Serving all seven districts of the Gila River Indian Community

Blackwater - Hashen Kehk - Gu U Ki - Santan - Vah Ki - Komatke - Maricopa Colony

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Students recognized at 2017 Chief Azul Scholar & Citizenship Award Banquet

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Christopher Lomahquahu

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Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addresses the audience at a public hearing hosted by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on May 9.

Christopher Lomahquahu

Gila River Indian News

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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On Memorial Day we all come together to remember the men and women who gave their lives for our freedom. As Americans and Community members, we will never forget the sacrifice they made to defend our liberties. Freedom has a price and those men and women handed Uncle Sam a blank check and paid with their lives. It’s a beautiful thing when we can all unite in the memory of our country’s bravest and brightest. They live forever in the spirit of independence and we will be eternally grateful.

In the great tradition of Native American soldiers, those heroes from the Gila River Indian Community stand among the most valiant. We remember Matthew B. Juan who died in Europe during World War I. He was the first Arizonian to die in the war and one of the men we honor today. The list of fallen soldiers from Gila River continued through World War II, Vietnam, and recent conflicts. We think of Billy Farris and Joe Jackson, two soldiers linked by bravery and sacrifice. The entire Community felt their passing, and we think of their families and the families of other fallen soldiers.

Each of our families has its stories: A son who went off to war and served with distinction. A daughter for whom service meant more than self. A relative we never got the chance to know well, but who we regard with deep pride every single time we hear the name. In my family, that man is Corporal Richard Lewis. I never met my grandfather’s brother, but he has inspired me all the same. Corporal Lewis also was a friend of Ira Hayes. He served as a member of the First Marine Division Reinforced. My grandad’s brother enlisted in World War II and fought in battles at Tulagi, Guadalcanal, Florida and Guadalcanal. Richard Lewis fought until a mid-January day in 1943, when he was killed in action. His death marked the first time a Pima Indian was killed in the Pacific theater in World War II. A few months later, in a letter home to his family, Ira Hayes spoke of being moved to tears by his friend’s willingness to give his life to protect our freedom.

On this day, be proud of our Community members serving in the military and for those who never made it back home. Thank a soldier and support our veteran groups, because they are our courageous protectors and the champions of freedom. Thank you very much for your service and have a blessed Memorial Day.

Governor, Stephen Roe Lewis
Tribal Education Department congratulates Culture and Language Cohort

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Eight college graduates carried their O’otham heritage with pride as they crossed the graduation platform this month.

With a turn of a tassel, students of the Gila River Culture and Language Cohort became graduates of Arizona State University, thanks to a unique program that brought college classes to the reservation.

At a special recognition ceremony May 4, the GRIC Tribal Education Department congratulated the students for their years of dedication and hard work.

“We’re honored…to be in your presence and see you complete this program,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis at the recognition luncheon.

The cohort comprises Gila River Indian Community members Nina Allison, Hudsung Antone, Marcella Hall, Arlanna Jackson, Donovan Kyyitan, Starleen Somegustava, and Priscilla Espinoza.

Graduates earned a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis on Indian Education. The goal of the cohort is to develop O’otham culture and language teachers for schools on the reservation.

“I think you guys have set history for our community,” said Lt. Gov. Monica Antone. “You guys now are going to give back to those young children that we talk about, using our language.”

Gov. Lewis said, “You’re going to help all those other students find themselves, who they are as O’otham and Pee Posh people, through education.”

Participants in the cohort spent years earning their degree – many while working full time jobs – taking classes in the evenings and studying on the weekends or late into the night.

What made the program special was the tight bond formed between the Community and ASU. An agreement brought the college campus to Community classrooms. Students took some elective classes at ASU, but core classes were taught at various convenient locations within the Gila River Indian Community such as St. Peter Indian Mission School or the District 3 Head Start.

“This was the first of its kind program that ASU has ever done, holding classes on an Indian reservation,” said Gov. Lewis. “We knew that this meant so much and is going to mean so much to our community in the future.”

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone said, “I’m really proud of all of you that stuck it out. No matter what, you guys stuck it out and attended your classes to make it happen.”

The program took considerable effort and sacrifice on the part of the ASU instructors, who traveled from their offices in Phoenix or Tempe to the rural towns of Sacaton and Casa Blanca.
Gila River Indian Community students and staff members celebrated their success at the 2017 U.S. RoboRAVE held in Albuquerque, N.M., from May 5-6.

Around 50 students, hailing from different schools in the Gila River Indian Community, were up bright and early on May 4, loading their luggage onto charter buses in preparation for a lengthy 8-hour journey to one of the most competitive robotics competitions in the country, the 2017 U.S. RoboRAVE held in Albuquerque, N.M.

Before students from Sacaton Elementary School (SES), Sacaton Middle School (SMS), and St. Peter Indian Mission School climbed on board their bus and hit the road, they received a blessing from Jason Eno and farewell from family, friends, and tribal leadership. Inside SMS’s library, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone congratulated the students on their hard work and wished them luck in the competition.

Angelica Munguia, mother of Adrian, who is a seventh grade student at St. Peter’s, said that while she was excited for her son’s opportunity to participate in the RoboRAVE, she was still nervous about him traveling so far from home.

“I am very nervous actually,” said Munguia. “I really want him to keep going with this and experience all of the things that he can do because his mind is impressive. He is really good at math and I feel that helps him a lot and sometimes he talks to me about robotics and I really don’t understand what he is talking about. But he is so excited about it, so I feel very proud of him,” she said.

Adrian, whose dream is to become a NASA engineer, said he was also feeling nervous about the competition because he would be facing some of the smartest students across the country.

“Think about how many smart people can be in one state,” said Adrian. “And then you think how many other states [there are], and then once you think outside of the country, you are going against so many different people that could match you and go above you, and it is just really exciting,” he said.

From May 5 — 6, students from SES, SMS, Gila Crossing Community School, St. Peter’s, Cesar Chavez High School, and Betty Fairfax High School battled it out against 358 other teams inside the Albuquerque Event Center, attempting to beat their opponents in the robot jousting, mazing, and lighter than air vehicle categories.

