



NATIONAL EMERGENCY

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Gila River Indian Community rolls-out first COVID-19 Vaccines

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Lt. Governor Monica Antone received their COVID-19 vaccines as part of the GRIC vaccination plan at the Gila River Health Care Viola L. Johnson Administrative Building on Wed., Jan. 6th. The Community's top elected leaders received the vaccine along with frontline healthcare essential workers and elders designated as part of the first phase for receiving the vaccination.

With COVID-19 vaccinations distributions beginning around the country, the Community began their vaccinations this month. The vaccinations are part of the roll-out starting with specific Community members 55 years and older and those with high-risk severe chronic medical conditions.

Gov. Lewis said, "This is a very exciting time and important time for the Community. We have our first batches of the vaccine. And it's important to know that the vaccine is safe. We are in

coordination with GRHC, public health professionals, and our state and federal partners as well." Gov. Lewis also shared that he was "Excited to take the vaccine as this day marks an important milestone to keep our Community safe."

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone received her vaccination at the same time. "I'm here today because I feel it's very important as a leader to come forward and share that it's important that we take this vaccine to be able to fight what we're fighting during this pandemic," she explained. Lt. Gov. Antone also mentioned that her past health concerns fueled her desire to get vaccinated.

Getting vaccinated is streamlined for everyone and held to high-quality assurance to ensure everyone is properly cared for during and after injection. Additionally, the vaccine process requires the initial shot and then a follow-up "booster shot" three weeks later.

The first phase's "first group" includes those 55 years and older who have conditions such as



Lt. Gov. Monica Antone (left) and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis (right) after taking the COVID-19 vaccine at the Viola Johnson Administrative Building on Jan. 6. Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

congestive heart failure, have obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), rheumatoid arthritis, those with cirrhosis. The "second group" included in the first phase also includes anyone 55 years and older with diabetes, chronic

questions, can be found at GRHC. ORG/HUB or by calling the Gila River Health Care Coronavirus Hotline at (520) 550-6079.

Gila River Farms Produces First Batches of Olive Oil in District 5

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Farms is getting into the business of producing its own olive oil, in a first among tribal communities in the United States. Located in the heart of Casa Blanca and District Five, the farm features acres upon acres of olive trees, many of which have been growing for the past three years. The first-ever harvest of ripe olives began last December.

Currently, Gila River Farms is storing its olive oil at an offsite location in Eloy, while management develops a plan to distribute the new product.

"[We] are going to work on presenting it to the hotels and casinos on the Community and we are working to selling it in bulk and work on our brand," said Stephanie Sauced-Manuel, Gila River Farms General Manager.

The harvest of the farm's ripe olives was a complicated process - one that required a harvester tractor and a mobile mill to produce olive oil. For the mill, Gila River Farms turned to a Texas-based farm, Lone Star Olive Ranch, which partnered

with the Community to handle the milling process.

"I've been processing olive oil since 2012 and working mobile since 2015," said Christine McCabe, Lone Star's Co-owner. "When [we] started, we needed a manner in which to process our fruit, like many other olive growers in Texas," said McCabe.

That need led to the development of the mobile mill. Later, Lone Star Olive Ranch expanded beyond Texas, helping organizations like Gila River Farms produce its own olive oil. McCabe explained how each part of the process is essential to extracting the olive oil from the fruit, which must undergo sorting, removal of debris, a thorough washing, and then a crushing process.

Sauceda-Manuel, Gila River Farms General Manager, says the olive oil business has the potential to be extremely successful.

"We have a lot of individuals already who are interested in buying the oil and even the fruit, but we are looking ... down the line to have our own equipment to process the oil," said Sauced-Manuel.



Gila River Farms staff, workers and Lone Star Olive Ranch harvesters stand in front of the large mobile olive mill used to produce olive oil on Jan 8. Christopher Lomahquahu

Manuel. The farm may ultimately look to get recognition locally and nationally, she said, but expanding to reach that goal will require more infrastructure.

Part of that expansion includes the involvement of District 5 Community member Blue Sky Jones, who started with Gila River Farms last December. "I didn't know a lot about olive

oil when I started," said Jones. He said there has been a lot to learn on the job, but working with individuals like McCabe has cultivated his interest in learning more about the olive oil business.

