



NATIONAL EMERGENCY

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Gila River Indian Community member shares his knowledge of making sithol

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The COVID-19 pandemic hasn't stopped the Saguaro cactus fruit from ripening or Gila River Indian Community members from passing on knowledge about harvesting this summertime staple. Each year O'otham come together to pick the prized bahithaj fruit.

The Gila River Health Initiative's annual harvest was canceled, but they recently released a video called, "How to Make Bahithaj Sithol," on the

Gila River Indian Community Facebook page with the help of Antonio "Gohk" Davis of District 5.

Harvesting bahithaj is a community effort for those who scour the desert with kuipud's in hand to knock the fruit off of the towering Saguaro. With the on-going pandemic, many of the large scale bahithaj harvests have been canceled, but the tradition continues with families taking it upon themselves to pick bahithaj for sithol.

"This whole process is tedious, but it's necessary," said

Davis on the steps to make sithol.

Bahithaj harvest occurs in June or Ha:Shan Baithag Mashath, which translates as "Harvest of the Saguaro cactus fruit moon," (Huhugam Heritage Center) and refers to the ripening of the cactus fruit.

Heating the bahithaj is a two-step process to break down and extract the juices from the pulp and seeds and then re-heating until the leftover liquid thickens.

Davis described the process of making sithol, which involves using at-least two large pots, a cheese cloth and fire to boil the

pulp of bahithaj called the jun. Water is added to the jun to help with the process of breaking down the pulp, which will be added to the large pot and brought to a boil.

The cheese cloth is used to filter out the seeds from the juice, which will go back into the pot to complete the cooking process until the juice starts to thicken. Davis said the best way to tell if the sithol is ready is how fast or slow the syrup runs off the ladle.

He said "Ideally you would be able to take your pinky [finger] and run it against your spoon and if its sticky, then you're in 'syrup town.'" If the sithol is viscous,

then take it off the fire and pour it into a mason jar while it is still hot so the heat can form a seal.

"I encourage each and every one of you to go out and ask your elders of [your] community, the different people, that have knowledge of harvesting the bahithaj, making the sithol," said Davis.

He said bahithaj can be used in a wide range of recipes from traditional to contemporary.

"As we bring in July, or also known as the big rains month, the idea is to go out there, harvest and be safe," said Davis.



Cheese cloth separates the juice from the pulp of the cactus fruit. GRIC Photo



Bahithaj is heated over an open flame to make sithol. GRIC Photo



MASK UP!

MASKS REQUIRED IN OUR COMMUNITY
(Per GRIC Executive Order No. 8 regarding the Coronavirus Pandemic)



#GilaRiverStrong

GRIC staying strong to slow the spread of COVID-19

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

COVID-19 testing continues in the Community with a total of 40,153 tests being done and of those tests 1,350 individuals have tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19). 535 positive

cases are Gila River Indian Community members and 815 are non-members. Over 134,600 positive COVID-19 cases have been reported in the state and 3.5 million positive cases in the U.S.

Navajo Nation reported 8,370 positive cases as of July 15,

in a press release by the Navajo Nation, it also stated that 6,184 individuals have recovered from COVID-19. Tohono O'odham Nation reported 223 positive cases as of July 6. The Hopi Tribe reported 370 positive cases on July 15. Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community reported 168 positive cases of COVID-19 as of July 15 with 110 recovered.

Currently, there is still no vaccine to prevent COVID-19, so it is important to continue to protect yourself, your family and your Community in order to reduce and prevent the spread of the virus. Although the elderly and those with previous health conditions are said to be the most

vulnerable, the majority of those testing positive in the Community are between the ages of 20 and 44 years, according to data reports by the Tribal Health Department. Continue to wash your hands often, maintain physical distance, wear a face mask when around others.

The Gila River Indian Community maintains a stay-at-home order which directs those living within the Community to stay home unless they are conducting essential activities such as work, grocery shopping, doctor visits, outdoor physical activity, or caring for a family member, friend, or animal. Face coverings are also required for anyone out in public within the

boundaries of the Gila River Indian Community. Cloth masks are available to Community members at any District Service Center. The Community's governmental offices remain closed until at least August 2, 2020 due to the pandemic.

You can now stay informed on notices regarding the pandemic with text alerts from the Gila River Indian Community. Subscription is simple, just text "GILARIVER" to 797979 to sign up for updates. You will receive a text message confirming your subscription and you will begin to receive important updates from the Community and you can opt out at any time.

Gila River Indian News
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147
Change Service Requested

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Sacaton, AZ
Permit No. 25



We ALL Count

Ve:sich A:chim Thoth 'Apothag • Mat chaamk chuupeeshik

COMPLETE THE CENSUS TODAY!



2020 Census questionnaires have been delivered to Community residences
Complete your questionnaire to be counted!

Return the completed questionnaire by mail or use the unique 12-digit code to respond online by visiting www.census.gov or by phone at (844) 330-2020.

0000-0000-0000

Person 1 on the questionnaire should be a Gila River Indian Community member, everyone in the household who identifies as Gila River O'otham (Pima) or Pee-Posh (Maricopa) should answer **"GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY"** to the race question on the Census questionnaire.

