



Gila River Indian Community Member Honored with Prestigious Pulitzer Prize for work in Poetry

ASU Associate Professor Takes Home National Honors for Her Collection, "Postcolonial Love Poem"

Communications & Public Affairs Office
Press Release

Esteemed poet Natalie Diaz, born and raised in the Fort Mojave Indian Village and an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community was announced today as the 2021 winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry for her collection, "Postcolonial Love Poem." This honor comes only a few weeks after Diaz, an Associate Professor at Arizona State University, made history by becoming the youngest chancellor ever elected to the prestigious Academy of American Poets.

"I care so much for the book and for the people that the book brought me to, but also for the people I hope the book could carry of my life," said Natalie Diaz in a ASU press release about the award. "And so in a lot of ways I don't think I've ever felt this way about a prize before."

"I want to offer Mr. Diaz congratulations on behalf of the Community and myself

personally," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. "The Pulitzer Prize is one of the highest honors in poetry, and it affirms what an amazing talent Natalie Diaz represents. Her creativity, unique voice and her moving storytelling light a path for Native writers in our Community and around the world." We could not be more proud of Natalie and her work."

Diaz, awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in 2018, is also a Lannan Literary Fellow and a Native Arts Council Foundation Artist Fellow. She has been awarded a Bread Loaf Fellowship, the Holmes National Poetry Prize, a Hodder Fellowship, and a PEN/Civitella Ranieri Foundation Residency, and a U.S. Artists Ford Fellowship.

"There is no limit to what indigenous peoples and our Community members can achieve, and Natalie Diaz is living proof of that," said Gov. Lewis. "Her words, her poems and her accomplishments serve as inspiration to all of us, young and



ASU Associate Professor and Community member Natalie Diaz was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for her collection of poetry. Photo Courtesy of Deanna Dent/ASU

old." ASU President Michael Crow lauded Diaz on her achievements. "There is unbelievable power when intelligence, creativity and insight fuse together," Crow said.

"That's what Natalie Diaz brings to language and poetry, and her voice is incredibly important. This Pulitzer Prize is very well deserved, and the ASU community celebrates this profoundly good news with her

today." More about Diaz's award can be read at: <https://news.asu.edu/20210611-creativity-asu-poet-natalie-diaz-wins-pulitzer-prize-postcolonial-love-poem>

MVU Weekend Stops Help Dozens of GRIC Members Get COVID-19 Vaccines

Gila River Indian News Staff

As the temperatures rise, so does the number of Community members receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. The Mobile Vaccine Unit drew families out to District 1 and 4 to get vaccinated against COVID-19 on June 5 and 6.

The newly acquired MVU fleet has been on a rolling tour of the Community, making regular stops in each of GRIC's seven districts over the past several weeks. In District 1 the MVU administered 12 vaccines. It provided 47 vaccinations to Community members in District 4.

Now that the age limit for the Pfizer vaccine has been lowered to 12 years of age, Community youth can now be administered the vaccine with a parent or guardian's consent.

"You have to be 12 years of age and older to receive the Pfizer vaccine and 18 years and older to get the Moderna vaccine. You can come to any of the MVUs out in the Community and get vaccinated, because it is best protection

for all of us," said Candalerian Preston, Tribal Health Department Director.

Preston, a parent, accompanied her son to the MVU stop in District 4 to get the COVID-19 vaccine. "My 12-year-old son is here today," said Preston. "I am thankful and happy that as young as he is, he has made that choice to protect himself and our family."

A number of Council members attended the weekend MVU events. Lt. Gov Monica Antone thanked Community members who visited the MVUs. "It's really good to see everyone out here to get vaccinated, because it will help us grow strong and help fight this virus," she said.

Lt. Gov. Antone encouraged families to talk with their children and do their own research about the vaccine to get a better understanding of how it can keep them safe. She said lowering the age limit and prioritizing vaccinations for the younger age group of GRIC members adds a level of security against COVID-19, before schools allow students to return to

the classroom. "We still have positive COVID cases in our Community and we cannot let our guard down," Lt. Gov. Antone explained. "So [we] will need to come together as a family to get vaccinated in order to promote 'Community Immunity.'"

District 1 Council Representatives Joey Whitman and Arzie Hogg also came out to support the vaccine drive. "It's going to take us all to fight this thing (and) it takes every opportunity, like being here today, to combat this virus," said Whitman, who emphasized getting vaccinated as a way for the Community to regain a sense of normalcy, and a way for GRIC members to go back to doing the things they enjoyed before the pandemic.

Councilman Hogg called the MVU effort "important because it saves lives." He urged Community members to help prevent another rise in COVID-19 cases. "We are not out of this pandemic yet and one of the key things to do is get vaccinated."



A Community member youth is administered the Pfizer variant of the COVID-19 vaccine during an MVU stop in District 4 on June 6. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

On June 13 the MVU made its latest weekend stop on Sunday, at St. Peter's Mission School in District 5. Staff from Gila River Healthcare (GRHC) gave the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccination to 17 GRIC members, including five individuals under the age of 18. A recent change to eligibility requirement has opened to the

vaccine program to Community members as young as age 12. Clorinda Humeyumptewa, from Ak-Chin Indian Community, brought her 13-year-old son to St. Peter's for a vaccination. Humeyumptewa said she and her son are looking forward to in-person schooling in

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See Governor's Comprehensive Executive Order No. 11 Regarding Coronavirus Pandemic page 8 to 11

Recognizing Student Graduates on Pages 5-10

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021



COVID+FLU Resource Center

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

Healthy Kids & Families

Headstart, School, Summer Camp & Sports Physicals, and Immunization

By Appointment Today - August 31, 2021

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital

Monday - Friday
8 am - 4 pm

Komatke Health Center

Monday-Thursday
8 am - 4 pm

Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center

Monday-Thursday
8 am - 4 pm

To schedule an appointment, please call GRHC Pediatric Department: 520-562-1200 EXT. 7337

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

CLOSED
Sunday, July 4th
Monday, July 5th

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital Pharmacy Hours

Saturday, July 3rd 8:30am - Midnight

Sunday, July 4th CLOSED

Monday, July 5th 10:00 am - 8:00pm
(Curbside will be open 10am - 7pm)

For any information on services open during the holiday, please call GRHC's main line (520) 562-3321. Normal business hours will resume Tuesday, July 6, 2021. If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

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



Alluvion Communications

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

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

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

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



www.alluvion.net



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Alluvion Provides Training to GRIC Urban Members on Tablet Use



GRIC Urban Members Association Chairman, Anthony Newkirk, takes a photo with course attendees.



Attendees pose for a photo after training session.

Members of the GRIC Urban Members Association were issued tablets to be used to host virtual meetings. Alluvion provided a training and support session with the group to help them get familiar their new devices! We are proud to assist our community with it's technical support & training needs.

Topics in the session included:

- 1) How to Create a Gmail Account
- 2) How to Create a WebEx Account
- 3) Joining Scheduled WebEx Meetings
- 4) Joining a Meeting via Email Link

Thank you to the GRIC Urban Members Association and Warriors Code for inviting us to share our knowledge with your group.



Employment Opportunity

Begin an exciting career with Alluvion Communications by joining our team as an Associate Network Analyst! This entry level position will prepare you for a career in Network Operations through our on the job training program.

For more information or to submit an application, visit www.alluvion.net/careers.



Governor

Stephen Roe Lewis

Lt. Governor

Monica AntoneCommunity Council
Representatives**District 1**Arzie Hogg
Joey Whitman**District 2**

Carol Schurz

District 3Avery White
Rodney Jackson**District 4**Jennifer Allison
Regina Antone-Smith
Delmar Jones
Christopher Mendoza**District 5**Marlin Dixon
Brian E. Davis, Sr.
James De La Rosa
Wahlean J. Riggs**District 6**Anthony Villareal, Sr.
Terrance B. Evans
Charles Goldtooth**District 7**

Devin Redbird

Robert Keller, Tribal Treasurer
Shannon White,
Community Council Secretary

Gila River Indian News

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All letters or columns should be signed

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the name of the writer will be printed in

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Community



Native American Journalists Association

Community Council Members Sworn Into Office After May 4th Election



From left to right: District 1 Council Representative Arzie Hogg, District 4 Council Representative Christopher Mendoza, newly elected District 5 Council Representative Wahlean Riggs and District 6 Council Representative Anthony Villareal were sworn-in on June 2. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

Newly elected and re-elected Council Representatives from the May 4 Gila River Indian Community Council Election took their oath of office on June 2, 2021. The Council Representatives were accompanied by family members as they were sworn in by Judge Anthony Hill at the Governance Center in Sacaton during a virtual monthly Community Council meeting.

Arzie Hogg of District 1 has been re-elected to serve on Community Council. The Councilman currently sits on the Government and Management, Health and Social, Legislative and Education standing committees and serves on eight additional GRIC boards and committees.

"My objectives have always

been advocating and securing for the needs of our members of the village and the Community as a whole," Councilman Hogg wrote in the Community Council Election Guide to describe his experience and goals as a member of Council. He added, "I will continue to advocate for the best interest of the members of our village and the Gila River Indian Community to the best of my abilities."

Newly elected Council Representative Wahlean Riggs of District 5, took the oath of office accompanied by her mother, Brenda Robertson, who herself etched out a career in politics, serving on Community Council for over 20 years.

Riggs, a mother of three and a grandmother of one, said in the Community Election Guide

that she will "be the people's communication channel to bring their concerns and voice to the table of the Community and to inform my District of the progress or roadblocks to their vision. I am also able to understand the Akimel O'odham Neok language so that every voice is heard. This open and fluid communication is about working with everyone because we all have a stake and responsibility in our Community."