"I enjoy the opportunity to learn how [this] whole process is done, but most of all it is good ... for the Community to have individuals like me to learn about it

and how we can do it on our own," said Jones. He said the timing of everything came together when he applied to Gila River Farms with an interest in being apprentice. Manuel-Sauceda, the farm's general manager agreed, saying she looks to hire Community members, especially workers interested in learning a trade and gaining knowledge while

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GRTV NEWS Weekly

Read more about olive story on Page 6



Gila River Indian Community

Virtual Inauguration



16TH DAY OF JANUARY TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE

GOVERNOR, STEPHEN ROE LEWIS AND LT. GOVERNOR, MONICA ANTONE

CHIEF JUDGE, JOSEPH MANUEL

ASSOCIATE JUDGES:

**SHERI CASSA, CHARLES ARAGON, JANICE BRECKENRIDGE,
ANTHONY HILL, DARREN PEDRO-MARTINEZ**

PREMIERE ON SATURDAY JANUARY 16, 2020 AT 12:00 P.M. AND RE-AIRED AT 6:00 P.M ON

GILA RIVER BROADCASTING CORPORATION CHANNELS 19.1 & 29.1

THE VIDEO WILL ALSO BE STREAMED ON GRBC FACEBOOK. GRIC WILL HOST A WATCH PARTY BY SHARING THE GRBC FACEBOOK VIDEO.





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, Sr.
Terrance B. Evans
Charles Goldtooth

District 7
Devin Redbird

Robert Keller, Tribal Treasurer
Shannon White,
Community Council Secretary

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IMPORTANT PATIENT NOTICE

The COVID-19 vaccine is currently available to Gila River Indian Community Elders (55+) with serious, high-risk chronic medical conditions.

If you are a GRIC elder and have any questions about the vaccine, please call the GRHC COVID-19 Hotline at (520) 550-6079.

First Group

Ages 55+ with any of the following serious health conditions:

