



NATIONAL EMERGENCY

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

GRIC Leaders Sworn-in During Virtual Inauguration

Gov. Lewis and Lt. Gov. Antone Look Forward to Working Together to lead the Community

Communications & Public Affairs Office

(Sacaton, Arizona) –A virtual inauguration ceremony was held to recognize the taking of office by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, Chief Judge Joseph Manuel, and Associate Judges Sherri Cassa, Charles Aragon, Janice Breckenridge, Darren Pedro-Martinez and Anthony Hill.

The idea to host a virtual inauguration was done to be in accordance with the Community’s COVID-19 restrictions.

The inauguration marks the beginning of Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis’ third term as Governor of the Community, and Lt. Gov. Monica Antone’s return as Lt. Governor, a position she previously held from 2015 to 2017.

The virtual event included traditional O’otham and Pee Posh singers and a performance by Two Rivers.

Remarks were shared by Community members of all ages, from the Gila River Royalty Court, Akimel O’odham Pee Posh Youth

Council and District 3 elder Corrine Escalante.

Gov. Lewis remarked, “I am humbled by the confidence the Community has shown in re-electing me to be Governor of the Community, especially during this time of unprecedented crisis. I look forward to working with Lt. Gov. Antone and the Community Council as we see our way through the pandemic while continuing our work on the long-term goals of the Community.”

He highlighted the priorities of the Community, around its water resources, providing a quality education to students, economic development and the pandemic, among many other items.

Lt. Gov. Antone stated, “I am pleased to be able to again serve the Community as Lt. Governor and look forward to carrying out the priorities and goals of the Community during my tenure.”

She said it is important to continually provide services at a critical time, when the Community must be unite in tackling the issues.

The virtual inauguration

also highlighted the Community efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic and the tribal leaderships commitment to getting its members the services they need.

“I will not let the pandemic define who we are as a people, or to dictate what we can or cannot do, when we all work together,” said Gov. Lewis

Leaders from the other three O’otham tribes offered their congratulations and support to Gov. Lewis and Lt. Gov. Antone, including members of Community Council.

Additionally, Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego lauded Gov. Lewis and Lt. Gov. Antone on their achievements.

The inauguration also included remarks from federal representatives such as, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senator Mark Kelly, Congressman Tom O’Halloran, State Representative T.J. Shope and Congressman Debbie Haaland, who will serve as Secretary of Interior.

The inauguration can be re-watched on GRBC on channels 19.1 and 29.1



Gov. Lewis (top) and Lt. Gov. Antone (bottom) address Community members during the virtual inauguration that was aired on GRBC on Jan. 16. Photo GRIC Facebook Page

Gila River Police Department Segment Airs on GRBC

Kyle Knox

Gila River Indian News

Public Safety in the Community has a new outlet to highlight developing issues, current events, and the work of the Gila River Police Department (GRPD) efforts to keep the Community safe via Chalihi News. This news segment is produced by the Gila River Broadcasting Corp. (GRBC) and GRPD. Chalihi News’ first season features several episodes that include dialogue with GRPD staff. The segments cover a wide array of topics and information useful for all Community members.

GRPD’s Chief of Police Timothy Chavez and Detective Barbara Weaver hosted the episode of Chalihi News. Members of the department collaborated on developing the program, including choosing this show’s name, which everyone agreed should reflect the Community language and culture. Chalihi, is an O’otham word that roughly translates to “protector” or, in this case, “officer” and also

adorns the GRPD uniform patch.

Though this is a new venture for GRPD and Chief Chavez, information sharing goals are critical for the show. “I created this show because I knew there was a need to get out information,” said Chief Chavez. “We have a GRPD app and Facebook, but the information I want to get out is really catered to elders.”

While the show focuses on Community concerns, it also addresses many issues that affect Indian Country, such as the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) movement.

Episode Three focused on local and state MMIWG efforts. The show featured GRPD detectives and Lt. Governor Monica Antone. The episode detailed the effort to Arizona’s House Bill 2570 in 2019. HB 2570 established a statewide task force for interagency information sharing to resolve missing and cold cases on and off Arizona’s Native communities.

Chalihi News’ first season consists of eight episodes and



GRPD’s Chief of Police Timothy Chavez and GRPD Detective Barbara Weaver hosts Chalihi News on Gila River Broadcasting Corporation. Photo GRBC

looks like it may continue for a second season. GRBC Executive Director, Clarice Chiago-Jones, said, “We have already discussed season two as we have been throwing ideas around, and Chief Chavez has a lot of things he would like to do with the show.”

Looking ahead to after the pandemic subsides, Chiago-

Jones said: “Some ideas involve participation from the Community, but we can’t do that just yet. Hopefully, in the not-too-distant future, we can get together on a set and have more Community-involved productions.”