The competition began with qualifying events. In the mazing category, students attempted to navigate their robot vehicle through a series of twists and turns where teams had to calculate the angles at which their robot must turn. In the jousting category, students battled their robotic knights against one another, with the last robot standing the victor. In the LA V category, students built a lighter than air robot that had to float to the top of a specific height, stop, and then come back down without touching the ground.

SMS Science Teacher and founder of the school’s Robotics STEM Club, JoEllen Kinnamon, said during the qualifying competition, three students in particular were within reach of 1st place.

SES fifth graders, Maya Randall, Makayla Antone, and Alyana Mark, “they took 2nd place in mazing, then they turned around and took 2nd place in jousting, well, that put them in the [jousting] tournament,” said Kinnamon.

The three girls moved up to the single-elimination tournament round, and while surrounded by fellow school teammates, they battled their jousting robots against their first opponent and won. Shortly after they faced their second opponent and lost, which bumped them out of the tournament and into 5th place.

“Oh those girls, they were just dying because they were [so happy], then the next team comes in and they got bumped out,” said Kinnamon. “[They were just] elated that they placed and you know, it didn’t matter what place you got, they are just happy that they finished, that was the key."

In the LA V category, two SMS teams were able to grab 1st and 2nd place in the tournament. First place went to Quincy Randall, Jacob Ochoa, and Joesiah Ochoa. Second place went to Jayce Makil and Darrius Ameeleyah.

On the afternoon of May 6, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis made a surprise visit to RoboRAVE’s awards assembly, to visit the Community students and share a meal with them.

“He let the kids know that they are important,” said Kinnamon. “That was an awesome moment.”

The students headed back home on May 7 and are already looking forward towards the next competition.

“We are going on our fifth year,” said Kinnamon. “It is just getting better and better.”

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis greeted the Gila River Indian Community students at the RoboRAVE competition.

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

Students competed in the 2017 U.S. RoboRave in Albuquerque, N.M.

Photo Courtesy Sacaton Middle School

SAVING THE DATE

SATURDAY JUNE 10, 2017

NATIVE AMERICAN RECOGNITION DAY

M. vs A FIRST PITCH 7:10 PM

GILA RIVER LEAGUE

Join the Arizona Diamondbacks for Native American Recognition Day presented by Gila River Casinos. Enjoy entertainment throughout the game. Festivities begin at 5:10 PM and include Native American drum groups, dancers, vocalists, royalty, and more.

dbacks.com/hard 602.462.4113

GRIN

Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone congratulated students on their hard work and wished them luck at the tournament.
The DOR and DVS explain, “On November 22, 2000 the United States Department of the Treasury issued a memo declaring that the taxation and withholding of state income taxes from active duty military pay of Native American domiciled on their reservation was impermissible.” The income of Native Americans living on their reservation is generally not taxed by states.

They said, “Beginning January 1, 2006 Arizona no longer taxed active duty military pay and therefore discontinued state income withholding of this type of income. However, veterans who had been taxed previously may be reimbursed for those income tax withholdings. The law outlines the requirements for a Native veteran to be eligible for a payment of his or her estate in the event the veteran has passed away. The program will be administered through

31, 2019. The enactment of the Native American Veteran Income Tax Settlement is welcomed by the Community and other Arizona tribes,” said Gila River Indian Community Gov. Shane Roe Lewis, “and the Justice Department appreciates the support of Governor Ducey on this issue.” The lawsuit requires a Native veteran be eligible for a payment of his or her estate in the event the veteran has passed away. The program will be administered through

For more information, please visit the Gila River Indian Community’s website at https://www.gric.gov/ for NASF. The Office of General Counsel contributed to this article.

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For NASF. The Office of General Counsel contributed to this article.

2017 to December 31, 2019.”

Funds Provide Recourse to Native American Veterans Improperly Taxed

Mikhail Sundest
Gila River Indian News

Last year, the state of Arizona created a new fund to reimburse Native American veterans who were improperly taxed. This year, an amendment allows for more veterans to file claims for the funds. According to attorney Thomas Murphy with the Justice Department’s Office of General Counsel, “The legislation enacted last month...now allows veterans whose taxes were withheld from 1977 through 2005 to seek reimbursement. It also moves the latest date which claims can be made from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2019.”

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Elderly Services Program hosts caregiver training

Dorothy Kelly provides tips on how to properly support patients at the Personal Care Training on April 28.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

For individuals in need of in-home care, the services of a caregiver are their lifeline, often requiring round-the-clock care to restore the comfort of normal living within their home, but what is equally important is to have qualified and well trained caregivers to manage the jobs requirements.

A one-day training co-hosted by the Gila River Indian Community Elderly Services Program, the Tribal Council of Ariz. and the Foundation of Senior Living focused on training caregiver’s on the safest ways to care for those in need, at the District 5 Multipurpose building on April 28.

Basic actions like moving a client from their bed to a chair or the bathroom are things most people take for granted, but are often a chore that can only be accomplished with the help of a caregiver.

Homemaker Services Coordinator Crystal Nish-Wright said the caregiver training is beneficial to individuals that are homemakers, elderly service staff.

The workshop covered information reducing the individual’s risk of accidents in the home related to inaccessibility and hazards.

One of the presenters, Dorothy Kelly, went over some of the techniques and equipment caregivers can use to transfer a patient from one position to another for tasks that include showering, going to the restroom and moving positions.

Kelly presented some scenarios that caregivers need to plan for in case of an emergency such as a house fire, when it is good to know where all the safety exits are.

Among other topics covered were on diabetic and nutrition education, working with challenging behavior that covers dementia and Alzheimer’s disease.

One of the most effective ways that was impressed upon the caregivers was being aware of patients at early, middle and late stage Alzheimer’s and the behaviors associated with each phase.

One part of caregiving that often overlooked, is the caregiver.

It is an all too common symptom that affects caregivers that they will put off self-care in order to meet the job’s tasks.

If it is a family member that is being cared for, it is even more emotion- ally straining to see them go through their stages of change.

A couple of symptoms described in caregiver burnout are feeling tired, sleeping too much, gaining or losing weight in a small amount of time or alcohol or drugs.

In order to address or prevent those symptoms from manifesting or getting worse, a few strategies were provided to the caregivers.

The tips included accepting help for their symptoms, setting realistic goals, joining a support group and setting personal health goals.

