



NATIONAL EMERGENCY

## COVID-19 PANDEMIC Community Immunization Events Lead to Vaccination of Over 1,500 GRIC Members and Employees *Gila River Health Care Opens Multiple Community Vaccination Sites*



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis meets with Arizona Representative Tom O'Halleran and IHS Area Director Reidhead to provide a tour of the vaccination event on Feb. 20. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Story by GRIN Staff

The Gila River Indian Community held two successful vaccination events at Wild Horse Pass Motor Sports Park on back-to-back weekends last month.

The large-scale immunization events, staged on February 13th and 20th, allowed more than 1,500 Community members, employees and residents to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Governor Stephen Roe

Lewis, who spoke of the events as "historic" and "life-saving," thanked the Community employees, federal and state agencies, and the members of the Arizona National Guard whose collaboration made the vaccination

program possible.

"I am so honored to be in the presence of (the) true heroes who gathered here today... battling this pandemic," said Lewis. "We have been through such a hard time, but we are going to get through this together."

Allen Nelson, a resident of District 5, described himself as grateful for the event and the peace of mind that comes with getting a vaccine. "We are extremely fortunate to receive the vaccination," said Nelson. "We are happy the Community put this event together."

The event was a collaboration between the Community, the Indian Health Service, the state National Guard, and the Community's COVID-19 Taskforce. Governor Lewis kicked off the event by saying, "This pandemic has forced us to defend against an invisible enemy. These vaccination events give us the opportunity to be on the offensive and to be proactive in our efforts to protect ourselves,

our families and the entire Community."

Congressman Tom O'Halleran – who visited the Feb. 20th vaccination event – commended the Community's efforts and efficiency in delivery of vaccines. Congressman O'Halleran has been a strong advocate for increased vaccines to those populations hardest hit by the virus, including Indian Country and the Community.

Dr. Ty Reidhead and Hope Johnson from the Indian Health Service Area Office also attended the event. Governor Lewis stated that "The Community has had a strong partnership with the Indian Health Service throughout the pandemic, and [I] appreciate the collaborative approach the agency has taken to address the specific needs of the Community."

Reidhead called the GRIC effort a potential model for other such events throughout Indian Country. "We've been working with Gov. Lewis and

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## Video Highlights 76th Annual Iwo Jima Flag Raising Virtual Ceremony

Emma Hughes  
Gila River Indian News

Even the restrictions of a pandemic could not prevent the Community from honoring the historic role played by Ira H. Hayes in the flag raising over Iwo Jima: A 40-minute video of the 76th Annual Iwo Jima Flag Raising Ceremony is now available on the Gila River Broadcasting Corporation's TV stations and Facebook page.

The video tribute features members of the Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84 discussing Hayes' heroism as a member of the U.S. Marines and the contributions made by many Community members who served in the military during multiple wars. The video includes extensive footage of parades and military flyovers from years past.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone called this year's virtual celebration an opportunity to "encourage and give thanks for what history and memories have taught us."

She added: "Unfortunately, we are unable to celebrate in

person. However, in the spirit of our hearts and minds and gratitude, we can share our understanding and continue to celebrate even under the circumstances of the pandemic."

The Battle of Iwo Jima came near the end of a long campaign in the Pacific targeted at reaching the Japanese homeland. Along the way, several key islands would be taken, securing a foothold in the Pacific for American and allied forces.

The raising of the American flag atop Mount Suribachi occurred on February 23, 1945. The flag-raisers – including Marine corporal Hayes – would be captured in one of the most well-known war photos ever taken.

The annual parade and in-person events were canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and limits on crowds. This included many beloved features of the ceremony, including the annual banquet, flyover and parade, which culminates in a memorial raising of the flags and laying of the



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis with Urban Giff on Feb. 23, 2020. The Ira H. Hayes Post 84 recently hosted a virtual event to commemorate the flag raising at Iwo Jima. GRIC Photo

wreath blessing at the Matthew B. Juan – Ira H. Hayes memorial park in Sacaton.

The event annually draws thousands of spectators, including visiting veterans who march down Casa Blanca Road.

Bill Dixon, Commander of Ira H. Hayes Post 84 welcomed viewers to the virtual event

and shared how the event first began. He also acknowledged and thanked the many people and departments, along with Gila River Indian Community leadership, Gila River Police Department, Gila River Fire and EMS, Department of Transportation and District 3 Service Center who assisted with

the annual event.

The video emphasized the history of the Matthew B. Juan – Ira H. Hayes Park located in Sacaton where many events have been held. The park is named after Hayes and after Matthew B. Juan, the first Arizonan to be

**More on Page 6**

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Vets on  
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# COVID-19 VACCINE OPPORTUNITIES

## ELIGIBILITY

**GRIC Tribal Enrolled members 18+ years old (includes GRIC urban members) AND 18+ years old residing in the boundaries of GRIC.**

- GRIC Tribal Enrolled members must bring their tribal identification to vaccination site.
- 18+ years old residing in the boundaries of GRIC must provide proof of residency i.e. mail with name and address indicated.

**HU HU KAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**  
*Schedule an appointment 602-528-1482*

**Monday - Friday**  
**8 AM - 4 PM**

**KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER**  
*Schedule an appointment 602-528-1482*

**Monday - Friday**  
**8 AM - 4 PM**

**D3 SACATON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
*WALK-IN BASIS*

**Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday**  
**9 AM - 3 PM**  
**Thursday : 9 AM - 4 PM**

**D6 KOMATKE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
**Times: 9 AM - 3 PM**

<b>3/10-3/11</b>	<b>3/24-3/25</b>
<b>3/17-3/19</b>	<b>3/31</b>

Transportation for individuals residing within GRIC boundaries, call (520) 562-3321 ext. 1384 to schedule your transportation as soon as possible. COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Gila River Health Care recommends frequent testing for anyone who has not been tested or previously tested negative and no symptoms. COVID-19 Surveillance Testing is available at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital and Komatke Health Center. For more information, visit the GRHC/HUB.ORG or call the COVID Hotline at 520-550-6079.

## COVID-19 VACCINATIONS BY THE NUMBER

**Over 3200 GRIC Tribal enrollment members  
 Vaccinations were administered to date.**

Each vaccination gets us one step closer to bringing an end to the COVID pandemic.

## GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE CONTINUES TO GROW TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ITS PATIENTS.



*Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital - Northeast Expansion*



*Behavioral Health Services Building*



### Reminder!

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

# CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY 4/2/2021



- Governor  
**Stephen Roe Lewis**
- Lt. Governor  
**Monica Antone**
- Community Council Representatives
- District 1**  
Arzie Hogg  
Joey Whitman
- District 2**  
Carol Schurz
- District 3**  
Avery White  
Rodney Jackson
- District 4**  
Jennifer Allison  
Regina Antone-Smith  
Delmar Jones
- District 5**  
Marlin Dixon  
Thomas White  
Brian E. Davis, Sr.  
James De La Rosa
- District 6**  
Anthony Villareal, Sr.  
Terrance B. Evans  
Charles Goldtooth
- District 7**  
Devin Redbird

Robert Keller, Tribal Treasurer  
Shannon White,  
Community Council Secretary

Gila River Indian News

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# GoFundMe to Help Community Member Fight Cancer

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
Gila River Indian News

With medical bills mounting, the family of a Community member fighting cancer has started a GoFundMe campaign which already has raised more than \$21,000 to help their loved one.