Chiago-Jones credits GRIC’s CPAO, Edit Box Productions,

and Gila River Health Care for ensuring quality programming like Chalihi News. Chalihi News airs every week; Tuesdays at 6:30 pm and Saturdays at 9:30 am on GRBC channels 29.1 for Districts 1 to 5 and channel 19.1 for Districts 6 and 7.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: GRIC ELDER COVID VACCINE UPDATE

**COVID VACCINATIONS PROVIDED AT GRHC FACILITIES
ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.**

**TO SCHEDULE A VACCINE APPOINTMENT
PLEASE CALL:
(602) 528-1482**

**Monday thru Friday, 8 am - 6 pm
OR EMAIL: c19schedulingbox@grhc.org**



After 6 pm and on weekends, Please provide a current phone number and the vaccine scheduling team will contact you to schedule your vaccine.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

ALL GRIC elders ages 55 and older
ALL elders ages 55 and older living within GRIC boundaries

**All Established GRHC Patients Ages 55 And Older With One
Or More Of The Chronic Health Conditions Below:**

- Cirrhosis
- Heart Disease
- Received an Organ Transplant
- Elder diabetics with one of the following chronic diseases- COPD, rheumatoid arthritis, any cancer, Chronic kidney disease



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9 am - 7 pm (MON - FRI) 9am - 5pm (SAT - SUN)

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Please call (520) 550-6060 to schedule an appointment for COVID-19 testing
8 am - 3:30 pm (MON - FRI)

Gila River Health Care recommends frequent testing for anyone who has not been tested or previously tested negative and has no symptoms. If you are experiencing symptoms please go the ER or Primary Care Department. For COVID-19 test result information, please call: (520) 550-6079



Governor
Stephen Roe Lewis
Lt. Governor
Monica Antone

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

District 5
Marlin Dixon
Thomas White
Brian E. Davis, Sr.
James De La Rosa

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

District 7
Devin Redbird

Robert Keller, Tribal Treasurer
Shannon White,
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The Latest COVID-19 Statistics for the Community

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic has been affecting the U.S for a year now and cases continue to rise. The Gila River Indian Community has been proactive in addressing the many issues brought on by the ongoing pandemic and has amended Executive Order No. 9. This is the second amendment of the executive order as the Community remains in a state of emergency due to the impact of COVID-19. GRIC's Stay-at-home order, partial government shutdown, mask mandate remain in place and gatherings of more than five people, excluding those who live in the same household, are prohibited until March 31, 2021.

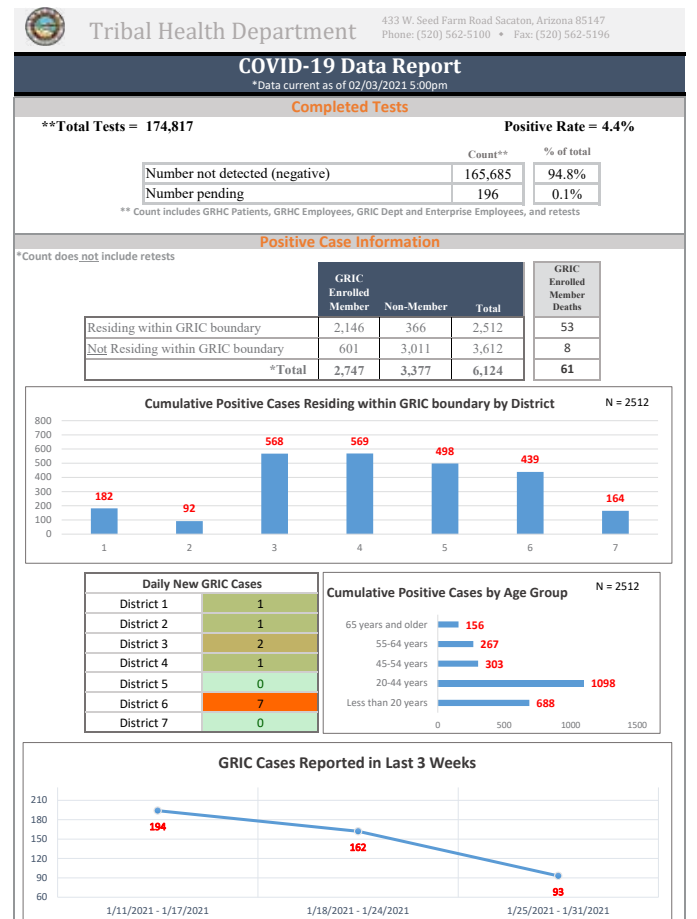
Many of the recent COVID-19 cases have been linked to gatherings, particularly funeral services. Previously, the limit on gatherings in the Community was no more than 10 people but with surge of cases it is now limited to five. In some situations, a waiver from GRIC's Executive Office may be granted for gatherings of more than 10, after a careful review by the Community's Tribal Health Department. "This is a significant change and I do not make it lightly," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis in a video addressing the amendment on GRIC's Facebook page; "The numbers are alarming

and we need to take these actions to save lives."

On February 3, Tribal Health Department's latest data reported 6,124 COVID-19 cases and 60 deaths. 2,478 of those cases reside in the Community. 767,379 COVID-19 cases in the state of Arizona as of February 3. Maricopa and Pima County have reported the most cases. Due to the increase in cases, the Gila River Police Department began safety and education checkpoints in the Community. Checkpoints are set up Friday-Sunday from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. to notify travelers of the executive orders until further notice.

Multiple variants of COVID-19 have been found, as viruses are known to mutate and new variants are to be expected over time. Much like the influenza virus, which is why the flu-vaccine is made available annually. Scientists and health officials are closely monitoring these new variants as they learn more cases are expected to rise.

The COVID-19 virus and variants continue to spread easily from person-to-person. With the continued orders in place, it is important to adhere and protect yourself, family and the Community. Only go out when it is necessary and avoid crowded areas. Always wear a mask and try stay at least 6 feet apart when you are around others. Wash your



hands often but if you are unable, use hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.

Stay home if you are sick or if you may have been exposed to the virus and monitor your symptoms closely. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms that include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or

smell, headache, muscle or body aches. Symptoms can appear 2-14 days after exposure. If you are experiencing any of these, contact a health care provider. For additional information on COVID-19 and the Community, including the amended executive order, visit gric.com/hub.