Daily prizes incentivize good behavior in SMS students

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, right awards, SMS student Elena Lopez $5 for good behavior as part of the SMS Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports system.

Thomas R. Throssell

Keeping children well behaved and focused, especially while performing complex tasks, can be a challenge for even the most patient teachers. In an effort to reinforce good behavior and create positive relationships between students and teachers, Sacaton Middle School (SMS) has implemented the Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) system for the past five years, and according to school officials, it is working.

On the morning of May 4, while SMS students were working hard on their Galileo assessment test, task, being safe [by] keeping hands, feet and objects to themselves, [and] entering and exiting in an orderly fashion, during testing, they were rewarded “brave bucks” for an incentive which went into the drawing.

Phillip Bonds, SMS Principal, said once the students’ “brave bucks” went into the drawing, eight students’ “brave bucks” went into the drawing, eight students a day were chosen for an incentive that is designed to reward kids for positive behavior, Bonds says they really appreciate being awarded for their efforts.

The PBHS system is not only working well within the school, SMS has been recognized for its utilization of the system, receiving awards every year since they began the program five years ago.

It is an entire system that is designed to reward kids for positive behavior and actually encourage them to engage in meeting those three expectations: be peaceful, be responsible, be safe,” Bonds said. “If you look around our school you see that just about everywhere you look, we’ve got posters and banners, the kids learn the system really well, some of the kids learn the system better than the adults do.”
As the weather begins to get hotter outside it is important for us to stay hydrated. In O’otham one way to ask if someone has had any water to drink is by saying Napt neckua i: heg shu:thag? This question is called a yes/no question because it is the type that can be answered simply by saying ha’o/no: ‘yes/no’ (although there are also other ways to answer this question, for example ko’i/sha ‘not yet’). Yes/no type questions, for example kovi:sha i: to state “I’m going to drink” that attaches to the auxiliary verb. This question also makes use of the O’otham verb i: which means “to drink something” and which appears in different forms depending on the type of action described in the sentence. Verbs in O’otham will often change slightly based on whether the action has been completed or is ongoing and recognizing the different forms that verbs have is important for O’otham learners.

If you had more than water to offer and wanted to ask someone what they want to drink you can do this in O’otham by using the question Sha:chu aptho i:? This question is a way of asking “What do you want to drink?” or “What are you going to drink?” and is used when you have different options available to the person you’re talking to. This type of question differs from the yes/no type in that it cannot be answered with only ha’o/no: but has to be answered with a specific item, like shu:thag ‘water’, nalas vadag ‘orange juice’ sola ‘soda’ and so on. One way to respond is by just saying your selected choice in O’otham (shu:thag, nalas vadag, sola). Another way to answer this is by using the phrase Vantho i: heg along with adding the drink of your choice. For example you can say Vantho i: heg shu:thag which is a way of saying “I’m going to drink water” or “I’ll have some water”. Some speakers may prefer a slightly different answer where you state your choice first and then follow it by the phrase anto i:. In this case you would say Shu:thag anto i: to state “I’m going to drink water” and both phrases are understood by speakers. Notice that these examples all use the form of the verb “to drink something” that is pronounced i:. That is because all of these examples are talking about an action that will be completed sometime in the future. The part of the sentence that tells the listener that you are talking about an event that will happen at some point in the future is the future marker o that is found at the end of the words vantho/anto.

But say you wanted to ask someone what they had to drink that morning. This is done in O’otham using the question Sha:chu aptho i: sialim? This question asks about an event that has already happened, or has been completed in the past. Because the event is already seen as ‘completed’ or “finished” we use the same i: form of the verb ‘to drink’ that was seen in the first example. Answering this question would also use the same form of the verb, in this case we would say Vantho i: heg kovi: to say “I drank coffee”. Once again, some speakers may prefer to use a slightly different phrase where you answer with your choice of drink first. These speakers would say Kovi: anto i: to mean “I drank coffee” and both answers are readily understood by speakers.

Finally, let’s change the situation slightly and say you wanted to ask someone what they were drinking at the moment. To ask this question you would change the question slightly to Sha:chu ap i:? which states “What are you drinking (right now)?” Notice that the form of the verb i: “to drink” has changed in this example to i:. That is because the verb is describing an action that is ongoing at the present moment and has not been completed (the person you are asking is in the process of drinking and hasn’t finished his/her drink). Just like in the previous examples you can answer this question simply by saying the type of drink in O’otham (kovi:, vi:p: etc.) or you can use a full phrase. The appropriate full phrase in this case would have to use the same form of the verb as in the question. For example if you wanted to say I’m drinking tea you can say Vah i: heg thi: making use of the phrase Vah i: heg to yourself and try to understand what it is that you are selecting. Then match the phrase with the appropriate picture that you’ve select- ed. Try using these phrases with your friends and fam- ilies and ask speakers in your area how do they an- swer “Sha:chu aptho i:?” in O’otham.
Food distributors recognized at Huhugam Heritage Center

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Food distribution program workers got a taste of O’otham and Pee Posh culture during an annual conference culture night.

The Western Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations is an organization that unites the 35 commodity food distribution programs in the western region.

(The group goes by WAFDPIR, for short. The acronym is a mouthful, but it’s fitting for programs designed to make sure their clients’ plates are filled and no one goes to bed with an empty stomach.)

The WAFDPIR 26th Annual Conference was held at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel, but on May 2, guests visited the Huhugam Heritage Center, where they examined artifacts and enjoyed a meal of red chili stew and tepary beans. Performers from the Gila River Indian Community sang bird songs and performed basket dances to reflect the uniqueness of the two tribes.

“Commodity Foods kind of has a bad rap from back in the day, but it’s really changed over the years,” said Mary Dixon, the Community Nutrition Program manager with Gila River. The Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations are funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service.

“They wanted it to be a program that really is about nutrition,” said Dixon. “Everything used to be canned and white labeled, and now we have fresh produce, we have fresh fruit, juices, frozen meat, and there’s also a move to [provide] more traditional food.”

At the culture dinner, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone presented three food distributors with O’otham works of art in recognition of their long-time service to the reservation food distribution industry.

Ray Caponman is Quinault from Washington. He’s been working in food distribution for 36 years. Howard Hook has been working in food distribution for 34 years. He is San Carlos Apache. Finally, the association recognized A.C. Sanchez, the WAFDPIR Board President.

