Gov. Lewis signs agreement with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community and the Southwest Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service solidified their bond when both parties recently signed a Statement of Relationship (SOR). Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Dr. Benjamin Tuggle, Regional Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Southwest Region signed the SOR on Jan. 5, formalizing the working relationship between GRIC and the Service to promote their mutual goals of conservation and land, wildlife management.

“The Community has always placed a high value on our culture and spirituality. We are tied to the land and the animals through our cultural stories,” said Gov. Lewis.

The statement of relationship is regarded as a continuation of the good relationship the Community has established with the federal government over critical issues like wildlife management.

“The goal is taking ownership of our resources, which means being proactive in managing our land and the species of animals that reside here,” said Gov. Lewis.

“The Department of Interior has a trust responsibility, but it goes beyond that. The Gila River Indian Community is very much a partner with the USFWS as it relates to wildlife,” said Dr. Tuggle.

Moreover, importantly, he said it gives the Community a voice in how it manages wildlife and natural resources found on tribal lands.

Dr. Jennifer Allison, GRIC’s Assistant Tribal Chairman, said the SOR with the USFWS’s technical expertise on plant conservation, wildlife, fish and natural habitats native to the area is important to establish a mutual understanding of the responsibilities involved in managing wildlife.

Part of the agreement allows the Community to access the USFWS’s technical expertise on plant conservation, wildlife, fish and natural habitats native to the area.

“We are looking forward to the good relationship the Community has with the USFWS and the advancement of education in the Community,” said Gov. Lewis.

The agreement also identifies spiritual and cultural significance tied to the natural resources and wildlife located on Community lands.

Gov. Lewis views the Community’s partnership with the USFWS as an effective way to keep a positive relationship with the federal government while exercising tribal sovereignty.

Marlin Dixon takes seat on Council

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis signs the Statement of Relationship between the Gila River Indian Community and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service with Southwest Regional Director Dr. Benjamin Tuggle. Back row, from left: District 4 Council representative Jennifer Allison, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Barnaby Lewis.

Marlin Dixon takes the oath of office prior to taking his seat as the new District 5 Council Community Representative.

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

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Mikhail Sundust/GRI

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Mikhail Sundust/GRI

After 15 years as an officer with the Gila River Police Department, leaving the force wasn’t easy.

“I really enjoyed what I was doing,” said Marlin Dixon, the newly elected District 5 Council Representative, who was sworn in on Jan. 6.

Dixon has been a positive reflection of the character of his community for years, but now that he’s officially on the Community Council, he looks forward to the challenge of representing his people full-time.

As a police Ranger he became more assertive and more confident. He learned how to deal with difficult people and difficult situations. Most of all he learned to listen.

“The main thing is learning to listen to the people,” he said. “Listen...to better help them or find ways to help them.”

Dixon enjoys helping others, but he didn’t seek out the title of Councilman for himself. He was nominated for the position by an elder who had observed his development. Dixon was surprised by the nomination and said it made him realize how much people are paying attention to the work he does in the Community.

Dixon and his wife have three children of their own, and are raising two more that they call son and daughter.

“My son is 17, my daughter is 16 and my daughter who’s in 8th grade is my youngest biological,” said Dixon.

They have also been raising a new 5-year-old boy, a cousin’s son, since he was 7 months old, and recently inherited temporary guardianship of another relative’s 2-year-old girl. To top it off, their older children always have friends coming over after school and on weekends. “We always have a house full of kids,” he said, smiling.

That house is a few miles west of St. Peter Indian Mission School, where his children attended middle school and where, for several years, he was an active member of the Parent Board and School Board.

Dixon advocates strongly for education. As a Council member he hopes to contribute to the advancement of education in the Community.

“I try to encourage the kids that come to the house. ‘Do more,’ I say. ‘There’s another world out there so be prepared for it. Learn.’ He wants people to know there are a lot of opportunities to further one’s self.

After high school, Dixon attended vocational school and became a mechanic. He worked as one for a while, but returned to Gila River to help his family in a tough time. He then got a job as a security guard at Sacaton Middle School, where he worked for 14 years before becoming an officer with the GRPD.

Now, at the age of 50, Dixon is trading in his boots, badge and Ranger’s Raptor truck for a desk job.

