2015 Youth Council Inauguration

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Leadership is not defined by one’s rank, position or job title, rather it is demonstrated through action and decision-making, said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis to the members of the 27th Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Council. “Moving our Community forward, standing up for what’s right – that’s being a leader,” he said at the inauguration ceremony, where Youth Council officers and representatives were sworn-in Oct. 10 in the Community Council Chambers.

The Youth Council is made up of two representatives (ages 13–21) from each district, plus five at-large members. Appointments to the 2015-2016 Youth Council Executive Office include: Augustus “Gu” Pablo (District 2) as President, Nathaniel Talamanetz (D6) as Vice-President, Brittany Cooper (D4) as Secretary, and Jr. Miss Gila River First Attendant Ashley Thompson (D3) as Treasurer.

Miss Gila River Sienna Whittington Named Second Attendant to Miss Indian Arizona

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Nine aspiring ladies from tribal communities across the state took part in the 54th Annual Miss Indian Arizona Scholarship Program on Oct. 10 at the Chandler Center for the Arts.

That evening, Taylor Taibi Denzhoone Susan, White Mountain Apache Tribe, was crowned Miss Indian Arizona 2015-2016. Susan cares deeply for the Native communities in Arizona and desires to represent them well. In her acceptance speech she said, “I think it’s important to be an ambassador who communicates to the people who don’t have a whole lot of knowledge about who we are.”

Miss Gila River Sienna Whittington was named Second Attendant to Miss Indian Arizona. (Photo by Amy Davila.)

Miss Gila River are considered honorary members of the Youth Council if they are not already

Continued on Page 7

Arizona State Capitol Lit Purple for Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

At the Lighting Arizona Purple event on Oct. 1, the dome atop the Arizona State Capitol Building was illuminated in purple to commemorate October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Representatives from across the state came out to support Gov. Doug Ducey’s initiative to bring attention to domestic violence.

The Arizona Governor’s Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women hosted the event. Ducey said, “I can’t tell you how honored and grateful I am to launch the Lighting Arizona Purple campaign, the first statewide initiative of its kind in the state of Arizona.”

Gila River Lt. Gov. Monica Antone attended the ceremony as a member of Gov. Ducey’s commission, which is made up of leaders from various communities. Lt. Gov. Antone is the Chairperson for Governor Ducey’s ‘Outreach and Awareness.’ The Commission would like to target the young generation and stress the concerns with teen dating violence.

Antone said that Gov. Ducey’s initiative calls for increased education in younger fem

Continued on Page 8
As of October 1, 2015, Gila River Health Care (GRHC) must make changes in the way we handle referrals and payments for medical services that are provided by off-site private hospitals, physicians, and other providers (sometimes called Purchased Referred Care PRC).

Gila River Health Care will not be able to pay for emergency and non-emergency care provided outside the Gila River Health Care system. Your eligibility will be considered Direct Only; which means that you remain eligible to receive any direct care services (i.e. Primary Care Department, Behavioral Health, and Physical Therapy) at any Gila River Health Care facility.

This change also affects you if you are an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and married to or a dependent of an enrolled Tohono O’Odham member married to an enrolled GRIC member or AK-Chin member will be affected; if a referral is written by a Gila River Health Care provider, as a courtesy, the Purchased Referred Care Department will schedule your appointment.

For more information, call the GRHC Purchase Referred Care Department (formerly Managed Care) at (520) 562-7997. For questions regarding Purchased Referred Care, call the GRHC Purchase Referred Care Department (formerly Managed Care) at (520) 562-7997.

As of October 1, 2015, Gila River Health Care will no longer pay for emergency and non-emergency care provided outside the Gila River Health Care system. Your eligibility will be considered Direct Only; which means that you remain eligible to receive any direct care services (i.e. Primary Care Department, Behavioral Health, and Physical Therapy) at any Gila River Health Care facility.

This change also affects you if you are an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe and married to or a dependent of an enrolled member of the Tohono O’Odham Nation.

- If you reside in Pinal County, call Neil Foster with the Santa Rosa Clinic at (520) 279-0953 or (520) 361-2403 Ext. 6027 with any questions regarding Purchased Referred Care.
- If you reside in Maricopa County call Darlene Yazzie with Phoenix Indian Medical Center at (602) 263-1569 with any questions regarding Purchased Referred Care.
- Tohono O’Odham Nation members living within the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), the AK-Chin Indian Community, or any enrolled Tohono O’Odham member married to an enrolled GRIC member or AK-Chin member will NOT be affected.
- Tohono O’Odham Nation members covered by the State Medicaid (AHCCCS/AIHP) or Gila River Long Term Care will not be affected; if a referral is written by a Gila River Health Care provider, as a courtesy, the Purchased Referred Care Department will schedule your appointment.

For more information, call the GRHC Purchase Referred Care Department (formerly Managed Care) at (520) 562-7997.

The Philadelphia magazine is the list of medications you can receive at GRHC.

