



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 marches down Blackwater School Road in District 1 to begin the Veterans Day parade.

GRIC celebrates Veterans Day

GRIN Staff
Gila River Indian News

Veterans Day Celebrations were underway in the Gila River Indian Community on Nov. 11. District 1 and District 4 honored Community veterans for their service and sacrifices with a pair of special events. A Veterans Day parade was held in Blackwater, which was followed by services at

the Ke'li Akimel Ballfield. District 4 Service Center treated local veterans to an appreciation ceremony that concluded with traditional dancers.

A 5k and 2-mile fun run and walk kicked off the District 4 celebrations as Community members came out to honor the service of veterans from District 4 and across the Gila River Indian Community.

After the walk ended there was a traditional performance by

the Vah-Ki Basket dancers led by District 3 resident Taras Johns, which was followed by drummers who sang an honor song for veterans.

Ira H. Hayes Post 84 provided a military posting of the colors followed by a rendition of TAPS to remember the fallen service men and women.

When the colors were raised veterans and their families made their way into the District 4 rec-

reation hall and were treated to a breakfast and program to end the day's event.

Former GRIC General Counsel, Rodney Lewis is a U.S. Army Airborne Ranger. He offered remarks of appreciation for the veterans' for making the decision to defend the Community and the nation as a whole.

"I want to thank all the veterans for serving. It's always good to see [you] all here to be recog-

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Community Members Take to the Polls on Election Day

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community members were proud to get out the vote Nov. 8.

"We vote here every year," said Richard Allison as he and his wife Almay exited the Pinal County Precinct 29 poll at the District 3 Service Center in Sacaton.

While exact numbers for voter turnout will not be available for a few more weeks, the sentiment on Election Day was that a high number of GRIC voters showed up at the polls.

The Allison's arrived at 6 a.m. to cast their ballots. "We were surprised. There were a lot of cars here this morning," said Richard. "Everybody did come out to vote today."

Voter registration rolls have increased since the primary elec-



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

District 3 Service Center was one of the polling sites for the Nov. 8 election.

tion earlier in the year, according to the GRIC Voter Registration Board (VRB).

Polling locations in Gila River had a friendly communi-

ty atmosphere on Election Day. Neighbors and old friends ran into one another, said hi, and shared a meal.

"Today we are offering steak

dinners to all people that vote," said Zuzette Kisto, VRB District 3 representative. "The steaks are budgeted through the government operations for the committee to prepare for the voters."

The D3 location prepared 250 steaks, and volunteers at each of the six polling locations in the Community cooked and served up filling steak meals.

"I personally feel that it's very important for every member of the Community to practice your right to vote...whether it's local, state, national, it's very important to have a say in who our leadership is," said Kisto.

Adults were not the only ones to hit the polls on Election Day. Behind trifold walls of cardboard privacy, the under-18 crowd got an early exercise in the democratic process with

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Gila River Indian Community
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Main GRHC Number: (520) 562-3321
GRHC.ORG

Thanksgiving Day Closure

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital • Komatke Health Center • Ak-Chin Clinic

CLOSED
THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 24, 2016
FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 25, 2016
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 26, 2016

There will be no Saturday clinics on November 26, 2016. Normal business hours will resume Monday, November 28, 2016.

HHKMH Pharmacy Hours
Thursday, November 24th – CLOSED
Friday, November 25th
OPEN 12:00 Noon - 8:00 pm
Saturday, November 26th
OPEN 12:00 Noon - 8:00 pm
Sunday, November 27th
OPEN 12:00 Noon - 10:00 pm

If you need immediate assistance, call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

JOB FAIR

**NOVEMBER 19, 2016
SATURDAY
9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Bring a resume, apply on-site, or apply online at www.grhc.org/jobfair prior to fair. For additional questions, contact Human Resources (520) 562-3321 Ext. 1342

JOB FAIR LOCATION:
Viola L. Johnson Building
534 West Gu U Ki St.
Sacaton, Arizona 85147

12TH ANNUAL DIABETES HEALTH FAIR

Friday, November 18, 2016
8:00 am to 12:00 noon
Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
Life Center (Building 5)
Diabetes Care Program (Building 11)

One mile walk/run begins
at 7:30 am
For more information contact,
Life Center (520) 562-7940



Garden Training Series for GRIC Members! Join us Saturday morning November 19, 2016 D-6 Service Center 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

- Water will be provided
- Wear comfortable clothes.
- Training sessions will be done inside.

If you have any questions, please contact
Sonny Nieto at 520-610-2646

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*Wishing you blessings of
health and happiness on Thanksgiving.*



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Monica L. Antone

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District 4
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Christopher Mendoza
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Hawaiians receive blessing from GRIC to be on ancestral O'otham lands

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

A delegation of Hawaiians performed a Hawaiian Protocol Ceremony in front of over 100 elders at the District 2 Multipurpose Building, on Nov. 9, in an effort to announce their presence to the Gila River Indian Community and ask permission to be on their ancestral tribal land.

The delegation, which included Kahu (spiritual practitioner) Hanalei Colleado, Awa Ceremony leader William Kahuanui-Paleka, and Saguaro Correction Center volunteer chaplain Michael Thompson were met by GRIC representatives Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, GRIC Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Barnaby Lewis, Elder Concerns Group Chair Marlene Norris, and Council of Elders Chair Ruth Cox.

While the two groups faced one another in the multipurpose building's gymnasium, the Hawaiians performed a traditional dance followed by Lewis singing "Zig Zag Mountain" in the O'otham language.

Afterwards an Awa Ceremony, an ancient Hawaiian tradition where participants drink a kava root based beverage, was held in front of an audience of Community elders.

Kahuanui-Paleka, who led the Awa Ceremony, said the ritual is a unification of Native Americans and that it offers participants a time to be still and connect with ancestors, the future, and the present.

"It is [for] Native people, who are far away from each-other to [come together]," he said. "We will never forget this, we will never forget what happened today."

Each member of the Hawai-



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Community members enjoyed a luau as a hula dancer performs during the Hawaiian Protocol Ceremony held at the District 2 Service Center on Nov. 9.

ian and GRIC groups drank from a bowl made of wood that was grown within the Community. The bowl was filled with a mixture of Hawaiian spring water, GRIC water, and kava root. After drinking from the bowl, each participant expressed a personal and heartfelt sentiment to the surrounding crowd.

"It was a great honor and I was really pleased to be invited to participate [with] the Hawaiian group," said Lewis. "I believe that all of us, the...representatives of the Community, did demonstrate respect and cooperation with them, and that we believe that all this will bring good feelings and bond us together," he said.

Lt. Gov. Antone said the respect shown by the Hawaiian delegation to the Community says a lot about their culture. She added that the O'otham and Hawaiian cultures share many similarities.

"They really are respectful

of other lands. Even in Hawaii they are the same way, very open, feeding people, the same traits we [O'otham] have. Somebody comes to your home; you feed them, (give them water). They are on an island and we are in the desert, [yet] there is so much similarity," she said.

"It was very heartwarming because they are very good at honoring the water, honoring people, human life and...spirit," she said.

How Hawaiians came to live in the desert

Since the opening of the Saguaro Correctional Facility (SCF) in 2007, Hawaiian inmates, many of them of native Hawaiian ancestry, have been sent to the private prison in an effort to alleviate the island's overcrowded prison system.

In an April interview, Thompson, who has been ministering to the Hawaiian inmates since 2008,

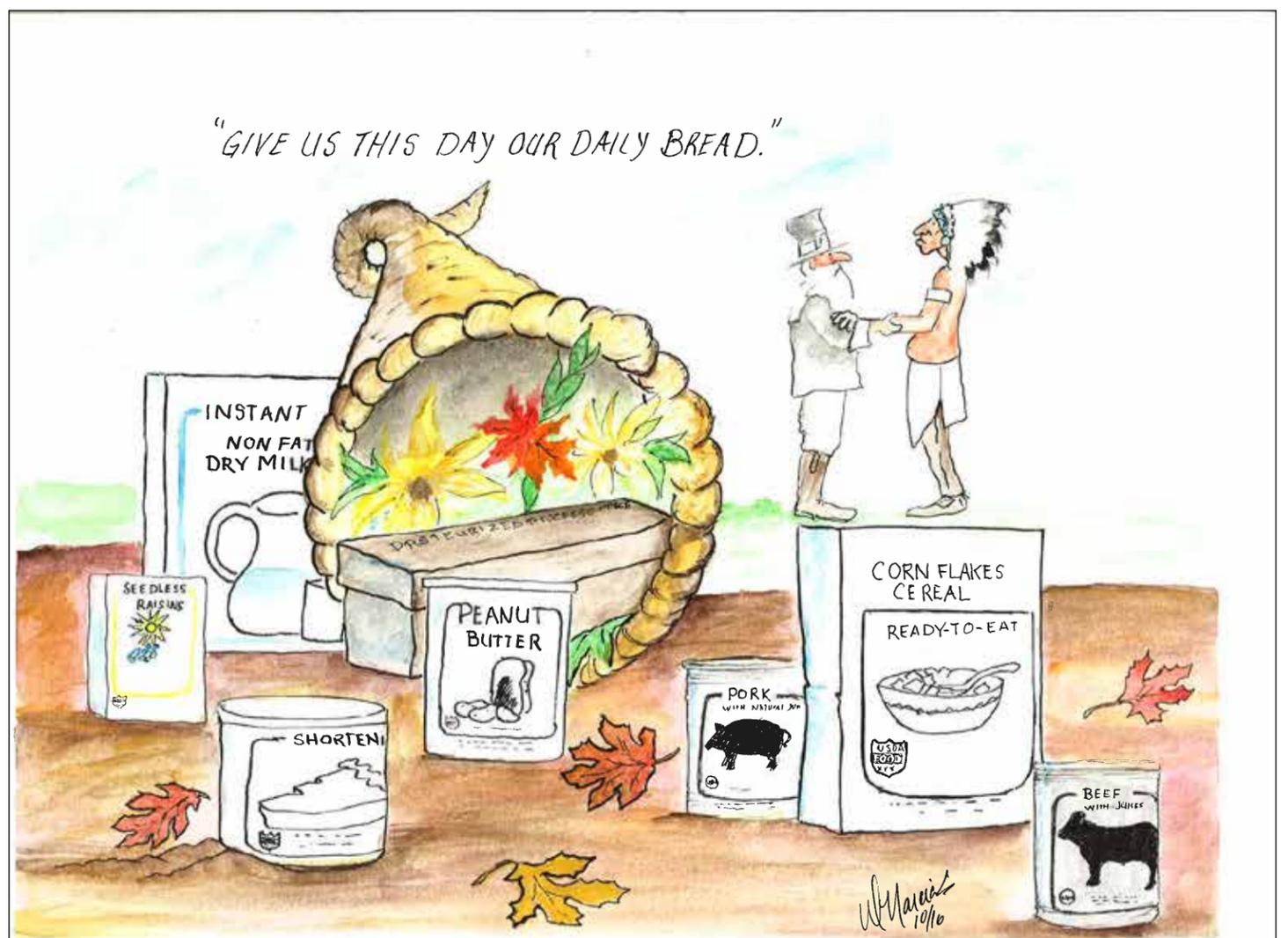
said the initial idea of performing the Hawaiian Protocol Ceremony started with Hawaiian Spiritual Practioner, Colleado.