Many of the elders in District 5 will remember Marlin’s father, the late Rodney Dixon, who served on the Council for nearly 30 years, throughout most of Marlin’s childhood and teenage years.

The younger Dixon speaks proudly of his father’s time on Council. “They’re the ones that brought in the casino, telecommunications, and the police department.”

He said, “I’m not trying to fill my dad’s shoes...I couldn’t do that.” But he approaches his new role with humility and an open mind.

“Serv ing all se ve n distri cts of th e Gila Ri ve r Indian Community”

Announcements/Notices...Pg. 10

Community Updates......Page 4

Culture & History........Page 7

Letters & Opinions.......Page 3

Action Sheets.......Page 9

FAQs

Solo Exhibit by Janet Travis

Office Retire

GRBC TV Guide

District 2 Multipurpose Building wins architecture award

Kenneth Manuel named one of 25 people to watch in gaming

Tutoring for K-12 Students, TED

Auppa I’vakithak Mashath: Huhugam Heritage Center

Bureau of Indian Education Grant FAQs

Page 8
Find a new dentist.

The Smile Generation® is your trusted source for dental recommendations. We connect you with great dentists around the Gila River Indian community who are dedicated to delivering thoughtful, modern care with advanced technology. We’re proud to accept Cigna insurance along with many other plans.

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MARICOPA SMILES DENTISTRY AND ORTHODONTICS
520-568-2800 | MaricopaSmilesDental.com
W. Maricopa Casa Grande Hwy & Porter Rd

PROMENADE SMILES DENTISTRY AND ORTHODONTICS
520-426-3639 | PromenadeSmiles.com
Off the I-10 & Florence

FOOTHILLS SMILES DENTISTRY AND ORTHODONTICS
480-755-4455 | FoothillsSmilesDentistry.com
Southeast corner of Ray & 48th

LAVEEN MODERN DENTISTRY AND ORTHODONTICS
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Applications for assistance may be made
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LETTERS & OPINIONS

Fourth and Last Memorial
Daniel D. Amavisca

"Danny Boy"
October 26, 1985-January 4, 2011
To My Beloved Son:
It's been four years since you've gone back to your Creator, it seems like yesterday how much you are missed and loved from the day you were born we hold those memories of you.
We as a family, friends, relatives have our special memories of you that are kept in our heart. You will never be forgotten. Your blessings are stored within our hearts.
Until I see you again! I love and miss you very much.
Always yours
Mom, Dionne

In Loving Memory of
Daniel D. Amavisca
They say that time's a healer But as time goes on We seem to find it just as hard To face the fact you've gone And today is the anniversary Of the day that you went away And we're standing here at your graveside And believe us when we say You'll never be forgotten And every year well shed a tear But it's only because we love you And wish you were still here
With love from,
The Amaviscas, Thomas, Scott

Art work by Wayne Narcia
GRPD says farewell to two officers

By GRIC Staff

Heriberto Meza (left) poses with an award presented by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

His career in law enforcement spans 25 years with 10 of them served with the Eloy Police Department before joining GRPD. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis lauded Dixon and Meza’s high level of dedication to police work. “You put yourselves out there on the line to protect our Community, including sacrificing time away from your families,” he said.

Outside of the job Dixon was involved with the parent organization at the St. Peter Indian Mission School in District 5. Sergeant Sheldon Johns, a Tribal Ranger, shared his thoughts of Meza and Dixon at the retirement party. “Eddie is hard working individual that kept everyone entertained. And for Dixon, he’s a good dependable person that could take care of the [guys] when they need anything. Both of them have done a lot for our department and the Community,” said Johns.

District 5 Council Representative Frank Pablo, a former Tribal Ranger, said Meza had a lot of foresight in seeing the bigger picture. “[He] spoke of things he saw in the line of duty that he could improve upon, for a better and safer Community.”

Dixon said the transition from being a public safety officer to working in the public office are not dissimilar, but a continuation of service for the Community. In looking back at his career in law enforcement he said, “Every day was new and presented a different set of challenges, but you make adjustments in order to do effective police work.”