Kevin Lewis, who lives in District 4, was diagnosed earlier this year with Stage 4 Adenocarcinoma, a form of stomach cancer. The father of two will soon begin chemotherapy to treat the disease.

"I'm very, very thankful, that they put (this campaign) together, because I haven't been able to work since January," said Lewis.

Thus far, the campaign has raised \$21,556 out of its \$100,000 goal.

Lewis, who had been employed at the Sheraton Grand Resort & Spa at Wild Horse Pass as a Sommelier specializing in wine, explained that his doctors originally believed he had pancreatitis. He said further testing at Banner University Medical Center in Phoenix led to the stomach cancer diagnosis.

He said before learning of his diagnosis, he experienced an excessive sense of fullness even after eating only small portions of food. "I would eat something and would feel really bloated to a point where I couldn't eat anymore, but I hadn't really eaten that much," he explained.

Lewis said that while his insurance has helped pay some of his medical bills, the additional support from the GoFundMe campaign will allow him to start his chemotherapy treatment right away – on Monday, March 1st. He described moving quickly with his treatment as "very crucial in order to control and stop the cancer from spreading to other parts of the body."

Lewis spoke of his stomach cancer as a source of significant abdominal and lower back pain which requires regular management, including the selection of foods that are easier on his digestive system.

Since sharing his diagnosis with family, friends and co-workers, Lewis – who has a son, Kaleb, and a daughter, Lily – said he has received generous



**Kevin Lewis on a family outing with son (left) Kaleb and daughter (right) Lily. Lewis was recently diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer.**  
Photo Courtesy Kevin Lewis.

support from people wanting to check on him, give him rides to appointments or find other ways to help. Lewis said he and his girlfriend, Rebecca Uribe, can barely believe the generosity they've experienced.

"Their offering to make food, drive me to appointments and watch the kids, the outpouring has been incredible," he said. "I can't put into words the response and support that we've gotten."

The GoFundMe campaign can be found online at <https://bit.ly/3rmBEIm> or by searching under the name: "Help Support Kevin 'Pima Bear' Lewis's Fight!"

"The outpouring of support gives us) a boost of confidence and morale," said Lewis. "This is something I want to push through and get to a good spot, being there for my kids' future."



TRIBAL RECREATION & WELLNESS

## MARCH SCHEDULE 2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>01 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Full Body Workout 6pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>02 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Greatest HIIT's 12pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>03 ELDER ZOOM</b> Fitness Class 8am Glute Camp Boot Camp on ZOOM 12pm Healthy Choices Trivia 12pm Mobility for Active Lifestyles on ZOOM 6pm	<b>04 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Bigger Faster Stronger on ZOOM 12pm Sports Crossword Puzzle Challenge 6pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>05 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Facebook Nutrition Video Sports Video
<b>08 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Full Body Workout 6pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>09 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Greatest HIIT's 12pm Facebook Fitness Video LIVE MARCH MADNESS Trivia Tourney 6pm	<b>10 ELDER ZOOM</b> Fitness Class 8am Glute Camp Boot Camp on ZOOM 12pm Healthy Choices Trivia 12pm Round Table w/Ryan & Kory Facebook Live 6pm	<b>11 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Bigger Faster Stronger on ZOOM 12pm LIVE MARCH MADNESS Trivia Tourney 7pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>12 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Facebook Nutrition Video Sports Video Fit Kit #6 Battle Ropes Session 1: 6pm
<b>15 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Full Body Workout 6pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>16 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Greatest HIIT's 12pm Facebook Fitness Video LIVE MARCH MADNESS Trivia Tourney 6pm	<b>17 ELDER ZOOM</b> Fitness Class 8am Glute Camp Boot Camp on ZOOM 12pm Healthy Choices Trivia 12pm Mobility for Active Lifestyles on ZOOM 6pm	<b>18 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Bigger Faster Stronger on ZOOM 12pm LIVE MARCH MADNESS Trivia Tourney 7pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>19 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Facebook Nutrition Video Sports Video Fit Kit #6 Battle Ropes Session 2: 6pm
<b>22 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Full Body Workout 6pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>23 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Greatest HIIT's 12pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>24 ELDER ZOOM</b> Fitness Class 8am Glute Camp Boot Camp on ZOOM 12pm Healthy Choices Trivia 12pm Round Table w/Ryan & Kory Facebook Live 6pm	<b>25 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Bigger Faster Stronger on ZOOM 12pm Sports Crossword Puzzle Challenge 6pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>26 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Facebook Nutrition Video Sports Video
<b>29 ELDER Zoom</b> Fitness Class 8am Full Body Workout 6pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>30 Morning Grind</b> on Zoom 6am Greatest HIIT's 12pm Facebook Fitness Video	<b>31 ELDER ZOOM</b> Fitness Class 8am Glute Camp Boot Camp on ZOOM 12pm Healthy Choices Trivia 12pm Mobility for Active Lifestyles on ZOOM 6pm	<b>BE GRIC FIT RUN SERIES</b> 10K STARTS: 03/28/21 DEADLINE TO TURN IN RESULTS: 04/03/21	

### ELDER ZOOM CLASS

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday @ 8am  
To be added to the ZOOM adult and elder workout email list, please email Brandon.Begay@gric.nsn.us

### STAY UP TO DATE ON EVENTS!

To be added to our email list for up-to-date information please email us at:  
Wellness.Center@gric.nsn.us

CONTACT INFORMATION:  
Fitness Questions? Call (520) 610-4996  
Sports Questions? Call (520) 610-5552 or (520) 610-5597  
Administrative Questions? Call (520) 610-5595 or (520) 610-4968  
Email: Wellness.Center@gric.nsn.us





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### From the Front Page



A member of the Arizona National Guard administers a COVID-19 vaccine to Sarai Ortiz, District 5, at the drive-thru vaccination event on Feb. 20. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

the Community to get the vaccines out to the people. It sets an example of what [we] might be able to do in the future.”

Other partners who made the events possible include the Wild Horse Pass Development Authority, Rawhide Western Town and Events Center, the Phoenix Rising Football Club and Relentless Beats.

While the vaccines have shown to be highly effective at preventing COVID-19, the CDC recommends that all people – even those who have been vaccinated

– continue to wear a face mask, maintain appropriate physical distance around others and wash your hands to reduce the chance of being exposed and spreading the virus.

Dr. Reidhead, the Indian Health Service Area Director, described the vaccine becoming more widely accepted as the rollout continues.

The doctor cited extensive trials in the development of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, and called them absolutely safe and 95% effective in



Members from Gila River Indian Community leadership, Council, GRHC, AZNG and federal partners were unified to make the GRIC vaccination event possible on 2/20. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

preventing the spread of COVID-19.

“It’s very important to get the vaccine,” said Jason Jackson, a resident of District 6. “I was thinking

about my family and doing what I can to protect them,” said Jackson.

GRHC continues to offer vaccinations through appointments with Huhukam

Memorial Hospital and Komatke Health Center.