To determine your eligibility for non-emergency medical transportation, please contact Gigi Navarro, Director of GRHC Transportation directly at (602) 528-1460.
St. Anthony’s Bazaar
October 17, 2015
Sacaton, AZ
11am-10pm

$15.00 Child’s Games, Ring of Fun, Criminal Side, Basketball Hoops, Nerf Shooters, Face Painting, Corn Hole, Baseball, Horseless Carriage, Face Painting, Traditional Mask, Kite/Waist Balloons

P. Osborne, Mountain Bikes
10 Distance Rolling Track
6th First Speed-Coach
Second $100.00 Vera Card
$5.00 per Ticket, Must not be present to use in Waiver. Everyone Welcome!

Vendors needed for this event. $35.00 fee due by October 13. Call Sonja Antone at 520-610-0470

Vacation Announcement:
Blackwater Community School
2015-2016 Teacher Opening – First Grade
Blackwater services over 400 students pre-school to grade 8 on the Gila River Indian Reservation in Coolidge, AZ. Excellent benefits package includes: 
Professional development offered on-site; Teacher mentor program. State 301 money available in addition to base rate yearly for teachers who meet established criteria; As a Title 1 school, you may qualify for student loan forgiveness; District-provided employee health, dental, life, and vision insurance; Arizona State Retirement benefits; Sick leave and personal days.
Requires Valid AZ Teacher Certification
AZ Fingerprint Clearance Card
Minimum of BA in education with emphasis in core standards. Supervisory experience in elementary education and experience with Native American children and school systems preferred. Must have a valid AZ Fingerprint Clearance Card and ability to pass National Background Screen, be AZ State Certified in K-8 or K-12 and must meet NCLB/ESEA Highly Qualified Requirements.
School Rd., Coolidge, AZ 85128 or email peggy.huff@bwcs.k12.az.us

Position requires minimum Bachelor’s degree and Master’s preferred with Reading and Math as a major focus, plus five years' classroom teaching experience in readin/math curricula; or equiv - alent combination of education and experience. Demonstrated experience in research-based instructional practices. Demonstrated knowledge of Arizona Core standards. Supervisory experience in elementary education and experience with Native American school systems with emphasis on grant schools preferred. Successful candidate must have ability to maintain effective working relationships with people of varied economic, educational and cultural background. Experience with Native American children and school systems preferred. Must have a valid AZ Fingerprint Clearance Card and ability to pass National Background Screen, be AZ State Certified in K-8 or K-12 and must meet NCLB/ESEA Highly Qualified Requirements.

Brainard “Nod” Johns
2/11/80-9/30/15

Brainard “Nod” Johns was born on February 11, 1980 in Phoenix, Ariz. and died on Sep - tember 30, 2015 at Desert Banner Medical Center in Mesa.
He attended grade school in Sacaton and continued his edu - cation at Intermountain Boarding School, in Brigham City Utah. He was retired and had previously worked for Gila River Telecommu - nications, Inc. as a Fiber Op - tic Installer and GRIC Facilities Maintenance Department as a HVAC Technician.
His hobbies included lis - tening to music, watching foot - ball, boxing and talking with his friends. His joy was taking care of his family, especially his grand - children.
He is survived by his wife of 24 years Michelle Macazan-Johns; Daughters: Candice and Heather Johns of Sacaton, Ashley Macazan of Blackwater, Christina Kisto of Buckeye and Vanessa Be - guyi of Utah.
He was preceded in death by his mother Permelia Manuel-Kis - to, Father Dale Norman Johns and a sister Janet Allison.

Letters & Opinions

October 16, 2015

Editorial Page

Gila River Indian News

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LETTERS POLICY: GRIC welcomes letters and columns from readers. Letters should be limited to 200 words and be in good taste. Material that is 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 GRIC may need to contact the writer. Once 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 GRIC for publication. GRIC reserves the right to edit submitted materials for grammar, spelling and content.

In Loving Memory

GIILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

IN LOVING MEMORY

PHYLLIS C. (LEWIS) OSIFE
APRIL 22, 1950 – OCTOBER 22, 2013

God looked around this gar - den and found an empty space, then he looked down upon this earth and saw your tired face.
He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest. God’s garden must be beautiful, he only takes the best.
Remembering you on your second anniversary - forever loved and eternally missed!

AVERTING BOMBS
NANA RROW

Work by Community artist Wayne Narcia

Community School

October Events

20 – Board of Trustees Mtg @ 6pm
21 – Student Assemblies
- P/T Conferences 1p-4p
28 – FACULTY MTG
- PD RenLearning
22 – PAC Mtg @ 6pm
- P/T Conferences 3:30- 6:00pm
23 – GAME TRUCK
26 – Red Ribbon Week
31 – Fall Festival

CORRECTIONS

The GRIC encourages comments and suggestions about content that warrants correction or clarification. To report an error call (520) 562-9719 or email print@gric.nsn.us
Community Leadership Approves 2016-2020 Water Plan – Public Meetings to Follow

From Page 1

As the settlement is being implemented the Community is able to bring more farm lands into production but this also means the Community’s total water costs will continue to increase.

