Legislative Hearing on Keep the Promise Act
By Christopher Lomahgauwha
Gila River Indian News

Washington, D.C. - The next stage of the “Keep the Promise Act,” a bill that started out as H.R. 1410, now renamed as S. 2670, was introduced to the Senate by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) July 28.

On Sept. 17, Gov. Gregory Mendoza testified at a legislative hearing on behalf of the Gila River Indian Community regarding the tribe’s opposition to the proposed Tohono O’odham Nation casino and resort in the West Valley.

In the packed hearing room of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, representatives from GRIC, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Tohono O’odham Nation and other tribes gathered to witness the proceedings before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

The goal of S. 2670 is to limit the amount of casinos near the Phoenix metropolitan area in keeping with the 2002 referendum called Prop. 202.

In addition, the bill will prohibit any “gaming activities on certain tribal lands” until the expiration of the state-tribal gaming compact in 2027.

The bill does not say tribes cannot build on lands that have been brought into trust, but states they cannot use it for the purpose of gaming activities.

Section 4 (a) reads: “Class II gaming and class III gaming are prohibited on land within the Phoenix metropolitan area acquired by the Secretary of the Interior in trust for the benefit of an Indian tribe after April 9, 2013.”

The bill passed in the House of Representatives with overwhelming support. The new bill is sponsored by McCain, who hopes to get it before the full Senate.

Sen. McCain and Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT), chairman of the committee, heard the testimonies of Gov. Mendoza, TON Chairman Nen Norris Jr., Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers and Glendale Councilman Gary Sherwood. The hearing also included Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior Kevin Washburn.

Gov. Mendoza opened up his testimony by saying that, “It pains me to say that our people, our state and our community, cannot build the economic development that they need and that they deserve.”

Water flows through the Gila River. In the distance rests the eastern-most portion of the Sacaton mountain range, called Thin Mountain. This photo was taken on Sept. 23, just east of Sacaton, where Highway 87 crosses over the river. Last month’s record-setting storms dropped heavy rainfall on the state, including, on the mountains to the east of the Gila River Indian Community. This is the direction from which the Gila River naturally flows. Runoff water from those mountains filled the river just enough to remind Community members of what the river once was.- GRIN Staff

Gila River Indian Community Division Narrative and Approved FY 2015 Operating Budget (GR-162-14)

By Executive Office
Gila River Indian Community

Dear Community Members,

On August 29, 2014, at a Special Council meeting of the Gila River Indian Community Council, the Gila River Indian Community Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget (GR-162-14) was approved. Below you will find a brief narrative overview of each division and approved funds allocated to each department/program within each division. Keep in mind that each division is structured by the GRIC Interim Organizational Chart per by Resolution GR-214-11.

Efforts will continue in providing greater transparency to uphold the commitment made to provide regular and on-going communication with Community members. I encourage every Community member to review the information provided.

Thank you for your continued interest and support.
Gregory Mendoza,
Governor

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Respecting People & Culture

We Need Your Help!
Help 9-1-1 Services (Police, Fire, and EMS) locate your house in an Emergency!
To fill out a request for your new physical address, please visit or call the Geographical Information Systems Section of the GRIC Land Use, Planning & Zoning Department.
Have questions or need more information? Call: (520) 562-6003

CPR/AED Classes
Be part of the solution in a medical emergency! Take a CPR/AED class.
Take a Basic First Aid class. We want you to have the knowledge, skills and confidence to help someone before Public Safety providers arrive.
District 6 has classes every month at the EMS Building. District 3 has classes every month at the Health Resources Department.
For dates and times, or to enroll, call Grace Watson at: (520) 796-4592

Transportation
We are proud to offer patients safe and reliable, non-emergent medical transportation services to healthcare appointments.
If you are unsure of your eligibility status, and/or have questions regarding covered service areas, please call the GRHC Medical Transportation Clerk:
HHKMH: . . (520) 562-3321 ext.1384
KHC: . . . . . (520) 550-6328
or . . . . . . . (602) 528-1384

Pediatric Mobile Unit
Pediatric Outreach Mobile Unit Program Immunization Clinics Scheduled for:
10/6/2014 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . VHM
10/7/2014 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . VHM
10/13/2014 . . . . . . . Sacaton Middle School
10/14/2014 . . . . . . . Sacaton Middle School
10/16/2014 . . . . . . . Sacaton Middle School
Hours: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
For information call: (520) 610-2379

Pulmonary Clinic
We are pleased to announce the arrival of Dr. M. Salim, Pulmonologist who will treat patients with respiratory issues.
Days: Every 3rd Monday of the month (October 20)
Time: 8 am to 12 Noon
For more information, call your primary care provider or call: (520) 550-6000

Gila River Health Care Job Fair
Recruiting Medical Van Drivers
Pre-screen interviews on the spot
What to Bring:
• Resume
• High School Diploma or GED
• 39 Month MVR (no older than 30 days) with no restrictions on driving and no more than 2 moving violations within the last 39 months

Saturday October 11, 2014
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital - Cafeteria
483 West Seed Farm Road
Sacaton, AZ 85147
For more information, please call the Human Resources Department at: (602) 528-1342

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital · Komatke Health Center · Ak-Chin Clinic & All Pharmacies
Will be CLOSED
Tuesday, November 11, 2014
Thursday, November 27, 2014
Friday, November 28, 2014
In observance of the Veterans Day and the Thanksgiving holidays.

