



NATIONAL EMERGENCY

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY AND DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ENTER INTO LEASE FOR CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL



The Gila River Indian Community and the Department of the Interior entered into a lease for the existing Casa Blanca Community School. Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Communications & Public Affairs Department Gila River Indian Community

(Sacaton, Arizona) – On Tuesday, Sept. 29, in a major step towards the new construction of the Casa Blanca Community School, the Gila River Indian Community and the Department of the Interior entered into a lease for the existing Casa Blanca Community School located in District 5.

The Community negotiated this lease with the Department to provide compensation for the existing school facilities and that lease funding will help offset the costs of the new school.

This innovative program was first utilized by the Community for the Gila Crossing

Community School which was constructed in 2019. That school construction/leaseback was the first lease entered into between the Department of the Interior and a tribal government under section 105(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. The Community is now using that same program to construct the Casa Blanca Community School.

The Community brought this program to the Department as an alternative to the existing backlog of school construction for Bureau of Indian Education schools. Both the Gila Crossing Community School and the Casa Blanca Community School are tribally-run Bureau of Indian Education Schools that were first

built over 100 years ago and had become overcrowded and were in poor condition. However, due to the existing backlog to construct BIE schools, neither school would have been constructed for several more decades.

Governor Lewis stated, “The Gila River Indian Community is proud to work in partnership with the Department of the Interior to expand this lease program that offers an alternative approach to constructing much-needed infrastructure in Indian Country. Today’s lease signing is the first step towards a new school for the students, parents, teachers and school officials of Casa Blanca Community School.”

Governor Lewis thanked the Department of the Interior and the Casa Blanca Community School Owner’s Team for all the work that occurred to make the lease signing possible.

Groundbreaking for the new Casa Blanca Community School is slated for October 10, 2020, with completion expected in August of 2021.

“Today’s lease signing is the first step towards a new school for the students, parents, teachers and school officials of Casa Blanca Community School.”

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis

GRIC hosts virtual Census and Get Out the Vote Rally

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On Saturday, Sept. 19, the Gila River Indian Community hosted the first ever virtual Census & Get Out the Vote Rally in an effort to encourage Community members to complete the 2020 Census and participate in the Nov. 3 elections. The virtual event was broadcasted live through Gila River Broadcast Corp., channels 19.1 and 29.1 and Facebook Live page and featured tribal leadership, elders, youth, and state and federal elected officials.

Live guests included state Rep. T.J. Shope (R-Coolidge), Congressman Tom O’Halloran (D-AZ), Arizona Democratic Leader Charlene Fernandez, Secretary of State Katie Hobbs, Congressman Ruben Gallego (D-AZ) and Stacy Abrams representing Fair Count.

Congresswoman Deb Haaland (D-N.M.), Sen. Martha McSally, and Arizona Senate

candidate Mark Kelly also provided prerecorded messages for the rally.

Community Council representatives also appeared in videos urging viewers to vote and to complete their Census forms.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis delivered remarks following Lt. Gov. Robert Stone’s opening prayer.

“The 2020 election is the election of a lifetime, probably the biggest in our lifetimes,” said Gov. Lewis as he mentioned issues that will affect the Community.

Gov. Lewis was also adamant about the Census and increasing the number of Community members to complete their forms. At the time of the rally, early results showed a low number of members who did the Census. In a Sept. 28 video, Gov. Lewis announced that the Community was still undercounted by 30 percent.

In his address, Lt. Gov. Stone provided a history of the struggle

for Native Americans to vote in state and national elections, citing the 1928 Peter Porter and Rudolph Johnson case against the Arizona Supreme Court, which the Supreme Court denied. A video followed on the late Mr. Johnson and Mr. Porter.

It wasn’t until 1948 when Frank Harrison and Harry Austin, two Ft. McDowell Yavapai Nation members, secured the right to vote for Native Americans in Arizona.

Haaland’s message touched on the rallies dual purpose for GRIC members to vote and to complete their census.

“Representation matters and each of you counts, your vote counts and we need you to be counted in the census.”

The rally’s synergy provided viewers the full scope of the history of voting for Native Americans and the civic duty everyone has to fill out the census and exercise their right to vote.

Chief Judge Joseph Manuel Sr., grandson of Rudolph Johnson stated, “[Voting] means so much because we count in everything and we’re able to say that we’ve done our civic responsibility to our tribal nations, to the county, to the state of Arizona. So be sure to get out and vote because it means everything.”

Jr. Miss Gila River Sineca Jackson introduced Abrams who launched the non-profit group “Fair Count” to ensure that hard to



Congresswoman Deb Haaland provided a video message for the Census & Get Out the Vote Rally on Sept. 19. GRBC Screenshot

count populations are represented in the 2020 Census.

“I know when the Gila River Indian Community succeeds, I succeed,” said Abrams.

The rally also called on elders and youth to offer insight into this important time of the year. Youth representatives included Thalia Ayala and Monique Makil and

Miss Gila River Alyse Marrietta moderated a panel with elders Bonnie Lyons and Joe Biakeddy.

The rally has been replayed several times in its entirety on GRBC and will air again Saturday, Oct. 3, at 6:30 p.m. You can also re-watch the stream on Facebook by searching Gila River Broadcasting Corporation.

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**VOTER AND
ELECTION INFO
PAGE 7-10**



HEALTH ALERT

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



UPCOMING DISTRICT TESTING DATES:

In an effort to contain the spread of COVID-19, GRHC is following the CDC's recommendation for conducting COVID-19 testing on a recurring basis.

All GRIC members, and those residing within the GRIC boundaries, who have previously tested negative and who have no symptoms – should get retested.

Note: If you have not been tested and have no symptoms, you should be tested at a district service center.

Dist. 7 Oct. 6 - 8

Dist. 1 Oct. 13 - 15

Dist. 2 Oct. 20 - 22

Dist. 3 ... Nov. 3 - 5

Testing Times: 9 am - 1 pm & 5 pm - 7 pm

For test result information, please call: (602) 528-3378. For general info about the Coronavirus, go to GRHC.org/Coronavirus · GRHC Coronavirus Hotline (520) 550-6079

PATIENT REMINDER NOTICE:

The Primary Care Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital is open on Saturdays for walk-in visits from 8 am to 6 pm. Last check-in time is 5 pm.

