

THE GRIN



VOL. 24, NO. 8

GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS | www.GRICNEWS.org

APRIL 19, 2021

GRIC Continues Mass Vaccination Events Against COVID-19

Kyle Knox

Gila River Indian News

On Saturday, Apr. 10, the Gila River Indian Community held a vaccination event at the Lone Butte Casino, drawing hundreds of Community members and a number of special guests, including the Phoenix Suns Gorilla, Arizona Diamondbacks' Baxter the Bobcat, and Sparky, the mascot for Arizona State University.

Gila River Health Care reports that the number of Community members have been vaccinated against COVID-19 continues to steadily increase after a number of mass vaccination events. As of Apr, 12, 55 percent of Community members age 55 years or older have received a vaccination – a critical figure since elders are most at risk for COVID-19 related illness. Additionally, 20 percent of Community members 16 years and older have received the vaccine. With vaccines increasing, the Community is drawing closer to achieving "Community Immunity."

"We are all coming together today to ensure we are getting as many vaccinated as possible," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who was on site for the Saturday

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone said



Gila River Health Care vaccination event workers prepare intake stations at the Lone Butte Casino on April 10. Kyle Knox/GRIN

has been able to continue hosting vaccination events - and also to vaccinate members of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. "We have all, at the COVID-19 Task Force, worked hard to ensure everyone can get a vaccination, and I am thankful that we can include the Ak-Chin Indian Community," said Lt. Gov. Antone.

With the arrival of the "U.K COVID-19 Variant" in the state, Lt. Gov. Antone stressed the need for vaccinations. "All of Indian Country is working hard to fight and protect our people," said Antone, "and by getting a people more easily, has increased safety guideline requirements that

she's pleased that the Community vaccination, you are ensuring your protection against the U.K. variant

> Dr. Anthony Santiago, the CEO of Gila River Health Care stressed that the new dominant version of the COVID-19 virus in the US at this time, the U.K. variant, requires a renewed effort to be vaccinated. "Research shows that the U.K. variant is more contagious and is more easily spread between people; once infected people harbor the virus longer than the original version, as much as 30% longer; and, it has been shown to infect younger

hospitalizations and unfortunately may be more likely to be fatal. But just as important is that our current vaccines, the Pfizer, Moderna and the Janssen are very effective against the UK Variant. Being vaccinated will protect people from becoming ill, it will save lives."The Navajo Nation recently reported a case of the U.K. Variant on their reservation.

Vaccinations play a crucial role in keeping everyone safe as the state begins easing some COVID-19 safety restrictions. On Apr. 9, the Community's Executive Order No. 10 was released and

affect Community gatherings, distance learning for students, and employees' safely returning to

Vaccination event organizers, such as Gila River Gaming Enterprises, ensured the indoor setting would provide minimal wait times and safety for everyone that day. This event was the second Community vaccination event that included members of the neighboring Ak-Chin Indian Community.

The Apr. 10 event made use of the Johnson & Johnson oneshot vaccine. The shot has since been paused by the Community following guidance from the CDC, after reports that six individual in the United States who got the vaccine afterward experienced blood clots. Nearly 7 million people have gotten this vaccine in the U.S. to date which represents only 0.000088 of those vaccinated.

On Monday, Apr. 26, from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m., another vaccination event is scheduled at the Rawhide Event Center at Wild Horse Pass for anyone still seeking a vaccination, which will be the Pfizer variant of the vaccine. Community members can also get a vaccination at all Gila River Health Care facilities as well.

Lifetime Achievement Award honoring Rodney Lewis presented to Gov. Lewis by National Indian Gaming Association

Christopher Lomahquahu Gila River Indian News

On April 14th Ernie Stevens, Jr., Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to Gov. Lewis honoring the work of Rodney Blaine Lewis on behalf of the Community and Indian Country.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions on social gatherings and meetings, the award was presented to Gov. Lewis by Stevens in Lewis' office. The award normally would have been presented during NIGA's annual Indian Gaming Tradeshow & Convention.

NIGA The Achievement Award is given to individuals who have promoted a legacy of giving back to Native communities through their work at the local and national level. The award recognizes an individual's



L-R, Gov. Lewis is presented a lifetime achievement award by NIGA Chairman Stevens, that honors father Rodney Lewis. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

through initiatives that support Stevens. Lifetime Indian gaming, while promoting tribal sovereignty.

"He was one of the most prolific lawyers in Indian history but one of the most prolific warriors and gentlemen. Posthumously we honor him for

work to strengthen Native peoples his lifetime of achievement," said

"He understood the needs of the people to follow through with his responsibilities from beginning to end," said Gov. Lewis. He said that his father's professional legacy, which included years of litigation in the federal courts working to gain the Community's



File Photo: L-R, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis with father Rodney Lewis, during a water agreement meeting in April of 2018. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

life's work.

Stevens reflected on the elder Lewis' work as a champion among Native people and what the award means about his stature. "The lifetime of achievement was one strength of this work," said Stevens. "But there are many

water rights, was the center of his strengths he held onto that made him a special person to be around and work with."

> Stevens presented Lewis with a plaque, badge of honor pin and blanket, which symbolizes the warrior-like attributes of recipients who work tirelessly for their tribes and Native Americans across the nation.

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Missing & Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) Virtual Awareness Walk/Run

The Gila River Indian Community has proclaimed May 5th as Missing & Murdered Indigenous People Awareness Day. Join us in solidarity to honor MMIP victims during a virtual walk/run on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.

