GRIC disappointed by judge’s ruling on Loop 202 freeway injunction

Communications & Public Affairs Office
Gila River Indian Community

The Gila River Indian Community and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis have expressed their deep disappointment at a ruling by U.S. District Judge Diane Humetewa, who rejected the Community’s request for an injunction temporarily halting construction of an extension of the South Mountain/Loop 202 Freeway. The nearly $2 billion construction project would desecrate sacred lands on and around South Mountain – Muhadagi Doag – and permanently harm the Community’s cultural resources and members’ quality of life.

“This is a disturbing ruling for our Community and for all of us who love, respect and honor South Mountain,” said Gov. Lewis. “This isn’t about a road for our people. Destroying South Mountain is an attack on one of our most sacred resources. The Loop 202 extension as currently planned will destroy Muhadagi Doag and its trails, shrines and archaeological treasures.”

The Community’s lawsuit – consolidated with a second lawsuit brought by other concerned individuals and groups, including some Community members – argues that federal and state agencies violated federal law by approving a freeway location that would desecrate South Mountain and by following a process that did not give proper consideration to the Community’s unique interests. The lawsuit alleges that the agencies ignored their obligations to avoid or mitigate harm to the environment and to the public health, safety, and welfare of Community members.

The Community is currently weighing its legal next steps, which could include seeking an injunction directly from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Prayer Run unites women together in sisterhood

With legs straining against rough desert terrain and throats parched from unseasonably warm October weather, over 80 women ran their way through the peaks and valleys of the Gila River Indian Community for a period of three days, from Oct. 21-23, for the 3rd Annual Women’s Prayer Run (WPR).

The 70-mile run, which was founded by a group of like-minded Community women in 2014, was created for the purpose of uniting women and acknowledging their strengths.

This year the group of women, many of whom were meeting for the first time, began their journey at the confluence of the Gila River and Salt River in District 7. In the early morning hours of Oct. 21, the women blessed themselves with water from the two rivers.

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

Youth Council Inauguration ushers in new members

The Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Council ushered in new members at the Youth Council Inauguration Oct. 22.

Nathaniel Talamantez, the outgoing AOPPYC President, said the youth council offers opportunities for young people to grow like no other organization can.

“Be prepared for a lot of different challenges,” he said. “I can tell already that you are a tremendous set of people and I have high hopes for what we can do throughout the next year.”

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said the students on the youth council give hope to their peers. He called them role models and

Continued on Page 7

Cardinals recognize the Community

Billy Allen: Be thankful for the holiday season

Halloween fun at the Governance Center

Robosaurus at Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park

Career Fair at E&T on Oct. 28

HUD Secretary Castro visit
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Red Ribbon Week teaches kids about healthy choices

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The students at Casa Blanca Community School in District 5 gathered for an annual tradition to support Red Ribbon Week on Oct. 26.

Red Ribbon Week is a school activity put on by the Gila River Police Department in partnership with Community schools in District 5 and 3. At CBCS, the school’s cafeteria was full of cheer and excitement as members from the Gila River Healthcare Prevention Coalition took center stage for a small puppet show that teaches children how to “Say No!” to harmful substances like alcohol and drugs.

When the show was over the students went outside to gather on the school’s lawn to hear a few words from special guest speakers. Afterwards the Red Ribbon walk began as students carried banners with messages like “Say No to Drugs,” “I Have the Power to be Drug Free,” and “March for a Drug Free Community.”

Gary Anderson, former Army Green Beret, of Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 encouraged the children to build a strong foundation against drugs. He likened the moral of building a strong foundation against drugs to the story of the “Three Little Pigs.”

As the fairy tale goes, each house was built out of different materials, but the one that held firm against the Big Bad Wolf’s breath, was the house made of brick, which Anderson said all the students need to do to be drug free.

Gov. Lewis said, “Red Ribbon week is about telling [our] youth to be drug free and to make healthy choices.”

On Oct. 28 a similar event was held at the Sacaton Elementary School where many students turned out to stand against drugs.

Before the walk ended basket dancers sent the students off with inspiration about who they are as an Akimel O’otham or Pee-Posh.

He said the schools educators along with cultural teachings are key components to instilling pride in their Community and heritage.

From the family of Sharon Shelde

It has been over a month now that we lost our beloved daughter, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother and friend. It hardly seems that long because we all still have her in our minds and hearts, as we know so many of you also do.

And so we wanted to acknowledge all of you by thanking you for being there for us at this very hard time. Everyone was very supportive; the school where she worked, the cultural teachers that she worked with in our schools, the professors who taught her in higher education at South Mountain Community College and ASU. There are so many who she worked with and helped, who all paid respect.