If you have questions, please call (520) 562-3321

Halloween During the Pandemic

Avoid high risk activities:
 traditional trick or treating/trunk-or-treat/attending crowded indoor costume parties/indoor haunted houses.

Opt for low risk alternatives:
 pumpkin carving with family/ decorate your home/virtual costume contests/family scavenger hunt for treats/ having a spooky movie night!



Stay Safe this Halloween

Dr. Peter Wagner.

Osteopathic physician Dr. Peter Wagner. Dr. Wagner has been with us for 17 years and will retire from his position at GRHC on September 30th.

We are incredibly grateful for his service and dedication to GRHC and the Gila River Indian Community and wish him well in his retirement. Join us in giving a fond farewell to Dr. Peter Wagner!

Thank you for your service.



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
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

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Non-profit service group donates essential items for GRIC elders

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

SEWA International, a Hindu based non-profit organization, made a donation of essential items at the Gila River Health Care Viola L. Johnson building on Sept. 17.

The items, ranging from personal protective equipment, cleaning products to hygienic supplies will be distributed to GRIC elders. The donation by SEWA, is one of many projects by the humanitarian organization to assist underserved populations across the U.S. and across the globe.

“This just shows the generosity that is out there, especially during COVID, but it also shows how much you can do with a positive mindset and motivated individuals, like SEWA,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

He said the items are important for the upcoming flu season to prevent the spread of germs.

Gov. Lewis provided an overview of the Community to the group of SEWA volunteers, who were interested in the culture, land and history of the Akimel O’otham.

“It is great to be here to get to learn about [your] community, there is much we can learn about the people and how we can help,” said Prasad Koranne, SEWA Phoenix Chapter Coordinator.

“We have 50 chapters across the U.S.A., we work with underserved populations and local organizations, especially in Native American populations, this is just a small part of the ongoing activities that [we] do,” said Koranne.

“In a short period of time, that I have been connected with SEWA, no matter who, where and when the help is needed, [they] are there to help,” said Dr. Sirisha Puppala, MD GRHC Primary Care Department.

She said SEWA had extended their assistance, which she had connected with the appropriate channels to make the donation possible.

“I have seen them in action, providing masks, hand sanitizers, food and water to tribes they have helped, even with other reservations around water quality issues, such as on the Navajo Nation,” said Puppala.

“With these donated items, we can move forward and get these important items out to the elder populations. We will identify how they will be disseminated out to the districts, those who are in need,” said Laurie Thomas, Director of Community Services Department.

She said the donation of essential items and PPE will be combined with items from a previous donation drive organized by GRHC and will be distributed by CSD to the elders.



SEWA volunteers deliver items to Gila River Health Care on Sept. 17. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis meets with SEWA volunteers and offers an overview of the Gila River Indian Community. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Virtual panel discusses Native American voting rights in Arizona

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Policy makers, legal experts and Gila River Indian Community leadership joined a virtual talk on the importance of voting called, "Celebrating Native American Voting Rights in Arizona," which was hosted by the Arizona State University American Indian Legal Program on Sept. 23.

The streamed event included Maria Dadgar Executive Director for the Intertribal Council of Arizona, Derrick Beetso, General Council, National Congress of American Indians and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Patty Ferguson-Bohnee, Faculty Director, Indian Legal Program at Arizona State University.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis talked about the history of voting rights in Arizona dating back to 1928 when Gila River Indian Community members Rudolph Johnson and Peter Porter were denied the right to vote.

Known as Porter v. Hall, it was a lawsuit

by Porter and Johnson to achieve the right to vote, which was overturned, based on the federal government's interpretation on the status of Native American citizenship, as wards of the U.S.

This was part of a series of complicated federal policies for Native people in the state of Arizona who were unable to vote. It wasn't until 1948 when Native people were allowed to vote in the state of Arizona.

Gov. Lewis highlighted the Community's efforts to encourage voter turnout, which included the census count and virtual rallies.

"[Our] vote is our arrow, we decide where it goes," said Stephen Roe Lewis.

The Indian Legal Program has led protection election voter efforts for Native Americans to address the disproportionate voting turnout and representation among tribal community's due to unfair voting practices at the local and



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis joined a panel of legal experts on the Native American right to vote in Arizona. ZOOM Screenshot

federal level.

One of their efforts is election protection, which employs legal volunteers and a hotline to document voting violations against their rights.

"We were partnering with tribes when they were having live events, staff from ITCA would show up and provide information," said Dadgar.

Due to the pandemic,

ITCA has mobilized more services toward more social media and video conferencing and other services to Native people, such as assisting with voter registration forms.

Beetso highlighted the importance of voter registration.

"We have a duty to vote, to register to vote and to participate in the electoral process," said

Beetso.

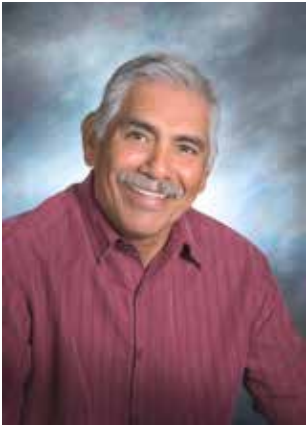
The fight for Native voting rights included barriers such as guardianship, taxation and others that disqualified them from voting.

"The taxation issues... and literacy tests were barriers to voting. There was also a requirement in some states in order to participate in the right to vote, you had to denounce

your tribal citizenship," said Beetso.

He said these barriers were devised to suppress the Native right to vote. Beetso said there are still barriers today, such as geographical isolation, lack of resources, language barriers, and access to other forms of communication, informing others about voting and where to cast their ballot.