“I’m going to miss the Community, but it has taught me a lot,” said Meza. “Learning about the pride and cultural awareness of the people made the job rewarding.”

Here are some regular updates on the on-going issues pertaining to the Gila River Indian Community.

**Community Events**

**District 5**

- **Dodgeball Co-ed Tournament** – Vah Ki Multipurpose Building Gymnasium
  - **Saturday January 23, 2016**
  - Contact: 520-315-3441 or ariel.morris-to@griic.nsn.us

**District 4 Seniors**

- **Trip** – 15th Annual Women & Men’s Wellness sign-up
  - Deadline is January 28, 2016
  - Contact: 520-418-3661

**District 3 South**

- **Housing Neighborhood Clean Up** – January 29, 2016
  - Contact: 520-562-3904 or 520-610-1349

**District 4 Family Movie Night**

- **January 22, 2016**

**GRIC EVENTS**

- **Hummingbird Festival**
- **Gila River Indian Community, Native American Healing**
- **Winter Break/White Water Rafting**
- **Expansion of the Community Center**

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The District 2 Multipurpose Building is designed to reflect the identity of the community it serves.

Earth tones wrap around and permeate the building with varying shades of green to represent cacti and browns to represent the desert. Floor-to-ceiling windows welcome natural light and open the space inside. Patterns on the walls mimic those found on a saguaro or in a woven basket.

The D2 community worked closely with architects from Orcutt | Winslow, providing input on the layout of the community center, colors used and textural elements.

The new facility is a major upgrade from the district’s previous service center, which was a modular building. D2 Coordinator Jeanne Gomez said the community loves it and makes good use of the amenities it offers.

“The [youth] love to come here,” she said, and the elders enjoy their own space in the Elder Center downstairs and appreciate the convenience of being directly connected to the main service center, an elevator ride away.

But, said Gomez, “This building is not just for District 2.” People from all over the Community visit the center for events and recreation activities like Zumba. In 2014, the community celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the Signing of the Community Water Rights in the newly opened facility gymnasium.

“We had to go through and do a ton of value engineering just to get that building down to about $9.9 million, and we did that,” said Tribal Projects’ Howard Reno.

In fact, the final cost was a little under $9 million, saving the Community an additional $1 million even after the budget reduction.

Numerous design elements were adjusted for cost, either by swapping out one material for another or reformatting the construction process.

“One example is the concrete walls, the two tilt panels that focus the view towards Yellow Peak,” said architect Stacia Ledeuma.

They were originally intended to be built vertically from the ground up, with a very specific look. But to save money they were formed in panels on the ground, stamped and then tilted up.

“We had to be creative,” said Ledeuma, and "offsetting the horizontal pattern of the boards with the vertical pieces just re-emphasized the texture of a basket and basket. So I think the end result was actually better.”

The group also found cost-savings by choosing the materials in the exterior skin of the building as well as in some ceiling panels. While a lot of changes were made to cut costs, the spirit of the project remained the same and the intent of the design was not lost in the final product.
Kenneth Manuel named one of 25 People to Watch for 2016 by Global Gaming Business Magazine

Kenneth Manuel, GRGE.
By Roger Gros
Global Gaming Business

The story of tribal government gaming in Arizona is one that brought tribes from rags to riches. But more importantly, the story demonstrates the ability of Native Americans in the state to overcome the disadvantages they may have had growing up to take advantage of the opportunities that gaming provides.

Kenneth Manuel is one of those success stories. When the Gila River Indian Community opened its first casino in the early 1990s, Manuel joined the team as an entry-level employee in the slot department.

“That was a great place to start,” he says. “You get to know what’s important very quickly and also to know the customers. I learned the basics there.”

Manuel started at the first casino opened by Gila River Gaming Enterprises, the Lone Butte Casino, and later held positions at the other two casinos, Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino and Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino.

His current job is a stepping stone to the CEO position, which he will assume when his current program is completed, but Manuel is in no hurry to get there. He is invested in developing leadership for the gaming enterprises and seeing young members of the Gila River Indian Community advance their careers.

“One of the most gratifying programs the gaming enterprise offers is the mentorship program,” he says. “I remember many years back the community wanting to develop this kind of program. This program identifies talented community members and places them in positions where they can learn from a mentor in a specific role. Once the goals have been met, the mentee earns the position they’ve been training for. It’s been part of our business culture for several years.”

