MAR 5 Riparian Project to ‘Bring Back the Gila River’

Water rushes into the Gila River from the MAR 5 site. The MAR 5 Project is an effort to partially restore the river to its former glory.

By Gila River Indian Community

The sound of rushing water marked the first regular deliveries of water to begin restoring the Gila River just west of the Olberg Bridge in District 3. The Aug. 31 delivery of Central Arizona Project water to the Managed Aquifer Recharge site 85, a river restoration and groundwater recharge project commonly called MAR 5, is a defining moment in the Community’s history, according to Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

“MAR 5 is the first step to truly bring back the Gila River to the Community, but it also has

Continued on Page 7

Sports Banquet Recognizes Youth Athletes

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Recreation Department held a sports banquet on Aug. 29 at the District 4 ballfield to honor more than a dozen youth sports teams that competed in various tournaments and leagues over the summer.

Among the celebrated teams was the Gila River Bears, who won the little league Single A Division in the 17th Annual D-Backs Inter-Tribal Youth Baseball Invitational. Their coach, Gordon “Shomi” June received the Coach of the Year Award for leading his team to championships during the ITYB Invitational and GRIC little league tournament.

The Lil Braves received honorable mentions for participating in various basketball and T-ball tournaments on and off the Community.

Teen basketball team Gila River Warriors was recognized for its efforts in the Native American Basketball Invitational tournament.

Here is a list of teams that won in the GRIC Recreation Tournaments this summer:

**Basketball**
- 5-8 division: Champions – Lil Braves, 2nd – Gila River, 3rd – Hashan Kehk
- 9-12 division: Champions – Snaketown, 2nd – Ak-Chin, 3rd – Gila River

**Baseball**
- 13-17 division: Champions – Gila River Warriors, 2nd – Blackwater, 3rd – Gila River

**T-Ball**
- Champions – Lil Braves, 2nd – Outkast Gila River Bears

Congratulations to all the teams that competed in the various leagues and tournaments!

Continued on Page 7

GRIC Receives Eddie Basha Award for Support of Early Education

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community was recognized for its contribution to early education at the First Things First Summit at the Phoenix Convention Center on August 25.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and other GRIC representatives accepted the inaugural Eddie Basha Excellence Award for Service and Leadership on behalf of the Community.

The Community was nominated by District 1 Councilman Arzie Hogg, who is the GRIC Education Standing Committee Chairman and sits on the FTF Gila River Regional Council.

In his nomination statement Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis wrote, “Serv ing all se ve n distri cts of th e Community for its commitment to early education. and the regional council for their dedication to early childhood development. “The team of FTF and the Gila River Indian Community is a great success story,” said Hogg. He highlighted the partnership that has developed over the years saying it, “Can work across state and tribal lines to build upon the tribal system to ensure all children arrive at kindergarten healthy and ready to succeed,” stated Hogg.

A particular trait he highlight-ed was the personal commitment

Continued on Page 7
Improving the Patient Experience

Primary Care Department Remodel

Please excuse our mess while we are remodeling the Primary Care Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

Phase I: August 2015 - April 2016

Phase II: May 2016 - September 2016

For more information contact:
Angela Valdez
(520) 562-3321 Ext: 1338
GRHC.ORG/CommunityInformation

Who We Are

Teen and Young Adult Workshop
Bringing awareness about underage drinking, substance abuse, and suicide prevention within the Community through traditional Akimel O’odham and Pee Posh teachings.

Thursday, September 10, 2015
District 2 Multi Purpose Building
8:30 am to 2:30 pm

For more information contact:
Behavioral Health Services
(520) 562-3321 Ext: 7031
(520) 562-3321 Ext: 7157
BHSServices@GRHC.ORG

Holiday Closures
In observance of Labor Day, Gila River Health Care will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2015

Visit GRHC.ORG/HolidayClosures for detailed information or call
(520) 562-3321

Just Move It! Run/Walk Series

The 4th Annual Just Move It! 2015 Community Wide Run/Walk Series will kick off next month on Friday, September 25th in District 7. The Diabetes Prevention Program looks forward to hosting this annual event for the community.

9:05 District 7 Service Center . . . . . . . . . . . . . Registration 5 pm - Start 6:00 pm
9:00 District 3 - Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital . . . . . . . Registration 5 pm - Start 6:00 pm
10:3 District 4 Service Center . . . . . . . . . . . . . Registration 7 am - Start 7:30 pm
10:7 District 2 Service Center . . . . . . . . . . . . . Registration 5 pm - Start 6:30 pm
11:14 District 5 - Komatke Health Center . . . . . . . Registration 5 pm - Start 6:30 pm
11:21 District 1 Service Center . . . . . . . . . . . . . Registration 5 pm - Start 6:30 pm
11:23 District 5 Service Center . . . . . . . . . . . . . Registration 4:30 pm - Start 5:00 pm

For more Information, contact the Diabetes Prevention Program at (520) 562-7940
GRHC.ORG/CommunityInformation

Culturally Competent Compassionate Care
Practicing kindness all day, every day

ICD - 10

Starting October 1, 2015, all hospitals nationwide are required to implement something new; it’s called “ICD-10.” It is the new International Classification of Diseases 10th Revision (ICD-10) diagnosis coding. It is mandated by Medicare and Medicaid. It affects how healthcare providers must document and code a patient’s electronic health record. We respectfully request your patience and understanding while Gila River Health Care implements the new ICD-10 on October 1, 2015.