During the month of March, Community members can also walk-in at the District 3 Boys & Girls Club in

Sacaton or the District 6 Komatke Boys & Girls Club weekdays between 9 am and 3 pm.

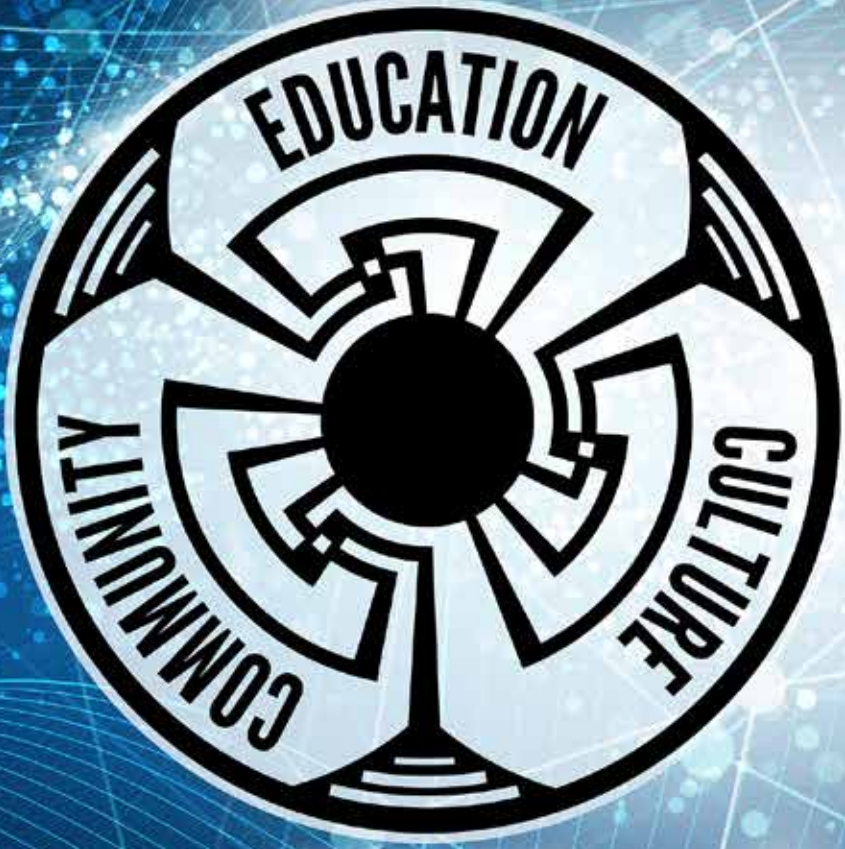


Joyce and Ferguson Burnette await their turn at the Community vaccine event on Feb. 20. Joyce encouraged her fellow Community members to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Gov. Lewis thanks the many vaccination workers, for their tireless efforts to combat the pandemic. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

## GOVERNOR'S 6TH ANNUAL EDUCATION SUMMIT



Please join us in a virtual experience of Community, Culture and Continuing Education.

This event requires internet connection, an electronic device, camera and microphone in order to participate.

Session I: Language Teaching in GRIC during the COVID-19 Pandemic  
Friday, February 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Session II: Input for Building a Community Language Plan  
Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Session III: Moving Forward, Planning for the Future  
Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. (Register by 12pm on 3/2/21)


Session IV: Real Talk, Life Experiences  
Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. (Register by 12pm on 3/5/21)

Session V: Engaging with Families: Continuing the Dialogue  
Saturday, March 20, 2021 11:00 a.m. (Register by 12pm on 3/19/21)


Session VI: We are all in this Together!  
Friday, March 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. (Register by 12pm on 3/25/21)

See the attached Session Description Form for more information.


To register you can go to the link below, scan QR code or call (520) 562-3662



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Must be registered to be considered for a chance to win a prize  
For more information, please contact Tribal Education Department at (520) 562-3662



# New GRPD Patrol Unit Pays Tribute to Native Veterans

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Police Department (GRPD) debuted a new patrol car dedicated to honoring and acknowledging veterans of the United States military branches. The new patrol unit, which took to the road last month, is the only police unit dedicated to military veterans out of all 22 Native American tribes in Arizona.

The veterans patrol car's paint features desert "camo," reflecting the Community's vast desert landscape. A silhouette graphic of the Iwo Jima Flag Raising adorns the rear windows, to memorialize Community member's Ira Hayes' connection to the event.

The patrol car is currently being driven by Sgt. Robert

Sims Jr., a United States Marine Corps veteran who has been with GRPD since 2006. Sims served as the Grand Marshal for the City of Phoenix's Annual Veteran's Day Parade in 2019.

Sgt. Sims says he feels honored to drive the specially decorated patrol unit, which he calls a symbol of the service and many sacrifices made by Native American veterans. Native and non-Native veterans alike frequently ask to photograph the car because of how special it is, says Sims.

One specific assignment from earlier this year stands out for Sims as especially meaningful. When a fellow GRPD sergeant's father, a Marine Corps veteran, passed away, the family asked Sims to lead the funeral procession in the specially marked patrol

vehicle. Following a police escort, Sims led the family safely from Chandler all the way to District 1.

GRPD Police Chief Timothy Chavez shared that 40 veterans presently work for the department, serving as supervisors, officers, detectives, rangers and civilian employees. Chavez called the vehicle a tribute to all veterans. "This beautiful patrol vehicle will serve to honor the United States veterans at GRPD," he said, "while also honoring our Community members who are United States veterans."

GRPD Assistant Chief William Morago played an integral role in acquiring the patrol car and selecting its driver. He says he's thrilled with the look of the vehicle and the choice of Sgt. Sims to drive it. Morago also believes



**GRPD Sgt. Robert Sims Jr., a Marine veteran, stands next to a patrol unit wrapped to honor members of the military.** Kyle Knox/GRIN

the patrol car will serve as a recruitment tool, showcasing the many opportunities GRPD has available for veterans. "We ... support our veterans," said the Assistant Chief. "We love and respect them, and we welcome them here."

# Rawhide Staff Plays Lead Role In Vaccination Events

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

When it comes to hosting large-scale events like concerts and the annual Mul-Chu-Tha Fair & Rodeo, the Rawhide Western Town and Event Center has many years of experience. The Rawhide team's familiarity with handling big crowds was especially useful as they worked with the GRIC unified command task force to help coordinate the Community's drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination events held last month.

Combined, the Feb. 13th and Feb. 20th events had

more than 1,500 attendees there to get vaccinated together with hundreds of volunteers and staffers. Even with the large crowds, the two events went off without a hitch. Part of the reason for that success was the more than 100 Rawhide members who assisted with security, traffic control, transportation, site prep and feeding and providing water for workers and attendees.

"We really wanted to make sure that we demonstrated to the Community members that they can depend on every one of the agencies that they already look to, but also

to the agencies they might not think of," said Mark Grado, who has served as Rawhide's General Manager for the past two years.

Grado said a lot has changed for Rawhide during his time as GM. The venue – an enterprise of the Wild Horse Pass Development Authority, which also oversees the Gila River Hotels & Casinos – has been faced with multiple challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, including restriction and closures that have slowed down the entertainment business. Even so, Grado

said his team has overcome many of these challenges by being flexible and creative.