If your household did not receive a questionnaire contact Rebecca Gregory at (520) 289-6702

CENSUS TIMELINE

June 2020 Census workers will deliver questionnaires to homes on Gila River.	August - October 2020 Census workers go door to door to count people who have not responded.	October 31, 2020 Last day to respond to the 2020 Census.
--	--	--

For more information about the 2020 census visit www.census.gov



Governor
Stephen Roe Lewis

Lt. Governor
Robert Stone

Community Council
Representatives

District 1
Arzie Hogg
Joey Whitman

District 2
Carol Schurz

District 3
Avery White
Rodney Jackson

District 4
Jennifer Allison
Regina Antone-Smith
Delmar Jones
Monica Antone

District 5
Marlin Dixon
Franklin Pablo, Sr.
Thomas White
James De La Rosa

District 6
Anthony Villareal, Sr.
Terrance B. Evans
Charles Goldtooth

District 7
Devin Redbird
Robert Keller, Tribal Treasurer
Shannon White,
Community Council Secretary

Gila River Indian News

June M. Shorthair
june.shorthair@gric.nsn.us
Director of CPAO
(520) 562-9851

Roberto A. Jackson
roberto.jackson@gric.nsn.us
Managing Editor
(520) 562-9719

Christopher Lomahquahu
christopher.lomahquahu@gric.nsn.us
Community Newsperson
(520) 562-9718

Emma Hughes
Emma.Hughes-Juan@gric.nsn.us
Community Newsperson
(520) 562-9852

Kyle Knox
Kyle.Knox@gric.nsn.us
Community Newsperson
(520) 562-9717

Gina Goodman
gina.goodman@gric.nsn.us
GRIN Secretary II
(520) 562-9715

Write to:
Editor, GRIN
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Published letters or columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or Gila River Indian Community. LETTERS POLICY: GRIN welcomes letters and columns from readers. Letters should be limited to 200 words and be in good taste. Material that could be libelous or slanderous is not acceptable. All letters or columns should be signed with the writer's true name, address and telephone number in the event GRIN may need to contact the writer. Only the name of the writer will be printed in the paper. Letters or columns without a complete signature, name, address or phone number will not be acceptable to GRIN for publication. GRIN reserves the right to edit submitted materials for grammar, spelling and content.

Gila River Indian Community
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147
(520)562-9715
www.gricnews.org

Material published in the Gila River Indian News may not be reproduced in any form without consent from the Gila River Indian Community



Miss Indian Arizona Association cancels 2020-2021 program

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected numerous events on the Indian Country calendar including one of Arizona's most renowned and oldest pageants. The Miss Indian Arizona Association's (MIAA) Scholarship Program recently announced that their program, scheduled for Oct. 10 at the Chandler Center for the Arts, has been canceled.

Miss Indian Arizona Audriana Mitchell (Colorado River Indian Tribes), First Attendant Amy Spotted Wolf (Tohono O'odham Nation), and Second Attendant Autumn Cooper (Gila River Indian Community) make up the 2019-2020 court, and typically, their reigns would conclude in October at the next program, which closes out a year of appearances, speaking engagements, parades, and learning experiences.

It was bittersweet for the young women to learn of the program's cancellation, but the MIAA royalty agreed it was the right decision.

"It was a decision made by the committee, and I agree that it was best to cancel this year's pageant for the safety of everyone," said Mitchell.

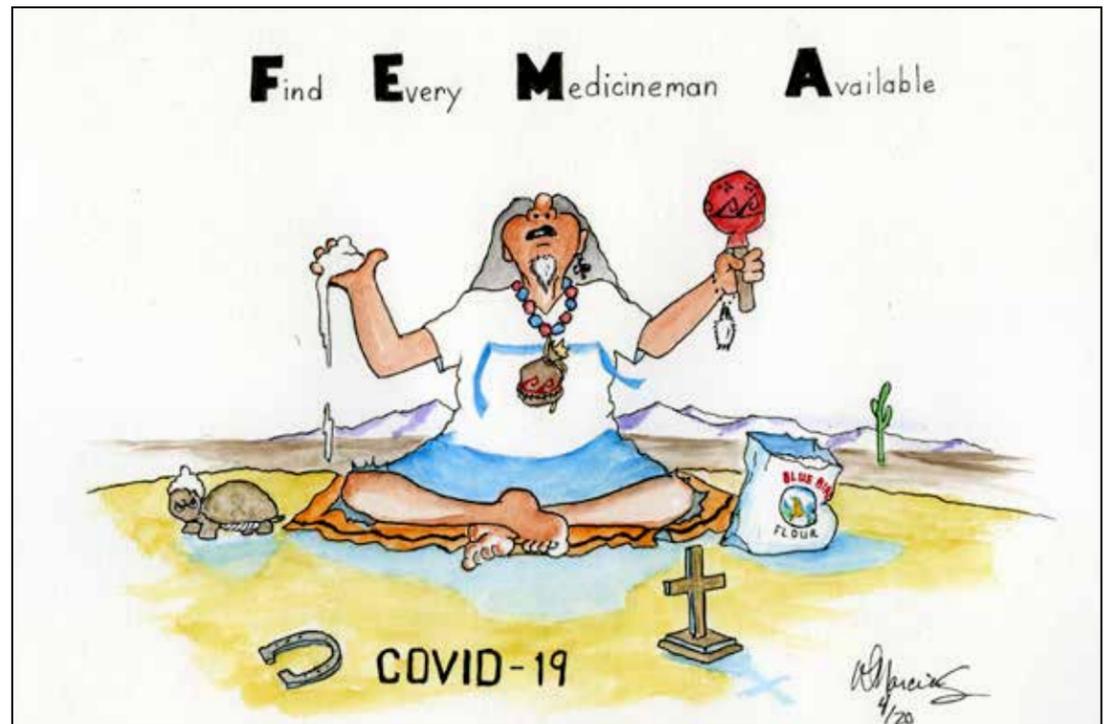
Cooper, who stated similar sentiments, said, "it was a good decision to cancel this year's Miss Indian Arizona Scholarship program seeing how Arizona's spike in positive [COVID-19] cases and wouldn't want to risk the lives of others."

As ambassadors, their reign provided ample time to fulfill many activities for the court while representing their home communities.

Mitchell said, "Through my past reign as Miss CRIT, I got to become closer to my community.



The 2019-2020 Miss Indian Arizona royalty from left, Second Attendant Autumn Cooper, Miss Indian Arizona Audriana Mitchell and First Attendant Amy Spotted Wolf. Photo by Michael Shaff



When I ran for the title of MIA my only goal was to represent my tribe as best as I could. All

of their support has helped me so much, and so I am glad I had the opportunity to represent my tribe

at every event I went to."