How to participate in the virtual walk/run:

- Visit mygilariver.com, announcements section for registration link. Registration deadline is May 1, 2021. *Open to GRIC members only
- \bullet Choose a familiar & safe route. (1.5 mile course or ½ mile Elder course) and walk, jog or run on Wednesday, May 5, 2021.
- Please follow all COVID-19 safety guidelines and the Community's current Executive Orders. Participate with members of your own household and do not form any groups to participate in the walk/run.
- Share your photos to help raise awareness about MMIP using the #GRICMMIP. Please tag the Community Facebook event page or email photos to Special.Events@gric.nsn.us

For questions, or if you need assistance completing the registration please contact Alie Walking Badger at (520) 562-9713 or Shannon Redbird at (520) 562-9859.







Stephen Roe Lewis

Lt. Governor

Monica Antone

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District 3 Avery White Rodney Jackson

District 4 Jennifer Allison Regina Antone-Smith Delmar Jones

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Caring House Opens Doors to Visitors

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

Family and friends are once again welcome to visit their loved ones at The Caring House Skilled Nursing Facility - Gila River Health Care, after the coronavirus pandemic forced the facility to close its doors to visitors for the health and safety of residents and staff over a year ago.

Visitation to The Caring House (TCH) resumed on Mar. 22 with new requirements. Currently, visitation is limited to 45 minutes and the facility is only allowing two visitors at a time with no physical contact between the visitors and residents.

"We try to make it as safe as we can," said Ron Preston, TCH Administrator. "We'll take small steps before we open it up to normal."

When visitations first resumed,



Brenda Robertson is visited by daughter Wahlean "Bobbie" Riggs at The Caring House. Photo Courtesy Paul Molina/GRHC

they were conducted outdoors. Due "cruiser program" to residents, to warmer weather, visitors are now welcome indoors after completing upon entering the building. A designated area has been set up in the lobby and a plexiglass barrier District 5 Representative and a has been installed for the safety of the residents. When visitations

which allowed them to be driven to visit any part of the Community a health screening by TCH staff from a safe distance during the pandemic.

Brenda Robertson, former Culture teacher in the Community, will once again be able to spend were suspended, TCH offered a time with her daughter, Wahlean

"Bobbie" J. Riggs. While they talked on the phone every day, it had been over a year since they have been able to see each other in-person.

"We couldn't visit like we would like to, becasuse we used to visit quite a bit before the pandemic," said Robertson.

Robertson said although she couldn't visit with loved ones keeping busy with exercise, playing bingo and the game of horseshoes with other residents and staff members. During the visit with her daughter, Robertson shared a video on her iPad several songs she performed with one of the staff members.

"She's kind of a leader here," said Preston. He shared stories about Robertson socializing with other residents and often shares her bingo winnings. To schedule a visit, call TCH at (520) 562-7400.

Community to Host Inaugural Run & Walk to Bring Awareness on Crimes Against Indigenous People

Kyle Knox

Gila River Indian News

The Community Council has officially declared May 5 as the Gila River Indian Community's Day of Awareness for Missing Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP). This year, the Community will host its inaugural MMIP Virtual Awareness Walk/ Run to commemorate the day.

The Walk/Run, is set for May 5 abnd is virtual and will require participants to track their route and submit photo proof of completion. Participants are to complete 1.5 miles – or a half a mile for elders – to receive their commemorative MMIP T-Shirt designed by renowned Native American artist Bunky Echohawk. Since the event is virtual, participants are to complete their route at home or using any safe route they choose.

The event and proclamation acknowledge the

statistics affecting indigenous the addition of the walk and run police department in the United women throughout the country. Sometimes referred to as Missing community by coming together to Murdered Indigenous Women, the movement efforts have become more prevalent in the state of Arizona and GRIC.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone has been a leader on the MMIP issue locally and throughout the state as an advocate. Lt. Gov. Antone serves as a tribal representative numerous grassroots state-level organizations addressing the MMIP issue facing all of Indian Country.

"I am honored and proud that this came forward and will be recognized in our Community from this day on," said Lt. Gov. Antone, who added that she feels the proclamation will mean a lot for families who do not loved one under such difficult circumstances.

Lt. Gov. Antone also called

a way to provide healing as a recognize the issue and concerns of MMIP.

"Run in honor of those that are missing," said Lt. Gov. Antone, "for that missing heartbeat of a loved one and for families to find healing."

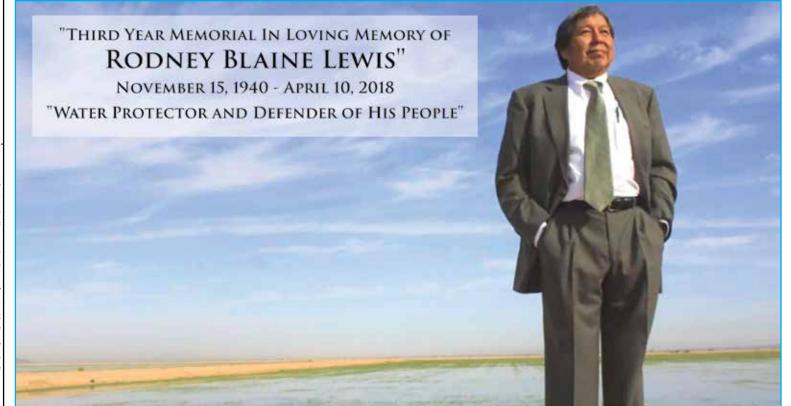
Last year, GRIC became the home site for the U.S. Western Region Operation Lady Justice Task Force. This task force consists of federal agents assigned to missing and murdered cold cases that remain unsolved. Additionally, in 2019, the state passed House Bill 2570 to provide inter-agency collaboration and a study on how to address MMIP and gather data on MMIP cases.

