GRIC Education Summit Looks at Challenges, Solutions in Tribal Schools

By Annie Gutierrez
Gila River Indian News

Education is an important issue in the Community today. With two tribal schools closing at the end of the school year and school performance ratings stagnant, the Tribal Education Department hosted an education summit March 21 to gather public input on improving tribal education.

Improving education in the Community has been a priority of Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis’s administration since he entered office, and the Tribal Education Department hosted an education summit March 21 to gather public input on improving tribal education.

In her inaugural speech, Governor Stephen Roe Lewis said Lewis.

“Head Start School for an open dis-

Max’s base camp was at the whiskey - distillery in the O'odham Nation, journeyed across the desert starting in San Xavier of the O'odham Nation, and ending at Red Mountain in the desert.

The Unity Run preserves a long tradition that brings O'odham tribal members from various communities together for a week of running and prayer. This year, more than 300 runners traveled over 200 miles across traditional O'odham jomed (land) in the 20th Annual Unity Run.

“We utilize this run across our territory to renew our connection with our land, our ancestors and our Huhugam,” said Unity Run Coordinator Shannon Rivers.

Community members and education experts voiced their opinions on education on the reservation at the GRIC Education Summit March 21 in Sacaton.

Keynote speaker Deborah Norris, Director of Indian Education with the Arizona Department of Education, spoke briefly on tribal education in the state. In her slideshow presentation, she showed the audience the low academic performance of Native American students compared to other ethnicities in urban and reservation schools.

Even though Native American students are slowly improving, she says the most important area of focus is college readiness. According to an AMEPA (Arizona Minority Education Policy Analysis Center) report, she said that among Native American students, 30 percent are not college-ready.

“If we look at education 50 years ago, I can say we are doing better today than long ago,” said Norris.

Four breakout sessions focused on different levels of education: early childhood, K-8, high school, and adult/higher education. Booths were also set up in forming members of the various services available to Community members.

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Cancer Awareness Day Offers Prayers for Loved Ones, Support for Survivors

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Cancer has a high incidence in the later stages of cancer when treatment is less effective because the cancer cells are more aggressive.

Events like Cancer Awareness Day help Community members understand the importance of getting regular check-ups and screenings for cancer.

The event kicked off with a 3-mile and 1-mile run/walk around the District 2 service center. Honorary guest speakers included former governor Gregory Mendoza, Richard Thomas, Carolynn Terry, Patricia Millard and Darlene Antone, who publicly shared their stories about living with and overcoming cancer.

A key portion of the event was to inform Community members about cancer so they can better understand what to ask or look for when visiting the doctor. To conclude the event, participants attached the name of a cancer survivor or loved ones lost to cancer to a purple balloon and released it with the group as a symbolic gesture of remembrance.

Pablo said, “There is a lot of emotion that comes out,” during the balloon release, but he said it gives the participants a sense of closure, releasing the negative emotions related to cancer.

“We have come a long way with the event,” he said. Next year the Cancer Awareness Day will be in Sacaton.

Community members from all around gathered outside the District 2 Multipurpose Building March 28 to release purple balloons in honor of loved ones and victims of cancer.

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Gila River Indian News

More than 300 runners participated in the Unity Run, which traveled from the Tohono O’odham Nation to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community from March 15 – 21, and stopped at traditional O’odham villages along the way.

The Unity Run is an annual tradition that brings O’odham tribal members from various communities together for a week of running and prayer. This year, more than 300 runners traveled over 200 miles across traditional O’odham jomed (land) in the 20th Annual Unity Run.

“We utilize this run across our territory to renew our connection with our land, our ancestors and our Huhugam,” said Unity Run Coordinator Shannon Rivers.

From March 15 – 21, runners of all ages from Gila River, Ak-Chin and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Communities, as well as the Tohono O’odham Nation, journeyed across the desert starting in San Xavier of the TON and ending at Red Mountain in Salt River.

The Unity Run preserves a long O’odham tradition of prayer through running. Runners carried prayer staffs, length of the journey, sending blessings of wellbeing from village to village. Participants stopped in designated areas and camped each night.
The Affordable Care Act (ACA) promotes health insurance coverage for all. For income tax year 2014, the ACA requires all taxpayers to report their proof of health insurance or pay a penalty. As a Native American with a tribal affiliation, you are entitled to an exemption from this penalty.