Anthony Villareal, Sr., from District 6, also was re-elected to serve another term. In the Community Election Guide, Villareal described his "vision for a better tomorrow for our community." He went to say, "This vision comes from talking with our elders, those who have wisdom and can guide us and advise us as we move forward

to making our district a better community. The vision comes from talking with fellow members of our community and talking with our youth. Finally, the vision comes from having a genuine care and concern for every tribal member."

Christopher Mendoza, who previously served on Community Council, will return as a representative for District 4.

"I have come to [this] decision to help move our Community forward with innovative ideas and principles learned through my experience in tribal government," said Mendoza in a letter announcing his candidacy and published in the Community Election Guide. "I welcome the opportunity to continue building a greater tomorrow for the Gila River Indian Community."

AOPPYC Hosts Vaccine Town Hall to Encourage Youth to Vaccinate Against COVID-19

Kyle Knox

Gila River Indian News

Families, parents, and youth gathered for the Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council's Virtual Community Town Hall Tuesday, June 8. The event focused on youth vaccinations against COVID-19. It featured Community leaders and Gila River Health Care (GHRC) professionals addressing concerns about the Pfizer vaccine, discussing the vaccine's effectiveness, and answering questions from the audience.

AOPPYC President Susanna Osife hosted the event and shared her own experience about having received the vaccine. With Community members age 12 and older now eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine, the event provided vaccine education and worked to

help alleviate hesitations about the vaccine.

"Everyone should continue to educate yourselves and ask questions about the vaccine for the sake of your health, because that is what is important to all of us," said Osife. "For the youth that have not been vaccinated, remember this is for your health. You have our entire Community that's here to support you, so ask all the questions you need to make the best decision for your health and protection against COVID-19."

Governor Stephen Roe Lewis offered opening remarks for the event, aiming his message at the young people in attendance. "You did a great job getting through this past school year, and we have the summer to look forward," said Gov. Lewis. "Getting the vaccine is one of those important things

you can do to protect yourself, to protect your family and to protect our community – so that we can get to the point of community immunity."

Gov. Lewis shared that as of June 8, an estimated 4.4% of younger Community members had received the vaccination. He added that he hoped the Town Hall would reduce family concerns and increase vaccinations among GRIC youth.

"You, the young people, are the shining generation that will get us through this pandemic, and you are our future," said Gov. Lewis.

Most of the audience questions asked at the Town Hall concerned potential allergic reactions, anxiety about the shot and fear of needles, side effects, and families with mixed views on getting the vaccine. In response,

GRHC pediatrician Dr. Navaz Dolasa shared the vaccination process and the necessary aftercare that follows youth vaccinations. Dr. Dolasa assured the audience that side effects that might occur would likely be minimal, depending on the individual. Dr. Dolasa emphasized the importance of consistent follow-up via phone calls between families and GRHC.

Dr. Anthony Santiago, the Chief Medical Officer for GRHC, dispelled the notion that the vaccine itself was "rushed" or developed and administered in less than a year. Dr. Santiago pointed out the COVID-19 vaccination history, citing its almost 20-year development that began from the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak in 2003.

Department of Public Works Seeks Qualified Job Candidates in the Community

Christopher Lomahquahu

Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community Department of Public Works is looking for qualified individuals to fill a number of positions throughout the organization. DPW is one of the Community's largest departments, overseeing utility services from water resources to garbage collection.

"Positions like Utility Service Technician I, those positions are considered our entry positions within the water and waste water branch," said Mark Horn, DPW

Director. He described the position as a vital one within DPW. "They (help) maintain water systems, pipelines, pump stations, reservoirs and including the lagoon facilities," said Horn.

Community members interested in the Utility Service Technician position, which pays a minimum of \$16.45 per hour, are required to have some knowledge about construction practices or water, sewer and utility experience.

"The general requirements for those positions is a high school diploma or GED," said Horn. "We prefer one year experience in general utilities construction

or water and waste water maintenance." Horn added that if a newly hired Utility Services Technician does not possess a Commercial Driver's License (CDL), DPW will provide training to assist them in obtaining that license within six months of their start date.

The Civil Engineer role, which is not entry level, requires more education and training to meet DPW's baseline qualifications. The starting salary offered is \$62,549 annually.

"It requires a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering or closely related field and three years

of experience in either hydrology, irrigation or water resources and construction management type field," said Horn. He added that candidates with a Master's degree in civil engineering will be required to have at least 18 months' experience.

Horn recommends that all applicants for DPW positions familiarize themselves with the job requirements and with the Community. Applicants can find information about jobs and submit applications at <https://selfservice.gric.nsn.us/MSS/employmentopportunities/default.aspx>.

Chikpan 'ap Haichu Ñeo'ok

If you wanted to ask someone where they work in O'otham, you can say "Ba:p hasko chikpan?" (Where do you work?). Answering this question uses the action word "chikpan" (to work) along with the location. "Mañ chikpan amai Kokotham ha ki: am." (I work over there at the hospital.) If you happen to be at the place where you work, you can switch out the locational adverb "amai" (over there) to "i:ya" (right here). "Mañ chikpan i:ya Mashchamakud am." (I work here at the School.)

Presently, the majority of employees are back in their offices and places of business throughout our Community. Many employees will pick up where they left off several months ago. New work habits practiced slightly different from pre-pandemic times. One area not dramatically affected is our "Chikpan 'ap haichu ñeo'ok." (Work/office talk). Now that we have learned how to ask where some O'otham work, we will now focus on work/office talk.

We will often hear O'otham speak phrases that have not been heard for some time. One such phrase is "Chum hekid 'o:la 'ed 'añ jijiva chikpan 'ap!" (I always arrive on time to work!). As we all know, with the heavy volume of traffic at O'otham rush hour, that is not always the case. Sometimes, despite our best effort to take the back-road short cuts, we still wind up "Pi oi." (Late arrival).

Once we are in our office, another phrase we will instruct our clients is "Ñeokakud thath math hekith 'o ñei: (Call and make an appointment). Some offices are not fully,

operational yet, and others allow limited visitation. As the workday wears on, we all take a short respite from our busy schedules at mid-morning. We will often inform our office mates "Thon he'uva:gig tho!" (I'm going on break!). Some workers like to take a short walk, while others have a little snack at the breakroom.

When noontime rolls around we will hear O'otham exclaim "Thamiju ath, thon gegos tho!" (Its high noon, I'm going to lunch!). As is often the case, one of our co-workers will reply with "Pegi, tho hihi, hivo anth s-biyu:gim!" (Well let's go, I'm hungry!). Some O'otham tote their lunches from home and enjoy spending some time outdoors. Other O'otham like to get away from the workplace for a short while and visit their favorite establishments.

Another useful phrase is "Haichu a:m 'o a'aga!" (I'm going to tell you something!), often used when you want to update your co-workers on events and other news. When your Boss asks you for that certain file you worked on before the emergency, you can respond with "Pi chektho hebai thoa'in!" (I don't remember where I put it!). Of course, the best phrase at the end of the workday is "Ai sha huthik!" (It's time to quit work!).

We encourage you to speak O'otham in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or Speaker on how to say the phrases. Some phrases may be slightly different between the villages. The word match will test your memory of chikpan 'ap haichu ñeo'ok.

A special Thank You



Chikpan 'ap Haichu Ñeo'ok – Match the O'otham Phrase with its Picture!

Mañ chikpan amai Kokotham ha ki: am.

Thon he'uva:gig tho!

Chum hekid 'o:la 'ed 'añ jijiva chikpan 'ap

Ñeokakud thath math hekith 'o ñei:

Ai sha huthik!

Thamiju ath, thon gegos tho!



Gila River Indian Community

is now Enrolling for School Year 2021-2022

Head Start and Early Head Start is a comprehensive program currently providing virtual services through distance learning in the Community for ages 0-5

What we offer:

Children's Services	Family Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Quality Education ◆ Health Screenings ◆ Dental Screenings ◆ Nutritious Food ◆ Culture Activities ◆ Independence ◆ Engaging Activities ◆ Structured Schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Parent Activities ◆ Parent Education ◆ Community Resources ◆ Fatherhood Activities ◆ Enrollment intake conducted via phone, zoom video or in person.

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

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

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021

Preschool to Kindergarten/Kindergarten to First Grade



Anevay A. Yucupisio
Blackwater Community School



Noah Miranda



Aiyanna Parra
District 6 Head Start



Freddie Rodriguez
Graduating from Preschool



Abigail Relle Norris
Casa Blanca Community School FACE program



Mateo Perez
Sacaton Head Start
Continue to make your family proud. We love you so much!



Angelica Estralla
Sacaton Elementary School
Continuing school: SES kindergarten class
Pre-K nailed it, Kindergarten here I come! First milestone of your education complete. Way to go keep reaching for the stars.



Jairus Duran
Blackwater Community School
Yay! Jairus, it is a blessing to watch you become such a smart, funny, incredible kid with quite a personality. Your family loves you and we are super proud of you!



Anthony Olivia III
Early Education Child Care
Continuing school: Blackwater Community School
Congratulations Anthony!! You are on your way to the BIG school now!! We love you, Mom, Nanna, B & Grandpa.



Ezra Littleky Reyna
Blackwater Community School
Continuing school: BCS
We are so proud of you Ezra. You make us smile every day and always amaze us with your intelligence. It is the greatest thing to watch you grow and be your parents. We love you and congratulations on promoting to kindergarten. Love, mom and dad.



Aiden Rivers
District 6 Head Start
You did it babe, I knew you would! We love you and are so happy for you!



Valkyrie Champagne
Sunrise Preschool
St. Peter Indian Mission
We so proud of our Valkyrie!! You did it! On to the next challenge, Kindergarten.



Devon Pedroza
Sacaton Head Start
"I'm going to go to kindergarten!" – Devon Pedroza



Bailey White
Carebear Preschool
Basic Primary
We are so proud of you and love you very much! We will always be there for you... keep reaching for the stars. Love your family.