GRHC.ORG
Sacaton Girl Qualifies for INFR

Jocelyn CoNeiSenNey has qualified for the Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR) in November 2013 and the Peridot Stampede Jr. Rodeo (High Point Cowgirl) in San Carlos, Ariz., in March 2014. Her most recent trophy saddle was won in May 2014 with the Arizona Junior Rodeo Association Rodeo in Prescott, Ariz.

This summer Jocelyn bought her first Indian National Finals Rodeo card to compete in the 15 years and under Junior Barrel Racing division. The Jr. and Sr. events were added in 2006 to the INFR Finals.

Jocelyn competed for points this summer to qualify for a shot at a World Champion Jr. Barrel Racing title at INFR in November. There are two rodeo associations in Arizona to join, the Southwest Indian Rodeo Association (SWIRA) and Navajo Nation Rodeo Association (NNRA). NNRA began its season in April with one of their rodeos as an INFR Tour rodeo in Shiprock. Only the top two barrel racers must qualify at the end of the NNRA rodeo season in September.

Overall Jocelyn’s accomplishment this year (2013-2014 season) are:

- Entered 16 rodeos for AJRA
- Entered 16 rodeos for QCJR
- Entered 12 Gymkannas for Chandler Vaquero Saddle Club
- Entered 6 (7th in November for San Carlos) Indian Rodeo
- Won 5 of the All-Around Cowgirl title
- Won 3 trophies for San Carlos Indian Rodeo Association

Jocelyn is the daughter of William and Diane CoNeiSenNey, who affiliates her with the Gila River Indian Community. She has a unique last name of CoNeiSenNey which comes from the Euchee Tribe of Oklahoma.

Since 2011, she has won 15 All-Around Champion Cowgirl titles, 30 buckles and 3 trophy saddles from the White Mountain Apache Tribe Jr. Rodeo in Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma.

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District 4 Man Overcomes Health Issues, Graduates College

By Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Seven years ago, when Alvin Cooper was diagnosed with diabetes, put on dialysis and told that he couldn’t work anymore, an old rebellious instinct kicked in.

“There’s a lot of things that I’ve been told [I] can’t do. But I just do it just to prove them wrong. Don’t tell me I can’t do it. I’ll find a way to do it,” he said in an interview alongside his wife and daughter at the GRIN office.

“Don’t say, ‘can’t,’” is his motto. It represents the mindset he brought to every life challenge.

It was the same thing he said when, after losing two fingers on his right hand, he was told he would never be able to use a hammer again. But the life-long carpenter found a way.

It was the same no-excuses mentality he instilled in his children growing up.

It was the same drive that picked Alvin up by his bootstraps and pushed him through the dialysis center, through the prison cell, through the broke days and onto the construction carpentry.

Cooper, 54, graduated from ITT Technical Institute, Sept. 22 with a Bachelor’s degree in Project Management. Before that, he got his Associates in Computer Drafting and Design, also at ITT, and now he’s going to Chandler-Gilbert Community College through the Employment & Training Department’s Career Pathways program.

He didn’t plan it this way.

“I just wanted something to keep me occupied,” he said. After being put on dialysis and being told to stay indoors, he started looking for work. But one day, on a visit to ITT with his daughter, he was talking to an administrator. “I told the person there what I was interested in, so they said, ‘Take the test and see how you do.’ I took the test, that night they accepted me.”

Getting into college, it would seem, was the easy part. Funding himself, now without a job, was not so easy.

Alvin went to the Gila River Indian Community’s Tribal Education Department to ask for financial aid but it was November and he missed the deadline already and he didn’t get any money from Student Services. He got a student loan and applied for the federal Pell Grant, which paid off the loan, but all that money was going straight to the school. He didn’t see any of it, so in the meantime, he was struggling to find gas money to get him from District 4 to Tempe.

“My daughters helped me out a lot. I had no transportation. I tried to make it on my own. I was doing side jobs to make gas money and...fix our ride,” he said. Both of his daughters were working. One would give him a ride to class and the other would return him home.

On top of financial and health issues, Alvin also had to contend with learning new technology. Computer aided drafting and design software is highly technical and would take a long time for even a proficient, everyday computer user to master. It also requires intensive math training.