Local Contractor Makes Donation to Elderly Services Program

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a little help can go a long way. Carlos Munoz, of PIMMEX General Contracting, donated blankets to the Elderly Services Program on Feb. 3.

The donation is Munoz's way of helping elders get the things they need most, during the winter months.

"I was taught my whole life how important elders are to us, to give them something they can have and use," said Munoz.

He said the pandemic pushed a lot of the logistics back, when it came to ordering and having their logo printed on the blankets.

"This was supposed to take place last year, but due to COVID, there was a delay in getting the order fulfilled," said Munoz.

He said his business makes annual donations to different age groups in the Community, depending on their needs.

Joanne Brewer, Acting Elderly Services Coordinator and Deputy Director of Community Services Department, was present to receive the donation from PIMMEX. Last year, Brewer was appointed to oversee the program, during the pandemic.

"We coordinated with Carlos to get the numbers and get the blankets here," said Brewer. She said they will coordinate a distribution with the districts to have the blankets delivered to the elders.

"Elderly services on our part is an important program, especially during the pandemic with the homemaker service,



Joanne Brewer, ESP Acting Coordinator, holds an Amazon Fire 7 tablet, which is available to an elderly Community member. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

caregiver services and the elderly liaisons," said Brewer.

Each of these components advocate for the elders on what they need, including wellness checks, while collaborating with the districts and their elderly coordinators.

She said with the limited staff on-hand, they are able to accomplish the objective of delivering services to elders in need of supplies, such as clothing and age specific items.

"We have had donations from the Gila River Healthcare to get hygiene supplies to the homebound elders, who may not be able to get them on their own," said Brewer.

She said family members and individuals caring for an elder can call the programs main line 520-562-5232 to work with an intake worker or liaison to request supplies.

"We try and give out supplies, such as a bag that will help them with their mental wellness, while at home," said Brewer.

The ESP has started a campaign to distribute 120 Amazon Fire Tablets for elders to use. They plan to work with the



Carlos Munoz of PIMMEX, unloads boxes of blankets at the Elderly Services Program in Sacaton on Feb. 3. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

blankets will be through district elderly coordinators, during the delivery of meals to GRIC's eldest members.

For more information, Community members can contact the Elderly Services Program at 520-562-5232

The distribution of the



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY FILES \$225 MILLION SUIT

Against the Trump Administration for Failure to Comply with the Arizona Water Settlements Act

Communications & Public Affairs Office

SACATON, AZ – The Gila River Indian Community filed a \$225 million suit against the Trump Administration in the United States Court of Federal Claims for the United States’ failure to properly invest federal funds set aside for the Community’s and other Arizona tribes’ settlements. The federal funds in question are the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund, which the United States underinvested, and at times did not invest at all, resulting in a massive shortfall in the Fund.

Under the Arizona Water Settlements Act (AWSA), the United States has a mandatory statutory duty to invest the Fund for the benefit of the Community and other Arizona tribes with settlements. The United States failed to properly invest the fund, or did not invest the Fund at all, and violated its duty under AWSA. As a result, the value of the Fund decreased by \$225 million. AWSA was



Water used by the Community flows from a release valve at the Managed Aquifer Recharge Site 1B in District 1. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

approved in December 2004, and the United States hid its failure to comply with AWSA from 2005 to 2017.

The Community first became aware of the United States’ failure in 2017, and soon after this discovery it began discussions with the Trump Administration to find a solution to ensure the Fund’s value would be enough to meet the United States’ settlement obligations under AWSA.

“We entered into good-faith negotiations with the current Administration and thought we had reached a framework agreement at the

end of 2019,” said Stephen Roe Lewis, Governor for the Gila River Indian Community. “Unfortunately, it appears the current Administration wasn’t really serious about fixing this problem and strung us along, and now our only option is to sue. I am hopeful that the new Administration will be more receptive to fixing this problem that the United States created,” added Governor Lewis.

For more information or to arrange interviews, contact Roberto.Jackson@gric.nsn.us.

Avoiding crowds.

Is my Respect.



Vaccines are here, but until enough of us are vaccinated, we must still do our part; watch our distance, wear our masks, and avoid crowds both indoors and out. Let’s continue to do our part for the respect of our people and to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Learn more at cdc.gov/coronavirus

Brought to you by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Gila River Indian Community

DISTRICTS

1, 4, 5, & 6

Declaration of CANDIDACY

for Office of Community Council

Declaration Period:

February 8 thru February 22, 5 p.m.

A member of the Gila River Indian Community residing in one of these Districts may declare their candidacy for a Community Council seat per qualifications.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

ARTICLE VI - Qualifications of Officers

Section 1. No person shall be elected or hold office as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Chief Judge, Associate Judge or Councilmen unless he:

1. Is a member of the Community;
2. Has reached the age of twenty-five (25) years;
3. Has been living in the particular district he is to represent for at least sixty (60) days immediately preceding the election;
4. Has been living on the Reservation for at least one year immediately preceding the election. Additional qualifications may be prescribed by ordinance.

Section 2. No person who, within the year preceding the election, has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude shall be eligible to hold office in the Community.

Due to limitations of personal contact during this pandemic. Declaration Of Candidacy forms can be requested thru e-mail.

Send your request to: TEP@gric.nsn.us

OR forms can be picked up at the Tribal Elections Program Office.

Please call prior to arrival for availability.

