May 2 Community Council Election Results

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community voted for Council Representatives in Districts 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 on May 2.

Election results are considered unofficial until they are certified by the Community Council at its regular meeting May 17. The elected representatives will take office beginning June 7.

In District 1, Rep. Joey Whitman

Continued on Page 4

District 1 Rep. Joey Whitman
District 3 Rep. Rodney Jackson
District 4 Rep. Jennifer Allison

District 4 Rep. Pamela Johnson
District 5 Rep. Janice Stewart
District 5 Rep. Marlin Dixon
Dist. 6 Rep. Terrance B. Evans

DEQ Hosts Earth Day Celebration

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

A common practice among Native American tribes is stewardship over the land and responsibility of taking care of it for future generations to bask in its bountiful gifts.

Emphasis on being a good steward over the land and the environment is something the Gila River Indian Community continues to promote for future generations.

At the Ira H. Hayes and Matthew B. Juan Memorial Park, the 2017 Department of Environmental Quality Earth Day celebration was in full effect on April 21, with over 400 guests in attendance.

DEQ hosted the event to inspire the next generation of Community members to seek careers in environmental sustainability and preservation, which focuses on environmental stewardship.

DEQ Environmental Education & Outreach Specialist Althea Walker said the event is about

Continued on Page 13

The Earth Day celebration featured many planet-friendly crafts.

Westend baby bald eagle hatches; eaglet outfitted with GPS transmitter

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

For millennia eagles have captivated humankind through their power, elegance, and enigmatic nature, with numerous cultures around the world elevating the large raptors to sacred and even iconic roles.

The bald eagle is one such bird of prey. It is the national bird of the United States and sacred to many tribes across North America, including the Gila River Indian Community.

Which is why the GRIC Department of Environmental Quality and the Community's Nestwatch program have been working to ensure Gila River's bald eagle population continues to thrive and propagate into the future.

Russell Benford, DEQ Senior Wildlife Biologist, said a pair of bald eagles had been living within the Community but lost their home after the dead cottonwood tree they had been nesting in fell over last August.

“We had a few trees out there that were killed in a fire a few years ago,” Benford said. “In the past couple of years, all of those large dead trees have fallen over in windstorms. The tree they had been nesting in fell over last August.

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Continued on Page 10

Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

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Continued on Page 10

Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

The West End eaglet banded and outfitted with a transmitter, April 7.
Do you qualify for Lifeline?

Lifeline is a Federal Program that covers the cost of basic phone service for qualified consumers. This provides a monthly discount on your phone bill.

What is lifeline?

When you sign up for new service with GRTI and qualify for Lifeline, you also qualify for Link-Up. Link-Up pays for part of the GRTI installation fee and can be used only once per customer.

2 ways to qualify

1. Participate in one of the programs listed below, with proof of eligibility.
2. Meet income guidelines, see the income guidelines listed.

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<th>Income Guidelines</th>
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For each additional person in the home add $5,643 to income eligibility requirements.

Tribal-Specific Programs

- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Head Start (only households that meet the income qualifying standard)

Simple to qualify

Contact our GRTI Lifeline Rep. Nicole Baptisto at 520-796-3333 or visit the GRTI website at www.gilarivertel.com to print out an application.

Only one Lifeline benefit per household.

Congratulations Sandra Smiley!

Sandra is our winner for the April GigaCenter raffle. You could be next!

Raffle winners will be selected at the end of each month.

How to enter:

1. Schedule your GigaCenter installation appointment when we call. Availability is Monday through Friday between 8 AM and 5 PM.
2. Keep your scheduled appointment for the GigaCenter installation. You are automatically entered when you make and keep your appointment without a cancellation or reschedule.
3. Someone over the age of 18 must be present during the appointment.

Gigacenter installs are in select areas.
Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 hosts luncheon in Marine’s honor

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

In the early years of one’s adult life, it can be an exciting time as big decisions are made and plans for the future are developed among friends and family. Whether it is going off to college or entering into the workforce, for some, duty to country and community leads them half a world away.

For Angelo Lucero, the decision didn’t take long after he graduated from Hamilton High School in 2015. At age 20, Lucero is a United States Marine and is currently stationed at Camp Hansen on the Japanese island of Okinawa.

Lucero, who is of Akimel O’otham and Navajo descent, has resided in the Community for all of his life. He said the military history of both tribes inspired him to join the Marines and that it was also a decision he and his friend decided on before high school graduation.

At the end of a 20-day leave before returning to Okinawa, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and members of the Haskell Osife Antone Post 51 sat down to lunch with Lucero to share stories and congratulate him on his service on April 17.

“I always wanted to be a Marine. So I went and became a Marine…when I got to the recruiting depot I thought to myself ‘I’m actually doing this…No more talking about this stuff!’”, said Lucero.

Now in the Corps for a year, he said the decision was more than worth it and that he has met other Marines from all walks of life from across the country, including other Native tribes.

He said being stationed at Camp Hansen is similar to any normal job, but includes physical training and other responsibilities that begin in the early hours of the day before moving onto assigned duties that last late into the evening.

When Lucero got to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, 13 weeks of hard training lay ahead.