“At first, everything was new to me. I didn’t know how to use any kind of software and I went in for Computer Drafting and Design. That’s where I started learning how to use computers. And I would ask my kids, how do you do this, what’s this for?”

Eventually, he picked it up. Just like his grades.

“My grades weren’t that good at first and I knew what the school expected of me and I kind of put myself up,” he said. His wife Melissa said while at first he was earning Fs, he later started getting As. It was because he studied like crazy. He took his books to the hospital, to the prison, everywhere, said Melissa, “He was really dedicated to school.”

“Why was he taking his books to prison?”

One day, Alvin got pulled over by a Gila River Police Officer, only to discover he had an outstanding warrant for his arrest.

“We got stopped once (in 2012) and I found out I had a warrant from like, 1980. So I ended up weekends at the same time I was going to school and going to dialysis.”

He couldn’t remember the charges – either DUI or leaving the scene of an accident – but said, “I went to court for it but I just never paid the fine,” and there was no statute of limitations.

He said the judge, who was aware of his situation, being unemployed, a student and on dialysis, agreed that it would be best for him to serve his jail time over weekend shifts rather than in full. But even that proved detrimental to his health.

“I had a Friday class. As soon as I got out of class Friday, I turned myself in and I would get out Sunday to make it to class and then dialysis [on Monday],” he explained. This went on for about four months and before long, his books couldn’t take it anymore.

“I was just getting more sick in jail,” he said. His family wrote letters to the judge requesting his release. Luckily, the judge worked with them. “We had a meeting with the judge and...she noticed the difference - I looked more sick than when I first started.”

Thankfully, the judge termi- nated the case and he got out for good. Just in time for him to black out at school and be sent to the hospital in a coma.

“So I had to put him on life support,” said Melissa. “Me and my daughter Ashley, we had to make a decision right then and there.” The doctors told her there was a 50 percent chance that he would make it through all right. If not, Alvin didn’t want to be a fighter like Alvin. “All of the people came and prayed for him and every- thing.”

He was touch and go for a while but Alvin didn’t surprise anybody when he woke up and one of his first questions was about missing class.

“He wanted to escape (the hospital bed) and go back to school,” said Melissa. “We just looked at him and started laugh- ing. We said, ‘No you gotta get better.’”

“I went to the school and I asked, ‘I wanted to take a break because of that,’ said Alvin. “They knew my situation. And I told them, no be- cause if I do then I won’t finish.”

“I see my kids...and how can I be somebody to them if I can’t be the father I told them, ‘Don’t say I can’t.’”

When Alvin lost his job be- cause of the dialysis, he almost broke down, said his wife.

“He felt like he wasn’t no use to anymore. I told him to think of it as a vacation, just a break.”

But Alvin is the kind of man that doesn’t know how to take a vacation.

After being told he would have to quit working outside, he said, “I started [building] a mud wall, like, to break the wind so that I can stay with the fire. I started that just to prove to myself that, [I could do it].”

He said, “My son would try to help me; friends would try to help me, and I would tell them no, that’s like my therapy. That’s my way of doing something to keep myself busy, keep myself in shape, instead of just lying around and feeling sorry for myself.”

Alvin graduated with his As- sociates in 2012. He got his Bach- elor’s two weeks ago and now he’s employed part-time with Prime construction company and par- ticipating in the Career Pathways program, learning how to start and run his own business.

“The company that I’m work- ing for now, they offered me a job. They want me to work full-time,” he said. But he’s also kind of locked into the Career Pathways thing. “I’m kind of debating. I want both of them...”

He figures since he’s started with Career Pathways, he’s prob- ably going to see it through and eventually start his own business.

“It’s amazing when you think about it,” said Alex Devereux, Chair of the Computer Drafting and Design program at ITT. “He’s old enough to be in that position where he can think about maybe slowing down but he’s actually thinking about starting a new busi- ness. That’s just great to see that level of motivation and commit- ment.”

“He was an incredible role model considering how he was able to come out of it with de- spite the challenges. I have healthy students who live down the street that did not have the same motiva- tion level as he did.”

Alvin has already motivated a handful of people just from hear- ing his story.

His daughter Ashley said, “My boyfriend’s aunt was also on

Keep the Promise Hearing From Page 1

Gov. Gregory Mendoza testifying on the Keep the Promise Act of 2014 before the Senate Committee of Indian Affairs Sept. 17.

Mayor Weiers said, “There was a clear promise repeatedly made to voters by tribes and state officials that there would be no additional casinos in the Phoenix metro area.”

Weiers believes if the casino is to be built in his city, it would lead the way to non-Indian gaming in Arizona. “It would have a devastating effect on tribes,” said Weiers.

The City of Glendale recently- reversed its decision to oppose the casino.