Imani Opinya
Casa Blanca Community School



La'Nyiah Johns
District 6 Head Start
Continuing school: Gila Crossing Community School
We are so proud of you Nyiah!



Johanna Wilson
Gila Crossing Community School – FACE Program
Happy pre-school promotion, My Girl – the Family.



Noraa Marquez
You are a blessing. There's no end to the way you amaze us, from your willingness to help to the vocabulary in your unusual stories. We know that you are going to love kindergarten. A new school with many books to read and lots of new friends to make. Kindergarten is just the start to your academic achievements. We are very excited to see what the near future brings. Love, Mom & Dad.



Ryder Miguel
Vah-Ki Head Start



Cruz Rodriguez Fulwilder
Casa Blanca Community School



Nahila James
District 6 Head Start
Continuing school: Gila Crossing Community School
Congratulations Baby Girl on promoting to kindergarten. You are Big Girl now! Mommy Loves You. – Marlena James



Charlotte Marilyn Kisto
Early Education Child Care Center
Continuing school: Blackwater Community School
Charlotte, I hope you accomplish everything you want as you grow in your education. Dream big, & go beyond the stars. you are so full of possibilities in where life will take you. We love you, and we are so proud of you!!!



Sunshine Perez
Casa Blanca Community School



Erza X. Cardenas
Imagine East Mesa
You are just getting started! You are smart and with a lot of wit. Your energy is like no other. We love you, mom & dad!

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2021

Kindergarten to 1st Grade



Noah Garcia
Casa Blanca Community School



Victors Stevens
Casa Blanca Community School



Aubriella Bojorquez
Casa Blanca Community School



Annalia Santos
Vector Prep & Arts Academy
Parents Carlos Santos Jr. & Beverly Ray would like to congratulate you!



Imogen Mineard
Sacaton Elementary School
Continuing school: SES
Yay congrats!! Great job Immy, we are so proud of you and love you very much! – Mom & Dad.



Isadora Thomas
Casa Blanca Community School



Mahina Hutchingson
Casa Blanca Community School



Sariah Morris
Casa Blanca Community School



Mazhen Fox
Casa Blanca Community School



Tony Lujan
Casa Blanca Community School



Tom Araya Harvier
Casa Blanca Community School



Nickoles Zarco Belgrade
Casa Blanca Community School



Trayden James
Casa Blanca Community School



Ezio Juan
Gila Crossing Community School
Look out first grade, here comes Ezio! – from the family of Ezio.



Seaven Ortega
Casa Blanca Community School



Benjamin Gonzales
Casa Blanca Community School



Jayson Riquelmy
Alhambra Traditional School
Congratulations! Keep up the good work son! – Mom & Family.



Rosabella Rodriguez
Casa Blanca Community School

Jr. High School to H.S.



Straight Arrow Saraficio-Williams

Villago Middle School
Continuing school: Casa Grande Union High School
Arrow has come a long way from where he was a year ago. He is excited to be going to CGUHS. Myself and his mother appreciate everyone from family to the school that helped him along his journey. His journey has had its ups and downs, but he did not let the bumps in the road detour his path in life. He is lovable, funny, honest, helpful and a people person and athletic when he wants to be.



Bryan L. Cardenas

Imagine Prep Superstition
We are so proud of you! Continue being yourself and stay kind always. We love you, mom and dad.



Azumi Butterfly Murphy

Greenfield Junior High School
Continuing school: Gilbert High School

Way to go Azumi! You are no officially a Gilbert Tiger! We are very proud of all your hard work throughout this past year. We know you will continue to do your very best. We love you! Dad, mom, brother, sister's, grandpa, auntie and uncle.



Priscilla Audrey Murphy

Greenfield Junior High School
Congratulations Priscilla! You are now officially a Gilbert Tiger! You have shown great skill and determination in all your hard work, which has proven so. Keep moving forward and continue to do your very best. We love you!
Dad, mom, brother, sister's, grandpa, auntie and uncle.



Juanessa Morales
Casa Blanca Community School



Rosa Rossel
Casa Blanca Community School



Nevaeh Brooks
Casa Blanca Community School

Jr. High School to H.S. Continued



Coltín Co'Nei'Sen'Ney
Imagine Prep
Continuing school: Imagine Prep
We are proud of you and look forward to your next graduation in four years! Love your family



Brianna Miles
Payne Junior High School
Continuing school: Basha High School
We're super proud of you Brianna, continue to shine bright! We love you! - Family



Elias Katta
AZ Compass Prep



Charles L. Millard III
Skyline Gila River
Continuing school: Skyline Gila River



Kierah L. Pablo
Castle Dome Middle School
Congratulations on completing your Junior high years. We are proud of you, continue to work hard and always strive for the best. Also, continue to be the best basketball player that you can be. We love you! Love, Brother Sean, Sister Layla, Mom and Dad.



Anthony L. Thomas Jr.
Sacaton Middle School
Continuing school: Hamilton High School



Amy James
Cholla Middle School
Congratulations! We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished in Middle School. Goodbye 8th grade and hello to high school! Love, mom and family.



Esperanza Garcia
Maricopa Village Christian School



Tavaris Wright
Sacaton Middle School
Congratulations Son, we are all so very proud of you! Despite lifes obstacles you continue to make the entire family proud. You do your best and thats all that matters! We love you!
Love Mom&Dad Dosela and the entire family.



Amaira Miguel
Coolidge Junior High School



Joriah Johns
Sacaton Middle School
Continuing school: Skyline
We are super proud of you JoJo! - Family



Anisa Jackson
Jane D. Hull Elementary
Continuing School: Casteel High School



Sienna Burciaga
Sacaton Middle School

A complete list of high school and higher education graduates can be found on pages 12 to 14.

GRIC CHS Student Signs with Local School to Play Softball at Collegiate Level

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Community resident Megan Fahnoz, a recent graduate from Coolidge High School, on June 3 signed a letter of intent to play softball at Gateway Community College. A softball player for most of her life, Megan will be joined at GCC by her "Lady Bears" teammate Kinsey Garcia.

Megan began playing tee-ball for the team "Outkast," moved on to club softball and played with teams from Chandler and Casa Grande. She was a varsity standout at Coolidge High, where she played for Coach Dan Aleman, who joined Megan, Garcia and their families for the letter signing.

"It's very exciting, we always knew she had talent," said Donald Fahholz, Megan's father.



Megan Fahnoz (center) is joined at her college signing by her parents, Donald Fahnoz (left) and mother Denise Enos (right). Emma Hughes/GRIN

He described Megan as largely a "self-taught" softball player. "She never really had full-on coaching," he explained. "She just learned by doing it and she got to where she's at right now."

Megan credited her father for getting her into the sport and for helping

her excel on the field and in the classroom. She thanked him "for always pushing me to do better and to continue playing."

The newest member of the GCC softball squad says she has played year-round, practicing as often as she can at home - even by herself. She enjoys the

travel involved in softball and the many people she's met. Those positives kept her going, Megan said, even when she wanted to leave the game behind.

"There's times where I wanted to quit, so many times, but I just missed the sport so much," said Megan. Softball "helps me get away



Fahnoz (left) will also play at GCC with teammate Kinsey Garcia (right). Emma Hughes/GRIN

from so many things. It helps me cope with things that I went through."

Coach Aleman was eager to recruit Fahnoz after seeing her talent on display playing club ball. In high school Fahnoz was a utility player and played catcher. During her senior year amidst the pandemic,

Fahnoz also played the outfield.

"She's a smart kid. Very athletic, very personable and a respectable kid," said Coach Aleman, "She's the kind of kid you want on your team."



COMPREHENSIVE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11 REGARDING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, from March 13, 2020 through October 2, 2020, I issued eight separate Executive Orders addressing various aspects of the coronavirus pandemic, ranging from a declaration of a public emergency to a requirement that all persons wear a mask while on the Gila River Indian Community Reservation; and

WHEREAS, I amended these separate Executive Orders on numerous occasions to extend and clarify them as necessary; and

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2020, I issued a new comprehensive Executive Order No. 9 that combined these prior Executive Orders into one single order, setting forth the numerous elements of our governmental response to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, I amended Executive Order No. 9 on two occasions to both address necessary clarifications, and also to extend its effect until April 12, 2021, in order to provide necessary time to consider important possible modifications to the pandemic restrictions contained therein; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2021, I issued Comprehensive Executive Order No. 10, which made various changes including approval of the Tribal Government Return to Work Plan and easing certain restrictions for fully vaccinated individuals; and

WHEREAS, I amended Executive Order No. 10 on two occasions to both address necessary clarifications, and also to extend its effect until June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 infection rates have subsided substantially, including within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation, and other jurisdictions, including the federal government, have begun relaxing public health restrictions and safety measures in response to this positive development; and

WHEREAS, I have had the opportunity to consult with the Community Council, the Tribal Health Department, the Tribal Education Department, the Unified Command of the Community's COVID-19 Task Force, and many other interested parties and entities on the Community's approach as we enter a new, more hopeful phase of our pandemic response; and

WHEREAS, as part of our pandemic response, the Community has emphasized the importance of COVID-19 vaccines and made them available to all members of the Community over the age of twelve, all employees of the Community and its enterprises and all residents of their households, all residents of any household in which a Community member resides, and all teachers who teach at a school located within the Reservation; and,

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Community under this Executive Order to encourage all those eligible to receive a vaccine take their vaccine at the earliest opportunity because future relaxation of pandemic restrictions will rely upon a high level of vaccine protection for the Community and its members; and

WHEREAS, the Community Vaccination Rate, as of the date of this Executive Order No. 11 is 39%; and

WHEREAS, due to the rise of new variants of the coronavirus, despite the improvement in pandemic conditions, the Community must continue to be diligent in its efforts to address the coronavirus pandemic and take aggressive measures to continue to protect our Members and the public at large from this disease and the dangerous variants of it that are now afflicting our State and our Community; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Community's continued diligence, while this Executive Order relaxes certain of the previously imposed public health restrictions, I am directing our Tribal Health Department to closely monitor infection rates amongst our members and to provide recommendations to Executive should conditions warrant re-imposition of any or all of the public health restrictions that are being relaxed pursuant to this Executive Order.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Stephen Roe Lewis, Governor of the Gila River Indian Community, through the authority granted to me in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Gila River Indian Community and Title 1 of the Gila River Indian Community Code, hereby order as follows:

First, I hereby rescind Executive Orders 1 through 10, and all amendments to such orders, effective immediately, and replace those orders with this new Executive Order No. 11, which includes all requirements and measures that are to remain in effect from this date until the date ascribed herein for expiration, or until this Executive Order is otherwise amended or rescinded by a subsequent amendment or Executive Order.

