



NATIONAL EMERGENCY

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

UA President visits the Gila River Indian Community and OEM

GRIC and the UA begin partnership to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Dr. Robbins "impressed" with GRIC's response

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On Tuesday, June 16, University of Arizona (UA) President Dr. Robert C. Robbins visited the Gila River Indian Community and toured the Office of Emergency Management's location in the Lone Butte Business Park in Chandler. The visit marks the start of a partnership between the Community and the UA through an epidemiological agreement that will assist in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, and Bruce Harvey, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator with the Office of Emergency Management, hosted President Robbins and his staff at the Office of Emergency Management. They presented the COVID-19 Unified Command Task Force Center and members that comprise the task force. Gila River Health Care, Gila River Police Department, Communications & Public Affairs Office and the Tribal Health Department were present among others.

Opening the presentation, Gov. Lewis outlined the Community's actions as the threat of COVID-19 worsened.

"In January, one month after COVID-19 was discovered, I established the COVID-19 Uni-

"COVID-19 has forced all tribal governments across the country to see where our strengths and weaknesses are."

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis while hosting UA President Robbins

fied Command Task Force early on because I knew this could be something we would have to deal with at some point," said Gov. Lewis.

The Community established a response while waiting for stimulus funding set aside for tribes through the CARES Act. According to reports, on Tuesday, June 14, a federal judge ordered the U.S. Treasury Department to release the full amount to tribes.

"COVID-19 has forced all tribal governments across the country to see where our strengths and weaknesses are," said Gov. Lewis.

Robbins said he was "incredibly impressed," from his visit.

"I have to give Gov. Lewis incredible credit for having the vision to implement an incident command center early on, while we only did that a few months ago at the [University of Arizona]," said Robbins.

The partnership between the UA and GRIC began early on with conversations between Robbins and Gov. Lewis. Robbins

said that they realized quickly that they, too, couldn't afford to wait for the state or federal government to assist the university.

Robbins said that, "We needed to have control over our own destiny, so we began developing our own anti-body testing, began manufacturing our own test kits for nasal swabs, and we were able to send some of those to the Navajo Nation and local hospitals in the southern Arizona region."

The visit was designed to give Robbins an understanding of GRIC's approach and where the

UA's assistance is most needed. The UA is working with the Tribal Health Department to provide technical assistance and guidance to the Community in the areas of data collection, reporting, and contact tracing. Additionally, the UA will also offer best practices and support for their work with the first responders, Gila River Health Care, and Community members.



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis (center) with visitors from the UA at the Office of Emergency Management, Dr. Richard H. Carmona (left), professor, Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, and Dr. Robert C. Robbins, UA president (right). Kyle Knox/GRIN

2020 Census is very important for the Gila River Indian Community

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The United States conducts a census count of everyone living in the country every decade as mandated by the U.S. Constitution. The data collected helps to determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives and is to determine the number of federal funds they receive. This information is also used to determine the amount of funding tribal nations and communities receive as well.

This year, the U.S. Census Bureau will be collecting information on 330 million individuals and 140 million estimated households, according to the Census

website. For tribal communities, this task can be particularly challenging, due to rural locations and mixed households.

In the 2010 Census, American Indians living on reservations were under-counted by nearly 5%. Under counting impacts crucial services and programs for tribes like education, public safety, health care and more. Many tribes have now partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to ensure a more accurate count of their tribal and community members. The information will help determine the number of federal funds tribes receive in order to best meet the needs of its members and community.

The 2020 Census count is currently underway and it is im-

portant for individuals to make sure they are counted and provide accurate information about their families and household residence.

To assist with the 2020 Census, the Community launched the "We All Count" campaign to encourage participation in the Census. Post cards were sent out to Community members reminding them about the 2020 Census. It is important for members to respond in order to ensure an accurate count.

Those who received the questionnaire can now respond online, by phone or by mail. One person from each household should complete the Census questionnaire. It asks a few simple questions, like how many people are living in a household and the age and gender of those individuals. It is

important to count each person living in the household, including newborns, children, relatives and non-relatives. All Census responses are completely confidential and none of your personal information is disclosed.

When filling out the Census form, it is important for Community members to identify their tribe as "Gila River Indian Community" when filling out the race question. For any assistance filling out the questionnaire, you can go online to 2020census.gov or by calling toll-free: 800-923-8282.

Community members have also been encouraged to apply to work with the 2020 Census in the collection process as a "Census taker," who typically goes door-

to-door in the Community to ensure people have responded and accurately filled out their Census questionnaires.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some changes have been made and Census workers will now be required to wear masks, gloves and carry hand sanitizer. Census workers can be recognized by Census ID badges and will now only drop off questionnaire packets at each household. They will not knock on doors or have any interaction with anyone in the household.

It is important to take a proactive approach to participating in the 2020 Census, important funding and resources for the Community will depend on an accurate count.

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GILA RIVER

POLICE

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HEALTH ALERT

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



UPCOMING DISTRICT TESTING DATES:

NOTE: Schedule is subject to change.