The family wants to express our thanks for all the help and support that we received at this time. We know it will take a while to adjust to this loss but we are sure she would want us all to go on because we will see her again someday. Thank you again.

From the family of Sharon K. Shelde

On Oct. 23, Casa Blanca Community School students march with banners in support of Red Ribbon Week, which focuses on teaching kids about the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse.
Gila River Indian Community joins Lake Mead conservation effort

Communications & Public Information Office
Gila River Indian Community

The Gila River Indian Community and the United States Bureau of Reclamation recently signed an agreement to help address the falling levels in Lake Mead caused by drought in the western United States. Under this agreement the Community will be paid $1,757,500 to not use 10,000 acre-feet of its Central Arizona Project water that the Community promised to use instead leave it in Lake Mead in 2016 as part of conservation program that is funded by the Bureau of Reclamation, as well as Arizona, California, Colorado, and Nevada municipalities and irrigation districts. The money received under this agreement will be added to the Community’s Permanent Water Fund.

This agreement came about after the Bureau Reclamation and Gila River Indian Community planned to store and add water to Lake Mead for the following year. The persistent drought in the region has caused a shortage of water, much of which is coming from Lake Mead, one of the world’s largest reservoirs, to drop drastically in recent years due to the bathtub-like ring around its edges. Under current Bureau of Reclamation policy, if the water level falls below 1075 feet at year’s end a shortage will be declared for water users, including other Indian tribes like the Tohono O’Odham Nation, have already participated in this conservation program and other efforts the Bureau of Reclamation projects that Lake Mead levels will stay above 1075 feet by the end of 2016 and no shortage will be declared in 2017. The single most important renewable source of water for the Colorado River system, and its reservoir Lake Mead, is snowpack. Unfortunately forecasts do not expect significant increases in snowfall under current drought conditions. Further, the Colorado River is over allocates water and there is more demand than supply – and this imbalance makes it difficult to address the problem without agreement among water users to reduce demand. Water managers in Arizona, California and Nevada remain concerned that a shortage could be declared in later years and a long-term solution will probably require some voluntary reductions by water users and continued conservation programs that provide economic incentives to water users to reduce their consumption of their water in Lake Mead.

Growing the Legacy of Native American Leadership in Science and Technology

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addressed representatives from ASU and Intel on Oct. 5. Gov. Lewis promoted the idea of having more Community members in STEM fields of work and education wanting to get STEM based fields. John said there is a sense of motivation that comes from the Native communities that are facing in Indian Country that influences the Native youth, because it fuels the interest on the technical aspects of an issue that impacts people and the environment.

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Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Campers ordered to vacate Moaag Thadiwa site following Council motion

A group of community members have been removed from a campsite in District 6. The community members described the camp, which they call Moaag Thadiwa, as a prayer camp, established in protest to the Loop 202 South Mountain freeway. They have been camping at the base of South Mountain since September. The camp was located at the southwestern base of South Mountain in the desert between Komatke and the western edge of Ahwatukee, just inside the GRC border. The campsite is on Community land, but the Council said that the protesters did not follow proper procedure in establishing the campsite. In an Oct. 19 decision, the Council passed a motion instructing the campers to “vacate the area, take down any structures and clean the area.” The motion was passed with 11 for, 1 abstention, and 5 absent.

Native Vote Election Protection promoting hotline for Native voters

Native American voters denied the right to vote have a hotline to call on Election Day.

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee of the Native American Voter Protection Project is urging voters who have been turned away at the polls to call the Native Vote hotline at 1-888-777-3831 to request help from a trained volunteer.

“We have a Native Vote Hotline, and I encourage voters to use it,” she said at the National Congress of American Indians Convention Oct. 10, “because we want to make sure that everyone votes, but also that the vote counts.”

Low voter turnout is a big problem in Indian Country. American Indians and Alaska Natives have the lowest voter turnout rate in the United States when compared to that of other ethnic groups, according to a June 2012 report by the public policy organization Demos.

All the more reason to protect Native votes.

“It’s about the right,” Fergus-Bohnee said. “We have a voice,” she said. “Native Vote has successfully impacted election results across the country. In order to participate, we have to register, to have to turn out, but then we also have to protect the vote.”

Other problems voters may encounter include a lack of language assistance, polling location confusion, and voter intimidation. Volunteers from the Native Vote Election Protection Project will be outside polling locations in the Gila River Indian Community.

Ferguson-Bohnee said if you have questions about the voting process or run into trouble trying to receive or cast a ballot, ask the election protection volunteer nearby or call the hotline. The phone number is 1-888-777-3831.

“Are there continuing efforts to suppress the vote, so we must take active measures to enforce this right?”