Continued on Page 8

YOUR GRIC COVID-19 PANDEMIC LIST OF DO'S & DON'TS

If you have a medical or clinical question about COVID-19, please call the Gila River Health Care Coronavirus Hotline around the clock at (520) 550-6079.

If you would like to speak with someone about general information, contact our Public Information Officer Veronica Z. Vaughn at (520) 610-6052.

If you want to receive pandemic updates by text message, please text GILARIVER to 797979 for real-time updates.

To help mitigate the spread, please do the following:

- **WEAR A MASK OR FACE COVERING WHEN YOU'RE ON COMMUNITY LAND.** A mask is not required at home or in the car, please be cautious in your contacts with other people, including family members older than 65 or those who have a pre-existing condition that makes them vulnerable.
- **STAY AT HOME AND STAY SAFE** unless you must leave the house for essential activities.
- **WASH YOUR HANDS** often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- **AVOID TOUCHING** your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **COVER YOUR COUGHS & SNEEZES** with a tissue or cough or sneeze in your sleeve.
- **AVOID SHARING** household items with a person who is ill with a respiratory illness.
- **CLEAN ALL SURFACES** such as counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, & bedside tables daily.
- **MONITOR YOUR SYMPTOMS** if you have a cough, fever and are having trouble breathing, please contact your health care provider and take steps to keep other people from getting infected.



HEALTH ALERT

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Questions About COVID-19?

Need Information About Quarantine Or How To Get Tested For COVID?

**CALL THE GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE
(520) 550-6079**

INFORM | ENGAGE | INSPIRE



GILA RIVER BROADCASTING CORP.

Watch GRBC on Channels
19.1 Maricopa Village
29.1 Blackwater



Tune in to our daily showtimes for local announcements and COVID-19 updates!

Morning
6:30 am & 9:30 am

Afternoon
12:30 pm & 3:30 pm

Evening
6:30 pm & 9:30 pm



Lial, Currency, more ways of counting in O’otham

In the early trading days, Spanish and Mexican currency was introduced to O’otham as the Peso de Ocho and Real. These were O’othamized into “pi:sh” and “lial.” In 1853, after the Gadsden Purchase a new system of currency was introduced by Americans, which utilized the silver-standard. O’otham re-applied “pi:sh” to the dollar bills and adapted a value system for coins. Coins less in value than a dollar were a different matter, descriptors were applied that represented their values in cents and included “lial” to identify them as coins.

S-ua:mchu describes a penny’s color, but its understood that its value is one cent. Every coin was then given their O’otham names according to their value in cents. S-ua:mchu lial, a penny; Mi:yo lial, a nickel; Hemako lial, a dime

(one silver); Go:k lial, a quarter (two silvers); Gi’ik lial, a half-dollar coin (four silvers). Both the one-dollar coin and one-dollar bill were named Hemako pi:sh.

At the early trading posts, operators did not pay O’otham in cash for their produce. O’otham, instead, received cards marked with heavy lines for credit. Each line represented ten cents, or one silver. When the new coins were introduced, O’otham found that the twenty-five cent piece did not represent the value of any of the old marked cards, a system they had been accustomed to. There was no way to represent the five cent difference in value for two of the new coins. O’otham adapted by using the closest equivalent to the old system. Therefore, Go:k lial (two silvers) was applied to the quarter and Gi’ik lial (four silvers)

applied to the half-dollar coin.

The currency bills were given names according to their value in dollars by using the established O’otham system of counting. We already knew that hemako pi:sh was a one-dollar bill, or one-dollar silver coin. Hethasp pi:sh was applied to the five-dollar bill; Vesthma:m pi:sh was applied to the ten-dollar bill; Gokko Vesthma:m pi:sh was applied to the twenty-dollar bill; Hethasp Vesthma:m pi:sh was applied to the fifty-dollar bill and Sianth pi:sh was applied to the one-hundred-dollar bill.

In our younger days, we often went shopping with our grandparents, they often asked mom or dad, he’ekia ‘e na:mkgi i:tha haichu hu:k? How much does this food cost? Our parents translated the pi:sh (dollar) amount first,

He’ekia ‘e na:mkgi i:tha haichu hu:k? How much does this food cost? Match the O’otham price phrase with its picture!

Ko:ji chu:kug - go:k pi:sh ch hemachkamtho gamai hemachkam lial.



.88¢

Pan - hemako pi:sh ch hethaspo gamai hemachkam lial.



\$1.89

Vi:b - gigi’ikko gamai gigi’ik lial.



\$2.99

Asu:ga - hemako pi:sh ch gigi’ikko gamai hemachkam lial.



\$1.29

Ba:bas - hemako pi:sh ch go:k lial.



\$1.59

Chuchul non’na - hemako pi:sh ch gokko gamai hemachkam lial.



\$1.25

Note: The food prices used in this exercise do not reflect current market prices.

then added the lial (coin) amount. The next time you and your family go shopping, try and translate the food sale prices into O’otham currency. This is another opportunity to practice using O’otham numbers with your kids. Phrases and numbers may be slightly different between villages. Speak

with an Elder or fluent speaker to learn more ways of counting currency. We encourage you to speak O’otham in your everyday lives. This month’s word match will test your knowledge of food prices translated into the O’otham currency system.

Information on currency and trading for

this article was related from Peoples of the Middle Gila: A Documentary History of the Pimas and Maricopas, 1500’s – 1945, John P. Wilson, 1999 and Notes on the Pima Indian Language, Rev. Antonine Willenbrink O. F. M., The Franciscan Fathers of California, 1935.

Blackwater Community School

Virtutal Learning Begins Wednesday, July 22nd!