For more information, please contact:

Joni Notah
Patient Advocate Coordinator
(520) 562-7915 or jnotah@grhc.org
April 2015

Welcome Address:
Timothy Oliver, Director
GRC Dept. of Transportation

Innovation/Blessing:
Harry Antone, Tribal Member

Honor Speaker:
Stephen R. Lewis, Governor

Proceed to D3 Service Center
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Continental Breakfast

Overview of Project:
IWA Representative

NFM Construction

Artic Engineering/Slide show

Closing

The Department of Transportation is proud to welcome you to this celebration of the new Gila River Bridge. In 2011 the Gila River Department of Transportation added the Gila River Bridge Replacement to its 5 year Transportation Program. That kickoff of the typical development process started with completing the design requirements, environmental review, need study, RFP and finalization with FHWA and FNBK for approval to move forward with construction which was expected to require a six month closure at Sacaton Road over the bridge.

At that time, we all naively thought the Community would be fortunate enough to receive not one but two (FHWA Bridge Replacement funding of $490,500) to assist with the bridge replacement, but unfortunately this project required a FHWA Bridge Replacement funding of $2.2 million which covered a majority of the replacement costs. These two grants allowed the Community to have its designers (Aztec Engineering) modify its approach and construction methodology and allowed us to build the bridge in phases instead of the original structure, saving up to six months of traffic impacts. Subsequently, we contracted closed the road, tore down the old structure and slid the new bridge into place. This reduced the total road closure from 6 months to just over 10 days, thus significantly reducing impacts to you, the daily users of this facility.

As you look at the new bridge, you all should be proud that the Gila River Indian Community is the first tribal community to complete a bridge slide in the country. We also demonstrated that the Community has the wherewithal to carry out a very complex transportation project that has been showcased across the country. This project established a simple cost effective bridge slide alternative that communities across the country can replicate. Thank you and have a great day.

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Harry Antone, Tribal Member

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A’AGA
Something to be told
By Billy Allen

"Let's get going; the hot weather is about to fall upon us."

"The hot weather is coming; the sun has turned and is walking back."

Two ways elders would refer to the springtime. Looking at the mesquite's yellow flowers you may realize why April is also called Kui Hiosik Mashath. April also starts the baseball season.

In my youth baseball was THL game. Little did we know of Native Americans who had played in the majors: Louis Sockalexis, the first Native to become a Major League ballplayer and Chief Bender, the first Native in the American League and one of two (Zack Wheat is the other) Natives enshrined in the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Opening day will see three Natives: Kyle Lohse, Jacoby Ellsbury and Joba Chamberlain, on Major League rosters. From the movie Field of Dreams: "The one constant through all the years...has been baseball. America has rolled by like an army of steamrollers. It has been erased like a blackboard, rebuilt and erased again. But baseball has marked the time."

I knew baseball had a long history in our community, but did not realize how far back that history went. The City of Chandler Website, chandlerpedia.org, has blurbs from Chandler's first newspaper. For March 7, 1913, it mentions a Chandler baseball team, one of three, barely beating a Native team from Sweetwater. On April 4, 1913, the Sweetwater Indians beat a Chandler team 12 - 6. Another one mentions a Chandler team losing to a Sacaton team 13 - 3.

On Sept. 6, 1912, a Casa Grande newspaper reported the Casa Grande Grays beat the Sacaton Indians, 4 – 2. The Grays next games would be a doubleheader against Sweetwater and Sacaton in Sacaton. The lineup for Sacaton listed David Wiston, Mark Havier, Luke Antone, J. Roe Morago, Isaac C. Antone, Jas. Nathan, M. Osif, David Antone, and Lewis Thomas, with Thomas King the umpire.

On January 4, 1918, the paper also reported, the Sacaton school and the athletic club would meet to select a captain for the baseball team. The ball players would take a thorough course of training under professional instruction, with the goal of outplaying any team in Arizona. The paper stated, "The talent is on the reservation and proper instruction and teamwork will bring it out."

Growing up on GRIC, I was aware most community celebrations included a baseball game. A vivid memory from my youth was driving into the old rodeo grounds in Sacaton for a Memorial Day rodeo. A baseball game was in progress. It wasn't the first time I had seen a game but it was the first I remember grown men playing "hard ball."

When my older brother began to play with the local men's team, I tagged along. I can still recall the speed of the pitch, the players, and the use of O'otham phrases. At practice, us young ones became "go-fers", chasing fouls, wild pitches and errant throws. We felt like we were part of the team. It was if we were initiated into a modern day warrior society. The diamond was no different from the battlefield, for one had to deal with pain, heat, dust, taunts and use strategy to overcome the "enemy."