The Community hopes the bill will be addressed before Con- gress prior to its break in Decem-
Community Updates by GRIN Staff

Miss Indian Arizona Alyssa Garcia thanks GRIC for support during her reign

Outgoing Miss Indian Arizona Alyssa Garcia of the Ak-Chin Indian Community addresses Community Council, thanking them for the support she has received from Gila River during her time as Miss Indian Arizona. Garcia received a gift from Gov. Mendoza and Lt. Gov. Lewis in appreciation of her reign as Miss Indian Arizona. Behind her stands Lisa Hohokimal Hendricks, who declared her bid to compete in the 53rd Annual Miss Indian Arizona Pageant to be held on Oct. 11 at the Chandler Center for the Arts.

Graduate

From Page 4

dialysis. She told me to tell him, ‘Thank you for going back to school,’ because she’s a dialysis patient as well... She said seeing him go back to school showed her there’s something else out there for [her] to do. So she actually went back to school and graduated because of him.”

Ashley has a steady job at the hospital in Sacaton but she has been inspired to go back to school as well. She wants to become an Registered Nurse.

“All of us (his kids) graduated from high school and that’s a big thing for us,” she said. “Him as a role model inspired me to go back to school.”

When asked what motivates him the most, Alvin says, “If it weren’t for [Melissa] and the kids, I wouldn’t be doing what I’m doing.”

Alvin said there were times when he wanted to quit, but he found a way to pull through.

“One day she had a lot to do with it,” Alvin said, looking at his wife, Melissa, “because when I would go to dialysis, there were days when I didn’t feel like going (to school), but she would say, ‘You’re not like that. You don’t give up. … If it weren’t for her, I wouldn’t be where I’m at. She was the main support for me.”

Alvin is not sure where his new career is going to take him. At an age where others may be starting to think about retirement, Alvin is looking at a bright young future in the construction business.
**A’AGA: Something to be Told**

*By Billy Allen*

October (S-hep’jig Mashath) was the time to gather foods from plants that had begun to dry up, such as squash and nuts. Maybe it was also a prime time for Hohokam to compete in the many ball courts around this area. Nowadays it’s time for football! There is a long history of Pipa’ch, GRIC and Tohono O’odham footballers, and many may relive their “Friday Night Lights” moments. The names of those who played in “leatherhead” days are known to family and friends.

Fernando Walker’s family and friends of Goodyear Village know of his athletic past. Walker’s “good passing attack” during the game, the Cougars scored first, late in the first quarter. In the next Chandler possession, from the 46 yard line, quarterback Fernando Walker threw a touchdown bomb to younger brother and end, Rudy Walker. The second quarter score was 14 to 14. To open the third quarter the Chandler Wolves scored quickly under the direction of Walker. The Dispatch sports headline would read: “Cougars Take First Loss, 27-20 To Fumbles, Chandler’s Passing.”

The 1967 Casa Grande-Chandler game was the Cougars’ home opener against the undefeated Wolves. Casa Grande coach Al O’odham footballers, and many may relive their “Friday Night Lights” moments. The names of those who played in “leatherhead” days are known to family and friends.

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Currently, Walker is known as a team roper, competing at various Native roping events as a member of the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association. He tours within the Southwest Indian Rodeo Association circuit and earned a trip to the Indian National Finals Rodeo in 2012.

Before the 1966 Chandler-Casa Grande football game, Cougar coach Gene Moylan told the Casa Grande Dispatch reporter that he was aware of the Chandler Wolves’ “good passing attack.” During the game, the Cougars scored first, late in the first quarter. In the next Chandler possession, from the 46 yard line, quarterback Fernando Walker threw a touchdown bomb to younger brother and end, Rudy Walker. The second quarter score was 14 to 14. To open the third quarter the Chandler Wolves scored quickly under the direction of Walker. The Dispatch sports headline would read: “Cougars Take First Loss, 27-20 To Fumbles, Chandler’s Passing.”

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Fernando Walker’s family and friends of Goodyear Village know of his athletic past. As a teenager, Mr. Walker and his brothers were Chandler Wolves who participated in high school football, basketball and baseball along with Dallas Delowe and Marlin Johnson.

Mr. Walker had been recruited to play baseball at Arizona State, but chose to attend Haskell Indian Junior College, now known as Haskell Indian Nations University. At Haskell, Walker branched out and joined the rodeo team. When he returned home he wanted others to relish the competitive spirit, and assisted various youth athletic teams on and off the Community. He is now retired, but stays very active, caring for his livestock, being a strong advocate for individuals with special needs, and assisting his parents, Fernando Sr. and Carmen. By the way, the Snaketown ball court is less than five miles from his home. Maybe he was channeling our ancestors’ competitive legacy.