- Electronic devices will be ready for check out to ALL students
Preschool– 5th grade Wednesday, July 15th—Friday, July 17th from 8:00 am– 3:30 pm at the Annex Building
- **Meet the Teacher** will be held via telephone Tuesday, July 21st from 5:00 pm– 7:00 pm. Teachers will call students to introduce themselves and share information about themselves, the up-coming year, and the daily schedule.



What does BWCS offer to our community children?

- ◆ Highly qualified, dedicated, caring staff
- ◆ **New school campus opening October 2020**
- ◆ **Small Classes! 1:15 adult/student ratio**
- ◆ AZ College and Career Ready Standards taught
- ◆ Curriculum aligned to State assessments
- ◆ Individual laptops/IPads for student use PS-5th grade
- ◆ Highest performing school in Gila River Indian Community
- ◆ Extra-Curricular Activities: Student Council, Color Guard, Cheerleading
- ◆ Culture and language classes
- ◆ Parental involvement encouraged and valued
- ◆ Fun and focused learning opportunities
- ◆ Visionary Governing Board and Leadership
- ◆ Nationally accredited by AdvancED now “cognia”
- ◆ All Students receive their first school uniform and backpack at no cost



Enrollment packets can be picked up in the main office or downloaded at www.bwcs.k12.az.us under the "Enrollments" Tab



DEQ remembers the work of the late Charles Enos

Department of Environmental Quality
Gila River Indian Community

On June 21, 2020, the Gila River Indian Community lost one of its true environmental stewards. Charles Enos was from District 6 and worked with the Community's Department of Environmental Quality for 18 years as an aquatic scientist. He was a visionary focused on the restoration of the environment to when the Gila River flowed in its riverbed. For Charles, this effort included studying, preserving and restoring riparian habitats within the Community, as well as management and protection of the wildlife of the Community. His efforts led to the Community's first environmental easement, which expanded in 2015 to include the Pee Posh Wetlands and Gila Wetlands to ensure protections of the wetlands. His other passion included sharing his knowledge with others because he knew the only way to truly preserve the environment was by empowering others with the knowledge to carry on this work by future generations.

For a decade, Charles was the lead for the Community's Annual Winter Bird Count—a well-respected activity both within and outside of the Community. The Bird Count draws in our families, promotes environmental education and has collected two decades of field data



The late Charles Enos was awarded the Conner Byestewa Jr. award for his environmental work. Photo Courtesy DEQ

regarding the migratory birds within our Community. This information is important because birds are an excellent measure of the overall health of the environment. The Bird Count is also a major opportunity for traditional dance and storytelling. Gila River youth are connected to their culture through elders who attend the annual Bird Count to share their knowledge and wisdom during the cultural celebration and lunch that take place after the count of birds in the field is concluded.

Charles initiated the first bighorn sheep survey on tribal lands for sheep populations in the Estrella Mountains, helped develop the first bald eagle nestwatch program for the Pee Posh Wetlands Breeding

Area, and completed the first mountain lion management initiative for the Community. Charles also worked on bobcat, javelina, wild horse, and other wildlife issues for the Community prior to the development of DEQ's current wildlife program. To support wildlife work on the Community, Charles was instrumental in completing a critically-needed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Arizona Game and Fish Department. This allowed for cross-jurisdictional wildlife management between State and Tribal lands for effective wildlife management.

Charles' work restoring our precious riparian areas has trained and involved many members of the Community and oth-



The late Charles Enos at the MAR-5 Interpretive Trail with students and guests. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

er Tribal Communities throughout the country. This hard work, which was often backbreaking, has helped the Community in its ongoing efforts to "Return of the River" program under the Community's 5 Year Water Plan.

Gila River Wetlands

- 16 acres of saltcedar removed
- 5 thousand native salt-tolerant trees planted
- 16 acres of native habitat established for wildlife and recreational uses.

Pee Posh Wetlands

- Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program
- 95 tons of trash and construction debris removed from the floodplain

- 1,200 tires removed from the wetland environment

- 10 acres of non-native invasive saltcedar plants removed

- Planted 4 thousand native trees, including cottonwood, willow, mesquite, and paloverde

- 1,500 feet of cable fencing installed to prevent illegal dumping activity.

MAR 5 Interpretive Trail Project

- Charles worked with Community elders, Leadership, and Departments on the MAR 5 (Managed Aquifer Recharge) Interpretive Trail project in District 3.

In 2019, the U.S. En-

vironmental Protection Agency and the Regional Tribal Operations Committee of tribal representatives recognized Charles by giving him the highly-respected Conner Byestewa Jr. Award. In receiving this award, Charles recognized his colleagues in the DEQ, the Community members who did so much work on projects, including the Community Basketweavers, and Community leadership for their support.

Speakers at the award ceremony noted that Charles was a person who never gave up. At a meeting with a governmental wildlife agency, Charles asked for funding for the effort to build a wildlife management program at GRIC. Some of the attendees said 'good luck getting money out of this agency' but Charles never gave up and he eventually got the funding. Because of the riparian restoration work that Charles championed, our basket-weavers are now able to access native plants, as they did for centuries, and we once again have eagles nesting on our lands.

When Charles spoke at the award ceremony he talked about the program to protect the eagles within the Community:

"The return of the eagles to the Community and the success of the breeding program, is a miracle. It was a joy and honor for me to hold a baby eagle in my hands for the first eagle banding in Pee Posh. In 2012 when we lost two eagles in a wildfire in Pee Posh, the District 7 Community buried the eagles in the Pee Posh wetlands with full honor. They sang gourd songs all night long and buried the eagles in the early morning, carrying them to the Wetlands burial site, in a horse-drawn wagon. I was honored to be a part of it all."

