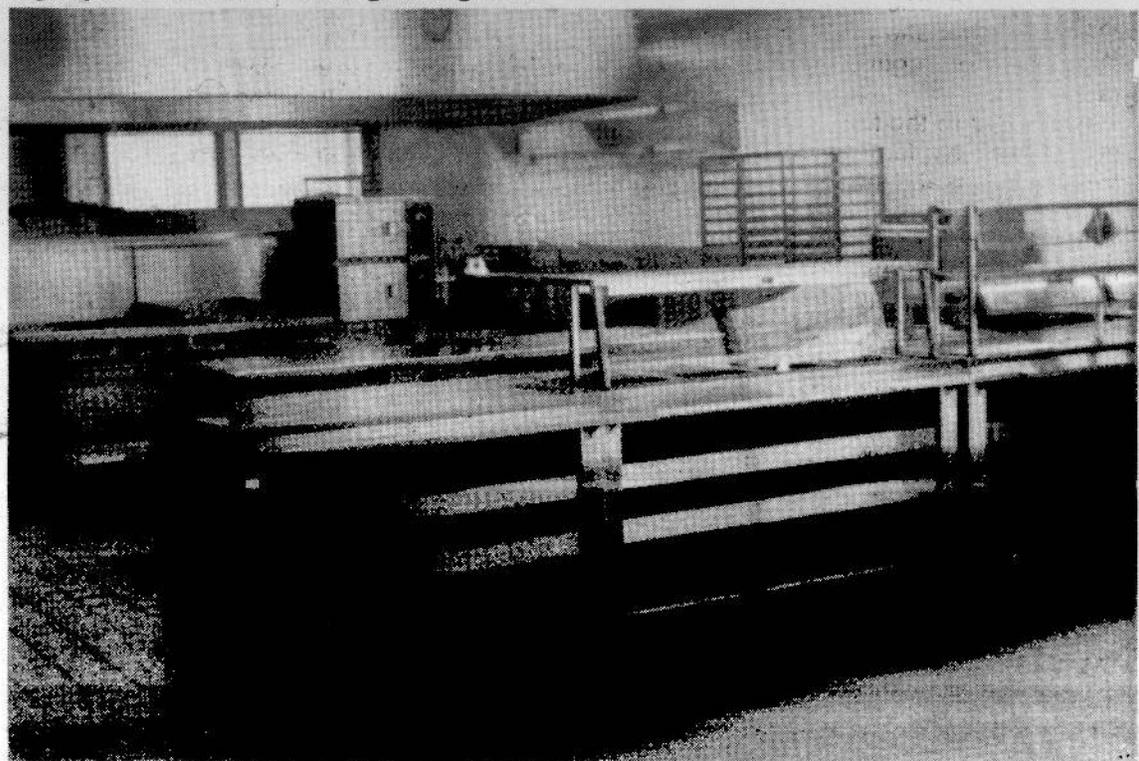


Ray Granado strips in carpeting in one of the corridors.



David Uglade makes sure the hospital is clean for the August opening.

A glimpse of the kitchen shows gleaming steel.



National Institutes of Health has done much for health of Pima Indians

The Gila River Indian Community and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have been involved in ongoing work among the Pima people for about 25 years.

Dr. Peter Bennet, director of the NIH Unit in Phoenix, was the first to document accurately the very high rate of diabetes in the Pimas in 1965.

There were some previous reports on the amount of diabetes among the Pima Indians which did show an increasing trend since the beginning of the century.

In 1902 only one case was reported, but by 1940 the rate of diabetes had risen and probably overtaken that of the U.S. population at large.

Since then the rise has been even more dramatic, to the point where about half of the adult population

now has diabetes.

The Pima and Papagos obviously had a predisposition to diabetes, so in 1965 the NIH decided to establish the field study section in Phoenix based upon the uniqueness of the Gila River Community.

The reservation boundaries were well defined and separate from Phoenix, and the people were mainly full blooded Pimas whose families had been there for a very long time.

This meant that the factors which cause diabetes could be carefully studied in individuals, as well as traced through their families.

The results of this effort by the NIH and the Gila River people has produced an amazing amount of knowledge which has, and still is, enlightening the scientific world

about diabetes.

People the world over working on diabetes care or research know of this work, and it continues to help doctors understand how and why diabetes occurs.

Dr. Bennett said, "Now that we have some understanding of the development of diabetes and its complications, we can begin to look towards intervention to try to prevent the actual development or progression of diabetes and its complications."

"For example, we are planning investigations to see if certain drugs can prevent the progression from

impaired glucose tolerance to diabetes, or prevent the progression of diabetic kidney disease."

He said that they were also looking at the question of diet with both a survey on the reservation and with work at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center.

The NIH is also examining other problems in the Pima Indians. The epidemiology team continues to investigate arthritis and dental disease, and the clinical research team is investigating obesity and energy expenditure.

by Boyd Swinburn
for the Gila River Indian News

Study to find kidney problem cause will involve over 600 in community

A 5-year study of diabetic renal (kidney) disease by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is beginning on the Gila River Indian Community.