Under the plan the Community will approve measures intended to reduce the Community’s total water costs and establish a Permanent Water Fund to help pay for future water costs. The Community will conduct meetings on October 24 and November 7 to present the plan in detail and to get feedback from Community members. Following are questions and answers to keep Community members informed of the Community’s Water Settlement and historic Water Plan moving forward.

Why is a Water Plan necessary?

As the Community brings more farm lands into production its water related costs have steadily increased. It is estimated that the Community will have to pay over $16 million in 2015 alone for operating its water related costs. This annual cost is only expected to increase as more lands are brought into production. As a result, Community Leadership developed a plan to address these rising water costs.

Why are the Community’s water costs so high?

Two things are increasing the Community’s water costs. The first is the operation, maintenance and rehabilitation (OM&R) costs for operating the Gila River Indian Irrigation & Drainage Project (P-MIP) and the Navajo Generating Station (NGS) projects. OM&R costs are going to increase as the Community finishes constructing the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project (P-MIP) and then takes over operating a much larger irrigation system. The bigger the system the larger the OM&R costs.

The second, and more significant, factor is the Community’s increasing reliance on Central Arizona Project (CAP) water and the rising cost of CAP water. The CAP water is the Community’s most reliable source of water, but its cost is the Community’s most expensive source water. In 2015 it cost the Community $75 per acre-foot to deliver CAP water to the Community. The Community is expected to order around 60,000 acre-feet of CAP water in 2015.

Did the Community know that CAP water was going to be so expensive prior to agreeing to the Water Settlement?

The Community knew that CAP water would be costly but it did not expect its cost to rise so rapidly. In 2008 CAP water cost $35 per acre-foot. It has more than doubled and will cost $76 per acre-foot in 2016. The primary cause for this price increase is new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations at the Navajo Generating Station (NGS) designed to increase visibility in the Grand Canyon Area. NGS supplies around 95% of the energy to move CAP water from the Colorado River to central Arizona. The Community has the largest single entitlement to CAP water – 311,800 acre-feet annually – which makes it the largest single customer of NGS power. In 2004, the Community, the United States and other parties to the water settlement did not anticipate that EPA regulations at NGS would increase the cost of CAP water so drastically.

What is the Community doing to reduce its water related costs?

The primary way the Community is seeking savings is reducing its reliance on CAP water. It will do that by pumping more groundwater, finding alternative less expensive sources of water to exchange with its CAP water, and have a more efficient water delivery system that will lose less water. However, it will need to rely on some CAP water to meet its water needs.

What is the difference between OM&R and “cost of water”?

There are two costs associated with water on the Community. OM&R costs, includes salaries for GRHBD employees that operate the system, maintenance of the system and funds set aside for the future replacement of the system. The other cost is “the cost of water,” which is what it costs to have water pumped from a well or delivered through an off-Reservation water delivery system like the Community’s Water System.

The Community’s Water System is currently under review by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Community wishes to order around 60,000 acre-feet of CAP water in 2015. This is an annual budget shortfall associated with water costs.

What does it mean to withdraw the “OM&R Water Fund”?

OM&R Water Fund is managed by the United States and does not generate very much revenue in addition, these MAR sites will be permitted so water stored at these sites can generate long-term storage credits that can be sold to other water development and operation of MAR sites and generate revenue for the Permanent Water Fund. MAR 5 is currently operating just west of the Huhugam Bridge in District 2.

Can I get a copy of the Water Plan?

Yes. You can request a copy of the plan from the Community’s Office of General Council. Where can I learn more?

The Community will conduct two member meetings on October 24 and November 7 to discuss this in more detail. Date and location of these meetings are below.

Saturday, October 24

Boys & Girls Club
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, November 7

Boys & Girls Club
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

This is what I can remember about my brother, PFC. Lloyd Leonard Miguel’s life:

Lloyd was born on Oct. 13, 1931, to Albert J. and Minnie Myers Miguel in Sacaton, Arizona. He attended Pima Central School in Sacaton. He joined the Army at age 19, in June of 1951, and received his basic training at Fort Ord, California. He returned home for 30 days’ leave in the fall of 1951. After his 30-day leave he left for Japan and was stationed there for more training. From Japan, he was sent to Korea.

According to his letters dated March, 1952, he was in Korea on the front line combat zone. In April, 1952, he returned to his regular camp, but he wrote that his company was returning to the front line at the end of May, 1952.

On June 15, 1952, he was killed in combat. A bullet fired from the enemy shot him in the neck and he died instantly. His body arrived by train in Coolidge, Arizona in August, 1952, and his funeral was held shortly thereafter. A soldier remained with the casket until Lloyd was buried. Lloyd was only 20 years old when he died and would have turned 21 that coming October. Lloyd was a very friendly and caring person who liked to help out people, especially the elderly. He always had a smile on his face and liked to joke with people whom he knew well. He was a neat person and after basic training, when he returned home, he would fold his clothes perfectly, even his socks would be folded in a perfect square!