315 W. Casa Blanca Rd., Building 9,
Sacaton, Arizona

TEP office @ 520-562-9735

Gila River Indian Community

2021 Community Council Election - Districts 1, 4, 5 & 6

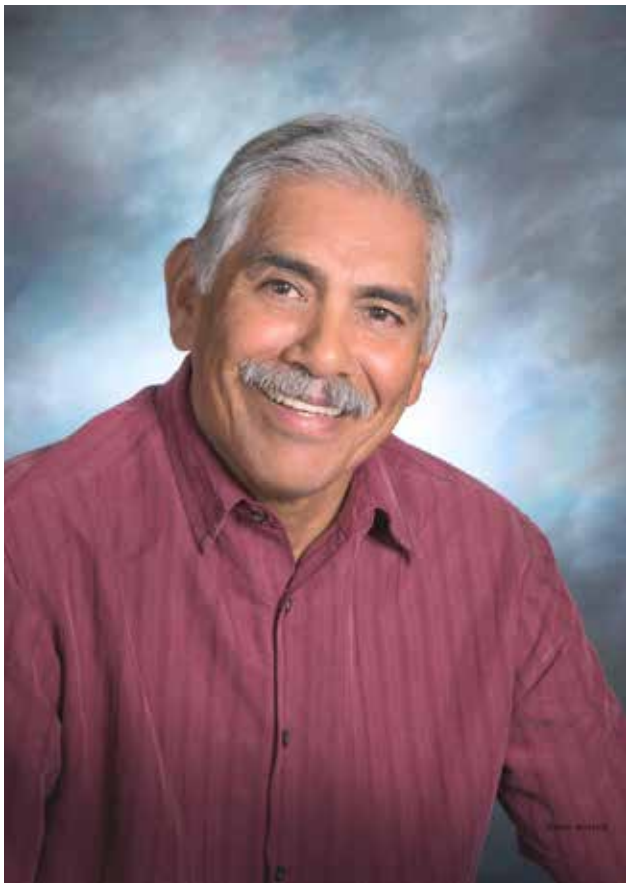
ELECTION SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENT
February 8, 2021	Declaration of Candidacy (DOC) opens for GRIC community members seeking to declare for Office of Community Council in Districts 1, 4, 5 & 6. Send your request to TEP@gric.nsn.us for the DOC form or are available at the Tribal Elections office, call for availability prior to arrival.
February 22, 2021	Declaration of Candidacy closes at 5:00 p.m. All forms must be received in the Tribal Elections Office by closing date and time.
February 23, 2021	DOC forms are routed to the Departments of Enrollment, Office of General Counsel and Human Resources office to ascertain qualifications of applicants.
March 2, 2021	DOC forms are returned to the Tribal Elections Office
March 3, 2021	Community Election Board to review residency requirements of each applicant seeking office for a District Community Council seat.
March 17, 2021	Community Council to certify applicants who declared for candidacy for office of Community Council at their second meeting in March.
March 24, 2021	Voter Registration closes for the Community Council election scheduled May 4, 2021.
April 1, 2021	Absentee Voting Opens - any registered voter who is unable to vote in person at the polling site may request to vote by absentee.
May 4, 2021	Absentee ballots can be dropped off at any polling site, before the polling site closes @ 6:00 p.m.
May 4, 2021	GRIC Community Council Election Day in Districts 1, 4, 5 & 6
May 7, 2021	Protest Period Ends 5:00 p.m. any Registered Voter can file a protest in writing to the Community Election Board Chairperson.
June 2, 2021	Newly elected/re-elected Council Candidates are sworn into office at the first Community Council meeting in June.

Any questions regarding this schedule, call the Tribal Elections office @ (520) 562-9735

A'AGA

Something to be told or talked about



By Billy Allen

Wednesday, January 6, 2021: How did you react to the Capitol takeover by the pro-Trump protestors? Through the years, others might have had the same reaction – it wasn't the first time violence touched that

iconic building. In August of 1814, the United States was in the midst of the War of 1812. American forces burned the capitol of Canada, a British ally, in April of 1813. British forces then marched

to Washington, D. C. and set fire to the American capitol. Major rooms in the Capitol, the White House, the Navy yard, and several American warships were set aflame.

On July 2, 1915, a German-born Harvard professor protesting American aid to Britain during WWI placed three sticks of dynamite in the Capitol. Luckily the dynamite detonated while the Senate was on recess. (The USA entered the war in 1917.)

March 1, 1954, four "Boricua" attackers demanding independence for Puerto Rico fired guns in the House, injuring five congressmen. (Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens with no congressional representation and can't vote for president.)

On March 1, 1971, a bomb explosion in the Capitol building caused damage, but no one was injured. The Weather Underground claimed responsibility as a protest against USA involvement in the South Vietnamese invasion of Laos.

On November 7, 1983,

once again a bomb was used to attack the Senate chambers. The late evening explosion injured no one, but caused a lot of damage. The Armed Resistance Unit behind this attack was against USA military action in Grenada and Lebanon.

Almost immediately after the recent Capitol siege, a lot of memes and commentary contrasted the seemingly lax police response to those rioters with other protests such as at Black Lives Matter marches, and for Native American protests like that against the Dakota Access Pipeline. Some younger GRIN readers may not know that militant Native Americans took over the Washington, DC Bureau of Indian Affairs building in 1972.

From November 3- 9 in 1972, Natives occupied the BIA headquarters in Washington, DC. The occupation was the end of a cross-country caravan called the "Trail of Broken Treaties." This march was to focus attention on numerous treaty rights that had not been honored which affected daily living conditions such as housing and health on reservations.