"I am proud the Community have closure after having lost a was selected as the location for the Regional Cold Case office. This cold case unit is the only unit co-located within a tribal

States. I look forward to working with Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland as she makes addressing our missing and murdered Native Americans a priority under her leadership," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

According to the U.S. Justice Department, indigenous women in some tribal communities face murder rates more than 10 times the national average. Furthermore, indigenous people, including men and children, are 2.5 times more likely to experience violent crimes and at least twice as likely to experience rape or sexual assault compared to any other group in

To sign up for the MMIP Virtual Awareness Walk/ Run, visit mygilariver.com for online registration, or can call Alie Walk Badger at 520-562-9713 or you can Shannon Redbird at 520-562-



He fought the good fight. He finished the race. He kept the faith. He reclaimed the River for all eternity. He is the River now and the River is him.

" . . . and when you reach your River you will find me there waiting for you . . . and together we will become the River . . . and the River will be all of us together."

Kwi Hiosig Mashath

The name for this month refers to the blossoming of the Mesquite trees which will soon produce vihog (mesquite bean pods) in a few months. One category of plants easily overlooked are the ho'i hab ma:s haichu vu'voithag, "cactus-like plants, plants with spines".

In the Akimel O'otham plant classification system ho'i hab ma:s haichu vu'voithag have their own unique category and includes all cacti and spine-bearing desert plants.

Our Hekiu O'otham didn't overlook the cacti as they observed their shapes, where they grew and other characteristics. From these observations they assigned names to many different cacti. A few ho'i hab ma:s haichu vu'voithag that produce flowers are; Hannam (Buckhorn Cholla) which grow up in the nearby mountain ranges and on the foothills.

Some families still pick the buds before they flower and slow roast them overnight in rock-lined pits, then dried and stored to be used later for



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

hedgehog cactus) can be found on the foothills and sometimes in isolated areas on the floodplain.

of Chiavul (Barrel Cacti) in month. our community, one grows only on the mountains and foothills while the other thrives on the flatlands. One easily recognized plant is the Melok (Ocotillo) with their red clusters of blossoms which grows on the nearby mountains and foothills. Another easily recognized cactus is I'ibai (prickly-pear article are referenced from cactus) which will bloom later on in the summer.

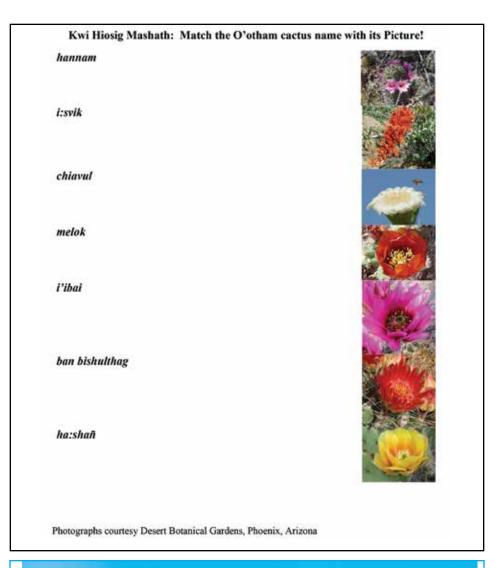
Cactus) since they rarely grow page. 4.

I:svik (Engelmann's over six inches and can be hidden between rocks on the nearby foothills. Our most important gift is the Ha:shañ (Saguaro Cactus) which will There are two species bloom near the end of next

> This month's wordmatch will focus on ho'i hab ma:s haichu vu'voithag hiosig. We encourage you to learn these O'otham words and use them in your everyday lives. We also encourage you to get out and take a look at a few cacti when in bloom.

Information for this 'At the Desert's Green Edge: An Ethnobotany of the Gila One cactus that may be River Pima' University of hard to find is Ban Bisulthag, Arizona Press, 1997. Answers 'Coyote's Paws' (Fishhook to matching puzzle found on





Pima Leasing Looks to Diversify Access to Entrepreneurs

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

Pima & Leasing Financing Corporation (PLFC) is an economic development corporation that exists, according to its vision statement, "To provide economic diversity for the Gila River Indian Community" by managing land transactions and by cultivating entrepreneurs and other Community-based businesses.

PLFC offers business loans to GRIC members whose Community-based have been businesses in operation for at least two years and who can provide referrals from local lenders for startups non-Communitybased businesses. PLFC also provides access to information and resources that are free or low-cost, such as the Arizona Commerce Authority's "Small Business our entrepreneurs in this at (520) 796-2454 ext. 226.

initiative designed to provide "We'll develop a nurtured support for those interested job growth within the in starting a business. For information about online workshops offered through "Startup ongoing Together" conference, visit startuptogetheraz.com.

business plans to providing access, our staff are excited to help the Community grow," said Teresa Mandelin, PLFC's Executive Director. mentoring and giving her She joined the organization in September and expressed her excitement and gratitude with my ideas and possible to be able to work with the business plans." Community.

Bootcamp," a statewide Community," said Mandelin. Community itself (and) more jobs in the Community by helping our small businesses startup and grow."