While growing up, he always liked to tease his siblings, especially his youngest sister, but when he joined the Army, he wrote to his youngest sister as often as possible, encouraging her to stay in school and finish her education. He told her not to mix with the wrong crowd and listen to their parents.

Before joining the Army, Lloyd did odd jobs and helped his dad with farming, livestock, etc. He liked riding horses and helped his grandfather (Edgar Myers) with his livestock. He also liked to visit with his friends and relatives throughout the reservation and spent time with them. Sometimes he would stay with his uncles, Wesley Antone and David Antone for several days at Olberg. He liked to listen to their war stories plus go hunting in the mountains with them.

Written by Alberta Miguel Lopez, with support from Gila River AmeriCorps, edited by GRIN staff.
November Closures

GRHC will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 in observance of Veteran’s Day and November 26, 27 and 28, 2015 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

November is Diabetes Awareness Month

The GRHC Life Center is hosting two health fairs that will include a 1 mile walk and 3 mile run.

Kalka Park
D6 Komatke
November 13, 2015

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
November 20, 2015

Registration will begin at 7:00 am and the walk/run will begin at 7:15 am. The Health Fair will be held from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon.

For more information, contact:
Life Center
(520) 562-7940

GRHC Behavioral Health Services

GRHC Behavioral Health Services Prevention Program will be hosting Mental Health Awareness Day to bring awareness and help those in need.

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Front entry of Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital and Komatke Health Clinic.

For additional information, contact:
Gila River Health Care
Behavioral Health Services Prevention Program
(520) 562-3321 Ext. 7157

NEW Navigator Program for GRIC Members

A special Healthcare Career Workshop will be held on November 5, 2015 at the GRHC Viola Johnson Administration Building from 3pm to 6pm.

Be sure to look on the GRHC website under careers for positions opening up in the Navigator Program.

For more information contact:
Gwynn Simpson,
Human Resources Director
602.528.1429.

Gila River Indian Indian Community
Crisis Line
1-800-259-3449

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Page 6

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Youth Council Inauguration Ceremony

From Page 1

serving as an elected representative, as is the case this year with Jr. Miss Gila River Charisma Quiruz (D1). One-by-one, Gila River Tribal Courts Judge Jay Pedro administered the oath of office to the new and returning members of the Youth Council.

Newly elected Youth Council President Gus Pablo is the younger brother of outgoing Youth Council President Alex Pablo. He has only been on the Youth Council for one year before being elected to succeed his brother, but he has leadership experience from other venues. He was the Vice-President once and the President twice for Hashan Kehk Teen Club. He was also the Coolidge High School Tribes Club Vice-President for one year and President for three years.

"Thank you for taking this extra step to be a part of the Council," he said to his peers. "Keep in mind that you are here to serve your community and make a better change for this Community."

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone praised the new president. "He’s got a brilliant mindset that, I think, is going to be very unique. I’m anxious to see what he has in store for the Youth Council."

She said the Youth Council is "a treasure of our Community [and] all of these young people have good hearts for our Community...I think our Community is very blessed."

Gov. Lewis emphasized leadership and challenged the youth to become committed Community servants. He said there are many different ways that they can be of service and asked them to consider "how they can give back to their community in this next year."

But they can’t do it alone, he added, speaking to the audience of mostly parents and family members. He thanked the parents and relatives for uplifting the community youth. “They could not be where they are at without your support,” he said. “We have such a bright and promising future of leaders in front of us, and it’s up to us to continue to support them and to pray for them.”

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**S-he:pijig Mashath**

‘Cold Month’

S-he:pijig Mashath translates to the “cold month” and notes the arrival of cooler weather and windy days.

As cooler weather approaches and warm weather plants go dormant there are certain plants that continue to be a source of food for wildlife and insects. Our O’otham recognized that certain wildlife and insects depend on a specific desert plant during the cold months in what is called today a symbiotic relationship. In this relationship both the host plant and the wildlife or insects support mutually benefit from this interaction. Often the name for the plant or animal in O’otham reflects this relationship as we will see in the examples below.

One example of this relationship is found with the Hå:kvod (Desert Mistletoe), Kui (Mesquite tree) and Kuigam (Phainopepla). In the wintertime the bird known as Kuigam can be found in the Kui feeding off the berries that Hå:kvod produces. Kuigam digestive systems can’t process the hard seeds and these are distributed throughout the land by their bird-droppings reproducing Hå:kvod. The name Kuigam means “Mesquite tree owner” and reflects its relationship with living in the host tree that provides its food.

Another example is the Vipismal (hummingbird) and the two plants Vipismal Je:j (Chuparosa) and Sanwan (Tree Tobacco). Wintering Vipismal depend on the nectar of both plants to survive throughout the cold months. In turn both plants are pollinated for plant reproduction ensuring their survival. The name for the Chuparosa (Vipismal Je:j) reflects the relationship in providing nourishment for all hummingbirds just as a mother provides nourishment to her children.