One example: Rawhide has been able to bring back live entertainment by creating "pod concerts." This allows guests to attend live events while being separated in an 8x10 space (pod) for each group. The pod style was also used for the Community's graduation event last year.

Rawhide also created revenue through a partnership with Enterprise Rent-A-Car, which uses the venue's vast space to house Enterprise cars that are not



**Mark Grado, Rawhide General Manager, heads a briefing at a COVID-19 vaccination event on Feb. 13.** Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

in use. Rawhide continues to host events at Wild Horse Pass Motor Sports Park and at their event center. All such events have limited capacities, social distancing and other safety precautions enforced.



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## GRBC Channels



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**From Front Page**

killed during the Battle of Cantigny in World War I.

Oscar Urrea, member of Post 84, assisted in the design and construction project for the park and shared how funding was raised. Lance and Shirley Lewis also led and organized the project for the park. The park features a stone based, bronzed monument to the Iwo Jima Flag Raising and bronze statues of both Juan and Hayes. The park was intended to bring Community members and the local public to a place of "reflection and comfort," said Urrea, who called it a place of "spiritual healing" for many.

Lt. Gov. Antone shared stories of her family attending and participating in the annual parade, recalling the parade in 2019 which featured Ira's brother, the late Kenneth Hayes, who served in the

Korean War.

"A heartfelt thank you to all our veterans as well as the Ira Hayes Post 84 for continuing to carry on this important event each year," said Antone.

She highlighted the high rate of military service among of Native Americans.

Louis Fredrico, Post 84 Finance Officer, highlighted Hayes' achievements and honors, including the Commendation ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign medal, American Campaign medal and World War II Victory medal.

Tony McDaniel, Post 84 Adjutant and Coordinator, thanked past participants of the event.

"Through the dust storms, the rain and the beautiful weather, you have all honored military past, military history with us, and I thank you for that,"



**Lt. Gov. Monica Antone talked about the Iwo Jima commemorative event honoring the service and sacrifices of veterans who fought in World War II.** Gila River Broadcasting Corporation

said McDaniel. He noted that the event continues to grow from its start in 1988 as "Recognition Day."

Governor Lewis remarked that "our Community takes great

pride in our record of service and in those who serve. And it isn't just while they are in the military. I can point to so many examples of those whose call to service didn't

end when they came home, including those who serve on our Community Council, and other important positions throughout the Community."

The 77th Flag Raising

Memorial will be held Feb. 19, 2022. This year's virtual ceremony can be seen on the Gila River Broadcasting Corp. Facebook page and channels 19.1 29.1.



# TRIBAL RECREATION & WELLNESS

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## BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

**Is now offering VIRTUAL PROGRAMS!**

The Boys and Girls Club of the Gila River Indian Community is reopening virtually!

We're offering a brand new series of virtual after-school enrichment programming on Zoom. Children from 5-18 years old can log on to have fun with their friends in learning and games programs like:

- Dungeons & Dragons club,
- basketball skills, animation techniques,
- money management, fine arts, and more!

Sacaton:  **Membership Required (Free to all Tribal Members)**  Komatke

TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:  
Sacaton: jasmine.lopez@bgcgric.org, (520) 562-3890  
Komatke: frances.ringlero@bgcgric.org, (520) 550-2365

## CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

### PATHWAYS COMMUNITY PROGRAM

We are now accepting online applications for the following mentorship position:

POSITION	Recruitment Period
Assistant Restaurant Manager	02/15/2021 to 03/31/2021

Must be a Gila River Indian Community Member to apply.

Please visit [playatgila.com](http://playatgila.com) and submit your online application by the closing date.

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

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Visit the GRTI website for current job opportunities or call NTS at 480-639-1234.



# Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act Introduced in United States Senate and House of Representatives

## Communications & Public Affairs Office

Sacaton, AZ – On Feb. 23, the United States Senators Kelly and Sinema introduced S. 371, the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act into the Senate. This Senate legislation is identical to the House version of the bill introduced on January 25th by Congressman Tom O'Halleran.

The Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act instructs the Secretary of the Interior to take the 55 acres where the historic Blackwater Trading Post was located into trust for the Gila River Indian Community.

The lands are owned by the Community and bordered on three sides by the Reservation. Acquiring the lands in trust will

allow the Community to conduct land use plans for the parcel and the surrounding lands. Identical legislation was introduced in the 116th Congress and passed the House of Representatives, but stalled in the Senate. The lands at question hold historical and cultural significance to the Community as the site of the Blackwater Trading Post that was established nearly 100 years ago. The Trading Post operated until 2010 when the family that had operated the Trading Post for roughly 60 years sold the lands to the Community.

At that time, the Community recovered over 1,000 cultural items that had been traded for items at the Post and stored in the museum at the Post.

These culturally significant items were later recovered and now reside within the Community's Huhugam Heritage Center. Governor Stephen Roe Lewis applauded the introduction of the legislation, stating "The Gila River Indian Community is appreciative that our Senate and House delegation have prioritized introduction of the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act early in this Congress.

This non-controversial legislation is important to the Community and to our members residing in District 1 of the Reservation. I look forward to working with Senator Kelly, Senator Sinema, and Congressman O'Halleran to make sure this legislation passes each chamber and is signed into

law."

The House version of the bill, H.R. 478 was introduced on January 25, 2021, and referred to the

Committee on Natural Resources. The Senate version, S. 371, was introduced on February 22, 2021, and referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

Councilmembers Arzie Hogg and Joey Whitman, from District 1 of the Community stated, "We look forward to swift passage of this legislation so we can work with our members in District 1 to determine the best use of this parcel that has been so significant to the Community's history and to our future."

"The Gila River Indian Community values its historical and cultural

connection to the Blackwater Trading Post. I believe the trading post and adjoining land should be placed under the care and management of the Gila River Indian Community. I want to thank Governor Roe Lewis for his leadership on this issue and will work with Republicans and Democrats to get this passed," Senator Kelly.

"Our bipartisan bill helps ensure the federal government keeps its promises to tribal communities by bringing the Gila River Indian Community's Blackwater Trading Post into trust. I'll keep working with our Native American neighbors to ensure tribal sovereignty is respected and that we continue to expand jobs and educational opportunities for all

Arizonans," said Senator Kyrsten Sinema.

"I am honored to represent Arizona's First Congressional District, which is home to twelve sovereign tribal nations," said Rep. O'Halleran. "As Members of Congress, we have the great privilege of being able to restore tribal homelands. The Gila River Indian Community has every right to the Blackwater Trading Post parcel, and I'm humbled to be able to re-introduce legislation that builds upon the efforts of many in the Gila River Indian Community to acquire it."

# GRIC Youth Host Virtual Sessions Exploring Mental Health

## Kyle Knox

Gila River Indian News

On Feb. 25, The Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) and Gila River Health Care's Behavioral Health Services (BHS) began hosting Youth Mind Space sessions. The virtual sessions provide young Community members with a healthy outlet to learn and explore teen mental health through guided workshops led by the AOPPYC.

The effort began

when the Community's COVID-19 Task Force/Unified Command identified the need to support GRIC youth during the pandemic.