When Colleado first visited SCF and learned the prison, which currently houses 1,600 Hawaiian inmates, sat on ancestral O'otham land, he knew that by not announcing their presence to the Gila River Indian Community, a serious breach in traditional Hawaiian protocol had been made.

In an effort to make things right, Colleado attempted to announce the Native Hawaiian inmates presence to the tribe.

Thompson said, "[Colleado's] first instinct, as a Hawaiian man, was to conduct a protocol and seek-out a spiritual covering (a type of spiritual blessing or protection) in the announcement to the Native people who had

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Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

Incident Log October 30, 2016 – November 5, 2016

Gila River Police Department reserves the right to restrict the release of certain reports which may not be available or are currently under investigation.

Community Events –

- This month's Comp Stat community presentation will be held on Thursday November 10, 2016 at Fire Station 423, 599 W Seed Farm Rd., from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

- The Citizens Police Academy is held every Tuesday.

- Look for flyers regarding the Community Toy Drive

Gila River Police officers responded to 603 calls for service and made 44 arrests.

District One:
No incidents regarding Part I crime.

District Two:
No incidents regarding Part I crime.

District Three:
Burglary - Behavioral health services staff report-

ed a suspect(s) stole items from within a storage shed which is located west of Vehchig Himdag Alternative School. Staff discovered damage to the storage door, which was unsecured and it is unknown when the damage actually occurred or when items were taken. Staff indicated the items taken were three canopy, one popcorn machine and possibly event tee shirts.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault – A male suspect pointed a gun at the victims at their place of residence. The male subject continued to ask for money while hiding his face with a t-shirt. The resident called the police and the subject fled from the area. No one was injured during the course of this incident.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault - A Sacaton Middle School student reported to school staff that another student had taken a knife to her and cut her in the wrist.

The school principal confiscated the pocket knife and mentioned two other

male juveniles who were involved. All three male juveniles were suspended from school. The victim's injury was superficial.

Status: Under investigation.

District Four:
(Stotonic Area)

Arson - At an unknown time a suspect(s) lit fire to an unoccupied residential structure. The fire investigator determined it was arson and the homeowner was notified of the incident.

Status: Under Investigation

Weapons - Officers were dispatched to Snake-town Circle in reference to shots fired in the area. The suspect was located and found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia, a defaced handgun, and several rounds of ammunition. A further criminal history check showed the suspect had a prior felony conviction and therefore was a prohibited possessor.

Status: Suspect was arrested.

(Lone Butte / WHP Area)

Theft - A female suspect was observed on se-

curity footage taking a cell phone from a slot machine at the lone butte casino. The female subject was not able to be identified during the investigation.

Status: Under Investigation

Shoplifting - Hugo Boss Factory Store staff reported a shoplifting. Investigation revealed two Native American or Hispanic males, entered the store and took Polo t-shirts from the store. The males held the items in their hand and ran out of the store in an unknown direction.

Status: Under Investigation

Shoplifting - Tommy Hilfiger staff reported four African American female suspect(s) stole miscellaneous clothing from Tommy Hilfiger. One subject went to the fitting room to try on items. This subject was carrying a large bag. The subjects left the fitting room and exited the store. A staff member went into the fitting room and found several price tags in the fitting room but no merchandise.

Status: Under Investigation (Upon follow up

all four subjects have been identified and charges filed)

District Five:
No incidents regarding Part I crime.

District Six:
Auto Theft – A male suspect committed unlawful use of transportation by entering and removing a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado from the parking lot at the Vee Quiva Casino and Hotel.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – A female suspect committed theft by taking a pouch belonging to a female at the Vee Quiva Hotel and Casino. The suspect left the casino before police arrival. A slot ticket was inside of the pouch which was cancelled by the slot department and reimbursed to the victim.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft - Suspect was found passed out in the rear passenger seat of a grey 4 door sedan with damage to the steering column in the area of Saint Johns Rd and Ray Rd. A check of the vehicle was conducted

which revealed the vehicle was stolen within the Gila River Indian Community. A search of his person revealed an ignition switch with a screwdriver punched in his front right pocket.

Status: Judum Baeza was arrested.

Weapons - Officers were dispatched to Tashquith Drive in reference to shots fired in the area. The suspect admitted to shooting a handgun and the subject was taken into custody. The handgun was seen in plain view inside the suspect's vehicle.

Status: Suspect was arrested.

Theft From Motor Vehicle - Two male subjects broke into a Chevrolet pickup truck while it was parked at Vee Quiva casino and stole numerous items. It was determined the suspects had stolen stereo equipment along with various tools which had been in the vehicle. The victim also reported money missing from his center console.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven:
No incidents regarding Part I crime.

Complete guide at www.grbc.tv		GRBC TV GUIDE						*Schedule may be subject to change.
*** GRTV News Weekly and GRIC Events Now Showing at 7:00am, 11:30am, 4:30pm & 9:00pm. ***								
	Sunday 11/20	Monday 11/21	Tuesday 11/22	Wednesday 11/23	Thursday 11/24	Friday 11/25	Saturday 11/26	
12:00pm	Creative Native <i>Tricksters & Transformers</i>	Creative Native <i>Quotes on a Paper</i>	Creative Native <i>Cree Eye for the White Guy</i>	Creative Native <i>The Quecha</i>	Wapos Bay <i>All Access</i>	Creative Native <i>Holiday Fever</i>	Creative Native <i>Quotes on a Paper</i>	
12:30pm	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	Wapos Bay <i>Long As The River Flows</i>	First Talk	First Talk	
1:00pm	Smoke Traders	Colorado Experience: Sand Creek Massacre	The Wayana Indians	Heavy Metal	Wapos Bay <i>Tricks and Treats</i>	Our Spirits Don't Speak English	Finding My Talk	
1:30pm					Wapos Bay	<i>Indian Boarding Schools</i>		
2:00pm	Storytellers in Motion	Ravens and Eagles <i>Naxine Weaver</i>	Samaqan Water Stories <i>Fish Lake Part 1</i>	Ravens and Eagles <i>From Hand To Hand Part 1</i>	Wapos Bay: Long Goodbyes	Ravens and Eagles <i>From Hand to Hand Part 2</i>	Seasoned with Spirit <i>Cuisine of the Southwest</i>	
2:30pm	Native Report	Vitality Gardening <i>The Northern Harvest</i>	Vitality Gardening <i>The Harvest Feast</i>	Vitality Gardening <i>The End of the Season</i>		Vitality Gardening <i>Fertilizer</i>	Champions of the North <i>Great Whale Cup</i>	
3:00pm	Seasoned with Spirit <i>Cuisine of the Southwest</i>	Vitality Health <i>Fitness Day</i>	Vitality Health <i>Living with Diabetes</i>	Vitality Health <i>Fitness Day</i>	Storytellers in Motion <i>Wapos Bay: Behind Scenes</i>	Vitality Health <i>Health/Stress Management</i>	Animal Songs	
3:30pm	Champions of the North <i>Great Whale Cup</i>	From The Spirit <i>John Farcy</i>	From The Spirit <i>Rocky Barstad</i>	From The Spirit <i>Daniel Crane</i>	Wapos Bay <i>A Mother's Earth</i>	From The Spirit <i>Terry McCue</i>	People of the Pines <i>Native Resistance</i>	
4:00pm	Forging Bonds: Pow Wow Stories from California	Creative Native <i>Battle of the Sexes</i>	Creative Native <i>The Quecha</i>	Creative Native <i>Baby It's You!</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Going for Gold</i>	Creative Native <i>Holiday Fever</i>	Making Regalia	
4:30pm	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	
5:00pm	Dances of Life	Working It Out Together	Indian Pride <i>Indian Education</i>	On Native Ground: Youth Report	Wapos Bay <i>Dance Dance</i>	Storytellers in Motion	The Other Side <i>Give Us A Sign, Please?</i>	
5:30pm		Back in the Day <i>A Look Back</i>	Oskayak Down Under	Common Ground	Wapos Bay <i>Raiders of the Lost Art</i>	On Native Ground: Youth Report	Indians and Aliens <i>Sonny</i>	
6:00pm	After The Gold Rush <i>What happens when a foreign mining company bails out of a big project?</i>	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	Wapos Bay <i>The Hardest Lesson</i>	First Talk	Indigenous Focus	
6:30pm		Native Report	People of the Pines <i>Legacy of Casinos</i>	Making Regalia	Wapos Bay <i>Dance, Monkey, Dance</i>	Make Prayers to the Raven	Dabiyiyuu <i>A Hunter's Wisdom</i>	
7:00pm	Native Voice TV	The Wayana Indians	Heavy Metal	Our Spirits Don't Speak English	Wapos Bay <i>Making It Right</i>	Finding My Talk	Osiyo, Voices of the Cherokee People	
7:30pm	On Native Ground: Youth Report			<i>Indian Boarding Schools</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Patients</i>		Native Report	
8:00pm	Wapos Bay <i>Breakin Too</i>	Wapos Bay <i>World According to Devon</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Catch the Spirit</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Partic-Inaction</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Breakin Too</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Too Deadly</i>	Wapos Bay <i>World According To Devon</i>	
8:30pm	Fish Out of Water <i>Knowledge from Elders</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Nk'Mip Desert Center</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Ojibway Cree Center</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Moose Cree Outdoor</i>	Wapos Bay <i>It Came From Out There</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Metis Crossing</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Nk'Mip Desert Center</i>	
9:00pm	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	
9:30pm	Native Shorts <i>Ok Breathe Auralee</i>	Indians and Aliens <i>Henry Atsynia</i>	Back In The Day <i>Homeward Bound</i>	Indigenous Focus	Wapos Bay <i>The Ways of the Quiet</i>	Champions of the North <i>Sisters</i>	Moose T.V. <i>Technical Difficulties</i>	
10:00pm	LaDonna Harris: Indian 101	Behind the Blue Veil	Every Emotion Costs	Alaska Tribes	Wapos Bay <i>Catch the Spirit</i>	Finding My Talk	Fractured Land	
10:30pm					Wapos Bay <i>Partic-Inaction</i>			
11:00pm	Finding Their Own Dance	Yellow Fever		The Tundra Book	Wapos Bay <i>The Wapos Falcon</i>	The Creator's Game		
11:30pm			Gold Fever		Wapos Bay <i>Too Deadly</i>		California Indian: A Tribal Story	