It always seemed opposing teams saved and used their best efforts against Casa Blanca. However with the O'otham game, no matter how heated the competition was on the field, all got along post game. After all, most of us had known the other team members all our lives and some were relatives. If I had known all of this and when the game was to start, I would have channeled Ernie Banks and said, "Let's play go: k!" (Wake up an elder and ask for a translation.)
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From Page 1
In the future, Valenzuela says
keep the Promise Act Passes U.S. House Subcommittee
By Christopher Lomaquahu
Gila River Indian News
H.R. 308 — "Keep the Promis-
e Act of 2015," a bill that ad-
dresses the construction and op-
eration of tribal casinos in urban
areas, passed the U.S. House of
Representatives Natural Resour-
ces Committee March 25.
The bill, supported by Ari-
zona Representatives Paul Gosar (R), Matt Salmon (R), David Schweikert (R) and Trent Franks (R), is aimed at stopping the construction of casinos on reservation land taken
into trust after April 2013.
In a press release by the Gila
River Indian Community, "The Act to Keep the Promise agreed to in 2002 by tribes and...Arizona
Education Summit
From Page 1
discussed concerns, tribal pro-
grams and needs while others
expressed ideas on improving the
system with solutions to target
student challenges and ways to
keep them interested in school.
Facilitators listened and
wrote ideas on blank sheets of
paper hanging on the walls. After
the sessions, attendees were giv-
en three blue dots to place next
to their top priorities, such as tu-
toring services and transportation
support.
For Wilfred Wellington, the
summit was a way of listening in
and voicing his ideas on the sub-
jects of early childhood and adult
education.
"I think of the way the Com-
unity is and I use all the possibil-
ities" for growth, said Wellington,
85. Wellington obtained a Bache-
lor’s Degree in sociology and en-
courages children and grand-
children to follow suit.
He believes that a library on
the reservation will benefit stu-
dents, expand their knowledge
and encourage higher education.
He said, "These children need en-
couragement and things like a li-
brary and this (education summit)
to keep them going.
No. That the summit is con-
ccluded, all the information ex-
pressed during the sessions will
be analyzed and compiled into a
report by the education admin-
istration to be presented to tribal
leadership for review before creat-
ing a master plan.
"This is not the conclusion. This
is the first step," said Patri-
cia Valenzuela, acting director of
TED.
In the future, Valenzuela says
there is a possibility for anoth-
er summit but for now her focus
is following through with the in-
formation. "We gave everybody
the opportunity to speak and now
we have to really make sure their
voices were heard."
McNally said “It’s a wonderful opportunity to get the youth out here to see what is available to them, so we decided to do a resource fair.”

“One way to get the youth started on thinking about their education, is to start early,” she said, and this is most important at this time in their life.

Many of the youths weren’t just from the Westend of the Community, some came out from other districts across the Community to meet with career specialists.

Miss Gila River Sienna Whittington and First Attendant Cheyenne Jackson spoke to the youths about pursuing an education.

Whittington, a college graduate, talked about her passion for education. “I recommend Community members take advantage of the opportunities available to them,” she said, referring to the Gila River Student Services scholarship program.

“I want to encourage education, because I want everybody to follow their passion and find something in school that you really like.”

Whittington encouraged the youth to view their educational opportunity as a way to share the Community with other non-natives.

She said “I really was an ambassador of the Community at that time and I’ve found that it was something I really enjoyed doing was sharing who we are.”

Jackson said she is excited about encouraging the youth at the Komatke Boys & Girls Club, where she works as a Game Room Supervisor. “I try to inspire kids by talking with them about school even though they may be young.”

She said “Education is the path you have to go to make it. If you have an interest, go for it.” Jackson believes encouragement helps fuel interest in going to college and having a passion for something will make the experience worthwhile.

Unity Run

From Page 1

along the way.

As the midday sun beamed over the dry desert, the runners made their way to the Sacaton Caring House, March 19, where they were greeted with cheers and applause from supporters. Traditional singers sang for the group as they circled the parking lot four times. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and Community Council also greeted the runners and gave thanks for the blessings. While at the caring house, the runners shared a meal with residents and elders before continuing on their journey.

“It was humbling and a blessing to be able to lead the runners behind me – knowing that everybody runs for different reasons,” said Anissa Garcia, 20, GRIC D3. This is Garcia’s second year participating in the Unity Run. She, along with Ernesto Suniga, D4, carried the prayer staffs as they led 180-plus runners into the Caring House lot.