The WAFDPIR Annual Conference used to be held regularly in Reno, NV. But Sanchez, Coeur d’Alene, said when he joined the WAFDPIR board, he recommended they rotate the annual conference among the homelands of the people they serve.

“We need to support the tribal programs that are involved in this,” he said. “So three out of the last four years, we have been, and it’s been wonderful. People are loving it. Participation rates are increasing every year.”

The WAFDPIR represents 35 agencies that operate in seven states and serve many more tribes with one distribution program potentially serving several neighboring tribes.

Two years ago the conference was held in the land of the Lummi in Washington. Last year it was in Coeur d’Alene in Idaho. This year, Sanchez was happy to visit the homeland of the O’otham and Pee Posh.

He said, “After the conferences though, we try to learn and experience as much as we can from the community that we’re in.”

The Huhugam Heritage Center is the go-to destination for guests to learn about the O’otham and Pee Posh.

“It’s just a way of showing Gila River off because we probably won’t have another conference here in quite a while,” said Dixon.
District 3 Elder Complex upgraded with weatherization improvements

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Elders in Sacaton recently received some much-needed home upgrades in preparation for the hot summer months. Fourteen homes in the District 3 Elder Complex have undergone weatherization improvements thanks to a federal grant administered by the InterTribal Council of Arizona.

“Programs like this help reduce the summer utility bills for our elderly,” said Juanita Robinson, ITCA Water and Energy Program Manager. “With the Federal Government funding being so tight right now, these are dollar savings that are desperately needed. It’s good to have a program like this to help our citizens.”

Robinson said, “Your home is an energy system and there are a lot of forces that are working against it and not in favor of keeping it energy efficient.”

Weatherization means the home is modified for energy efficiency, which should lead to reduced power use and lower utility bills. First, homes are identified and verified that they qualify for the grant, then homes are assessed for air leakage and insulation problems, and finally weatherized for energy efficiency.

“The program is specifically for low-income folks, for elderly families with children,” and those with disabilities, said Bruce Robinson, ITCA Water and Energy Program Manager. “Low-income folks,” he said, “historically have paid an inordinate amount of their income for utilities. So electricity is a huge consumer of their income, so what we’re trying to do is offset that and make it easier.”

Weatherization means the home is modified for optimal energy efficiency, which should lead to reduced power use and lower utility bills. First, homes are identified and verified that they qualify for the grant, then homes are assessed for air leakage and insulation problems, and finally weatherized for energy efficiency.

“[We] really just make it as energy efficient as it can be, especially in the summer months,” said Bonnie Dekavallas with Arizona Renewable Energy Measures, the contractor ITCA works with to complete the weatherization. “We’re keeping the conditioned space of our home separate from the unconditioned space, lowering utility bills, and making their homes more comfortable.”

And, we do a whole home energy audit,” said Dekavallas. “We go up into the attic, we look at insulation quality, level, any air barrier issues up within the attic. We do a blower door test, we depressurize the house and we check... for the amount of [air] leakage.”

After a series of tests, the results are analyzed and the company determines which upgrades are needed to happen to make the house as energy efficient as possible. In many homes, ducts are sealed, insulation is added or replaced, windows are sealed, piping insulation is added to water heaters, and any necessary work on the HVAC system. “A lot of times we can just install 90% Solar Screens,” said Dekavallas, “which actually keeps out 90 percent of the heat.”

The screens are super dark when viewed from the exterior and prevent sunlight from entering the house. “It’s amazing,” said Dekavallas. “When you put them on, instantly, if that heat’s coming in, you feel it stop. And so now you’re cooling down the inside of your house because that heat’s not coming in from the outside.”

To help with air flow, the contractor will install new exhaust fans in the restroom and transfer grills on the bottoms of the doors, which allow air to flow from room to room even when doors are closed.

“And they aren’t the ones that are just one speed. They’re variable speeds and they’re on a lot and they’re very quiet,” said Dekavallas.

Robinson said, “Your ductwork is something that the homeowner never sees. The assumption that they might not have been designed with energy efficiency in mind to begin with.”

The weatherization pays for repairs to the air ducts to be completely sealed, allowing no cool air to escape or hot air to invade.

One resident named Teresa said she expects to see a lower electric bill and appreciates the increased power to the A/C. “I feel a lot of air coming through the vents,” she said. “In here it’s real cool.”

Another, Margarita, said, “Yes, [the upgrades] are very much needed.”

She said she expects to breathe better too, with her house sealed up better and keeping the indoor air clean and the outdoor allergens out. “It will be much better. It’ll be easier to breathe.”

The ITCA administers the Weatherization Grant, a product of the U.S. Department of Energy. The cost of renovations on this project ranged between $4 thousand and $6 thousand per home.

“Supplements our maintenance budget,” said Laurie Thomas, Deputy Director of the GRIC Department of Community Housing.

The grant covers 14 homes in the District 3 Elder Complex, but DCH is working to complete comparable weatherization work on the remaining six units of the complex.

“This is just an opportunity to leverage the... funding that we receive on an annual basis,” said Thomas. “So our plan is to complete the same – or near the same – assessments that Arizona Renewable Energy has done, to the remaining units,” with DCH funding, Thomas said.
Gila River Indian Community
Head Start and Early Head Start Program

Enrolling now children ages 0 – 5 years old for SY 2017-2018

The Head Start program provides a learning environment that supports children’s growth in the following:

- Language & Literacy
- Cognitive & General Knowledge
- Physical development & Health
- Social & Emotional development
- Approaches to Learning

Stop by today at any of our center locations or call us if you need transportation

520-562-6901 Sacaton
520-418-3471 Santan
520-315-3636 Vah-Ki
520-550-2434 Komatke
520-562-3640 Child Care

Documents needed:
- Family’s income verification
- Child’s name & age verification
- Additional documents will be requested upon acceptance – child’s Immunization record, child’s current Physical exam and Lead screening test

The items that were outlined by LUPZ as potentially being influenced by the flow of water from the freeway are the diminished quality of water into Community lands and identified possible flooding in the Vee Quva and Komatke area.