Patients may experience longer than expected wait times while providers become familiar with the new documentation requirements and diagnosis codes. Gila River Health Care is ready for ICD-10 and we are preparing for a smooth transition. We will make every effort to make this time period as brief as possible. We are talking weeks, not months.

Thanks again for your understanding. Should you have questions, please contact the Cultural Customer Service Department at: (602) 528-1433 or visit GRHC.ORG/ICD-10

Elder’s Circle

Caring House
Together, the Caring House and Gila River Health Care are paving a pathway of good will for the greater good. The Caring House and Gila River Health Care now offer healthcare services for everyone from babies to the elders of the Gila River Indian Community.

Caring House staff strives to make residents feel at home and provide culturally appropriate care for its residents.

To learn more about the Caring House services and programs, please contact Christopher Darocy at: (520) 562-7408, or go to GRHC.ORG/CaringHouse

GRHC Elder’s Meeting
September 9, 2015 - 9 a.m.
District #1 Service Center
Topic: Behavioral Health

Amputee & Wheelchair-bound Support Group

Please join us every first Tuesday of the month from, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm at:
Life Center
Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
Life Center
Komatke Health Center

A great opportunity to meet new people, learn new ideas and support others.

10/6/15 . . . . . Healthy Meal Planning
11/3/15 . . . . Podiatry and Wound Care
12/1/15 . . . . Prescriptions & Medications

For more information and assistance with transportation call: (520) 562-7940

HHKMH Cafeteria Menu

Native Brew
Native Brew is now serving flavored coffee, smoothies and a variety of sandwiches and is located in the lobby of Komatke Clinic.

Business Hours: Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

For more information please contact:
Rolinda Perez at (480) 352-4392

GRHC.ORG

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
483 W. Seed Farm Road
Sacaton, Arizona 85147
(520) 562-3321
(602) 528-1240

Komatke Health Center
17487 S. Health Care Drive
Laveen, Arizona 85339
(520) 550-6000

Ak-Chin Clinic
48203 W. Farrell Road
Mopirico, Arizona 85239
(520) 568-3881

Gila River Indian Community
Crisis Line
1-800-259-3449
LETTERS & OPINIONS

September 4, 2015

CORRECTIONS

The GRIN misspelled the name of GRIC Human Resources Director Shawna Shultz in the Aug. 21 edition. Additionally, she has one son and one daughter, not two sons. Our apologies to Mrs. Shultz.

The GRIN encourages comments and suggestions about content that warrants correction or clarification. To report an error call (520) 562-9719 or email grin@gric.nsn.us.

LETTERS POLICY: GRIN welcomes letters and columns from readers. Letters should be limited to 200 words and be in good taste. Material that could be libelous or slanderous is not acceptable. All letters or columns should be signed with the writer’s true name, address and telephone number in the event GRIN may need to contact the writer. Only the name of the writer will be printed in the paper. Letters or columns without a complete signature, name, address or phone number will not be acceptable to GRIN for publication. GRIN reserves the right to edit submitted materials for grammar, spelling and content. GRIN reserves the right to edit submitted materials for grammar, spelling and content.

Write to:
Editor, GRIN
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Published letters or columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or Gila River Indian Community.

In Loving Memory

SYLVIA M. LEWIS-GAYTAN
7/26/42 - 8/17/12

It doesn’t seem possible that 3 years has passed since you’ve been gone. The many memories that we have will remain in our minds and hearts forever, remembering you on your birthday and your 3rd anniversary. Love you forever Sister.

SACATON – Gila River Police is requesting the public’s help on any information regarding a Homicide that occurred on July 22, 2015, in the area of District Four.

On July 22, 2015 at approximately 11:50 p.m., Gila River Police Officers responded to a report of a deceased subject located in the area of Aspen and Lower San Tan Road. The victim was identified as Anna Justin, 25 year old female.

Gila River Criminal Investigations is asking for the community’s help about Anna’s whereabouts the night she was last seen, if she spoke to anyone regarding her activities, or has any additional information regarding this case.

The Gila River Police Department is encouraging those who have had contact with Anna Justin to contact Detective Chad Towe, Criminal Investigations Bureau at (520) 796-3678 or Silent Witness at (520) 562-7144. Gila River Police Department is offering a cash reward for information leading to an arrest and or indictment, your call will remain anonymous.

By Community artist Wayne Narcia

Gila River Police Requesting Assistance in Homicide Case

IN LOVING MEMORY

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By Community artist Wayne Narcia
Gila River Indian News September 4, 2015

COMMUNITY UPDATES BY GRIN STAFF

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Gila River TV is GRBC TV

By Gila River Broadcasting Corp.