- Congestive heart failure/Cardiomyopathy,
- Any organ transplant
- Cirrhosis

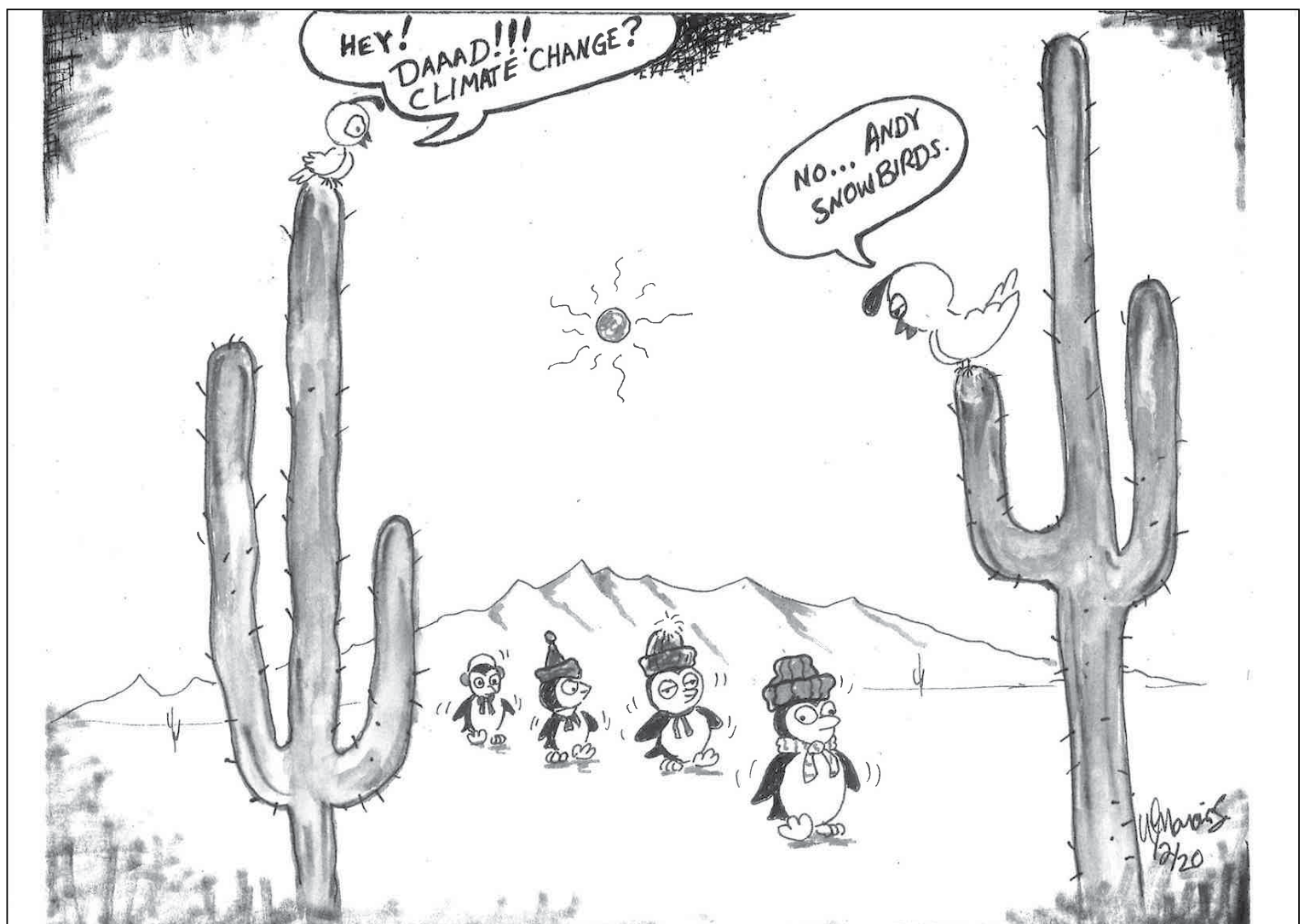
Second Group

Ages 55 + with diabetes and one of the following health conditions:

- COPD
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Coronary artery disease
- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease



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



Youth Prepare Nutritious Meals with Traditional Flavor Alongside Local Cook

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Guided by a Community member who has developed his skill in traditional Native cooking styles, members of the Akimel O’odham Pee Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) took lessons last month in how to prepare staple meals of the Community’s culture.

The December 29 virtual presentation – led by Community member and culinary expert James Sundust – focused using Soam Bav (brown tepary beans) made into a Poshol dish.

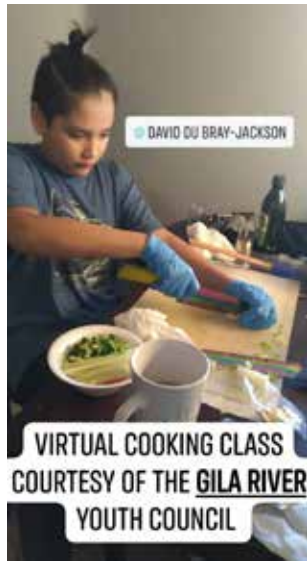
“Sundust has always had aspirations for the art of culinary cooking for some time, but his background in traditional Akimel O’odham and Pee Posh culture has allowed him to integrate the two together,” said Michael Preston, the director of the

AOPPYC.

Sundust also showed the participants how to properly use a knife, incorporating cutting techniques conducted while under parental supervision. Sundust walked through each part of the preparation process. In total, it took about an hour to finish the dish.

At the center of the poshol, the dish used other ingredients to add flavor, including pilkan (wheat berry), and salt pork. The dish was slow cooked until tender. The recipe relied on each of the ingredient’s natural flavors, rather than using salt or other additives.

Preston said many of the youth participants had requested more interactive events. The AOPPYC collaborated with the Gila River Nutrition Coalition to make the cooking class possible.



David Jackson prepares a Poshol dish, during the AOPPYC cooking presentation on Dec. 29. Photo Herille Du Bray

“We also did some quizzes on the history of how bav beans were used in traditional meals,” Preston explained.

Preston added that young people and Community

members outside of AOPPYC can get involved with the group through classes like this, while incorporating traditional themes. While AOPPYC generally focuses on youth between 13 and 21 years old, Preston said the lessons have been popular with all age ranges – and some adults.

“For the most part there is a variety of ages that are adapting to it,” he said. “We even had 10-year olds who cooked along with their parents.”