Nearly 500 Native Americans marched to the BIA building to begin a series of meetings with BIA officials. During one meeting fighting between government security and a

group of young "Indians" broke out. Guards tried to clear the building not knowing permission had been granted for the group to stay past closing time – it was the guards who had to leave. An alarm went out. The occupation was on. Aware of previous forceful police actions taken against Natives, the occupiers barricaded entrances and broke furniture to make weapons. Fires were set in offices. Much of the building itself and contents such as historical documents were destroyed.

Negotiations urged the Administration to appoint more Natives to high level BIA post along with providing \$66,000 in transportation monies so protesters could return home. All in all, relatively little violence was done to people. No deaths on either side. The take-over led by the American Indian Movement ended with unresolved issues needing attention.

Republicans, Democrats, longhairs, short hairs, urban, rez Natives and many others worked together to address some of the issues. Soon the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 improved Native education and also reversed the termination of some tribes.

The Indian Health Service budget was doubled

and in 1976, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act was passed to improve the system and offer scholarships for Natives interested in the health field. The Indian Child Welfare Act followed allowing tribes to control adoption and placement of Native children. In 1978, the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act authorized community colleges on reservations.

We don't want violence among hallowed sites. Natives still have unresolved issues. A step in the right direction is President Biden's selection of Representative Deb Haaland of New Mexico to head the Interior Department. There is no substitute for good leadership.

Sites accessed were; <https://www.aoc.gov/explore-capitol-campus/blog/most-magnificent-ruin-burning-capitol-during-war-1812>

<https://www.history.com/news/us-capitol-building-violence-fires>

http://www.historyisnowmagazine.com/blog/2020/7/26/the-takeover-of-the-bureau-of-indian-affairs-headquarters-in-1972#.X_yoSOhKjIU

<https://law.jrank.org/pages/4301/American-Indian-Movement-Trail-Broken-Treaties.html#ixzz6jGrYAq2y>

INFORM ENGAGE INSPIRE		
<p>CHALIHI NEWS NEW EPISODES EVERY OTHER WEEK</p>	<p>THE DOINGS</p>	<p>DOWNTIME WITH ROBERT & CLAUDE JACKSON</p>
<p>Airing Tuesdays at 6:30 pm Replaying Saturdays at 9:30 am</p>	<p>Airing Thursdays at 6:30pm Replaying Saturdays 10:30 am</p>	<p>Premiering in March Stay Tuned! Season 2 is coming to GRBC!</p>

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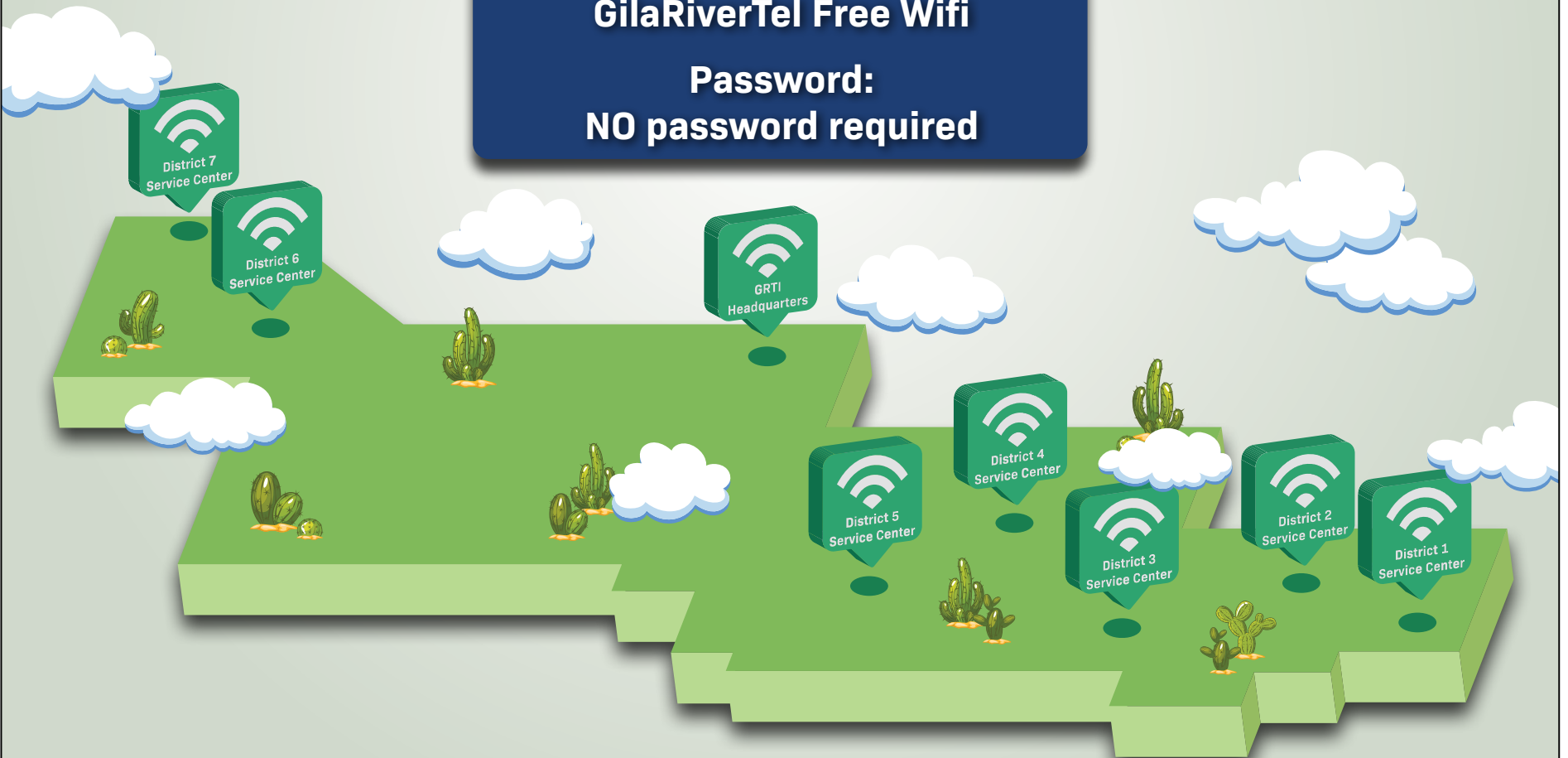
@GilaRiverTV