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GRBC TV GUIDE							
*Schedule may be subject to change.							
	SUNDAY 10/4	MONDAY 10/5	TUESDAY 10/6	WEDNESDAY 10/7	THURSDAY 10/8	FRIDAY 10/9	SATURDAY 10/10
12:00pm	Native Planet <i>Rapa Nui</i>	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	Horse Tribe <i>His mentorship guides at-risk</i>
12:30pm	GRIC CONTENT	2020 MISS & JR MISS GILA RIVER PAGEANT @District 4 Multipurpose Building	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT
1:00pm	Make Prayers to the Raven		Creative Native <i>Quotes on a Paper</i>	Creative Native <i>Battle of the Sexes</i>	Creative Native <i>The Quechua</i>	Creative Native <i>Baby Its You!</i>	Children of the Desert
1:30pm	Vitality Gardening		Underexposed <i>Surf Immersion</i>	Underexposed <i>Best In Show</i>	Underexposed <i>Learning The Ropes</i>	Underexposed <i>Salmon Derby</i>	Vitality Gardening <i>Treasure Hunt</i>
2:00pm	The Price of the Prize		Working It Out Together <i>Fighting for Happiness</i>	Fit First	Working It Out Together <i>Pushed to the Limit</i>	Fit First	Urban Native Girl <i>Land Title - Game</i>
2:30pm	Wapos Bay: Long Goodbyes <i>Talon and Raven learn their family will have to move away from Wapos Bay.</i>		Hit The Ice <i>Time to Show What You</i>	Hit The Ice <i>Cut Day</i>	Hit The Ice <i>Down to Business</i>	Hit The Ice <i>What's A Player</i>	People of the Pines
3:00pm	Native Planet <i>Rapa Nui</i>	Rez Rides <i>Chasing The Dream</i>	On Native Ground: <i>Youth Report</i>	The New Zealanders	Rez Rides <i>Twin Turbo Mustang</i>	Making Regalia <i>Decorative Carry Bag</i>	
3:30pm	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	2020 MISS & JR MISS GILA RIVER PAGEANT @District 4 Multipurpose Building	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT
4:00pm	The Huunam of Paakuma <i>"Local schoolchildren take a field trip to interact with Native tribal educators and learn</i>	First Talk	First Talk <i>Sleep Expert Pen</i>	First Talk		First Talk	The New Zealanders - <i>Through the Bays</i>
4:30pm	Pathmakers	First Contact - The Journey Begins <i>The group travels over 2,000 km to the remote Inuit community where they discover life on the land is more intense than they ever could have imagined.</i>	Indian Pride <i>Gaming & Casinos</i>	Making Regalia <i>Decorative Carry Bag</i>		Fnx Now Block	Indigenous Focus <i>Family Heritage</i>
5:00pm	Ojibwemotaadidaa! <i>Let's Speak Ojibwe</i>	Spirit Tipis <i>Honoring a Structural icon.</i>	Lived History: The Story of the Wind River	Utility Baskets: Henry Arquette		Horse Tribe <i>His mentorship guides at-risk teens toward the strong medicine of horses, and his equine skills bring</i>	Osiyo, Voices of the Cherokee People
5:30pm	Red Earth Uncovered <i>Thunderstruck</i>	Democracy Now! <i>Is a national, daily.</i>	Democracy Now! <i>Is a national, daily.</i>	Democracy Now! <i>Is a national, daily.</i>		Democracy Now! <i>Is a national, daily.</i>	Democracy Now! <i>Is a national, daily.</i>
6:00pm	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	2020 MISS & JR MISS GILA RIVER PAGEANT @District 4 Multipurpose Building
6:30pm	Aboriginal Adventures <i>Crab Fishing</i>	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	Indian Country Today	
7:00pm	Tao Hunter Gatherer	Fish Out of Water <i>Bear River First Nation</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Red Bank First Nation</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Oconaluftee Indian</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Seminole Tribe</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>The Hawaiian Village</i>	
7:30pm	Native Shorts <i>X Rangimarie</i>	Red Earth Uncovered <i>N'ha-A-Itk in the Deep:</i>	Cashing In <i>Once Upon a Rez</i>	Chaos & Courage <i>Midwives</i>	Native Shorts <i>Mud/Mobilize</i>	The Aux <i>A rotating compilation of music videos featuring diverse talents of Native American & World Indigenous</i>	
8:00pm	The Aux <i>A rotating compilation of music videos featuring diverse talents of Native American & World Indigenous</i>	Indians and Aliens <i>Alien Visitors</i>	Studio 49 <i>Raye Zaragoza</i>	Tribal Police Files <i>Rock Slide</i>	Indigenous Day Live 2018	First Nations Comedy Experience	
8:30pm	Greasy Loot	Fighting Indigenous Imprisonment	Alaska Oil	Irezumi, The Japanese Art of Tattooing	First Nations Comedy Experience	<i>Mixed Blessings Pow Wow</i>	
9:00pm	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	GRIC CONTENT	2020 MISS & JR MISS GILA RIVER PAGEANT @District 4 Multipurpose Building
9:30pm	Turquoise Rose cont'd <i>A coming-of-age story about a Navajo girl from AZ, raised in the suburbs of Phoenix, Turquoise</i>	Secret Uprising <i>In Saudi Arabia's oil-rich Eastern province a 3-year, uprising has been raging, hidden from the</i>	The Leech and the Earthworm <i>The true cost of globalisation and the damages of biomedical engineering are explored.</i>	LaDonna Harris: Indian 101 <i>The course, "Indian 101," was taught to members of Congress and other agencies for more</i>	One Day I Saw 10,000 Elephants <i>Carefully crafted through animation, photographs, and Manuel's footage, this</i>	Blue Gap Boyz <i>In the small town of Blue Gap, AZ on the Navajo Rez, 3 bro's combine their talents to form the greatest band, (because it's the only one), Blue Gap has ever known!</i>	
10:00pm	Vamizi Cradle of Coral <i>Natural reserves of oil and gas have been discovered and now this vibrant, flourishing reef is a target for energy companies.</i>	Nickel, The Treasure of Kanak <i>For 25 years, Kanak have fought to obtain their share of the wealth arising from mining in New</i>	The Other Story of the Forgotten Slaves <i>The slave trade was common for a long time. The Atlantic slave trade lasted 3 centuries and affected 11</i>	Brazil Amazon Journal <i>Save the Amazon Rainforest - the plight of Amazon Indian tribes whose livelihood is endangered. An insight</i>	Awa O Gbe <i>The ochre of the earth, the women's multicoloured boubous, the sounds of vocal and instrumental music.</i>	Oreland C. Joe	
10:30pm							
11:00pm							
11:30pm							The Sacred Sundance: <i>The Transfer of a Ceremony The sharing of a ceremony from an Elsipogtog elder from Western Canada to the</i>
520.796.8848 WATCH GRBC TV 24/7 WITH YOUR FREE ACCOUNT AT WWW.GRBC.TV info@grbc.tv							



By Billy Allen

In early September, I was surprised to see a couple of television news and radio programs reporting about Saguaro falling down in the Phoenix area. Radio station KJZZ aired a listener who counted 17 fallen Saguaro, others with lost arms, and many just looking unhealthy within the Ahwatukee area. Channel 12 showed a house/garage that was destroyed by a falling saguaro. "They are supposed to be adapted to the desert environment. But this year has been very extreme with this summer," said Raul Puente, the Desert Botanical Garden's research botanist. He added Saguaro are falling, losing arms, or becoming discolored for many reasons including dehydration and too much sun exposure. Another key factor is metro Phoenix is a heat island meaning high temperatures last throughout the night. There aren't enough cool night hours for plants to handle the heat build-up of the day.