Other factors outlined include a change in velocity/flow of water entering Community lands that impact existing drainage patterns and adverse impacts on GRIC drainage projects.

Before opening the public hearing to comments, all attendees were provided options on how they could provide their comments, if they did not want to speak openly.

The options included submitting a written testimony, or speaking directly to the court recorder that was present at the public hearing.

Representatives from ADOT were also on hand to hear from Community members and non-members from neighboring communities about the fears around the freeway's construction and potential impact on the environment, which includes possible flooding near structures in District 6.

In addition to Gov. Lewis’s comments, several individuals came up to voice their concerns about the possible flooding of contaminated water onto Community lands.

The general concern over the freeway project is the runoff of contaminants from the freeway that may have a drastic impact on the surrounding environment and the water table in the area.

The Corps regulatory program will evaluate the permit application, in addition take into consideration the public comments provided at the hearing and through other forms of correspondence, before making a final decision.

Representatives from the Connect 202 organization and concerned citizens go over the proposed freeway designs on May 9 at the Komatke Boys & Girls Club.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone takes a moment to thank USACE Col. Gibbs and Project Manager Jesse Rice for coming out the Community on May 9.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gila River Indian Community
Higher Education Scholarship

Required Documents:
- Completed & signed application
- Typed 200 word essay
- Updated CIB (90 days)
- Copy of Admission/Acceptance letter
- Copy of Enrollment Agreement (Approved vocational schools)
- Copy of Program of Study
- Class Schedule
- Student Aid Report (FAFSA)
- High School/GED Diploma
- Official Transcripts from all previously attended Colleges & Universities (Even if they were not funded by GRIC)

June 1, 2017 Fall Deadline
- We accept early applications!

Contact Student Services Department at
- (520) 562-3316

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone thanks USACE Col. Gibbs and Project Manager Jesse Rice for coming out the Community on May 9.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
Criminal Speeding

Drug, tobacco, and alcohol free during the entire conference.

You can count on my full participation in all sessions and activities of the 2017 Gila River Youth Conference. I pledge to conduct myself in a manner that will bring only credit to the Gila River Indian Community. I pledge not to use my name badge around my neck and visible at all times. I pledge to remain drug, alcohol, and tobacco free during the entire conference.

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION / LIABILITY RELEASE / PHOTO RELEASE

If the participant is under 14, this form must be signed by a parent or legal guardian. I hereby agree to the participation of my wards/daughter in the 2017 Gila River Youth Conference. I will not hold the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council or the Gila River Indian Community or any of its agents, volunteers or other organizations involved in the conference liable for any damages to public or private property, or injuries to persons or property which may result from the conference. I, the parent or guardian, hereby agree to be responsible for any damages to public or private property, or injuries to persons or property which may result from the conference. I also agree to the release of photographs and/or video recordings taken or made by agents below. I grant permission to photograph and/or film my child for use by the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council or the media for the purpose of informing the public of programs provided by the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council.

Please complete, scan, and email to: YouthsCouncilGRC.com or fax to (520)562-3621. Questions please email or call our office: (520) 562-1866.

Signature of Parent or Guardian Date

Transportation is provided daily to GRYC youth only. Charter bus will only transport youth after conference if they were transported to the conference on the charter bus. Please respect the transportation driver, chaperone, & passengers. All backpacks, bags, luggage, will be subject to inspection by Youth Conference staff, chaperones, &/or police officers for the safety of conference participants. Transportation times are subject to change. Sign up at your local District Service Center, Tribal Parks and Recreation Centers, or Tribal O’odham Centers prior to arriving at conference with all required signatures. If you have any questions, please contact youth council office at (520) 562-1866 or youthcouncil@grc.com.
Chief Azul Scholar & Citizenship Award continued from page 1

of District 2, Jennifer Al- lison of District 4, Sandra Nauweyesa of District 6, Nada Celaya of District 4, and Marlin Dixon of District 5.

Lewis commented on the show of support from tribal leaders, emphasizing that it demonstrated how important education is to the Community:

"It's really good to see everyone here, to see our Chief Azul Scholars and their families," he said. "It really shows the support that we have from our lead- ers here, how important this night is to recognize educational excellence and community service, those bedrock principles [that] are the foundation for what

[the] awards stand for," he said.

He said the namesake of the Chief Azul Scholar Award was based on the Community’s last tradi- tional chief, Antonio Azul, who embodied the award’s meaning of leadership, pur- suit of education, and stew- ardship over the Commu- nity and its culture.

"It’s in that spirit that we are gathered here, that we see this new generation of leaders [who] will be taking over council [posi- tions], [who] will be taking over our judges, lieutenant governor, [and] the gover- nor positions," Lewis said. "They are going to be better educated, they are going to be strong in their Oto’om language and culture, they are going to be the ones [who] are going to move our people forward and not forget our past, that is what we are recognizing tonight." Guest speaker, Ginger Martin, talked about how the students should learn from people they encour- age in their lives by taking something away from each meeting, whether good or bad. In doing so, they will continue to grow as indi- viduals.

While talking about the voices that embody leadership, Martin said that titles and positions do not make a true leader, it is the ability to be your most au- thematic self. "Everything about who you are, your character, your reputation, your per- sonality, your style, your values and even your sense of humor; these all shape the message your audience hears when you speak."

She ended her speech saying, "I would like to leave you with my favorite quote from an unknown author, 'Small people talk about other people, average people talk about things, great people talk about ideas,'" said Martin. “With that said, my Antonio Azul academic warriors, I look forward to speaking with you about ideas.”

The Chief Azul Scholar Award recognizes academic achievements of students from the fourth through

Gila River Police Department issues body cams to officers

Christopher Lomaqahuah
Gila River Indian News

In the field of law en- forcement a police officer’s ability to assess and collect information has been the foundation for effective po- lice force.

As technology be- comes more efficient and compact, equipment like body cameras are becom- ing common sights in po- lice departments across the country.

The Gila River Police Department is becoming the latest law enforcement organization to integrate body cameras in its police force. GRPD is currently issuing the units to all field officers and is going through an assessment peri- od to see how they can best utilize the cameras, which will be used to record a police officers interactions with the public during such events as a home dispute or traffic stop.