Virtual activities like this represent a way to have fun while staying home, said Preston, allowing young GRIC members to have positive interactions while maintaining the Community’s stay-at-home orders. “We listen to them, so every time we do an activity, we have a survey that will ask them what they want to see



A Poshol dish, during the AOPPYC cooking presentation on Dec. 29. Photo Angel Blaine

for the next virtual session,” said Preston

As the pandemic continues to be an issue, Preston said to expect more such virtual events as AOPPYC moves into the new year and the organization

listens to its young members and what they want. “We are aware of the surges in COVID-19,” said Preston, “but we are doing the best we can to provide a safe way of interacting with each other.”

LIHEAP


LIHEAP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must be residing within the Gila River Indian Reservation
- Income test, income from all sources for each household member of the age of 18 and over
- Current utility bill

Please submit document verification by:

- Scan to Email- scan & email documents from home to the designated Intake Specialist
- or-
- Text to Email - Take a picture by phone and fwd to the email provided
- or-
- District Service Center drop off in Drop -Off Box

Intake Specialists will be able to provide the applicant with an email address to submit their income verification.



LIHEAP



Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

LIHEAP Winter Crisis Assistance Program

Telephone Intake opens December 14, 2020
For Elderly/Disabled & Families with Children under 5yrs
All other families Intake will open December 28, 2020

LIHEAP Winter Assistance Program

Telephone Intake opens December 28, 2020

For All Families in need of Assistance

LIHEAP program may be able to help ease the burden of your utility cost with a lump sum payment to the utility bill. Program is open until funds are exhausted.

Crisis is a one-time assistance per fiscal year

PLEASE CALL YOUR DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER TO APPLY

District One	(520) 215-2110	District Four	(520) 418-3661
District Two	(520) 562-3450	District Five	(520) 315-3441
District Three	(520) 562-3334	District Six	(520) 550-3805
		District Seven	(520) 430-4780

The District Service Center staff is responsible for the protection of your personal records and bound by confidentiality; We are here to serve you.

Any questions please call your District Service Center.

O’otham I:mik, Kinship Terms II

S-he:kig Vechij or “Eñ mamađ!” (My Aithag, Miliganach! Being children, plural). Mom often together with our immediate introduced her children families and knowing the as a group, to others and relationships we have to one often stated, “Itham ‘o ɖ another is very important in keeping our Himthag intact. eñ mamađ.” (These are my children.) She too, In our last article we related would call out our names about grandparents, aunts and uncles on our dad’s and mom’s side of the family. This article will focus on our immediate family and the terms used for each family member. As we all know, every family has a pecking order from oldest to youngest. Older siblings were always given more responsibilities along with certain privileges. During our formative years our parents and grandparents guided us in our upbringing.

Starting with dad, his children call him “Eñ o:g!” (My father!) and to make it more personal, some kids call their dad “Eñ o:gach!” (My father!) The suffix “ach” makes it more of a close relationship. In turn dad calls his children “Eñ alithag!” (my child, singular), or “Eñ a’alithag!” (My children, plural). When introducing us kids to others, dad often said. “Itham ‘o ɖ eñ a’alithag.” (These are my children.) He would then give our names from oldest to youngest as we shook hands with his new acquaintance.

For mom, each of her children call her “Eñ je’e!” (My mother!). Respectively, she calls her children “Eñ mađ!” (My child, singular),

or “Eñ mamađ!” (My children, plural). Mom often introduced her children as a group, to others and often stated, “Itham ‘o ɖ eñ mamađ.” (These are my children.) She too, would call out our names from oldest to youngest, as we shook hands with her new acquaintance. Those introductions had usually taken place at communal events such as Presbyterian Camp Meetings.

Older brothers and sisters are called “Sikul” (older sibling). As an example, Victoria would say “Eñ sikul Jennifer!” (My older sister Jennifer!). Younger brothers and sisters are called “Si:s” (younger sibling). In turn, Jennifer would say “Eñ si:s Victoria!” (My younger sister Victoria!) Likewise, each sibling refers to the other as venak (sibling, singular), or vepnak (siblings, plural). For example, Victoria would say to her friends “Itham ‘o ɖ eñ vepnak!” (These are my brothers and sister!) and introduce them from oldest to youngest.