Taking inspiration from past leadership, the Gila River Indian Community is now in the process of establishing one of the first Native owned and operated low power television station in Indian Country. The Gila River Broadcasting Corporation sends its signal throughout all seven districts of the community to serve the Akimel O’odham and Pee Posh tribes that live within its borders. GRBC broadcasts via three transmitters located in District 1-channel 21, District 4-channel 29 and District 6-channel 28. GRBC is on-air 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

We are determined to preserve our ancient Native American past - the cultural and historical heritage that is our foundation. We will strive to build a Native American media presence that services all seven Gila River Indian Community districts. We are a Native American media presence that services all seven Gila River Indian Community districts.

GRBC is established to serve as a forum of outreach to keep Community Members updated on local news and upcoming events, we hope to film on site at GRBC TV events in the near future for more local content.

How much do I have to pay to get GRBC TV?

GRBC TV is a free service. There is no cost to receive the signal, as long as you have a television antenna, you can tune to channel 19, 21 or 29 to view GRBC TV.

We live on the Gila River reservation, how come I still can’t see GRBC TV?

Your current antenna may be too small or you may need to move your antenna closer to a door or window, or an antenna may need to be setup outdoors facing the transmission tower. Other electronics such as a microwave, refrigerator, and cordless phones may be interfering with the signal, try moving your antenna above these appliances.

How do I know which way to face my transmitter antenna?

Depending where you are in your district:

- Districts 1, 2 & 3 should face the antenna towards the District 1 Fire Department building.
- Districts 3, 4 & 5 should face the antenna towards District 4 Service Center.
- District 6 should face towards the east of the old District 7 Service Center, by the newest housing development.

For more information, please visit us at grbc.gila-tribe.gov or give us a call at 520-796-8848. Like our page on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @gilaRIndianTV, or stop by to say hi! Thank you for watching GRBC TV!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Saturday, September 4

- Grandparent’s Day Bingo
  - 9:00am
  - Bingo prizes for Die Grandparents Snacks, fruit, and drinks will be provided
  - Bingo rules will be given on arrival
  - District 6 Service Center Hall (Flyer cutoff where call information is)

Thursday, September 17

- O’odham Teej Celebration
  - 5:00pm to 10:00pm
  - Featuring Gertie & the T.O. Boyz
  - Bouncing houses, snow cones, popcorn, corn dogs, dance, bucking horse test, and hose horse tournament
  - Val Ki Baseball Fields
  - District 5 recreation: 520-315-3441

Friday, September 18

- O’odham Veterans Celebrations
  - Blackwater District I-Multi-purposed Building
  - 6:30pm - 11:00pm
  - Contact Douglas Juan at 602-327-5973 for more information.

Saturday, September 19

- 150th Annual Mustering In Day Celebration
  - District 7 Park
  - Parade, 5K Walk/Run, Softball Tournament, Elder Chair Sidely Ball, Kids Games, and Live Entertainment, Free Admission
  - 8005 S. 88th Ave, Laveen AZ
  - For more information call the District 7 Service Center at 520-430-4780

Contact: 520-562-3450 ex. 2530 or 520-610-1105 for more information.

Val Ki Ha Thahk

- 5:00pm - 10:00pm
- Featuring Gertie & the T.O. Boyz
- Bouncing houses, snow cones, popcorn, corn dogs, dance, bucking horse test, and hose horse tournament
- Val Ki Baseball Fields
- District 5 recreation: 520-315-3441

Gila River TV Program Guide

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*Schedule may be subject to change

Gila River Indian News September 4, 2015

Page 4

THANKS FOR WATCHING GRBC TV
Indian Country Ponders Legalizing Medical Marijuana on Reservations

On December 11, 2014, the Gila River Indian Community released a memorandum titled “Policy Statement Regarding Marijuana Issues in Indian Country.” Many people may wonder what a memorandum means. A memorandum is a document of information or instruction. The Gila River Indian Community memorandum allows Native American Tribes to grow and sell marijuana on tribal land. However, under the Federal Controlled Substance Act, marijuana remains illegal on federal property. The memorandum allows for the cultivation, possession, use, or sale of marijuana also constitutes a tribal crime under the Gila River Criminal Code. What the DOJ memorandum said was that if an Indian tribe legalizes marijuana under tribal law, the DOJ will focus its investigative and prosecutorial resources on offenses committed within that tribe’s reservation. This is where the discussions get complicated. The DOJ memorandum said that if marijuana is legal under tribal law, the DOJ will: (1) prevent the diversion of marijuana from states where it is legal under state law in some form to other states; (2) prevent state-authorized marijuana activity from being used as a cover or pretext for the traf- ficking of other illegal goods or illegal activity; (5) prevent the manufacture of weapons in the cultivation and distribution of marijuana; (6) prevent the growing of marijuana; driving and the exacerbation of other adverse health consequences associated with marijuana use; (7) preventing the growing of marijuana on public lands; (8) preventing environmental and safety and environmental dangers posed by marijuana; and (8) preventing marijuana possession or use on federal property. The Gila River Indian Community memorandum expressed its support of marijuana as an opportunity to participate in marijuana cultivation and commercial activities. For example, on June 11, 2015, the Flame Desert Cahuilla Indians in Palm Springs, Calif., sued to medical marijuana as a source of revenue and formed a partnership with Red Crow, a Native American owned-cannabis company, in hopes of having an economic boom for their tribe.