GRPD Officer Jeff Hunter, described the two types of cameras that will be worn by officers that can either be worn over the shoulder or in a front facing configuration and can be operated with the touch of a button to start recording video.

Manufactured by Axon, formerly Taser In- ternational, there are two offerings of body cameras. The first model is called the Axon Body 2 and can record and stream video in high definition addressing the issue appropri- ately.

"They are very benefi- cial to law enforcement and to the public, and are quick- ly becoming a part of offi- cer’s uniform equipment," said Hunter.

He said the body cams are also about creating offi- cer safety and can be used for training purposes.

"So many times in the past we’ve had situations where we have gotten cit- izen complaints, but we don’t have any evidence to back the citizen’s complaint or the officers statement, so this will give us an opportu- nity to have that evidence, because it will be video re- corded," said Hunter. Across the country other police departments have used body cams to document their interac- tions with the public and in

some cases have provided an un-altered look at what happens on patrol. Elliot said, “[W]e see it nationwide now, tech- nology has improved and every citizen that has been trained on how to use the body cameras before going on deployment, so they are ready during such activities like a traffic stop, calls for service and the countless other calls they respond to. Although the body cams provide an extra set of eyes, a benefit to that convenience is being able to review and assess what can be done differently the next time an officer goes back out on their next de- ployment. “We have what is called the Field Officer Training Program. The field training officer can actually sit down with their trainee and look over their actions and identify what may need to be corrected,” said Hunter.
David Drake Perkins, U.S. Army Private First Class, was killed in action during the Vietnam War in 1966. For 50 years, his grave has gone without an official grave marker, or any other emblem to show the sacrifice that David made for our nation. Has-kell Osife-Antone American Legion Post 51, with the assistance of Gila River AmeriCorps, is working to right this wrong.

Across the Gila River Indian Community, there are more than 800 veteran gravesites. Although Native Americans did not receive official citizenship as U.S. citizens until 1924, there has been a long history of military service officially dating back to the first Arizona National Guard in 1877, and there is history of Akimel O’odham and Pee Posh service to the American military and settlers before that. Many of these service members have given their lives in service for our country, but their sacrifice was not recognized.

The lack of a grave marker for David Perkins was first noticed during a visit to a veteran, Dennis Perkins, by Post 51 member Darrell Whitman and AmeriCorps member Andrew Antone. Dennis was recalling the Veterans in his family and mentioned David Perkins. Dennis remembered when the National Guard brought David home and performed military honors for his funeral, but in all that time David was not able to get a proper headstone to honor his loss.

Regularly, to request a headstone from the Veteran Affairs Administration (VA) for a deceased veteran, there is a simple form to complete. The form requires a DD-214 and proof of death to be attached. For David Perkins these items were not easily available, Post 51 and the AmeriCorps program are still working to request both pieces of paperwork from the VA and other sources. Once those items are received, a headstone will be requested and delivered to David’s gravesite.

In the meantime, because we are not able to order David’s headstone yet, he will be honored for the 50th Anniversary of his sacrifice on Memorial Day May 29th, 2017 at Blackwater, District 1.

There are still dozens of graves in Gila River that are without an official headstone from the VA. If you, or any family members you know, would like to request a headstone for a deceased Veteran, please give us a call at (520) 562-6221. We look forward to seeing you out there on the 29th!
Keep Community children safe by obeying school bus laws

When buses extend their stop signs and exhibit flashing red lights, they are loading or unloading children, and motorists must stop.

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

For many children sitting in a school bus is one of the safest places they can be on the road, however, it's when they are being picked-up or dropped-off when something can go wrong.

Motorists who illegally pass school buses can hit children, causing injury or even death. According to a 2017 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration report, 801 school-age children were killed in school-transportation-related crashes between 2006 and 2015, with 35 of those deaths being school-age pedestrians between the ages of 8 and 13-years-old.

Which is why Gila River Police Department School Resource Officer, James Milano, wants to remind local drivers, by obeying school bus laws they are helping keep Gila River Indian Community children safe.

According to reports from local bus drivers, Milano said, there are incidences of motorists ignoring school bus laws and illegally driving past buses that are actively loading and unloading children in the Community.

“For Sacaton School District, Blackwater [Community School], and St. Peter, every day, four to five times a day there are several cars passing the school buses with their signs out when they are loading and unloading,” said Milano. The intention of the law is to protect motorists from hitting children who may dart out from behind the school bus, he said.

“You may think [the children] all unload on the east side of the road, but one kid [may] live on the west side of the road, so [they are] going to run from the front of the bus where you can’t see [them] and then you impact [them], and nobody wants to see a kid hurt,” he said.

So what can parents do to keep their children safe?

According to the NHTSA, it is important drivers are aware of their surroundings when approaching a stopped school bus because students may dart into the street without paying attention to traffic.

The NHTSA also asks drivers to learn and obey their state’s school bus laws, which according to the State of Arizona Traffic Law ARS 28-857 are:

“A. On meeting or overtaking from either direction a school bus that has stopped on the highway, the driver of a vehicle on a highway shall:

1. Stop the vehicle before reaching the school bus, if the school bus is displaying the signal and if alternately flashing lights are in use.
2. Not proceed until the school bus resumes motion or the signal and alternately flashing lights are no longer displayed.”

Milano added that school buses will have yellow flashing lights that indicate the bus is getting ready to stop or the signal and alternately flashing lights are in use.

When the school bus begins red flashing lights and extends its stop sign, children are actively getting on or off the bus, and motorists must stop. Drivers must wait until the bus’s red lights stop flashing, the stop sign retracts, and the bus begins moving again.

On undivided roadways traffic must stop in both directions when students are entering or exiting the school bus, however, on a roadway divided by a median only traffic behind the stopped school bus must stop.

The NHTSA asks parents to teach their children to arrive five minutes before the school bus is scheduled to arrive or depart, which will keep them from darting across the road to get to their school bus on time.

It is also important to teach children that the bus stop is not a playground, and if they must cross the road, that they walk ten-feet in front of the bus, make eye contact with the bus driver, then carefully proceed to cross the road.

Milano added that even if you have made the dangerous mistake of passing a school bus while it is loading or unloading children, it’s important to learn from that mistake, to not do it again, and share what you know about school bus laws.

“We all do things that are incorrect, but when we have knowledge, we can share it with our friends and make [the Community] safer.”