First cousins are always treated as brothers and sisters because of the closeness of the bloodlines. Cousins are referred to as “Venak or Vepnak” For example, Victoria would say “Itha ‘o ɖ eñ venak Klishtina!” (This is my first cousin Christina!). In another example she would say ‘itham ‘o ɖ eñ vepnak

Anthoñ, ch Mali:ya, ch Huan!” (These are my first cousins Anthony, Mary and John!) introducing each from oldest to youngest.

Make a chart of your immediate family, grandparents, aunts and uncles. We encourage you to speak O’otham kinship terms in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or Speaker, as some terms maybe slightly different between villages and Clans. This month’s word search



will test your knowledge of I:mik, Kinship Terms. A special Thank You for the Vah-Ki District Elders

for sharing their knowledge of O’otham I:mik which made this article possible.

Answers to crossword puzzle can be found on page 7.

I:mik, Kinship Word Search

k	b	c	o	ñ	s	l	v	c	h	u	m	u	t	p	e	ɖ	g	m	a	d	o	p	i	m
n	o	n	k	o	s	i	n	a	m	h	e	m	c	h	a	m	p	i	o	m	a	t	c	h
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u	m	v	s	a	t	k	ɖ	m	o	m	o	c	o	u	a	d	a	k	t	:	a	‘	a	m
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s	k	s	m	o	p	:	c	h	i	p	a	l	b	l	k	s	o	v	l	m	e	s	h	p
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c	i	a	ñ	t	h	p	i	s	h	b	v	o	s	h	k	g	a	g	e	t	h	a	l	v
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c	i	v	e	ñ	a	k	m	a	:	s	m	p	h	u	i	g	l	o	k	i	e	i	m	k
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t	i	k	a	:	k	o	k	o	h	o	o	k	i	‘	i	m	t	h	a	m	p	i	i	s

Words can be found forward, backward, up, down and diagonal

INFORM | ENGAGE | INSPIRE



THE DOINGS

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PREMIERING
Thursday Jan 28 6:30 pm

REPLAYING
Saturday Jan 30 10 am

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CHALIHI NEWS

NEW EPISODES EVERY OTHER WEEK

EPISODE 4 - COMMUNITY YOUTH
Saturday Jan 16 9:30 am

REPLAYING
Tuesday Jan 19 6:30 pm
Saturday Jan 23 9:30 am

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From Front Page

working in a unique field.

“When I heard he was interested in learning about olives, I knew that [he] is the kind of ‘go getter’ we have to have on-board,” she said.

McCabe said, the Lone Star Olive Ranch sees a huge upside for the Community and Gila River Farms to branch out into larger markets, because the olive oil business is a growing industry, with only five percent of olive oil being produced domestically.

Said McCabe: “There’s enormous potential domestically and here in Arizona.”

To learn more about Gila River Farms, go to <https://gilariverfarmssales.com/> today.



Processed olive oil flows into a storage container after going through an extensive refinement at a mobile mill. Photo Christine McCabe



A large mobile processing mill, pictured here in District 5 Gila River Farms, is used to produce olive oil. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Buckets of olives are dumped into a hopper, where they go down a set of rollers to be washed and removed of any debris. Photo Christine McCabe



District. 5 Community member Blue Sky Jones, talks about his experience learning how to produce olive oil. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Gila River
HEALTH CARE



THE HUB
COVID+FLU Resource Center

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

All surveillance testing provided by GRHC has been moved to the **Hu Hu Kam Memorial Campus** and the **Komatke Health Center Campus** (for Komatke, please call (520) 550-6060 to schedule an appointment.)

TESTING WILL NOW TAKE PLACE AT

HU HU KAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER
9 am - 9 pm	8:00 am - 3:30 pm
7 - DAYS A WEEK	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

Welcome Dr. Ryan Southworth!