Dist. 2 ... Monday, June 22 - Tuesday, June 23

Dist. 7 ... Thursday, June 25 - Friday, June 26

For general info about the Coronavirus, go to GRHC.org/Coronavirus
GRHC CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE (520) 550-6079

4TH OF JULY CLOSURE

Gila River Health Care's Administrative Offices & Outpatient Clinics will be

CLOSED FRI. 7/3/20

CLOSED SAT. 7/3/20

HHKMH Pharmacy Hours

Fri. July 3rd 8:30 am - Midnight

Sat. July 4th CLOSED

Sun. July 5th Noon - 10 pm

For any information on services open during the holiday, please call GRHC's main line (520) 562-3321. Normal business hours will resume Monday, 7/6/20. If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.



SCHOOL & SPORTS PHYSICALS

**Taking appointments
6/15- 8/28**

To schedule an appointment, please call
**HHKMH 520-562-3321 ext. 1495, or for
KHC 520-550-6060.**

Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION SPECIAL ELECTION - NOVEMBER 3, 2020



By Community Council resolution, GRIC has requested a special election to be held in conjunction with the General Election on Nov. 3, 2020

ARTICLE III:
Membership

ARTICLE XI:
Districts

ARTICLE XV:
Powers of the
Gila River Indian
Community Council

Tribal Elections Program
520-562-9735

Communications & Public Affairs Office
520-562-9715





Governor

Stephen Roe Lewis

Lt. Governor

Robert Stone

Community Council
Representatives

District 1

Arzie Hogg
Joey Whitman

District 2

Carol Schurz

District 3

Avery White
Rodney Jackson

District 4

Jennifer Allison
Regina Antone-Smith
Delmar Jones
Monica Antone

District 5

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

District 6

Anthony Villareal, Sr.
Terrance B. Evans
Charles Goldtooth

District 7

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

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Gila River Hotels & Casinos - Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte and Vee Quiva to Close Temporarily to Mitigate Recent COVID-19 Spikes in Arizona

Teaya Vicente

Gila River Hotels & Casinos

CHANDLER, Ariz. (June 18, 2020) - To protect the safety and health of one and all, Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. will again temporarily close Gila River Hotels & Casinos - Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte, and Vee Quiva to reassess its current safety standards. The decision came after a careful evaluation of the growing enterprise's current safety plan with the Gila River Indian Com-

munity Council and feedback from its community and team members.

The closure will be effective for all three properties beginning at 2 a.m. on June 18, and it will be in effect for two weeks. The enterprise will use this closure to see whether the recent rise in Arizona COVID cases subsides and to re-examine every aspect of its operation. This includes disinfection procedures, social distancing measures, health checks, testing

protocols, masking and how best to protect workers and everyone who visits its properties. During this closure all team members will continue to be paid in full and receive full health benefits.

"Nothing is more important to our Community than the well-being of our team members and guests, children, elders and families," said Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. "Like our sister tribes and businesses all over Arizona, we

have tried to do what is best for all, while processing new information and new guidelines about the pandemic with little in the way of definitive guidance."

Throughout the closure, Gila River Hotels & Casinos will continue to monitor updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), and will update its safety protocols and procedures as necessary.

Gila River Hotels & Casinos to Award Arizona Nonprofits with Self-Excluded Jackpot Funds

Teaya Vicente

Gila River Hotels & Casinos

CHANDLER (June 8, 2020) – Gila River Hotels & Casinos – Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte, and Vee Quiva will start accepting applications from Arizona nonprofits for its self-excluded jackpot funds beginning June 8, 2020. The deadline to apply will be July 6, 2020 at 5:00pm.

All Arizona 501-C3 nonprofit organizations that are recognized by the IRS and that enhance the lives of Arizonans through educational programs and children's welfare will be eligible for consideration.

Selected applicants and the total available funds will be finalized by the end of October, and recipients will be honored at the annual Gila River Cares Night

of Giving. Last year, more than \$74,000 was distributed across five nonprofits including UMOM New Day Centers, Kids in Focus, Foundation for Blind Children, Beyond Autism and Hope Community Services.

"We are committed to continuing our philanthropic reach by supporting nonprofits in our state as they strive to meet the needs of the community," said

Teaya Vicente, Gila River Hotels & Casinos Public Relations Manager. "More than ever, we understand that our support is vital, and we are excited to begin the search for our next round of recipients."

To apply and see qualifications, nonprofits can fill out the online application here: <https://playatgila.com/self-excluded-jackpots>

Face masks still key to slow COVID-19 as cases rise in Arizona

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

Arizona continues to see rising numbers of COVID-19 cases. As of June 17, Arizona now has a total of just over 40,000 positive cases. Since the reopening of businesses and with many people returning to work, individual efforts must be made to help prevent the spread of the virus and protect yourself and your family members.

In order to slow and prevent the spread of COVID-19, health experts recommend that you continue do the following: Avoid close contact and keep at least six-feet from others, the virus is spread mostly from person-to-person contact but can be contracted by touching an infected surface or object. Wear a face mask when out in public and con-

tinue to wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds. Use antibacterial wipes or hand sanitizer if you are unable to wash your hands. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects or surfaces within your home and workspaces.