Second, for purposes of this Executive Order No. 11, the following terms shall have the definitions set forth below:

- a. "Community COVID-19 State of Emergency" means the public health State of Emergency in the Gila River Indian Community regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic declared in the Third Clause of this Executive Order No. 11.
- b. "Community Public Safety Departments" means the Gila River Police Department, the Gila River Fire Department, the Department of Rehabilitation & Supervision, the Tribal Health Department, and the Office of Emergency Management.
- c. "Community Vaccination Rate" means the percentage of Community members who are fully vaccinated who are (i) eligible to receive a vaccination and (ii) residing within the exterior boundaries of the Community's Reservation.
- d. "COVID-19 Pandemic" means the ongoing pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).
- e. "First Responders" means any individual directed to respond to any call for health care, emergency or police call, or essential services, including, without limitation the following:
 - Employees of the Gila River Police Department
 - Employees of the Gila River Fire Department
 - Employees of Gila River EMS
 - Employees of Gila River Health Care Corporation
 - Utility workers who are conducting work within the Reservation, including employees of Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority and Gila River Telecommunications Inc.
 - Employees of the Tribal Health Department
 - Employees of Department of Community Housing who work in the field and interact with the public
 - Employees of the Community Services Department who work in the field and interact with the public
 - The Community Manager and all Department Directors
- f. "PHI" means protected health information.
- g. "Reservation" means the Gila River Indian Community Reservation.

Third, I hereby declare that there is a continued public health State of Emergency in the Gila River Indian Community regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, which shall continue until further notice.

Fourth, all employee travel that normally requires authorization under the Community's Travel Policy, adopted by Resolution GR-125-12, as amended, shall be subject to a separate directive issued by the Executive Office. Employees who have not been fully vaccinated in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines may be prohibited from or limited in business travel. Departments and programs are directed to continue seeking alternatives to travel, including teleconferences, online videoconferencing, livestream, or other alternatives for attending meetings, conferences or trainings. The Executive Office shall continue to consider all requests for necessary travel on a case-by-case basis.

Fifth, with the exception of meetings of elected and appointed officials, until the date on which the Community Vaccination Rate reaches 45.01%, all gatherings on the Community's Reservation of more than forty (40) persons are prohibited, unless specifically approved in writing in advance by the Executive Office. The Executive Office shall approve only those gatherings of more than forty (40) persons that are conducted in accordance with public health measures that are approved in writing by the Tribal Health Department.

(1) Community commercial enterprises. This prohibition does not apply to Community commercial entities operating on the Community Reservation, provided those commercial enterprises are (i) undertaking efforts to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among employees and customers, and (ii) making available appropriate personal protective equipment, including face masks, for employees and customers.

(2) Funerals. This prohibition of gatherings of more than forty (40) persons does not apply to funeral preparations, services, wakes and cremations, provided that individuals responsible for a particular funeral, service, wake or cremation, or preparations for such events, agree to COVID-19 protection protocols set forth in the Community's Funeral Guidance, which shall be subject to oversight by each District.

Sixth, price gouging is unlawful on the Gila River Indian Reservation. GRIC Code Section 13.209 provides that "unconscionable and other unfair business practices" are grounds for the revocation of a business license. Individuals or businesses that engage in price gouging in the Community are subject to a revocation of their business licenses and non-members will be subject to exclusion from the Community under GRIC Code Section 8.101(C), which prohibits unfair business practices. I hereby direct law enforcement to fully and vigorously enforce these laws on the Gila River Indian Reservation to ensure that no business takes undue advantage of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Seventh, I hereby declare a continued moratorium on any new evictions being initiated by the Department of Community Housing (DCH) or the Department of Housing Development (DHD) until the expiration of the Community COVID-19 State of Emergency. This moratorium shall not apply to evictions based on criminal activity.

Eighth, I hereby designate and authorize the following departments, programs and entities to situationally receive PHI until the expiration of the Community COVID-19 State of Emergency:

- a. All First Responders;
- b. All Community Public Safety Departments;
- c. The Gila River Health Care Corporation;
- d. The GRICUA Administrator, but solely for utility workers who are conducting work within the Reservation;
- e. The GRTI Administrator, but solely for utility workers who are conducting work within the Reservation;
- f. The Community Services Department Director, Deputy Director, District Coordinators, and Assistant District Coordinators;
- g. The Department of Community Housing Director and Deputy Director;
- h. All field employees of CSD and DCH who are required to interact with the public;
- i. The Tribal Social Services Child & Family Welfare Administrator and Crime Victim Services Coordinator;
- j. The Tribal Health Department; and
- k. All Community department directors.

Ninth, departments, programs and entities identified in the Eighth Clause of this Executive Order No. 11 shall follow the guidelines contained in "COVID-19 and HIPAA: Disclosures to Law Enforcement, Paramedics and Other First Responders and Public Health Authorities," published by the United States Department of Health and Human Service, Office of Civil Rights.

Tenth, All Community departments and employees will continue to comply with the comprehensive "Tribal Government Return to Work Plan," and their department or program plans. All Community government services shall re-commence no later than June 30, 2021.

Eleventh, under the Communicable Disease Ordinance, GRIC Code Title 17, any individuals who (i) have tested positive for COVID-19, have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or have been advised to self-quarantine by a health care professional or the Tribal Health Department, and (ii) do not submit to a voluntary quarantine may be subject to a written quarantine directive by the Tribal Health Department and court-ordered quarantine by the Community Court, enforceable by the Gila River Police Department.

All Community Members and residents of the Reservation are strongly encouraged to follow the directions of their health care providers and the Tribal Health Department with respect to measures addressing the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Twelfth, the Gila River Police Department is authorized and directed to enforce the Eleventh Clause of this Executive Order No. 11 under the applicable provisions of the Gila River Indian Community Code.

Thirteenth, until further notice, all employees of the Community government who have not been fully vaccinated shall wear appropriate protective face masks at all times while at such employees' workplace when within 6 feet of other employees. Employees of the Community government are not required to wear face masks when alone inside their individual offices or work stations. All visitors to Community government buildings are required to wear appropriate protective face masks at all times during their visit to the Community government building. All First Responders shall wear an appropriate protective face mask at all times when visiting a residence or other building located within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation. Reservation-based businesses are strongly encouraged to adopt face-mask requirements for their employees and visitors similar to those set forth above for Community government employees and visitors. Further, all persons, especially those who are not fully vaccinated, who are over two (2) years of age are strongly encouraged to wear a protective face mask while in any building located within the Reservation. All Reservation-based employers and businesses shall make available personal protective equipment, including face masks, for all employees and visitors to their facilities on Reservation.

Fourteenth, I hereby direct that (i) all employees of the Community who have not been fully vaccinated, and (ii) any employees, including fully vaccinated employees, who have displayed symptoms of the COVID-19 virus, must be tested for COVID-19 as directed until further notice. Any Community government employee who displays symptoms of the COVID-19 virus must be tested immediately by their health care provider. We strongly recommend that any employee of any enterprise or business located on Reservation who displays symptoms of the COVID-19 virus be tested immediately by their health care provider. In addition, employees of the Community government may be required to undergo serology testing for COVID-19 antibodies or to be re-tested as appropriate. Employees of the Community government who refuse testing or fail to show up for testing as directed will be subject to disciplinary action. The results of any testing shall be kept confidential in accordance with applicable law and positive test results shall be reported as required by Community or federal law.

Fifteenth, I hereby direct that the Community shall also make COVID-19 testing available to the following groups of individuals on a regular basis or as directed until further notice,

- Fully vaccinated employees of the Community government
- Community Council and elected and appointed officials of the Community
- Employees and students of all schools located on the Reservation
- All Community Members, including Urban Members residing in the surrounding communities
- Employees of all wholly-owned Community entities or operated entities, with the consent of those entities
- Employees of Boys & Girls Clubs on Reservation
- Such other groups of individuals as may be designated by the Executive Office in writing

Sixteenth, I hereby direct that all schools located on the Gila River Indian Reservation shall begin preparations for the resumption of in-person student learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Prior to resuming in-person learning, any school located on the Reservation must prepare and provide a complete copy of its reopening plan to the Tribal Education Department, Tribal Health Department and Education Standing Committee for review and approval. Any reopening plan shall contain appropriate COVID-19 prevention measures to protect students, school staff and visitors. COVID-19 prevention strategies should follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines entitled, "Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention."

Seventeenth, all individuals who have not been fully vaccinated in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention residing within the Reservation are strongly encouraged to stay at home as much as possible. I emphasize that, for those not fully vaccinated, the safest place continues to be at home and that staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from getting sick.

Eighteenth, I urge all Community members, employees, and all others eligible to receive a vaccine from the Community to take the COVID-19 vaccine at the earliest opportunity possible in order to help ensure the health and safety of our entire Community.

DONE THIS 16th DAY OF JUNE, 2021.