District 7 Vote

From Page 1

The District 7 community held a special district-wide meeting on Saturday, Aug. 29 to discuss the matter further, and invited experts from the Maricopa Irrigation District of Arizona to present their knowledge on the topic.

Job Opportunities

F&B Servers

House Attendant

Bartender

Room Attendant

Four Points by Sheraton

At Phoenix Mesa Gateway Airport

Process for Drinking Water

Milestones

The overall P-MIP canal and pipeline alignment, including the P-MIP reclaimed water, is nearing completion. The design of the Westside pipeline is nearing completion. The DEQ, however, carefully monitors the water quality under the Community’s Wastewater Management ordinance prohibits drinking or swimming in the reclaimed water. The reclaimed water is being used for agricultural purposes, a purpose that is consistent with many existing water reservations agencies, cities, and irrigation districts.

The concerns over swimming in or drinking the water are the sticking point for many District 7 residents, who say the water is hazardous to human and animal health and should not be allowed to enter the reservation.

In Palm Springs, Calif., the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians sued to medical marijuana as a source of revenue and formed a partnership with Red Crow, a Native American owned-cannabis company, in hopes of having an economic boom for their tribe.

The tribe estimated the project’s cost at $12 million. In exchange, the tribe will own 51% of the production and Red Crow will own 49%. Other tribes that favor legalization also believe they could generate much needed revenue.

“We have to evaluate it

Continued on Pg. 13

Page 5

Gila River Indian News

Christopher Lamohaguah
Gila River Indian News

Ashley Pasqual

Gila River Indian News

Indian Country Ponders Legalizing Medical Marijuana on Reservations

District 7 Vote

From Page 1

The District 7 community held a special district-wide meeting on Saturday, Aug. 29 to discuss the matter further, and invited experts from the Maricopa Irrigation District of Arizona to present their knowledge on the topic.
Saturday, September 19, 2015 | 5 p.m.
Embassy Suites Phoenix - Scottsdale

featuring Navajo comedians, James and Ernie

NATIVE HEALTH Board of Directors will be honoring:
John Lewis and Association of American Indian Physicians

Proceeds go to help the NATIVE HEALTH Emergency Assistance Program. A program that financially assists Native American families with travel and lodging expenses when a family member is transported to a Phoenix Metropolitan hospital for medical emergencies.

tickets $75/person (includes dinner and entertainment)
purchase tickets online:
nativehealthphoenix.org/fundraiser-0
or call: (602) 279-5262, ext. 3117

NATIVE HEALTH would like to thank the following sponsors:
Early Education Award

From Page 1

The regional council chair said the award was the first board and we were awarded there was a spirit of First things First.

She stated the Quality Education Award for Service and Leadership.

Gov. Lewis explained his gratitude for the Community being chosen to receive the inaugural award,

“I do like to think that he supported the underlying spirit of First things First. It’s in community based, going back to strengthening the family,” said Lewis.

Lewis stressed that advocacy is a critical part of providing funding for educational programs in communities like GRIC and said, “It’s a true team work approach.”

Regional Council Chair and Early Education Child Care Services Manager Melissa Madrid said, “It was really amazing that Arzie Hogg would take it upon himself and nominate us based on the relationship we have with the FTE.”

She said, “When we were awarded there was a sense of pride, because we were the first board and we were the first tribal community to be recognized among 28 councils.”

The regional council functions as a board that determines and directs where the flow of funding to support education grants in the Community is needed.

She stated the Quality First program is one of the most successful programs funded through FTE that strives to provide quality education and health of children.

Madrid said the program “has really given us a tool to look at best quality practices we can implement for the best outcomes possible.”

She says the regional council is beneficial because, “We live it everyday that, that we have people from behavioral health and faith based backgrounds that are brought to the council,” said Madrid.

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Gila River Indian News
September 4, 2015

Early Education Award

From Page 1

of FTF to work with the Community.

The award is named after the late Eddie Basha Jr., who became a household name for his chain of grocery stores and 1994 bid for governor of Arizona. His is a legacy of devotion to the enrichment of children’s education through contributions to various causes.

Eddie Basha’s oldest son Brandon presented the award to the GRIC delegation.

Before awarding the Community, Bashar said, “I am so happy to join you for this celebration lunch and give the honor to award the Eddie Basha Excellence Award for Service and Leadership.”

Gov. Lewis expressed his gratitude for the Community being chosen to receive the inaugural award.