"They have just been so, so good, so helpful," "From assisting with said Patricia Miles, a GRIC member from District 6. Miles contacted PLFC to assist her. She said they've been very helpful in the tools and support, "They really helped assisting me

Community members Mandelin, an enrolled can contact PLFC and request member of the Choctaw assistance with business Nation of Oklahoma, has planning and consultation. over 30 years of experience For additional information in commercial banking. She on Business Services and has specialized in providing Resources, contact Seth Rich small businesses access to at (520) 796-2454, ext. 223. capital for the past 20 years. For information on Business "We want to help Loans, contact Brian Moreno

Job Announcement

How to apply:

For more information and online application please visit: www.cbcschools.

Benefits

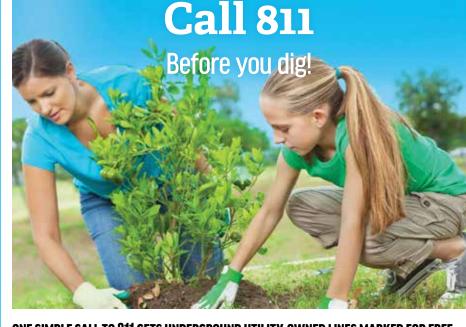
Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, 401K Retirement Plan, Competitive Salaries

School Information: School is located 15 miles from Phoe-

nix Metropolitan Area (15-17-minute drive).

Contact Information:

For additional information regarding a position, contact the Human Resources Office at (520) 315-3489 ext. 2531.



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(All positions are open until filled)

F.A.C.E. Adult Educator



Celebrating 25 Years 10AM - 12PM APRIL 22 VIRTUAL EVENT

New Commerce Park Breaks Ground Along Loop 202 & 40th Street

By Gila River Indian News Staff

The Gila River Indian Community continues to attract new partners and economic activity to the Wild Horse Pass area, with construction underway on Trammell Crow Company's Akimel Gateway commerce park, a 59-acre project being built on the southwest corner of the Loop 202 freeway and 40th Street.

Among the occupants: Spencer's TV & Appliance. The Valley-based appliance giant has chosen Akimel Gateway as the site of its new corporate headquarters and distribution center.

"The South Mountain Loop 202 corridor continues to attract enormous interest in multiple contexts," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. "Trammell Crow's Akimel Gateway project is an exciting development, along with the recently announced 3,300acre master plan development of Wild Horse Pass, the Community's ongoing casino and hotel expansion and the new soccer stadium built to accommodate the Phoenix Rising Football Club. I can't think of a more dynamic spot in the Valley right now – or a better location for business."

Managing Director of TCC's Phoenix office, called the culture," said Thuringer. "Our and Gilbert and to the west location on the Community "a game-changer for businesses that require easy access to with the Community, and we access to the greater Phoenix the East and West Valley look forward to many more metro area is a must," said



An artists rendering depicting Akimel Gateway commerce park located along the Loop 202 & 40th Street. Rendering Courtesy of Trammell Crow Company



An overhead view of the planned Akimel Gateway commerce park. Rendering Courtesy of Trammell Crow Company

downtown Phoenix."

Thuringer said the fivebuilding complex - built President of employee-owned in partnership with Allstate Insurance Company and lender Alliance Bank of Arizona – was named Akimel Gateway after selling point for the company. consultation with members of Spencer's has 10 retail locations the Community.

"It was Thuringer, important to us to honor and

without having to cut through steps together in this new Biederbeck. partnership."

> Biederbeck, Rick Spencer's TV & Appliance, also spoke of the Community's central location as a major throughout metropolitan incredibly Phoenix area.

"When you're serving respect the Community's customers to the east in Mesa naming process represents in Glendale, Goodyear and an important step in working Arrowhead, a site that provides

The four buildings not occupied by Spencer's are being developed speculatively in a joint venture between Trammell Crow and Allstate. Together, the buildings will measure more than 519,000 square feet, with a design suitable for light manufacturing companies, electrical, mechanical, HVAC, plumbing or lighting suppliers, or for use as an e-commerce center. Construction on Akimel Gateway is scheduled to be complete this December.

GILA RIVER AMERICORPS

Now recruiting for our 2020-2021 Members..

AmeriCorps is a national community service program funded through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). This volunteer program addresses critical problems in communities and is designed to provide individual growth, professiona evelopment, and promote civic engagement

- Trainings and certifications
- Bi-weekly living stipend
- Work experience
- Segal Education Award (requires successful completion of service term)
- Affiliation with a nationally recognized program

Eligibility Requirements

An applicant must:

- Be at least 17 years of age (with parent/guardian approval)
- Have a high school diploma or GED (or must commit to c
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien
- Pass a three-part criminal history check: national sex-offender registry, state repository check, and FBI fingerprint check

(Criminal history checks will be initiated before the start of service; and individual will be ineligible if s/he is required to register on the National Sex Offender Registry, has been convicted of murder, or fails to disclose any revious conviction. Other convictions or pending charges will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in

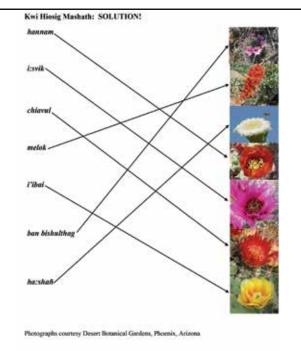
Application Deadline: Open until filled

For more information or to apply contact:



rmenlita Conn, AmeriCorps (Elisia Manuel, Outreach Coo 192 S. Skill Center Road Suite #208









COVID-19 Test Dates, COVID-19 Vaccines & More! Visit GRHC.ORG/HUB

VACCINE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 18+ YEARS OF AGE

Must be eligible: All tribal enrolled members of the GRIC and Ak-Chin communities, 18 years and older, and residents of their household are eligible for the vaccine. This includes GRIC and Ak-Chin tribal enrolled Urban members and residents of their household.