“When I saw the drill instructor (DI), I thought to myself, ‘this is the real deal; and they started barking orders at us and told us to keep our head down while we held onto our paperwork’,” said Lucero.

For most of his boot camp experience, each day was filled with various drills and instructions. The drill instructors did what they could to keep the recruits on their feet at all times.

“They basically try to break you and do different types of fitness tests to see how much you can take…every step of the way the DI’s are on you,” he said.

He said the final phase of boot camp culminated in 54 hours of even more intense physical training called “The Crucible,” which pushes recruits to their absolute limits.

During the Crucible phase of training, recruits are tested on their ability to work in teams and problem solve while on little sleep and food.

Lucero said one of his favorite moments of boot camp came when he was presented the Marine Corps emblem of the Eagle, Globe and Anchor that signifies when recruits officially earn the title of Marine.

“I was definitely happy. I was thinking ‘Wow, I definitely did what I always wanted to do’,” said Lucero, “It’s right there before you when you get to the top of [this] mountain called ‘The Crucible’, and get [your] Eagle, Globe, and Anchor emblem…that’s when you’re a Marine.”

After making the nine-mile march up and down “The Reaper,” and the hours of little eating, Lu- cero said, the Warriors Breakfast, which is given to every Marine that finishes their training, was the second best thing on that memo- rable morning.

He said there are plans for him and three other Marines to come back to the United States to participate in a Joint Theater Logistics training, which is an opportunity given to Marines that exemplify the U.S. Marine Corps.

Members of the Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 gave Marine Angelo Lucero an appreciative send off.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis (left) presents Angelo Lucero with a paint- ing before Lucero returns to Camp Hansen.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
man kept his seat with 53 percent of the vote in a field of three candidates. Rep. Rodney Jackson of Dist. 3 won the vote in his district, also with 53 percent of voter support in a field of three. Both are beginning a second consecutive term.

Two Council seats were on the ballots in Districts 4 and 5. In District 4, voters elected Jennifer Allison and Pamela F. Johnson. Allison won nearly 30 percent of the vote. She is beginning a third consecutive term, and has served a cumulative 12 years on the Council. Johnson won the seat currently occupied by Rep. Christopher Mendoza. Winning almost 27 percent of the vote. Voters in District 5 elected Janice Stewart and Marlin Dixon to office. Dixon will begin his second consecutive term. He was elected with 25 percent of the District 5 vote. Stewart returns to the Council seat she vacated in 2015. She earned 18.8 percent of voters, and takes the seat of Rep. Brian Davis Sr.

Terrance B. Evans returns to the Council, taking the place of Rep. Sandra Naaseyewa, who took his seat in the 2014 election. Prior to that year, Evans had served on the Council for 18 straight years. More than 36 percent of voters cast ballots for the returning Councilman.
The victim stated that he left the vehicle at the residence and upon his return to retrieve the vehicle, it could not be located.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim reported that she had just moved into the area and placed boxes outside her residence when she went to retrieve the boxes she found three of the boxes were missing. A box containing jewelry along with important documents were among the boxes that were taken.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four:

Stolonic Area

Theft – A headstone was taken from a grave site at the St. Anne’s Cemetery. The family of the deceased stated that no one had permission to remove the headstone.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim reported that a tablet and food were taken from her residence while she was not home. The victim believes who the suspects are and asked them to return the tablet. The suspects are believed to be individuals who were helping out whom are homeless.

Status: Under Investigation

Lone Butte Area

Shoplifting – A juvenile male suspect was observed with merchandise going into the dressing room. Upon coming out, he was asked how many items he had and his response was one. Staff notified as he was observed to have two items going in the dressing room to try on. The juvenile was again approached due to finding a price tag and two hang tags in the dressing room from where he exited. A pair of pants was found in a bag that the juvenile was carrying. The juvenile was informed by the custodian of his aunt and they were both informed charges are being forwarded to Maricopa County Attorney’s Office.

Status: A male juvenile was charged for Theft – Officer responded to Sunflowers for a theft reference to a theft. Upon investigation the video surveillance of the store showed that the juvenile came into the store trying on a variety of sundresses and placing them back on the rack. When putting on a pair of Bvlgari she did not place them on the rack, but instead placed them in her purse. She then returned without purchasing any items from the store. The vehicle’s license plate was obtained and is being followed up on.

Status: The victim called to report that her clutch (wallet) was stolen while she was back at Rawhide watching the Phoenix Lights. The victim stated there was no money in the wallet and she already cancelled all credit cards. While canceling the card her parents were informed that someone was attempting to use the card.

Status: Closed

District Five (Can Blanca)

No incidents regarding part 1 crime

District Six (Komakus)

Aggravated Assault

Officer responded to a 911 call where the suspect stated that she stabbed her cousin and tried to kill her. Investigation revealed that the suspect was upset with her cousin due to her drug addiction and not caring for her children. The suspect stabbed the victim in the head with a knife. The victim was transported to a local hospital for further medical attention.
Off reservation boarding schools taking applications for 2017-2018 school year

Looking for a change of scenery and a bit of adventure as you receive your education? If you are, you might be interested in an off reservation boarding school, which are now accepting applications through Gila River Indian Community’s Tribal Education Department for the 2017-2018 school year. The deadline for applications is July 14, 2017.