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**JOB FAIR**

Now hiring for the NEW Uhs-Kehk Shell Gas Station and Convenience Store

Store is Scheduled to open – Early Summer of 2017

**Job Fair Date:** Tuesday, May 23rd, 2017

**Job Fair Location:** Employment and Training/TERO office 192 S. Skills Center Road, STE#208

**Job Fair Time:** 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Job Fair Info Line:** (520) 796-2880

**Apply Online:** www.wildhorsespccom

Email: Careers@wildhorsespccom

The positions we are hiring for:

- Store Manager
- Supervisors
- Customer Service Reps (Cashiers)

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**Youth Basketball Camp**

The Phoenix Suns basketball camp offers one on one instruction for beginners to advanced players. It is a great experience for youth players from beginners wanting to learn the game to advanced players needing to hone their skills. This camp is a physically demanding camp and requires full participation from the campers.

**Pine Summit Camp-Prescott, AZ**

June 28-July 2, 2017 (5 days, and 4 nights) Youth Boys & Girls: 6-17 Years Old

For more information contact Arl Walking Bader at 520-862-9713
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COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • May 3, 2017

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 May 3, 2017, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman LT. Governor Monica Antone at 9:10 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present: Governor Stephen R. Lewis (11:16)
Lt. Governor Monica Antone
Council Members Present: D1- Joey Whitman, Ariez Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Carolyn Williams; D4- Nada Celaya, Jennifer Allison, Barney Ens, Jr. (9:13), Christopher Mendoza, D5- Brian Davis, Sr. (9:40), Marlin Dixon, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr. (9:40), Sandra Nasewyteya (9:20); D7-Devin Redbird
Council Members Absent: D3- Rodney Jackson; D5- Robert Stone; D6-Charles Goldtooth

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit 5 minutes)

REPORTS
Presenters: Rebecca Martinez, Jason Jones
REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

3. Gaming Commission General Report To The Community Council For March 2017 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Serena Joaquin, Courtney Moyah
REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

[LT. GOVERNOR MONICA ANTOINE CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVONED AT 11:16 A.M.]

RESOLUTIONS
*1. A Resolution Approving A Contract Between The Gila River Indian Community Police Department And LD Consulting, LLC (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval, LSC concurs)
Presenters: Pamela Thompson, Office Of General Counsel
APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving the Retail Supply Agreement for the Blackwater Convenience Store and Gas Station Between the Gila River Indian Community and PacWest Energy, LLC (EDSC motions to concur with WHPODA to approve and forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Jason Croxton, Dale Gutenson
APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving A Ground Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Baptist Indian Chapel For Religious Worship And Related Uses Pursuant To The Gila River Indian Community Lease Regulations (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, EDSC concurs)
Presenters: Casaundra Wallace
APPROVED

4. A Resolution Authorizing The Tribal Health Department To Submit A Grant Application To The United States Department Of The Interior, Bureau Of Indian Affairs, FY 2018 BIA Indian Highway Safety Program, Child Passenger Safety Seat Program (H&SSC forwards corrected resolution to Council with recommendation for approval) Presenters: Pamela Thompson, Pamela Dallas, Christina Floyd
APPROVED

5. A Resolution Approving The Removal Of Johnny Randall McBath AKA Kevin Loveless From The Gila River Indian Community Membership Roll (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Wayne Nelson, Jr.
APPROVED

6. A Resolution Approving The Relinquishment Of Mario Anthony Molina From The Gila River Indian Community Membership Roll (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Wayne Nelson, Jr.
APPROVED

7. A Resolution Approving The Attached Consulting Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Arizona State University (EDSC forwards with Attachment D to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Ronald Rosier, Dale Gutenson
APPROVED

8. A Resolution Approving The Attached Confidentiality-Nondisclosure Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The American Indian Policy Institute At Arizona State University (EDSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Ronald Rosier, Dale Gutenson
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
*1. Standard Home Design Review (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Pamela Thompson, Monica L. Antone
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

NEW BUSINESS
1. Gila River Farms Budget Request 2018 (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Gila River Farm Board, Cetus Shirley
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH AMENDMENTS
2. Gila River Indian Irrigation & Drainage District Interim Board Members Resignation (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Gila River Farm Board, Cetus Shirley
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH AMENDMENTS

8. A Resolution Approving The Attached Confidentiality-Nondisclosure Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Arizona State University (EDSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Ronald Rosier, Dale Gutenson
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

AMENDMENTS
2. Gila River Indian Irrigation & Drainage District Interim Board Members Resignation (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Pamela Thompson, Monica L. Antone
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

NEW BUSINESS
1. Gila River Farms Budget Request 2018 (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Gila River Farm Board, Cetus Shirley
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH AMENDMENTS
2. Gila River Indian Irrigation & Drainage District Interim Board Members Resignation (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Gila River Farm Board, Cetus Shirley
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH AMENDMENTS

9. Declaration Of Vacancies To The Community Council - (2) Council Seats (LSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council Seat Vacancies)
Presenters: Legislative Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE
(2) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCIES

10. Economic Development Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancies To The Community Council - (2) Council Seats (EDSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council Seat Vacancies)
Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE
(2) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCIES

11. HHS Region IX 2017 Tribal Consultation At UNLV, Las Vegas, NV May 16-17, 2017 (H&SSC forwards to Council to open to any interested Council Member to attend through Dues & Delegations)
Presenters: Legislative Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO OPEN TO INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

MINUTES
1. April 5, 2017 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
2. April 19, 2017 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

> CULTURAL & LANGUAGE TEACHER COHORT GRADUATION CELEBRATION. THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017, 1-3PM, VEE QUIVA HOTEL & CASINO
> JOINT MEETING G&M AND LSC, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017, 9AM
> CULTURAL & LANGUAGE TEACHER COHORT GRADUATION CELEBRATION. THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017, 1-3PM, VEE QUIVA HOTEL & CASINO
> JOINT MEETING G&M AND LSC, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017, 9AM

> SPECIAL H&SSC MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2017, 9AM
> CHIEF AZULE SCHOLAR & CITIZEN BANQUET, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017, 6PM, VEE QUIVA HOTEL & CASINO
> CULTURAL & LANGUAGE TEACHER COHORT GRADUATION CELEBRATION. THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017, 1-3PM, VEE QUIVA HOTEL & CASINO
> SPECIAL H&SSC MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2017, 9AM
>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR ENOS-LEWIS FAMILY
>INTERIM OVERSIGHT & PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING. THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017, 10AM VEE QUIVA HOTEL & CASINO
>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR ANNETTE TSOSIE FAMILY

ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:49 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
IS MY WATER SAFE?