"Youth Mind Space is seen as a way for youth to connect to one another, meet new people, and discuss topics affecting youth due to issues such as disruptions in schooling, feelings of isolation due to social distancing, and the general stress of the pandemic," said Priscilla Foote, Chief Behavioral Health Officer

for GRHC BHS.

Foote also praised the collaboration with AOPPYC and its young leaders. "Our Community's youth knows what they want, and we are interested in trying new things to support one another. I know that the BHS team is grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with youth on this project for them."

Youth Mind Space is hosted through the virtual platform Zoom. AOPPYC members lead the workshops with Behavioral

Health Services staff. BHS Staff helps to formulate the discussion topics and to breakdown the science behind depression, anxiety, and clinical terms. BHS counselors are also in attendance in case anyone requires additional support throughout a session.

The Youth Mind Space collaboration also includes Gila River Broadcasting Corp. (GRBC) for media support. GRBC screens short videos during each session to establish the topic

of the night and motivate the discussion that follows.

Susanna Osife, AOPPYC President, says she enjoys the sessions and the support she feels from her peers. "The discussions are important because they're about our experiences, how we've been affected during this time, what we go through," said Osife. "When one person shares, it shows others that they're not alone."

Osife also explained that the more young people

share at the session, the more it empowers everyone to better recognize signs of depression better, listen to their peers, and provide necessary resources for those who need it.

Youth Mind Space occurs every Thursday from 8 p.m.- 9 p.m. through the Zoom application. Anyone interested in registering for future sessions should contact Anna Pacheco at apacheco@grhc.org or Michael Preston at youthcouncil@gric.nsn.us.

**Gila River HEALTH CARE** **Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council**

# Youth Mind Space

Is quarantine getting to you? Are you bored?  
Do you wish things would get back to normal?

**EVERY THURSDAY**  
starting February 11, 2021  
**8:00 PM - 9:00 PM**  
Via Zoom

Youth leading youth with videos, activities, and discussions about daily stressors, healthy ways to cope, and making positive choices.

**To register and for more information:**  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/78XNNRZ>

Questions? Contact:  
Anna Pacheco  
apacheco@grhc.org  
Michael Preston  
YouthCouncil@gric.nsn.us

This is a joint effort provided by Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council and Gila River Health Care's Behavioral Health Services.

**Gila River Indian Community Crisis Line**  
1-800-259-3449  
Call 24 hours a day for immediate help

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**  
1-800-273-8255

**CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL**  
**FACE Program Still Holding Enrollment**  
**Totally Virtual**

Home Base Services are looking for new families from Prenatal to 3 yrs old. Parent Educators have weekly virtual classes teaching positive Parenting and educating families in Employment & Family Goals. There are Monthly Family Circles with Guest Speakers.

Center Base Services have Preschool for ages 3 - 5 yrs old with Parent preparing students for Kindergarten. Virtual classes are weekly Monday thru Thursday, based on family schedule from 8 - 11 AM.

Adult Education Services provide Adult Parents with Penn Foster High School courses and Career readiness. Other additional classes are provided like Beading, Sewing, Gardening & Art Classes.

**Phone:** (520) 315-3489  
**Address:** 3455 W. Casa Blanca Rd.  
**Team - Kim Franklin, Principal/Coordinator**  
**Pamela Ahmsaty, Parent Educator**  
**Elizabeth Young, Parent Educator**  
**Pearlene Wilson, Adult Education**  
**Harrietta Boy, Early Childhood Teacher**

**KEEPING THE CIRCLE STRONG**

**ABC**





# 2021 MUL-CHU-THA FAIR & RODEO

**\*\* CANCELED \*\***



The 2021 Mul-Chu-Tha Fair & Rodeo has been canceled due to safety concerns related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

We hope to see you next year!

# The Community's Resort & Spa Receives Prestigious Forbes Ratings

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community's Sheraton Grand & Spa at Wild Horse Pass (SGWHP) has again received one of the highest honors awarded in the travel and hospitality industry. On Feb. 23rd, the Aji Spa and Kai restaurant both received Five-Star awards from Forbes Travel Guide.

This is the second time the Community's popular resort and its spa and restaurant have received the designations.

"To be recognized by Forbes Travel Guide with Five Star honors for Aji Spa and Kai makes us extremely

In keeping with the culture of the Community, the word Kai represents "Seed," while Aji means "Sanctuary." Each of these words are indicative of the amenities available at the Sheraton Grand, where Kai's chefs try to merge the Community's culture into modern-day culinary masterpieces and the Spa strives to offer relaxation available nowhere else.

Aji Spa and Kai restaurant rank among 90 Five-Star spas and 73 hotels in their respective categories – and they are only such amenities located within a Native American community.

The review of Kai de-



**Kai restaurant was awarded the prestigious Five Star award by Forbes Travel Guide.** Photo courtesy Sheraton Grand Resort & Spa

scribes how much of the Indian tastes and culture.

The Forbes Travel Guide description also mentions the artwork created by the late Mike Zillioux of District 7, His work lines the walls of Kai and captures the Community's landscapes, including South Mountain and Estrella Mountain.

Forbes' ratings are independently verified through a self-paid stay made by a magazine representative who checks-in as a regular guest without prior notice to the hotel. The unannounced visit ensures an authentic experience without bias to service, creating a fair rating for hotels, spas and restaurants.

In addition to Kai's award, Jeremy Stulak was named a finalist for the Restaurant Employee of the Year by Forbes Travel



**Jeremy Stulak (middle) was named finalist for the Restaurant Employee of the Year by Forbes Travel Guide.** Photo courtesy Sheraton Grand Resort & Spa

proud of our hard working and dedicated team," said Bunty Ahamed, General Manager of SGWHP in a press release.

SGWHP is the only resort in Arizona to host both a restaurant and spa with Five-Star rating.

scribes how much of the restaurant's inspiration, from the food to interior design, are representative of the Community. It also shares that many of the dishes use locally sourced foods inspired by American



**Aji Spa received the Five-Star award among several other contenders across the globe.** Photo courtesy Sheraton Grand Resort & Spa


Guide. Stulak has worked at Kai restaurant for more than 10 years.

To round-out the list of accolades, the Sheraton Grand also returned to the

Forbes Travel Guide Recommended Hotel list for the second consecutive year.

According to the press release, being on the recommended hotels list lends

Sheraton Grand the distinction of being a "well-appointed, hotel with "enhanced" amenities.



## The Department of Community Housing (DCH) Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) makes available funding to assist households that are unable to pay rent and/or utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Eligibility qualification:**  
An "eligible household" is defined as a renter household in which at least one or more individuals meets the following criteria:

- I. Qualifies for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19;
- II. Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and
- III. Has a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median.

**How to Apply: Applications can be picked up at:** Downloaded at mygilariver.com (ERAP Application) or request an application at (520)562-3904, select **Housing Service Specialist** from the automated tree to speak with someone or email [DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us](mailto:DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us) and request an application.