According to Danielle Allen, TED Boarding School Advisor, enrolled members of federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for one of several off reservation boarding schools through their office. However, she explained, while their office does assist with the application process, they are not involved in whether a student is accepted or denied from a school.

“When parents need help with the application process or information on how to fill out the application, that is what I do,” Allen said. “My office doesn’t hear anything from the school to know if they have been accepted or denied. It goes directly to the parent or guardian.”

Every year around 100 Community students utilize TED to help put together their application and apply to off reservation boarding schools. Out of those 100 students, around 60 are accepted and able to enroll in their chosen school.

All the off reservation boarding schools have limited enrollment, with Native students from all across the United States vying for an open slot, which is why, Allen said, it is important for Community students to start putting together their applications as soon as possible.

“I would start getting everything put together now and then after May 1, start setting up the physical,” Allen said. “What we can do is send [in] everything and if we are just waiting on the physical, we can send that after.”

She said that once you have the main part of your application sent in, then the off reservation boarding schools have your information earlier and you are more likely to be higher up on their list than if you turn in everything at the deadline.

Allen said that out of all the schools TED sends applications to, there are three that tend to be more popular among Community members, making enrollment even more competitive.

“There are three popular high schools that we have. The first one is Chemawa in Salem, Ore. The second is Sherman Indian School in Riverside, Calif., and the next one is Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, OK.”

Boarding schools accepting applications through TED are Chemawa Indian High School, Circle of Nations – grades 4 through 8, Flandreau Indian School – grades 9 through 12, Jones Academy – grades 1 through 12, Riverside Indian School – grades 4 through 12, Sequoyah High School, Sherman Indian High School, Theodore Roosevelt School – grades 6 through 8, and Wingate High School.

To apply, you must have the following 10 items, an application, birth certificate, Social Security Card, transcript, immunization record, physical, Certificate of Degree of Indian blood, proof of health insurance, proof of guardianship, and a social summary.

If you are interested in attending a boarding school and would like to learn more, a boarding school fair will be held in District 2 on June 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and at the District 7 Service Center on June 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Representatives from several off reservation boarding schools will be at the fair and happy to answer any questions prospective students may have.

For more information call the Tribal Education Department’s Boarding School Advisor, Danielle Allen, at (520) 562-3662.

Applications can be picked up at the department or downloaded from their website at mygilariver.com/gricted/k12-jom.html.
A’AGA
Something to be told
By Billy Allen

Some people say I have rocks in my head. I don’t know about that, but I do like to collect unique rocks while out on the desert. Lately though, payback seems to trip me when I’m out on mountain runs. Still, there is one particular rock I would like to find. I don’t know how it looks, what color—shape—size, just that it’s upriver in O:ob or Apache country.

That rock served to anchor an 1872 promise of perpetual peace between the O’otham, the O:ob and others in southern Arizona at Camp Grant, a military post about 50 miles northeast of Tucson.

O’otham and the O:ob/ Apache enemy had been engaged in warfare since the 1600s. “The Pima Indians...”

By 1782 raid was rescued. O’odham woman captured killed sixteen Apaches. An O:ob raid in 1852, when the Apache arrived back home, the O’otham children were given to the women and children and came upon an O’otham village. They waited for sun to come up, and came upon an O’otham village. They waited for sun to come up, and the Apache force surprised a band of Apaches. An O:ob woman captured in the 1872 raid was rescued. The major incident that led to that remarkable rock becoming a bit of history happened on April 30, 1871.

A group of Araiva Apache Apaches had turned themselves over to the Camp Grant military administration and were kind of like in “protective custody.”

This didn’t sit well with Tucson residents who believed that the Camp Grant Apaches were responsible for continued raids on their city. The Tucson mayor helped make up a force of over 98 Tohono O’odham, 48 Jukam and six Americans who attacked the Camp Grant Apaches at Camp Grant. Over 100 Apaches were killed, and 27 children were taken as prisoners. It became known as the Camp Grant Massacre.

One year later, in May 1872, Brigadier General Oliver O’Hare called for a Peace Conference at Camp Grant to settle differences. Charles Cook, Antonio Azul, 12 village headmen, and Indian Agent J. H. Stout arrived with interpreter Leon/Luis Morgan. Fifteen Tohono O’odham of Va/k San Xavier arrived with two of their headmen. The Tucson Arizona Citizen had a reporter present and is the source of the quotations. An article spotted in the Arizona Citizen said, “You’re the Pima who killed me years ago!” (In a previous encounter, the man had been knocked out by an O’odham war club. He was left for dead, but had just knocked unconscious.)

Various government officials and state leaders were there. In opening the peace talks one of the O:ob leaders placed a rock before him and said, “I do not know how to read or write, this is my paper, and I want a peace that will last as long as this stone lasts.” Antonio Azul would eventually add, “Once we were all one people living in peace. Now our differences are healed, and we are friends again; and I am satisfied we will remain friends.”

The Akimel O’odham headman Francisco added, “The stone has been placed before us as a symbol of peace.”

The Akimel O’odham position on the captive Apache children was given by headman Azul. He said, “I also have captives among the Apaches, and a horse on this Reservation, but I do not claim them—now that we are at peace.” The O:b leader was then asked, “Will you be at peace as long as this stone shall last?” The leader said, “Yes.”