Other plants active during this time of year include Vi:bam (Desert Milkweed), Vi:pa (Desert Lavender), and Ho’okimel (Butterflies and Moths). In O’otham the name for Desert Milkweed, Vi:bam has a special relationship with Vi:bam and depends on this plant for food and a place to lay their eggs. The Monarch Butterfly larvae feed off Vi:bam when they emerge and certain chemicals in Vi:bam make both the larvae and butterfly taste bad to predators, which in turn increases their survival rate. In O’otham the name for Desert Milkweed Vi:bam references the milk-like sap that this plant produces and is essential for the Monarch Butterfly’s survival.

This month’s word match will focus on the birds and insects mentioned above and their host plant during the cold months. We encourage you to learn the O’otham words and use them in your everyday lives.
Domestic Violence Awareness Month

From Page 1

male audiences about how to identify the dangers of an abusive relationship.

She said the Commision wants to see “more support in schools to educate the youth about safety zones and provide tools on how to prevent dating violence and help survivors overcome.”

Lt. Gov. Antone asked tribal leaders to purchase a purple light bulb to place in front of their homes to honor survivors. The state of Arizona and Home Depot will carry purple light bulbs to “color our state purple.”

Part of the Governor’s initiative involves education in schools and local communities and through other means of spreading awareness about domestic violence.

According to the commission, one in four women have experienced domestic violence in the state of Arizona.

On a larger scale, forms of abuse could lead to the sexual exploitation of women through more serious crimes like sex trafficking.

At home in communities like GRIC, Antone said, “The stigma is there. [We] don’t report it enough, it’s so common that it is a vicious cycle that [we] want to break with the resources available to victims.”

Debbie Moak, Director of the Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family spoke about the commission’s purpose.

“We take action so that the lives of Arizona citizens can improve. The work the Commission does in their communities is amazing,” she said.

She wants people to know that domestic violence is not an isolated incident associated with any specific social status or race, but that it can affect anyone.

“The effects of violence can last for a lifetime and can last from one generation to the next,” said Moak.

Diane Walter, a domestic violence survivor said her wounds weren’t physically inflicted, but psychologically inflicted by her ex-husband.

The majority of the abuse she experienced came in the form of insulting comments and belittling, which took the marriage from love to psychological and emotional survival.

“As people, we sometimes accept the spaces which we are confined to by words and the power behind them, by the threat of retaliation,” said Walter.

Walter said that abusers need to be accountable for their actions and that people who are aware of domestic violence to take an “honest look” at what is happening.

Gov. Ducey says the threat of domestic violence is real, because domestic violence affects a family every 44 minutes in Arizona.

“All Arizonans’ deserve to live a life free from victimization and violence and [we] all have a role in putting a stop to domestic violence.”

He called on Arizonans to support the organizations and services that are available to victims of domestic violence.

Ducey said addressing the issue is possible by taking a stand – that people can do something and not be bystanders to domestic violence.

No Excuse for domestic abuse

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS FAIR

Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015
District 6 Boys & Girls Club – Komatke Branch
Awareness fair - 4:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015
District 1 Service Center
Walk - 7:30a.m.
Awareness fair - 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

We invite you to attend the Gila River Domestic Violence Awareness Fair. Get information about DV awareness and prevention. Free admission and open to the public, including teens!

Sponsored by:
Citizen Advisory Board
Gila River Police Department
Gila River Probation Office
Crime Victims Services
Domestic Violence Shelter
Tribal Social Services
Gila River Tribal Courts
Gila River Prosecutors
Department of Community Housing

Information and Services Provided By:
- GCCS 4th Grade Promotion Committee
- Gila River Healthcare
- GRTC Dental
- College Opportunities
- Nutrition
- Behavioral Health Services
- Diabetes Prevention
- Suicide Prevention
- Komatke Boys & Girls Club
- And so much more!

Sponsored By:

Gila Crossing Community School
FACE Program
(Family and Child Education)

October 28, 2015
1:00pm - 5:30pm

District 6
Komatke Boys & Girls Club

2ND ANNUAL WOMEN’S PRAYER RUN
OCTOBER 17-18, 2015
A PRAYER JOURNEY ACROSS THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY THAT RECOGNIZES AND HONORS WOMEN’S STRENGTH.

ALL WOMEN WELCOME - RUNNERS & WALKERS
ELDERS & YOUNG WOMEN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUPPORT CREW!

OCT. 16: NIGHT CAMP AT SUNRISE RESIDENCE
(6423 S. 91ST AVE., LAVEEN, AZ 85339)

OCT. 17: RUN BEGINS AT SUNRISE

DONATIONS WELCOME

CONTACT INFO
RENE JACOBS 623-223-1674
RJACOBS1308GMAIL.COM
PAM THOMPSON 480-721-3919
PTHOMPSON388GMAIL.COM
Miss Indian Arizona
From Page 1

are.” She called for unity and strength from all Native people across Arizona. “Re-gardless of the challenges we are facing. [We] can get through it together.”