- Willard Antone III, Patricia Mariella, Ondrea Barber - Department of Environmental Quality Current/Past Directors



The late Charles Enos was instrumental in studying GRIC wildlife particularly with the Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program. Photo Courtesy DEQ

WHAT'S NEW AT GRICUA

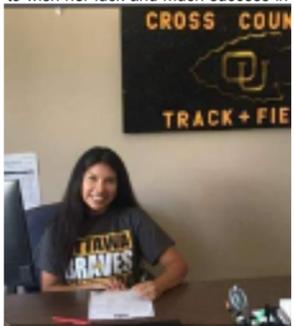


John Lewis - Thank You for Your Service

GRICUA would like to thank John Lewis for his 10 years of service on our Board of Directors. Mr. Lewis was elected to serve as Board Chairman for nearly his entire tenure at GRICUA. Mr. Lewis studied Civil & Environmental Engineering at Stanford University, where he completed undergraduate and graduate coursework. Mr. Lewis has tirelessly given his time and resources to help GRICUA. Mr. Lewis attended and presented on GRICUA's behalf at numerous organizational conventions. Some of them include the Department of Energy (DOE), National Rural Electric Cooperatives Association (NRECA), American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES), Reservation Economic Summit (RES), and Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA). John was instrumental in establishing our Youth Programs, particularly the STEA3M Summer Program. The Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Architecture, Agriculture and Mathematics program brings together students in the 5th-8th grade to explore and learn more about these diverse

subjects. We wish John much happiness, good health, and success in his future endeavors.

Former WYT Student McKenna White GRICUA's former 2019 Washington Youth Tour student, McKenna White, signed her letter of intent to throw the Hammer and Javelin at Ottawa University in Kansas. We would like to wish her luck and much success in



the coming season. Congratulations McKenna!

Disconnect Policy Extended GRICUA has extended the suspension of disconnections for non-payment thru September 30, 2020, while the Gila River Indian Community remains in a State of Emergency. While GRICUA is temporarily suspending residential disconnects for non-payment, the charges incurred for the power used are still the customer's responsibility and are due and payable on the date shown on the customer's bill statement. Any non-payment or payments less than the full amount will result in the charges being added to the next bill statement. Our customers will continue to receive disconnect notices for past due balances. These notices serve as a reminder to our customers of past due balances. Our residential

and commercial customers will not be disconnected during this time period. GRICUA implores our residential and commercial customers to make every effort to pay your bill on time and in full. Further, GRICUA urges any residential or commercial customer that is having difficulty paying their bill in full to call (520)796-0600 and speak with a GRICUA Customer Service Representative (CSR). GRICUA's CSRs will be happy to work with you.

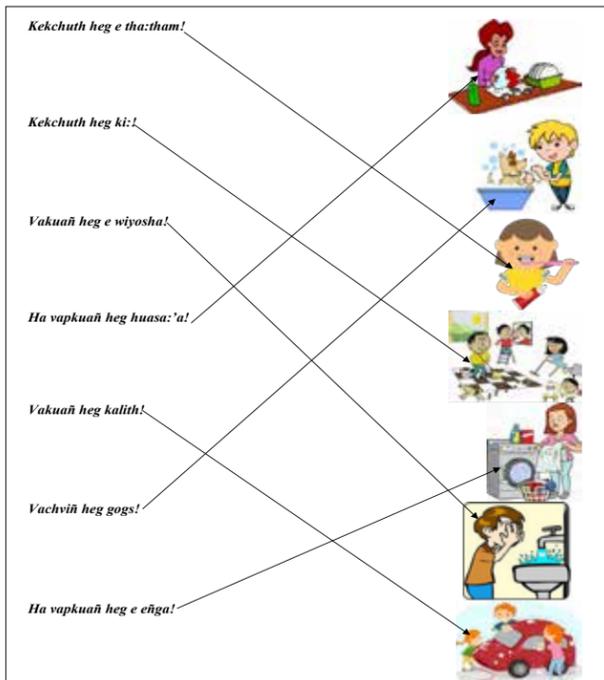
Bill Payment Options for GRICUA Residential Customers:

- GRICUA Drop Payment Box
- Online (VISA and Mastercard Credit/Debit Cards and E-check)
- GRICUA Mobile App
- By phone (520-796-0600, 24 hours a day)
- By mail (6636 W. Sundust Rd., Box 5091, Chandler, AZ 85226)

Reminders GRICUA District Days 2020 - CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE CALL BEFORE YOU DIG GRICUA is a member of Arizona Blue Stake. Please call 1-800-782-5348 to request an underground line locate of both GRICUA and SCIP on reservation facilities.

GRICUA welcomes your comments. You can email comments to gricua-comments@gricua.net. You can also go to our website at www.gricua.net.

GRICUA's Hours of Operation Monday - Friday 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM Payments are accepted on-line and by phone both during our normal operating hours as well as afterhours. If you have any questions regarding your statement or payment options please call during normal business hours.



COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • July 1, 2020

ACTION SHEET

Community Council; P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, July 1, 2020, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:06 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Regina Antone-Smith

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis (12:09)

Lt. Governor Robert Stone

Council Members Present:

D1-Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone-Smith; D5-James De La Rosa, Marlin Dixon, Franklin Pablo, Sr., Thomas White; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr. (9:25), Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans (9:19); D7-Devin Redbird (11:20)

Council Members Absent:

D5-Vacant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ADD UNDER UNFINISHED BUSINESS #3 GILA RIVER COMMUNITY CASINO CONCERNS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1, #2, #4, #5 AND #6; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 AND #6 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. 2020-2021 Miss Gila River and Jr. Miss Gila River Court Introduction

Presenter: June Shorthair

MS. JUNE SHORTHAIK INTRODUCED EACH OF THE YOUNG LADIES. EACH COURT MEMBER PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THEIR BACKGROUNDS AND WELL WISHES. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE EXPRESSED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT. THE COURT PREFORMED A SONG TO CONCLUDE THE INTRODUCTIONS