I won't bore you with the facts and figures of this summer. You made it through this record-breaking hot summer. I will bore you with this, these temperature extremes were not part of growing up in Vahki. Area farmers were usually irrigating so the evenings cooled down dramatically, but mosquitoes were plentiful for we still slept outside. Trees provided cool shade during the day, slowed the wind of the jejos (dust storm), and in the evening, their rustling seemed to sing us to sleep.

Like us, the hashan (Saguaro) can be quite different from each other. Some are tall while others are short, some have a thin build while others are thick. Besides height, which is based on age, some have long arms, others short; some have many arms, others may have one or two. Some hashan grow close to each other in groups, some stand alone. Some share their fruit with us early, some may make us wait a month longer. Talk about "O'odham time!" September 10 in Casa Grande, there is a solo

A'AGGA

Something to be told or talked about

Saguaro at the O'Reilly Auto store across from Peart Park with buds on it! Maybe some readers saw it too and doubted their eyes.

Our O'odham himdag tells us that Saguaro deserve respect. Traditionally, they are part of our life cycle. The fruit provides a sweet summer treat, and syrup stored for

the winter rewards our summer work. Once a Saguaro died, it continued to help our ancestors. It was used in building homes, ramadas (va:to) or fences, walking sticks, and calendar sticks. Some of us still make use of the hashan in various ways. But never as a fuel.

Besides Saguaro

falling from the desert heat, desert fires have also killed or will kill many Saguaro. This June, the Bighorn fire near Tucson killed about 2,000. In 2005, closer to home, many Saguaro died from the Vekol Fire. The effects of that fire are still noticeable along the freeway near Stanfield. In both cases, invasive non-

native plants helped fuel the fires. Buffelgrass and wild mustards that have colonized the desert floor in the spring, but when temperatures climb, the plants dry up and become fuel. They provide a fiery bridge for flames to spread across the desert, burn up creosote bushes and palo

verde trees, and scorch Saguaro. Experts say Saguaro don't actually burn up, but if the root system or skin is damaged, a slow death is almost certain.

Past and present, the Saguaro has provided for us. Hopefully it will continue to do so. It could be time for an SOS—Save Our Saguaro. When you're out among the Saguaro and you see glass bottles, pick them up and dispose of them properly. They can act like a magnifying glass increasing the heat on the desert floor. A tenet of O'odham life is respect for all living things. Trashing the desert, our homes and roads does not seem very Native.

Gila River Indian Community

2020 GENERAL ELECTION

SPECIAL CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

DATE	EVENT
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020	VOTER REGISTRATION OPENS for the 2020 November 3rd election
OCTOBER 6, 2020	VOTER REGISTRATIONS CLOSES <i>for the November 3rd elections</i>
OCTOBER 7, 2020	GRIC Community Council certifies the election results from the Primary Election, held September 15, 2020
OCTOBER 13, 2020	ABSENTEE VOTING OPENS for the November 3rd elections
NOVEMBER 2, 2020	ABSENTEE VOTING CLOSES, for the November 3rd elections. <i>All absentee ballots must be accepted by a District Judge or the Tribal Elections office by 5 pm.</i>
November 3, 2020	ELECTION DAY - GRIC GENERAL ELECTION & SPECIAL CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS
NOVEMBER 6, 2020	DEADLINE TO PROTEST THE ELECTION; <i>any registered voter can file a protest in writing to the Election Board Chairperson by 5:00 pm.</i>
November 18, 2020	GRIC Community Council certifies the election results from the General Election and the Special Election on the GRIC Constitution Amendments
JANUARY 1, 2021	Newly elected candidates for the Office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Chief Judge and Associate Judges are sworn into office.

Flu shots are available, get one now says Gila River Health Care



Lt. Gov. Robert Stone gets a flu vaccination from Gila River Health Care. Photo Courtesy Gila River Health Care

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The Influenza (flu) virus is a respiratory illness that can range from mild to severe symptoms and may even lead to hospitalization or death. The flu can circulate year 'round, but most flu activity usually occurs from October through March with peaks in December-January. COVID-19 and the flu share similar signs and symptoms. Both spread from person-to-person when there is close contact and may spread before symptoms appear.

Flu symptoms include fever, chills, headache, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches that can last up to two weeks. On average, the flu affects 5-20% of the state's population, more than 4,000 people are hospitalized due to flu-related complications and 700 people die from

the virus, according the Arizona Department of Health Services. Elderly, young children, and those with certain health conditions such as asthma, diabetes, and heart disease are at higher risk for the flu.

Dr. Wesley Yamada has been working with the Community for 33 years and currently serves as Interim Chief Medical Officer for Gila River Health Care. He highlighted the importance of vaccinations during the current pandemic. The flu vaccine is available each year to protect you from up to four different flu viruses that scientists anticipate will circulate. Currently there is no vaccine to prevent COVID-19, although developers, researchers and manufacturers are working on the development.

The flu vaccine protects you for up to six months and takes about two weeks to build up your immune system. You

could still be at risk for the flu or flu like viruses, but studies have shown that the vaccine reduces the severity. "Illnesses and diseases that are very similar or mimic the same symptoms as flu, you can catch," says Dr. Yamada, such as the common cold, which the flu vaccine does not prevent. Washing your hands, covering your cough or sneeze, physical distance and wearing a mask if you are out in public help protect you and others from the spread of the flu and COVID-19.

When a surge of COVID-19 cases hit the state in July of this year, many health care centers were severely impacted and left with fewer services for other patients. Dr. Yamada discussed the possibility of flu and COVID-19 cases to spike in the coming months due to the return to school, holidays and travel. Last flu season, GRHC saw

an increase of flu cases in December. The state reported nearly 37,000 flu cases, its highest numbers in ten years.