BY GOVERNOR STEPHEN ROE LEWIS

CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF

2021



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Joi Johnson	Academies at South Mountain	Damien Cawker	Cesar Chavez High School
Dakota Grant-hannon	Alhambra High School	Gabriella Acunia	Cesar Chavez High School
Steven Echeverria	Apollo High School	Hunter Antone	Cesar Chavez High School
JaQuar Alewine	Arcadia High School	Devin Harrison	Cedar Grove High School
Rojelio Mendoza	Arizona Agribusiness & Equine Center	Trinity Valenzuela	Central High School
Dreas Harper	ASU Preparatory Academy- Polytechnic High School	Bobby Lopez	Chandler High School
Armando Felix	AZ Compass Prep School	Iricelda Ramos	Chandler High School
Felipe Montes	AZ Compass Prep School	Kaylah Williamson	Chandler High School
Francisco	Antone AZ Compass Prep School	Nicholas Flores	Chandler High School
Reyna Navarette	AZ Compass Prep School	Ruben Kyyitan	Chandler High School
Victor Saucedo	AZ Compass Prep School	Tyler Mendoza	Chandler High School
Elena Lopez	Basha High School	Alexandria Miguel	Chandler Online Academy
Leoana Harrison	Basha High School	Alexandria Miguel	Chandler Online Academy
Ada Stevens	Bettyfair Fax High School	Alexis Zuniga	Chandler Online Academy
Erika Joaquin	Bettyfair Fax High School	Alonna-Marie Porter	Chandler Online Academy
Kaya Cordova	Bettyfair Fax High School	Jose Angel Munoz	Chandler Online Academy
Layla Breckenridge-Marin	Bettyfair Fax High School	Jose Angel Munoz	Chandler Online Academy
Sophia Moreno	Bettyfair Fax High School	Kayla Gage	Chandler Online Academy
Trinity Lewis	Bettyfair Fax High School	Marissa Manuel	Chandler Online Academy
Morgan Martin	Camille Casteel High School	Marissa Manuel	Chandler Online Academy
Alicia T. Nuvamsa	Casa Grande Union High School	Ayana Hernandez	Chemawa Indian School
Aneesa Hernandez	Casa Grande Union High School	Keonue Miles	Chemawa Indian School
Brandon Nuvamsa	Casa Grande Union High School	Leon Brown	Chemawa Indian School
Charles Garcia	Casa Grande Union High School	Nikki Soriano	Chemawa Indian School
Daesha Pasqual	Casa Grande Union High School	Sabrina Salcido	Chemawa Indian School
Emilio Garcia	Casa Grande Union High School	Tristan Santos	Chemawa Indian School
Jalen Apkaw	Casa Grande Union High School	Bianca Castro	Chief Hill Learning Academy
Jaylin Manuel	Casa Grande Union High School	Avelia Acuna	Coolidge Alternative Program
Jose Montijo	Casa Grande Union High School	Chloe Blackwater	Coolidge Alternative Program
Joseph Bojorquez	Casa Grande Union High School	Cienna Pino	Coolidge Alternative Program
Junior Pancott	Casa Grande Union High School	Megan Fahnholz	Coolidge Alternative Program
Justin Romo	Casa Grande Union High School	Tobias Yucupisio	Coolidge Alternative Program
Kayla Ramos Garvin	Casa Grande Union High School	Alaina Santos	Coolidge High School
Krista Lamoyestewa	Casa Grande Union High School	Alfonso Moreno	Coolidge High School
Mickey Pasquale	Casa Grande Union High School	Alicia Ortiz	Coolidge High School
Mikal Brown	Casa Grande Union High School	Anthony Blackwater	Coolidge High School
Theodore Hendricks	Casa Grande Union High School	Cheerie Kisto	Coolidge High School
Amelia Thompson	Cesar Chavez High School	Ciara McCall	Coolidge High School
Brianna Chazez	Cesar Chavez High School	Eli Vazquez	Coolidge High School

Eli Vazquez	Coolidge High School	DeAngela Garcia	Skyline Gila River
Erin Blackwater	Coolidge High School	Devon Miles	Skyline Gila River
Gabriel Pedro	Coolidge High School	Dominick Yazzie	Skyline Gila River
Kaja Williams	Coolidge High School	Ellyse Enos	Skyline Gila River
Melis Charles	Coolidge High School	Ethan June	Skyline Gila River
Nicholas Juan	Coolidge High School	Jasmine Mills	Skyline Gila River
Nickolas Harrison	Coolidge High School	Jayna Morago	Skyline Gila River
O'Riah Jackson	Coolidge High School	Marcos Juan	Skyline Gila River
Taylor Duran	Coolidge High School	Miah Gregg	Skyline Gila River
Tyson Stone	Coolidge High School	Nielle Rodriquez	Skyline Gila River
Zane Charles	Coolidge High School	Quincy Randall	Skyline Gila River
Faith Edgemon	Franklin Police and Fire	Sarah Pino	Skyline Gila River
Henry Nasewytewa	Desert Vista High School	Sean Patrick	Skyline Gila River
Larissa Stevens	Copper Canyon High School	Shelly John	Skyline Gila River
Rochelle Zamorano	Coolidge Imagine Prep	Trinity Luna	Skyline Gila River
Aeneas Antone	Hamilton High School	Xavier Lujan	Skyline Gila River
Anthony Antone-Lyons	Hamilton High School	Darian Pahona	South Mountain High School
Paniolo Gonzales	Hamilton High School	Elizea Lewis	Southwest Education Center
Anevay Jackson	ICAN	Allen Lewis	Tolleson High School
Carlos Cardenas	Imagine Prep	Alyssa June	Vista Grande High School
Aiden Hernandez	Irvin High School	Cecilia Lopez	Vista Grande High School
Vanessa Castillo	King Valley Academy	Ezekiel Martinez	Vista Grande High School
Mercedes Chavez	King Valley Academy	Helina Romero	Vista Grande High School
Adrian Pancho	Lawerence High School	Joseph Encinas III	Vista Grande High School
Mary Elias	McClintock High School	Kamaure Cathcart	Vista Grande High School
Anthony Prieto	Mountain Pointe High School	Kianna Saraficio-Williams	Vista Grande High School
Desiree Lopez	New Mexcio School for Arts	Phylina Romero	Vista Grande High School
Yesenia Perez	North High School	Xzavion Bradley	Washington High School
Ryan Gastelum	North High School	Riley Rodriguez	West Wood High School
Peter Zaback	Perry High School	Miranda Coronado	Wilmer Amima Carter High School
Lauryn Begay	Piedra Vista High School	Damian Albano	Youngker High School
Payton Alyson	Providence High School	Austin Miller	Central Arizona College Signal Peak
Stephanie Antone	Riverside Indian school	Bianca Zamorano	Central Arizona College Signal Peak
Iyanna Gomez	Robert McQueen High School	Earl Miles	Central Arizona College Signal Peak
Kendra Hainta	Salt River Accelerated Learning Academy	Joseph Martinez	Central Arizona College Signal Peak
Alaysia Hernandez	Sherman Indian School	Lyman Morago	Central Arizona College Signal Peak
Ambrina Laws	Skyline Gila River	Yolonne Blaine	Central Arizona College Signal Peak
Damien Williams	Skyline Gila River	Christina Miranda	Rio Salado College

HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES

Linddie Hunter	Universal Technical Institute, Motorcycle Mechanics Institute	AOS, Motorcycle Tech. w/BMW
Erika Winnie	West Coast University	Bachelor, Nursing
Brian Cooper	The Refrigeration School	Diploma, Electro-Mechanical Technologies
Paul White	Touro University	Master, Public Admistration
Florine Manuel	Carrington College	Certificate, Medical Coding and Billing
Magdalena Quanimptewa	Keller Graduate School	Masters, Network& Communications
Giovanni Arbizu	The Refrigeration School	Diploma, Electro-Mechanical Technologies
Erica Hernandez	Carrington College	Certificate, Medical Billing and Coding
Skye Lucero	Carrington College	Certificate, Dental Assisting
Danielle Pagat	Chaminade University of Honolulu	PhD, Clinical Psychology
Dekker White	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Bachelor, Aeronautics
Norma Perez	Keller Graduate School	Graduate Certificate, Human Resources Management
Joseph Armenta III	The Refrigeration School	Certificate, Welding
Andrew Ballestero	The Refrigeration School	Certificate Welding
Shane Soza	The Refrigeration School	Diploma, Electro-Mechanical Technologies
Martin White	The Refrigeration School	Certificate, Welding
Chelsea Miles	Ottawa University	Masters, School counseling
Elizabeth Tarin	Universal Technical Institue	Associates, Auto Tech II + GM
Manuel Vazquez	Universal Technical Institue	Associates, Auto Tech II + GM
Thomas Cortez	University of California- Riverside	Bachelor, Education, Society and Human Development
Antonio Guzman	Colorado Mesa University	Bachelor, Accouting
Ashley Nourse	University of Texas	Masters, Human Resources