The idea of the O’otham—O:ob peace lasting as long as that rock must have been hard for the people back them to envision. It brings to mind the 1817 pledge of freedom and safety to Cherokees by President Monroe. “As long as water flows, or grass grows...”

We all know how that went. But, that must’ve been one powerful rock because that promise held.

On second thought, I don’t think I’ll try to find that rock. It might turn out to be another rock that wants to trip me. Besides, it’s held a peace for us and we should all give peace a chance. I just wish there were many such rocks to anchor peace around the world. Memorial Day is this month. Seems like most Americans now regard it as the start for summer recreation instead of a time to honor and respect the lives sacrificed for our nation.

Information was taken from Massacre at Camp Grant by Chip C. Manwaring, University Press and The Journal of Arizona History, Summer 1994, “As Long as the Stone Lasts,” J. Marion.
Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital’s main entrance and north parking under construction

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

Over the next five months, the main entrance and north parking lot of Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital will undergo several phases of construction, which will result in a 3,000-square-foot addition to the hospital’s main lobby, a new main entrance, entrance canopy, and new parking accommodations.

Different areas of the hospital will be under construction over the next several months, so it is important to make note of the following dates and understand that the schedule may change in the future.

According to Greg Armey, Gila River Health Care construction manager, Phase 1 of the hospital’s north parking lot will construct a paved temporary access road and west parking lot. The temporary access road is currently being constructed on the north-east side of the hospital and is planned to be open to the public on May 8.

The temporary access road will be the main road access point for patients to enter the hospital’s north parking lot from Seed Farm Road after the existing road access point is closed for construction.

Armey said work on the hospital’s west parking is planned to be open by May 12.

Phase 2 of construction will focus on the hospital’s current elder and handicap parking area located just outside the hospital. The elder and handicap parking area will be moved northward from its current location and construction will last from May 15 to the 25. Armey said that work on the parking spaces will not impede traffic during construction and patients will be guided by signage.

Phase 3A will begin on June 5 with the construction of the new north parking lot road access point and the hospital’s main entry. For access to the hospital, patients can use the paved temporary access road located at the northeast end of the parking lot. Phase 3A is scheduled to be finished by June 29.

Phase 3B, which will focus on the main entrance canopy and 3,000-square-foot lobby addition, will begin on May 1. Construction of the canopy and lobby is planned to be finished by the end of September.

In preparation for the demolition and renovation of the lobby addition, a wall has been erected that will separate patients from any construction work.

Michael Wright, GRHC construction manager, said the new lobby addition will feature new amenities to provide patients with a safe, smooth and pleasant hospital experience.

“We are providing a kiosk area for customer service, a new nursing station where they can fast-track patients, and a transportation department work station,” said Wright. “The transportation stations are positioned right near the covered pick-up and drop-off area, so it is very easy for patients to come up to this station, order transportation and then they are picked up right here.”

Community members will be able to pick-up and drop-off family in comfort. The hospital’s canopy will provide patients shelter from the hot summer sun and rainfall during seasonal monsoon storms.

Wright said the structure is made from a steel and aluminum framing system with translucent polycarbonate panels fitted into beams that will shield patients from the elements while allowing light to filter through, illuminating the main entrance below.

“I thinking it is a great addition to the hospital,” said Wright. “It is going to be a great benefit to the Community and the patients who come here. It is going to help streamline their process here and make their visit more efficient.”

All phases of construction are slated to be finished and ready for use by the end of September.
Senators Push Back on Executive Order to Review National Monuments

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

A new executive order issued by President Donald Trump challenges federal land protections created by three previous presidents. Critics are calling the move a setup by the Trump administration to abolish protected lands to make them accessible for commercial use like oil and gas drilling.

Pres. Donald Trump on April 26 signed an executive order directing the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) to review a series of presidential designations for national monuments under the U.S. Antiquities Act of 1906.

Defining “National Monuments”

The Antiquities Act gives presidents the authority to set aside federal lands of cultural, historical, or scientific significance, and designate them as national monuments, offering protections similar to those of national parks. Lands designated as national monuments are protected from drilling, mining, and other types of development.

One reason for the creation of the Antiquities Act was to provide a means of protection for lands significant to Native Americans. Lands often receive this designation for the preservation of historical or cultural areas, for example, if there are ancient or sacred Native American sites in the area. Other times they are preserved for scientific reasons so archaeologists and academic interests can study the history of the land.

Trump’s order instructs the DOI to review presidential designations of national monuments larger than 100,000 acres made since 1996. This includes designations made by former presidents Barack Obama, George W. Bush, and Bill Clinton.

Specifically, it affects 24 National Monuments, according to an analysis by USA Today, including four in Arizona – the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, the Vermilion Cliff National Monument, the Ironwood Forest National Monument, and the Sonoran Desert National Monument.

The Sonoran Desert National Monument is 496,400 acres of preserved desert only a few miles west of the Gila River Indian Community.

Many of the national monuments cover large swaths of nearly pristine natural land. But the size of newly designated national monuments has gone up in recent years, with the Trump administration cites as problematic. The Bears Ears National Monument, for example, is 1.35 million acres.