Gila River Indian Community has land in two counties in Arizona: Pinal and Maricopa Counties. You can find your polling location with this online tool from the Arizona Office of the Secretary of State: https://voter.azos.gov/VoterPollingPlaceSearch.do but it does not exist for either your Voter ID number or a Driver’s License number.

More information is also available at wwwnativevote.org.

Incident Log October 2, 2016 – October 8, 2016

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

Gila River Police officers responded to 567 calls for service and made 67 arrests.

District One:

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Two:

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Three:

Aggravated Assault - Suspect strangled the victim to the point of unconsciousness. The suspect also smashed her vehicle window with a rock.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft - The victim reported her cell phone was stolen after she had been assaulted.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft - The victim reported her bracelet and ring were stolen after she had been assaulted.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four:

(Stotonic Area)

Aggravated Assault - Suspect choked and assaulted the victim.

Status: Suspect arrested.

Aggravated Assault - Suspect assaulted victim with a knife.

Status: Suspect arrested.

(Lone Butte / WHP Area)

Theft - The victim reported money stolen from his vehicle while it was parked at the Love’s Truck Stop.

Status: Under Investigation

Shoplifting - Sacaton Super Market reported a theft of baby formula by a male suspect.

Status: Under Investigation

Auto Theft - The victim reported his white Dodge truck was stolen from the person he lent it to. The vehicle had been left parked in front of a residence where it was taken by the suspect.

Status: Under Investigation

Auto Theft - The victim reported his white Chevy Cruze stolen by a male suspect while parked in front of the convenience store.

Status: Under Investigation

District Five:

(Stotonic Area)

Aggravated Assault - Suspect assaulted the victim with a dangerous instrument which caused permanent disfigurement to his right.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault - The victim stated she was assaulted and choked by the suspect, suspect was not contacted.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault - The victim was attacked with a handheld Taser; the suspect was taken into custody.

Status: Closed

Burglary - The victim’s residence was broken into and had a television, DVD/VCR combo, a satellite receiver and some food taken.

Status: Under Investigation

(Lone Butte Area)

Auto Theft - The victim was in the casino gambling when he came out his vehicle was missing.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft - The victim reported her wallet missing to casino employees; the suspect, suspect was not contacted.

Status: Under Investigation

Burglary - The victim reported two televisions and a DVD player were taken from her home.

Status: Under Investigation

District Five - (Casa Blanca)

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Four - (Stotonic Area)

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Two - (Sacaton Flats)

Auto Theft - Victim reported his vehicle stolen after he left the residence and returned to find the vehicle missing.

Status: Under Investigation

Shoplifting - Tommy Hilfiger store reported theft of a pair of boxer briefs by a male suspect.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four - Aggravated Assault

District Five - Aggravated Assault - Suspect assaulted the victim with an object and attempted to stab her with a knife.

Status: Under Investigation

District Five - Ramosa Farms worker reported bales of hay stolen from their farm fields.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four - Aggravated Assault - The victim reported her wallet missing to casino employees; the suspect was observed picking up the wallet and leaving premises.

Status: Under Investigation

District Five - (Casa Blanca)

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Six - (Komatke)

Aggravated Assault - The victim stated he was struck with a dangerous instrument which caused permanent disfigurement to his head.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault - The victim was attacked and slashed on his forearm; no permanent damage was sustained.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft - Merchandise was taken from a vending machine at the casino.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft - A set of tires and rims were taken from the back of a pick-up truck while at the casino.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven - (Maricopa)

No incidents regarding part 1 crime.
Community recognized at Cardinals home game against Seattle

Larry Fitzgerald, Arizona Cardinals wide receiver, interacts with a fan on the sideline before the game against the Seattle Seahawks.

Arizona Cardinals fans had Oct. 23 marked on their calendars since the NFL regular season schedule was released. It was a divisional game against the Seattle Seahawks, plus it was a prime time game part of NBC’s Sunday Night Football lineup. While the sold-out crowd saw the two rivals slug it out to a 6-6 tie, they also saw a special presentation featuring tribal leadership.

Prior to the game Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Community Council Representatives Arzie Hogg, Nada Celaya, Brian Davis, Chris Mendoza, Frank Pablo, Carol Schurz, Charles Goldtooth, Marlin Dixon and Carolyn Williams filmed a segment on the field, which was played during the first quarter. “Our partnership with the Community is among the organization’s most-valued and longest relationships. The game is a great way to showcase the Gila River Community and its strong leadership,” said Mike Iaquinta, Director, Business Development, Arizona Cardinals. Before kickoff, the Ira H. Hayes Post 84 served as the color guard for the unveiling of the U.S. flag and the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner by Grammy winning recording artist Richard Marx.