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### 2014 GENERAL ELECTION SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 17, 2014</td>
<td>VOTER REGISTRATION RE-OPENS for the General Election. New registrations or any changes/corrections to your existing voter registration status can be accepted.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 1, 2014</td>
<td>GRIC Community Council certifies the election results of the Primary Election</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 7, 2014</td>
<td>VOTER REGISTRATION CLOSES for the General Election</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14, 2014</td>
<td>ABSENTEE BALLOTS become AVAILABLE for the General Election; for registered voters unable to vote in person on Election Day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 3, 2014</td>
<td>ABSENTEE VOTING CLOSES for the General Election. All absentee ballots must be accepted by your District Judge or the Tribal Elections Office by 5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOVEMBER 4, 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>GRIC GENERAL ELECTION DAY</strong> – Districts 1 - 7; Polling Sites are open 6 am – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7, 2014</td>
<td>DEADLINE TO FILE A PROTEST to the election. Any GRIC registered voter can file a protest in writing to the Chairperson of the Community Election Board by 5:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 19, 2014</td>
<td>Community Council certifies the election results of the 2014 General Election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 01, 2015</td>
<td>General Election Candidates sworn into office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gila River Bears present Lt. Gov. with plaque of appreciation

The Gila River Bears little league baseball team, who represented the Community in the 2014 All-Star Tournament in Surprise, Ariz., presented Lt. Gov. Lewis with a plaque in appreciation of his sponsorship during the fall 2013 and spring 2014 Cal Ripken League. Lewis was also given a pin and medal that were presented to the Bears during the Cal Ripken Little League Series where they were runners up in the All-Star tournament on June 28. Teammate Joseph Cooper of Gila River was awarded the Arizona Cal Ripken Tommy Jones Sportsmanship award following the tournament.

Komatke Boys and Girls Club
Leaders-In-Training Summer Program

Submitted by Renee Ouellet
Gila River Health Care BHS: Prevention Program

Each summer at the Komatke Boys and Girls Club, Leaders-In-Training (L.I.T.) youth participate in leadership and suicide prevention programs provided by Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Services: Prevention Program staff. The Leaders-In-Training program is part of a collaborative effort on behalf of Boys and Girls Clubs nationwide. This program serves to grow leadership skills with teens ages 12-18, by offering them unique opportunities to provide operational support to staff and to serve as role models and mentors for younger club members in their community.

This year, prevention staff member Renee Ouellet invited L.I.T. youth to tour EMPACT Suicide Prevention Center in Tempe as part of their career week activities. The purpose of this tour was to give youth an opportunity to glimpse the inner workings of a non-profit agency and to engage departmental staff of varying professions. The participating youth received presentations from prevention and human resources employees on the various career paths available and required education for both fields. They were also able to discuss careers in children’s services and finance. L.I.T. youth shared lunch and conversation with prevention staff about what they learned from the experience and how they will use the experience to help shape the decisions they make for their future career choices.

Photo 1: Leaders In Training youth enjoyed the puppets and games used for play therapy in the children’s department.
By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

For a man from Oklahoma, it was a step away from the dairy farm from which he grew up, moving out west. Walter Fisher said he “enjoyed working with the students,” in his tenure at Ira H. Hayes High School. Although he may not be from the Community, Fisher has been a bus driver in Gila River since 1993.

Ira H. Hayes Students Producing Good Writing Projects

Submitted by Mark Smith
Ira H. Hayes High School

Students at Ira Hayes High School are putting out some really good writing. I should know. I am their new Language Arts teacher. After reading from the Ramayana about a Hindu hero, I asked my senior class to write about who their hero was and got some wonderful responses. Here are some samples.

Claudia Bandin wrote: “My hero is not any superhero or hero from a story, but my hero is my father. My father has gone through so many obstacles throughout his life. It amazes me that each obstacle he has gone through has not done any damage…He still stands tall and manages to get through every day.”

Selena Lopez was on the same track: “My hero would be my mother Delia. She has done so much for me. Also she has been through a lot, and just watching her has taught me to never give up and that things in life maybe difficult but we’ll get through it.”

Ira H. Hayes High School Bus Driver Retires after 20 years

Walter Fisher, recently retired bus driver.

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

When word got out that he was going to retire, the students were unhappy, and wanted to see him stay. Fisher says “I have a lot of pride working at Ira H. Hayes school,” having respect for whom the school is named and for the students. His advice to the students he will be saying goodbye to is: “Just do the best you can do and be nice to other people.”

Ira H. Hayes Students Producing Good Writing Projects

Submitted by Mark Smith
Ira H. Hayes High School

I could do it...my role model, she has been there since day one and still is today.”

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Spring 2015 Application Deadline

November 15, 2014

* Student Services will have extended office hours from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm on Monday, November 17, 2014 to accept hand delivered applications and documents
* If you are mailing your application and documents, they must be postmarked on or before November 15, 2014.
* Faxing Applications and Documents will not be accepted.

All complete applications and required documents can be submitted prior to the November 15th deadline. You do not have to wait for the deadline to bring them in.