“Seeing the elders, shaking their hands and seeing the look on their faces – they were so grateful for what we were doing and excited that we came to visit them,” said Garcia.

The Unity Run has been going strong for 20 years. With the help of coordinators from the four sister tribes and volunteer staff, the run continues to grow each year keeping O’otham himdag and traditions alive.

“We thank our brother, our elder and mentor Melvin Fulfelder (Salt River, a founder of the Unity Run) for carrying on this vision and dream and ability to come together as O’otham,” said Rivers.

Unity Run runners shake hands with elders at the Sacaton Caring House March 19.

Westend Job Expo

From Page 5

Unity Run runners shake hands with elders at the Sacaton Caring House March 19.
Easter Bunny Visits RPY

By Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The children at the Residential Programs for Youth (RPY) had a wonderful surprise visit from the Easter Bunny, March 26.

Since last month, Sheila Rhodes, a secretary for the District 3 Elderly Liaison Services Department, and her district elders have been busily preparing the Easter baskets for the children at the RPY center, head start and special education program.

The group of elders also donates Easter baskets to residents in the Sacaton Caring House.

The Easter bunny visited each of childcare locations to deliver the baskets. These are not the usual Easter baskets you find in the stores; each basket has a personal touch to them and is hand-designed by the elders.

Corinne Escalante, a District 3 elder, says she enjoys putting the baskets together, because she knows some kids will be happy this Easter.

“We started late, but we are working to get [them] out,” she said with a look of confidence.

She gets a sense of satisfaction thinking about the whole purpose behind the project. “Sitting there looking at those little kids reminds me of my own grandchildren,” she said.

Louella Hendricks, another District 3 elder, shared her experience on the Easter basket project.

She said their work has caught the attention of other district elder groups, some of them inquiring about how they put the Easter baskets together.

Hendricks said, “I enjoy working on [them] because we make our own decorations.” Some of the decorations are hand cut and affixed with a hot glue gun.

When the Easter bunny shows up at each of the centers, “Some of the kids are scared, some are happy,” Hendricks said smiling at the reactions she’s seen.

In total, the D3 elders have been putting together Easter baskets for five years, and do the same thing during Christmas.

During the Holidays they put together Christmas stockings, delivering them to the same locations.

According to RPY Administrator Kimberly Herman, “The thoughtfulness and generosity is very much appreciated by the RPY staff. Many of our residents do not have opportunities to celebrate holidays such as Easter with their immediate families.”

She said, “Having baskets full of goodies for the kids to enjoy is a blessing that we recognize, and are thankful for. The kids had a wonderful time with the Easter Bunny; their smiles were priceless and worth every second!”

Easter Bunny Visits RPY

Pictured in photo: RPY Administrator Kimberly Herman, RPY Recreation Coordinator Mark Miller, RPY Liaison Caseworker Amy Paul, RPY Youth Development Specialist II Adam Cordova, Chair for Elders Rhonda Ruiz, Vice Chair for Elders Dennis Williams, Secretary for Elders Sheila Rhodes, Treasurer for Elders Ina Lyons, Gloria Osife, Rowena Juan, Betty Perez, and “Benny the Bunny.”