Manuel says the gaming business is crucial to the tribe, both as a way to develop talent and to serve the tribal community.

“The revenues our casinos generate go to support programs such as housing, education, health care, social services, just to name a few,” he says. “So our team members are not only working to support themselves and their families, but also working to support a much larger cause, the Gila River Indian Community.”

As such, Manuel says the enterprise keeps an eye on other casinos in the very competitive Phoenix market—including the recent addition of the controversial Desert Diamond West Valley casino in Glendale owned by the Tohono O’odham Nation—but says the Gila River Indian Community is confident in its position.

“Since 1994, we’ve been the industry leader in Arizona,” he says. “We’re always looking to explore but we always keep the eye on the competition while concentrating on what we do best.”

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Arizona Cardinals highlight partnership with GRIC

Haskell-Osife Antone Post 51 stands with the colors at University of Phoenix Stadium on Jan. 3.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Monica Antone, members of Community Council and the Gila River Gaming Enterprise prior to kick off at University of Phoenix Stadium.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

The Arizona Cardinals may have wrapped up the regular season but the Gila River Indian Community will always be high on their depth chart. Going into their final regular season game on Jan.3, the Cardinals honored GRIC with a pregame visit to the field and a video presentation. Haskell-Osife Antone Post 51 was also on the field for the presentations of the colors.

“We are proud to have a long lasting relationship with the Arizona Cardinals. Through this partnership, we are able to tell our story of the Akimel O’odham and Pee-Posh people,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. Gov. Lewis said the Cardinals’ level of community outreach is a huge part of the partnership that doesn’t end at the stadium, but has a deeper commitment.
Culture & History

The name for this month references the sprouting of the A’uppa (Cottonwood) trees. During this time of year with the cold frosty nights and shortened days we begin to encounter different animals that seek the warmth of our homes and resources in our yards.

In the early days of our youth we lived in a typical Pima style sandwich house with dirt floors and several storage buildings and had some of our relatives living a stone’s throw away. Some of our other relatives lived on farms and ranches and we would often stay with them to help with labor during our winter break from school. Common to these types of home sites are the wild animals they attract. One animal is the nahagio, (deer mouse) that is known to invade seed storage areas and invade homes. Our grandmother always had a good mouser cat to keep nahagio out of the house. In the storage buildings everything was kept off the ground, especially seeds and feed. Wooden mouse traps were a standard practice. It was the job of us young boys to clear and re-rest the traps on a daily basis.

Another wild animal that is active year-round looking for seeds at night is the thawiwa, (kangaroo rat). We would often see them by flashlight when we would bring chicks into the coop for the night. They weren’t afraid of us as they went after what seeds the chickens left behind. One culprit that stole our chickens was chuav, (grey fox) who would often come and steal early in the morning before sun up. Uncle always raised two or three yard dogs that patrolled the farm at night to keep chuav away, but once in awhile he would get lucky. One animal we often encountered walking through the fields was vosho, (cotton rat) which father and our uncles would often hunt and eat. When cleaning the irrigation ditches during the winter months we often encountered the very large ikuish, (muskrat); some of these can grow up to four pounds. We often threw dirt clods at them and chased them into the brush for fun. Father would have to remind us to save our energy for cleaning the ditch, and not play by chasing ikuish away.

Then there is koson, (pack rat) who is still troublesome even today as it sets up their nests inside anything they deem abandoned such as junk cars sitting out in the open. They chew up anything and everything and will steal things too.

This month’s word match will focus on the wild animals mentioned above. We encourage you to learn these words and use them in your everyday lives. We also encourage you to watch your abandoned vehicles and buildings for koson, you’ll be able to tell right away if they have taken up residence by the haphazard nest they make using anything they can find.