For further information contact
Student Services Department
(520) 562-3316


### Gila River Indian News

#### October 3, 2014

**Budget Report by Division**

**From Page I**

**Executive Division**

The Executive Division is characterized by a diversity of administrative offices, special interest and advisory groups, and direct service providers. The Office of the Community Manager, Public Community Information Office, and the Management Information Systems Department provide direct support to the Executive Office in carrying out the day-to-day activities associated with the tribal government. The Youth Council, the Office of Elders, and the Council of Elders provide information and advice to the Executive Office on constituent matters for policy development consideration. And, the Division of Tribal Services provides services to Community members, who otherwise might not have representation in legal defense matters.

By department:

- Administration: $11,345,604
- Communications & Public Affairs Office: $1,781,318
- Defense Services: $1,710,257
- Youth Council: $330,169
- Council of Elders: $42,280
- Management Information Systems: $3,777,086
- Computer Replacement Program: $2,730,000
- Total Executive Division: $21,723,854

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $20,324,109

**Administrative Division**

The Administrative Support Division also consists of a diverse grouping of administrative offices, departments, and programs that provide services to other administrative units and Community members. The acquisition of human resources and pertinent goods and services under this division provides necessary resources to sustain government operations. Education, job placement, and training are critical services necessary to develop the workforce and enrich the lives of Community members. Housing activities, and Social Services, in particular, provide an important issue for leadership and the Community Housing Department has been placed under this division to provide greater oversight and productivity in meeting the various housing needs of Community members.

By department:

- Property and Supply: $2,728,746
- Human Resources: $2,936,915
- Employee Relations: $503,976
- Department of Housing Development (DHD): $4,438,819
- Enrollment: $845,146
- TERO: $327,854
- Employment & Training: $644,836
- Year Round Youth Program: $431,581
- Tribal Education Admin 1: $1,671,694
- Child Care & Dev. Ctr.: $1,531,663
- Head Start Supplementation: $4,906,763
- Scholarships: $514,885
- Student Services: $551,464
- Total Administrative Division: $25,810,856

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $25,669,909

**Public Safety Division**

The Public Safety Division functions as a functional group of first responders and service providers, who perform emergency and social service functions for Community members. This division is prepared to react to any type of disaster or emergency situation at any time. Consequently, personnel, equipment, training, and facilities have undergone continual expansion to accommodate the increasing needs and mandates, such as the Tribal Law and Order Act will place additional demands on division personnel and facilities. This division is actively engaged in preparing and recruiting Community members for careers in public safety.

By department:

- Fire Department: $9,737,602
- Child Welfare Admin: $14,433
- O.E.M.: $1,215,673
- Dept. Rehab & Supervision: $9,707,092
- Police Dept.: $12,583
- Social Services: $2,562,625
- Social Services Assistance: $2,354,072
- Residential Programs for Youth: $3,486,085
- Domestic Violence Shelter: $1,068,646
- Total Public Safety Division: $43,812,889

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $42,325,844

**Tribal Development Services Division**

The Tribal Development Services Division serves many functions from planning, engineering, and construction services to providing direct services to Community members through the District Service Centers, recreation facilities, the library and plans and manages the annual Mul-Chu-Tha Fair. This division serves the needs of the elderly through the Elderly Services and Elderly Nutrition departments. From constructing houses to roads and new governmental facilities, this division is responsible for developing and maintaining the infrastructure needed to support growth within the Community. This is the largest unit within the tribal administration divisional structure.

By department:

- DOT: $2,493,631
- Tribal Projects Development: $1,835,814
- District 1: $2,683,774
- District 2: $1,969,849
- District 3: $3,386,743
- District 4: $3,201,726
- District 5: $9,765,460
- District 6: $3,057,759
- District 7: $1,948,805
- Facility Maintenance: $4,260,721
- Tribal Recreation: $356,202
- Natural Resources: $2,080,196
- LIHEAP: $58,000
- Elderly Services: $731,718
- Elderly Nutrition: $664,013
- Ira Hayes Library: $189,531
- Mul Chu Tha: $153,457
- Nutritional Services: $357,755
- DPW: $5,287,759
- Fleet Admin/Replacement: $164,165
- Total Tribal Development Services: $38,898,578

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $44,642,045

**Community Services**

Community services provide administrative support to the seventeen (17) Community Council members and to the seven (7) Standing Committees of the Community Council. CCSO maintains the ordinances, policies, resolutions, bylaws, and any procedures authorized by the Community Council; upon request provide information to departmental entities and community members. The Tribal Elections Program and Voter Registration Board are under the direction of CCSO.

By department:

- CCSO: $3,039,517
- Cultural Resources Std Committee: $2,491
- Economic Dev Std Committee: $2,390

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $3,706,756

**Unassigned Departments**

Unassigned departments are currently not part of the tribal administration’s structural change; however, these departments, activities, and programs provide essential services to the Community Council, Executive Office, and Community members. In addition to essential services, such as the Office of the General Counsel, the Office of the Prosecutor, and the Executive Office, this budget category supports various activities and functions through grant funding. Legal services, donations, urban members, the Boys and Girls Clubs, and Veterans organizations are all recipients of grant funding. The Tribal Courts are also funded under this budget category.