Dr Southworth was recently named the Pre-Hospital Medical Director for Gila River Health Care after a nationwide search. The EMS department has been clinically based at Banner Casa Grande Medical Center for the last 25+ years with Dr Southworth as the Medical Director for the last 8 years. “We are excited to start the process of building a state certified EMS Base Station for the Gila River Indian Community that will serve our unique needs and brings all those that provide First Responder, EMT, Paramedic and Dispatch services together under the same base station, treatment protocols and

expectations,” states Chief Rainbolt. The role of the Pre-Hospital Medical Director is to guide the overall clinical performance of the emergency medical services system within a community and provide oversight and training. Department planning, operations, logistics, budgets and staffing remains with the individual department’s leadership structure. Dr Southworth has been engaged in EMS since 1993 as an EMT, Emergency Room Physician and a Lt Colonel in the Air Force Reserve and we are excited to have him.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • January 6, 2021

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, January 6, 2021, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:10 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Carol Schurz

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

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 DISPENSE REPORTS #1, #2 AND TABLE RESOLUTION #1 FOR NON SUBITTAL OF MATERIAL; AND ACCPET REPORTS #3 THROUGH #6 , #8, #9 and #11; ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #7 AND #8 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS

*1. FY 2020 Annual Report (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020) – Huhugam Heritage Center

Presenter: Shirley Jackson

DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*2. Tribal Education Department – FY 2020 Annual Report (October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*3. Tribal Social Services FY 2020 Annual Report (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020)

Presenters: Trina M. Hart, Kelly Vickrey, Faron Humeyumptewa

ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*4. Community Services Department – Ira H. Hayes Memorial Library FY2020 Annual Report (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020)

Presenters: Laurie Thomas, Ramona Tecumseh

ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. Four Rivers Indian Legal Services – Year-End Summary and 4th Quarter Report with Financial Statements

Presenter: Diana Lopez Jones, Jeffrey Thomas

ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. Community Technology Center 4th

Quarter & Annual Report FY 2019 / 2020

Presenter: Connie Jackson

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. The Caring House Survey Compliance Informational Summary

Presenters: Dr. Anthony Santiago, Ron Preston, GRHC Board of Directors

ITEM HEARD

>8. 2020 Regional Needs and Assets Report Draft

Presenter: Joshua Billison

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. 2020 FTF Gila River Indian Community Regional Impact Report

Presenter: Joshua Billison

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

10. COVID – 19 Update

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

ITEM HEARD

{GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 12:00 P.M.}

>11. Office of Emergency Management FY2020 Annual Report (October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020)

Presenter: Bruce Harvey

ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*12. GRIC – Housing Owner's Team (HOT) (Executive Session)

Presenters: Housing Owner's Team

ITEM HEARD

13. FY21 Monthly Financial Statement ending November 30, 2020 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Suzanne Jones

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT THE REPORT

14. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Commission Community Council November 2020 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Gila River Gaming, Melvin S. Sanderson

ITEM HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

15. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report for November 2020 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

ITEM HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (ESC forwards

to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Darren Pedro-Martinez "Certification" (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation to certify Darren Pedro-Martinez for Associate Judge)

Presenter: Darren Pedro-Martinez

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY [ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA]

2. Community Vaccination Plan Update

Presenter: Governor Stephen Lewis; Candalerian Preston

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter of Resignation (G&MSC forwards the resignation letter of District Four Councilwoman Monica Antone to Council with recommendation to accept and to fill the position at the Second Council Meeting in January; NRSC, LSC, and EDSC concur)

Presenter: Councilwoman Monica Antone

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

2. Government & Management Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (G&MSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)

Presenters: Government & Management Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

3. Natural Resources Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (NRSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)

Presenters: Natural Resources Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

4. Legislative Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (LSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)

Presenters: Legislative Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

5. Economic Development Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy One (1) Council Seat (EDSC recommends that the vacancy be filled at the January 20, 2021 regular Council meeting with letters of interest submitted by January 14, 2021)

Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY

6. CRF Update - Verbal Update (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session)

Presenters: Governor Stephen R. Lewis, Treasurer Robert Keller

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
 >7. Sacaton Elementary School Tribal Education Allocation Written Plan 2020-2021 (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Wanda Burton

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>8. Sacaton Middle School Tribal Education Allocation Written Plan 2020-2021 (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Cindy Lewis
APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 9. Extension Request for NABDBI Grant (EDSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: James Meyers, GRTI Board of Directors

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

MINUTES

1. December 16, 2020 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO

APPROVE

2. December 18, 2020 (Special)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ UPDATE ON BLACKWATER STORE LEGISLATION

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:20 P.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Youth Council Hosts Roundtable Discussion with Leadership

Kyle Knox
 Gila River Indian News

On Wed Dec 30, the Akimel O’otham/ Pee-Posh Youth Council hosted their annual Youth Roundtable, virtually. The event brings together GRIC youth for insightful lessons on the Community’s tribal government, history. It also, challenges youth to consider the future of the Community. This year was held virtually over the Zoom platform, where 18 GRIC youth attended, along with Community Council Representatives.