Election Day page 1

Kids Voting, which was sponsored and run by the Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Council.

Kim Isk and her son Jonathan, 14, have been paying close attention to the 2016 election.

“For me it’s [important] to get him involved, making sure he can have that opportunity too,” said Isk. “We tried to come this morning, but then the kids voting wasn’t [going] on, so we came back after he got off school so he got to do it.”

Isk said she didn’t consider early voting, and enjoys the feeling of community she gets at the polls

on Election Day.

“I guess it’s all part of the excitement,” she said, “to be involved, to be here and witness it. ... It’s nice to see other people involved in the world and politics. Their vote does count.”

While the citizens of the Community cast their ballots, a brigade of legal volunteers sat outside the polls as a band of righteous protectors, guarding against voter intimidation and disenfranchisement.

“Did everything go well in the polls?” they asked of every voter as they exited. The volunteers worked with the National Congress of American Indians’ Native Vote Election Protection Program, which ensures elections in Indian Country are fair and prop-



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

Richard Almay Allison at the District 3 polling site on Election Day Nov. 8.

erly executed.

“Before I got involved, I didn’t realize there was so

much disenfranchisement of Native voters,” said Chris Beecher, Navajo,

who started working with Native Vote two years ago.

He said when you learn

what kind of challenges Native voters face, such as voter I.D. laws and address issues, “It’s not really that easy to vote sometimes... so we have to be out there to educate the voters and really just provide solid information.”

Alex Mallory, Winnebago, said he wanted to see the Get out the Native Vote effort in Arizona.

“On my reservation [in Nebraska] we do a big... Get Out the Native Vote effort,” said Mallory. His home county, Thurston County, is the only one in Nebraska that voted for Barack Obama in both 2008 and 2012. “So it just shows the magnitude of the Get out the Vote effort and how tremendous of a difference it can make.”

Hawaiians page 1

been granted stewardship over the property here.”

However, at that time, Colleado was directed to the wrong tribe, the Yavapai.

Thompson said that because of this mistake, an error had been put in place between the two groups of people, which is why the Hawaiian delegation visited GRIC on Nov. 4, “To make right that breach in protocol,” he said.

“For the Hawaiian,

this protocol is part of everything they do,” said Thompson. “This protocol is not only to announce their presence, but ask for spiritual covering.”

Colleado said that there are 1,600 Hawaiian men incarcerated on O’otham ancestral land and no one had ever asked the Community for permission to be on their land.

“This land has been given to them by the Creator and they have spiritual jurisdictional rights to govern over this land and those that come into this

land,” said Colleado. “They are responsible for all those that pass through. We are a people of spirit, so we understand that totally and completely and know how important that is,” he said.

As the ceremony came to an end, Community elders enjoyed Hawaiian cuisine, a hula dance performance, and Hawaiian music played by Colleado. During the lunch feast, a bowl containing the Awa ceremonial water was taken from person to person so everyone could take part in the Hawaiian ritual.

Norris, who was one of many Community elders to take part in the Awa Ceremony, said that it was an honor to participate in the event and important to understand the real meaning of why they came to the Community.

“We accept their apology, we accept them,” she said. “It really makes me feel that we are all one big ol’ family, even though we are so far apart, miles and miles away from each other, we are still one big family.”

C-TERC looking for at large members to discuss issues

C-TERC
Gila River Indian Community

The Chemical Tribal Emergency Response Commission is looking for Community Members to represent their districts on becoming a Community at Large Member or Alternate Community at Large member as part of the Chemical Tribal Emergen-

cy Response Commission. The C-TERC meets each month to discuss chemically related issues within Gila River Indian Community and how as a group these issues can be resolved. For further information on how you can be a part of the C-TERC group contact the GRIC Office of Emergency Management Department at 520-796-3755.

Community members and residents may be eligible for

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DSO Director's play selected for Native Voice's 6th Annual Short Play Festival

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

While Defense Services Office Director Claude A. Jackson Jr. may be defending Gila River Indian Community members in tribal court during the light of day, it's when the sun sets and darkness settles across the desert landscape that he picks-up the pen and quill of the playwright and gets to work creating stories.

Just this past October, Jackson learned that his play, "Waiting for H2O," a short story about two young Akimel O'otham boys and the Gila River, was selected by a national panel to be performed at Native Voices' 6th Annual Short Play Festival held at the Autry Museum of the American West in Los Angeles, Calif. on Nov. 13 and the La Jolla Playhouse, in La Jolla, Calif., on Nov. 14.

This was Jackson's second time participating in Native Voices. His play "They Shoot Basketballs, Don't They?" was selected for the festival in 2013.

When asked how he felt about his play being selected for the festival, Jackson said, "It's quite an honor. I'm just very humbled

by it all. At my age...any accolades I can get is just the cherry on top. I honestly write them for my 2-year-old daughter. I want her to read them when she is older," he said.

In mid-June when Native Voices at the Autry, a theatre company dedicated to producing Native American plays, invited Native playwrights from across North America to submit short play scripts, Jackson felt compelled to write a story based off of GRIC's interest in the Central Arizona Project (CAP) water reallocation settlement.

Jackson said that every year the Autry sends out an invitation for the playwriting contest, and each contest has a different theme. This year's contest, he said, was about environmental issues affecting different tribes.

"These are issues that have always affected tribes," said Jackson. "But it is a hot button issue now. The [Dakota Access Pipeline protest] is really spurring all of this on."

"So, when the call for the contest came out, the first thing that I thought of with Gila River...was water," he said.

Much of his knowl-



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Attorney Claude A. Jackson Jr.'s play about the Gila River was performed at the Autry Museum of the American West in Los Angeles, Calif., on Nov. 13.



edge about water issues in the Community, Jackson said, stemmed from his time spent as an intern in GRIC's now-defunct Office of Water Rights, where he pored through old court documents for water litigation research.

"We were working on a water settlement [and] I was part of a research team that would look at these old court documents, so I picked up some knowledge of it," he said.

Jackson said the inspiration for his play was Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot," a story involving two characters who endlessly wait for the arrival of a person named Godot. In Jackson's play, two boys and a Gila River Police Department Ranger stand at the edge of a large dry CAP canal, waiting and hoping for the water to come.

"I started to develop these characters in the sense of the Theatre of the Absurd," Jackson said. Theatre of the Absurd, he explained, is a form of play that shows there is an absurdity to the human condition, you can either laugh or you can cry about it.

"I just thought of the irony of the fact that we are

called Gila River, we are called Akimel O'otham, we are called the river people but we don't have a flowing river," he said.

While there is no water above ground that can be easily observed, there is still water underneath, he added.

"The water is underneath, there is ground water. And as a friend of mine said...the water has memory and is going to come back."

And while the characters in Jackson's play wait, day after day, at the edge of the dry CAP canal, waiting for water to finally come and reinvigorate their Community, there is one message that he wants to really hit home to the audience.

In the end, no matter how many legal battles are fought, none of it really matters if the climate and environment have changed to the point of causing widespread drought in the Southwest.

Jackson added that even though his play does talk about water issues within the Gila River Indian Community, his story is a work of fiction and is not historically accurate.

Former Jr. Miss advocating for teen dating violence awareness



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Former Jr. Miss Gila River Charisma Quiroz, District 1, is raising awareness against teen dating violence.