Gila River’s representative, Sienna Whittington was named Second Attendant to Miss Indian Arizona 2015-2016. She also took the award for best evening gown. Lexie Michael James, Hopi, is the First Attendant to Miss Indian Arizona for 2015-2016.

Whittington said, “I was really excited to run. I was honored to represent the Community.” In preparing for the pageant she said, “I was trying to do my best to ... gather my thoughts about how to best represent the people of Gila River.”

The competition included a trio of contestants from the O’otham/Pee Posh tribes: Holly Elyse Antoine of the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Skehg’ Hiosik Galindo from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Miss Gila River Sienna Whittington. Contestants from other tribal communities included: Angel Dee Hicks, Navajo Nation; Edith Renee Starr, San Carlos Apache Tribe; Shelyne Brianne Twist, Cocopah Indian Tribe; Cedar Plume William, San Carlos Apache Tribe; Susan and James.

In her farewell address, out-going Miss Indian Arizona Shasta Dazen, White Mountain Apache Tribe, said it was an honor to represent the tribal nations of Arizona. “I can’t tell you the lives that have been touched because of the Miss Indian Arizona Association.” She said the purpose of the crown is to represent the people, to be their voice, and to empower young American Indian women to succeed.

In keeping with this year’s theme, “Celebrating Traditional Values Through Song, Dance and Stories,” the ladies gave an impressive display of culture ranging from traditional songs to presenting a narrative about the uses of foods and items customary to their tribe. Throughout the talent showcase and traditional reflections segment, the contestants illustrated the history of their people and what it means to be an indigenous woman in today’s society.

In the modern reflections category, Whittington took to the stage in a shimmering red evening gown under the escort of Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. Lewis spoke highly of Whittington. “She told the story of our Community, she had a lot of poise and presented it with passion,” he said. “She really showed that Miss Indian Arizona can be a possibility for some of the young ladies from the Community.”

Lewis was impressed at her ability to demonstrate the Community’s high marks. He said, “Whittington represented the Community very well. [We] are all proud of her.”
My name is Alden Alli-son and I am a member of the Gila River Indian Com-munity from District 2. I am submitting this article to pay tribute to my friend Dennis Poolheco. Dennis passed away on June 9, 2015. He was from Second Mesa and was of Hopi/Tewa descent. We worked together from 2008-2011 as Wildland Firefighter's and I always thought of Dennis as a brother because we were very close friends. He always excelled in whatever he did and was an inspiration to his fellow work-ers, friends and anyone he came across.

Dennis was an avid runner. He was a marathon runner and became well known in the sport. He was a 5-time champion runner. His ability to run had a big impact on his life and everyone else around him.

As a tribute to my friend, we are hosting a Dennis Poolheco Memorial Run on Nov. 14 at the Hashan Kehk Multipurpose Building in District 2 at 7:00 a.m.

I invite everyone reading this to come out and support the memory of Dennis and the love that he had for his sport. We are also asking for donations of water, Gatorade, protein bars and fruit. To donate, volunteer or for more information, you can contact the following: Jeannette Poolheco at jeppieannet@yahoo.com (520) 208-7285; Desidra Honynuptewa at klydghga_kc@yahoo.com (480) 766-9168; Lori Alli-son at loriallison4@gmail. com (520) 431-8885; Jackie Allison at (520) 610-3597; and Alden Allison at (602) 509-3628.

Come out and be a part of this event. I know Dennis would be so proud. Thank You.

Alden (left) and Dennis (right) worked together as wildland firefighters and became good friends.

Photos courtesy of Alden Allison

Dennis Poolheco Memorial Honor Run

Edited by GRIN staff
Community Member Bobbie Riggs to Be Honored at Indian National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nov. 6

By the Riggs Family Edited by Gila River Indian News staff

The 2015 Indian National Finals Rodeo is set for November 3-7 in Las Vegas, Nevada at the South Point Hotel and Casino. The INFR is the biggest and grandest of all Indian Professional Rodeos.

This year it will be honoring 40 years of Professional Indian Rodeo and will be acknowledging all the former INFR World Champions, including the Gila River Indian Community’s own, Bobbie Riggs! Riggs, District 5 Vah-Ki, is a horsewoman, rancher, and future farmer. Bobbie has put Gila River on the map in the world of Indian Professional Rodeo. She set a record by becoming the first woman from the Gila River Indian Community to qualify to the INFR, and again when she became the World Champion.

Three years ago she became the 2012 Indian National Finals Rodeo Ladies Breakaway Roping World Champion. Riggs said, “I remember as they announced for me to take the world championship lap. It was a packed house there at the South Point arena. I was so happy that our hard work paid off. I would have not been able to win this title without my horse, Mister Ed. I know that going to Las Vegas Mister Ed knew what our game plan was. The first thing I did was make a phone call to my mother, who could not go with me. I called her first to let her know Mister Ed and I had just won the World Title. That is one phone call I will never forget.