“arizona project work, the delivery charges of CAP water are very costly. Not only do these projects restore river habitat and wildlife but they also help Community farmers. Because Community farmers need access to less expensive water sources such as groundwater, the Community’s water plan relies on a plentiful ground-water supply within the Community. Because MAR projects recharge the aquifer they will ensure that the groundwater supply exists for farmers without having to be concerned with over pumping.

In addition to helping farmers the project will also provide Community members the opportunity to visit a live river on Community lands. Although the land around the MAR 5 site is currently unimproved, future improvements to the MAR 5 site are anticipated so it can ultimately be used as a park and recreation area. Future MAR sites are also planned and the hope is to have flowing water in the Gila River in multiple areas with a number of recreation areas where Community members can once again enjoy flowing water in the Gila River.

The development of the river restoration sites was something the Community began working on soon after the Community’s water settlement became enforceable in December 2007. “I remember elders coming up to me during a water rights settlement celebration asking me when will the river return, and I knew we needed to start work right away on realizing that dream,” said Rodney Lewis, a former Community General Counsel and longtime water attorney for the Community.

Although the water settlement provided Colorado River water through Central Arizona Project as a replacement for the Gila River water, the water settlement did not return the natural flow of the Gila River. Over the past five years the Community developed a plan to use its Central Arizona Project water supply to “bring back” the river in an economically responsible way.

The Community’s plan involved delivery of Central Arizona Project water to riparian areas on the Reservation, such as the dry Gila River bed, to create a flowing stream and riparian area. But because Central Arizona Project water is so expensive the cost to operate MAR 5 alone in future years is expected to exceed $1 million annually.

The solution to the cost problem was to have the project serve two functions so that the river restoration area could also serve as a recharge facility where the water in the stream bed would eventually percolate into the aquifer under-ground. Under the plan to develop MAR 5 the cost of water and future operations would be covered by the creation of long-term storage credits at the site. These credits are paper water rights that can be sold or later recovered through pumping stored water from the aquifer.

The sale of long-term storage credits created at the site will help cover the cost of Central Arizona Project water and operate the facility.

In 2011, the Community commissioned a study of 14 specific MAR sites to evaluate which could be used for the development of a “live river” recreation area and an underground water storage facility. The Community decided to first develop MAR 5 because of the ease of access to the site and soil conditions that allowed for good ground-water percolation and storage.

The other sites are still being considered for future development.

Bringing Back the Gila River

From Page 1

an important connection to ensure there is enough groundwater in the Community so that pumping water for farming is done in a sustainable way,” said Gov. Lewis. The MAR 5 will not be the only riparian restoration and groundwater recharge project. “We have future MAR sites under consideration and we hope to develop these sites to truly realize the dream of once again having flowing water in the Gila River throughout the Community,” said Gov. Lewis.

The MAR 5 site and future MAR sites are key components in the Community’s long-term water plan. Although the Community has access to Central Arizona Project water, the delivery charges of CAP water are very costly. Not only do these projects return river habitat and wildlife but they also help Community farmers. Because Community farmers need access to less expensive water sources such as groundwater, the Community’s water plan relies on a plentiful ground-water supply within the Community. Because MAR projects recharge the aquifer they will ensure that the groundwater supply exists for farmers without having to be concerned with over pumping.

In addition to helping farmers the project will also provide Community members the opportunity to visit a live river on Community lands. Although the land around the MAR 5 site is currently unimproved, future improvements to the MAR 5 site are anticipated so it can ultimately be used as a park and recreation area. Future MAR sites are also planned and the hope is to have flowing water in the Gila River in multiple areas with a number of recreation areas where Community members can once again enjoy flowing water in the Gila River.

The development of the river restoration sites was something the Community began working on soon after the Community’s water settlement became enforceable in December 2007. “I remember elders coming up to me during a water rights settlement celebration asking me when will the river return, and I knew we needed to start work right away on realizing that dream,” said Rodney Lewis, a former Community General Counsel and longtime water attorney for the Community.

Although the water settlement provided Colorado River water through Central Arizona Project as a replacement for the Gila River water, the water settlement did not return the natural flow of the Gila River. Over the past five years the Community developed a plan to use its Central Arizona Project water supply to “bring back” the river in an economically responsible way.

The Community’s plan involved delivery of Central Arizona Project water to riparian areas on the Reservation, such as the dry Gila River bed, to create a flowing stream and riparian area. But because Central Arizona Project water is so expensive the cost to operate MAR 5 alone in future years is expected to exceed $1 million annually.

The solution to the cost problem was to have the project serve two functions so that the river restoration area could also serve as a recharge facility where the water in the stream bed would eventually percolate into the aquifer underground. Under the plan to develop MAR 5 the cost of water and future operations would be covered by the creation of long-term storage credits at the site. These credits are paper water rights that can be sold or later recovered through pumping stored water from the aquifer.

The sale of long-term storage credits created at the site will help cover the cost of Central Arizona Project water and operate the facility.