REPORTS

*1. Ira H. Hayes Auxiliary 2020 1st Half Report

Presenter: Carletta McDaniel

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*2. American Legion Ira H. Hayes Post 84 2020 1st Half Rpt

Presenter: Bill Dixon

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. COVID-19 CPAO

Presenter: June Shorthair

REPORT HEARD

>4. Haskell Osife Antone Post 51 1st & 2nd Quarter Reports

Presenter: David Anderson

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

<5. Governor's 5th Annual Education Summit

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. Honeywell Scholarship Report 2019

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

[LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE CALLED FOR

A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:20 A.M.]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

7. Gaming Commission General Report to the Community Council for May 2020 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Duane Johns, Melvin Sanderson

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

8. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report for May 2020 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving A 9-1-1 Program Grant Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Arizona Department Of Administration (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; LSC concurs)

Presenter: Teresa Villescaz

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Approving The Removal Of The Natural Resources Standing Committee As The Acting Gila River Indian Irrigation And Drainage District Board Of Directors And Recognizing The Appointed Board Members Of The Gila River Indian Irrigation And Drainage District As The Board Of Directors (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Casaundra Wallace

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Resolution Approving And Authorizing Funding Between The City Of Phoenix And The Gila River Indian Community For Fixed-Route Transit Services For Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Timothy Oliver, Gregory McDowell

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Early Head Start To Submit A New Non-Competitive Grant Application To The United States Department Of Health And Human Services, Office Of Head Start, American Indian And Alaska Native Programs For The Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Grant For Year Two Of The Five Year Grant (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; ESC concurs)

Presenter: Carolina Kelley

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. A Resolution Approving The Submission Of Year Five Of The Five-Year Grant Application To The Department Of Health And Human Services, Office Of Head Start, American Indian And Alaska Native Programs In Order To Request Renewed Funding For The Gila River Indian Community Head Start/Early Head Start Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; ESC concurs)

Presenter: Carolina Kelley

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. Resolution Approving A Sublease Agreement Between Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. And

New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC For New Cingular Wireless Access, Improvements And Equipment On And Near The Komatke Tower (EDSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: GRTI Board, James Meyers

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Court of Appeals Judge

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MR. ANTHONY F. LITTLE II

2. Appointment of Alternate Court of Appeals Judge

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MR. GREGORY D. SMITH

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE SUSPENDED THE RULES TO ADDRESS NEW BUSINESS #1 AND #2. COUNCILMAN ANTHONY VILLAREAL, SR. NOTED FOR THE RECORD HIS OPPOSITION TO SUSPENSION OF THE RULES.

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

3. Gila River Community Casino Concerns

Presenters: Community Council

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2019 Wild Horse Pass Development Authority Audit (EDSC forwards to Council to accept audit as presented; G&MSC concurs)

Presenters: REDW, David White, WHPDA Board

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT

2. Notice of Expiration of Board Term – WHPDA (G&MSC forwards to Council to advertise for 60 days subject to the Code of Conduct)

Presenters: David White, WHPDA Board

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ADVERTISE FOR 60-DAYS SUBJECT TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT

LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE SUSPENDED THE RULES TO RETURN TO UNFINISHED BUSINESS #3. COUNCILMAN ANTHONY VILLAREAL, SR. NOTED FOR THE RECORD HIS OPPOSITION TO SUSPENSION OF THE RULES.

3. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. FYE 9/30/2019 Finalized Audit and Related Reports (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with recommendation to accept)

Presenters: Janice Ponziani, Anthony Gerlach

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

MINUTES

1. March 18, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. June 3, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ SPECIAL ESC WORK SESSION, THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020, 9AM

~LIMITED ATTENDANCE IMPLEMENTED FOR G&MSC MEETINGS

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:14 PM

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

GRIC member and MacArthur Fellow examines ‘Borderlands’ with new center

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

An Arizona State University professor and Gila River Indian Community member launched a center aimed at creating dialog on the lives of Indigenous and underrepresented groups. Earlier this year, Natalie Diaz, MacArthur Fellow and Associate Professor at ASU, ushered in the announcement for the Center for Imagination in the Borderlands.

The center officially launched in January of this year, which included guest speakers Ofelia Zepeda, Tohono O’odham Nation poet, Deana Haggag, CEO of United States Artists, and Valeria Luiselli, author.

Diaz serves as director of the center, which has garnered the attention of notable institutions like the Vera List Center for Art and Politics at the New York School in New York City, according to an ASU press release.

The concept for the

center is to create an opportunity for discussions related to Indigenous people and others who are on the “Borderlands” of America’s society. The terms “Borderlands,” is a take on the boundaries between individuals and society and how they interact with it to find diversity in sensitive areas of discussion.

“There is a way of Mojave thinking where we say, ‘It’s been dreamed,’” Diaz said in the ASU Now article. “It doesn’t mean you fell asleep and a vision came to you. It means there are things set in motion that we have yet to arrive at... This idea of collaboration is one of the ways we’re trying to arrive there.”

Her resume for work in creating diversity in collegiate institutions goes back to her upbringing on the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe on the border of Arizona and California, and interactions with her connection to the Community.