Not only was the Community represented before the game, but they were also representing in the stands with 240 tickets given to the Community, according to Manuel Hernandez with Gila River Casinos.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis with Ira H. Hayes Post 84 following the pre-game ceremonies. Post 84 posted the colors during the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner.

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A’AGA
Something to be told

By Billy Allen

An ancient name for November was S-owam or Yellow, however Antonio Azul called it Vi-hain-yik or Windy. An earlier and different name for our southern counties was Papago. In a previous article, I had written how Paul Kiniko helped livestock into present-day Arizona which prompted the first O’odham, probably Papago, to straddle a horse and be a vakial or vaquero or cowboy. Sala Hina, an elder informant for Frank Russell in 1901-1902, stated her father and two Kohadak were responsible for bringing the first cattle to Gila River around 1820. It should not be long to mix chili with beef and our culture was changed for the better! An O’odham holiday season without turkey, ham or tamales is unthinkable. He thanked this holiday season for O’Ochum cultures being flexible, adapting from the surrounding cultures to make our lives better.

When the Bureau of Indian Affairs allowed tribal councils to be officially formed, one of the first actions the Papago Council enacted was to establish a rodeo and Fair Association in 1937 and soon with the Papago Cattlemen’s Association the first rodeo was held in 1938. (The Papago Tribal Council officially changed their name back to Tohono O’odham in 1986. It was confusing to be known by two different names.) Some of the early events were football games and social dancing including an e’dap vo po tham and a kechî-na, the skippin’ dance. Horse races ranked from a quarter to two miles and a pony express race; walking the horse for a quarter of a mile, trotting a quarter and finishing with a full quarter mile gallop. Foot racing was also popular. Races as short as 100 yards to a wui chu the race which covered very long distances. Historically it was a run from village to village. A unique event was a novelty dress race; a mounted cow girl raced a quarter of a mile, dismounted, dressed in clothes placed on the ground and rode back to the start. A few years later, such events still go on today such as women’s to:ka, the wild horse and half-marathon.

Another popular event was a special bareback ride around Coolidge Mountain. Growing up on the Arizona Indian rodeo circuit. Growing up on the Gila River Indian Community in the late 1930’s, on the family, cattle and the family, cattle. The deadly attraction was Black Widow. It was advertised as a “horse that could not be rode”. Naturally this aroused the warrior spirit of the Native Cowboy, for most of them felt they were “the cowboys who couldn’t be thowed.” On Memorials day, run does,” said Jackson. “In fact, our chokiat… that stick that holds the gihoro, that we put to use, in place, [what] we need to use… for support.” That is why the women carry the stick, for support, Jackson said, and that is what women in the Community, need to do another, to support each other like the chokiat supports the gihoro.

Each participant in the run journey for their own reasons, some to help recover from addictions, others to help carry the burden of those in need. Celeste Jackson, woman mother Blackwater and daughter Amber Naminha, the run was a way for them to connect with other Community women, create strong bonds to help each other through their physical, emotional, and spiritual struggles.

Celeste said, “It is very enlightening and powerful for us that we will be completing our journey,” said Blackwater. “We have this bonding, this love, this connection, not only blood spiritually and it is an attachment, as a mother and child would have when they are first born. That is the bond and bonding that we end up creating,” she said.

“They may have been strangers last week but now they are sisters too and that is what happens in our daily lives,” said Jackson.

During the entirety of the run, a single woman carried a staff, leading the group of runners, and eventually passing it from woman to woman until the group reached the end of their journey in District 1. “The women’s staff is a chokiat, which is the walking stick (cane) used to prop up the gihoro (burden basket) when the women [used to gather] wood to put in the teepee,” said Jackson.

She said the staff represents carry the burden of those in need. For two Community women, mother Jennifer Blackwater and daughter Amber Naminha, the run was a way for them to connect with other Community women, create strong bonds to help each other through their physical, emotional, and spiritual struggles.

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Halloween comes in all sizes in District 5

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

Munchkin-sized ghosts, ghouls, and goblins sauntered their way across the playground of District 5’s Head Start on Oct. 25, filling their bags with sweet treats provided by several departments from the Gila River Indian Community and Gila River Health Care.

Around fifty children, aged 2 to 4 years old, were dressed as their favorite comic book hero, Disney star, or cartoon character, stopping by each department’s booths to collect as much candy as their bags could hold.

Several children were apprehensive to approach Gila River Wellness Center’s booth, manned by Alvin Casoose and Kelly Whitman, as a large inflatable black cat loomed menacingly next to the reception department’s table, swinging its head from side to side in jerky mechanical motions.

A few brave youngsters, including fearless 2-year-old Michael Kisto, who was dressed-up as a monkey, made their way to the booth to collect the reception department’s much-prized bags of candy and Ray Ban-esque sunglasses.