WESTERN TOWN AND STEAKHOUSE

Reservations are highly recommended

ADULT’S BUFFET: $21.95  CHILD’S BUFFET: $9.95

Visit Rawhide.com to make your reservations or call 480.922.9300. Gratuity will be included for parties of 6 or more.
ACTION SHEET
Community Council; PO Box 2138, Sacaton, Arizona 85147;
Phone (520) 562-9720, Fax (520) 562-9729
CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday March 4, 2015, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona. The meeting was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:17am
INVOCATION
Provided by Haskell Osse-Antone American Legion Auxiliary Unit 51 – Edlin Darfins Antone
ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present: Governor Stephen R. Lewis; Lt Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joe Whitman, Arizie Hogg, D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Caroylin Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4- Jennifer Allison, Angela Allison, Christopher Mendoza, D5- Brian Davis, Sr., Janice F. Stewart (9:20am), Franklin Pablo, Sr., D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Nasewytewa;
Council Members Absent:
D4-Alectron, D5- Robert Stone; D7- Devin Redbird
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED
[ADJOURN TO AGENDA]
PRESENTATION/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5 minutes)
1. Miss Gila River Lucia Antone Farewell Address
Presenter: Miss Gila River Lucia Antone
MS. LUCIA ANTOINE EXPRESSED WORDS OF GRATITUDE TO HER EXPERIENCES DURING HER REIGN AS THE 51ST MISS GILA RIVER. GOVERNOR LEWIS, LT.
GOVERNOR ANTONE, AND VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND WELCOME.
15-MINUTE Reception in Chambers Lobby
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:27AM]
REPORTS
1. Haskell Osse-Antone American Legion Auxiliary Unit 51 – 1st Quarter Report – FY 2015
Presenters: Alson Anderson, Lois Thomas
RESOLUTION
Presenter: Rebecca Martinez, Jason Jones
REPORT HEARD
Presenters: Myron Schurz, GRHC Representatives
RESOLUTION [GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR AN HOUR AND HALF LUNCH BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:49PM]
4. Gila River Telecommunication Inc. – FY 2014 – 4th Quarter Report
Presenters: Anthony Newkirk, Pam Thomas, Bruce Holbridge, Charles Miller
REPORT HEARD
5. Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority - FY 2015 1st Quarter – October 1, 2014-December 31, 2014
Presenters: John Lewis, Neil Banketewa, Leon Gold
REPORT HEARD
Presenters: John Lewis, Neil Banketewa, Leon Gold
REPORT HEARD
7. Presentation- Integrated Ag Financial (IAF), L.L.C
Presenters: Cecilia Martinez, Jon-Michael Nahon
REPORT HEARD
Presenter: Anthony Higgin
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Presenter: Michelle Bowman, Melanie Yazzie
MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO DEFEAT TO TABLED REPORT HEARD
10. Police Department 2014 Overview
Presenter: Kathleen Kirkham, Chief
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
11. DRS 2014-2015 TLOA Preparation, TLOA Accomplishments
Presenters: Corina Brown, Sarah Babu, Leonard Godsil, TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
12. CCDP Annual Report
Presenter: Melissa Madrid
REPORT HEARD
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXECUTE SESSION
Presenters: Janice Poniznani, Kenneth Manuel, Board of Directors, Stephen Harris, REDW, Anthony Gerlach, REDW
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
January 2015 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Janice Poniznani, Board Of Directors
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
15. Gila River Gaming Commission-General Report January 2015 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Courtney Mohoy, Serena Joaquin, Gila River Gaming Commission
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
16. Treasurer’s Report – 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2015 (Executive Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Kelter
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 5:04PM]
RESOLUTION
1. A Resolution Approving The Second Modification Agreement To The Credit Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community and Morgan Chase Bank, N.A. (G&MSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs)
Presenter: Ronald Rosier
APPROVED
2. A Resolution Conotning To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 518 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Seven Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
3. A Resolution Conotning To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 168 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Seven Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
4. A Resolution Conotning To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 268 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Seven Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
5. A Resolution Conotning To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 415 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Four Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
6. A Resolution Conotning To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 120 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
7. A Resolution Conotning To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 587 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District One Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
8. A Resolution Approving the Petition for Enrollment of Samantha Enos into the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Wayne Nelson, Jr.
APPROVED
9. A Resolution Approving the Petition for Enrollment of Nicholas Orlando Lewis into the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Wayne Nelson, Jr.
APPROVED
10. A Resolution Approving the Petition for Enrollment of Rianna Marie Tate into the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Wayne Nelson, Jr.
APPROVED
11. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the Enrollment of Trina Tina Fasthorse into the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Wayne Nelson, Jr.
APPROVED
12. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the Enrollment of Sha’Lijik E.Ba’Dak Nish into the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sha’Lijik
APPROVED
13. A Resolution Approving a Mutual Aid Agreement Between the Gila River Indian Community and the City of Chandler for Emergency Police Services (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Chief Kathleen Kirkham
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
14. A Resolution To Designate Three (3) Additional Representatives In Addition To The Tribal Historic Preservation Office To Access The FBI Artifacts Website (CRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Reylene Williams
APPROVED
ORDINANCES
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
1. Alternate Court of Appeals Judge Appointment (1)
Presenters: Community Council
GREGORY SMITH APPOINTED
2. Gila River Farms – Strategic Business Plan (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council under Unfinished Business)
Presenters: Betsy Greene, Jonathan Allen
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO REMOVE THE CURRENT FARM BOARD AND APPOINT COUNCILPERSONS ARZIE HOGG, BRIAN DAVIS, ANGELA ALLISON, CAROLYN WILLIAMS AND FRANK PABLO SR. AS THE INTERIM FARM BOARD
MOTION MADE AND SECOND THE INTERIM FARM BOARD TO BE APPOINTED FOR A PERIOD OF 2 MONTHS; THE INTERIM FARM BOARD WILL PROVIDE MONTHLY REPORTS TO THE GMSC; OR AS OTHERWISE DIRECTED; AND DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE OPERATION OF GILA RIVER FARMS WITH OPTIONS
3. Gila River Farms – Operating Report (GMSC motioned to forward to Community Council under Unfinished Business)
Presenter: Tiffany Home
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. Revenue/Internal Audit Department (Executive Session) (GMSC motioned to forward to the Community Council with recommendation to accept)
Panel Of Action Plan Going Review Of Audits
Presenters: William Tye, Pamela Thompson
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT NEW BUSINESS
1. Gila River Telecommunications Inc. Board of Directors Declaration of Vacancies (2) (Subject to the Code of Conduct)
Presenters: Community Council
MOTION MADE APPROVED TO DECLARE 2 AND TO BE ADVERTISED FOR 60 DAYS; AND THE CANDIDATES BE FREE OF ANY FELONY BACKGROUND FINDINGS
2. Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority
Continued on Page 9