SACATON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

- APRIL 20th 9 am 4 pm
- APRIL 21st 9 am 4 pm
- APRIL 28th 9 am 4 pm

GRIC DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER

 District 2 **APRIL 22nd 9 am - 3pm**

Ak-Chin

• APRIL 27th 9 am - 3 pm

HU HU KAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL Call 602-528-1482 to schedule an appointment. M-F: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER Call 602-528-1482 to schedule an appointment. M/T/W/F: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

The vaccine clinics listed are for 18+ years only. 16-17 year olds can schedule and appointment by calling (520) 550-6079 to receive their vaccine at either Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital or Komatke Health Center with a parent or guardian consent.



GRIC Family Raises Money for Cancer Research through International Foundation

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

Last year Billy Allen, diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma and underwent treatment for the disease. Allen, who was born in Sacaton and grew up in District 5 Vah-K, is a former coach and teacher to the Community and other tribal Communities. Allen began his teaching career with Sacaton Middle School, teaching Arizona and O'otham history at Casa Grande Union High School for over 30 years. Now retired, Allen still shares his knowledge and experience in his frequent columns featured in the Gila River Indian News.

Multiple Myeloma (MM) is a type of blood cancer that affects the plasma cells, which are responsible for antibodies that work against infectious viruses and bacteria. Myeloma cells increase bone breakdown and prevent new bone cell production. The disease causes damage to the bones, immune system, and kidneys. Signs and symptoms of MM include bone pain, unexpected fractures, weakness and numbness, fatigue, frequent infections, and weight loss.

Allen has always been active and had attributed many of his symptoms to everyday tasks like working outside, general fatigue



The Allen family gathers for the holidays. They are raising money for cancer research. Photo Courtesy Linda Soto

a loss of appetite from being tired. "The main one was Myeloma 5k Run/Walk. numbness. He fell while running three times, and Myeloma has set a goal the numbness may have led to raise \$60,000 towards to that," said his wife, Toni the Lorona-Allen

others to be aware of the for the run/walk. Led by possible signs of MM, his children, Linda Soto "Looking back, Billy and Chuck Allen, Allen's showed symptoms of family has created "That MM for years before his diagnosis," said Toni, "Had we known about MM then, he might've gotten screened for that sooner. As it is, MM was doing its damage for towards the research for years."

Worldwide, 160,000 individuals are held on Saturday, April 24 diagnosed with the disease annually, according to the International Myeloma Foundation. To raise awareness and funding towards research and finding a cure for MM,

from work and running, and the foundation is hosting the 13th Annual Miles for

This year, Miles for research. Families and friends are welcome The family encourages to create virtual teams One Team," to be part of the Miles for Myeloma 5K Run/Walk. The team has raised \$2,940 so far.

All donations will go Multiple Myeloma. The nearly virtual run/walk will be and participants will send in proof their miles. You can visit the give.myeloma.org for more information on the run/walk and visit https:// bit.ly/3mPpZdm

Absentee VOTING Information:

APRIL 1 thru MAY 4, 6:00 p.m

sted an absentee ballot through the mail and couldn't mail it rrender this ballot at the polling site before you can vote. OR if you have already cast your absentee ballot and sealed the ope; you can drop it off at a polling site, Election Day

to have your District Judge to assist you. They will have absentee

DISTRICT JUDGES:

District #1 - Victoria Quintero - 480-242-7056 District #4 - Sharon Miguel - 520-610-0670 District #6 - Lorina Allison - 602-882-487

Tribal Elections office: 520-562-9735

POLLING SITE LOCATIONS:

DISTRICT #1: District 1 Multipurpose Building 15747 North Shegoi Road, Blackwater

DISTRICT #4: District 4 Multipurpose Facility 2230 N. Homerun Drive, Santan

DISTRICT #5: District 5 Multipurpose Building 3456 West Casa Blanca Road, Casa Blanca

DISTRICT #6: District 6 Learning Center

5230 West St. Johns Road, Komatke

While you are at the Polling Site...

- ★ Each district in this election has only one (1) Community Council Representative vacancy; one vote is requ

- ★ Please notify the Elections office immediately if you were told you cannot vote due to your address being outdated/incorrect @ (520) 562-9735
- * You cannot change your information at the polling sites; changing your information begins the day after this election. If you've already cha name (i.e. drivers license), you are still required to sign your name as it is shown on the signature pad:
- We ask that you please refrain from bringing your children to the polling sites; per GRIC Community Election Code, <u>Section 2.109 (H)</u>, During the polls are open; no one shall loaf or folter within the 50-foot limit area. No one except voters who have not voted and the Election Official inside the 50-foot limit. There shall be no electioneering or other political activity within the 50-foot limit area. Election Officials, voters or oth the 50-foot limit shall not force, induce or influence any voter or attempt to do so:
- NO CAMPAIGN ATTIRE, PROMOTIONAL ITEMS, ETC., TAKING CELL PHONES PICTURES INSIDE THE POLLING SITE AREA IS NOT ALLOWED
- ★ Safety standards will be in place: wear a mask, stay 6 ft. apar
- ★ Drive through voting will be available; please follow signs

Polling Site Hours are 6:00am to 6:00pm

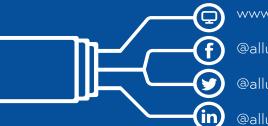
Alluvion Communications

Alluvion Communications offers a suite of mission-critical enterprise communications solutions that are always smart, fast, and reliable. Our bespoke services introduce service provider options to markets with our own unique network and local network operations center.