Wearing a face mask has been reported as one of the key factors in reducing the spread of COVID-19. It is important to remember to wear a mask anytime you are out in public or near other individuals. It is recommended that you use a clean or new (disposable) mask each day. Do not touch the front of the mask, use the ties or elastic to remove or adjust. Make sure your mask fits securely and has no gaps, also that it has adequate layering (if you can blow a match out through your mask, it may not protect you

as well). It is important to encourage family and friend to wear masks as well. Some people that contract the virus often pass it on to family members and could be spread even without symptoms.

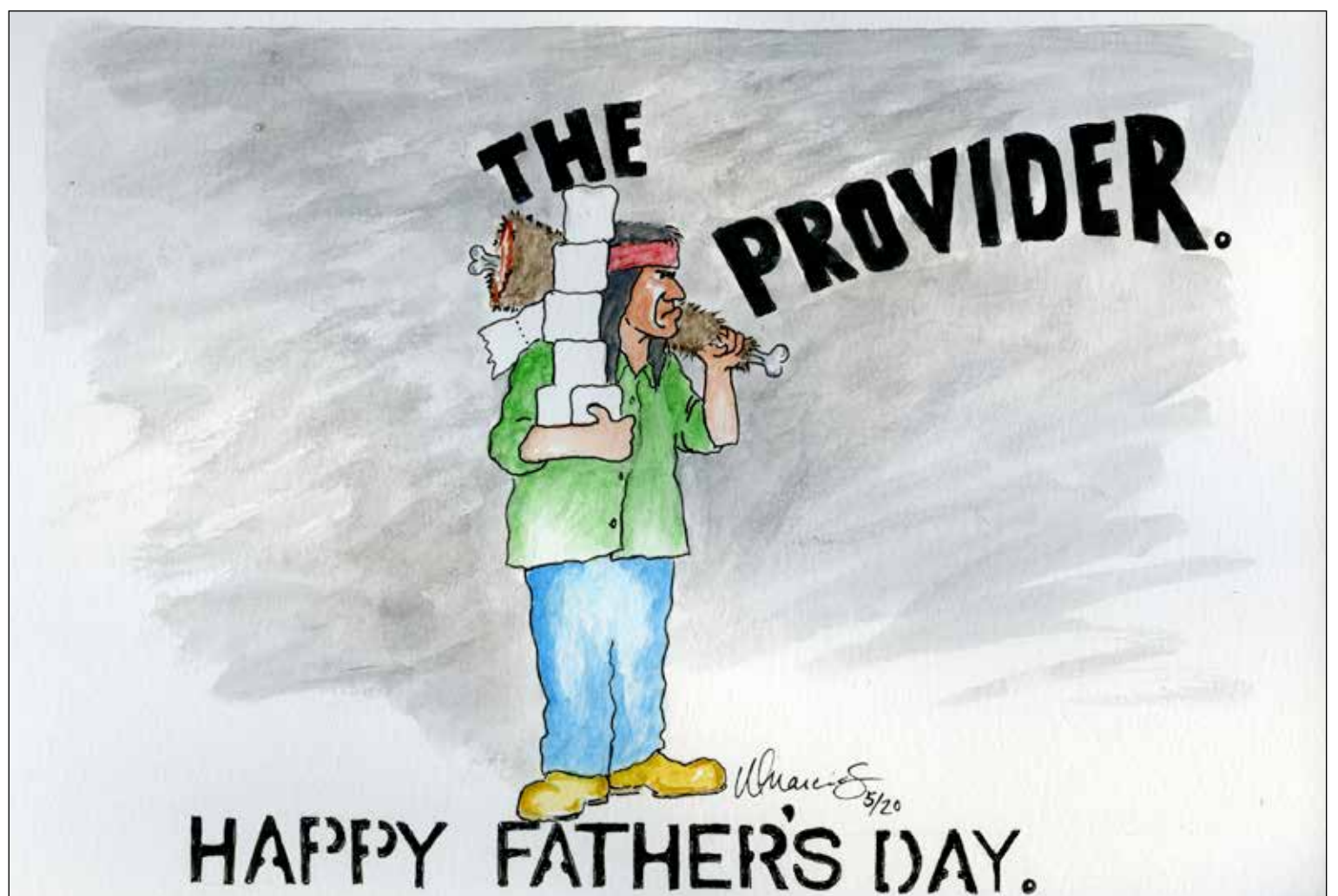
According to the CDC, symptoms may vary from person to person and can range from mild to severe. The most common symptoms are:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

List does not include all pos-

sible symptoms; CDC continues to update as more is learned about the COVID-19 virus.

Tribes throughout Arizona continue to vary in their reopening process, and for the most part continue to show growing numbers of COVID-19 cases. The Navajo Nation has been severely impacted by the virus and is identified as having one of highest rate of COVID-19 throughout the country. Tribal leaderships continue to attempt to control the numbers with mandated curfew and lockdowns. The key to controlling the rising numbers will ultimately come from the individual's choice to practice personal safety measures and follow health recommendations. There is still no cure or immunizations for COVID-19.



Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

Gila River Police Department Incident Log
May 31 – June 06, 2020

Certain reports may not be available or are currently under investigation which GRPD holds the right to restrict public release.

Calls for services this week: 831

Arrest made: 26

District One- (Blackwater)

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT – 200605-02623 Officers were dispatched to the area in reference to an assault that occurred. Investigation revealed the suspect and victim were involved in a verbal altercation regarding relationship issues; the suspect then pushed the victim and began to choke the victim using both hands. The victim's child was present during the altercation; both the victim and the victims child were able to leave the residence and call police. Photos were taken and later impounded into evidence. The suspect was contacted via telephone but would not disclose their location. Charges have been forwarded to law office for review.

Status: Charges Forwarded

District Two – (Sacaton Flats)

NO INCIDENTS INVOLVING PART ONE CRIME

District Three- (Sacaton)

THEFT – 200601-02553 Officers were dispatched to the area in reference to a theft of a bike. It was reported that a group of boys were walking down the street when one of the boys ran into the neighbor's yard and grabbed the bike riding it south into the desert area. The victim wished to report the bike as stolen; a 20 inch BMX style Mongoose with a black frame, pink wheels and white lettering on the frame. The officer searched the surrounding areas with negative results.

Status: Closed pending suspect identification

THEFT – 200603-02592 Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to a theft. Contact was made with the juvenile victim and their parent. The victim stated while walking in the area of Azule Street, a group of five or six male juveniles began to say stuff about jumping the victim and steal the backpack the victim was wearing, which contained a Playstation 4 and two controllers. The victim ran and dropped the backpack and a cell phone that fell out of their pocket. The mother did wish to

aid in prosecution on behalf of the victim. The items were not located where the victim stated they were dropped. The victim did not return to for the items in fear of being jumped. The suspects were not identified.

Status: Closed pending suspect identification

THEFT– 200605-02627 ~CAD~ The victim reported that the suspect took a cell phone without permission while at their residence. The suspect was not located and charges will be forwarded to law office for review.

Status:

District Four-
Stotonic Area –
NO INCIDENTS INVOLVING PART 1 CRIME

Lone Butte Area

THEFT– 200605-02613 Officers were dispatched in reference to a theft. The victim was contacted and they stated that they left their debit card in the ATM and a short time later there was an unknown female that took the debit card from the ATM and left the casino in and unknown SUV. A still photo was taken and entered into evidence. The victim reported the card was used a short time later at a Chevron near-by. The suspect was not identified.

Status: Closed pending suspect identification

THEFT– 200606-02649 Officers were dispatched to the casino in reference to a theft of a cell phone. Investigation revealed the victim left the cell phone by the slot machine they were playing and walked away from the machine. A short time later the victim realized the phone was not in their possession; the phone was not located at the machine. Video surveillance was reviewed; the suspect was not identified. The phone was entered into NCIC as stolen.

Status: Closed pending suspect identification

THEFT– 200606-02650 Officers were dispatched to the casino in reference to a theft of a cell phone. Investigation revealed the victim left the cell phone by the slot machine and walked away; after returning to get the phone, the phone was gone. Video surveillance was reviewed; the suspect was not identified.

Status: Closed pending suspect identification

District Five- (Casa Blanca)

AUTO THEFT– 200605-02618 Officers were dispatched in reference to a theft. Contact was made with the reporting party; a trailer was stolen and items that were stored in the trailer used for the

work site. The trailer was entered into NCIC as stolen; no suspects were identified at the time of the investigation. Evidence and photos were taken and entered into evidence room.

Status: Charges pending further suspect information

THEFT– 200603-02587 Officers were dispatched to the Casa Blanca Market, where the victim met with officers. The victim reported that they entered the store to purchase some items; upon entering the vehicle the cell phone was gone. The victim did not see who had taken the cell phone.

Status: Closed pending suspect identification

District Six – (Komatke)

AUTO THEFT– 200603-02591 Officers were dispatched in reference to a call for service involving theft of a vehicle. Contact was made with the registered owner, advising the vehicle was loaned to a friend to use for work. The vehicle was left on the side of the road due to running out of gas; the friend took a cab to the nearest gas station off community and returned with gas. Upon returning, the vehicle was gone. Officers searched the surrounding areas for the vehicles ending in negative results; the vehicle was entered into NCIC as stolen.

Status:
THEFT– 200603-02581 Officers were dispatched to the casino in reference to a stolen purse. Investigation revealed the reporting party and victim parked and entered the casino. A short time later returned back to the vehicle after realizing the victim left their purse in the car; the purse was not located. A suspect was observed taking the purse out of the vehicle and leaving the premises in an unknown direction, after not being allowed into the casino. The suspect was not identified at the time of incident.

Status: Closed pending suspect identification

District Seven – (Maricopa)

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT – 200531-02539 Officers were dispatched to the area in reference to an aggravated assault. The reported the suspect came to the residence asking for an individual; when the victim started to answer the suspect, the suspect pulled out a gun and began to wave it around. At which point the gun was pointed in the direction of the victim, whom feared for their life. The suspect left in a vehicle with three other individuals to an unknown place. The suspect was not located.