Controversial Conservation

Trump said the century-old Antiquities Act gives presidents too much power and accused his predecessor of exercising what he called an “abuse” of the monuments designation. Obama is known for his prolific use of the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments. During his two terms in office, he designated or expanded 34 national monuments, more than any other president. In a controversial decision last year, Obama used the Antiquities Act to designate the Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.

Utah representatives, state officials, Gov. Gary Herbert, and other opponents viewed the action as federal interference in a state issue, and strongly opposed the Bears Ears designation. They said the Antiquities Act, which was signed and first used by Pres. Theodore Roosevelt, is itself out of date and potentially unlawful. They said it gives too much power to the executive branch, does not include provisions for public comment, and does not provide instructions on the reversal of presidential actions made under the act.

Conversely, a number of tribes and environmentalists called for the creation of the national monument to keep the land out of developer’s hands, which they said would desecrate sacred and treasured lands.

Sen. Tom Udall (D) of New Mexico was a vocal proponent of the Bears Ears National Monument. In a press conference, he said he is tasked with executing the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments. “I think the concern that I have [is] that when you designate a monument, the local community that’s affected should have a voice,” said Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke, who is tasked with executing the review.

However, opponents believe the review is unnecessary and say it is a ploy to justify unlocking protected lands for future development.

“Make no mistake, this order has nothing to do with asking for public input. They got that in creating the Bears Ears Monument. They just don’t like the result,” said Natalie Landreth, an attorney with NARF. “This order is about taking away public lands from the American people in order to free them up for resource exploitation.”

In a press conference, a reporter asked Zinke directly about the potential for the review to set up “an assault on public lands for the purposes of oil and gas development.” Zinke responded, “I’ve heard that many times…

Continued on Page 14
Eagles from page 1

They constructed a nest in a dead cottonwood tree outside the Community’s boundary. Even though the eagles are now outside of the Gila River Indian Community’s boundary, they will continue to be under the supervision of DEQ and the Community’s Nest Watch program. “The Community is certainly still very invested in these eagles, culturally, emotionally even,” said Benford. “We are the ones responsible for, and who have taken responsibility for watching that nest, so we will continue to do so as long as it’s in our power.”

DEQ is looking to raise an artificial nest structure where the eagles can nest in safety, improve their habitat by planting cottonwood trees, and create an overall environment where they can live healthy lives, and just in time too.

A little over two months ago a male eagle hatched, turning the pair of bald eagles into a small family of three.

Wildlife Conservation is a Group Effort

On the morning of April 7, the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGF) and the Salt River Project (SRP) utility company traveled to the new bald eagle nesting area to out fit the fledgling eagle with a cellular GPS transmitter and identification leg band. Observing the eaglet outfitting were members of DEQ and the Community’s Nestwatch program.

Kenneth Jacobson, AZGF Raptor Management Coordinator, said the ability to track the eagle’s habits using a transmitter would allow them to learn more about how the birds behave in a metropolitan environment and, in turn, help protect the animals from harm.

“It is a transmitter that collects GPS locations and sends the information via the cellular network so we will get updates through the same way you get your phone calls,” said Jacobson.

“Information we get from those transmitters will help us identify any risk factors they have in these urban environments. It gives us a chance to address those ahead of time before the birds get themselves into trouble, injured, or worse,” he said.

Because bald eagles have an impressive wingspan that can reach lengths over 7 feet, the large birds can brush against power lines. Contact with these power lines can lead to serious or even death.

For most bald eagles, coming into contact with power lines is a relatively uncommon experience in the countryside. As more and more eagles begin to nest in metropolitan areas the chances of them coming into contact with power lines increases.

Lesley Swanson, SRP Senior Environmental Scientist, said in the past it was less common to find bald eagles in the Phoenix area. Because of the city’s outward development, in conjunction with eagle conservation efforts, bald eagles have become more prevalent.

“I think [they are] becoming more common. It didn’t use to be that way years ago but we are doing such a good job protecting the species,” said Swanson. “We have a lot of golf courses, a lot of water bodies in metropolitan Phoenix and we stock them with fish. So, it makes sense that the eagles might try and set up a territory in those areas.”

“Salt River Project is partnering with Arizona Game and Fish to try and get a better understanding of where juvenile bald eagles that fledge from nests in metropolitan Phoenix, actually hang out while they are young,” said Swanson.

“We are hoping to figure out where they are foraging, where they are hanging out, and then, if there are any dangerous poles or SRP infrastructure in the areas they are residing,” she said.

Outfitting the Eagle with a Transmitter

Once AZGF and SRP arrived at the bald eagle nest, the team worked together like a well-oiled machine, with SRP staff operating a bucket truck raising a member of the AZGF up to the massive nest, while others fanned out encircling the tree in case the eaglet quickly took off after the eaglet, hoping to find the bird on the ground nearby. Thirty minutes after the baby bald eagle had taken to the air, Jacobson emerged from the surrounding brush clutching the hooded eaglet to his chest.

The team began the task of measuring, weighing, determining sex, banding, and outfitting the eagle with a transmitter, all while working as quickly as possible to limit the eagle’s exposure to people.

A blue identification band was placed on the birds left foot and a smartphone-sized cellular GPS transmitter was tied to the eagles back with teflon string.