Community Wi-Fi Hotspots

We know that Internet access is important. GRTI and the Gila River Indian Community have worked together to provide free Wi-Fi hotspots at the GRTI headquarters and all the Community Service Center parking areas. If you are visiting the area or just need to get connected, you can visit any of the locations and get online 24/7.

Username:
GilaRiverTel Free Wifi

Password:
NO password required



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Fiber



Data



Voice

Community Members Receive First Round of COVID-19 Vaccinations

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Though COVID-19 cases are still present in the Community, GRIC's new Vaccine Distributions have begun a steady rollout throughout the Community to combat the effects of the pandemic. Vaccinations started in January, with distribution increasing regularly to reach more Community members and essential tribal employees. Administering the vaccines community-wide is a tremendous undertaking. Even so, many if not all Community members will have a chance to get vaccinated soon through this coordinated program.

To date, Gila River Health Care (GRHC) has been administering both

the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines with guidance from the Tribal Health Dept. (THD). Both have over 90 percent effective rates and are critical for combating the rise of COVID-19 cases throughout the Community and the world.

As of February 2nd, vaccinations are being offered those who meet the Phase 1A and 1B group requirements. Those considered 1A at this time are all GRIC elders age 55 or older, all elders 55 and older living within the GRIC boundaries, and all GRHC patients 55 years or older with chronic health conditions such as cirrhosis, heart disease, diabetes, COPD, rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, chronic kidney disease, or have received

an organ transplant. The phase 1B group includes health care employees and essential employees of the Community.

Vaccinations will be administered at all GRHC facilities, including Huhugam Health Care Center, Red Tail Hawk Health Care Center, and Komatke Health Care Center.

A thorough check-in process must be completed. Everyone must disclose all allergies in case of possible side effects. Due to this possibility, patients must remain at the testing site for 15 to 30 minutes after their vaccination for observation.

After vaccination, patients may experience flu-like symptoms. Symptoms can include fever, chills,

tiredness, and headache. These side effects are expected and indicate the body's immune system working to build its defense against COVID-19. Patients may also experience pain and swelling on their arm at the site of injection.

Not everyone will experience all the possible side effects. Medical professionals indicate that most effects will subside a few days after vaccination. If side effects continue, contact your health care provider or the COVID Hotline at 520-550-6079 to report your symptoms.

The COVID-19 vaccinations require two doses for full effect, so everyone must get the booster shot 3-4 weeks after the first dose. Patients



Vaccinations clinics begin to take place in the Community. Kyle Knox/GRIN

will receive a card that indicates which vaccine they received. It's essential to keep that for your records and note which vaccine you received, as you are required to get the same vaccine for both shots. Because of the time gap between the first vaccination must continue to practice social distancing, wearing a face mask, avoiding crowds, and frequently washing their

hands. Even after getting both doses, these practices should continue regardless of vaccination status.

Anyone that meets the Phase 1A requirements as stated above should schedule an appointment with GRHC by calling 602-528-1482, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Appointments can also be scheduled by emailing C19schedulingbox@grhc.org.

Local Sports Organization Gives back to the Community

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Arizona Diamondbacks baseball team continued their long history of the supporting the Community by making a donation of \$20,000 to the GRIC Tribal Recreation Department on Jan. 25th.

"The foundations efforts in the Community, started before the D-backs ever played a game at Chase Field, it's been a passion of the organization since day one," said Debbie Castaldo, the team's Senior Vice President of Corporate and Community Impact.

Castaldo explained that the mission of the community impact arm of the team is to build a new generation of baseball fans and players. That's balanced by the team's

desire to help families off the field – especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Diamondbacks have assisted families who need emergency food supplies, internet access for virtual learning at home and by providing protective equipment for healthcare workers.

"We are absolutely honored to be an annual recipient of the financial sponsorship in order to provide uniforms, equipment, clinics and guest speakers for the youth of the Community," said Angel Orque, Tribal Recreation Program Manager.

She said due to restrictions on social gatherings, they will look at opportunities to spend the funding that will allow as many youth to participate in sports.

Orque said that the Tribal Recreation Department will distribute the funding in a way that will allow as many young Community members as possible to participate in youth sports.

Castaldo described the Diamondbacks charitable giving as a way for the team to help ensure that young people aren't stuck without access to recreation during the pandemic. "We also wanted to see youth sports get back to work," said Castaldo, "so we dedicated hundreds of thousands of dollars to help our youth baseball and softball leagues get back on the field, for uniforms, through grants like the one given the Community each year."