Dallas Lopez Jr.	University of California - Berkeley, School of Law Juris	Doctorate - Law
Devin Richards	Antelope Valley College	Associate, Liberal Arts: Social & Behavioral Science
Heather MedicineBear	Hawaii Pacific University	Masters, Public Health
Tristen Young	Austin College	Bachelor, Health Science
Kallie Appleyard	California State University - Fullerton	Bachelor, Nursing
Latoya Torres	Texas A & M University	Bachelor, Social Work
Matthew Zuckert	California State University - Dominguez Hills	Master, Social Work
Melvin Moore	Le Moyne College	Bachelor, Chemistry
Sarah Springer	University of South Carolina	Bachelor, Retailing
Travis Woods	California State University - Fresno	Masters, Plant Science
Jazmin Aparicio	College of the Sequoias	Associate, Liberal Arts/Social Behavior
Celena Woods	Porterville College	Certificate, Psychiatric Technology
Michelle Marion	Bemidji State University	Bachelor, Business Management
Shawn Cortez	College of the Desert	Associate, Liberal Arts: Social & Behavioral Science
Tracy Ennis	Grand Canyon University	Masters, Addiction Counseling
Vanessa Enos	Grand Canyon University	Bachelor, Homeland Security
Shana Grant	Grand Canyon University	Bachelor, Behavioral Science
Faron Humeyumptewa	Grand Canyon University	Masters, Public Administration
Monica Jackson	Grand Canyon University	Bachelor, Government with an Emphasis in Legal Studies
Robin Jackson	Northern Arizona University	Bachelor, Public Administration
Henry Lopez	Grand Canyon University	Bachelor, Health Science
Nicholas Salazar	Grand Canyon University	Bachelor, Christian Studies
Linda Soto	University of Arizona	Masters, Public Health
DanelleSpring	Grand Canyon University	Bachelor, Christian Studies
Matthew Steiner	Northern Arizona University	Masters, Mechanical Engineering
Jeanice Zepeda	Northern Arizona University	Bachelor, Accountancy
Clayburne Lomadofkie	Northern Arizona University	Masters, Human Relations
Christine Notah	Grand Canyon University	Master of Business Administration
Rodrigo Castellon	Chandler-Gilbert Community College	Associate, Information Technology
Tiffanie Stone	Chandler-Gilbert Community College	Associate, General Requirements
Ashley Thompson	Chandler-Gilbert Community College	Associate, General Requirements
Jacob Moreno	Estrella Mountain Community College	Associate, Administration of Justice Studies
Lisa Lindner	Gateway Community College	Associate, Business
Taylor Middaugh	South Mountain Community College	Associate, Nursing Assistant
Nicholas Tapia	Chandler-Gilbert Community College	Associate, Business
Preston Soke	Chandler-Gilbert Community College	Associate, Information Technology
Kaitlin Holbrook	Estrella Mountain Community College	AGEC - General Requirements
Antonia Hugo	Cental Arizona College	Associate
Abrielle Tagert	Cental Arizona College	Certificate
Sierra Jackson	Cental Arizona College	Associate
Sabrina Jackson	Cental Arizona College	Associate
Taunya Gonzales	Mesa Community College	Associate
Angela Hernandez	Phoenix College	Assoicate
Cameron Johnson	Arizona State University	BA - Special Education
Maria Varelas	Arizona State University	BS - Social Work
Ellisa Rangel	Arizona State University	BS - Social & Behavioral Science
Destiera Miller	Arizona State University	BS - Family & Human Development
Samantha Molina	Arizona State University	BS - Psychology
Salina Williams	Arizona State University	BA - Early Childhood Education
Mia Hernandez	Arizona State University	BS - Graphic Information Tech.
Kelcey Mosley	Arizona State University	BS - Exercise & Wellness
Jaclyn Fox	Arizona State University	MS - Social Work
Francisco Hernandez	Arizona State University	BS - Health Science
Jasmine Reece	Arizona State University	BA - Human Resources
Anthony Smith-Begay	Arizona State University	BS - Mechanical Engineering
Clarissa Juan	Arizona State University	BS - Business - Healthcare
Jessica Landa	Arizona State University	BS - Educational Studies
Krystal Sheppard	Arizona State University	BS - Organizational Leadership
Priscilla Terry	Arizona State University	BA - Tourism
Aralia Blackwater	Southern Oregon University	
Brittany Cooper	University of Arizona	
Jayson Brown	University of Arizona	
Nathan BrownEagel	Capitol Technology University in Washington DC	
Omar Soke	Phoenix Digital Academy	
Paul Flores	NAU, Flagstaff, AZ	

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • June 2, 2021

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

CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, June 2, 2021, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Lt. Governor Monica Antone at 9:05 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Regina Antone-Smith

ROLL CALL
Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis (9:55)
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman(9:20), Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone-Smith, Christopher Mendoza (9:41); D5-James De La Rosa, Marlin Dixon, Brian Davis, Sr., Wahlean Riggs (9:41); D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird
Council Members Absent:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #3, #4, #5 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #3, #4, AND #5 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE INTRODUCTION #2 AND APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED
SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS
District 1 – Arzie T. Hogg
District 4 – Christopher Mendoza
District 5 – Wahlean J. Riggs
District 6 – Anthony “Chris” Villareal, Sr.
JUDGE ANTHONY HILL ADMINISTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO EACH COUNCIL MEMBER

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS
1. Introduction of District 7 Service Center Coordinator, Richard Kruszynski
Presenters: Laurie Thomas; Richard Kruszynski
MS. THOMAS INTRODUCED MR. KRUSZYNSKI, MR. KRUSZYNSKI PROVIDED AN OVERVIEW OF HIS WORK HISTORY WITH THE COMMUNITY AND LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY
2. Introduction of Elderly Services Coordinator, Lindsay Antone
Presenters: Laurie Thomas; Lindsay Antone

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA REPORTS
*1. Growing Readers Developing Leaders Project Update
Presenter: Anthony Gray

ITEM HEARD
2. COVID-19 Update Report
Presenter: COVID-19 Task Force

ITEM HEARD
>3. Blackwater Community School Quarter 2 Tribal Allocation Report SY 2020-2021
Presenter: Jagdish Sharma
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>4. Sacaton Middle School Quarter 2 Tribal Allocation Report SY2020-2021
Presenter: Cindy Lewis
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>5. Head Start Monthly Report – April 2021
Presenter: Carolina Kelley
ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council April 2021 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gaming Commission Board; Melvin S. Sanderson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #6 AND #7
7. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report for April 2021 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Kenneth Manuel; Interim Oversight & Planning Committee
ACCEPTED AT REPORT #6

RESOLUTIONS
1. A Resolution Authorizing The Exchange Of Community Trust Land For Interest In An Allotment Located Within The Exterior Boundaries Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (Community Trust Land And Allotment 4217) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with corrections; NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Eugene Blackwater; Kimberly Antone; Javier Ramos
APPROVED
2. A Resolution Authorizing The Transfer Of An Additional Twenty-Four Million Dollars (\$24,000,000.00) From The Arizona State Treasury To The Wild Horse Pass Development Authority To Further Fund The Renovation Of The Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Grand Resort (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with additional material; EDSC concurs)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller
APPROVED
>3. A Resolution Approving The Submission Of Year Six Of The Five Year Grant Application To The Department Of Health And Human Services, Office Of Head Start, American Indian And Alaska Native Programs In Order To Request Renewed Funding For The Gila River Indian Community Head Start/ Early Head Start Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; ESC concurs)
Presenter: Carolina Kelley
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>4. A Resolution Approving The Submission Of Year Three Of The Five-Year Grant Application To The United States Department Of Health And Human Services, Administration For Children And Families, Office Of Head Start, American Indian And Alaska Native Programs In Order To Request Renewed Funding For The Gila River Indian Community Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; ESC concurs)
Presenter: Carolina Kelley
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
>5. A Resolution Authorizing Personnel From The United States Census Bureau To Collect Data For The National Crime Victimization Survey (“NCVS”) Within The Gila River Indian Community (NRSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; LSC concurs with placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. A Resolution Approving The Tribal Education Department's Copyright Proposal For The Gila River Indian Community's Growing Readers & Developing Leaders Program And Approving The Application And Submittal For Copyright Protections For Its Book Contents (ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; CRSC concurs)
APPROVED
ORDINANCES
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
1. Gila River Gaming Commission Two (2) Commissioner Appointments
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT DENISE ALLISON AND GARY WILLIAMS

2. Community Council Secretary Appointment
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT SHANNON WHITE
3. Government & Management Standing Committee Appointment (2) Council Seats
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT ANTHONY VILLAREAL, SR. AND CHRISTOPHER MENDOZA
4. Health & Social Standing Committee Appointment (1) Council Seat
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT WAHLEAN J. RIGGS
5. Legislative Standing Committee Appointments (2) Council Seats
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT ANTHONY VILLAREAL, SR. AND ARZIE HOGG
6. Education Standing Committee Appointment (1) Council Seat
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT ARZIE HOGG
7. Cultural Resource Standing Committee Appointment (1) Council Seat
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT WAHLEAN J. RIGGS
8. Economic Development Standing Committee Appointment (1) Council Seat
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT AVERY WHITE
9. Gila River Farms Board of Directors (2) Appointments
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT ARZIE HOGG AND WAHLEAN J. RIGGS

NEW BUSINESS
1. Children's Court Judge Vacancy (LSC forwards to Council to declare the vacancy and advertise for 30 days through the Human Resources Department)
Presenter: Shannon White
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY
2. I-10 Improvement Project Tentative Recommendation Build Alternative (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; NRSC, EDSC, and CRSC concur)
Presenters: Javier Ramos; Ian A. Shavitz; David White; Timothy Oliver; Timothy Chavez; Kathy Garcia; Ronald Rosier; Willard Antone III; Kyle Woodson; Barnaby Lewis; Kimberly Antone
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
3. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. REDW FY2020 Audit Reports (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept)
Presenters: Anthony Gerlach; Tony De Mark; Kenneth Manuel
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT MINUTES
ANNOUNCEMENTS
~CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL
~SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021 AT 9:00 A.M.
ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:36 A.M.
* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Huhugam Heritage Center Showcases GRIC Artists Online and In New Murals

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

While the Huhugam Heritage Center (HHC) remains closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the center continues to engage the Community online. Throughout the pandemic, the HHC has used social media and short videos to spread the word about the new Museum Gallery currently on display and to share the cultural history of the Gila River Indian Community.