The transmitter, which is solar-powered and should last the lifetime of the eagle, transmits the birds location every six seconds. When the eagle is perched, the transmitter relays data every 15 minutes.

What to Do if You Encounter a Bald Eagle Nest

Because bald eagles are building nests within the Phoenix metropolitan area, where people are more likely to encounter them, the chances of stumbling upon an active nest, while unlikely, can still occur.

“Our bald eagle population has been growing for quite a while,” said Jacobson. “As the young birds reach breeding age, all the good spots are taken, and they are forced to look further and further out. As a result, in the last [5 to 8 years] some birds have found suitable areas within the greater Phoenix metropolitan area.”

While catching a glimpse of a bald eagle or its nesting area may be on your bucket list, Jacobson advises the best thing for the eagles is to keep your distance and call the AZGF.

“We will help those birds [have] every chance they can to produce young,” said Jacobson. “So, if you see a nest the best thing you can do is give the birds their space and give them a chance to raise their young.”

If you come in contact with a bald eagle’s nest outside of the Community’s boundary, e-mail Kenneth Jacobson at the Arizona Game and Fish Department at baldeagle@azgfd.gov or call (623) 236-7575.

The 10-month-old eaglet sits atop a large nest before he is outfitted with the transmitter. Eagle nests can weigh up to 1 to 2 tons.

Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

From left, GRIC Community Nest Watch member Yolanda Hart-Stevens, former DEQ Acting Director Robert De Leon, AZGF Raptor Management Coordinator Kenneth Jacobson, BIA Fire Management Officer Alan Sinclair Jr., and DEQ Senior Wildlife Biologist Russell Benford.

Kenneth Jacobson, AZGF Raptor Management Coordinator, said the ability to track the eagle's habits using a transmitter would allow them to learn more about how the birds behave in a metropolitan environment and, in turn, help protect the animals from harm.

“It is a transmitter that collects GPS locations and sends the information via the cellular network so we will get updates through the same way you get your phone calls,” said Jacobson.

“Information we get from those transmitters will help us identify any risk factors they have in these urban environments. It gives us a chance to address those ahead of time before the birds get themselves into trouble, injured, or worse, he said.

Because bald eagles have an impressive wingspan that can reach lengths over 7 feet, the large birds can brush against power lines. Contact with these power lines is a relatively uncommon experience in the countryside. As more and more eagles begin to nest in metropolitan areas the chances of them coming into contact with power lines increases.

Lesley Swanson, SRP Senior Environmental Scientist, said in the past it was less common to find bald eagles in the Phoenix area. Because of the city’s outward development, in conjunction with eagle conservation efforts, bald eagles have become more prevalent.

“I think [they are] becoming more common. It didn’t use to be that way years ago but we are doing such a good job protecting the species,” said Swanson. “We have a lot of golf courses, a lot of water bodies in metropolitan Phoenix and
Digging in dirt and watering fields were the high-lights of the day for students on a fun-filled trip to a local college.

Twenty-eight students from three classrooms from Sacaton Elementary School took a class called “Veggie Ventures” on a field trip to the Central Arizona College’s Natural Resource Education Center, where they learned how plants grow and why vegetables are so nutritious.

“What is the name for this type of soil?” asked teacher Jan Zapata presenting a drawing to the class. “Loam,” said students in unison, who had just learned that sand and thick clay are not ideal for growing plants, but the best soil is a mixture called loam.

Students started the day rotating through three classes on farming, plant growth, and healthy eating. In one classroom, students learned a healthy smoothie recipe to take home, which included yogurt, milk, mango, pineapple, and kale. Dark greens like kale are a great source of vitamins, students learned from NREC’s Jennifer Salcido. Students helped put the ingredients in a blender, and after a quick taste test, approved of the fresh, healthy treat.

NREC Director Loralee Wuertz said, “We try to implement a nutrition element to all of our programs, talk about healthy eating, lots of fruits and vegetables.” The NREC offers a number of courses for visiting classes and serves students of all ages. The Gila River Indian Community supports the NREC through the Community’s gaming revenue sharing program.

“Your grant is a third of our budget. And we use our money very, very wisely,” said Weurtz. She, Salcido, and Zapata are the only staff at NREC. “We’re not only teachers, we’re custodians, we chop weeds, we do it all. We’re farmers,” she said.

The NREC typically sees more than 5,000 students per year, and recently implemented classroom visits for younger ages. The NREC works hard to implement state teaching standards into its lessons.

“We touch on nutrition,” said Weurtz. “We definitely touch on science, and we also do a lot of social studies, you know, just the history of what’s happening in our world with agriculture.” There is a common refrain in farming and ranching circles, which is inscribed on a banner on an NREC wall: “If you eat, you are involved in agriculture.” Nearly every vegetable we eat, every steak we enjoy started on a farm or ranch.

“It’s something we all need to know,” said Weurtz. Students visiting the NREC learn how food goes from a seed in the ground to a plant in the sun, from a crop on farmland to vegetables on their plate at home.

Sacaton teacher Martin Leinberger said it was a great day out of the classroom for the students, who benefit from hands-on learning.