Alluvion Communications is a subsidiary of Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. and is 100% GRIC owned. Incorporated in 2006, Alluvion began as an HPBX CLEC. Today, Alluvion has grown to become a provider of enterprise fiber, data, and voice services. Our fiber network continues to grow throughout Pinal and Maricopa Counties.

Job creation, network expansion, and 24/7 local support are among the many benefits Alluvion provides to the Gila River Indian Community. As our network grows, so does our team! We work with community entities to recruit local talent and offer training and employment to GRIC members.

To learn more, visit www.alluvion.net/blog and follow us on social media.



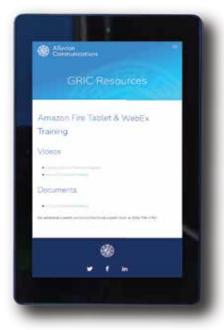
www.alluvion.net

@alluvioncom

@alluvioncom

@alluvioncom

Alluvion Launches Web Page Dedicated to Tech Training for Elders



Alluvion Communications has created a webpage which will house training materials for GRIC elders who are using Amazon Fire 7 tablets and WebEx to host virtual meetings.

We will be regularly updating the page with new videos and print collateral designed to promote a safe and enjoyable experience for elders using Kindle Fire 7 tablets.

Visit www.alluvion.net/GRIC to view our training material

Alluvion Completes First Segement of Fiber Expansion in Casa Grande, AZ



Construction of our network expansion into Casa Grande is underway! We have successfully installed high-density fiber along Pinal Ave. between I-10 and the Casa Grande Municipal Airport.

Visit https://bit.ly/2PHmB8B to view a video of our construction crew in action.

COVID-19 **Statistics** Latest the Community & Updates to Vaccines **Administered to GRIC Members**

Emma Hughes

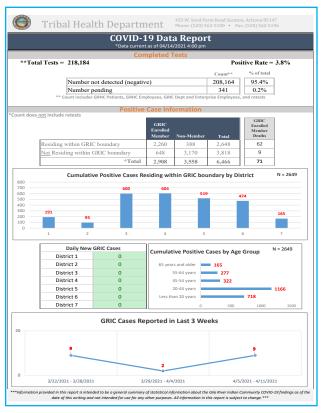
Gila River Indian News

With a decrease in COVID-19 cases in the Gila River Indian Community and with reports and consultations with Tribal Health Department, GRIC leadership worked to adjust some of the restrictions brought on by the pandemic. This included raising the limit of people allowed in a gathering, from five to ten and re-opening the Community in phases.

Tribal Health's COVID-19 data reported 6,466 positive cases. 2,908 of those cases are GRIC members as of April 14. Overall, the state has reached 851,265 positive cases as of April 14. Maricopa and Pima county have reported the most cases, according to said Gov. Lewis about the the Arizona Department of Health Services.

"Please make done with this pandemic," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis about the new amendments while reminding Community members of the coronavirus variants, "There's one thing you can do to help the side of the virus quicker and that's getting vaccinated."

Gov. Lewis attributed the decrease of cases in the Community to continued testing, vaccination, and the following Community health guidelines. "There are warnings signs out there that we may be soon facing another surge of the virus,"



There are now five variants Community

and 17, with the consent J&J vaccine. of a parent or guardian by appointment only with vaccine is based on reports GRHC. The Moderna is from six individuals in Community get to the other available to recipients 18 the United States, who years and older. Individuals experienced rare adverse who have received the effects from the vaccine. Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are expected to be that none of the reports fully vaccinated two-weeks originated from vaccines after receiving the second

administering of Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

According new variants that have been Communications & Public found, including in Arizona. Affairs press release, the mistake, we're far from of the virus, according to the decision based on guidance from the Centers for Eligibility for the Disease Control and the Pfizer vaccine can now be Indian Health Service to administered to ages 16 pause administration of the

The halt of the J&J

It is important to note given in the Community and those six cases are out of 6.8 In recent developments, million total J&J vaccines the GRHC has suspended administered across the the United States.

Are you interested in becoming a food concession

VENDOR

PHOENIX RISING

games at

WILD HORSE PASS

Rawhide is looking for Community vendors to become a part of our valued season-long vendor team.

> Deadline to apply is April 23rd for this abbreviated season.

Call 480.502.5600 or email info@rawhide.com for more information.

RAWHIDE

RAWHIDE.COM

Office: (520) 562-5100

On July 18, 2012, the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) adopted the 2009 FDA Model Food Code, Annex, and Supplement. This training course is designed and references this code.

Food Safety Training

Basic Level Classroom Training Food Handler Awareness (FHA)

2 1/2 hour long course

Certificate of Training upon completion

Classes are offered in two options:

1.) <u>In-Person - Maximum of 10 people</u> District 3 Tribal Health Department Building Address: 433 W. Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ Wednesday of each month from 9:00am -11:30am

2.) Online through Webx -Maximum of 20 people Online class will be offered the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9:00am-11:30am

Pre-registration (7days prior) is required for either in-person or the on-line course. Please call 520-562-5100 to register. Availability is first come, first serve.