**Submit the completed application:** DCH Sacaton Office 8am – 5pm daily or email: [DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us](mailto:DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us). Documentation will be required, including but not limited to:

- I. Letter (or email explaining hardship)
- II. Support documents, i.e.:
  - a. Unemployment Approval letter
  - b. Eviction Notice
  - c. Utility Disconnect or past due notices

**Funding Information:**


- ➔ Approved Payment will be paid directly to Landlord or Utility Company. It is not DCH responsibility to enforce participation from the landlord or utility provider.
- ➔ Additional provisions will be applied during application process.

➔ **Ineligible:**

- I. Mortgage holders
- II. If applicant is receiving any other federal subsidy (e.g., a Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing, or Project-Based Rental Assistance).

**For questions or for more information please contact Department of Community Housing at (520)562-3904, select Housing Service Specialist from the automated tree to speak with someone or email [DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us](mailto:DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us)**

"This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award. Awarded to Gila River Indian Community by the U.S. Department of the Treasury."



## Department of Community Housing

Sacaton Office  
(520) 562-3904  
136 South Main Street

Komatke Office  
(520) 796-4555  
4637 W. Tashquith Dr.

[DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us](mailto:DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us)  
PO BOX 528 Sacaton, AZ 85247

Department of Community Housing (DCH) provides support to eligible applicants to secure affordable housing. The listed programs are available within the boundaries of Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) and/or in local jurisdictions of Pinal and Maricopa Counties, depending on the specific program. All listed programs require submittal of a complete application and you must meet specific program criteria to be eligible.

PROGRAM	ELIGIBILITY (additional criteria will apply)
PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING	*income based under 80% median income *within GRIC boundaries *wait list is required / applicant must reapply <b>each January.</b>
URBAN RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (URAP)	*income based under 80% median income *Reside in Pinal or Maricopa County *under current rental lease (cannot be month to month)
EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ERAP)	*income based, specific to situation *Reside in Pinal or Maricopa County *assistance to <b>renters only</b>
COVID REMEDIATION (Fogging/disinfecting) PROGRAM	*within <b>GRIC</b> boundaries *had a family member with COVID-19

➔ **All Income based criteria must meet 80% median income as required by Federal funding:**

FY - 2020	United States Median Family Income Limits under the NAHASDA Act of 1996							
HH Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
80%	\$43,960	\$50,240	\$56,520	\$62,800	\$67,824	\$72,848	\$77,872	\$82,896

➔ **Eligibility listed does not list all criteria. Contact DCH by phone or email to request information for specific program. Preference for GRIC members; secondly, all other members of a federally recognized Tribe; other applicants.**

Program acceptance is limited to one program per applicant contact us at the Sacaton Office: (520) 562-3904 or Komatke Office: (520) 796-4555; via email: [DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us](mailto:DCH.Housing.Services@gric.nsn.us)

2.21.2020

# Governor Lewis Hosts Annual Education Summit Through Virtual Sessions

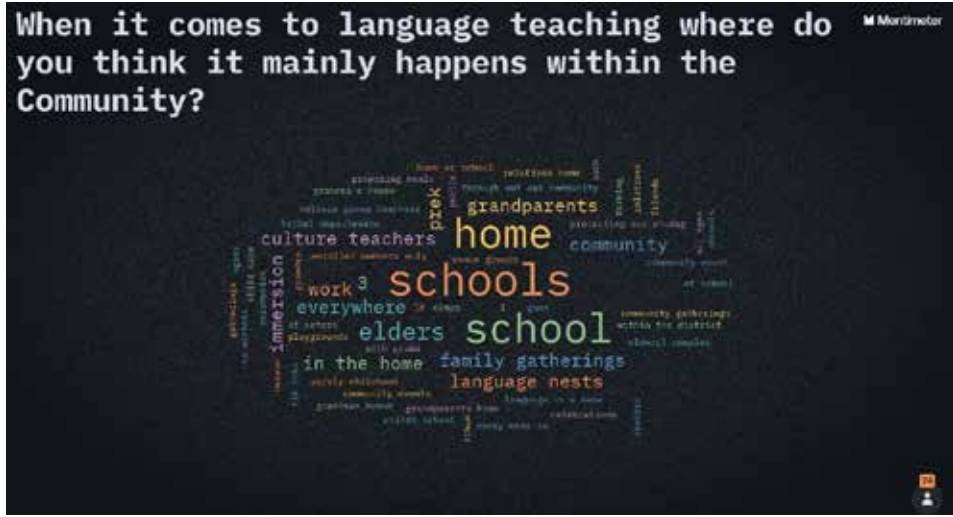
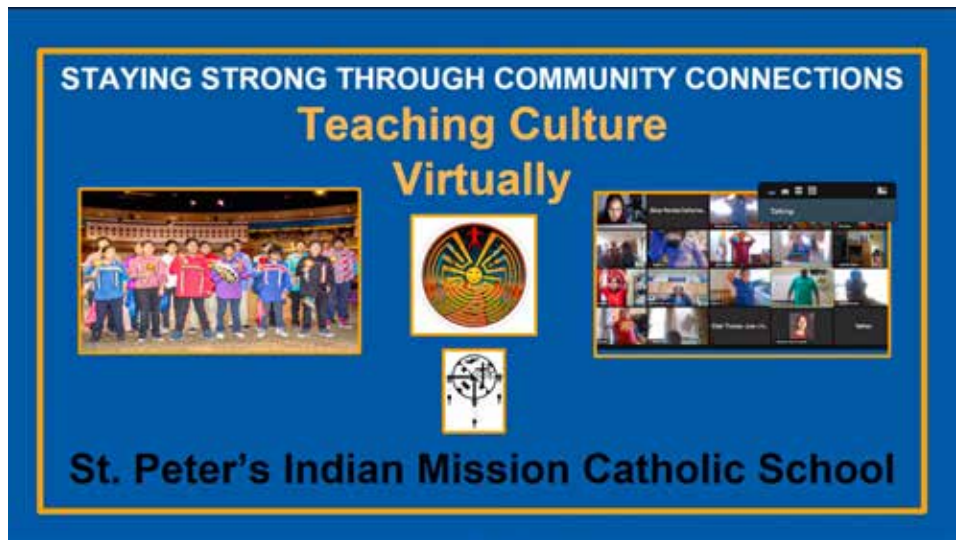
**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

The sixth annual Governor's Education Summit is being held entirely online this year, allowing participants to engage in workshops and educational sessions even while COVID-19 restrictions remain in place.

The Summit's first sessions – held on Feb. 26th and 27th – highlighted the work of the Tribal Education Department's (TED) Culture

and Language Program. Participants were welcomed by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. "I'm honored that everyone took time to come together collectively to support the great discussions and presentations we're going to have," said the Governor, who also encouraged everyone to remain safe and strong as "we come out of the pandemic stronger as the resilient people that we all are."

TED Director Isaac Salcido began the first sessions by acknowledging the teachers in attendance. "Hats off to all the teachers for sticking with your commitment to teaching language and culture throughout the pandemic," said Salcido. "You all took on the [virtual] challenge and delivered." Salcido also thanked Gov. Lewis for attending and his commitment to these annual summits.