This report is a snapshot of your water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information so that informed customers are our best allies.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity including:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from the presence of water treatment plants, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential use;
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from septic tanks, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of the presence of uranium mining and processing activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water supplied by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY TABLE

The tables in the report list all of the drinking water contaminants detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from tests done during the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Please feel free to contact the number provided below for more information or for a translated copy of the report if you need it in another language. For more information please contact: Department of Public Works, Chris Huang, Acting Water/Wastewater Plant O&M Supervisor, PO Box G, Sacaton, Arizona 85147 - Phone: (520) 796-4532 Fax: (520) 796-4530.

Public Works Annual Water Report 2016 Continued on Page 17
YOUTH SUMMER CAMP 2017

The Gila River Indian Community in conjunction with Indian Youth of America Camp will be offering a free summer camp to boys and girls ages 10-14.

Location of camp: Whispering Pines Camp — Prescott, AZ
Dates: June 14-23, 2017 (9 nights, 10 days)

The camp goal is to provide opportunities and experiences that will aid Native American children in their educational, career, cultural, and personal growth while fostering a positive sense of self and heritage.

Camp Packets can be printed online at mygilariver.org, requested via email at special.events@gric.nsn.us, or packets can be picked up at the C.P.A.O. office located at the Governance Center, Monday thru Friday 8am-5pm.

Spots are limited to GRIC enrolled members, must be in good standing with GRIC Tribal Programs, must complete all requirements of camp registration, and must attend orientation prior to camp.

Deadline to turn in packet is Monday, June 5, 2017 by 5:00 P.M.
HOME PLATE FROM JAPANESE-AMERICAN CONCENTRATION CAMP ON DISPLAY IN BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to the GRIC DEQ Earth Day Art Contest Winners!

Shoshauna Vanhardenberg
Sacaton Elementary School
Division: K - 4th Grade

Seth Enos and Ayla Pino
Blackwater School
Division: K - 4th Grade

Elena Lopez
Sacaton Middle School
Division: 5th - 8th Grade

Adrian Valenzuela
Sacaton Middle School
Division: 5th - 8th Grade

Angel Valenzuela
Sacaton Middle School
Division: 5th - 8th Grade

Submitted by Bill Staples
Nisei Baseball Research Project

(FRESNO, CA) – The Nisei Baseball Research Project (NBRP), a non-profit organization founded to preserve the history of Japanese American baseball, is pleased to announce that the wooden home plate from the WWII Japanese American Concentration Camp at Gila River, Arizona, is now on exhibit at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

In partnership with the NBRP and the Arizona Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, the National Baseball Hall of Fame added the war-time relic to its second floor exhibit “The Game.” The addition of the home plate coincides with May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and 2017 as the 75th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066, which led to the forced removal and incarceration of some 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry during WWII.

According to a recent Hall of Fame article titled “A Field of Dreams in an Arizona Desert,” the home plate serves as an important symbol of hope for people of all nationalities.

“This wooden home plate was much more than a corner of a dusty baseball diamond, or the shape that helped define a batter’s strike zone,” said Hall of Fame senior curator Tom Shieber. “It was (and is) a vibrant symbol of hope for those who were denied their freedom, and an expression of what it meant to be an American for those who were stripped of their civil rights. It is an important artifact in the history of our country, not just the history of our National Pastime.”

According to Hall of Fame officials, as “visitors learn about the home plate, with all of its rusty nails and splintered pieces of wood, so too will they understand the legacy of Kenichi Zenimura, the man who created the Arizona Desert.” Zenimura is recognized by historians as “The Father of Japanese American Baseball.”

“Japanese Americans kept the all-American pastime alive behind barbed wire, despite the fact that their civil liberties were being violated by the country that they loved,” said Ker- ry Yo Nakagawa, NBRP founder and Project Director. Long before WWII, Japanese Americans embraced the game of baseball, not only to display their sense of belonging in America, but because of their love for the game itself.

“Japanese Americans played in leagues of their own due to bigotry of the time, and they also competed against barnstorming major league players and teams from the Pacific Coast League, Negro Leagues and Japan,” said Nakagawa. “They not only held their own, in many cases they were the victors.”

Japanese Americans also played a key role as international baseball ambassadors, helping to build a bridge to the Pacific. “If African Americans integrated the game of baseball, then Japanese Americans internationalized it,” said Bill Staples, Jr., author of Kenichi Zenimura, Japanese American Baseball Pioneer.

Between 1900 and 1940, Japanese Americans did more than any other group to help export the American style of play to Asia with numerous goodwill tours to Japan, China and Korea. And when Nikkei teams weren’t directly involved in tours, because they knew the language and customs of both countries, they helped facilitate the tours behind the scenes, as was the case with the Negro League Philadelphia Royal Giants who toured Asia in 1927, and the major league tours of 1931 and 1934.

These American ambassadors planted the seeds so that professional baseball in Japan could begin in 1936.

“Timing is key in the game of baseball,” says Staples. “Players like Masanori Murakami, Hideo Nomo, Ichiro, Hideki Matsui and Masahiro Tanaka, were born at the right time. They all are indebted to the Japanese American pioneers who helped elevate the level of play in Japan before the war by building baseball’s bridge to the Pacific. Hopefully the wooden home plate will spark a greater appreciation for the pre-war impact and legacy of Japanese American baseball pioneers,” Staples added.

“Since the inception of the NBRP, our mission has been to have the National Baseball Hall of Fame consider a permanent exhibition for Japanese American baseball,” said Nakagawa. “All great journeys in the game of baseball begin at home plate. Hopefully Zenimura’s wooden home plate is just the beginning for Cooperstown to recognize, honor and celebrate the important legacy of Asian Americans in our National Pastime, much like the All-American Girls, Latinos and the Negro Leagues.”

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