In 2011, the Community commissioned a study of 14 specific MAR sites to evaluate which could be used for the development of a “live river” recreation area and an underground water storage facility. The Community decided to first develop MAR 5 because of the ease of access to the site and soil conditions that allowed for good ground-water percolation and storage. The other sites are still being considered for future development.

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September 4, 2015
Gila River Indian News

A two session book study/activities to better understand how your child improve their reading skills and overall school success!

To learn and discuss new strategies and techniques to help parents/guardians of students Pre-K to 4th grade attend.

- **We will have puzzles, videos, and books in case you have a baby/toddler you need to bring along.**

- **Where: The Book Club will be at Gila Crossing Community School (in the library building).**

- **What: A two session book study/activities to better understand how to become a more effective learning partner for your child. This will be a hands-on, fun environment.**

- **When: Saturday October 17th and 24th, 2015**

- **Time: 8:30-10:30am**

- **Who: Parents/guardians of students Pre-K to 4th grade**

- **Why: To learn and discuss new strategies and techniques to help your child improve their reading skills and overall school success!**

**We still have puzzles, videos, and books in case you have a baby/toddler you need to bring along.**

This will be facilitated by the GCCS Reading Coach, Lesley Ford. If you have questions please call me at 520-550-4834 ext. 247
Monsoon Storm Causes Severe Damage in District 5

Mikhail Sundust  
Gila River Indian News

The monsoon season may be coming to an end, but it’s not going quietly.Torrential winds and heavy rain pummeled parts of District 5 during an Aug. 25 storm, tearing roofs off buildings, uprooting trees and damaging fences. It is believed that a microburst unleashed the high winds that caused all the damage in Casa Blanca, but the Office of Emergency Management said there are not enough scientific instruments there to confirm it.

Casa Blanca Community School was forced to shut down for the remainder of the week with damage to trees, playgrounds, some of its modular buildings and most of its rooftop A/C units.

Nearby residents also found damage to their homes and sheds, and most of the Travelers for Jesus Church roof was thrown clear to the other side of Casa Blanca Road. Repair crews and volunteers worked into the night and all next day to clean up the mess at the service center, school and surrounding areas.

The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority reported the storm caused power outages in the Lone Butte residential area, the Wild Horse Pass racetrack and in Bapchule. GRI-CUA crews restored power that night and later in the week replaced three downed power poles north of the Gila River.

School is back in session at Casa Blanca Community School and fortunately, no one was seriously injured during the storm.

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Ext: 4225
Fred Pinsky, Esq.  
Ext: 4228
Habib Pierce-Byrd, Esq.  
Ext: 4223
September 4, 2015

CULTURE & HISTORY

Page 9

A’AGA
Something to be told
By Billy Allen


The 1849 Gold Rush brought a lot of explorers and settlers our way, on the way to California. In 1862, gold was discovered in Prescott and La Paz. When the Civil War ended in 1865, another wave of settlers came through, but this time more began to actually settle in our area. Back then, Tucson and Prescott were the biggest cities. Settlers were clamoring and complaining about their need for protection from bands of Natives who lived a different himdag (or, “way of life”) from us. Arizona territorial Governor Goodwin requested permission to raise a territorial militia to patrol the territory. GRIC members became an option to help make Arizona safe and pave the way for future development.

The Military District of the Pacific, Arizona included, was created in January of 1865 and commanded by Brigadier General John S. Mason. His idea was to enlist 200 Akimel O’odham and Pipapish warriors to patrol central Arizona. This group would go out on periodic scouting raids and then return to their farms along the akimel, true citizen/soldiers – similar to the National Guard.

When the War Department approved Governor Goodwin’s plan for a militia, six companies from various parts of the territory were formed. Company B had one hundred and three Pipapish warriors volunteer. Company C consisted of ninety-four Akimel O’odham volunteers. On September 2, 1865, Companies B and C were mustered in at Maricopa Wells. Our volunteers provided their own horses if they had one. (If no horse, they were on foot – no problem for those desert runners.) Each volunteer also got a blue shirt. For Pipapish the shirts were trimmed in red; Akimel O’odham in blue. They were also issued pants, shoes, a rifle, and a yard of red flannel for a headdress. They were part of the 464th battalion, and marched out of Maricopa Wells on September 4th, towards Camp McDowell, which would become Fort McDowell.

Fort McDowell was the base from which the military went after Tonto and Pinal Apaches who had stepped up their raiding. During the year-long enlistment, there were many encounters with the raiders. Anna Moore Shaw provides an excellent description of an encounter with the raiders in her book, A Pima Past.

In September of 1866, the service commitment for Companies B and C was up. Company B experienced three casualties: Sergeant McGill, Corporal Yose, and Privates Gosa Zep and Duke. Company C had three casualties: Juan Lewis, Howinik Maw Kain, and Ap Pagat. The settlers of the territory acknowledged the service of our volunteers for bringing peace to central Arizona. The Prescott Miner had high praise for the volunteers. Territorial Governor McCormick noted the number of hostiles had dropped due to the efforts of Companies B and C.