Status: Follow up to be conducted



PLEASE JOIN US AS DR. SANTIAGO, INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE, RESPONDS TO MEDICAL QUESTIONS ABOUT COVID-19.

Watch GRBC on Channels 19.1 & 29.1 and on our Facebook page for community information and local content, including scheduled live broadcasts.

Follow GRBC for up to date information at @GILARIVERTV





Vakuañ, Vachvi, and Kekchuth, Verbs in O’otham

In O’otham there are different phrases used for personal grooming to express the meaning of “wash”, “bathe” or “clean.” For example, one phrase that is often requested of family members during these times, is “Ha vapkuañ heg e no:nov!” ‘Wash your hands!’ Most verbs in O’otham have a singular (vakuañ) and plural (vapkuañ) form that match the number of items that undergo the action and in this case, both hands are being requested to be washed.

The verb (action word) vakuañ can be used when washing different types of items like individual parts of the body, household items, and even vehicles. When you request a family member to wash something you use either the phrase Vakuañ heg (e) or Ha vapkuañ heg (e) and add the item that you are requesting to be washed at the end. The choice of either phrase depends on whether the item that is being washed is singular (one item) or plural (more than one item). If the item is associated intimately with the person (either is part of their body or belongs to them) you use the word e before naming the item. For example, if you wanted to request your kid to wash their face you would say “Vakuañ heg e wiyosha” using the singular form of the action word. The (e) signifies that your kid is requested to wash their individual face.

Now, if you wanted to request your teenager to do their laundry, you would say “Ha vapkuañ heg e eñga.” To use this phrase properly, you also need to know whether the items that are being laundered belongs to your teenager. If the items are associated with your teenager, you use the word (e) before naming the specific items in plural form. In some instances, the singular verb vakuañ is used on plural items such as the request “Vakuañ heg e mo’o,” ‘Wash your hair.’ Remember that some O’otham words like mo’o and mu:ñ always remain in their plural forms. Sometimes, fluent speakers prefer to leave out the

first word Ha when stating plural requests and simply shorten the phrase to “Vapkuañ heg e eñga.” This is because the first word Ha, which is used to indicate the action is happening on a plural item, is not needed as the verb vapkuañ is already in its plural form.

A similar action word that is used for personal grooming is the O’otham verb vachvi. Vachvi means to take a bath or shower. This verb is different than vakuañ because vachvi implies that you are getting fully immersed in water like when you take a bath in a bathtub, or stand under the shower. When you request your kid to go take a bath you can say “Him k e vachviñ.” Vachvi now becomes vachviñ because your kid is expected to actively bathe while in the tub or under the shower. To use this phrase to request a family member to wash or bathe another person or animal you would say “Vachviñ heg e _____” or “Ha vapchviñ heg e _____.” Once again the difference between the two phrases depends on whether the item is singular or plural. So for example, if you want to request your kid to give the family dog a bath you can say “Vachviñ heg goks” and in this case (e) is not used since the dog belongs to everyone in the family. This is also true for other items shared by the immediate family. Now, if you wanted to request your teenager to give their younger siblings a bath you can say “Ha vapchviñ heg e vepnag.”

One more word that is useful to know is kekchuth. Kekchuth is used when talking about cleaning, fixing or repairing something that is broken. It can be used with personal grooming in contexts like brushing your teeth or making your bed. So when you request your kid to brush their teeth you can use the word kekchuth as in the following phrase “kekchuth heg e tha:tham”. Kekchuth is not used as often when talking about personal grooming as it is more often used when talking about cleaning a house or fixing a bicycle. But as can be seen

kekchuth is used in much the same way as vakuañ and vachvi.

Now that you have learned (or refreshed your memory) on verbs for washing, bathing and cleaning in O’otham, try using them with your immediate family and other relatives. Talk with Elders and fluent speakers in your village and find out how they use the verbs vakuan, vachvi and kekchuth. Some phrases might be slightly different between villages. This month’s word match will test your knowledge on the phrases just mentioned. We encourage you to speak O’otham in your everyday lives.

Match the O’otham “washing/cleaning” word with its picture!

Kekchuth heg e tha:tham!



Kekchuth heg ki:!



Vakuañ heg e wiyosha!



Ha vapkuañ heg huasa:’a!



Vakuañ heg kalith!



Vachviñ heg gogs!



Ha vapkuan heg e eñga!



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
“YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE”

Get Out to Vote
Indian Country can help set a new course!

AUGUST
4

Arizona Primary Election cast your ballot

Deadline to register to vote in Arizona Primary Elections

JULY
6

JULY
24

Last day to request an absentee ballot

Deadline to return absentee ballot

AUGUST
4

Need to Register to Vote?
 Go to: www.servicearizona.com

Akimel O'odham/Pee Posh Youth Council prepares for virtual July conference



Photograph from 2019 of the annual youth conference hosted by the Akimel O'odham/Pee Posh Youth Council. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

An annual gathering of youth from across the Gila River Indian Community will go virtual out of safety concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic. The 32nd Annual Gila River Youth Conference, hosted by the Akimel O'odham/Pee Posh Youth Council, will go virtual this year with the theme, "Resilience of the River People," on July 18-19.