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

A Community teen wants to bring awareness about teen dating violence.

The untold truth about domestic violence is that it can happen to the youth ages 16 to 24.

District 1 Blackwater member Charisma Quiroz a senior, at Coolidge High School, is an advocate for awareness about teen dating violence.

"I worked on teen dating violence awareness projects prior to being Junior Miss Gila River, because it is not an isolated incident," said Quiroz.

Her past efforts to get the awareness out about

TDV has been through volunteering her time with Crime Victims Services to coordinate projects that will address the issue, which she said has crossed into social media.

She said, "I want to be that youth voice for that leadership position to do something that affects people I know, that has experienced TDV."

Looking at the facts, there is plenty of information that can be found online to understand what TDV is all about.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, TDV is defined as "The physical, sexual, psychological or emotional violence within a dat-

ing relationship, including stalking."

Quiroz said texting that becomes obsessive and intimidating should be considered a form of TDV.

What she said was important, was to be able to identify when the situation is becoming unhealthy.

"Many teens do not report it as domestic violence and sometimes they think its okay, because they experience seeing it at an early age," said Quiroz.

The CDC website said, "Unhealthy, abusive, or violent relationships can have severe consequences and short and long-term negative effects on a developing teen."

Quiroz said there is so

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MR. GRASS OR MS. HARRISON

much more in life and sometimes we have relationships at a young age. They may not be ready for it.

"The next project for

me would be to have a teen dating project, because there needs to be awareness about it," she said.

Her message to teens is

to speak up and say something about it, if they are experiencing TDV.



Going by foot and car in O’otham

A phrase that is commonly used by O’otham speakers when they run into each other is Ba:pth ‘o hi:? This phrase is a simple question that is used to ask one person where they are going. One way to answer this question in is by using the expression Vanth ‘o hi: am nolavthakud wui which is a reply that states “I’m going to the store.” When you use this phrase what you are literally saying is that you are going to walk to the store. That is because this phrase uses the O’otham verb him, which translated means ‘to walk’ or ‘travel by foot’. This verb is found in many expressions from the everyday command G ‘i him ‘Come here’, as well as in the question phrase Ba:pth ‘o hi:?’ ‘Where are you going?’. The pronunciation of the verb him changes based on the “tense” where present and past ongoing statements use the full pronunciation him and past completed and future statements use the

shortened form hi: This statement changes if you are planning to travel by car or bus. When you want to say that you are going somewhere using a car or other rapid form of transportation you use the O’otham verb meḍ instead of him. Meḍ is the O’otham verb that translates as ‘to run’ or ‘travel by car’. It is found in the command Meliñ! ‘Run!’ and can also be used to question where someone is going (if you know they are traveling by car or bus). If you want to ask someone where they are going (and you know they are traveling by vehicle) instead of asking Ba:pth ‘o hi:?’ in these situations you would use the verb meḍ and ask Ba:pth o me:?. To answer that question you would use the same type of phrase except that you would change the verb and say Vanth ‘o me: am nolavthakud wui ‘I’m going (driving) to the store’. Just like with the O’otham verb him, we see that the

verb meḍ changes based on “tense.” Present and past ongoing statements are pronounced with the full form of the verb meḍ, while past completed and future statements use the shortened form me:.. Vanth ‘o hi:/me: am nolavthakud wui is a very useful statement that can be easily changed to fit other situations. The two important things to keep in mind are 1) how you plan on getting to your destination and 2) where you are going. We already covered the first on how you plan on traveling, whether by foot (hi:) or by car (me:). This will determine which O’otham verb to use (hi: or me:). To change your destination all you need to do is replace the word for store (nolavthakud) with the place that you are intending to travel. You can think of the space where nolavthakud sits as a slot that can be filled with any destination (Vanth ‘o hi:/me: am _____ wui). In

S-oa:m Mashath: Match the O’otham phrase with method of travel and destination!

Vanth ‘o hi: am mi:sh ki: wui.

Vanth ‘o me: am nolavthakud wui.

Vanth ‘o me: am kokotham ha ki: wui.

Vanth ‘o hi: am eñ ki: wui.

Vanth ‘o me: am mashchamakud wui.

that space you can place any O’otham place and create an entirely new phrase that is specific to where you are going. For example, if you want to say that you are going to walk to the courthouse you can say Vanth ‘o hi: am lo:thaithakud ki: wui. If you want to say that you are going to drive to Sacaton you can say Vanth ‘o me: am Ge’e Ki: wui. So just knowing the means of travel (walking/car) and your destination you can customize this phrase to fit most situations.

One last thing to add, is that most speakers of O’oth-

am will shorten the phrase in everyday conversation. The phrase Vanth ‘o hi: am nolavthakud wui will often shorten by cutting off most of the first word Vanth to th and that portion that shortens will attach itself to the following ‘o. This will turn the full formal phrase Vanth ‘o hi: am nolavthakud wui into the everyday shortened form Tho hi: am nolavthakud wui. O’otham ñeok, like every language, commonly shortens phrases for ease of communication. The other examples discussed in this article would shorten in the same

way, becoming Tho hi: am lo:thaithakud ki: wui. and Tho me: am Ge’e Ki: wui. For this month’s article we will test to see how well you understood phrases for traveling by foot and by car. Read the examples and see if you can determine the means of travel (walking/car) and the destination. Here are a few clues to help. And remember to talk O’otham with your friends and family.

- eñ ki: ‘my house’
- mashchamakud ki: ‘school’
- kokotham ha ki: ‘hospital’
- mi:sh ki: ‘church’

Community educators laugh, learn, and get their grill on at the base of Aji Mountain

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Education Department’s (TED) Cultural Program hosted a Professional Development Session at the foot of Aji Mountain on the morning of Nov. 4, where around two-dozen teachers, from different Community schools, prepared a variety of dishes and demonstrated how to make them in the O’otham language.

Anthony Gray, TED Cultural Coordinator, said that the Cultural Program invited teachers from many different schools across the Community, including Sacaton Elementary and Middle Schools, St. Peter Indian Mission School, Blackwater Community School, and Skyline District 5.

Gray said that teachers and TED staff presented their homemade cooking in the O’otham language to practice the language and improve their presentation skills.

“They are great teachers, but we can always be better. The best thing that we can do is just practice,” he said.

Before the teachers demonstrated how to make their dishes, they were in a flurry of activity preparing chumuth, stirring fruit sal-



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Skyline District 5 Cultural Teacher Ella Barnett presents chumuth she made to another group member.

ad, marinating ribs, stoking the fire of the Komal, and double-checking their O’otham vocabulary.

“What they have been doing since we have told them about this, is they have been practicing or been getting into the language,” said Gray. “Basically, imagine a cooking show were it is just someone [telling] you how to cook something, but we are doing it in the Akimel O’otham language.”

While many of the presenters were open about every step and ingredient of their dishes, there were others who wanted to keep a few tips and tricks of their delicious creations a secret.

When asked if there were any secrets to how she made chumuth, St. Peter Mission Indian School Teacher’s Assistant Hudun-

ig Antone said that while everybody has their own technique in making the tasty tortillas, she’d rather not give any of her secrets away. However, she did have two important points to chumuth makers, “Don’t burn it and don’t drop the dough,” she said.

Elementary school educator, Tillie Pratt, helped encourage the speaking of O’otham by casually conversing in the language and even bringing about outbursts of laughter from other teachers with her humorous jokes and quips.

“That’s our way,” she said. “We more or less laugh a lot, we have fun.”

However, it was not all just fun and games for Pratt, who prepared her own dish for the development session’s cooking demonstra-

HUHUGAM HERITAGE CENTER
Tenant Improvement Project Exhibition Design

PUBLIC MEETING
for All Community Members

November 29 - District 5 Multipurpose Building
November 30 - District 1 Multipurpose Building
December 01 - District 7 Multipurpose Building

6p.m. – 8p.m. | Dinner Served



tion. “I’m going to share my grandmother’s old recipe for squash and I brought her little old knife she used to use,” smiled Pratt. But while the O’otham language was the main fo-

cus during the development session’s food demonstrations, one Community educator added flair to her presentation by including her own tribe’s language. Skyline District 5 Cultural Teacher Ella Bar-

nett who hails from the Muscogee Creek Nation, demonstrated how to make a dish of cheesy scalloped potatoes, not only in O’otham but also the Muscogee language.

Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 member represents Iraq veterans at Coolidge parade

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

The first Veterans Day parade in Coolidge, Ariz. recognized one of the Gila River Indian Community's very own in U.S. Army veteran Sgt. Darrell Whitman. Whitman, 30, served in the U.S. Army from 2006-2010

and was in Iraq fighting in the Global War on Terrorism.

The parade committee selected veterans from conflicts going back to World War II to participate in the parade with Whitman representing the veterans who served in Iraq.

Kim Rodriguez, with

Honoring/Hiring/Helping Our Heroes of Pinal County (HOHP), said the committee was impressed with Whitman's ongoing commitment to veterans as the Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 Adjutant and as an Americorp Member. "The committee agreed that he would be the repre-

senting the Iraq conflict for Coolidge," said Rodriguez.

Whitman is also a Coolidge High School alumnus, which made the homecoming even more fitting.

The parade, held Nov. 12, started at First Street between Coolidge and Central avenues, and headed west on Central Avenue to north on Fourth Street to Northern Avenue and then east to Main Street with approximately 48 entries all together representing Coolidge's best and brightest.

For a first time parade, the response has been encouraging. "We've gotten some really good, positive feedback for being the first one in Coolidge," said Rodriguez.

Following the parade there was an honor ceremony at the Military Honor Park Artisan Village of



Photo Courtesy of Pam Thompson

Darrell Whitman, Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 Adjutant and AmeriCorp member at the Coolidge Veterans Day Parade, Nov. 12.