In the past, GRIC artists have been featured in a small room outside the Great House Gallery entrance as part of a “rotating solo artist exhibit,” where an individual artist’s work is displayed for three months at a time. It’s a showcase the HHC hopes to bring back when the pandemic passes and will be relocated to the museum entrance.

“That’s one of our future goals, to highlight more artists and other smaller collections to exhibit,” said Joshua Yazzie, a technician who works in the HHC’s collections department.

Besides giving GRIC artists a platform to show

their work, the HHC for years has housed and cared for valuable collections and artifacts, helping to preserve the Community’s history.

“It’s our responsibility to house and care for (everything) in the repository,” said Yazzie, who handles, cleans, measures, and photographs each item in the HHC collection. “Just overall preserve it as best as we can. We are also a repository, meaning that we meet, and or exceed, all federal standards for the care of federal archaeological collections. Our goal is to care for each object in a way that preserves it for as many generations as possible into the future.”

Yazzie is also a basket weaver. His experience has been helpful in identifying designs and weaving styles among some of the basket collections housed in the HHC repository. During the closure, Yazzie was asked to lead a yarn basket weaving class for the Akimel O’otham/Pee-Posh Youth Council, along with Monica King, Educator for HHC.

“I feel like we as O’otham/O’odham people are very expressive in our

artwork about our culture and it comes in so many forms of expressing it,” said Yazzie. “I want to be able to showcase that, to let people know that traditional and cultural (concerns) are very important, but it’s also just as important (to) sustain it. Sometimes we do have to step out of the box a little to preserve it. Like yarn weaving, it helps those understand the rhythm of traditional basket weaving. Natural materials are hard to find and even harder to process them”

The latest HHC art project involves murals painted along the stairway in the Great House gallery. Through social media, HHC put out a call for GRIC artists to submit their work, to “tell the Community’s history through their art.”

Jacob Johns, Ted Huerta, Zachary Justin, Tiffany Enos and Chad Pascual are the five GRIC members who will share their craft and the Community’s history in the new mural series, using supplies provided by HHC. Each artist will come in and work individually.

Chad Pascual, District 3, will paint the second wall

space up the stairwell. Jacob Johns, a GRIC member who currently resides in Washington, will travel to HHC to attempt a “3D painting” using acrylic on the first wall at the bottom of the stairwell and will feature his family as basket weavers.

Ted Huerta, District 3, will be working in his preferred medium of oil paint on canvas. His canvases are to be completed at home, will line the wall shelves along the stairwell.

Tiffany Enos, District 4, chose the fourth wall space and will feature a river scene. Enos was one of the artists featured in HHC’s T-shirt design contest and second place winner, which celebrated last year’s re-opening after renovations to the museum building was complete.

Zachary Justin, District 6, was the first to complete his mural, which is featured on the third wall of the Great House. He chose to paint local desert scenery, using a traditional basket and pottery adorned with quail and water designs. Justin also has done murals for the new Blackwater



District 6 member Zachary Justin makes progress on a mural painting (pictured below), that is part of an art project involving Community artists at the HHC. Photos Emma Hughes/GRIN



Community School of these artifacts. They have building and Casa Blanca a lot of meaning to us, to Community School.

“I think it’s pretty cool,” said Justin. “It should encourage upcoming artist and youth. The main excitement for me doing this mural was knowing I’m able to do art close to a lot

From Front Page

the fall and traveling during the summer break with the peace of mind that they are safe against COVID-19.

“We lost his grandpa to COVID-19, so we’re getting him vaccinated so that he doesn’t have to be scared going out in public and so we can be around family

again,” she said.

Due to rising temperatures and triple-digit heat, the vaccination site utilized St. Peter’s Feast House. All attendees who received the vaccine were given t-shirts, gift cards, and food boxes as incentives from District 5’s recreation committee.

Newly elected District 5 Community Council

Representative Wahlean Riggs attended the vaccine event to assist with the distribution of incentives and to support the effort to get GRIC another step closer to “Community immunity.”

“I’m here today to support our families getting their vaccinations,” said Riggs, a lifelong resident of the District, “so that we

slowly come back to some sense of normal life.”

MVU stops like this (right) were set up across District 2 and 5 on June 12 and 13 along with a vaccine clinic in District 6 on June 13 at the Learning Center.

Photos Emma Hughes/GRIN



Community members came out to the MVU stop at the St. Peter Indian Mission School in District 5, including youth 12 years and older, who can now receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Photos Emma Hughes/GRIN

June 2021
Volume 18, Issue 6

GRICUA News & Updates

Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority, 6636 W. Sunset Rd., Box 5091, Chandler, AZ 85226
www.gricua.net • Phone (520)796-0600 • Fax (520)796-0672

Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority is launching a new branding campaign, and we want YOU to help write our new slogan. If you are a Gila River Indian Community Member we want you to **GET CREATIVE!** GRICUA is your Community’s power utility and now is your chance to help us advertise **who we are and what we do** for our Community.

There can only be **ONE WINNER**, but there will be prizes for Second and Third place. See rules and regulations on the back.

Multiple Ways To Enter:

- Participate on our Facebook page or
- Pick up a contest form at your local Service Center or
- Fill out the contest form included in your bill and **mail it in or drop it off** at the GRICUA office (address listed above)

A GOOD COMPANY SLOGAN CAPTURES WHAT IDENTIFIES OUR COMPANY BRAND BY CONVEYING THE TONE AND FEELING OF THE COMPANY.

Popular Slogans:

JUST DO IT.

I'm lovin' it

The Quicker Pickin' Upper

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got milk?

Sample Slogan: **GRICUA POWERING LIFE**

GRICUA Creative Slogan Contest Entry Form

Name: _____ Phone #: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ GRIC Enrollment #: _____

Slogan Entry: _____

*One slogan per entry form. Multiple entries must be submitted on additional entry forms. By submitting this entry form, participant agrees to be bound by the Official Rules of the GRICUA Creative Slogan Contest. GRICUA MEMBER: 100% BOUNTY ALLIANCE, WICKONAZIC, CAPTION, VISA, MVU. All registered slogans and trademarks not affiliated with the contest at any site and are not subject to any copyright infringement or ownership. One Top Prize Winner will receive a \$250 Visa Gift Card. Second Prize will receive a \$100 Visa Gift Card. Third Prize will receive a \$75 Visa Gift Card. All businesses will receive property of GRICUA. No entry will be compensated in any manner. GRICUA was formed in 1988. In 2008 the Gila River Indian Community Council approved the 899 Contract for GRICUA. It became responsible for maintaining & operating the 899 facility located on the Gila River Indian Community Reservation.

Call GRICUA at (520)796-0600 to report downed power lines or other outage-related problems.

Submissions

Submission Veterans & Family Services

Memorial Day is a day to remember and honor our military men and women that have died while in service to our country. While there is a special day set aside to remember the sacrifices of our country's prisoners of War (POW) and those that are still missing in action (MIA). Let us remember them along with the men and Women that have passed on after their honorable service.

On May 31st 2021 at St. Peters cemetery, a memorial was planned and conducted by veterans, Edmund Kyyitan, Severio Kyyitan, Gary Anderson along with St. Peters Mission School Principal, Sister Martha M.

Carpenter. Mr. Anderson was the guest speaker was the guest speaker and talked about the meaning of Memorial Day. All that were in attendance were moved by Mr. Anderson's words. 3' by 5' U.S. Flags were purchased by St. Peters school and poles were assembled and planted at the veteran's gravesite prior to the memorial service.

Before the ceremony, Veterans and family members were given flags to clip on the poles that had been planted. Involving all in attendance seem to have brought everyone a little closer together. District 5, Councilmen and Army veteran Thomas White along with newly elected District 5 councilwoman Wahlean Riggs, a family member of a veteran, were in attendance for their support and respect on Memorial Day.

For this day, a handful of the St. Peters Military Culture Program students were involved in the preparation of the service and assisted with handing out water & clean up. Last year at the 2020 Memorial Day, the St. Peters Military Cultural Group students assisted with encasing two military grave markers at the cemetery. The Veterans & Family Service Office of Gila River Indian Community assisted the family members in the application process to obtain the entitled grave markers from the Veteran Administration.

Special thanks to the staff of the St. Peters Mission School and the Military Cultural students for carrying on a much deserved Memorial Day recognition.

Submitted by Wesley Rhodes (USMC Veteran), Veterans & Family Services, Peer Support Specialist.



Veterans L-R. Wesley Rhodes, Douglas Juan, Thomas White, Lucius Kyyitan, Larry Antone, Gary Anderson, Severio Kyyitan were in attendance at the Memorial Day event held at St. Peter Indian Mission School on May 31. Photo Courtesy of Wesley Rhodes, VFSO

Gila River Hotels & Casinos Donates Self-Excluded Jackpot Funds to Local Nonprofits

Submission Gila River Hotels & Casinos

CHANDLER (June 1, 2021) – 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 1, 2021. The deadline to apply will be June 30, 2021, at 5 p.m.

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 to receive the self-excluded jackpot funds. Selected applicants and the total available funds will be finalized by the end of October, and recipients will be honored during a special Gila River Cares event at the end of the year.

"Year after year, self-excluded jackpot funds



Representatives from Child Crisis Arizona show their appreciation for the generous donation by Gila River Hotels & Casinos. Photo Courtesy of Justin Yee/OH Partners

help generate meaningful change in our state through our nonprofit recipients," said Teaya Vicente, Gila River Hotels & Casinos Public Relations Manager. "We are eager to support the outstanding work nonprofit organizations do to improve the lives of Arizonans, especially after a difficult year, and hope this funding opportunity will help aid organizations who have been

adversely affected by the pandemic."

Last year, more than \$76,000 was distributed across three nonprofits including Pawsitive Friendships, Child Crisis Arizona and Miracle League Arizona.

Self-excluded jackpot funds are accumulated when a winner is ineligible to receive his/her jackpot prize on table games, slot

machines or bingo.