By department:

- Christmas Gift: $1,396,225
- Executive Office: $2,972,306
- Executive Consultant: $6,864,510
- Office of the General Counsel: $2,586,833
- Office of the Prosecutor: $2,459,456
- Tribal Courts/Judicial: $7,430,423
- Tribal Gaming Office: $9,926,907
- Tribal Health Commission: $486,995

Total Unassigned Departments: $34,043,649

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $38,916,931

**Grants**

- Community Technology Schools: $275,000
- Urban Members Association: $72,760
- Pee Posh Veteran’s Association: $40,000
- Ira H. Hayes Post #84 American Legion: $115,310
- Haskell Osife American Legion P#95: $81,407
- Boys & Girls Clubs: $1,084,119
- Donations: $1,942,834
- Caring House: $1,875,000
- Four Rivers Legal Services: $209,414

Total Grants: $5,805,610

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $3,791,388

**Healthcare Type Recipients**

(Tobacco Tax)

- GRTC - Health: $347,206
- GRTC - Wellness: $4,223,594

Total Healthcare Type Recipients: $4,570,800

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $4,517,494

**Healthcare Services**

- Tobacco Tax: $234,000
- GRTC - Health: $347,206
- GRTC - Wellness: $4,223,594

Total Healthcare Type Recipients: $4,570,800

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $4,517,494

**Tribal Government**

- Tobacco Tax: $162,600
- Caring House: $1,875,000
- DRS Inmate/Resident Food costs: $450,000
- DRS - Inmate Medical Care & Food cost: $549,143
- Fire Dept (Tobacco Tax): $150,000
- Dialysis Assistance (Tobacco Tax): $201,688
- Wellness Center (Tobacco Tax): $214,144
- Health Resource Department: $600,000
- Health Initiative: $555,000
- Total Tobacco Tax: $4,758,025

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $10,964,847

**Tribal Entities**

- Alcohol Tax: $577,523
- Alcohol Tax - TSS: $50,000
- Alcohol Tax - Fire: $146,699
- Total Alcohol Tax: $744,222

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $800,000

**Grand Total**

- Grand Total: $198,662,441

FY 14 Budget (for comparison): $210,476,078
South Mountain Freeway

From Page 1

segments of the mountain, called Mauve, and South to Main Ridge North. Options for tunnelling under these segments and building a bridge over them were eliminated based on safety concerns and otherwise detrimental implications to the area. Going around them is not an option because that would mean encroaching on Community land. Read more on page 5-18 of the FEIS.

From that point, there are five options for the western section of the proposed highway. The preferred option is titled W-59 Alternative and will align with 59th Ave. to connect to the I-10. It is designed to be the least expensive Alternative at a projected cost of $1.23 billion.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gila River Indian Community Department of Environmental Quality is announcing that the $3.9 billion public permit period for Wild Horse Pass (WHP) is now open. The public period is being permuted for Valole Organic Compound (VOC) emissions and Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs). Public comments will be accepted in writing until November 17, 2014, after which staff will review and respond to all the comments received.

Any person may submit a written comment or a request to the Department to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of hearing oral or written comments on the proposed air quality operating permits. Such comments and requests shall be received by the Department within 30 days of the date of this publication notice. A written comment shall state the name and mailing address of the person, shall be signed by the person, and shall clearly set forth reasons why the permit should or should not be issued. Grounds for comments are limited to whether the proposed permit meets the criteria for issuance prescribed in the Gila River Indian Community Code: Title 17, Chapter 1 of the Indian Housing Code. The Gila River Indian Community Environment Code: Title 4, Chapter 4, of the Indian Housing Code. The Gila River Indian Community Environment Code: Title 4, Chapter 4, of the Indian Housing Code. The Gila River Indian Community Environment Code: Title 4, Chapter 4, of the Indian Housing Code. The Gila River Indian Community Department of Environmental Quality.

Dear Ryan,

FYI - The following lane restrictions are from the Arizona Department of Transportation.

October 14th to install counter loops from 9 pm to 5:00 am Tuesday October 13th from 9 pm to 5:00 am Tuesday October 12th to mill, pave, stripe and core. There will be no lane closures, unless the time is extended by order of the Court, energy operating permit officially begins October 11th to mill, pave, stripe and core.

For further information, please contact Ryan Eberle, located at 1576 S. Nelson Dr., Chandler, AZ 85226

For questions or more info, please call 602.258.4822 or 520.562.5232.