The study was approved by the Gila River tribal council.

The aim of the study is to determine what causes kidney problems and how this is related to diabetes, so that effective treatment and possibly prevention can be developed.

According to NIH, it is thought that certain aspects of the diet may influence the development of kidney disease.

Because of this, an extensive dietary survey that will involve over 600 men and women from 18 to 74 years of age is beginning on the reservation.

These people will participate in a detailed dietary interview to obtain information on the types and quantities of foods they consume.

A team of five interviewers from the community has been trained for the purpose, and a driver has been hired

to transport people.

All information obtained at the diet interviews will be strictly confidential and will only be used to get values for the average intake of various nutrients in the diet of people on the reservation.

Those participants who have not had a recent biennial examination at the NIH clinic, or who are not due for one within six months of the interview will be asked to have the exam as well.

Information gained from the dietary interview will be correlated with medical information obtained at the biennial exam.

It is hoped in this way that certain factors can be pin-pointed, which may relate to the progression of diabetes and high blood pressure, and to the development of kidney disease, according to NIH.

Persons who participate in the diet survey will be given a T-shirt with a design by Gordon Jackson, a Pima who has often volunteered for studies.

Sacaton Hospital has changed hours in effort to improve patient service

The IHS Sacaton Hospital has changed the hours of its clinic, a move designed to improve service.

Beginning this month, the outpatient clinic, medical records, laboratory, pharmacy and X-ray will operate through the noon hour with full staffing. Morning clinics will still be specialty clinics.

Patients are urged to arrive early. The earlier a patient's visit can start, the earlier he or she will be able to get medical attention.

The "walk-in" clinic will close at 3 p.m. for patients who don't have an emergency problem.

Patients who arrive after 3 p.m. will be directed to the outpatient nurse or physician on call to determine the appropriate referral.

Persons who have legitimate emergencies that can't wait will, of course, be given priority.

Patients are encouraged to use the early afternoon hours for taking care of medical problems before they become serious.

Pima and Tohono O'odham students recognized at Casa Grande banquet

An awards banquet held Feb. 4 at Casa Grande High School recognized Pima and Tohono O'odham students from the Gila River and Tohono O'odham reservations, as well as students from Stanfield, Arizona City and Casa Grande.

The banquet and awards were sponsored by the high school and the Title 4 Parents Advisory Committee.

It recognized student efforts in academics, athletics, club participation, perfect attendance and special activities.

Pima students making the honor roll in either the first, second or both grading periods of the first semester were Jacob Allen, 9th grade; Ginger Martin, 10th grade; seniors Kimberly Enos, Zuzette Kisto, Jeffery Martin, Victoria Pedro and Darren Rhodes.

Tohono O'odham students making the honor roll during the same period were 9th graders Chris Homer, Ernestine Garcia and Robert Susunkewa; junior Dean Manuel; and seniors Juanita Alvarez and Michael Zepeda.

Pima students recognized for perfect attendance in one or all of the first, second and third six-week periods were 9th graders Jacob Allen,

Benjamin Notah, Christina Notah, Starr Picard and Sheila Winn.

Also making perfect attendance were sophomores Jolene Antone, Ginger Martin, Tasha Matthews, Todd Preston and Delberta Salkey.

Juniors with perfect attendance were Titus Blackwater, Cindy Coffin, Loren DeLowe, Albert Joaquin, Johanna Joe, Loren Johns, Irvina Pablo and Sean Soatikee.

Seniors with perfect attendance were Karen Enos, Denise Jackson, Zuzette Kisto, Jeffery Martin, Keith McDonald, Victoria Pedro, Darren Rhodes and Lavell Rhodes.

Tohono O'odham students with perfect during the same time period were 9th graders Robert Alvarez, Arlene Andres, Chris Homer, Antoinette Lewis, Nadine Pablo, Robert Susunkewa, Sebastian Thomas, Gerald Ventura and Michelle Zepeda.

Also making perfect attendance were sophomores Benito Alvarez and John Childs; and juniors Monica Juan, Ricardo Juan, Renfro Lopez, Dean Manuel and Clint Moya.

Seniors with perfect attendance were Annette Juan and Ann Zepeda.

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GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS
Published by the Gila River Indian Community

Urban L. Giff, Editor Colleen Moyah, Managing Editor

The Gila River Indian News is published once each month. Issues are available at public places and places of business on the Gila River Indian Community and near its boundaries.

Information about mail subscriptions and advertising rates is available by writing to Gila River Indian News, P.O. Box 459, Sacaton, Arizona 85247. (602)562-3311.

* GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS *
(P.O. BOX 459 SACATON, ARIZONA 85247)

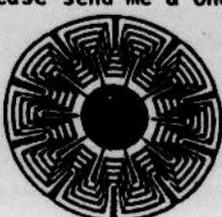
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PUBLIC NOTICE

To more effectively serve the members of the Gila River Indian Community, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of General Trust Services (IGT) will extend the hours it is open to the public.

Effective March 1, 1988 the office will be open to the public from 9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m., and will remain open through the lunch hour.

The office will be closed to the public the last two days of each month for updating and close out of accounts.