Coolidge. The veterans in the parade were also given a blanket from a Gold Star Family from Pinal County as well as a certificate and a Pinal County pin.

The Department of Community Housing (DCH), a 100% federally funded program, will start accepting applications for our Low rent housing.

All applications received during this opening period, will be placed on the DCH waiting list. Per **GR-153-13** Admission & Occupancy Policy, our waiting list will be capped at one hundred (100); however an overflow of applicants shall be placed on a waiting list.

To qualify:
All information must be no more than 90 days old

- > Be 18 years old on the date the application is submitted.
- > Picture ID for adult(s) being placed on the application. (Drivers License or State ID)
- > Current CDIB (Certified Degree of Indian Blood) for Head of Household
- > Tribal Id's for other member's in the household
- > Social Security Cards for Individual(s) being placed on the application
- > Birth Certificates for Individual(s) being placed on the application whom are under the age of 18 years. (Exceptions for newborns; will accept crib card/bracelet or immunization record until birth certificate is received)
- > Income Verification – Benefit letter for TANF, SSI, SSA-Retirement, Survivors, GA, Unemployment, Child Support, Current Check Stub for Employment and Per Capita

Preference given to the following:

- > Enrolled GRIC members elderly 55 years and older, veterans, a person with disabilities
- > Enrolled GRIC members
- > Federally recognized tribes
- > Non-Indian Family

FY2016 HH Size	HUD Income Limits under the NAHASDA Act of 1996							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
80%	\$36,792	\$42,048	\$47,304	\$52,560	\$56,765	\$60,970	\$65,174	\$69,379

Applications can be picked up on January 23rd, 2017 at the following locations

DCH Main Office-Sacaton, 136 South Main Street, Sacaton Arizona
DCH Westend Office-Komatke, 119 Tashquinth Drive, Laveen Arizona

Opens: Wednesday, February 01, 2017
Closes: Wednesday, March 01, 2017
Only completed applications will be accepted no extensions will be given

Submit completed applications to:
DCH Main Office Sacaton from 8am – 5pm daily
Closed from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

For questions or for more information please contact
Jeanette Manuel, Housing Intake Specialist (520)562-3904
E-mail: jeanette.manuel@gric.nsn.us

Gila River Health Care Family Planning Mobile Medical Clinic (Title X Funded)				
NOVEMBER 2016				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES PROVIDED!!	1 D5 (CASA BLANCA) SACATE HOUSING 8:30-3:00 PM	2 D6 (KOMATKE) BY KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	3 *NO CLINIC	4 NO CLINIC
7 D3 SACATON (SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HOSPITAL CAMPUS) INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 7:30-4:00 PM	8 AK-CHIN 8:30-2:00 PM	9 D4 GEORGE WEBB HOUSING HWY 587 8:30-2:30PM	10 SACATON DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES (DRS)	11 HOLIDAY
14 D5 (LAVEEN) RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER BY APPOINTMENT ONLY	15 D5 (BAPCHULE) MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING 8:30-3:00 PM	16 D1 (BLACKWATER) MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING 8:30-3:00 PM	17 D6 (KOMATKE) BY KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	18 NO CLINIC
21 D3 (SACATON) (SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HOSPITAL CAMPUS) INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 7:30-4:00 PM	22 D7 (Maricopa Colony) MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING 9:00-2:00 PM	23 D5 (CASA BLANCA) CORNER OF PRESCHOOL/CASA BLANCA RD 8:00-3:00 PM	24 NO CLINIC HOLIDAY	25 NO CLINIC HOLIDAY
28 D4 (SAN TAN) SNAKETOWN CIRCLE HOUSING 8:30-3:00 PM	29 D3 SACATON (SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HOSPITAL CAMPUS) INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 7:30-4:00 PM	30 D2 HOUSING ON HWY 87 8:00-2:00 PM	WE ARE FLEXIBLE....LET US KNOW WHAT TIME WORKS BEST FOR YOU!!! ☺	VISIT YOUR FAMILY PLANNING TEAM TODAY!!!

Native American veterans honored at Heard Museum

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Men and women in uniforms adorned with patches and insignias came together for a special tribute ahead of Veterans Day.

As the evening settled, the thoughts of many turned to remembrance at the American Indian Veteran Sunset Tribute event at the Heard Museum on Nov. 7.

It was a reunion for several of the veterans in attendance as they shared jokes and stories of time served in the Armed Forces.

The Heard Museum Director and CEO David Roche welcomed the veterans and their families, who came from all over the state of Arizona.

"Today [we] are mindful of the thoughts of men and women serving in the United States military around the world. [Our] thoughts go with them during their watch to preserve freedom, as well as our hope that they will return home safely," said Roche.

He said the Heard Museum currently has the only known memorial dedicated

to Native American warriors.

The welcoming was followed by a color guard procession that was led by the Ira H. Hayes Post 84, which was given the honor of raising the American, POW/MIA flag and Arizona State Flag.

Several guest speakers spoke on Native Americans' history of service to the nation, and how they have highest percentage of enlistment.

In light of the service by Native Americans, there was much to fight for back at home that often transcended the ideals of freedom, but meant protecting their ancestral homeland.

Former United States Surgeon General Dr. Richard Carmona said Native American veterans have an inherent right to protect their country that is tied to their culture.

Carmona, who served in the U.S. Army as a Special Forces Green Beret during the Vietnam War, spoke highly of the service of Native Americans in the armed services that goes back to the time of the Civil War.

"There's a common

thread about honor and dignity, about family and about protecting the land through selfless service...you see [this] thread in Native America," said Carmona.

He said for those that served during the Vietnam War, political party affiliation or siding didn't make a difference because in the end they were all sent as Americans who formed bonds in mist of warfare.

There was also a message that Carmona wanted to bring to the forefront about taking care of the nation's veterans once they return home from combat.

Carmona said regardless of race, they all faced the same problems returning home, which for some became a long journey beset with symptoms connected to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

As a small token of appreciation, the Heard Museum bestowed the veterans who attended the ceremony with a challenge coin, which was presented to each individual by retired United State Marine Corps Maj. Urban Giff, who is a member of Post 84.

Afterwards a special dinner reception followed



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Ira H. Hayes Post 84 salute the during the sunset tribute at the Heard Museum on Nov. 7.

which focused its attention on the service of men and women in the Vietnam War.

Local Arizona Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 432 Vice President Jim Covarrubias emceed the reception introducing keynote speaker Arizona Department of Veterans Service Director Ret. Col. Wanda Wright.

Covarrubias said, "It is an honor to be here to recognize [our] Vietnam Veterans to give them a proper reception for their service."

Third generation service member Col. Wright said it was her privilege to speak before the gathering of veterans to share her story of life in the military.

Her father served three combat tours in Vietnam and is a retired U.S. Army colonel who took part in many campaigns throughout the war.

Wright said the burdens families have to bear at home during the Vietnam War are the things she can relate to because of her fa-

ther's multiple deployments with the 101st Airborne Division.

"[You chose] to serve your country when called and when many refused," said Wright, who exemplified many Vietnam veterans willingness to volunteer for service.

After remarks Wright awarded a coin and pin that bore the campaign ribbon to Vietnam veterans as an appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

GRIC Honors Warriors with Veterans Day Celebrations

From Page 1

nized for your service,” said Lewis.

Lewis talked about the volunteerism by Native American men and women, who fought for reasons that transcend the ideals of patriotism.

He said their service

was about protecting the ancestral lands and natural resources their people relied on to survive. Individuals like his uncle Cpl. Richard Lewis and veterans in the room served for the same reasons.

District 4 Council Representative Jennifer Allison said, “For [those] that sacri-

ficed their lives and time to protect their country, their thoughts were also to protect their communities as warriors.”

She said Community members have always maintained a sense of duty to protect their ancestral lands in conflicts long before joining the U.S. Armed

Forces.

A few districts away in Blackwater, residents lined Blackwater School Road for a Veterans Day parade. Heading up the parade was the Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51. The parade was in honor of World War II veterans, known as “The Greatest Generation.”

It was the second year Post 51 held the parade and the grand marshals were Leslie Pasqual, U.S. Army, Jasper Marrietta, U.S. Army/U.S. Army Air Corps, and George Pettit, U.S. Navy.

Following the parade, the festivities commenced at the park. Henry Pino con-

ducted the rest of the day’s activities, which included performances, awards and other recognitions by Post 51.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis is joined Post 51 in honoring U.S. veterans. “We have to be thankful for our veterans,” said Gov. Lewis.



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Leslie Pasqual, 89, was honored by Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51.



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 marches on Blackwater School Road.



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

A choir performed during the celebration in District 1.



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, left, poses with veterans in District 1.



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Blackwater Community School students served as a color guard for the District 1 parade.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Jennifer Allison, District 4 Council Representative, talked about the sacrifices of veterans in District 4.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Social dances commenced in honor of veterans on Nov. 11.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Rod Lewis, a veteran, talked about the service of Community members.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Dirk Kalka Sr, Korean War veteran, makes his way toward the service center for more presentations.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Basket dancers in front of the District 4 Service Center on Nov. 11.

Family of pool players aim for nationals in Las Vegas

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

It's league night at Max and Ted's 480 Bar. The loud crack of a cue ball signals a strong break and things get rolling.

Tonight the 480 Shooters face off against Less Poke More Stroke! – a rivalry match with family members on both sides of the table.

"When we originally started [the 480 Shooters team], it was me and my husband, Manuel Lucero," Rose Lucero tells me. "But then, as we grew, and my sons joined in, he decided he wanted to venture off and make a new team."