Winning in Vegas is never easy. “You have to work hard to [qualify for INFR in Vegas],” she said. “[In Vegas] you’re roping against the toughest breakaway ropers from all of Indian Country. That is where the top in the world compete to become a World Champion.”

Bobbie is a veteran of Indian Professional Rodeo. She started when she was 7 years old and she is still going strong today. She is a great role model to the youth, especially those interested in her specialty events of Ladies Breakaway Roping and Team Roping. Bobbie is the Community at the big event this year in Las Vegas. She will be honored as a past INFR World Champions on Friday November 6, 2015.

“I had come real close to making it back to Las Vegas for the last couple of years. This year it was close again at our SWIRA (Southwest Indian Rodeo Association) regional finals, which was held in Sanders, Ariz. on September 27th. At the end of the regional finals I ended up in the top four for the 2015 season, but I did not make it to [INFR] this year. But that means I will work harder for 2016 season. So INFR, don’t count me out because I will be back to rope there at the South Point next year!”

Bobbie says that today the event of Ladies Breakaway Roping has grown a lot and there is so much talent out there. A lot of ladies want one thing and that is to become a World Champion. “With this much competition I cannot just sit around and think another championship will be handed down to me. A gold buckle is not given, it is earned. The effort you put into it and having a good horse are key factors for success as well as caring for your horses daily.”

“With so much competition I cannot just sit around and think another championship will be handed down to me. A gold buckle is not given, it is earned. The effort you put into it and having a good horse are key factors for success as well as caring for your horses daily.”

“I am a firm believer in working hard at what you want in life and not backing down. You can be whatever you want to be in life if you go out and work hard for it. I learned this from my mother. She always said, Bobbie nothing will walk to you, you have to go out and get it, earn it, work at it. I am not one to give up. I will keep on going as long as I can, and I am reminded that I come from a beautiful and blessed Community, the Gila River Indian Community.

“I want to stress this to many of my friends, my families, my people – it does not matter how long it takes you to do what you love and what you are striving to succeed in. I started at a very young age and I kept on trying and trying. I did not give up and when I became older in my rodeo career my hard work paid off and I succeeded. Do not give up. Keep going until it happens. It can be in school; it can be in sports; it can be fighting and beating diabetes, or whatever your desires are. The sky is the limit. I am proud to say that I am drug and alcohol free. I do believe in keeping well-being in my life and fighting diabetes.”

“I would like to acknowledge my mother whom is full blooded Akimel O’otham, Brenda L. Robertson from district 5 Vah-Ki. She has been my number one support all my life in making this dream come true for me. This world title is not only mine. She has a big part in my Gold Buckle. My grandparents played a big part of my life growing up. The late Lester and Madeline Lewis is and my late Grandfather Harviet Adams. Most of all, I thank Jesus Christ for everything I do because without him in my life I would not be the person I am today and living my dream.”

So, if you make it to the 2015 INFR this year, you will see Bobbie Riggs honored on Friday Nov. 6 during the night performance with all the other past World Champions at the South Point Hotel and Casino.
To Gila Indian Community Members,

As a valued member of our Community, we would like to invite you to participate in a quick survey. Your responses will help us better serve your needs and improve our services for all Community members. The survey data will also provide valuable statistics to support an Individual Development Account (IDA) grant we will be applying for. IDA’s are matched savings accounts that help people with modest means to save towards a targeted amount that can be used for building assets in the form of home ownership, post-secondary education and small business ownership.

You will have the opportunity to place your name in a raffle for one of the Fry’s Gift Cards ($100, $75 or $50) that will be drawn on November 28th, at the Waila Festival at Rawhide Western Town - Frontier Hall, Chandler, AZ.

Follow this link to start survey: http://tiny.cc/PLSURVEY

Thank you for your time and feedback.
Sincerely,
Pima Leasing & Financing Corporation Staff
(520) 796-2454

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**COURT DATE NOTICES**

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Name of Person: Ramona Sabori
Type of Hearing: Complaint Hearing
Court Date: November 5, 2015 @ 2:30pm
Court Room: #3, 2nd floor of Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court

A complaint has been filed against you. If you fail to file an answer the Court may enter a default judgment and provide sanctions against you. Failure to appear can affect your rights and may result in a default judgment.

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**“Wills”**

Presentation by Cecilia Henry
Fiduciary Trust Officer, US Dept. of Interior,
Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians

District 2 - Multipurpose Building Elder Lounge Area
THURSDAY, October 15, 2015
11:00 am - 12:30 pm
District 4 - Service Center
THURSDAY, October 29, 2015
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

For more information, contact Julie at Elderly Services 520-562-5232
Gila River Indian Community Elderly Services Caregiver Program
P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147 / 431 Pima & Main

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**S-ke-ajjilq Mas-ju: Match the bird & insect with its host plant! SOLUTION!**

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**Sleep Study**

Researchers at ASU are looking for volunteers for a 14-week sleep study looking at the possible effects of sleeping 1-hour less in bed or following a fixed bedtime and wake time.