Another definition for muster: to gather, summon, and rouse – “He mustered all his courage.” The Piipish and O’odham volunteers of Companies B and C certainly mustered courage to take on their service. The annual celebration in District 7 commemorates the first organized “American” military experiences of our warriors. Information was gleaned from two sources: http://nativeamerican.lostsoulsgenealogy.com/indianscouts.htm, and Peoples of the Middle Gila by John P. Wilson. The Huhugam Heritage Center provided the photos.
The ongoing cycle of domestic violence against women that haunts Indian Country, is a sensitive topic that the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center strives to raise awareness of through training resources for tribes and tribal organizations.

On Sept. 1 the NIWRC held a Criminal Justice Assembly at the Wild Horse Pass Casino to assist American Indian tribes in enhancing their response to the rates and forms of violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. Lt. Gov. Monica Antone welcomed the guests and encouraged them to take advantage of the training.

The tribal articles in Title IX of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) are the result of years of discussions between tribes and the federal government. It is an acknowledgment that violence against Native women has reached a critical point and requires serious attention.

Native women are battered, sexually assaulted, and stalked more than any other population of women in the United States. Thirty-four percent of Native women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetimes and 39 percent will be victims of domestic violence.

"It’s an honor to travel on behalf of VAWA when we are the voice to help a survivor of sexual abuse, or a survivor of domestic violence," said Lt. Gov. Antone. Lt. Gov. Antone is an advocate for VAWA and was asked to share information and her experience with women who were assaulted. She has talked with elders and explained how violence against women started in the Gila River Indian Community.

Before the 1950’s, women that suffered from violence did not have the resources to help them and incidences went unreported. It was nearly unheard of for a victim to press charges. Finances were hard we did not have food to put on the table. Children from these generations witnessed the trauma of Domestic Violence. It’s a vicious cycle,” Antone said.

Lt. is hoping to focus on schools and reach out to the young people of the Community to be aware of technology and not exploit themselves to online predators. She said, “be aware of date rape and DV on school campuses.”

The development of victim services programs in Native American communities has given the opportunity to help those with trauma relating to violence and heal the broken spirits of women, children, and even men.

“Women are the sacred part of traditions in any Indian Country,” Antone said, “I thank and commend the agencies that work together to allow justice to protect our Native women, daughters and granddaughters who are survivors and give them hope.”

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone delivers a message of hope to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence.
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Marijuana in Indian Country

From Page 5

and see if there are responsible opportunities available to us,” Martin Seneca, General Counsel of the Seneca Nation of Indians told Channel 7 ABC News, Buffalo, NY.

A former law official states that they actually consider marijuana to be safer than alcohol, but there are a few major roadblocks to legalizing marijuana on reservations.

Those include the distribution of marijuana to minors, the potential dangers of “drugged driving,” and possible revenue going to criminal enterprises.

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development held a reservation economic summit this year, in Las Vegas Nevada, on March 9-12.

The topic of marijuana legalization and the growing and selling of cannabis was introduced at the summit.

“We’re here to gather as much information as we can,” said Priscilla Blackhawk Rentz, a councilwoman for the Mountain Ute tribe in Colorado to CNBC News.

Tribe leaders listened to the dangers and opportunities of growing cannabis. Arrests and drug charges already on many reservations.

“Is marijuana going to add to those realities,” asked Mountain Ute Councilwoman Deanne House in a CNBC News report.

Questions remain and serious consideration is to follow with legalizing cannabis for tribal leaders in Indian Country.

However, it should be known that the DOJ memorandum has not changed the Community’s prohibition against marijuana.

The cultivation, possession, use, or sale of marijuana within the Reservation is illegal under the Gila River Criminal Code and Federal Law.

Alcohol and drugs are already problems on many reservations.

“Is marijuana going to add to those realities,” asked Mountain Ute Councilwoman Deanne House in a CNBC News report.

The GRIC Office of General Counsel contributed to this article.

Gila River Man Sentenced to 9 Years in Prison for Stabbing

Sept. 1, PHOENIX – Yesterday, Kenneth Wayne Morgan, Jr., 38, of Blackwater, Ariz., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge G. Murray Snow to 108 months in prison. On April 30, 2015, Morgan was found guilty by a jury of assault resulting in serious bodily injury.

On Jan. 29, 2014, Morgan entered a home on the Gila River Indian Community and stabbed a man in the head, causing a 10 cm. gash from the victim’s temple through his ear. The victim was air-evacuated to a local hospital where he was treated for the life-threatening injury.

Both Morgan and the victim are members of the Gila River Indian Community.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Gila River Police Department.