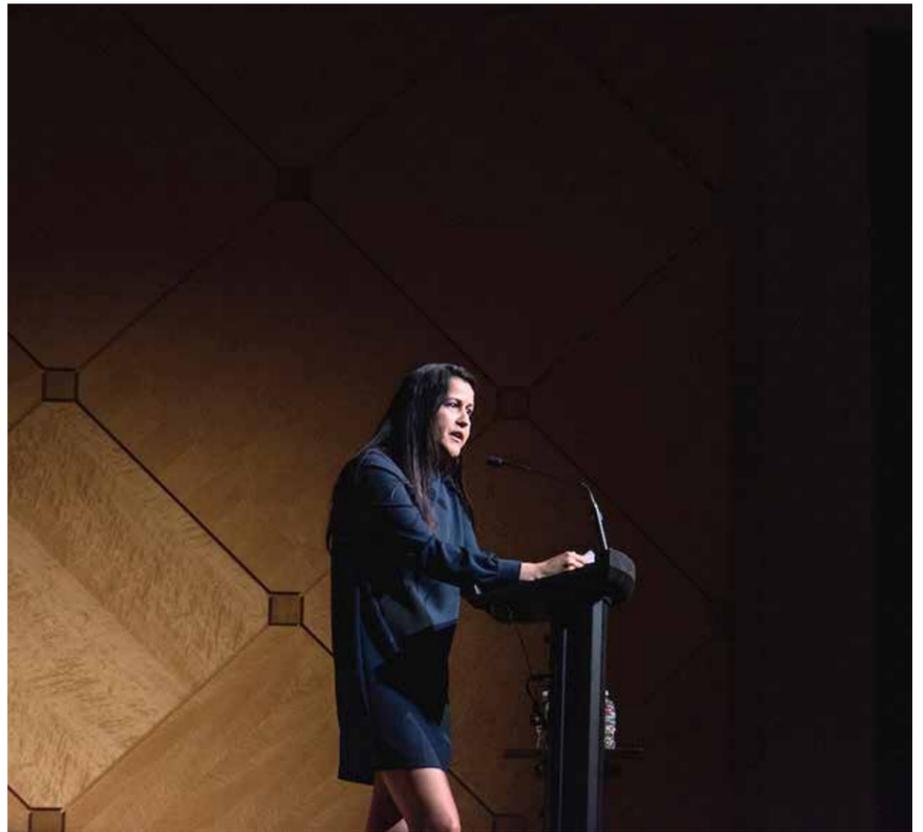
“It’s not easy to be

the body I am,” she said. “Queer, Native, Mexican, Latina, woman. It is lucky to have found ASU, that ASU found me, and that I am among these collaborators and provocateurs,” said Diaz in the ASU Now article.

As a result of this collaboration, the school has announced two fellows, Maria Hupfield and Carolina Caycedo. Their involvement with the center at ASU will help promote dialog on Indigenous perspectives.

According to an ASU press release, Diaz, was, “among the small group of experts who selected Hupfield and Caycedo for the inaugural fellowship. Each artist will receive an award of \$15,000 to support their two-year appointment beginning in fall 2020 and running through spring 2022.”

The work continues on throughout the summer, as the center provides commentary on issues impacting individuals from diverse communities.



Natalie Diaz launched the Center for Imagination in the Borderlands in January of 2020. Arizona State University

“Arizona is a crucible for the many questions we find ourselves asking locally, nationally and throughout the world,” said Diaz in the ASU Now article.

She said, “Arizona and ASU are unique spaces with incredible capacities to broaden these conversations because Arizona is a place of

tension that necessitates the kind of thought capable of influencing and catalyzing the futures we believe we deserve.”

FROM Page 3

Spotted Wolf also mentioned, “When I decided to run for MIA, I had an overwhelming amount of support from back home. I really felt the love! This helped me a lot with my confidence, knowing that others had confidence in me to be a representation of our culture and our people.”

The royalty also developed a strong bond during their time together.

Spotted Wolf shared, “I am very appreciative of Audriana because she would always make an effort to include and invite Autumn and me to represent the state of Arizona right by her side.”

There was even a nickname given to them the night they won. Cooper said, “When we were awarded the 2019-2020 MIA court, one of our sash-siblings gave us the name, ‘the Triple A’s’ for Audriana, Amy, and Autumn, and that’s pretty cool.”

With the chance to extend her term, Mitchell decided not to retain her title for an additional year as Miss Indian Arizona. In a brief statement, Mitchell said, “No one could have predicted that we would have to face a global pandemic that would affect us in many ways. I feel like I have completed what I had initially set out to do when I first ran for this title. Now I would like to give that opportunity to one of my attendants.”

The current first and

second attendants are the candidates for the title. Miss Indian Arizona Association Executive Director Denise Homer said, “The decision as to who will take on the title of Miss Indian Arizona 2020-21 will not be made until the August 1 meeting of the Miss Indian Arizona Association (MIAA).”

Although there is uncertainty for the new titleholders, Homer is optimistic for the upcoming program.

“MIAA members are looking at the possibility of a scaled-back program during the 2020-21 season. Fewer public appearances, more social media activity, and most important keeping everyone involved in the Miss Indian Arizona program as safe as possible by wearing masks, staying home, and social distancing,” said Homer.

Until the next court is declared, all three women will continue to pursue their own goals in education and their careers. Mitchell will focus on her education, work and her commitment to Native youth. Spotted Wolf looks forward to student-teaching at the beginning of 2021. Cooper will be completing her general studies and is grateful to be working in the Gila River Indian Community.

For more information visit missindianarizona.com and search ‘Miss Indian Arizona’ on Facebook.



Give Your Child a

HEAD START

Gila River Indian Community

ENROLLING Now for SY 2020-21

Head Start and Early Head Start is a comprehensive program providing services in the community for ages 0-5 years of age.

What We Offer :

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Children’s Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Quality Education ★ Health Screenings ★ Dental Screenings ★ Nutritious Food ★ Culture Activities ★ Independence ★ Engaging Activities ★ Structured Schedule 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Family Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Parent Activities ★ Parent Education ★ Community Resources ★ Fatherhood Activities
---	--

For more information please call the Head Start Center in the district where you reside.



District 3 Head Start 520 562-6901
District 4 Head Start 520 418-3471
District 5 Head Start 520 315-3636
District 6 & 7 Head Start 520 550-2434
Child Care Center 520 562-3610

HAS THE PRESCRIPTION OPIOID CRISIS AFFECTED YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW? YOU COULD BE COMPENSATED FROM THE PURDUE PHARMA L.P. BANKRUPTCY.