On the other end of the playground, Ernie R. Ray-Ban-esque sunglasses.

Children at the D5 Head Start packed their treat bags full of candy at the Halloween event on Oct. 25.

Miles of the GRIC Public Works Department handed out handfuls of packaged cheese puffs to a throng of excited children, who were looking to get their hands on a sample of the cheesy snack.

Doriana Pahona, Head Start and Early Head Start Family Services Advocate said that it was the second time District 5’s Head Start has had the Halloween trick or treating event, and that it was put on in conjunction with many other tribal departments.

“It is a departmental event,” said Pahona. “We asked different departments to come out and asked if they would like to participate and set up a booth.”

Pahona added that each participating department handed out candy and played different games with the children. Several departments, including the Gila River Police Department, handed out pamphlets advising the little ones who to call if they are ever in trouble.

The departments who participated in District 5’s Head Start event were the Gila River Police Department, Gila River Indian Community Youth Council, Communications & Public Affairs Office, Three Precious Miracles, Department of Public Works, the Genesis Program, Gila River Wellness Center, GRIC Baby Smarts Parent Education Program, GRIC Behavioral Health, GRIC Community Manager was transformed into a scary haunted corridor full of zombies, werewolves, and other creatures of the night.

In the lobby, students from St. Peter Indian Mission School sang catchy Halloween songs.

Tiny super heroes, mutant turtles, and video game characters filled the halls and everyone went home with a bag full of treats.

You can see more photos of the event on the Gila River Indian Community Facebook page.

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Several children were apprehensive to approach Gila River Wellness Center’s booth, manned by Alvin Casoose and Kelly Whitman, as a large inflatable black cat loomed menacingly next to the reception department’s table, swinging its head from side to side in jerky mechanical motions.

A few brave youngsters, including fearless 2-year-old Michael Kisto, who was dressed-up as a monkey, made their way to the booth to collect the reception department’s much-prized bags of candy and Ray Ban-esque sunglasses.

On the other end of the playground, Ernie R. Ray-Ban-esque sunglasses.

Children at the D5 Head Start packed their treat bags full of candy at the Halloween event on Oct. 25.

Miles of the GRIC Public Works Department handed out handfuls of packaged cheese puffs to a throng of excited children, who were looking to get their hands on a sample of the cheesy snack.

Doriana Pahona, Head Start and Early Head Start Family Services Advocate said that it was the second time District 5’s Head Start has had the Halloween trick or treating event, and that it was put on in conjunction with many other tribal departments.

“It is a departmental event,” said Pahona. “We asked different departments to come out and asked if they would like to participate and set up a booth.”

Pahona added that each participating department handed out candy and played different games with the children. Several departments, including the Gila River Police Department, handed out pamphlets advising the little ones who to call if they are ever in trouble.

The departments who participated in District 5’s Head Start event were the Gila River Police Department, Gila River Indian Community Youth Council, Communications & Public Affairs Office, Three Precious Miracles, Department of Public Works, the Genesis Program, Gila River Wellness Center, GRIC Baby Smarts Parent Education Program, GRIC Behavioral Health, GRIC Community Manager was transformed into a scary haunted corridor full of zombies, werewolves, and other creatures of the night.

In the lobby, students from St. Peter Indian Mission School sang catchy Halloween songs.

Tiny super heroes, mutant turtles, and video game characters filled the halls and everyone went home with a bag full of treats.

You can see more photos of the event on the Gila River Indian Community Facebook page.

Halloween comes in all sizes in District 5

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

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Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Trail of Doom 2016 was a monster of a party. Hundreds of families haunted the Sacaton Wellness Center Oct. 27, where the Gila River Indian Community hosted a 5K run, a 2-mile walk, games, prizes, music, and a haunted house.

The Tribal Recreation Department organizes the Trail of Doom every year for costumed Community members of all ages to share in the Halloween spirit. A line of daring souls wrapped around the Wellness Center, while shrieks could be heard from inside the haunted labyrinth.

The next stop for Robosaurus is a show at the Texas Motor Speedway in Forth Worth on June 11.

As the evening turned to darkness, the ferocious 30-ton Robosaurus breathed to life with fire streaming from his nostrils and smoke bellowing from the steel pit of his stomach. Like most people eat snacks, Robosaurus devours cars and planes to satisfy his destructive hunger.

At the Mega Monster Madness, Robosaurus lived up to his brutal billing and by mesmerizing the large crowd with a mixture of wonder and dread. He stalked unlucky vehicles for annihilation and ripped them in half with his powerful claws.

When it was time to eat, the 40-foot tall power-driven T-Rex made quick work of the vehicles, demolishing them with his mammoth jaws. A full-sized car turned into an appetizer on a clear October day, and the crowd was hungry for more.