Last flu season, Gila River Health Care administered over 10,000 flu vaccinations but this year amidst the pandemic, GRHC has a goal to vaccinate at least 15,000 people in the Community by the end of October. Flu clinics in the Community began in September and are available along with the Community's routine COVID-19 testing. It is possible to contract the two viruses, Influenza and COVID-19, at the same time. It is highly recommended to continue to protect yourself and others, get tested for COVID-19 and get a flu shot. For more information on the flu clinics in the Community, visit GRHC.ORG/FLU.

Gila River Police Department announces text-to-911 service

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community Police Department will begin utilizing "text-to-9-1-1," a new service that will allow you to send a text message to 911 from a mobile device in case you

are unable to make a phone call in an emergency. The text message service is part of Pinal County Sheriff's Office county wide text-to-9-1-1, available Oct. 1. Dispatchers have been trained and are ready to utilize this new service.

You can now text

the number "911" with a message of your emergency and accurate location, if possible. Avoid using abbreviations and group, video, or photo messages cannot be sent.

It is necessary to have your device's location services turned on in order to better assist in providing your location to dispatch. Once a message is sent, questions and instructions will follow.

There is no guarantee your message will be sent or received. Voice calls are still preferred but the new service is available for those who cannot make a phone call and

can be an alternative for individuals with speech/hearing impairment or other disabilities, domestic violence victims, anyone unable to speak due to medical or other conditions.

NOTICE OF ACCEPTING BIDS FOR LEASING OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS

The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Pima Agency, on behalf of the allotted landowners, provides notice under Sealed Bids for the advertisement of available land for farming leases on trust or restricted Indian land. We will be accepting SEALED BIDS ONLY for the purpose of leasing agricultural lands to the highest bidder through October 30, 2020. All bids must be delivered to the Pima Agency's Superintendent by U.S. Postal Mail. The bid must be received at Pima Agency by October 30, 2020, to be considered an acceptable bid offer. Bids must be enclosed in separate envelopes and each plainly marked, "SEALED BID ON FARMING LEASE, ITEM NO. ____, TO BE OPENED ON October 30, 2020." Mail bids to Pima Agency, P.O. Box 8, Sacaton, Arizona 85147. Item No. 1, District 6, Farm Unit 1 - 2,449.62 acres Item No. 2, District 1, Farm Unit 2 - 700.92 acres Item No. 3, District 5, Farm Unit 3 - 352.98 acres Each offer of the bid must include the allotment number and legal description of the land to be leased, proposed conditions being offered including: Bid/Dollar Per Acre Price and Term of

Lease, being from one to ten years. In order to submit an acceptable tract bid, the bidder must propose a fair market value bid offer. The term of any lease bid accepted will begin on January 1, 2021 and will expire on the date negotiated under the lease terms. A Schedule of Lands/List of Allotments for each Farm Unit can be requested by the bidder and provided by the BIA, Pima Agency. If your bid is accepted, the Superintendent, Pima Agency will provide notification that your bid has been accepted and will provide you with the lease documents and instructions to submit the executed lease agreement along with the supporting documentation needed to execute and approve the lease. The Superintendent reserves the right to reject any and all bids that do not meet the bid advertisement requirements. Bids may also be rejected by the Superintendent using his or her discretionary authority for any terms and rent. If this occurs, negotiation may resolve the issue(s) before any final rejection of a successful sealed bid. If you have any questions, please contact Craig Adams, Acting Realty Officer, at the Pima Agency at (520) 562-3376 or craig.adams@bia.gov.

ENROLL NOW

GCCS FACE PROGRAM
2020/2021

OUR GOALS

- Support you as your child's best first teacher.
- Connect family, school, & Community.
- Increase parent involvement in school.
- Celebrate and support culture & community.
- Promote lifelong learning.

Center Based Program:
Parent/Caregivers with children 3yrs to 3rd Grade.
Providing Virtual Preschool classes with Native American Curriculum. Free support for GED, Higher Education, or Employment.

Home Based Program: Using the Parents as Teachers approach help support Parent/Caregivers who are pregnant or have children from infancy to Kindergarten age, with child development, early learning skills, and supporting parents and their family needs.
Providing Virtual Home Visits, Resources, Screenings, and Family Circles.

APPLY ONLINE GCCS WEBSITE OR CALL THE SCHOOL FOR MORE INFORMATION
520-550-4834 or email amiee.mestaz@gccseagles.org



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY



**Register to vote by October 5, 2020
for the State, and National Elections!**

This is your opportunity to participate in the November 3rd General Election.

Important Dates - General Election

October 5th

Voter Registration
Deadline

October 23rd

Last day to request
a ballot-by-mail or
sign up for PEVL

October 27th

Recommended deadline
to mail back your
ballot

November 3rd

General Election
Voting Polls Open
6am - 7pm

"YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE"

GET OUT THE VOTE

Not Registered to Vote Yet? Visit: bit.ly/nativevotevr
or servicearizona.com



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Polling Sites Are Open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Election Day!

All Districts will provide a polling site. However, we strongly recommend you vote by absentee to combat the spreading of the COVID-19 virus as part of our efforts to assist you in the most safest way of VOTING. PLEASE make sure you sign the envelope.

Tribal Elections Office - (520) 562-9735 or (520) 562-9758

GRIC POLLING SITE LOCATIONS:

District #1 Multipurpose Building
15747 Shegoi Road

District #2 Event Center
9257 W. Sacaton Flats Road

District #3 Service Center
31 N. Church Street

District #4 Service Center
1510 W. Santan Road

District #5 Multipurpose Building
3558 W. Casa Blanca Road

District #6 Learning Center
5230 W. St. Johns Road

District #7 Multipurpose Facility
8035 S. 83rd Avenue



SPECIAL ELECTION 2020

Amendments to the Constitution

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.

YES

A YES vote will remove this language from the Constitution and allow member to keep their membership if they remain away for 20 years.

NO

A NO vote will keep the current language.

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.

YES

A YES vote will change the legal boundaries of District 7 and District 6 to move the area known as Co-op from District 7 to District 6.

NO

A NO vote will keep the current language.