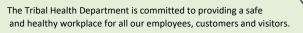
FHA Scope: The Food Handler Awareness training is locally designed to be about 2 ½ hour introductory instruction to food safety. This training provides individuals with overview of foodborne illness and contamination, receiving, storing, preparing and serving food, personal hygiene, cleaning and sanitation, and pest prevention. A food handler is defined as any person employed in a food premise, who at any time may be involved in the manufacturing, preparation, packing or service of food for sale.

Learning Objectives: After completing the training, students will better be able to:

- Describe the importance of food safety
- Explain the causes and consequences of foodborne illness
- Describe how to handle food safely, from receiving through service Identify proper methods of personal hygiene when working with food
- Describe how food can be contaminated and how to prevent contamination
- Explain cleaning and sanitizing Describe pest control

Tribal Health Department

Animal Control/Spay and Neuter Program



With safety in mind, Animal Control and Spay & Neuter Program (AC/SNP) has aligned its service with the reopening of the Community's Tribal Government under the phasein approach with limited service and staff on site. Below is a list of AC/SNP's current

SERVICES

- AC/SNP continues to receive phone calls from the public to answer animal related questions and concerns. Please call (520) 562.5177.
 - If we missed your call and you left a voicemail, we are returning your phone call and answering animal related calls over the phone.
- 🗸 Calls concerning medical and sterilizations will be submitted to the Spay and Neuter Program.
- We encourage you to leave a message to AC/SNP can return your call

All concerns, issues, calls are prioritized based on a case-by-case situation. Priority status generally consists of but not limited to the following

- Animal bites
- Injured animals Aggressive animals
- Abandoned animals
- Animals in distress



Animal licensing, adoptions and oral parasite medication is available by appointment

- Animal owner, caretaker, client may contact the Animal Control Program to
- AC/SNP will schedule a date and time to come to the Tribal Health Department (THD) building. • AC/SNP will complete t COVID-19 Health Screening with you and other guests.
- If all requirements of the health screening are met, the client will complete all the required documentation for the service,

Please keep in mind AC/SNP is under a phased in approach therefore available daily



Animal Control/Spay and Neuter Program

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • April 7, 2021

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, April 7, 2021, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:04 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Lt. Governor Monica Antone ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone-Smith; D5-James De La Rosa, Marlin Dixon, Brian Davis, Sr., Thomas White (9:40); D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird (9:51)

Council Members Absent:

D1-Joey Whitman

D4-Vacant

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1 THROUGH #4, #6, AND #8; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1,#2, #3, #5, AND #9; ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #2 AND #3 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE INTRODUCTION #1 AND APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

 Introduction of Chas Damo- Grant Specialist Presenters: Isaac Salcido; Chas Damo
 ITEM TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 REPORTS

>1. Gila Crossing Community School – School Protection Prog. Final Report SY 2020-2021

Presenter: Jim Mosley

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. 1ST Qtr Pee-Posh Veterans Association

Budget Report

Presenter: Arnie Bread, Sr.

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. 2nd Qtr Pee-Posh Veterans Association

Budget Report

Presenter: Arnie Bread, Sr.

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. Haskell Osife-Antone American Legion

Auxiliary Unit 51 FY21 1st & 2nd Quarter Financial Report & Summary

Presenters: Pamela Thompson; Alison Anderson ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA 5. 2014 RHIP Project Warranty Comprehensive

Report

Presenter: Wayne Allison REPORT HEARD

>6. Haskell Osife Antone Post 51 1st & 2nd Quarter Reports

Presenters: David Anderson; Belen Moline-Lawlor

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA 7. COVID-19 Update

REPORT HEARD

NEPURI HEARD

>8. K-12 Education Program Quarter 2 Manager's Report for School Year 2020-2021

Presenters: COVID-19 Task Force

Presenter: Jeffery Thornburg

RESOLUTIONS

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

9. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council February 2021 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Gaming Commission Board; Melvin S. Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT 10. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report for February 2021 (Executive Session) MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

>1. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing
The Transit Services Intergovernmental Agreement
No. 128-75-2022 Between The Gila River Indian
Community And The Regional Public Transportation
Authority Providing For Fixed-Route Transit Services
(G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation
for approval and for placement on the consent
agenda)

Presenter: Gregory McDowell ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Authorizing A Fourth And Fifth General Assistance Payment Out Of The Gila River Indian Community COVID-19 Emergency Fund (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller; Governor Stephen R. Lewis

ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. A Resolution Approving Disbursement Of The American Rescue Plan Act Of 2021 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund For Specified Purposes (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Governor Stephen R. Lewis, Treasurer Robert Keller, Jason Hauter

ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 1 To The Gila River Indian Community Operating Budget For Fiscal Year 2021(G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller APPROVED

>5. A Resolution Approving Interagency Service Agreement "AzTraCS Use" Between The Gila River Police Department And The Arizona Department Of Transportation (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; LSC concurs)

Presenter: Robert Tinney
ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. A Resolution Amending The Interim
Amendment To Section III Of The Gila River Indian
Community's "Employee Policies And Procedures
Reference Guide" By Revising The Section Entitled

"Leave Of Absence For Coronavirus (COVID-19) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Thomas Murphy; Mandy Cisneros, Candaleria Preston

APPROVED

7. A Resolution Approving Amendment #6 To Section III Of The Gila River Indian Community's "Employee Policies And Procedures Reference Guide" To Clarify How Certain COVID-19 Leave Is Counted Under The Family Medical Leave (FML) Policy (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Thomas Murphy; Mandy Cisneros APPROVED