The Diamondbacks Senior VP also explained that the team has expanded



L-R, Cael Bennett, Angel Orque (both of Tribal Recreation Department) stand with Debbie Castaldo (D-backs) and Teaya Vicente (Gila River Hotels & Casinos) in the main rotunda of Chase Field during a check presentation to the Community on Jan. 25. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

its giving to include different sports and equipment – and to include virtual opportunities for Community members and young people across Arizona. As Castaldo put

it, the Diamondbacks don't want the pandemic to prevent young people from safely playing baseball and from getting out and being active.

"We don't ever want

money to be a barrier to not play baseball or softball," said Castaldo. "We'd like to see the youth from local communities play the game, that [we] represent."

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

PATHWAYS COMMUNITY PROMGRAM

We are now accepting online applications for the following apprenticeship/internship position:

POSITION	CLOSING DATE
Assistant Restaurant Manager	03/31/2021

Must be a Gila River Indian Community Member to apply.

Please visit playatgila.com and submit your online application by the closing date.

Contact Norma Perez, Recruitment Manager at 1-800-946-4452 ext. 8369 if you have any questions.

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter icons

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PlayAtGila.com | 800-WIN-GILA

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ATTENTION!

Cashiers will now be accepting bill payments over the phone with a credit or debit card.

520-562-9621

Please call the number above and you will be prompt to a recording.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • January 20, 2021

ACTION SHEET

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, January 20, 2021, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:04 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Terrance Evans

ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present:

D1-Joey Whitman, 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.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:

D4-Vacant; D5-Thomas White

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #2 THROUGH #4; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTION #1, #2, #4, AND #5; ADD NEW BUSINESS #1 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

REPORTS

1. COVID-19 Taskforce Update

Presenters: Bruce Harvey, Candalerian Preston, Laurie Thomas, Chief Timothy Chavez, Dr. Anthony Santiago, Roberto Jackson

ITEM HEARD

>2. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) December 1 Tribal Child Count

Presenter: Joann Nelson

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Head Start Monthly Report – November 2020

Presenter: Carolina Keller

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. K-12 Education Program Quarter 1 Manager's Report For School Year 2020 - 2021

Presenter: Jeffery Thornburgh

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. GRICUA FY20 Q4 Report

Presenters: Leonard Gold, Pamela Thomas

ITEM HEARD

RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Approving The Office Of Emergency Management To Apply For And Receive Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Funding Under The Arizona State Department Of Health Services For A Period Of 5-Years, July 1, 2020 Through June 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Bruce Harvey

APPROVED

>2. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Filing Of Applications With The Federal Transit Administration, An Operating

Administration Of The United States Department of Transportation, For Federal Transportation Assistance Authorized Buy Chapter 53 Of Title 49 Of The United States Code And Any Other Federal Statutes Administered By The Federal Transit Administration (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)

Presenters: Dawn Coomer, Timothy Oliver

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving An Agreement For Right-Of-Way Easement Between The Gila River Indian Community And SFPP, L.P. And A Grant Of Right-Of-Way By The U.S. Department Of Interior Bureau Of Indian Affairs, The Gila River Indian Community And Certain Allotted Landowners Of Land To SFPP, L.P. For A Petroleum Easement For A 20 Year Term (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; NRSC, ESC, CRSC and EDSC concur; EDSC and CRSC forward to Council with additional information; EDSC forwards for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Ronald N. Rosier, Denton Robinson

APPROVED

>4. A Resolution Authorizing Tribal Officials To Initiate Financial Transactions With The United States Department Of Interior Office Of Special Trustee For American Indians (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Thomas Murphy, Treasurer Robert Keller

APPROVED

>5. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Directing The Distribution Of Trust Assets



Contact: Dr. Cheryl Paul
Superintendent
Sacaton Elementary School District #18
92. S. Skill Center Road
Sacaton, AZ. 85147
Phone: 480-204-8577
cpaul@sacatonschools.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 1, 2021

SACATON BRAVES SELECTED TO SHOWCASE WINTER PERFORMANCE AT THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S ESSA CONFERENCE THIS MONTH

(Sacaton, Arizona) Sacaton Braves will once again shine at the upcoming ESSA Conference as their Winter Performance has been selected to be highlighted during the conference. Through effective use of technology and partnership with GRIC Broadcasting, many families enjoyed SESD's Winter performance video on local channels, the district website, and social media during the holiday season. "We are very excited the student Winter performance will be showcased as part of this conference. The students worked very hard and we are all very proud," said Mrs. Kristin Kennedy, Music and Band Teacher at SESD.

Mrs. Kennedy is passionate about integrating culture into all musical student performances. This performance provides engaging songs and band solos selected by the students honoring the Akimel O'otham language. Students not only had to learn the music and lyrics but also enlist family members to plan their video background, make sure the environment remained quiet, and choose their attire. The video has been selected in recognition of its exemplary display of innovative ways performing arts and interdisciplinary classrooms engage students in learning by leveraging digital technologies

#####

Attachments: Photo 1, Photo 2, Photo 3, Photo 4, Photo 5, Photo 6

Thank you Mrs. Kennedy

SACATON BRAVES SELECTED TO SHOWCASE WINTER PERFORMANCE AT THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S ESSA CONFERENCE – FEBRUARY 23 – 24, 2021

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Congratulations Sacaton Braves!

To Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller APPROVED

[GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:45 A.M.]

ORDINANCES UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Standing Committee Council Member Appointment

• Government & Management Standing Committee One (1) Vacancy

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT REGINA ANTONE-SMITH

• Natural Resources Standing Committee One (1) Vacancy

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT

BRIAN DAVIS, SR.