“This was incredible. It was comprehensive exposure on a cultural level for our students,” said Leinberger. “They got in-classroom lessons, got outdoors. Hands-on learning is very important. They got a multi-sensory experience, which is really key.”

He said, “Our kids need to get out and experience different things, especially hands-on stuff like this that’s culturally based.”

The class finished the day with a visit to the field where students learned how to irrigate fields by hand from a canal and dug through soil and picked carrots, cilantro, and radishes to take home.
Sexual Assault Awareness event proclaims “All Life is Sacred”

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community members came out to support awareness about a serious crime that is committed every 98 seconds across the United States. GRIC’s Crime Victim Services program hosted a sexual assault awareness event at the Boys & Girls Club – Komune Branch on April 29.

The morning started off with a one-and-two-mile walk before convening inside the main gymnasium, where informational booths were set up and presentations took place.

District 6 Council Representative Anthony Villarreal opened the prayer followed by a few remarks about sexual assault. He said sexual assault is a difficult situation that Community members face, and that support is needed to help victims cope with these types of situations before anything worse happens to them, like resorting to unhealthy behaviors that may lead them further into despair.

Villarreal said the sexual assault registry that was established many years ago by the Community is meant to deter sexual offenders from repeating their crimes on other individuals.

In times of crisis, Villarreal said, it is crucial victims gain support in helping bring their assailant to justice and to not be afraid of reporting them to the authorities.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, who has spearheaded several initiatives to protect women, said Community members who stand up to sexual assault can experience a swirl of emotions that comes with being a victim of sexual assault.

She said that a recent traveling display called the Monument Quilt, which made a stop at Arizona State University, is a demonstration of the resiliency of women who have survived sexual assault and have gone on to advocate for the protection of women.

“It was really touching to see so many of the quilts that were made by victims of sexual assault, but what made it really touching was their ability to take a stand and keep surviving by contributing their piece to the display,” said Antone.

Antone touched upon the Violence Against Women Act (VAVA), which provides protections for the most underrepresented demographic groups: Native American women, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender victims of sexual assault.

According to Antone, legislation such as VAVA holds perpetrators accountable, regardless of whether they are Non-Native when an act is committed on tribal land.

Through the Act, tribal courts have the power to hold sexual offenders accountable, which before 2013, was a gap in the judicial system before a provision made it possible to try Non-Native offenders in the tribal courts.

Another highlight of the event was the presentation of the Start By Believing campaign, which was adopted by the tribe last year to promote greater awareness among law enforcement on working with victims of sexual assault.

Gila River Police Department Detective Tyesha Wood said proclamations adopted by tribal communities against sexual assault are a big step and victory for victims, because it provides support to the victim when reporting a sexual assault.

Special guest speaker Caroline Felicity Antone, a member of the Tohono O’Odham Nation, who survived a perilous journey as a sexual assault victim, said she lived through years of substance abuse and unhealthy relationships until turning her life around.

“I wanted to be loved, but I never knew how I wanted to be loved,” said Caroline. “It was easy to accept the bad things that were happening, that it was okay.”

She said her life spiraled out of control when she was sexually abused as a child, leaving her with emotional wounds that never healed.

In the years after her abuse, she suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, which led to her living a dysfunctional life.

Caroline said recovering from that lifestyle wasn’t an easy road to travel down, but that she needed to realize that she also was an assaulter as well.

“I had to acknowledge a lot of the things I was doing to negatively cope with my situation,” said Caroline. “I was always looking for someone’s approval and putting my life in others’ hands.”

Today Caroline has contributed to several causes educating younger generations about the dangers of substance abuse associated with sexual abuse.

Waylon Pahona, known for his Facebook page Healthy Active Natives, which has 64,244 members, who contribute their own success stories.

He said there were many things that he would do to push the limits and living a life of trouble soon got old. The reality of the danger created by his actions prompted him to turn his life around for the better.

“I knew it wasn’t good to try and live life the way I did when I was younger, because I would get in all kinds of trouble,” said Pahona.

He said when he came to the Community to live in Maricopa Colony, where his mother is lived, he knew things had to change.

“When I got here I worked for the GRIC Employment & Training Department and I was establishing explorer programs to help the youth,” he said. “I knew that youth sometimes bear a lot of emotions and it doesn’t always come out in a good way.”

He said at one of his low points, suicide was an option and that it was hard to admit that he had a problem.

“The mission of getting better is accepting that help is needed. It’s hard to imagine I was [this] close to thinking about suicide. It’s scary to think about it now,” said Pahona.

Pahona runs a Facebook fitness group called Healthy Active Natives, which has 64,244 members, who contribute their own success stories.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone speaks about the importance of supporting victims of sexual violence.

“I lost a lot in the process, a relationship of 19 years, my father, and my brother,” said Pahona. “It was hard to lose those so close to me pass on. I knew I had to do something to keep going to help others, even though I was in need as well,” he said. “Making changes and being successful aren’t things that are achieved overnight, but it’s about accepting [we] have a problem and fixing it in order to move on.”