Auppa I’ivakithak Mashath

Match the wild animal with its O’otham name!

vosho

thawiwa

ikuish

chuav

koson

nahagio

Match the wild animal with its O’otham name!
The Sovereignty In Education Grant is a grant funded to the Gila River Indian Community by the Bureau of Indian Education to promote tribal control and operation of BIE funded schools on our reservation, the funds are designed to support development of a tribal school reform plan with the goal of improved educational outcomes for students and improved efficiencies and effectiveness in operating and managing our schools. The Gila River Tribal Education Department has completed year one of the grant where we studied the feasibility of carrying out this project. The Tribal Education Department requested and received permission to continue our study for a second year.

As part of our work during this second year, we are focusing on communication and collaboration with all stakeholders. Toward that end we are providing this list of Frequently Asked Questions. As more questions emerge we will continue to add to this list.

- Has the decision already been made and the school systems will change next year?
  No. After the reporting of Year I BIE SIE results in Washington DC, the Bureau of Indian Education recognized the need for an additional year of communication and collaboration within the communities undertaking the study.

- Would the GRIC take control of the Grant Schools (BVCS, CRCS, and GCCS) under the One Grant System?
  No. The three Grant School boards would merge under one Gila River Community Schools (GRCS) Governing Board. The GRCS Governing Board would be elected by Community members and would report to the Gila River Indian Community TED, ESC, and Council regularly.

- If the One Grant System was implemented in the GRIC, would current employees of the Grant Schools be let go or terminated?
  No they would not. The only change would be re-assignment of some administrative positions as the data shows keeping the current GRIC Grant School structure would result in redundancy. NO TEACHERS, PARA PROFESSIONALS OR STAFF MEMBERS WOULD LOSE THEIR JOBS BECAUSE OF THIS CHANGE.

- How can parents and Community Members share their opinions on the One Grant System?
  In Year I of the BIE SIE Study, surveys were collected garnering opinions on the GRIC Grant Schools from Teachers, Administrators, and Community Members. In Year II there will be much more opportunity for everyone to collaborate to improve educational outcomes for students of the GRIC. There will be more surveys collected and reporting of data to districts each month. In addition, the creation of two committees (Governor’s Ad Hoc Committee and Curriculum and Steer Committee) require input from teachers, administrators, community members, students, and council representatives.

- Will the Grant Schools lose funding or will money be diverted to the GRIC for administrative costs?
  No. The GRIC ESC and Council have been very adamant about there being no loss in funding in any way for each Grant School. Any One Grant implementation plan would have to meet the needs of students at the current federal funding levels.

- Would academics in the Grant Schools suffer as a result of the One Grant Implementation in the GRIC?
  No. Currently, the academic results in the 3 Grant Schools give us all an opportunity to collaborate to create a better way to serve the students of the GRIC. They deserve our best efforts in analyzing ways to help them realize their potential.

- What evidence is there of the One Grant Concept being successfully implemented?
  There are several American Indian communities that manage their own schools directly, including some who have implemented the One Grant School Concept. In Year II of the BIE SIE study, GRIC TED, ESC, Council Representatives, and Grant School Board Members will visit American Indian Communities where implementation has taken place to gather information and bring back for analysis for the ESC, GRIC Council, and Community.

- Has the Tribal Education Department (TED) been working to collaborate with Grant School Teachers to get feedback and opinions on the One Grant implementation?
  Yes. The GRIC TED has been working to collaborate with all three GRIC Grant Schools to get feedback and opinions on the One Grant implementation.

- Will the change to a One Grant System result in a loss of local control of schools?
  As a matter of fact local control of schools will be significant enhanced. Through the collaboration of the community and on boards and feedback from the community, a Site Based Management approach will be employed giving school teachers administrators and parents the opportunity to manage their schools within the structure of the grant.

- When the One Grant Concept is implemented, will the tribe receive and manage all the funds and will they fund schools as they see fit?
  The current thinking is that there will be a Tribal School Board. Board would receive the funds and manage schools. It is very possible that under the One Grant System, schools would be allocated more operational funds than they are currently receiving.

- What will be the role of locally directed and locally accountable school boards?
  All members of the local community will have the opportunity to be involved in the direction of their local school by actively participating on site councils that will be in place at each school.

- Is there any evidence that the One Grant approach produces better academic, social, and or cultural results for students?
  The One Grant Concept is a new approach for BIE operated and BIE Funded Schools. Tribes have been asking for this type of organization for the Sovereign Nations they are, be recognized by the United States Government. The BIE recognizes that the current system of operating schools for Indian children have not resulted in quality education for students. We do not believe that results from the One Grant Concept is implemented.