FILE YOUR CLAIM BY JULY 30, 2020.

PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED.
PARA INFORMACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL, VISITE EL SITIO WEB.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

If you think you've been hurt by Purdue Pharma L.P., a U.S. limited partnership, its general partner and its subsidiaries, including Imbrium Therapeutics L.P., Adlon Therapeutics L.P., Greenfield BioVentures L.P., Avrio Health L.P., Rhodes Technologies, and Rhodes Pharmaceuticals L.P. ("Purdue"), or Purdue prescription opioids, like OxyContin®, or other prescription opioids produced, marketed or sold by Purdue, you can file a claim for compensation in the Purdue bankruptcy proceeding. The deadline to file a claim is **July 30, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.**

WHAT IS A CLAIM AND WHO CAN FILE?

A "claim" means a right to seek payment or other compensation. You must file a Proof of Claim Form so it is actually received by the deadline. It can be filed by you, by a legal guardian, by survivors, or by relatives of people who have died or are disabled. **All Personal Injury Claimant Proof of Claim Forms and any supporting documentation submitted with those forms will be kept highly confidential and will not be made available to the public.** You do not need an attorney to file a proof of claim for you.

Additionally, partnerships, corporations, joint ventures, trusts, governmental units, and Native American Tribes may also file a proof of claim against Purdue.

Go to **PurduePharmaClaims.com** to find a complete list of instructions on how to file a claim. You will also find a list of the opioids produced, marketed or sold by Purdue.

You may file a Proof of Claim even if a settlement is contemplated in the Purdue bankruptcy so that your claim can be considered as part of any settlement.

WHO DOES THIS AFFECT AND WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS?

If you think you've suffered harm from Purdue or its prescription opioids, you have the right to file a claim even if you may also have received reimbursement from insurance. Examples of claims that may be filed in the Purdue bankruptcy include death, addiction or dependence, lost wages, loss of spousal relationship benefit for things like child-rearing, enjoyment of life, etc., or Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (sometimes referred to as "NAS"), among others.

The deadline to file a claim is July 30, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. If you do not file a claim by the deadline, you will lose the right to file a claim against Purdue, and you will lose any right to seek payment or compensation you may have had. Proof of Claim Forms, a list of opioids produced, marketed or sold by "Purdue," and instructions for how to file a claim are online at **PurduePharmaClaims.com**. You can also request a claim form by mail, email or phone:

Purdue Pharma Claims Processing Center
c/o Prime Clerk LLC
850 Third Avenue, Ste. 412, Brooklyn, NY 11232
Email: purduepharmainfo@primeclerk.com - Phone: 1.844.217.0912

THIS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION.

Is Purdue out of money? No. For more information concerning Purdue's bankruptcy, Frequently Asked Questions, Proof of Claim Forms, examples of personal injury and other claims that can be filed, instructions on how to file a claim, and important documents including the Bar Date Notice, visit

PurduePharmaClaims.com, or call 1.844.217.0912.



Scan Now

NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO BUY!



FOR
THE PEOPLE

Go to ↗



See why we're
Casa Grande's Premier
Automotive Dealership.

**+FREE
LIFETIME
MAINTENANCE**

**SCOTT
SAYS
YES
COM**

P **PREMIER**
AUTOCENTER



520-423-8181

190 W. Pima St., Suite 2 | Sacaton, AZ 85147

HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12-5pm

SCOTTSAYSYES.COM

ARE YOU SICK...

We Have the CURE!

OF THAT SAME OLD CAR?

OF HIGH PAYMENTS?

OF STAYING INSIDE?



Save \$1000s over new (AWD)

2018 Ford Explorer XLT



Starting at \$215/mo

Hyundai Elantra



You will not believe the Price!

2020 Chevy Equinox



Only \$350/mo

2017 Dodge Charger SXT



\$289/mo
2017 Kia Cadenza



Only \$268/mo
2018 Chevy Impala



\$335/mo
2018 GMC Terrain



\$355/mo
2017 Nissan Maxima SV



\$279/mo
2017 Lincoln MKC



\$289/mo
2015 Ford F150 Supercrew



\$19,999
2017 Toyota Sienna



\$18,999
2018 Chevy Colorado



\$18,999
2018 Ford Edge Titanium



\$18,999
2017 Buick Enclave



\$15,999
2018 Kia Sportage



\$15,999
2018 Dodge Grand Caravan



CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER
1026 N. PINAL AVE., CASA GRANDE
520-836-2112

INSTANT CREDIT APPROVAL • www.crossroadsauto.org

*Payment based on 720 credit score, 2.99% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit. Must present ad at time of service.



NOVEMBER 3RD, 2020

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

BY COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, GRIC HAS REQUESTED A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOV 3RD.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Deleting the 20-year residency requirement for members:

Currently, Article 3, Section 3 of the Constitution states that a Community member who remains away from the Reservation continuously for 20 years shall automatically forfeit his or her tribal membership.

ARTICLE XI DISTRICTS

Currently, Article 11, Section 1 of the Constitution states that the area known as Co-op shall be within District 6; however, the legal boundaries stated in Article 11 place Co-op within District 7.

ARTICLE XV POWERS OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Currently Articles 3 and 15 of the Constitution state that the Secretary of the Interior has the authority to review certain kinds of ordinances and resolutions enacted by the Community Council, including civil and criminal codes, and ordinances regulating tribal membership.

IN ORDER TO CHANGE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE XVII STATES -

“Proposed amendments will be approved by a majority vote of the registered voters of the Community voting in an election called for the purpose by the Election Board, provided that at least thirty (30) percent of the registered voters vote in such election.”



IT'S YOUR CONSTITUTION

MEMBERSHIP • DISTRICTS • POWER

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPECIAL ELECTION, PLEASE VISIT:

MYGILARIVER.COM/INDEX.PHP/SPECIAL-ELECTION-2020