The low ceiling hangs with mellow light in the Chandler bar, where two pairs of Division 18 teams square off over four pool tables. Classic rock anthems play from a touch-screen jukebox. The team on the other side of the room? That's Manuel's team. Tonight it's husband versus wife.

Rose laughs. "It's a close-knit family," she says. "It's a friendly bar. People can come play pool and chit-chat. It's fun."

Rose is the matriarch of her team, which is made up of mostly family members. Her sons Joseph Pablo, the team captain, and Franklin Pablo Jr. are on the team as well as her nephews Jeff Stone and Armando Holguin. They are all from the Gila River Indian Community, District 5.

Mike Romero isn't a



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

Jeff Stone, District 5, lines up for a shot at Max and Ted's 480 Bar in Chandler, Ariz. Stone is a member of the 480 Shooters, a team of pool players mostly from the Gila River Indian Community.

Community member, but "he might as well be" family, Stone says. Romero works for GRIC Behavioral Health in Sacaton. Joe's wife Shea joined the team last year, and the most recent addition is Franklin's friend Jeremy McEntire.

The 480 Shooters is a part of the American Poolplayers Association (APA). Every Tuesday night is league night for Maricopa County's APA teams.

On this particular night, while the rest of the world is anxiously watching the presidential election results roll in, pool players across the Valley are shooting the breeze poolside.

"Right now we're sitting at just over 200 [teams]," said Maricopa County APA League Operator Doug Nowlin. Typical-

ly about 10 teams make up a division and there are just over 20 divisions in the region. Teams consist of five to eight players.

"I enjoy playing because I played when I was younger," says Jeff Stone, 32, as he draws his cue from its sheath.

"I like the [mental] aspect of it," he adds, "Planning your shots ahead of time – it's like chess. [And] it's kind of therapeutic in a way, too, because I'm focused. I'm not thinking about all the other stuff going on in my life. It's kind of a break from that."

Stone enjoyed playing pool for fun as a kid.

"I think I was just brought into it because my dad and his brothers played. ... One of my uncles even bought a used pool table

and put it at my grandma's house underneath the vatho and we had to prop it up with some wood to make it [level]."

But it wasn't until he joined the 480 Shooters three years ago that he started to take it seriously.

Back in the bar, a triangle of 15 targets explodes across the evergreen felt. Solids and stripes ricochet off padded banks and the eight ball teases a side pocket – but stops short of dropping in. Joseph Pablo will let it sit there until he needs to sink it for the win.

Pablo is a level six in APA 8-ball Open, just below the system's highest level of seven. As team captain, Pablo makes sure his seven other team members are keeping up on their

skills, strategizes who to send out on a matchup, and drops mid-match advice to his teammates when necessary.

"When I first started playing, I [would] blast the ball and hope something goes in," says Pablo. "It took me a while to realize you can't really do that a lot." Over time, he says, "I learned to control my ball a lot better."

Pablo, 30, says he started playing pool because his mom, Rose, got him and his brother into it a little over six years ago.

"I like that we have lot of family," he says. "And then we have a lot of friends that come in. They're all family. And we just have a good time."

They may be there to just have fun, but they play with tenacity. This casual family team has the potential to be one of the best in the state. Last year, breaking expectations – even their own – the 480 Shooters went to the 2015 APA National Team Championship.

"That was fun," says Joseph. "We had to win in two tournaments in order to qualify to go to Vegas."

To get there, the team placed in the top three in their division. From there, they went to a higher level tournament called Tri-Cities in Mesa. After that, they qualified as a wild card in the next level up, the Cities tournament.

"We played our best, man. It was exciting. It

came down to one game, with my brother having to win," says Joseph. "Oh it was nerve-racking. He was on the eight ball, but it... was a difficult shot, and we went for it, and he made it, and...that's what sent us to Vegas."

The APA is the largest pool league in the world, with leagues in the U.S., Canada, Japan, and now China. The National Championship tournament brings more than 1,400 teams to Las Vegas each year.

The 480 Shooters were eliminated in the third round at the national level, but they said the best part was having fun and meeting other pool players. That's what Rose likes best about the sport.

"We know everybody here because most of these teams are from here," she says in a corner of the bar, "but when we travel out [into other parts of the Valley,] we meet people in the other bars. ... Most of the people [in the league] are friendly and they talk and we joke and we just come out and have a good time."

The team is hoping to go to nationals again, but family and fun come first, Rose says.

"We come to have fun whether we win or lose. I mean, sure, we want to win, but if we lose, we still had fun, and that's what it should be about."

Tonight, they did both – had fun and won. Now they're one step closer to a return trip to Vegas.

Gila River Indian Community
2016 Winter Bird Count

December 3rd, 2016

Meeting Sites & Schedule

7AM Meet at the location nearest you:

District 5: Casa Blanca Shell Station (Casa Blanca Rd. & I-10)
District 6: Komatke Chevron Station (51st Ave. Pecos Rd.)
District 7: District 7 Service Center (83rd. Ave. & Baseline Rd.)

11 AM Cultural Activities
Huhugam Heritage Center

1 PM 2016 Winter Bird Count Concludes

FAMILY EVENT — EVERYONE WELCOME

WWW.GRICDEQ.ORG

Please Note: Transportation is not provided for this event
ALL Minors Must Be Accompanied By an Adult

CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL
SUPERHERO
1 MILE FUN RUN

Dress as your favorite super hero!

FAMILY EVENT

DATE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016
TIME: 3:00PM-5:00PM
PLACE: CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL
3455 W. CASA BLANCA RD.
BAPCHULE, AZ 85121

WATER AND HEALTHY SNACKS PROVIDED

CONTACT:
21ST CCLC COORDINATORS
MR. GRASS OR MS. HARRISON
520-315-3489

Governor's Employee of the Month for May through September 2016



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Regina Antone-Smith, Employment & Training, now Tribal Recreation, GEM June.

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

Last month, the Gila River Indian Community's Human Resources Department handed out five Governor's Employee of the Month (GEM) awards for the months of May through September. The five employees awarded were chosen because they enrich the Community through their works, accomplishments, and contributions in the workplace.

The first of five nominations was made at a luncheon held at the Juvenile Detention Center on Oct. 19.

Before presenting the May GEM award, Human Resources Employee Assistance/Training Specialist,

Richard Weschrob, asked the audience to listen to a short biography of the recipient before revealing the awardee's name.

"This person has been with the Department of Rehabilitation and Supervision (DRS) for over fourteen years," said Weschrob. "He began his career at DRS as a Detention Officer and worked his way through the ranks. Never once did he ask to do something he wouldn't do himself."

Weschrob then announced Travis Bradford, GRIC DRS Compliance Investigator, as the May GEM recipient.

Bradford accepted the award, saying that he really enjoys working for the Community and is looking forward to another 15 years.



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Travis Bradford, Compliance Investigator, Department of Rehabilitation and Supervision, GEM May.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Lorna Jackson, District 2 Cook Aide, GEM July.

"It is very reassuring that everything that I have been doing, that the department [has] been working

towards with the Tribal Law and Order Act and Violence Against Women Act...that we are on the right track,"



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Frances James, D6 Elderly Liaison, GEM August.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Donna Henderson, Domestic Violence Shelter Lead, GEM September.

he said.

"It is a cliché, everybody says this, but honestly, I couldn't have done it with-

out everybody that I work with, it is a good group of

Continued on Page 13

SAVE THE DATE
WATER RIGHTS DAY

Huhugam Heritage Center

SATURDAY 12.10.16

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT
DECEMBER 10, 2004

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • November 2, 2016

ACTION SHEET

Community Council; PO Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday November 2, 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 9:13am

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Sandra Nasewytewa

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Executive Officers Absent:

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Carolyn Williams (9:16); D4- Nada Celaya, Jennifer Allison, Christopher Mendoza, Barney Enos, Jr.; D5- Brian Davis, Sr., Marlin Dixon, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr. (10:40), Charles Goldtooth, Sandra Nasewytewa; D7- Devin Redbird (9:28)

Council Members Absent:

D3-Rodney Jackson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

1. Insurance Manager Introduction - Kimberly Childers

Presenter: Pamela Thompson

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

REPORTS

1. Pension Administration-FY16 Semi Annual Report

Presenter: Sharon Harvier

REPORT HEARD

2. Finance Department-FY16 Semi Annual Report

Presenter: Mike Jacobs

REPORT HEARD

3. Procurement Department-FY2016 Semi Annual Report

Presenter: Maureen Curley

REPORT HEARD

4. Gila River Indian Community Urban Members Association 3rd Quarter Report

Presenters: Anthony Newkirk, UMA Board Members

REPORT HEARD

5. Housing Owner's Team Report To Council

Presenter: Franklin Pablo

REPORT HEARD

6. Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post No. 84 Fiscal Year 2016 3rd Quarter Report

Presenters: Chesley Juan, Jr., Tony McDaniel, Robert Amado

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. American Legion Haskell Osife Antone Unit 51 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Presenter: Lois Thomas

REPORT HEARD

8. American Legion Haskell Osife Antone Unit 51 4th Quarter Financial Report

Presenter: Lois Thomas

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. Monthly Financial Activity Report Ending September 30, 2016 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Mike Jacobs, Pamela Thompson

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. Gila River Gaming Commission September 2016 Report (Executive Session)

Presenters: Serena Joaquin, Courtney Moyah

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

11. Gila River Gaming Enterprise, Inc. Monthly Report September 2016 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Carolyn Thompson, Interim Oversight and Planning Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Granting A Permanent Irrigation Easement And A Temporary Construction Easement To The United

States Of America For Reach Casa Blanca Canal On Portions Of Allotted Trust Land Located Within The Exterior Boundaries Of The Gila River Indian Reservation And Setting The Amount Of Compensation Due To The Community For The Community's Undivided Interests In Such Allotted Trust Land (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Henrietta Lopez

APPROVED

*2. A Resolution Consenting To And Approving The Acquisition For Right Of Way For A Grant Of Easement For Gila River Indian Community Department Of Transportation Project No. ROW_0058.D7.09 Crossing Allotted Land Parcels or The Purpose Of Constructing, Operating, Managing And Maintaining A Roadway And Utilities Corridor By The Gila River Indian Community Department Of Transportation Located In District 7 And As Shown In Drawing Number 40712-0494-EA, Page 1 And 2 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Warren Wiltshire

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving A Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The City Of Mesa For Emergency Fire Services (G&MSC motioned to forward the item to Council with recommendation for approval with the noted corrections)

Presenter: Thomas C. Knapp

APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Yoder & Langford, P.C. For Fiscal Year 2017 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Neomi Martinez

APPROVED

5. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP For Fiscal Year 2017 (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Office Of General Counsel

DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Rothstein Law Firm For Fiscal Year 2017 (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Office Of General Counsel

APPROVED

7. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing Agreements Between The Gila River Indian Community And DCI Group, LLC, Leibowitz Solo, LLC And Summit Consulting Group, Inc. For Public Relations And Other Services For Fiscal Year 2017 (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Office Of General Counsel

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

[GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:26 A.M.]