The roundtable event has been going-on for nearly ten years. It tasks GRIC youth ages 13-21 to brainstorm ideas for what they would like to see for the Community. Additionally, youth learn valuable skills such as communication,

teamwork, self-reliance, and public speaking.

Guided facilitation by Ginger Martin allows participants to express themselves in a safe space for sharing ideas and solutions to some of their most pressing issues. The roundtable’s goal is also to task the youth to consider future policy creation around their collective matters.

Evelyn Enos, District 4, attended this year’s roundtable and said, “Key takeaways from this experience I would say were the brainstorming skills and coming up with solutions on the spot. That is definitely something that I found impressive.” Enos and her group found ways to address the needs of the foster youth population.

Marlena Whitehair, District 3, enjoyed the

roundtable even though it was virtual this year. Whitehair said, “Youth today are very aware of the many issues impacting our generation. As a group, we narrowed it down to three important issues: financial literacy, children’s legal issues, and preserving the culture.” She spoke passionately of the children’s legal issues and found the conversations around this area “impressive and productive.”

Another area of concern was youth mental health. Many found it was an essential aspect for youth. They sought more straightforward access to help and increased capacity for group therapy.

Also, the youth emphasized the need for Cultural resources. Many want to see O’otham and Pee-Posh language classes



AOPPYC Youth interact with GRIC leadership during a virtual roundtable discussion on Dec. 30.

in the Community’s school, even making it a requirement. Participants also hoped to have an online cultural resource available for the youth in the future.

At the end of the event, participants shared their ideas with tribal Leaders and discussed their solutions in greater detail.

Tribal leaders in attendance for the roundtable report out included Gov.

Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, former Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, Arzie Hogg, District 1 Representative, Regina Antone-Smith, District 4 Representative, Joey Whitman, District 1 Representative, James De La Rosa, District 5 Representative, and Avery White, District 3 Representative.

Enos felt the leadership attendance was critical for the day and stated, “Something I think is important for tribal leaders to learn is that, as youth, we are constantly thinking about the future, our family’s future, and the entire Community. It’s so important to me that our leaders

understand that we are ready to learn as much as they will teach us, and we want to be ready to lead when the time comes.”

Sharing a similar sentiment, Whitehair said, “I want my leadership to know that the youth have a voice and innovative ideas to address issues that impact our Community. I want my leadership to know that attending the roundtable showed their support for the youth, encouraged us to engage more with our Community. I like knowing that the Governor and Lieutenant Governor actively participated and listened to our concerns; we felt heard.”

COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
 COURT DATE NOTICE
 Petitioner/Plaintiff: Kimberly Kisto vs. Respondant/Defendant: Murvin Yazzie
 CASE Number: FM-2020-0064-DV
 CIVIL SUMMONS
 This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place

designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AND DEFEND, judgement by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.
 Answer/Response Hearing
 Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom I.v
 AKIMEL O’OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147

COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
 Whitman, Braeden
 Permanency Hearing
 Case: J-17-0192
 Court Date: February 1, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. COURTROOM #3, 1ST FLOOR
 FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS
 JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA

MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
 ADDRESS: 10040 E. OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256
 CONTACT: (480)362-6315

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MR. MALCOLM ESCHIEF
 “CHOOSING ACHIEVEMENT OVER AFFIRMATION”

Served years on the Tribal Council, Committees, and various boards

An outstanding contribution in public service to the Gila River Indian Community, an advocator to Community members needing a strong voice otherwise would have been neglected. Malcolm focused on essential needs of the community, such as our economy that boosted programs to the term of self-governance. Assisted in our community’s Water Rights, now a proclamation of an accomplishment.

Known to fight the good fight, occasionally you’ll hear him say “Let’s take it outside” which meant Malcolm wasn’t going to back down in the debate. Bending others to the will of the people, as he took his responsibility to heart. It was told that Mr. Eschief fought tooth and nail in getting bonuses to the tribal employees, as an end of the year incentive.