Wednesday March 4, 2015
From Page 8

Board of Directors Declaration of Vacancy (1)
Subject to the Code of Conduct
Presenters: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE
(1) VACANCY, SUBJECT TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT
3. District Six Letter of Appointment for Shelby Francisco To CAB (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Darren Pedro-Martinez, Chairwoman
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
4. Monthly Procedures for closing down Ira H. Hayes (ESC forwards to Community Council)
Presenter: Crispin Zamudio
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT AS FY15
5. Income Tax Considerations Affecting Potential

From Page 10

Reform of EDQLP (LSC forwards to Community Council for action seeking financial analysis on the amendments of EDQLP under New Business)
Presenter: Pamela Thompson
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FOR ADMINISTRATION TO DIRECT A REVIEW OF THE EDQLP WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF REFORMING THE PROGRAM MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD THE DECLARATION OF COUNCIL SECRETARY’S POSITION [ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
5. Ira H. Hayes High School SY 2014-2015 Qtr. 1 Report
REPORT HEARD
6. Education Summit
Presenter: Pamela Thompson
REPORT HEARD

From Page 11

Council held Wednesday February 18, 2015, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:19am
INVOCATION
Presenter: Lt. Governor Monica L. Antone
ROLL CALL
Sign-In Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman, Anzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schur; D3- Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4- Jennifer Allison;
Christopher Mendoza (10:22am), Angelia Allison; D5-Janice F. Stewart, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Nasewytewa; D7- Devin Redcloud
Council Members Present:
D4-Vacant: D5- Brian Davis, Sr.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED
APPROVED
PRESENTATION/SINTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5 minutes)
1. Paul Hanley, Ed.D Superintendent GCCS
Presenter: Paul Hanley
MS. PRICILLA ANTONTE INTRODUCED DR. PAUL HANLEY;
DR. HANLEY PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND AND CAREER HISTORY. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS AND VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED WORKS OF WELCOME AND EXPECTATIONS.
2. WJ Strickland, Gila River Head Start Program Specialist from the Office of Head Start
MS. CHRISTA CAMANO INTRODUCED MR. WU STRICKLAND PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE NEW HEAD START GUIDELINES AND HIS VISIT TO THE COMMUNITY. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS AND VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED WORKS OF WELCOME AND THEIR CONCERNS.
REPORTS
1. Sacaton Middle School SY 2014-2015 Qtr. 1 Report
Presenter: Philip Bond
REPORT HEARD
2. Sacaton Elementary School SY 2014-2015 Qtr. 1 Report
Presenter: Leslie Rycheal
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. Casa Blanca Community School SY 2013-2014 Car-
ry-over funds
Presenter: Jacquie Bradley
REPORT HEARD
3. Casa Blanca Community School SY 2013-2014 Car-
ry-over funds
Presenter: Jacquie Bradley
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE
6. Education Summit
Presenter: Pamela Thompson
REPORT HEARD
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. October 15, 2014 (Regular)
APPROVED
3. November 5, 2014 (Regular)
APPROVED WITH CORRECTIONS
4. November 17, 2014 (Special)
APPROVED
ANNOUNCEMENTS:
1. G&M WORK SESSION MARCH 5, 2015, 9AM
>2. LITIGATION TEAM MEETING, MARCH 5, 2015, 2PM
>3. ADMINISTRATION TO VISIT THE SALT RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
>4. HOUSING ISSUES
>5. UNITY RUN MARCH 15 – 21, 2015; HOLDING A BENEFIT CONCERT MARCH 7, 2015, 4-10PM, DISTRICT 4
>6. ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10PM
* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