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gila River Sand & Gravel Board of Directors – Declaration of One (1) Vacancy – Subject to the Code of Conduct

Presenters: Reviewing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND

2. District Six Motion Sheet For The Housing Advisory Committee (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council for recommendation of appointment of Laverne Jackson)

Presenter: Laurie Thomas

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT

LAVERNE JACKSON

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

3. Independent Accountant's Report On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures Related To Compliance With The Revenue Allocation Ordinance Year End

September 30, 2015 (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council in Executive Session)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Mike Jacobs, Corrine Wilson, Chris Bitakis, Stephen Harris

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

4. Gila River Indian Community's Basic Financial Statements And Independents Auditor's Report Ended September 30, 2014 (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council in Executive Session)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Mike Jacobs, Corrine Wilson, Chris Bitakis, Stephen Harris

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

ITEMS #3 & #4

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

5. FICA Deductions (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council in Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO PROCEED,

ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE

RECOMMENDATION

6. Gila Crossing Community School Year 2015-2016 Special Audit (Executive Session) (ESC motioned to forward to Community Council under

New Business)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Dena Thomas

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO RELEASE

TO THE TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; FOR THE INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SIE

7. Casa Blanca Community School Year 2015-2016 Special Audit (Executive Session) (ESC motioned to forward to Community Council under New Business)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Dena Thomas

ADDRESSED AT NEW BUSINESS #6

8. Blackwater Community School Year 2015-2016 Special Audit (Executive Session) (ESC motioned to forward to Community Council under New Business)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Dena Thomas

ADDRESSED AT NEW BUSINESS #6

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. Gaming Update (Executive Session)

Presenter: Linus Everling

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

1. August 17, 2016 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. September 30, 2016 (Special)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

>REVIEWING COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016, 9AM

>LITIGATION TEAM MEETING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2016, 9AM

>GEORGE TONY ANDERSON GRAVESIDE SERVICES SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2016, 6:30AM

>TERRANCE THOMPSON SERVICES DISTRICT 2 MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2016, 6PM

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:01PM

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

WHAT'S NEW AT GRICUA?



Meter Replacement Project Update

The GRICUA Meter Replacement project has been completed in Districts 1, 2, 3 & 4. Meters will be changed in Districts 5 & a portion of 6 from November

14th – November 23rd. The deployment schedule is subject to change. Any changes will be communicated on our website (www.gricua.net), our Facebook page, newsletters and in the GRIN. If you have any questions, please call GRICUA at (520)796-0600.

2017 Washington Youth Tour

No plans for the summer? Go to WASHINGTON, D.C.!!! GRICUA is now accepting applications for the 2017 Washington Youth Tour. The WYT will be held June 8-15, 2017. More than 1,500 students from all across America take part in the Rural Electric Youth Tour each year, and so can you! You will watch history come alive as you explore the museums,

memorials and monuments with students from your state and will meet with U.S. Representatives and Senators. You must be an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community, be a full-time high school junior in good academic standing. Please visit our website at <http://www.gricua.net/2017-wyt.html> for more information or call Jaina Brown at 520-796-0600. Deadline is November 23, 2016 at 4:00 PM.



2016 Employment & Training Job Fair

GRICUA attended the GRIC Employment & Training's Job Fair in Sacaton on October 28th. GRICUA is currently accepting applications for our Utility Training Management Program and for a Distribution Systems Engineer. Please check our website www.gricua.net for more information.

PUBLIC COMMENT

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND INTERESTED PERSONS

Re: Notice of Request for Public Comment on Proposed Revisions to Rule 9 Accounting and Internal Control Standards

The Gila River Gaming Commission hereby announces its intent to adopt the Revised Rule. 9 - Accounting and Internal Control Standards. This Rule 9 was revised to reflect new requirements set forth by 25 CFR part 543 and Part 547 including other current gaming regulatory management practices for Class II and Class III. The Gaming Commission is issuing this Notice requesting for public comments on this document.

All comments in response to this Notice must be submitted in writing, via e-mail (Courtney.Moyah@gric.nsn.us) or phone to Courtney Moyah, Executive Director by 5:00 p.m. on December 13, 2016. The Commission will respond to all public comments by December 23, 2016 and, will consider the formal adoption of revisions to Rule 9 on Wednesday, December 28, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Gaming Commission's Office, located at the 5350 North 48th Street, Suite 305 at the Wild Horse Pass Corporate Center. In addition, the effective date of Rule 9

will be March 27, 2017 which will allow time for the Gaming Commission, Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. ("GRGE"), and affected persons and related entities to be orientated, trained and/or take other steps necessary to effectively implement Rule 9. If you have questions, please contact Courtney Moyah, Executive Director at (520) 796-4471

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA COURT DATE NOTICE In Re Case: E. GOMEZ Docket Number: CV-2016-0188 This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR your hearing may be held in held in absentia and a warrant may be issued for your arrest, forfeiture of your bond, judgment in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered. ANSWER/RESPONSE HEARING Sacaton Community Court 721 West Seed Farm Road Sacaton, Arizona 85147 (520) 562-9860 DATE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016 Issued by: R. THOMAS, COURT CLERK

TIME: 2:00 P.M.
Date: Monday, October 17, 2016
*GIVEN TO ALL PARTIES PRESENT THIS MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016 IN OPEN COURT IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN CO UNITY COURT STATE OF ARIZONA ANGELA CHERYL LEOS Plaintiff/Petitioner, vs. ELEAZAR GOMEZ JR Defendant/Respondent. TO: ELEAZAR T GOMEZ JR YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court. YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court. If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default It will be entered against you for the relief demanded.

DEFAULT NOTICE HEARING

Ramona Sabori Default Notice Hearing Case: C-16-0060 Court Date: January 10, 2017 at 3:30 p.m., Courtroom #4, 2nd floor FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT BUILDING: #23 ADDRESS: 10005 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256 CONTACT: (480) 362-6315

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA Tiffany M Enosvs.no defendantJeryln Faye Holmes DOCKET # CY.2016-0014.ZAA ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE TO: Tiffany M Enos WHEREAS in the above matter, you were to appear for the order to show cause scheduled on 11/7/16 2:00pm. IT HAS COME to the attention of the Court that you failed to appear as ordered for the above matter. THEREFORE: IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that you appear on Review Hearing, 17th day of January, 2017 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Donna Kisto-Jones AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seedfarm Road, Sacaton, AZ85147 And there and then show cause, if any you have, why this Court should not find you in contempt, FAILURE TO APPEAR without good cause may subject you to prosecution or other

penalties.Under my hand and the seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.

GRICUA EMPLOYMENT

Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority Electric Utility Warehouse Worker 2016 The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) has an opportunity for an Electric Utility Warehouse Worker. The employee will work in the GRICUA Warehouse assisting line crews and Operations personnel by efficiently receiving and distributing materials from inventory required in the construction and maintenance of electric distribution and transmission lines. OPPORTUNITY: • Employee will work 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday. • Full Benefits package including medical, vacation, sick leave, holidays, 401 (k). • Pay will be depending on experience. REQUIREMENTS: • Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a HS Diploma or Equivalent. • Applicants must have one year of experience in warehouse or storeroom setting or experience with electric utility.

Reminders GRICUA District Days 2016 GRICUA will be at the Public Health Resource Center (433 W Seedfarm Rd in Sacaton) on the following days to accept payments from 10am to 3pm. • December 8

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG GRICUA is a member of Arizona Blue Stake. Please call 1-800-782-5348 to request an underground line locate of both GRICUA and SCIP on reservation facilities.

GRICUA welcomes your comments. You can email comments to gricua-comments@gricua.net. You can also go to our website at www.gricua.net.

GRICUA's Hours of Operation Monday – Friday 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM Payments are accepted on-line and by phone both during our normal operating hours as well as afterhours. If you have any questions regarding your statement or payment options please call during normal business hours.