To top the night off, hulking monster trucks took center stage as their drivers managed to lift their trucks in the air over ramps and cars.

The main attraction at the Mega Monster Madness show at Wild Horse Pass Motorsports was the 30-ton Robosaurus.
Gila River Indian News November 4, 2016

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
8PM

FEATURING TATANKA MEANS & JAMES AND ERNIE
PLUS SPECIAL GUEST WOLF BROWN

TICKETS ARE $10 with your Tribal ID card

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
8PM

Preferred Provider of Gila River Dental Insurances & Others
- Complete family dental care for ages 2 & up
- We’re CLOSE! Just 10 minutes
- NO WAITING! On-time Appointments
- Fun Kids Kove play area
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SCHEDULE YOUR FAMILY OF 2 OR MORE AND RECEIVE A FREE Harkins Movie Package*
Includes 2 movie tickets, free soft drink and free popcorn for proof

*Applies to 1 adult, family of 2 or more. 2 tickets must be purchased. Must present Tribal ID. Expires 11/26/16.

Now with an In-house Pediatric specialist as well as sleep dentistry!

TICKETS ARE $10 with your Tribal ID card

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26
8PM

Wild Horse Pass
Hotel & Casino
Dedicated and operated by the Gila River Indian Community

WinGilaRiver.com
1-800-WIN-GILA
For tickets call or visit Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino box office at 1-800-WIN-GILA ext 7370 or WinGilaRiver.com
Community members look for opportunities at E&T Career Fair

**CHRISTOPHER LOMAHOQUAHU**

For individuals wanting a career or job, the Employment & Training Department hosted an annual job fair on Oct. 28. Under rows of white tents representatives from local universities, colleges, trade schools and businesses met with the over 300 Community members that participated in the job/career fair looking to expand their horizons.

Gila River Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said, “There are great opportunities for our Community members that will put them in a good position to do great things.”

He encouraged them to continue striving for a better quality of life and to find ways of preparing for college or a job by looking to financial advice from banks and credit unions.

“The importance of [we] understand how to manage our finances while [you] pursue a college education is in post-graduation and with the career change,” said Gov. Lewis.

E&T Director Lana Chanda said, “This year I think was a really good one. We have 21 job offers from one of the employers.”

She said that a lot of colleges, universities, technical schools and departments came out to the career fair and that an emphasis was placed on services for veterans looking to find a career post-military service.

“Today is all about work readiness and getting people ready for the job or school, because we have ‘dress for success,’ we have plenty of schools that will give out information for students to apply for school,” said Chanda. Gov. Lewis said it is important to have job opportunities for veterans that will allow them to continue using the critical skills gained in the military and that there are organizations like the “Honoring, Hiring, Helping Our Heroes” who visit locations in the Community and Pinal County with their Eagle One mobile unit.

District 4 Community member Ofelia Gabaldon said, “I was curious to see how many representatives were going to be at the job fair, because I want to broaden my options for employment.”

At one of the tables set up for attendees, Gabaldon filled applications and talked about her interest in attending Universal Technical Institutes to become a mechanic.

She said, “I am currently employed, but I really want to expand my options, because there are so many opportunities for Community members available for securing funds for HUD and NAHASDA programs, because they understand there is a high need for safe housing for victims and children of domestic violence.”

He said NAHASDA is one of the important obligations the United States has established with tribes to address crucial issues through a nation-to-nation relationship.

Continued on Page 13

**Drs Luncheon celebrates retirement of three employees**

**THOMAS R. TROSSSELL**

Three soon-to-be retiring Gila River Indian Community Department of Rehabilitation and Supervision employees were honored at a luncheon held at the GRIC Juvenile Detention Center on Oct. 19.

The three DRS employees, who were recognized for their years of service and commitment to the Community, were Detention Officer Wilbert Cade, who served 20 years, Mental Health Liaison Janice Brown, who served nine years, and Detention Officer Dorene Davis, who served for 20 years.

The luncheon, which is a part of DRS’s employee appreciation program, was filled with DRS employees who catered the event with a poolside buffet filled with their own homemade meals.

While employees dined on enchiladas, slices of pizza, red chilli, and chumush, Ron Lopez, DRS Chief Administrator said that while he was sad to see such good employees leaving their organization, he understood that everyone’s career eventually comes to an end.

“We are sorry to see them go,” said Lopez. “However, we understand that people come to the end of their career for different reasons, always good reason.

The Employment & Training Department hosted their annual Career Fair on Oct. 28.