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To Enroll In Benefits please bring:

- Photo ID
- Social Security card
- Proof of Residency
- Current Working Paycheck Stubs
- Current Utility Bills
- Current Driver's License
- Current Bank Statement
- Proof of Employment
- Proof of Insurance

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, October 8, 9 am-1 pm

Address: 1576 S. Nelson Dr., Chandler, AZ 85226

Public Benefits Outreach Program has scheduled THREE public benefits enrollment events throughout the Gila River Indian Community with assistance open for enrollment for Medicare, Health Insurance Marketplace, Tribal Exemptions.

Deadline: October 10, 2014.

The Intercouncil of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) Public Benefits Outreach Program has scheduled THREE public benefits enrollment events throughout the Gila River Indian Community with assistance open for enrollment for Medicare, Health Insurance Marketplace, Tribal Exemptions.

For more information, visit: sacaton.az.gov/greatlandtrust/energy, email energy@sacaton.gov, phone 602.731.3000, or write to ITCA Community Relations, 130 South Sacaton Rd., Sacaton, AZ 85147, or call 1.800.522.5029.

Public Benefits Enrollment Period:

NEW: Announcements & Notices

No Community Council Action Sheets for Wednesday, Sept. 17.

Meeting was Rescheduled to Wednesday, Oct. 1.
Gila River Indian News
October 3, 2014

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Community was treated to the grand opening of a facility like none other found in Indian Country. Designed to take care of the tribe’s most vulnerable population, the new Residential Programs for Youth facility opened its doors on Sept. 25.

It was a cheerful atmosphere for those in attendance to see the building up close, knowing the facility will offer the youth a place that feels like home. It was a theme that resonated throughout the event: to bring the Community’s children home to the reservation.

In his welcoming, Gov. Mendoza praised the RPY staff for “taking the children home, and appreciating the support of Division Manager Nada Celaya for contributing to the progression of the facility. The RPY facility will house an estimated 80 children.

Lt. Gov. Lewis echoed the sentiment of the other speakers. “We need to move to unify our children and families,” he said. Lewis stressed the Community is increasing its services to prevent children from “falling through the cracks,” because all too often youths are left to the custody of agencies outside the reservation.

“His Holiness Pope Francis states ‘be the Franciscan of the modern world’,” Gov. Mendoza continued. “We are all Franciscans of the modern world because we live with the children. The RPY facility is a reality.”

In his welcoming, Gov. Mendoza stated, “The RPY has planned to utilize our language, songs, and oral traditions to help our youths better understand the dangers of substance abuse, and other issues facing our young people.”

Dale Enos, a former employee of RPY and TSS for 16 years and former District 3 Council Representative, said, “I am confident that the staff we have here now is just as talented and just as good and care enough about our children to make a difference in their lives.”

Devon Antone, a former resident of the RPY facility, talked about how RPY influenced the positive choices she’s made in her life. She talked about her struggles when she came to the program at the age of 14.

Antone is 21-years-old and currently attending Central Arizona College. The mother of a 6-year-old son, Antone is determined to finish her education and start a career that she hopes will benefit the Community.

Kimberley Herman, the RPY director, was ecstatic to see the many supporters at the grand opening. Herman talked about the team effort that went into making the new facility a reality.

She knows the work is contributing to the progression of the facility. The Community was treated to a continental breakfast and lunch will be served.

Lt. Gov. Lewis echoed the sentiment of the other speakers. “We need to move to unify our children and families,” he said. Lewis stressed the Community is increasing its services to prevent children from “falling through the cracks,” because all too often youths are left to the custody of agencies outside the reservation.

A continental breakfast and lunch will be served.

Whether you’re a Southwest Gas customer or not, it’s important to know how to recognize and respond to a natural gas leak.

A leak may be present if you:

SMELL: An odor similar to rotten eggs, even if it’s faint or momentary.

HEAR: A hissing or roaring sound coming from the ground or above-ground pipeline.

SEE: Dirt or water blowing into the air, discolored vegetation surrounding a pipeline, or standing water continuously bubbling.

If you suspect a leak:

- Leave the area immediately.
- From a safe place, call 911 and Southwest Gas at 1-877-860-6020, day or night, whether you’re a customer or not. A Southwest Gas representative will be there as soon as possible.
- Don’t smoke or use matches or lighters.
- Don’t turn on or off any electric switches, thermostats, or appliance controls; or use automated doors.
- Don’t start or stop an engine.

For more information about natural gas pipeline safety, visit swgas.com/safety or call 1-877-860-6020.
53rd Annual Miss Indian Arizona Pageant

OCTOBER 11, 2014
Chandler Center for the Arts
250 North Arizona Ave.
Chandler, Arizona 85225

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Pageant begins at 6:30 p.m.
All tickets are general seating

Tickets Prices:
$10.00 - Adult
$7.00 - 12 & Under

Tickets can be purchased online
www.chandlercenter.org
or at the box office:
Mon - Fri 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, Noon - 5:00 p.m.
(480) 728-2680

Lisa Hohokimal Hendricks
is honored to represent the
Gila River Indian Community