Now rejoining his colleagues Mary Thomas, Spencer Thomas, Christopher Soke, Rodrick Sun, Lawrence Enos, and Sally Pablo, and many others, now reconvening in spiritual world. The last of the O’Otham speaking leaders, utilizing the language during council meetings as a form of executive session. Their work should never be taken in vain, but be respected, as their accomplishments was the big picture for future generations.

ADVOCACY TO DIALYSIS PATIENTS: Setting guidelines to transportation issues, and other areas of concerns by the patients.

ADVOCACY TO ELDERS: Especially those in need of homes, which was accomplished within the 200 homes, one of them being my aunt Catherine Zepeda. She expresses extreme gratitude of his advocacy of her new home, and her deepest sympathy and condolences to the family.

ADVOCACY TO THE YOUTH: Grasping the opportunity of his personal time to groom youth in developing good moral character. Coaching little league to the grassless baseball fields. Horseback riding was another experience shared by Mr. Eschief, utilizing his own horses and find other sources to accommodate the youth.

COMPASSION BY FAITH: Malcolm acted in God’s eyes, his moral principles, was reflected to all those that came to him for answers, support, and advise. His compassion in the community was recognized in various ways, from being Santa Claus for the children of the community at St. Annes, Went caroling and gave gifts to tribal members in nursing homes in the Phoenix area, way before the Caring House became reality. He took time to visit members in their critical times, personally being there for families in their loss, prayed with them in comfort.

Mr. Malcolm Eschief’s legacy was traditionally oriented, in language and life giving. I firmly believe, the practice Malcom followed, was that of our ancestors, his determination to pass on, and keeping the Pima Himdag alive.

As we say in our language “Thup’em-nee”/ we’ll see you again
 He will be missed, God Bless.

- John A. Antone / Former Councilman

ATTENTION

Children’s Court essential matters;

Due to public health concerns, the Children’s Court requests your future appearance to be by phone.

Please provide the Court with a valid contact number at least one hour before your scheduled hearing at (520) 562-9860.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.



Gila River Telecommunications, Inc.

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THE GRTI MOBILE APP

The GRTI mobile app has been updated with the 2021 phone directory listings. The mobile app has all the same listings as the printed version of the GRTI phone directory.

In the app you can also:

- View and Pay Your Bill
- View the GRTI Calendar of Events
- Enable notifications for District Days and bill alerts
- Contact the Customer Service Team

The GRTI mobile app is available on both



GRTI wants to hear from you!

To help better understand your experience with GRTI as well as the current and future needs of the Community. GRTI is asking customers to take a moment to fill out our online survey.

You will need to use this information to login into the survey.

Survey Address: <https://bit.ly/2DX95rd>

Login: GRT2020

Password: Survey2020

Eligibility

- Must be 18 years or older
- Resides within GRIC
- Does not need to have active GRTI Service

Tell us your Internet needs!



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Oh, Baby You're Gonna Save Some Cash!

Bankruptcy

Divorce

Foreclosure

2021

2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR
NEW YEAR

NO PAYMENTS
until
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New Year, New You
We offer financing to get you in a New Ride in the New Year!

2018

Kia Sedona LX



Low Miles

Only \$289/mo.

2016

Nissan Maxima SR



\$293/mo.

Nissan

Sentras
3 to Choose From



Starting at
\$199/mo.

2020

Chevy Equinox



Awesome Savings
\$305/mo.

2018

Chevy Silverado LT



SAVE
\$1000s

2020

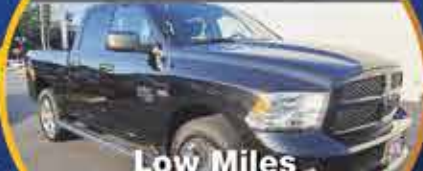
Kia Sorento



5,000 Miles
\$350/mo.

2019

Ram 1500



Low Miles
Only \$385/mo.

2018

Dodge Durango SXT



Amazing
\$405/mo.

2017

Ford Expedition EL 4x4



HUGE Savings!
\$26,999

2017

Chevy Colorado 4x4



\$26,999

2017

Chevy Impala



WOW!
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2017

Lincoln MKZ



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2017

Chevy Traverse



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2017

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2019

Toyota Camry



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2018

Kia Sportage



\$255/mo.



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