ARTICLE XV: POWERS OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

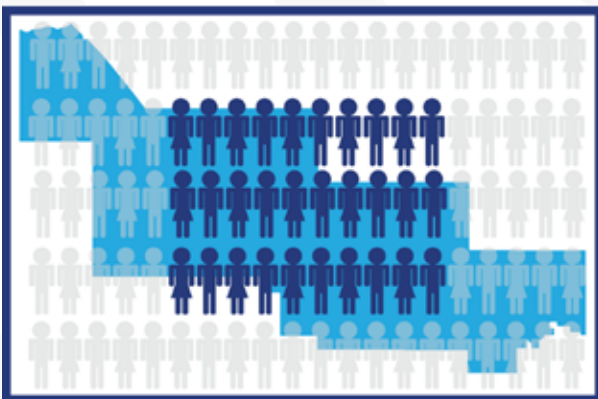
Currently Articles 3 and 15 of the Constitution state that the Secretary of the Interior has the authority to review certain kinds of ordinances and resolutions enacted by the Community Council, including civil and criminal codes, and ordinances regulating tribal membership.

YES

A YES vote will remove the Secretary of the Interior from the Ordinance and Resolution approval process.

NO

A NO vote will keep the current language.



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.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPECIAL ELECTION, PLEASE VISIT:

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



IT'S YOUR CONSTITUTION
MEMBERSHIP • DISTRICTS • POWER



Gila River Indian Community

did you hear?

VOTER REGISTRATION is CLOSING: October 6, 2020

***make sure you are registered
or updated your registration for the:***

GENERAL ELECTION, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

Office of Governor

Office of Lt. Governor

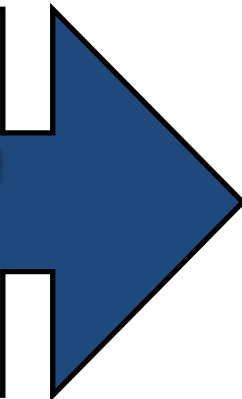
Chief Judge

Associate Judges

&

Constitutional Amendments

Tribal Elections will register
community members alongside
Pinal County's Mobile
Registration vehicle



**Saturday, September 26, 7 am - 10 pm
@ Casa Blanca Chevron Station, District 5**

**Tuesday, September 29, 8 am - 10 am
@ Komatke Chevron Station, District 6**

OR contact your District Judge/Elections office today:

District 1	Yolanda Duran (520) 582-2710 or (520) 215-1163
District 2	Bertha Thomas, (520) 610-8350
District 3	Zuzette Kisto, (520) 610-1965
District 4	Sharon Miguel, (520) 610-0670
District 5	Verna Sunna, (480) 737-1584
District 6	Lorina Allison, (480) 404-5184
District 7	Leola Lynch, (602) 803-2003



TRIBAL ELECTIONS OFFICE: (520) 562-9735, Call before you arrive.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • September 16, 2020

ACTION SHEET

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, September 16, 2020, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:08 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Terrance Evans

ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Robert Stone

Council Members Present:

D1-Joey Whitman (9:19), 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, Thomas White; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:

D5-Vacant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORTS #4 & #5 AND RESOLUTION #1 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE REPORTS #3 & #6 AND RESOLUTIONS #2 THROUGH #13 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

REPORTS

*1. COVID 19 Update

Presenters: Bruce Harvey, Candalerian Preston, Laurie Thomas, June Shorthair

REPORT HEARD

2. COVID – 19 Update

Presenters: Bruce Harvey, Candalerian Preston, Laurie Thomas, June Shorthair

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1 AND #2

>3. Cold Case Office

Presenters: Sunshine Whitehair, Chief Timothy Chavez

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

<4. Casa Blanca Community School Qtr 3 Tribal Allocation Report SY19-20

Presenter: Lillian Kim Franklin

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. St. Peter Indian Mission School Qtr 3 Tribal Allocation Report SY19-20

Presenter: Sister Martha Mary Carpenter

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. GRICUA Report - FY 20 3rd Quarter (April 1, 2020 - June 30, 2020)

Presenters: Leonard Gold, Pamela Thomas

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And BOKF, NA For Fiscal Year 2020 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for consideration to add to the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sharon Harvier

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Gila River Indian Community's Participation And Data Sharing Agreement With The Study Committee On Missing And

Murdered Indigenous Woman And Girls (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Valaura Imus-Nahsohoya, Katie Haverly

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. A Resolution Authorizing A Second General Assistance Payment Out Of The Gila River Indian Community COVID-19 Emergency Fund (G&MSC forward to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And DCI Group AZ, LLC For Fiscal Year 2021 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Public Policy Partners For Fiscal Year 2021 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Center For Applied Research, Inc. For Fiscal Year 2021 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>7. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP For Fiscal Year 2021 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>8. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Dorsey & Whitney, LLP For Fiscal Year 2021 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Osborn Maledon, P.A. For Fiscal Year 2021 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>10. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Rothstein Law Firm For Fiscal Year 2021 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-

DA

>11. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Lippes Mathias Wexler & Friedman, LLP For Fiscal Year 2021 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>12. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And DR Law PLLC For Fiscal Year 2021 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda) Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

13.A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Yoder & Langford, P.C. For Fiscal Year 2021 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

MINUTES

1. August 19, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH CORRECTION

2. September 2, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ VIRTUAL CENSUS AND GET OUT THE VOTE RALLY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:09 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
COURT DATE NOTICE

In Re Case: In the Matter of the Estate of: Sylvia Faith Flores (Webb)
Docket Number: CV-2015-0122-ZAA

This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR your hearing may be held in held in absentia and

a warrant may be issued for your arrest, forfeiture of your bond, judgment in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered.

Answer/Response Hearing
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,
721 West Seed Farm Road,
Sacaton, AZ 85147
19th day of October, 2020 at 10:00 AM
in Courtroom I before the Honorable Anthony Hill

Call for Artists/Artists Wanted (Sacaton, Arizona) Dr. Cheryl Paul, The Gila River Indian Community is excited to announce the new Casa Blanca School opening next

summer. This beautifully designed space will need artwork from Pima (Akimel O'otham) and Maricopa (Pee-Posh) artisans. We are looking for artists from the Gila River Indian Community working in all styles and media, including paintings on paper and canvas, tile mosaics, murals, drawings, photography, sculpture, basketry, pottery, carvings, and weavings. Our design team is looking for artwork that will reflect the cultural themes that will be incorporated into the facility. We will host an open house for

artists on October 24 from 11am to 5pm, at the District Five Service Center (3456 W. Casa Blanca Rd, Maricopa AZ). Come take a look at the project and opportunities for artwork! Please bring photos/examples of your work to share with us. We will not be purchasing anything at the open house. We will have two sessions to comply with Covid-19 regulations: 11am-2pm and 2pm to 5pm. We will also be doing zoom sessions upon request. For more information, and to request a time slot, please call Laurie Post at 602-243-4300, or email Laurie at LPost@TelaArt.com

Outreach intensifies to increase voter registration with deadline coming up

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

With Election Day, Nov. 3, approaching, the Gila River Indian Community continues to register as many voters as possible before the National and GRIC tribal elections deadline.