Community Council Action Sheets

Wednesday March 18, 2015

ACTION SHEET
Community Council; PO Box 2139; 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 18, 2015, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:19am
INVOCATION
Presenter: Lt. Governor Monica Antone
ROLL CALL
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman, Anzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schur; D3- Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4- Jennifer Allison;
Christopher Mendoza (10:22am), Angelia Allison; D5-Janice F. Stewart, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Nasewytewa; D7- Devin Redcloud
Council Members Present:
D4-Vacant: D5- Brian Davis, Sr.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED
APPROVED
PRESENTATION/SINTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5 minutes)
1. Paul Hanley, Ed.D Superintendent GCCS
Presenter: Paul Hanley
MS. PRICILLA ANTONTE INTRODUCED DR. PAUL HANLEY;
DR. HANLEY PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND AND CAREER HISTORY. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS AND VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED WORKS OF WELCOME AND EXPECTATIONS.
2. WJ Strickland, Gila River Head Start Program Specialist from the Office of Head Start
MS. CHRISTA CAMANO INTRODUCED MR. WU STRICKLAND PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE NEW HEAD START GUIDELINES AND HIS VISIT TO THE COMMUNITY. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS AND VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED WORKS OF WELCOME AND THEIR CONCERNS.
REPORTS
1. Sacaton Middle School SY 2014-2015 Qtr. 1 Report
Presenter: Philip Bond
REPORT HEARD
2. Sacaton Elementary School SY 2014-2015 Qtr. 1 Report
Presenter: Leslie Rycheal
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. Casa Blanca Community School SY 2013-2014 Qtr. 1 Report
Presenter: Jacquie Bradley
REPORT HEARD
4. Casa Blanca Community School SY 2013-2014 Car-
yry-over funds
Presenter: Jacquie Bradley
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE
6. Education Summit
Presenter: Pamela Thompson
REPORT HEARD
7. New School Proposal Update
Presenter: Purtiva Valenzuela
REPORT HEARD
Presenter: Judge Anthony Hill
REPORT HEARD
(GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A
10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENCED AT
11:36AM)
19. Police Department 2014 Overview
Presenter: Kathleen W. Khram, Chief
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
* 10. DRS 2014-2015 TLOA Preparation, TLOA Accomplishments
Presenter: Corina Brown, Sarah Babu, Leonard Gosal
REPORT HEARD
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
12. Treasurer’s Report – 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2015 (Executive Session)
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
* 1. A Resolution Approving a Mutual Aid Agreement Between the Gila River Indian Community and the City of Chandler for Emergency Police Services (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Chief Kathleen Khram
APPROVED
* 2. A Resolution Establishing A Two Million Dollar Bureau Of Land Management Disposal Land Purchase Fund (G&M & MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Silas Neil Kisto II
APPROVED
* 3. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 2906 Located In Allotted Trust Land In District Seven Of The Gila River Indian Indian Community In The National Indian Gaming Association For Calendar Year 2015 And Authorizing Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) For The Community’s Annual Dues Presenter: Councilman Anthony Villareal, Sr.
APPROVED
* 4. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 3140 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Pamela Pasqual
APPROVED
5. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 4482 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
5. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 4482 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Nancy House-Sanchez
APPROVED
6. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease on Allotment 3189 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Community (LSC forwards to Community Council for recommendation of approval)
APPROVED
10. A Resolution Approving The Petition for the Enrollment of Waylon Acunia aka Waylon James Acunia, Sr. into the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Community Council for recommendation of approval)
APPROVED
11. A Resolution Approving The Petition for Enrollment of Silas Neil Kisto II into the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Community Council for recommendation of approval)
APPROVED
12. A Resolution Approving A Lease Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Lessee Honeywell International Inc. Regarding The Operation Of As Testing Facility Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (EDSC motioned to concur with G&MSC, and NRSC with recommendation for approval. CRSC forwards to Council)
Presenter: Ronald Rosier
APPROVED
* ADDENDUM TO AGENDA
13. A Resolution Approving Membership Of The Gila River Indian Community In The National Indian Gaming Association For Calendar Year 2015 And Authorizing Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) For The Community’s Annual Dues Presenter: Councilman Anthony Villareal, Sr.
APPROVED
ORDINANCES
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
* 1. Gila River Farms – Operating Report (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council under unfinished Business)
Presenter: Tiffany Horne
DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. Update On Gaming Compact/Off Reservation Gaming Update (Executive Session)
Presenters: Scot Butler, Eric Dahlstrom
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE
NEW BUSINESS
1. Treasurer Mentor Job Description (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council under New Business with recommendation of approval and discussion)
**Continued on Page 10**
What’s New at GRICUA?