“[We] see you all the success in the world,” Lopez said.
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • October 19, 2016

ACTION SHEET
Community Council: PO Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729
CALL TO ORDER
The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday October 19, 2016, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Lt. Governor Monica Antone at 9:14 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Sandra Nasewyetewa

ROLL CALL
Sign-In Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman, Arnie Hogg (9:30); D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Barney Enos, Fair Martinez
Council Members Absent:
D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg (9:30); D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Barney Enos, Fair Martinez

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (LIMIT TO 5 MINUTES)

1. Introduction of Dr. Gregory Sackos
Presenter: Priscilla Antone
MS. PRISCILLA ANTONE INTRODUCED DR. GREGORY SACKOS. DR. SACKOS PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GOVERNOR LEWIS EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.

REPORTS

1. Travel Report 3rd Quarter-Fiscal Year 2016
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller
REPORT HEARD

2. Family Advocacy Center Update
Presenter: Thomas Murphy
DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Presenter: Vaughn Flannigan
REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Leslie Rychel
REPORT HEARD

5. Employee Educational Support Procedure
Presenter: Melissa Madrid
REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Leslie Rychel
REPORT HEARD

RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing Amendment No. 1 To The October 1, 2015 Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Towers Watson Delaware, Inc. (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sharon Harvier-Lewis
APPROVED

2. 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: Sharon Harvier-Lewis
APPROVED

3. 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 Appropriating The Funds To Pay For Such Allotted Trust Land (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Warren Willsphere
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Directing The Distribution Of Trust Assets To Certain Beneficiaries (ESC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Neomi Martinez
APPROVED

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. GRTI Board Appointment
Presenters: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. Family Advocacy Center Update
Presenter: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO AFFIRM

Presenter: Leslie Rychel
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. District Six Community Concern Prayer Camp
Presenters: District Six Council Representatives
ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

[GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENCED AT 12:23 P.M.]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO AFFIRM THE DISTRICT SIX MOTIONS; FURTHER, THE PRAYER CAMP GROUP AND INDIVIDUALS HAVE 24 HOURS TO VACATE THE AREA, TAKE DOWN ANY STRUCTURES AND CLEAN THE AREA; NONCOMPLIANCE TO RESULT IN THE GOVERNOR TO PROCEED WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED IN THE LEGAL OPINION

2. Placard Issues and Concerns
Presenter: Councilwoman Carol Schurz
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CEASE AND DESIST ANY FURTHER USAGE OF THE “PROTECT MOAHDAK DO’AG, NO LOOP 202”, PLACE CARDS OR STICKERS; IF THE TRIBAL GOVERNMENT SO FURTHER DESIRES TO DESIGN FURTHER SIGNAGE FOR USE, THE REQUEST MUST FOLLOW THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT PROCESS OF APPROVAL

MINUTES

APPROVAL

REQUEST MUST FOLLOW THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT PROCESS OF APPROVAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

>FREELAND JACKSON’S SERVICES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2016 & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2016, DISTRICT 6
>

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE JUAN FAMILY
>

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR RONALD SETOYANT’S FAMILY
>

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR TONY COOPER’S FAMILY
>

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR GARY JOHNSON’S FAMILY
>

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR CLARENCE BAPTIST’S FAMILY

ADORATION

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:26 p.m.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
Youth Council Inauguration from page 11

leaders in the Community.

“They are leaders of tomorrow, but they are leading shorts of people that are standing up and saying enough, enough to violence, who seek safety away from their abusers.

“You are joining your voice to the ever growing chorus of people that are standing up and saying enough, enough to violence, who seek safety away from their abusers.

...tone said the youth are thoughtful and hard working.

She is grateful that the Community invests in your youth and thankful the parents for supporting them too.

“Each one of you has your uniqueness. Some of you bring a lot of talent, your songs, your prayers, and I know a lot of you deep down have your goals that you’re going to achieve in college and then you’re going to come back and bring that forward,” she said.

Keynote speaker Ken- neth Manuel, the Gila River Gaming Enterprise Assis tant CEO, shared loads of advice for the up-and-comers.

“Each one of us today has our story of strife, resilience, and triumphs,” the Sotouto native said.

“Don’t hold back,” he told the students. “It makes me feel proud to see the kids today in the community loving because you know I have so much to offer.”

Judge Jay Pedro performed the same spinning ceremony. Pedro, the GRIC Children’s Court Judge has been working with youth for a long time.

“To give you an idea, I swore in Michael Pres- to when he first became a member of the youth council,” he said. Michael Preston is the Youth Coordinator and director of the AOPPYC. Preston recognized outgoing members with farewell gifts and thanked the par ents for investing the time, energy, and money into the AOPPYC students. He said the students continually made him proud.

In her first presidential address, the newly elected 2016-2017 AOPPYC President Autumn Cooper thanked the past and outgoing members.

“This youth council has made such a huge im pact on me and has given me many opportunities such as getting involved in my community, learning traditional songs and dances, and traveling to places I thought I probably wouldn’t go to,” she said.