Starting Sept. 24, GRIC Tribal Elections and Pinal County have partnered to register new voters in person while adhering to all COVID-19 safety protocols. Pinal County Elections Office provided their mobile registration vehicle for use on Thursday, Sept. 24 in District 1, Saturday, Sept. 26 in District 5, and again on Thursday, Oct. 1 in District 3.

“We’ve had a huge turnout of new voters registering along with

many people coming to update their voter information during our outreach,” said District 3 Judge for Tribal Elections Office, Zuzette Kisto.

Tribal Elections also set up in District 6 on Tuesday, Sept. 29.

“In District 6 we had a lot of urban members come register to vote because they’re concerned about the constitutional amendment to Article III: Membership and how it could affect them,” Kisto said.

Nationally this next election will determine the outcome of numerous seats in congress, and the next president of the United States. On the state level, two propositions are up for a vote in addition to numerous senate and house seats.

Here in the Community, the General Election will determine who is elected Governor, Lt. Governor, Chief Judge, and the Associate Judges.

The Special Election will be held in conjunction with the General Election for voters to decide on three proposed GRIC Constitutional Amendments.

“It’s great to see the team out here to register Community members to vote because it’s important and something we can’t take for granted, especially since Native people weren’t allowed that right for a long time,” said Lt. Gov. Robert Stone at the District 6 outreach.

Please keep in mind that the registration deadline to vote in the state and national



Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, left, at the voter registration outreach in District 6 on Sept. 29. Kyle Knox/GRIN

elections is Monday, Oct. 5, for Maricopa and Pinal counties. You can register online at servicearizona.com and check your voter status at recorder.maricopa.gov or

pinalcountyaz.gov.

The deadline to register for GRIC tribal election is Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 5 p.m. For more information to register, please call the Tribal

Elections Office at (520) 562-9735. Or you can also register by calling your district judge to coordinate an in-person registration within your district.

Culture and language teachers gather virtually for presentations and workshops



The 2020 Virtual Culture Teacher Gathering featured hands-on demonstrations for streaming online. ZOOM Screenshot

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

O’otham cultural and language teachers recently regrouped for their annual gathering, which was previously scheduled for March, to share their traditional teachings and how to incorporate their unique curriculum in the schools.

The 2020 Virtual Culture Teacher Gathering was held on Aug. 28, Sept. 4, 11, and 18. The Culture Teacher Gathering began for teachers from the Gila River Indian Community and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community to support each other and discuss ways to implement cultural learning in the classroom.

Ak-Chin Indian Community and Tohono O’odham Nation joined as well and each year the gathering is hosted by one of the O’otham tribes. GRIC hosted the previous gathering at the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass.

The Tohono O’odham Nation Education Department and Culture Teacher Gathering Planning

Committee hosted the event virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic, instead of the original venue at the Himdag Ki: Tohono O’odham Nation Cultural Center.

“This was needed as there was not as much support for teachers in the field of language revitalization,” said Anthony Grey, Culture Coordinator for the Tribal Education Department.

Participants joined through web-based video conferencing for lessons and demonstrations from culture teachers and presenters, which included O’otham introductions, traditional calendar, pottery, songs, games and the cultural significance of clothing and seashells.

“The presentations were interactive and was taught to where we understood within our Himthag. The activities are very useful and can be taught with any grade level,” said Ms. Hymer and Mrs. Hall, Culture Instructors for the Sacaton Elementary School District.

Participants were invited to join online and

interact with presenters and engage during a Q & A session. Hands-on demonstrations were given and promoted for use at home with materials to be used along with each workshop, which were mailed out to participants who registered early.

“This year’s gathering was designed based on feedback we received when we hosted the event in 2016. The evaluation forms demonstrated that participants wanted more hands-on activities, which inspired this year’s pinch pot, shell necklace and puppet making activities,” said Frances Benavidez, Education Outreach Coordinator for the Tohono O’odham Nation Education Department.

The event ended with a virtual play of a story about a coyote and buzzard’s adventure at a dance. The virtual play demonstrated a fun way to bring traditional stories and language to life, in person or online. Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community will host the gathering next year.

“I’ll be honest it

Gila River Indian Community
is now Enrolling for School Year 2020-2021
Head Start and Early Head Start is a comprehensive program currently providing virtual services through distance learning in the Community for ages 0-5

What we offer:

Children’s Services	Family Services
◆ Quality Education	◆ Parent Activities
◆ Health Screenings	◆ Parent Education
◆ Dental Screenings	◆ Community Resources
◆ Nutritious Food	◆ Fatherhood Activities
◆ Culture Activities	
◆ Independence	
◆ Engaging Activities	
◆ Structured Schedule	

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

Sacaton Head Start Family Advocate 520 610-5293	San Tan Head Start Family Advocate 520 610-5432 EHS 520 610-5533 HS	Vah ki Head Start Family Advocate 520 610-5537
Komatke Head Start Family Advocate 520 610-7014 EHS 520 610-4976 HS	Child Care Center Family Advocate 520 562-3640	

wasn’t the same of course as last year’s but it was hard for some of us that we wish we could hug each other or have that one-on-one talk. Regardless of the social distancing we all still did our best to make moments and to hear everyone out,” said Lorena Hendrix-Clashin, Cultural Specialist, Gila River Indian Community Head Start. Next issue will feature more on this story, the history of the gathering and GRIC’s participation.



The gathering ended with a virtual play about a coyote and buzzard. ZOOM Screenshot

Genesis program addresses childhood obesity with a jump rope marathon

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

With September recognized as National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, the Genesis Program hosted, for the first time, a Virtual Jump Rope Marathon for children in the Community Monday, Sept. 28 and Wednesday, Sept. 30. The event was held over the WebEx virtual meeting platform and challenged children to perform as many individual jumps to encourage healthy movement and activity.