Feedback from participants on Session II, from GRIC members about the Community language plan. GRIN Screenshot

TED Cultural staff. Pandemic," focused on the various ways TED's Culture and Language instructors teach during

This year's theme for the annual Governor's education summit focused on bringing Community members together through the use of technology. GRIN Screenshot

the COVID-19 pandemic. Nearly every school within the Community highlighted its virtual language and cultural programs and new instruction methods. Many have had to incorporate effective teaching methods that would be engaging and fun over a screen. They spoke of challenges including Internet issues and the inability to work one-on-one with students who struggle or to assess if they are pronouncing words correctly.

The second session, titled "Input for Building a Community Language

Plan," centered on gathering feedback to help inform how to provide the most effective language program throughout the Community. The session was the first time TED's Culture and Language program gave a presentation asking for feedback to develop a Community Language Plan.

Gray said discussions were fruitful and led to excellent feedback throughout session II. He mentioned that the post-session survey showed positive and encouraging feedback on the first two sessions.

"First and foremost I want to acknowledge and thank the language teachers for the work they continue to do as well as the presentations they gave," said Gray. He also thanked everyone who attended and the TED staff for ensuring everyone had two virtual summit sessions.

The remaining education summit sessions will occur throughout March, and will highlight different aspects of TED and its services. For more information on registering for the summit, you can call TED at (520) 562-3662.

**GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GRADUATION STOLE**

THE TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT will provide students with a honorary stole to wear during graduation ceremonies. Student must be an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community and graduating from:

- High School
- Vocational Schools
- Community Colleges
- Universities

Please contact your K-12 Student Advisor at Coolidge High School, Coolidge Alternative Program, Casa Gra High School, Betty Fairfax High School, Vista Grande, High School, Tempe Unified School District, and Char Unified School District. Student Advisors have identified graduating students.

University and Community College graduates please contact your Student Advisor with Student Services at (520) 562-3316.

Parents of Boarding Schools, please contact Ivy Namingha at (520) 562-3662.

Please contact the Tribal Education Department if you are not funded through the Scholarship Program or do not have a K-12 Student Advisor located at your school

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, THERE IS NO PICK UP OPTION. ALL STOLES WILL BE MAILED DIRECTLY TO THE STUDENTS.**

For more information or questions, please call: (520) 562-3662

**GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
Office of the Treasurer  
Robert G. Keller, Community Treasurer

**2020 COVID-19 General Welfare Checks**

The second round of COVID-19 GW checks mailed out on October 2, 2020 will be expiring soon! These checks void 180 days after the date of issue, which is March 31, 2021.

If you did not receive your check and/or have questions regarding the payment, please contact our Office at (520) 562-5222 or by email at [gricpercapita@gric.nsn.us](mailto:gricpercapita@gric.nsn.us)

Thank you,  
The Per Capita Office

525 W. Gu u Ki Rd • Post Office Box # 2160 • Sacaton, Arizona 85147 • Telephone (520) 562-9600 • Fax (520) 562-9659

**NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION**

Notice Is Hereby Given that the Directors of Casa Blanca Middle School, Inc. an Arizona non-profit corporation with an address of P.O. Box 10885, Bapchule, Arizona 85121, have approved that the corporation voluntarily dissolve, and that the Board of Directors is now engaged in winding up and settling the affairs of the corporation as provided by Arizona law. On December 21, 2020, the Arizona Corporation Commission approved the filing of the Articles of Dissolution.

By: Delila Thompson, Board Secretary

# COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

## Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • February 17, 2021

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

**CALL TO ORDER**  
 The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, February 17, 2021, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:04 a.m.

**INVOCATION**  
 Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

**ROLL CALL**  
 Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

**Executive Officers Present:**  
 Governor Stephen R. Lewis  
 Lt. Governor Monica Antone

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

**Council Members Absent:**  
 D4-Vacant

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
**MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORT #3 AND RESOLUTION #2**  
**MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORT #2, #4, and #6 THROUGH #13, ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTION #1, ACCEPT AND**

**APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #2 AND #3**  
**MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE**  
**THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS**  
 \*1. Housing Owner's Team Report (Executive Session)  
 Presenters: Housing Owner's Team and Arzie Hogg  
**ITEM HEARD**  
 >2. Community Technology Center 1st Quarter Report FY 2020/2021  
 Presenter: Connie Jackson  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 >3. Blackwater Community School GRIC Construction Grant Report: Quarter 1  
 Presenters: Jagdish Sharma and Wendall Joe  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 >4. Gila River Asset Management-Great Call Rapid Response System 1st Quarter Report  
 Presenters: Miane Men, Jim Myers, and Board of Directors  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT THE APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 [GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:18 A.M.]  
 5. COVID-19 Update  
 Presenters: B. Harvey, C. Preston, L. Thomas, R Jackson, T. Chavez, A. Santiago  
**ITEM HEARD**

>6. Head Start Monthly Report – December 2020  
 Presenter: Carolina Kelley  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 >7. Blackwater Community School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021  
 Presenter: Jagdish Sharma  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 >8. Sacaton Elementary School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021  
 Presenter: Wanda Burton  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 >9. Sacaton Middle School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021  
 Presenter: Cindy Lewis  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 >10. Casa Blanca Community School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For School Year 2020-2021  
 Presenter: Lillian Kim Franklin  
**ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 >11. Gila Crossing Community School Tribal Education Allocation 1st Quarter Report For

**Action Sheets Continued from Page 13**

# YOUTH LEADERSHIP DAYS

For American Indian High School Youth

Better Together Through Resilience & Growth

## Special Presenters

<b>Tatanka Means</b>	<b>Robert Johnston</b>	<b>Jeri Bruno</b>	<b>Thosh Collins</b>
Kylie Hunts-In-Winter	Kalah Villagrana	Jaynie Parrish	Lolan Lauvao
Delphina Thomas	Ft McDowell Drum Group	Waylon Pahona	Rowdy Duncan
Kenneth Shurley	Melody Lewis	Turquoise Skye Devereaux	Jeremy Johns
Ahsaki Lafrance-Chachere	Patti Hibbeler	Jolyana Kroupa	Kyrene Yazzie
Micheon Gorman	Tom Garrett	Logan Logg	Amiyah Begay
Cole Logg	Jasmyne Joe	Angel Molina	

All registrants will receive a VIP bonus bag!

## Live Virtual Sessions

Saturday, March 6th and March 13, 2021

Youth session: 9:30AM - 12PM

Parent/Adult Session: 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

(same time both dates)

Raffle Prize Drawings:  
Nintendo Switch  
Respawn 110 Gaming Chair  
Laptop and More!

Calling all Adults and high school youth!