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

About Gila River Hotels & Casinos

Gila River Hotels & Casinos operates three Arizona casinos owned by the Gila River Indian Community: Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte, and Vee Quiva.

Tribal Court Summons JOSEPH MCGILLIS LUCAS Petitioner/Plaintiff

VS.
SABRINA FAITH LUCAS
Respondent/Defendant
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

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

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 9:30 AM in Courtroom 1.

Akimel O'otham Loditha Kud Ki
721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton,

AZ

You may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgement by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the state of Arizona. Dated this 26th day of May, 2021

Submission GRIC WIC Program

Daryel Turgeon has been a dedicated employee of the Gila River Indian Community for more than 13 years of service. Mr. Turgeon began with District 5 in 2007 as the Construction Foreman and transferred over to the Commodity Food Distribution Program as the Warehouse Manager in 2014. He retired in January and will be missed but he now has more time to spend eating his much enjoyed daily ice cream, McDonald's breakfast and Diet Cokes! Congratulations Daryel!



Submission

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Public Scoping for an Environmental Assessment for the Riggs Road Storage Project in District 4 of the Gila River Indian Community

The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Pima Agency and the Gila River Indian Community

(Community) are releasing this notice in support of an environmental assessment for the proposed Riggs Road Storage Project (project) in District 4 of the Community. The project would be a new mini-storage and recreational vehicle (RV), truck, and contractor storage facility.

The project proponent (Riggs Road Storage, LLC) has submitted a commercial lease application to the BIA for the development of a new mini-storage and RV, truck, and contractor storage facility on approximately 20 acres of allotted lands within the Community. The project would be located on the north side of Riggs Road approximately 0.25 mile east of

the Interstate 10 and Riggs Road traffic intersection.

The project would install multiple mobile storage container units of varying sizes. Construction methods and design styles would meet industry standards for similar facilities. The site design would encircle the property with the storage containers, acting as a "fence" around the property. The exterior of the containers facing Riggs Road would be finished in stucco to conceal the appearance of containers and screen the storage area. Multiple covered and uncovered parking areas would be located in the center of the project area where boats and recreational vehicles would be stored. The tallest project features would include the 14-foot-high covered parking areas, which would be separated by driveways. The project would include approximately 2,000 square feet of office space. Site vegetation would be cleared and finished to existing grade with some paved areas, some graveled areas, and areas of decorative landscaping. Security lighting would be installed

facing downward where possible. The facility would be open during normal daytime business hours. For security, the project site would be fully fenced and kept locked during off-hours. The project would create a new driveway off of Riggs Road as the site ingress/egress point, but no alterations to travel lanes are planned.

Construction is expected to take 6 months. Vehicle access along Riggs Road would be maintained throughout construction; however, traffic could experience occasional shot-term temporary delays. No transportation detours or changes in access are anticipated.

The purpose of the project is to develop a new mini-storage and RV, truck, and contractor storage facility to serve this portion of the Community, as well as the more heavily developed communities nearby. This project would provide a much-needed storage option to a geographic area where storage capacity is currently lacking. The project would also constitute a new commercial opportunity within the Community for

economic growth and increase lease revenues for allottees resulting in a quality of life improvement.

As part of the National Environmental Policy Act, federal agencies must consider the potential social and environmental impacts of proposed actions. This letter serves as the BIA's invitation to you or your agency to submit comments, concerns, or suggestions regarding the proposed action. All comments received become part of the public record associated with the proposed action. Accordingly, your comments (including your name and address) will be available for review by any person that wishes to view the record. At your request, we will withhold your contact information to the extent allowed by the Freedom of Information Act. Please submit your comments by July 5 to:

Cecilia Baker, Superintendent
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pima Agency
P.O. Box 8
Sacaton, Arizona 85147
Telephone: (520) 562-3326
Email: Cecilia.Baker@bia.gov



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NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT COMMUNICATION SITE LEASE AT RAWHIDE

The Natural Resource Standing Committee ("NRSC") will be considering the Environmental Assessment Form from the Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. regarding a communication site lease on approximately 0.0574 acres of land at the Rawhide Western Town and Event Center at their regular meeting on July 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., located in Conference Room C of the Community Council Secretary's Office. A copy of the Environmental Assessment Form its entirety is available for review at

all District Service Centers and the Community Council Secretary's Office.

If you are interested in providing comments to the Environmental Assessment Form, please attend the scheduled NRSC meeting. You may also contact your Council representative or the NRSC Chairperson at (520) 562-9720. Written comments may be emailed to casaundra.wallace@gric.nsn. us or mailed to Office of the General Counsel, P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147, Attn: Casaundra Wallace.

GRIC 4-H Club Launches this Fall



Bailey Bates will oversee the newly formed GRIC 4-H program that looks to recruit Community Youth. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Beginning this fall, the Community will host a new 4-H Club, to be called GRIC 4-H. The nationally renowned 4-H youth program focuses on fostering life skills through hands-on projects and programming meant to develop youth leadership, new skills, health, educational opportunities, and more. The program will recruit GRIC youth between

ages 8 and 18, as well as adult volunteers to support 4-H projects as mentors and project instructors.

“I hope to ignite new interests in the youth, not only for agriculture, but through different educational hands-on experiences,” said Bailey Bates, the GRIC 4-H Club Program Coordinator, who says she is to share her passion for agriculture, ranching, and horses with GRIC youth. “4-H is such a positive program. I hope it gives youth that gateway for

continuing their education or considering it later on in life.”

In addition to guided projects, 4-H will also provide opportunities for summer camps, academic scholarships, interaction with youth from across the state, and potentially competing at the county level in various 4-H competitions. While many 4-H learning projects are geared toward natural resource education and careers, the GRIC 4-H club will utilize the Community’s

land base, help provide new learning focused on farming, gardening, ranching, and woodworking.

The GRIC 4-H Club initially started in May 2020, within the Gila River Indian Irrigation & Drainage District (GRIIDD), but COVID-19 put the club’s activities on hold.

“Two years ago, the GRIIDD Board saw a need for a program like 4-H and to see (more) agricultural projects passed onto the youth within the Community,” said Jessica

Romo, Assistant General Manager Mentee, GRIIDD. “So we would like to see more youth involved in those areas through GRIC 4-H Club,”

Romo shared that animal husbandry and ranching are also focus areas for the GRIC 4-H Club. Romo says she hopes 4-H inspires more GRIC youth to pursue agricultural science fields to benefit the Community’s farmlands.

The GRIC 4-H Club is currently recruiting this summer, with programming

scheduled to begin in October.

Bates encouraged all youth to consider joining. “If you are looking for something new to do, then come out to 4-H, and we can all learn together,” she said.

For more information on joining or volunteering with the GRIC 4-H Club, contact Bailey Bates by phone at 520-610-5554 or e-mail at gric4h@griidd.com. You can also find GRIC 4-H Club on Facebook.

Public Notice

GRIC Environmental Health Services

Moratorium Aerial Application of Pesticides and Fertilizers SACATON (June 4, 2021) – The Gila River Indian Community (Community) has implemented a temporary moratorium for the aerial application of pesticides and fertilizers pursuant to the

constitutional powers of the Community Council. The moratorium is effective immediately and will remain in effect until such time as appropriate regulations further governing these activities are approved by the Community. Questions and written comments can be directed to the DEQ Pesticide Control Office at 520-562-2234 or to the Department of Land Use Planning and Zoning office at 520-562-6003. About the Pesticide Control

Office. Under Title 18, Chapter 3 of the Gila River Indian Community Code, in 1981 the Community Council established the Pesticide Control Office as the lead Community agency for regulating pesticide use in order to protect the public health, safety and environment of the Community and all individuals living and/or working within the Reservation. For more information, visit <http://www.gricdeq.org/>.

Chikpan 'ap Haichu Neo'ok – SOLUTION!

Mañ chikpan amai Kokotham ha ki: am.

Thon he'uva:gig tho!

Chum hekid 'o:la 'eđ 'añ jįjiva chikpan 'ap.

Ñeokakuđ thath math hekith 'o ñei:

Ai sha huthik!

Thamiju ath, thon gegos tho!

Why?

The recycling facility employees cannot see what type of material is in the bag, and unfortunately many bags of trash get thrown into the bin. The sorting process is slowed down considerably if a bag with unknown contents is mixed in with loose items.

Thank you!

Heat Safety Tips

Never leave a child In a parked car!

Even when it feels cool outside, cars can heat up to dangerous temperatures very quickly.

Leaving a window open is not enough. Temperatures inside the car can rise almost 20 Degrees Fahrenheit within the first 10 minutes, Even with a window cracked open.

Children who are left unattended in Parked cars are at greatest risk for Heat stroke, and possibly death.

If you have any questions please contact the Community Health Education Program at (520)562-5100

SOURCE: CDC.GOV

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2017 RAM 4X4



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2017 FORD FUSION



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2017 CHEVY COLORADO V6



\$395/mo.

2019 HONDA PILOT EX



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All the Room at

\$350/mo.

2015 FORD EDGE



41,000 Miles

\$289/mo.

2017 FORD EXPLORER



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\$425/mo.

2018 TOYOTA TACOMA SR5



Don't Miss It!

2019 NISSAN FRONTIER V6



4X4

\$399/mo.

2017 BUICK ENCLAVE



Lots of Room

Low Payments

2015 DODGE DURANGO SXT



Only \$367/mo.

2018 HONDA CIVIC LX



Super Cool At

\$300/mo.

2017 HONDA ACCORD SPORT



Reliability at

\$325/mo.

2015 FORD F150



One of a Kind

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ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO BOB SEGER

TURN THE PAGE

7.17.21



THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL & ELTON JOHN

PIANO MEN

7.31.21



ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO THE EAGLES

ONE OF THESE NIGHTS

8.14.21



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