- Applicants must possess a valid Arizona driver's license and clear MVD report.
- Applicants must have some basic computer skills, such as word processing and spreadsheets.
- Applicants must complete the GRICUA Application for Employment which can be found at <http://www.gricua.net/employment.html>.
- Job Description can be found on the GRICUA website at <http://www.gricua.net/employment>.
- Deadline for filing applications is Thursday, December 8, 2016 at NOON.
- All positions at GRICUA are subject to clear drug screen and background check.
- Return applications via e-mail to GRICUAHR@GRICUA.NET ; by fax to 480-452-1429 or mail to GRICUA Human Resources Dept. at 6636 W. Sundust Road, Box 5091, Chandler, AZ 85226. Preference is given to qualified Native American candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act. GR/ CUA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. 6636 W. Sundust Rd. · Box 5091 · Chandler, Arizona 85226-4211 Office: 520.796 0600 · Fax: 520.796.0672 E-Mail: GRICUAHR@gricua.net Website: www.gricua.net

Employees of the Month from page 11

people and I really appreciate everything that everybody has done.”

Four more employees were awarded with GEM plaques at a GRIC Directors' Meeting held in the Governance Center Council Chambers on Oct. 21. Weschrob and Marsha Chischilly, HR Employee Development Manager, introduced each awardee by talking about how each individual's hard work and commitment to the people of GRIC has had a positive effect on their co-workers and the Community.

Weschrob introduced Regina Antone Smith, GRIC Employment and Training Coordinator, as the June GEM recipient. He said that Smith truly gives all of herself to help people and she genuinely wants to see Community members succeed in their chosen career paths.

While accepting the award plaque, Smith said,

“I do like working with the Community. I like helping them succeed and keeping on top of them. When they get further along it makes me feel good. When they accomplish something, to see that spark in their eye when there was nothing before, that's truly amazing,” she said.

Lorna Jackson, District 2 Cooking Aide, was announced as the July GEM recipient.

Chischilly said that Jackson is the type of person who practices the platinum rule: finding what someone wants and making sure they receive it. She said that Jackson is a great listener who puts her community first and that elders always have something good to say about her delicious cooking.

Jackson accepted the GEM plaque saying, “I just thank District 2, the elders, and everybody who works here. I love the Communi-

ty.” The GEM recipient for August was District 6's Elderly Liaison, Frances James. Weschrob said that James is a mover and a shaker, always willing to help, whether it is creating art projects for the Community's children or getting elders sweating at her popular Zumba classes.

“With her amazing presence and attitude to keep the Gila River Indian Community's children happy and our beloved elders healthy, she is a life and soul saver,” Weschrob said. Donna Henderson, GRIC Domestic Violence Shelter Lead, was announced as the September GEM recipient. Chischilly said of Henderson, “This employee...[who] exemplifies strength, character, determination, and compassion, is a constant source of encouragement and support as she uplifts everyone around her.”

Henderson said of her job as the Domestic Violence Shelter Lead, “When you see those girls come

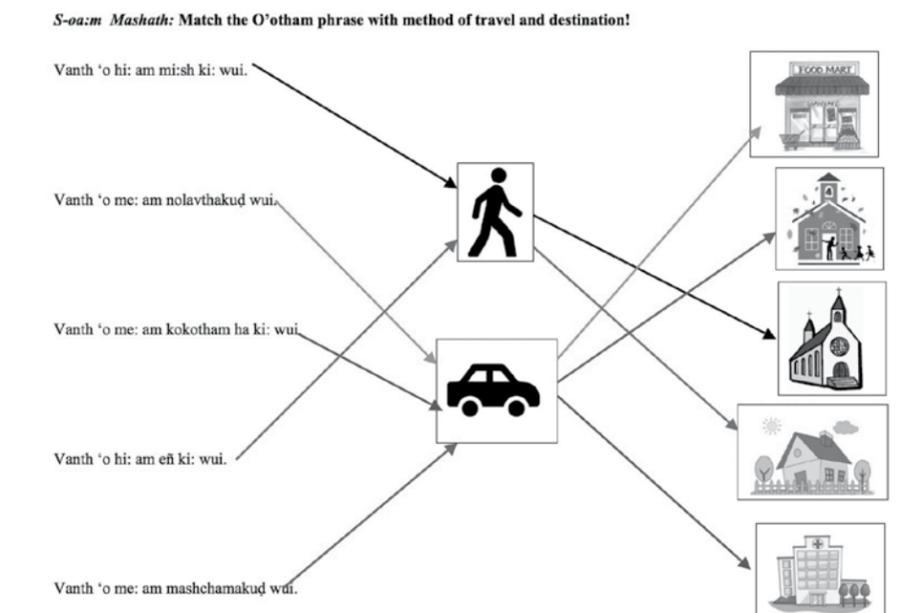
into the shelter, you see them broken-hearted and sometimes you just don't know what to say. Through my...experience and training...I've been able to just sit and listen.”

She added that while many Community members may know her to be quite talkative, she was at a

loss for words when receiving the GEM plaque.

Each employee was chosen as a GEM after being reviewed by the Governor's Office GEM Committee and each awardee received a commemorative plaque and “certigift” of \$200.

If you know someone



Pony Express rides through Sacaton to promote Gilbert Days Rodeo

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

The terrain was rough and the conditions treacherous, but the original Pony Express riders had an important job, and speed was key. The Pony Express was the country's fastest mail delivery service for about 18 months from 1860 – 1861.

The Gilbert Days Rodeo brought the legendary symbol of western ruggedness to life with a two-day Pony Express Ride from Gilbert to Sacaton, Casa Grande, Eloy, Coolidge, and Florence to promote the town's rodeo and foster relationships with neighboring communities.

"The Pony Express Ride serves as our kick-off before the rodeo," said spokesperson Julee Brady. It's a tradition that teaches "the concepts of the bravery, dedication, [and] dependability," she said. "We use the example of those riders [and] we like to share the camaraderie of riding."

"This is one of my favorite traditions," said Gilbert Days Rodeo Teen Queen Kennadee Riggs. "I've been here even as a little kid, following the queens around. It's one of my favorite things to do every year. ... It's a family



Gilbert Promotional Corporation President James Tree, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and Miss Gila River Oriana Apkaw greet representatives from the Gilbert Days Rodeo and the Pony Express.

Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

tradition."

Gilbert Days Rodeo Queen Jamie Stack is new to the rodeo scene.

"I have been riding my whole life. I was born and raised around horses," she said, but "this is actually the first time I've done anything like this. ... I've learned lots about the Pony Express...so it's a lot of fun.

One of the most interesting things Stack learned

was about the specially designed top saddle Pony Express riders used, which eliminated the need for a mailbag and transferred easily from one horse to another in under two minutes.

The Pony Express stretched approximately 2,000 miles from St. Louis, Mo. to Sacramento, Calif. To speed up the transport of mail, riders switched horses every 20-25 miles and

riders switched out at relief stations every 100 miles. At the relief stations, the special top saddle, which had padlocked pockets and was secured by the weight of the rider, was quickly swapped from one horse to another.

"Today we have email," said Brady. "We get mad in 10 seconds if it doesn't send." But in the mid-19th Century, letters could take weeks or months to be de-

livered by stagecoach or vessel. The Pony Express could do it in 10 days. The fastest message delivered by the Pony Express was done in seven days, 17 hours, carrying the news of President Abraham Lincoln's inaugural address. "So we have a lot to be grateful for and to look to the past, it helps us to get perspective of things."

Unlike its namesake, the object of the modern

Pony Express Ride is not expediency, but companionship and neighborliness.

The Gilbert Promotional Corporation President James Tree said, "It's been a really positive [experience] producing what is known as the signature event within the town of Gilbert." It takes a lot of hands to put on the rodeo, and all are volunteers. "Essentially we're here just to be able to continue the tradition and western heritage for the town of Gilbert."

The Pony Express group stopped in Sacaton Friday, Nov. 4 to symbolically "pass the saddle" to Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, and to deliver a message of friendship from Gilbert Mayor Jenn Daniels to GRIC leaders.

"Our mayor [is sending] a letter to your community," said Brady. "It basically says, 'We're grateful that we are your neighbors,' and invite you to the rodeo. It's outreach and fellowship in a unique way."

A couple dozen riders met with trucks and horse trailers at the corner of Sacaton Road and Casa Blanca Road.

The Gilbert Days Rodeo was celebrated at the Welcome Home Ranch from Nov. 11 – 13.

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2015

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2015

Kia Optima



\$325/mo.

2014

Toyota Corolla



\$229/mo.

2014

Toyota Camry



\$279/mo.

2014

Chrysler Town & Country



\$289/mo.

2014

Toyota Tacoma



\$299/mo.

2012

Jeep Grand Cherokee



\$299/mo.

2012

Chrysler 200



\$189/mo.

2012

Chevy Colorado



\$189/mo.

2011

Toyota Sienna



\$279/mo.



AUTO CENTER



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2007

Chevy Tahoe



\$305/mo.

2010

Dodge Charger



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2011

Ram 1500 5.7 Hemi



\$225/mo.

2013

Chevy Silverado



\$279/mo.



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PAYMENTS BASED UPON A 720 CREDIT SCORE AT 72 MONTHS WITH TAX, TITLE, LICENSE AND DOC FEE DOWN. MUST PRESENT AD AT TIME OF SALE.

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

TOY DRIVE



**Collection Dates:
November 1st-December 9th, 2016**

Toy Drop off Locations:

Laveen Fire Station 426 - 473 W. Pecos Rd.

Sacaton Fire Station 423 - 599 E. Seedfarm Rd.

Blackwater Fire Station 421 - 829 Blackwater School Rd.

Phoenix Premium Outlets (Food Court Area) - 4976 Premium Outlets Way Chandler

All gifts collected as part of the Gila River Indian Community Toy Drive will directly benefit the youth of Gila River Indian Community.

For more information please contact:

Alie Walking Badger, Special Events Coordinator at 520-562-9713/520-610-3754 or special.events@gric.nsn.us



GILARIVER

GAMING ENTERPRISES, INC.

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Owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community