Register Today! <http://bit.ly/2021yld>

Questions? Contact our Youth Development Team

602-264-6768 | [youthprograms@phxindcenter.org](mailto:youthprograms@phxindcenter.org)

PHOENIX INDIAN CENTER

ESTABLISHED 1947

Action Sheets Continued from Page 12

School Year 2020-2021

Presenter: Jim Mosley

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>12. GRTI 4Q 2020 Update

Presenters: Jim Meyers, Jennifer Burkhalter, Board of Directors

ITEM ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>13. Federal Communications Commission Form 555 Annual Filing

Presenters: Courtney Hogancamp, Jim Meyers, Board of Directors

RESOLUTIONS

>1. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Community Services Department To Accept Awarded Funds For Fiscal Years 2021-2025 From The United States Department Of Agriculture On Behalf Of The Gila River Indian Community For The Food Distribution Program On Indian Reservations (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and for placement on the consent agenda; H&SSC concurs)

Presenter: Joanne Brewer

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving An Intergovernmental Agreement For Aging Services And Limited Waiver

Of Sovereign Immunity For The Limited Purpose Of Arbitration And Enforcement Of Any Arbitration Award Between The State Of Arizona, Acting By And Through Its Department Of Economic Security And The Gila River Indian Community Through The Community Services Department (G&MSC forwards to Council under Resolutions with the additional information and a memorandum to be provided; H&SSC concurs in addition to the correction to the resolution title)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Natural Resources Standing Committee One (1) Appointment

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT RODNEY JACKSON TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES STANDING COMMITTEE

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gila River Farms Board of Directors Declaration of One (1) Vacancy (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for any interested Council member to submit a letter of interest on submittal)

Presenter: Gila River Farms Board of Directors

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT

JENNIFER ALLISON TO THE FARM BOARD

>2. GRTI FY 20 Audited Financial Statements (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation to accept and for placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenter: Arnold Mejia, Adam Cavin, Ryan Luetkemeyer, Julia Coulombe, Leonard Gold, Pamela Thomas

ITEM APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. GRICUA FY 20 Single Audit (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation to accept and for placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenters: Arnold Mejia, Adam Cavin, Ryan Luetkemeyer, Julia Coulombe, Leonard Gold, Pamela Thomas

ITEM APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~ EBT Meeting on Friday, February 19, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:50 P.M.

\* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM



LIHEAP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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

Please submit document verification by:

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

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



Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

LIHEAP Winter Crisis Assistance Program

Telephone Intake - Currently Open

Open To All Head of Households Residents

Within The Community

LIHEAP Winter Assistance Program

Telephone Intake - Currently Open

Open To All Head of Households Residents

Within The Community

For All Families in need of Assistance

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

Crisis is a one-time assistance per fiscal year with Disconnection Notice or Breakdown to reconnect services.



PLEASE CALL YOUR DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER TO APPLY

Table with 4 columns: District, Phone Number, District, Phone Number. Includes District One through District Seven.

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

REVISED: 03/01/2021

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
Tiffany Marie Charles
Petitioner/Plaintiff
VS.
Gabriel Garcia
Respondent/Defendant
Case: FM-2020-0066-PT
Civil Summons
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you

in the Gila River Indian Community Court.
YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/RESPONSE HEARING regarding this matter on:
Court Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 9:00 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 response shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.
If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

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HEALTHY ADULTS NEED CASH?
JOIN OUR RESEARCH STUDY
EARN UP TO \$300 PER DAY
OVERNIGHT STAYS AND RETURN VISITS MAY BE REQUIRED
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Tempe, AZ • 2420 W. Baseline Road

# LIMITED TIME

Get **0%**  
**FINANCING**



**MITSUBISHI  
MOTORS**

Drive your Ambition

**PREMIER MITSUBISHI**

With **\$1** **DOWN**

**only \$188/mo.**

**100,000 MILE  
WARRANTY**

**2020 MIRAGE**



# SCOTTSAYSYES.com

\*\$13,215. Tax, Title and license down for 188.00. 2 Zero percent available for shorter term.... 3...180 payment requires a 760 score, financing for 84 months . using dealer cash from Mitsubishi

**WE SERVICE ALL MAKES AND MODELS | NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY**



**PREMIER MITSUBISHI**

**4 Oil Changes for \$40**  
/4 Synthetic Oil Changes for \$70

Valid Monday-Saturday Offer expires March 31, 2021. See store for more details. Offer may not be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. Promotions have no cash value. Offer cannot be sold or otherwise bartered. Void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted.

**PREMIER MITSUBISHI**

**Tires at dealer cost**  
\*must be installed at dealership

Valid Monday-Saturday Offer expires March 31, 2021. See store for more details. Offer may not be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. Promotions have no cash value. Offer cannot be sold or otherwise bartered. Void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted.

**PREMIER MITSUBISHI**

**4 Alignments for the price of 1**  
\*some specialty vehicles may not qualify  
\*adjustment and parts needed above  
factory alignment adjustments  
not included  
\*good for 3 years after purchase.

Valid Monday-Saturday Offer expires March 31, 2021. See store for more details. Offer may not be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. Promotions have no cash value. Offer cannot be sold or otherwise bartered. Void where prohibited, taxed or otherwise restricted.

For more details contact

**520-800-1084**

or visit

[www.premiermitsubishi.com/service/](http://www.premiermitsubishi.com/service/)

**1648 N Pinal Ave Casa Grande, AZ 85122**

**100% Guaranteed  
Credit Approval**

**520-836-2112**



**WE DON'T NEED  
A BIG DEALERSHIP**

**ANNOYING  
ADVERTISING**

**HIGH PRESSURE  
SALES**

**WE HAVE THE BEST SELECTION  
THE BEST FINANCING OPTIONS  
HONEST EVERYDAY PRICES**

**COME FIND OUT WHY WE ARE THE BEST!!!  
CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER**



**2017 Toyota  
Highlander XLE**  
**\$385/mo.**  
Huge Savings



**2017 Toyota Rav-4**  
**\$265/mo.**



**2017 Ford Explorer**  
All the room for just  
**\$379/mo.**



**2018 Nissan Titan**  
**\$455/mo.**  
Save \$1000s!



**2019 Ford  
Fusion Titanium**  
**\$285/mo.**  
Fully Loaded



**2017 Ram Express**  
**\$289/mo.**  
Low Miles



**2019 Nissan  
Armada SV 4x4**  
**\$475/mo.**  
Don't Miss Out!



**2020 Kia Optima**  
**\$255/mo.**



**2018 Kia Sedona LX**  
**\$289/mo.**



**2019 Nissan  
Versa**  
**\$199/mo.**



**2017 Chevy  
Colorado 4x4**  
Don't Miss Out!



**2017 Toyota Corolla iM**  
**\$12,999**  
Huge Savings!



**2016 Ford Focus**  
**\$159/mo.**



**2018 Ford Taurus**  
**\$14,999**  
Close Out Pricing



**2018 Mazda 3**  
**\$220/mo.**



**2019 Toyota Camry**  
**\$16,999**  
Spring Savings



**CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER**

**1026 N. PINAL AVE., CASA GRANDE**

**520-836-2112 INSTANT CREDIT APPROVAL  
www.crossroadsauto.org**

\*Payment based on 700 credit score, 3.87% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit. Must present ad at time of purchase. Not all vehicles qualify. Ask manager for details.

# Play for good.

## Play for Phoenix Zoo Conservation.

**GILA RIVER** *Cares*

Through dedication and passion, Gila River Hotels & Casinos and the Gila River Indian Community give back to our neighbors. When we come together for the greater good, everyone wins. Every time you walk through our doors, you help fund the Phoenix Zoo's endangered wildlife conservation and habitat revival efforts. When you play with us, you play for good.



**GILA RIVER**<sup>®</sup>  
HOTELS & CASINOS

vee quiva • wild horse pass • lone butte