Program Manager Kyrie Dukepoo said, "Normally, the kids learn how to jump rope in PE class, but with no access to PE teachers, they don't have that at the moment." This event will help fill a significant gap for home school children that have little to no physical activities. Many students will now have the equipment necessary to promote physical activity safely at home by providing jump ropes.

On Monday and Wednesday evening, parents and children logged on to their devices, observed a quick demonstration, and began the competition performing as many jumps for as long as possible. Eventually, time and fatigue set in, leaving few remaining and winners declared. Monday night's marathon ended in a tie between Zachary Antone and Josiah Antone jumping for 10 minutes, and Wednesday night's marathon ended with Mark Sanchez III & Breiah Miguel declared the winners jumping for a total of 10 minutes.

Genesis also achieved another goal for the event. Dukepoo stated, "We want to connect the kids so they can see each other and have an event, just for them, so they feel like someone's reaching out to them and providing healthy activity and community connection."

Why jump rope? Jumping rope is considered one of the best means of building stamina, agility, and can improve your cardiovascular health. It utilizes numerous body parts and muscles to complete one revolution. Another great value of jumping rope is it can enhance coordination skills. The health benefits of jumping rope is an effective activity in combating childhood obesity.

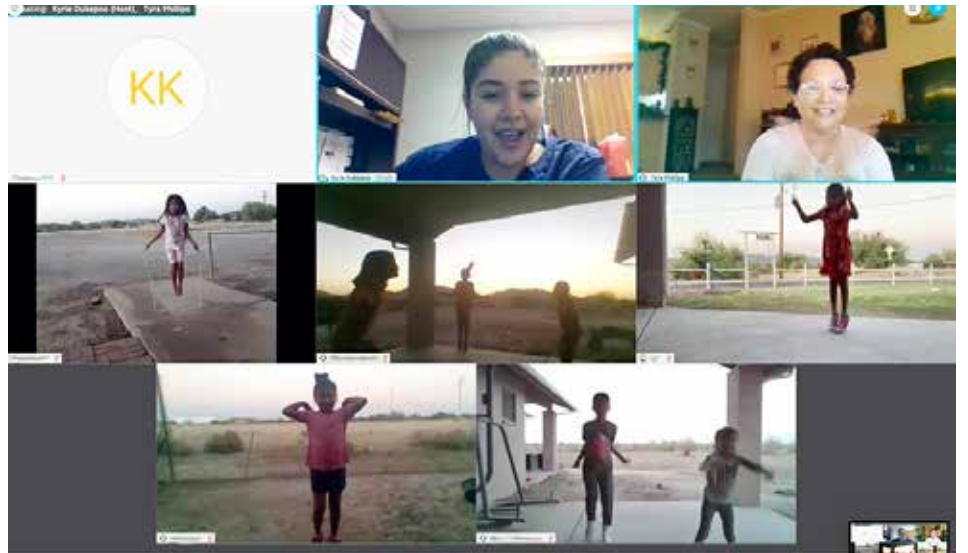
With three months left in the year, Genesis will continue to host virtual events. November

is around the corner and Obesity Awareness Month, so expect to see more events planned from Genesis.

To date, they continue to offer services virtually until safe enough for in-person clientele interaction. Genesis program staff remains eager for reopening as they have a new office space in the Community. Highlighting the new office and unique initiatives will be in the GRIN's next issue.



Genesis program is preparing bicycles for the upcoming bike rally. Kyle Knox/GRIN



Children participating in the Genesis Program's jump rope marathon. Kyle Knox/GRIN

DID YOU GET A \$1,200 STIMULUS PAYMENT FROM THE IRS? IF NOT, ACT BY OCTOBER 15!

HOW DO I GET THE PAYMENT?

Apply for your Economic Impact Payment or "Stimulus Check" by October 15

Go to www.irs.gov/eip and click on the button for non-filers.

1 WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
People who
1. Have a valid Social Security number;
2. Cannot be claimed as a dependent of another taxpayer; and
3. Had adjusted gross income under \$99,000 (single) or \$198,000 (married).

2 COMPLETE AN ONLINE FORM IF YOU:
1. Did not get your stimulus check; and
2. You were not required to file taxes in 2018 or 2019; and
3. You are not going to file 2019 taxes; and
4. You are not claimed as a dependent by someone else.

3 WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO PROVIDE BY OCT. 15?
1. Full name;
2. Current mailing address and an email address;
3. Date of birth;
4. Social Security number;
5. Bank account number, if you have one;
6. Driver's license or state-issued ID, if you have one.

Tip: If you got \$1,200 for yourself but did not get \$500 for each of your children, use the irs.gov/eip Non-Filers tool until September 30 to enter information on your qualifying children to receive the extra \$500 payments.



During COVID-19, remember:

Call (520) 562-3369

to do an intake and make an appointment

as we have limited staff on hand.

403 Seed Farm Road
P.O Box 68
Sacaton, AZ 85147

www.sazlegalaid.org

www.AZLawHelp.org

- Office Hours are by appointment only
- **MASK UP Gila River!**

Notary Public available Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30 am



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\$307/mo
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\$277/mo
2020 Kia Optima LX



\$287/mo
2019 Toyota Camry LE



\$267/mo
2016 Mazda 6



\$237/mo
2019 Chevy Trax



\$397/mo
2019 Dodge Charger



\$307/mo
2018 Dodge Caravan



\$367/mo
2017 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo

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Hard to Find



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9,000 Miles



\$317/mo
2018 Honda Civic

21,000 Miles



\$277/mo
2017 Toyota Corolla



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MONDAYS | 7PM

THE FIRST 250 GUESTS TO VISIT THE CARD® KIOSK AT ANY
GILA RIVER HOTELS & CASINOS HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN

**ARIZONA CARDINALS GEAR, FREE BONUS PLAY,
OR QUALIFY TO WIN A RANGE ROVER EVOQUE!**

**PRE-GAME
GIVEAWAY**



Every Monday, earn one
entry for every 150 points
earned on THE Card.®

On December 28, winners will be drawn every 15
minutes from 5PM-7PM for a chance to win:

**Arizona Cardinals
autographed
memorabilia**

Staycations

**Gila River
Hotels & Casinos
gift cards**

In partnership with:



LAND ROVER
CHANDLER

landroverchandler.com

Actual vehicle may vary.
See Players Club for details.

OFFICIAL HOTELS & CASINOS
OF THE ARIZONA CARDINALS

GILA RIVER
HOTELS & CASINOS

vee quiva • wild horse pass • lone butte