Participants will need to be 60 to 80 years of age and must not have sleep apnea, insomnia, or other sleep disorders.

During the study, participants will:
- Sleep in their own beds.
- Be asked to fill out questionnaires and have physical exams, including blood draws on several occasions.
- Receive compensation for completing the study.

Want to participate or learn more? Please contact:
The Sleep Lab
Email: SleepStudy@asu.edu
Phone: (602) 496-0822
ACTION SHEET
Community Council: PO Box 2138, Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone: (480) 552-6702; Fax (520) 582-3792
CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held at the Sonoita Community Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by the present Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:15 a.m.
INVOCATION
Presenters: Marla Martha
ROLL CALL
Sign-in Circulated
Executive Officers Present: Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Council Members Present: D1-Don Watkins, D2-Alissa Shaw, D3-Aaron Schwab, D4-Nada Acaia, Angela Altman, Christopher Mendoza, D5-Brian Davis, Sr., Franklin Pablo, D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Nazeyewy (11:12), D7-Devin Redbird (9:47)
Council Members Absent: D-4, Janie F. Stewart, Robert Stone
APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
[REPRESENTATIONS (LIMIT TO 5 MINUTES)]
1. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. – New Chief Executive Officer
Presenter: Leslie Rychel
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
3. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc – New Chief Executive Officer
Presenter: Leslie Rychel
4. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. – New Chief Executive Officer
Presenter: Leslie Rychel
8. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The Native American Connections Wellness Program (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
14. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Mesa For The Natural Family Connections Family Life Program (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
15. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The River Of Dreams, Daring Adventures Program (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
16. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Mesa For The I.D.E.A. Museum For The Access For All – No Barriers To Learning Community Fund (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
17. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Mesa For The Save The Family Foundation Of Arizona Family Homeless Families Intervention Project (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
19. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Mesa For The New Pathways For Youth Transformatory Mentoring Program (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
20. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The American Red Cross Bloodmobile (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
21. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The American Red Cross Bloodmobile (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
22. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The American Red Cross Bloodmobile (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
25. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The American Red Cross Bloodmobile (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
28. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The American Red Cross Bloodmobile (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
32. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community’s State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The American Red Cross Bloodmobile (G&M motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
APPROVED AT RESOLUTION #1
Continued on Page 14
Community Council Action Sheets
Wednesday, October 7, 2015
34. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Chinese Consolidated General Store, L.P. For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenter: Linus Everling

APPROVED

35. A Resolution Nominating A Gila River Indian Community Delegate For The Arizona State Legislative Election Cycle 2016

Presenters: Gregory McDowell, Sasha Pachito

APPROVED

36. A Resolution Approving A Settlement Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The El Paso, Texas, County Engineer’s Office For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenter: Sharon Harvier-Lewis

APPROVED

37. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Sandhill Crane Habitat Advisory Committee, Inc. For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenter: Cheryl Pablo

APPROVED

38. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And First National Bank For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenter: Linus Everling

APPROVED

39. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Hardee Consulting For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval; NRSC concurs with correction in the 5th WHEREAS)

Presenter: Linus Everling

APPROVED

40. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Handel Consulting For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval; NRSC concurs with correction in the 5th WHEREAS)

Presenter: Linus Everling

APPROVED

41. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Applied Research, Inc. For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenter: Tana Fitzpatrick

APPROVED

42. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Arizona Department of Transportation For Fiscal Year 2016 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation of approval; NRSC concurs with correction in the 5th WHEREAS)

Presenter: Linus Everling

APPROVED
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Chills and Thrills for the Whole Family!

OCTOBER 17
Gates open at 4:30

GRIC Members receive 50% off with ID.
Kids under 12 are free!

RaceWildHorse.com

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THE REST

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TAKE A STAND TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Most domestic violence incidents are never reported. Domestic violence thrives when we are silent; but if we take a stand and work together, we can help to prevent and end domestic violence. Throughout the month of October, join in our efforts to raise awareness and end domestic violence.

Domestic violence is not just physical violence; it is a pattern of behavior used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, it often involves the threat or use of violence. Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of gender, age, race, sexual orientation, or income.

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO IF YOU KNOW A VICTIM:

· Ask them if they want to talk about it.
· Be supportive and tell them “I believe you”, “This is not your fault”, “You are not alone”, “Help is available.”
· Be non-judgmental. Respect their decisions.
· Encourage them to talk to people who can provide help and guidance.
· Know the resources available in the community.

IF YOU WISH TO DISCUSS YOUR CASE WITH A GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT DETECTIVE, PLEASE CALL (520) 562-7115, OR CONTACT AT 669 WEST SEED FARM ROAD, SACATON

SACATON “ON EAGLES WINGS” DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER
1-855-203-5849

AGAINST ABUSE SHELTER/COUNSELING SERVICES (520) 836-0858
will accept collect calls in case of emergency

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES
(520) 562-4106