"[We] decided to keep it virtual out of everybody's safety, but at the same

[we] wanted to uplift and motivate the young people," said Michael Preston, Youth Coordinator. He said everything will be streamed either through Zoom or WebEx (two video on-line conference platforms), including airing live on the Gila River Broadcast Corporation.

He said the theme of the conference is reflective of how GRIC youth have coped with the recent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and what they are doing for their family. Preston said the recent pandemic has been quite an ad-

justment for everyone, but most of all the youth.

"We want them to share how they have adjusted to life, what they have been physically and mentally doing to manage their self-wellness," said Preston. AOPPYC conference will stream from GRBC headquarters with staff, conference co-chairs/advisory board members and technicians to manage the whole process in "digital rooms."

Topics covered in the conference will be resources on resiliency, mental wellness, the revitalization

of Indigenous foods, among several others that will be presented during the virtual conference.

The topics are designed to relate to the youth and the

skills needed to overcome hardship.

The format of the virtual conference will include prerecorded and live sessions, interactive segments, while streaming online. All participants will need to register online through a link to a form on mygilariver.com as well the youth council's Facebook page. Registration is free.

Preston said, even though everything will be streamed online, "We are looking at ways to provide incentives to the GRIC youth, including some kits to help them interact with the activities."

The extent of going virtual, includes conducting the annual voting by caucuses from each district to be an AOPPYC member representative.

How can youth connect?

"We have been trying to do this an effective way," said Preston, who said

AOPPYC is collecting old phones, that could be used as streaming devices for the conferences. He said, "What we are doing (to the phones) is cleaning them out completely and then will distribute them out to any youth, who do not have any viewing device in their home."

For parents and guardians, they want to inform them of using smart phones to participate in the virtual conference, encouraging parents to lend their children a phone to view sessions on.

"The youth council took it on, almost starting from scratch by adapting activities that we have done in the past to make it enjoyable, while inspiring them," said Preston. He said they will continue to look at creative ways to motivate the youth, especially things that can magnify when they are at home, and need an outlet to find strength.

COURT HEARING

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT STATE OF ARIZONA
Carol Denise Parra
Plaintiff(s)

Vs
Wayman James Thomas
Case Number: CV-2020-0095-RO
TEMPORARY CIVIL RESTRAINING ORDER

THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER HAVING COME BEFORE THIS COURT, upon a motion for a RESTRAINING ORDER; and it appearing that a Restraining order is needed and the court finding good cause to issue and place into effect, this date, a Restraining Order against the named defendant, WAYMAN JAMES THOMAS. THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE NAMED DEFENDANT IS RESTRAINED FROM COMING ABOUT THE NAMED CAROL DENISE PARRA, IN ANY MANNER:
UNTIL THE RESTRAINING ORDER

HEARING SCHEDULED ON Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ
FURTHER A WARRANT OF ARREST WILL VIOLATES THIS RESTRAINING ORDER.

CIVIL DEFAULT JUDGMENT

CIVIL DEFAULT JUDGMENT IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
Douglas R. Jackson

VS.
Ashley M. Thomas
Docket Number: FM-2020-0014-DV
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED: On June 1, 2020, a Civil Default Judgment was entered.
You may contact the Clerk of the Court to receive a copy of the judgment.
721 W. Seedfarm Rd. Sacaton, AZ 85147.
Given Under my hand and seal of the

Gila River Indian Community, State of Arizona.
Clerk of the Court

COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
COURT DATE NOTICE
In Re Case: Shanean Lea Lewis vs. Mark Pablo Flores
Docket Number: FM-2019-0103-PT
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
Westend Judicial Center,
4751 West Pecos Road,
Laveen, AZ 85339
13th day of July, 2020 at 9:00 AM
in Courtroom VII before the Honorable Janice F. Breckenridge



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GILA RIVER TESTING BLITZ

COVID-19 TESTING INFORMATION

Get Tested - Keep Your Family Safe

Although you may experience minor discomfort during the nasal swab, please consider that being tested for COVID-19 will prevent you from unknowingly spreading the virus to your loved ones.

It takes 3-5 days to get results. During that time we ask that you follow the guidelines below.

Who should get tested

- All Community members and those residing within the boundaries of the GRIC.

Get your home ready

- Consider members of the household that may be at greater risk such as older adults and people with severe chronic illnesses.
- Choose a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

Everyday preventive actions:
Stay home and speak to your healthcare provider if you develop fever, cough, or shortness of breath

If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. In adults, emergency warning signs include:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face
- Fever, Cough, Sore Throat, Chills, Muscle pain, Headache, New loss of taste or smell

Take additional precautions for those at highest risk, particularly older adults and those who have severe underlying health conditions.