8. A Resolution Approving A Ground Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Gila River Health Care Corporation For The Operation Of Facilities Associated With The Emergency Medical Services Facility In District 7 Pursuant To The Gila River Indian Community Leasing Regulations (NRSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; H&SSC and EDSC concur)

Presenters: Elizabeth Antone; Casaundra Wallace

>9. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Gila River Indian Community's Participation In The National Congress Of American Indians Juvenile Justice Case Study (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with additional information and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Joseph Manuel; Kami Hart ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES UNFINISHED BUSINESS NEW BUSINESS

1. Notice of Vacancy for the Boys and Girls Club of the Gila River Indian Community's Board (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval to declare the one (1) vacancy and advertise for 60 days subject to the Code of Conduct and background checks) Presenters: Jason Jones; Mark Clavell, Jocelyn Young; Nancy House

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY AND ADVERTISE

>2. GRSG FY2020 Independent Audit and Financial Statements (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation to accept and for placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenters: Michael Morago; Henry & Horne ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Pima Leasing & Financing Corporation Annual Audit Report FY 2020 (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept and for consideration under the consent agenda)

Presenters: Albert Cheung; Tyne Nickel; Steve Harris, Teresa Mandelin

ITEM ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. Vaccine Trackers for Tribal Education
Department Programs and Community Schools (ESC forwards to Council under New Business as FYI)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE MINUTES

1. March 17, 2021 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

1. March 26, 2021 (Special)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:31 P.M.

- * Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
- > Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM



BAWHIDH

WELCOMES PHOENIX RISING TO

WILD HORSE PASS

Phoenix Rising is proud to call Wild Horse Pass home.

All Gila River Indian Community members can receive a 20% discount on tickets by showing their tribal ID cards at the box office. Call 623-594-9606 or visit

PHXRisingFC.com for more details.





Tribal Court Summons

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMU-NITY COURT

Patricia Pancott Brewer Petitioner/Plaintiff

Dylan Brewer Sr. Respondent/Defendant Case: FM-2021-0005-DV Civil Summons

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/ RESPONSE HEARING regarding this matter on:

Court Date: June 2, 2021 at 10:00 am in Courtroom I. AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,

721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton,

YOU may respond in writing. However,

even if you do so, your presence at AN-SWER/RESPONSE hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.. If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against

you for the relief demanded in the com-

plaint or petition.

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMU-NITY COURT

Michael Lorin Enas Petitioner/Plaintiff

Delma Jane Morago Respondent/Defendant Case: FM-2021-0012-DV

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you

in the Gila River Indian Community Court

YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/ RESPONSE HEARING regarding this matter on:

Court Date: June 28, 2021 at 10:00 am in Courtroom I. AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton,

YOU may respond in writing. However

even if you do so, your presence at AN-SWER/RESPONSE hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.. If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

Job Announcement

economic and demographic data. The Real Estate Leasing Manager assists with identification of strategic longterm land use objectives in order to achieve complimentary and cohesive land uses, while maximizing lease

income. This includes representing PLFC though appropriate local and regional real estate channels while assisting with lease/development proposal analysis and lease negotiations as well as effectively acquire, analyze,

abstract and disseminate pertinent lease transaction information of the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) in coordination with the GRIC Office of Legal Counsel (OGC), to outside legal counsel, tenants, Pima Leasing & Financing Corporation (PLFC) Board of

Directors, and other interested parties. Additionally, the Real Estate Leasing Manager work to ensure leases and lessors are compliant with applicable federal laws and regulations and laws of the Gila River Indian Community.

> EQUALITY HEALTH.

Job Title: Salary: Status: Reports To:

Real Estate Leasing Manager \$72,000 - \$95,000 (DOE) Exempt and Non-Supervisory Execu-

tive Director The Real Estate Leasing Manager leads the efforts of Pima Leasing & Finance Company (PLFC) in leasing land within the Gila River Indian Community, including advising GRIC regarding the establishment of competitive target lease rates and leasing strategies based on comparable



SEASON SCHEDULE RISING ONE



OAKLAND | SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021

@TAMPA BAY | SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021

LAS VEGAS | SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021

@SACRAMENTO | SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2021

SAN DIEGO | SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021

TACOMA | SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2021

@SAN DIEGO | SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2021

@SACRAMENTO | SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2021

LA SATURDAY, JULY 3, 2021

@CHARLOTTE | SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2021

MOAKLAND | WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2021

DE LA SATURDAY, JULY 17, 2021

@SAN DIEGO | SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2021

RGV | SATURDAY, JULY 31, 2021

MOAKLAND | WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2021



OC SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2021

SACRAMENTO | SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2021

NEW MEXICO | SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021

@TACOMA | SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

ALA SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

AS VEGAS | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

OC | SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

PATACOMA SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

PLA | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

MOC | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021

OAKLAND | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021

OC | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021

@LAS VEGAS | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2021

SACRAMENTO | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021

TACOMA | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2021











2021 LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN



In partnership with Gila River Hotels & Casinos



TO HELP SUPPORT SPECIAL OLYMPICS ORDER THIS 2021 TORCH RUN SHIRT TODAY!

Short Sleeve - \$20 for standard sizes, **\$25** for extended sizes **Long Sleeve - \$25** for standard sizes, **\$30** for extended sizes

Purchase your shirt by contacting **Diana De La Rosa** at **diana.delarosa.LES@gric.nsn.us** or at **(520) 610-5677**.