• Legislative Standing Committee One (1) Vacancy

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT JAMES DE LA ROSA

• Economic Development Standing Committee Two (2) Vacancies

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT JAMES DE LA ROSA AND TERRANCE EVANS

NEW BUSINESS [ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA]

1. Councilwoman Jennifer Allison Resignation from the Economic Development Standing Committee

Presenter: Councilwoman Monica Antone APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AT

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA MINUTES

1. December 2, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH CORRECTION

2. January 6, 2021 (Regular) MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ Prayers requested for the Community in the loss of family due to COVID-19

~ Prayers requested for Councilman Thomas White in the loss of his grandson

• ~ Prayers requested for Robert Stone in the loss of his sister-in-law

• ~ Prayers requested for Alan Blackwater in the loss of his son

• ~ Prayers requested for Carl Antone

ADJOURNMENT MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:07 A.M.

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

Tribal Elections Update:

The Gila River Indian Community Council approved amendments to Title 2/Election Ordinance at their regular meeting of Wednesday, February 3, 2021.

The amendments are as follows:

Title 2, Chapter 1.

Section 2.104 Voter Registration. – The current Ordinance states voter registration is to be open for

registration 20 business days prior to an election.

Amended: Voter Registration will be closed 29 business days prior to an election

Section 2.105 District Community Meetings.

The District Community Chairperson is to call a district meeting for the purpose of nominating candidates for a Community Council seat prior to the election.

Amended: Due to the

COVID-19 Pandemic, District meetings have been canceled therefore difficult to nominate individuals for Community Council pursuant to Section 2.105, as a result, Tribal Elections recommends that individuals seeking Office of Community Council declare their candidacy, instead of being nominated.

Section 2.111 Absentee Voting – current Ordinance states absentee voting shall be open 15 business days

prior to an election

Amended: the Tribal Elections Program recommends absentee voting shall be open 22 business days prior to an election.

Section 2.116 Community Council Elections, D.2.

The certification of qualifications of Council candidates shall be conducted at the first regular Community Council meeting in April.

Amended: the certification of qualifications

for Council candidates shall be conducted at the second Community Council meeting in March.

2021. Due to safety measures in place for COVID-19 virus, declaration of candidacy form requests can be made beginning February 8, 2021. Requests can be made to Tribal Elections Program by e-mail to TEP@gric.nsn.us or in person by calling (520) 562-9735 to make arrangements to pick up a form. The form must be notarized and returned in the same manner it was received.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

The next Community Council election scheduled for May 4, 2021 involves Districts 1, 4, 5 & 6. Any person residing in these districts can declare their candidacy for a Community Council seat beginning February 8, 2021 through the deadline of February 22,



NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT NON-MEMBER RESIDENT REGISTRATION



• The Community's Residency Ordinance requires all adults (18 years of age and older) who are not enrolled members of the Gila River Indian Community, but who reside within the boundaries of the Community to register their residency.



• All adult non-member residents must register their residency with the Enrollment Department and must update their registration by January 31st each year.



• Previously enrolled non-member registrants will receive a renewal form by mail. All other non-member residents should contact the Enrollment Department to request a registration form.
Physical Address: Governance Center 525 W Gu U Ki Sacaton, AZ 85147
Phone number: (520) 562-9790



• The Registration Form may be submitted in person at the Enrollment Office. A valid Photo ID is required.



• Registration Forms submitted to the Enrollment Department by mail, fax or third party must be notarized.

Mailing address: GRIC Enrollment Department
P.O. Box 97 Sacaton, AZ 85147

Fax number: (520) 562-8103

Phoenix Indian Center Employment Opportunities for Managers and Specialists

Check out the positions at:
www.phoenixindiancenter.org or
call: 602-264-6768



A message from the Department of Environmental Quality to use the correct color bin for recycling and trash on the designated day. If a blue bin is set out for trash day or vice versa, it will not be collected and emptied. Remember to keep materials separate in their proper bins. Too many contaminated recyclables can ruin the whole truckload. The DPW driver has no way of knowing what is actually in the bin, if the wrong color is out on the wrong day. If an additional trash or recycling receptacle is needed, one can be purchased at the Department of Public Works.
Questions? Contact DPW at (520) 562-3343 or DEQ at (520) 562-2234

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Michael David Enis

Where: on Zoom

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Feb. 2nd, 2021
Feb. 9th, 2021
Feb. 16th, 2021
Feb. 23rd, 2021
Mar. 2nd, 2021

Meeting ID: 412 158 2553

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+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 412 158 2553

Join Us on Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4121582553>

Contact Ruben Cuk Ba'ak
For more information:
ruben.cukbaak@tonation-nsn.gov
(520) 383-0200



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PREMIER MITSUBISHI

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* adjustment and parts needed above
factory alignment adjustments not included
*good for 3 years after purchase.

Valid Monday-Saturday. Offer expires February 27, 2021. See store for more details. Offer may not be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. Promotions have no cash value. Offer cannot be sold or otherwise bartered. Void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted.

PREMIER MITSUBISHI

Tires at dealer cost

*must be installed at dealership

Valid Monday-Saturday. Offer expires February 27, 2021. See store for more details. Offer may not be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. Promotions have no cash value. Offer cannot be sold or otherwise bartered. Void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted.

For more details contact
520-800-1084
or visit

www.premiermitsubishi.com/service/

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GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

22ND ANNUAL WINTER BIRD COUNT

VIRTUAL EDITION - HOSTED VIA: WEBEX



FEBRUARY 13, 2021
at 11:00 a.m.

Register at: Tison.Gill.DEQ@gric.nsn.us
or call (520) 562- 2234