The prosecution was handled by Raynette Logan and Brooke Mickelson, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-14-01126-PHX-GMS

Tohono O’odham Nation Receives Nearly $215,000 in Federal Grant Money to Support Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA)

Aug. 31, PHOENIX – Today, U.S. Attorney John S. Leonardo announced that $214,481 in additional grant funds will be made available to the Tohono O’odham Nation to support, maintain, and refine jurisdiction-wide SORNA programs and functions. These funds will assist in improving victim notification services and in increasing service capacity by hiring a SORNA specialist.

The grant funds were awarded by the Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking Office (SMART), which is a component of the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs (“OJP”).

“We are committed to protecting the public from convicted sex offenders and of- fenders against children,” said U.S. Attorney Leonardo. “We encourage all agencies to be proactive and apply for future grant funding through our Office of Justice Programs.”

Additional information about BJA and its programs is available at: https://www.bja.gov/Default.aspx

Information about OJP and its programs can be found at: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov.

For more information on the U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Arizona, visit http://www.justice.gov/usao/az Follow the U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of Arizona, on Twitter @USAO_AZ for the latest news.

Are you looking for career opportunities in the exciting, fast-paced, dynamic world of gaming hospitality? Spectra by Comcast Spectator at Gila River Casinos is hiring. We are seeking friendly, enthusiastic individuals with a passion for food and beverage to join our winning team! Over 100 positions are available in our award-winning restaurants, lounges/bars, marketplace kitchens, conference and banquet rooms where we serve up an Everyday’s Fresh® approach to hospitality.

Food & Beverage - Hospitality Job Fair

Appy in person

Lone Butte Casino Event Center

1077 South Kyrene Road Chandler, AZ 85226

THURSDAY, September 10th, 2015

**Exclusive to GRIC**

*11am to 1pm*

General Public

1pm to 6pm

Are you looking for career opportunities in the exciting, fast-paced, dynamic world of gaming hospitality? Spectra by Comcast Spectator at Gila River Casinos is hiring. We are seeking friendly, enthusiastic individuals with a passion for food and beverage to join our winning team! Over 100 positions are available in our award-winning restaurants, lounges/bars, marketplace kitchens, conference and banquet rooms where we serve up an Everyday’s Fresh® approach to hospitality.

Food & Beverage - Hospitality Job Fair

Appy in person

Wild Horse Pass Chrome Nightclub

5404 Wild Horse Pass Boulevard Chandler, AZ 85226

FRIDAY, September 11th, 2015

**Exclusive to GRIC**

*11am to 1pm*

General Public

1pm to 6pm

Hiring Preference is given to qualified members of the Gila River Indian Community. Preference in filling vacancies is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act (Title 25, U. S. Code, Section 472 and 473). We are also committed to achieving full equal opportunity without discrimination based on race, religion, color, sex, national origin, political, marital status, physical disability and preferences in hiring, training and advancement opportunities. SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

You must be at least 18 years of age for culinary positions and 19 to serve alcohol. Bring current resume and photo ID. Hiring managers will conduct onsite interviews.
TITLE 22
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY GAMING ORGANIZATION

A copy of this proposed Ordinance in its entirety is on file and available for review at all District Service Center coordinators' offices, the Community Council Secretary's Office.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO TITLE 22 GAMING ORGANIZATION

This publication is being posted pursuant to the requirements set forth under the GRIC Title 8, Chapter 2, Section 22.521. It was proposed during the Public Comment period, October 13, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Legislative Standing Committee meeting at the Sacaton Governing Center.

This proposal will be considered at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2015, at the Legislative Standing Committee meeting at the Wild Horse Pass Corporate Center.

This proposal was approved by the Community Council on October 13, 2015. It will be considered at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2015, at the Legislative Standing Committee meeting at the Wild Horse Pass Corporate Center.

The Gila River Indian Community Gaming Commission is proposing amendments to the GRIC Title 22-Gaming Ordinance. The Gaming Commission in May-July 2015, Reported and Post- ed for Public Comment the proposed amendments to the GRIC Title 22-Gaming Ordinance. The changes have been long overdue and I'm glad to see that these are all finally being made now. The area where the Gaming Enterprise is going to be required to “adopt and comply with a Community Member employment preference policy” – this is an excellent change. The Gaming Enterprise had NEVER achieved the 65% hiring preference that was in place, outlined in the gaming ordinance in many years or at this time. I'm glad this change is finally being made and hopefully more community members can and will be employed and retain employment within our three casinos on Gila River. The opportunity is there for everyone to take advantage of and I'm encouraged that tribal members were not already not employed. As a former employee and a concerned tribal member in regard to the change to allowing employees to gamble at our casinos, I never thought that this was a good idea and was glad that as employees we were not allowed to gamble. Although I still don’t agree with employees who work for the Gaming Enterprise being allowed to gamble at our casinos unless the provisions change, employees will know who can or cannot. I think it's also a good idea to make the Commissioners terms longer as in the case of the proposed change from 3 to 5 years. It will give Commissioners more time to make a difference in their decision making and enforcement of any GRIG policy changes, union contract violations, etc.

In reference to Chapter 5 (22.521) Use of Chips, I think it’s where the Commission is describing why the proposed change is being made).

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