- Will there be a net loss of funds to the three schools if the One Grant Concept is implemented?
  Because of the formulas used to calculate costs associated with the grants, there could be a net loss of funds if the funds came to the tribe but would be insignificant and would not affect the schools. Any potential loss would be in administrative costs and not in operations. If funds are granted to GRIC schools, there would be no loss of funds.

- Will the tribe withhold administrative fees if the One Grant Concept is implemented?
  The tribe will not withhold administrative costs as the grant. The overall costs of administration under the One Grant System will be less than the administrative cost in the current structure.

- If the One Grant is implemented, will there be increased jobs at TED be funded with DIE Education Grant?
  No! The Tribal Education Department is a department of the Gila River Indian Community. The funds for adding staff to the department will come from the community and NOT this BIE Grant.

Continued on Page 10
ACTION SHEET
Community Council; PO Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona
58147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday January 6, 2016, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:06am

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Sandra Naseweetya

ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present: Governor Stephen R. Lewis Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Nada Calaya, Jennifer Allison, Christopher Mendoza, Angelia Allison; D5- Brian Davis, Sr., Martin Dixon (9:21), Robert Stone (9:21), Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Naseweetya; D7-Devin Redbird

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBER
Marlin Dixon, District 5 Representative

Presenter: Judge Jay Pedro

ACTING CHIEF JUDGE JAY PEDRO PROVIDED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO MR. MARLIN DIXON
(15-minute reception to follow)

G&MSC Motioned to forward to Community Council in Executive Session

REPORTS
1. *Space Camp
Presenters: J. Kinnamon, Isaiah Francisco

REPORT HEARD
2. 2015 Head Start October Monthly Report
Presenters: J. Kinnamon, Isaiah Francisco

REPORT HEARD
3. A Resolution Approving The Settlement Of Certain Litigation
Presenters: Robert Keller, William Tye

APPROVED
4. A Resolution Approving Consent To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease On Allotment 1054 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Ariez Hogg

APPROVED

REVIEW THIS AUDIT TO DETERMINE IF CRIMINAL AND/OR CIVIL PROSECUTION IS WARRANTED, ALSO TO DETERMINE IF REPAYMENT OF FUNDS IS POSSIBLE ACTION

EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS
1. A Resolution Concerning The Gila River Indian Community In The National Indian Gaming Association For Calendar Year 2016 And Authorizing Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000) For The Community’s Annual Dues (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Shanlee White

APPROVED

EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPPOINT
AND CERTIFY CAMILLUS NISH
NEW BUSINESS
1. Declaration of Vacancy (1) - Gila River Gaming Commission Gaming Commissioner (Subject to the Code of Conduct - Advertisement for 60-days)

Presenters: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE ONE VACANCY AND ADVERTISE FOR 60-DAYS PER THE CODE OF CONDUCT

2. Declaration of Vacancy (1) - Wild Horse Pass Development Authority Board of Directors (Subject to the Code of Conduct - Advertisement for 60-days)

Presenters: Community Council

DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2.3 Draft Language for Letter to State Bar (LSC forwards to Community Council with corrections)

Presenter: Osborn Maleden

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FILE WITH THE STATE BAR OF ARIZONA TO DO AN INVESTIGATION ON MR. HERRERA’S CONDUCT

3. Indigenous Alliance; Indigenous Peoples Day Campaign (CRSC forwards to Council for discussion and possible action)

Presenter: Jose Matus

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DIRECT THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL TO COMPLETE A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT INDIGENOUS ALLIANCE WITHOUT BORDERS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

4. TED Cohort Program Special Audit Report (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council in Executive Session)

Presenters: Robert Keller, William Tye

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
5. Head Start Special Audit (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council in Executive Session; ESC forwards to Community Council)

Presenters: Robert Keller, William Tye

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND REGARDING TED COHORT PROGRAM SPECIAL AUDIT REPORT, LAW OFFICE REVIEW THE AUDIT TO DETERMINE IF CIVIL PROSECUTION IS WARRANTED, ALSO TO DETERMINE IF REPAYMENT OF FUNDS IS WARRANTED FOR TEN (10) STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED REFUNDS FROM TUITION AT SOUTH MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, THAT THEY WERE NOT ENTITLED