Castro visits GRIC from page 11

olence and sexual as- sault. He said the theme for this year’s conference “Voices United,” is an appropriate way to advocate for the victims of domestic violence, who seek safety away from their abusers.

...tional and social service pro fessionals and advocates can put an end to domestic violence.

“HUD has established core protections among families in need of public housing throughout many of our public programs,” he said. We have developed a whole list of protections in place for who lives on assisted housing and be comes the victim of domestic violence.”

He said data, the personal stories, and the drive and the passion to get it done are there and that together social service profes sionals and advocates can put an end to domestic violence.

Kristian Castro speaking at the domestic violence conference.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIC

Autumn Cooper, the newly elected AOPPYC President, takes the oath of office, officiated by Judge Jay Pedro.

Vacancy Announcement

Casas Blanca Community School 3456 W. Casas Blanca Road Buckeye, AZ 85326

Vacancy Announcement

Parental Guardians. The Casas Blanca Community School is pleased to announce that it will be holding an election on Wednesday, November 23, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. to fill one (1) seat on its Board of Trustees. The public is invited to attend a Casas Blanca Community School. The polls will be open from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Board consists of 5 members, each term is 3 years.

Casas Blanca Community School.

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Castro visited the Youth Council and thanked the past and outgoing members.

He said data, the personal stories, and the drive and the passion to get it done are there and that together social service professionals and advocates can put an end to domestic violence.

...youth are living in an unsafe home.

Castro highlighted the fact that domestic violence is not only a criminal jus tice issue, but also a cultural issue that spans across dif ferent minorities.

...coming an adult, becoming a youth look up to them, their leaders now,” he said. “The youth are coming an adult, becoming a youth look up to them, their leaders now,” he said. “The youth are...
Ms. Fligger has over 35 years in the healthcare industry, with her career focusing not only on the financial viability of an organization, but a commitment to serve the patients. She obtained her Masters of Business Administration with an emphasis in healthcare from the University of Phoenix and a certification from Arizona State University in Public Management. She began her career with Gila River Health Care in 2002 and was hired as the Chief Financial Officer in 2011. She has worked in various healthcare settings, which include outreach programs, behavioral health, and inpatient ambulatory care, and has served on numerous committees with the state Medicaid AHCCCS program. She is a member of the Healthcare Financial Management Association and has worked with Catholic Social Services in their Domestic Violence Shelter program.

Joslin Vision Network Program

The Joslin Network is a photo imaging program for diabetic patients that allows the health of your eyes to be assessed in a fast and pain-free manner without dilating drops.

How does it work?
- Before you visit your primary care doctor or while you are waiting to be seen at the walk-in clinic, you can have a digital picture taken of the back of your eye.
- This procedure is safe, simple, quick, and comfortable.
- The images are evaluated and a report is generated and sent to your medical doctor and eye doctor.

We are located within the Temporary Registration Lobby at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

Sunday, November 13th
12:00 Noon-10:00 pm
(our regular Sunday hours)

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

VETERAN’S DAY
Closure
Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital • Komatke Health Center • Ak-Chin Clinic
CLOSED
Friday, November 11, 2016
Saturday, November 12, 2016
There will be no Saturday clinics on November 12, 2016
Normal business hours will resume Monday, November 14, 2016

Pharmacy Hours
Friday, November 11th – CLOSED
Saturday, November 12th – OPEN 12:00 Noon-8:00 pm
Sunday, November 13th – 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.

Ginger Fligger Named New CEO of GRHC

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital will be holding flu clinics in the Temporary Lobby on the dates below.
November 7, 2016 9:00 am – 12 Noon & 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
November 14, 2016 9:00 am – 12 Noon & 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

JOB FAIR
November 17, 2016
Thursday
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
November 19, 2016
Saturday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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

Bring a resume, apply on-site, apply online at www.grhc.org/jobfair prior to fair.
For any additional questions, contact Human Resources (520) 562-3321 Ext. 1342
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2012 Chevy Malibu $199/mo.

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2010 Dodge Charger $239/mo.
2011 Ford F-150 $325/mo.
2013 Cadillac XTS $355/mo.

2014 Toyota Tacoma $355/mo.
2016 Ford Fusion 3 to Choose / Starting at $11,999
2011 Kia Sportage 24,000 Miles $13,999
2011 Infiniti G37 $13,999

2012 Ford Edge $15,999
2012 Nissan Frontier $16,999
2010 Dodge Challenger RT $18,999
2012 GMC Sierra $21,999

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GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

TOY DRIVE

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

Toy Drop off Locations:
Loveen 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 520-562-9713/520-618-3754 or special.events@gric.nsn.us