Washington Youth Tour and Intern Alumni Reunion

On March 1, 2014, GRICUA hosted its second Washington Youth Tour and Intern Alumni Reunion dinner. The dinner was held at the Mellow Mushroom in Ahwatukee, AZ. The reunion brought together past Washington Youth Tour students and interns to reconnect and share experiences with the current Washington Youth Tour students. Governor Stephen R. Lewis, Board Chairman John Lewis, General Manager Leonard S. Gold, Operations Director Kathy Gallaway, Finance Director Arnold Mejia and HR Consultant Margaret Lowery were also in attendance. These programs began in 2012 with two students and we now have 19 students that have participated in the Washington Youth Tour and Summer Internships.

GRICUA’s Hours of Operation

GRICUA’s Hours of operation are Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.


GRICUA’s Hours of Operation

April 2, 2015

Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority

From Page 9

From Page 9

Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE 3 MENTORSHIP POSITIONS FOR THE 2-YEAR OPTION AND TO INCLUDE THE 3-YEAR ACTIVITIES

2. Gila River Farms Fiscal Year 2016 Annual Budget Packet April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016 (GMSMC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenters: Gila River Farm Interim Board

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

3. Boys And Girls Club Annual Conference (GMSMC motioned to open to any Community Council member interested in attending the Boys and Girls Club Annual Conference)

Presenters: Government & Management

Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO OPEN UP TO ANY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES INTERESTED


(CRSC forwards to Council to request financial support to attend the Annual Memorial Service)

Presenters: Cultural Resources Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO REQUEST FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNOR FOR ANY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY-AT-LARGE MEMBERS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING (ADDENDUM TO AGENDA)

5. Travel & Training Request

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND

6. DC Travel and Request Delegation

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MARK-UP AND LOBBING EFFORTS

MINUTES

1. September 19, 2015 (Special) Motion Made and Second to Approve

ANNOUNCEMENTS

>EDUCATION SUMMIT SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2015

>UNITY RUNNERS COMING TO THE CARING HOUSE THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015

>FUNERAL SERVICES FOR WILDA ESCHIEF MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015 7AM – 2PM

>UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA EXTENSION-CASA BLANCA SUMMER SCHOOLS PROGRAMS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

>COOLING CENTER SUMMER SALES PROGRAMS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

>2015 ELECTIONS VOTING SCHEDULES TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

>THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IS CELEBRATING ITS 3-YEAR ACTIVITIES

>THE 2-YEAR OPTION AND TO INCLUDE PROVE 3 MENTORSHIP POSITIONS FOR...
Enhanced Lifeline

What does it do?
Enhanced Lifeline is a federal program that covers the cost of basic phone service for qualifying consumers, this provides a discount of $20.70 a month. When you sign up for new service with GRTI and qualify for Enhanced Lifeline, you also qualify for Link-Up. Link-Up pays for $45 of the GRTI installation fee and can only be used once per customer.

2 ways GRTI customers can qualify:
1. Meet income guidelines, see the income guidelines listed.
2. Participate in one of the programs listed below, with proof of eligibility.
   - Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
   - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8
   - Food Stamps
   - Head Start (income eligible)
   - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
   - Medicaid (AHCCCS for Arizona Residents)
   - National School Lunch Program’s Free Lunch Program
   - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
   - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Tribal TANF

Simple to apply:
Contact our GRTI Lifeline Rep. Nicole Baptisto at 520-796-3333 or go to the GRTI website at www.gilarivertel.com to print out a application.

*One per household.

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For each additional person in the home add $5,616 to income eligibility requirements.
2015
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
EARTH DAY

April 22
10 am - 2 pm
Ira H. Hayes Memorial Park
Sacaton, AZ

FOOD/RAFFLE/ENTERTAINMENT

Bring your lawn chairs & umbrellas
Food & promotional items while supplies last

For more information, please contact the
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY 520.562.2234
www.gricdeq.org

WinGilaRiver.com
800-WIN-GILA

Owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community