Stay at home and away from crowds if you or a family member are an older adult or have underlying health issues

- Make sure you have access to several weeks of medications and supplies
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Drink plenty of water and get plenty of rest

GRIC
www.gilariver.com
Phone: 520.552.5132
Email: Elizabeth.antonio@gic.nai.us

Gila River
HEALTHCARE

GRHC
GRIC.ORG/Coronavirus
Phone: 520.550.6079

OEM
www.gicofc.org
Phone: 520.810.8120
Email: OEM2@gic.nai.us

FOR GENERAL INFO ABOUT CORONAVIRUS, GO TO GRHC.ORG/CORONAVIRUS OR CALL THE GRHC CORONAVIRUS HOTLINE AT (520) 550-6079

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • June 6, 2020

ACTION SHEET

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

CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, June 6, 2020, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:21 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Janice Stewart

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Robert Stone

Council Members Present:

D1-Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz;

D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica

Antone, Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina

Antone-Smith (10:23); D5-James De La Rosa

(10:23), Marlin Dixon, Franklin Pablo, Sr., Thomas

White; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles

Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT RE-

PORTS #1 AND #5; ACCEPT AND APPROVE

NEW BUSINESS #1 AND #2 ON THE CONSENT

AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

THE REGULAR AGENDA

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY

ELECTED, RE-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS,

AND NEWLY ELECTED CHIEF JUDGE

District 1 – Joey Whitman

District 3 – Rodney Jackson

District 4 – Jennifer Allison

District 4 – Regina Antone-Smith

District 5 – Marlin Dixon

District 5 – James De La Rosa

District 6 – Terrance B. Evans

Chief Judge – Joseph Manuel

GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EXPRESSED

WORDS OF APPRECIATION AND LUCK TO

OUTGOING COUNCILWOMAN JANICE STEW-

ART AND OUTGOING COUNCILWOMAN PA-

MELA JOHNSON. JUDGE KAMI HART PRO-

VIDED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO EACH OF

THE NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED

COUNCIL MEMBERS, AS WELL AS, NEWLY

ELECTED CHIEF JUDGE.

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED

FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RE-

CONVENED AT 10:23 A.M.]

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. Introduction Of Gila River Indian Community's

Award Recipients for UNITY's 25 Under 25 Native

Youth Leaders

Presenter: Trina Hart

MS. HART INTRODUCED THE AWARD RECIP-

IENTS. EACH RECIPIENT PROVIDED A BRIEF

OVERVIEW OF THEIR BACKGROUND. VARI-

OUS COUNCIL MEMBERS, GOVERNOR STE-

PHEN R. LEWIS AND LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT

STONE EXPRESSED WORDS OF CONGRATU-

LATIONS AND SUPPORT.

REPORTS

>1. Gila River Asset Management GREAT Call

Rapid Response System 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Board of Directors, Miane Gonzales

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. Head Start Monthly Report – March 2020

Presenter: Carolina Kelley

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

>3. K-12 Education Program Quarter 3 Manag-

er's Report - For School Year 2019-2020

Presenter: Trina Hart

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

4. GRIC COVID – 19 Task Force ESF 14 Busi-

ness Recovery Plan Report

Presenter: David White

REPORT HEARD

5. GRTI 1Q 2020 Update

Presenters: GRTI Board, James Meyer, Jennifer

Burkhalter

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EX-

ECUTIVE SESSION

6. FY 2020 Monthly Financial Activity Report End-

ing April 30, 2020 (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXEC-

UTIVE SESSION

7. Gila River Gaming Commission Report for April

2020 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Duane Johns, Melvin Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT RE-

PORTS #7 AND #8

8. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly

Report for April 2020 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight &

Planning Committee

REPORT ACCEPTED AT REPORT #7

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED

FOR A 1-HOUR LUNCH BREAK. THE MEETING

RECONVENED AT 2:21 P.M. WITH LT. GOVER-

NOR CHAIRING THE MEETING.]

RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Approving The Amended And Re-

stated Master Lease Between The Gila River Indi-

an Community And The Gila River Sand & Gravel

Corporation (NRSC forwards to Council with rec-

ommendation for approval; EDSC concurs)

Presenter: Elizabeth Antone

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Extending The Deadline For The

Crime Task Force To Develop And Present Its

Plan To The Community Council (LSC forwards to

Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Michael Carter

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving A Mutual Aid Agree-

ment Between The Gila River Indian Community

And The City Of Avondale For Emergency Police

Services (LSC forwards to Council with recom-

mendation for approval)

Presenter: William Morago

APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving A Mutual Aid Agree-

ment Between The Gila River Indian Community

And The City Of Maricopa For Emergency Police

Services (LSC forwards to Council with recom-

mendation for approval)

Presenter: William Morago

APPROVED

5. A Resolution Approving A Mutual Aid Agree-

ment Between The Gila River Indian Community

And The City Of Casa Grande For Emergency

Police Services (LSC forwards to Council with

recommendation for approval)

Presenter: William Morago

APPROVED

6. A Resolution Approving A Mutual Aid Agree-

ment Between The Gila River Indian Community

And The Town Of Gilbert For Emergency Police

Services (LSC forwards to Council with recom-

mendation for approval)

Presenter: William Morago

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EX-

ECUTIVE SESSION

1. Community Treasurer Appointment

Presenters: Community Council

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS RETURNED

TO MEETING DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION

AND BEGAN CHAIRING THE MEETING.]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXEC-

UTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT

ROBERT KELLER

2. Community Council Secretary Appointment

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT

SHANNON WHITE

3. Government & Management Standing Commit-

tee Appointment - (2) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY

ARZIE HOGG AND AVERY WHITE

4. Natural Resources Standing Committee Ap-

pointment – (2) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY

MARLIN DIXON AND RODNEY JACKSON

5. Health & Social Standing Committee Appoint-

ment – (2) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY

REGINA ANTONE-SMITH AND JOEY WHITMAN

6. Legislative Standing Committee Appointments

– (2) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY AV-

ERY WHITE AND REGINA ANTONE-SMITH

7. Education Standing Committee – Appointments

(3) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY

REGINA ANTONE-SMITH, TERRANCE B. EV-

ANS AND JAMES DE LA ROSA

8. Cultural Resource Standing Committee Ap-

pointment (1) Council Seat

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY

MARLIN DIXON

9. Economic Development Standing Committee –

Appointment (1) Council Seat

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY

Action Sheets Continued on Page 8

Action Sheets from Page 7

JENNIFER ALLISON

10. Gila River Utility Authority Board of Directors (2) Appointments

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT NEIL BANKATEWA AND ROBERT HORTON

11. Gila River Farms Board of Directors (2) Appointments

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MARLIN DIXON

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT RODNEY JACKSON

NEW BUSINESS

>1. Revenue Internal Audit 2nd Quarter Report Fiscal Year 2020 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with recommendation to accept and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Dena Thomas, Treasurer Robert Keller

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. Gila River Indian Community FY2019 Department of Tribal Programs and Administration Single Audit and Per Capita AUP (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with recommendation to accept and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Request for Council Orientation (EDSC forwards to Council under New Business with a rec-

ommendation to hold an orientation on June 26, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at GRTI)

Presenters: GRTI Board

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO HOLD AN ORIENTATION ON JUNE 26, 2020 FROM 9:00

A.M. TO 11:00 A.M. AT GRTI

MINUTES

1. May 8, 2020 (Special) MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. May 20, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

~GRGE ORIENTATION FOR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS, THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020, 2:00PM

~PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE FAMILY OF THEODORE PETERS

~CASA BLANCA SCHOOL MEETING, THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020, 8AM

~SPECIAL LSC MEETING, FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2020


ADJOURNMENT MEETING AD-


JOURNED AT 3:47 P.M.


* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)


> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM


Match the O’otham “washing/cleaning” word with its picture! SOLUTION!


Kekchuth heg e tha:tham! 


Kekchuth heg ki:! 

Vakuañ heg e wiyosha! 

Ha vapkuañ heg huasa:’a! 

Vakuañ heg kalith! 

Vachviñ heg gogs! 

Ha vapkuañ heg e eñga! 

Gov. Lewis addresses combating COVID-19 in June 12 video update

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addressed growing number of COVID-19 cases during a video message on June 12.

“Gila River Health Care has been engaged in a testing blitz across the Community and is a key to our success in combating this pandemic. Think of this as your responsibility as a Community member,” said Gov. Lewis, who stressed the importance of getting tested for Coronavirus Disease 2019.

He said it is clear this virus will be with us for an extended period of time and needs further testing, which has seen a spike across the state of Arizona in cases of COVID-19 and positive test results in the Community.

At the time of Gov. Lewis’ video update, there were 16,612 tests performed, of those 72 were positive in the Community and 24 of Community members living off

the reservation, which includes two deaths related to COVID-19.

Lewis said they have been working with Steward Healthcare to test for Community members and their families living off of the Community.

He said the rise in positive cases is attributed to the increased testing, but it is also important not to let our guard down. As a result of the increased cases of COVID-19 across the state, he said the reopening of Community departments, has been extended to July 6 to ensure a proper plan is in place for tribal employees.

“I am also establishing a task force to develop the safest opening plan we can have to ensure our government employees return to a safe environment when they return to work,” said Lewis. He added, the Community has included the advice of health experts to see how the Community can address the pandemic in a “rapidly changing” situation.

“This is a fluid situation and we will continue

to rely on medical experts and their knowledge to make the best decision for the overall health and safety of our community,” said Lewis.

He said, with the recent developments within the state of Arizona around COVID-19, he will assess how the Gila River Gaming Enterprises has taken measures to safeguard their employees and patrons, from COVID-19.

“We are feeling our way for an uncharted territory, we can only be guided by the data and science available, this will be a continuous process for us because this is an unrelenting pandemic,” said Lewis.

Lewis also extend his condolences to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community leadership and members and family, who recorded their first death related to COVID-19. He concluded his video update assuring, that more updates will continue as they become available and encouraged Community members to wear face masks.

OFF RESERVATION BOARDING SCHOOLS

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING BOARDING SCHOOL?

DUE TO COVID-19, PLEASE CALL TO SET AN APPOINTMENT FOR INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS.

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For more information or help applying, please call 1-855-JOB-2020 or contact Pattie King, Recruiting Assistant pattie.m.king@2020census.gov

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MASK UP!

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19



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