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO RECOMMEND THAT REPAYMENT OF FUNDS BE PURSUED FOR (10) STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED FUNDS WHO WERE INELIGIBLE, DISQUALIFIED OR DID NOT MEET THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM; FURTHER WE RECOMMEND THE AUDIT STANDING COMMITTEE, ALONG WITH THE TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, CONDUCT A FULL REVIEW OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY; SPECIFICALLY, THE ASSESSMENT OF THE FINANCIAL NEEDS ANALYSIS (FNA) PROCESS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO RELEASE THIS AUDIT TO THE EDUCATION DIRECTOR AND SECOND REGARDING HEAD START SPECIAL AUDIT, LAW OFFICE REVIEW THIS AUDIT TO DETERMINE IF

Continued on Page 10
Native American fashion designer Cher Thomas (Gila River Akimel O’odham/Cocopah) introduces Cher Shares, a charitable program associated with her fashion label.

Cher Thomas Design is a fashion label started by Thomas that creates traditional regalia for O’odham and Yuman natives and an annual contemporary fashion show. Her designs have been featured in magazines and runway shows around the world, most notably, the Melrose Fashion Week’s Indigenous Runway Project in Melbourne, Australia, and the 2015 Indigenous Music Awards Red Carpet in Canada. After four years in business, “I am ready to share my dreams into a reality AND give back to my community,” according to the designer’s website. And she has been featured in magazines and runways around the world, most notably, the Melrose Fashion Week’s Indigenous Runway Project in Melbourne, Australia, and the 2015 Indigenous Music Awards Red Carpet in Canada. After four years in business, “I am ready to share my dreams into a reality AND give back to my community,” according to the designer’s website.

The Cher Shares program will be fully launched starting January 1, 2016, when established non-profit organizations and educational programs can start submitting grant proposals for the first round of grants given away by Cher Thomas Designs. Academic Institutions and conference organizers may also begin collaborating with the Akimel O’odham fashion designer on creating an exciting interactive experience for students throughout 2016. “I want to help our young people recognize the importance of leadership and entrepreneurship in Indian Country. It is possible to follow your dreams in a REAL way and give back to your community. And I am here to share exactly how I am making this happen! For more information, please visit www.cherthomasdesigns.com/chershares or email chershares@cherthomasdesigns.com

Year II of the BIE SIE Study will be focused on collaboration within the GRIC to achieve a couple aims. First, more data and information must be processed and shared in order to provide stakeholders an opportunity to make decisions in the best interests of students in the GRIC. Second, an executable One Grant Implementation Plan must be completed by the end of Year II. At the end of Year II, the GRIC Council will decide if the Community wishes to move forward to full implementation in Year III by Tribal Resolution. For questions and concerns feel free to contact the Gila River Tribal Education Director, Mr. Isaac Salcido at 520.562.3662 or Isaac.salcido@gmcn.gric.nsn.us Resources: http://www.bie.edu/cs/groups/biec/documents/dc/dc/02-7407.pdf. For more information, please visit www.federalregister.gov/articles/2014/07/24/2014-17397/sovereignty-in-indian-education-grant-program/6 http://blog.nativepartnership.org/bie-schools-sovereignty-in-indian-education/

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**CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER**

**Oh, baby!**
You’re gonna save some CASH!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Year</th>
<th>Make</th>
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*Payments based on 720 credit score. 4.5% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all vehicles qualify. See manager for details. Must present ad at time of sale.*
71st Anniversary
Iwo Jima
Flag Raising

Military parade and flyover to begin at 8:30AM.
Ceremonies to follow at the
Matthew B. Juan, Ira H. Hayes
Veteran’s Memorial Park in Sacaton, AZ
Public and veterans are welcome.

Luncheon hosted by American Legion Auxiliary
Unit No. 84 with St. Peter Church and School.
Event sponsored by American Legion Ira H. Hayes
Post No. 84 and Auxiliary Unit 84.

Saturday,
February 20, 2016