Meeting Announcement
All Gila River Indian Community Veterans
Saturday, May 13, 2017
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Huhugam Heritage Center Classroom

Purpose: To Discuss the Veterans portion of the new exhibit space currently being designed

All Veterans are encouraged to visit the current military exhibits at the HHC (address located below) prior to the planned meeting on May 13, 2017

* Bring your thoughts and ideas
* Your participation will be greatly appreciated

For Further Information: Donald Sabori 520.796.3500 ext. 4328
Darrell Whiteman 520.610.0316
Earth Day from Page 1

The National Stone Sand and Gravel Association held its Young Leaders Annual Meeting at the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass from April 19-22. The Young Leaders, which is a 40-and-under group of the next generation of industry leaders, visited Gila River Sand & Gravel at the San Tan Plant as part of its group activities on April 21.

“They’re having their annual convention at the Sheraton and asked us if we’d obligate them with a tour of the property to see the operation,” said Michael Morago, Gila River Sand & Gravel general manager.

Morago and other staff greeted the approximately 150 visitors and led them on a tour of the production facilities, into the pit where material is mined and showed them how it eventually becomes a finished product.

Patrick Dune, Director of Communications, National Stone Sand and Gravel Association, said the Young Leaders were very glad to tour the San Tan Plant.

“The size and scope of this operation is really something incredible,” said Dune.

Gila River Sand & Gravel was founded in 2001 by Gila River Indian Community Council resolution, after the tribe acquired the master lease from a previous tenant that mined the area since 1981. Gila River Sand & Gravel is an aggregate mining operation, which produces construction aggregates, or material such as sand, gravel, and crushed stone, for the use of road and housing projects and commercial projects. They also produce construction aggregate for use as asphalt and concrete products.

Gila River Sand & Gravel has two locations. In addition to the San Tan Plant, there is also the Maricopa Plant, which is located off State Route 347 near Maricopa.

Following the tour, Morago introduced the San Tan Plant tenants Cemex, and Arizona Materials and two vendors Gamez Lining Systems, and Black Canyon Process Equipment that work with Gila River Sand & Gravel. They spoke to the visitors about their experiences in the aggregate industry and working with Gila River Sand & Gravel.

Todd Kluth, Arizona Materials, operations manager, said that his employer is fortunate to work with Gila River Sand & Gravel. “It’s been a great relationship,” said Kluth.

Carlos Gamez, from Gamez Lining Systems echoed Kluth’s comments saying, “Gila River is consistent on the quality of their materials and I’m proud to say that they run through our screens.”

The Gila River Sand & Gravel Board of Directors were also on hand during the presentations including Chairman Donald Antone, Vice-Chairman Richard Narcia, Director Cam Nish, and Director Karen Jackson.

The San Tan Plant is roughly over 500 acres with about 250 acres of mining area. Processing sites, tenant sites and administrative offices are located on the remaining acreage.

According to Morago, Gila River Sand & Gravel makes their material available for all construction projects within the Gila River Indian Community. They work closely with Wild Horse Pass Development Authority, Gila River Department of Transportation, all the districts, and many others.

The Young Leaders from the National Stone Sand and Gravel Association toured the Gila River Sand & Gravel San Tan Plant on April 21.

The Young Leaders Annual Meeting group tours Gila River Sand & Gravel plant

The Young Leaders from the National Stone Sand and Gravel Association toured the Gila River Sand & Gravel San Tan Plant on April 21.

Robert A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Sand & Gravel hosted about 150 visitors for a tour of the San Tan Plant.

Gila River Sand & Gravel General Manager Michael Morago gives a presentation to the NSSGA Young Leaders.
Executive Order to look at National Monuments from page 9

the executive order is carefully crafted to review. It doesn’t predispose an outcome.”

But Trump seemed to suggest that his administration was looking for reasons to reduce or eliminate these protections. “I’ve spoken with many state and local leaders [who] are gravely concerned about this massive federal land grab,” he said. “And now we’re going to free it up.”

If he chooses, Trump would be the first president to revoke a site’s status as a national monument.

Senators Push Back

Sen. Udall, vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, calls the executive order “a political move” and “waste of limited resources.” In a statement he said, “I do not believe that President Trump has the legal authority to rescind a national monument designation, and if he attempts to do so, I will fight him every step of the way.”

Sen. Udall said, “As a member of the Appropriations and Indian Affairs committees, I will fight to protect and elevate these cherished monuments, and I won’t stand by if the Trump administration tries to open the door to selling them off to the highest bidder.” The Senate Appropriations subcommittee oversees funding for the Interior Department.

A group of 31 Democratic senators, led by Udall, signed an open letter to the president on April 26, condemning the executive order.

Arguing against the idea that the national monuments were created without public input, they said, “These monuments are built upon the support of local communities and are economic drivers across the United States.” Focusing especially on designations made by Pres. Obama, they said, “Despite claims to the contrary, all the national monuments designated during the past eight years were designated after public meetings were held and input was gathered from local communities, and each of these monuments had broad local support.”
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • April 19, 2017

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 April 19, 2017, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governor Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:00 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Carol Schurz

ROLL CALL

Sign-In Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Monica Antone (9:03) Council Members Present:
D1 - Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg (9:02); D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams (9:14); Rodney Jackson; D4-Nada Celaya (9:01); Jennifer Allisson, Baruny Enos, Jr. (9:02); Christopher Mendoza; D5-Bri-an Davis, Sr., Marlin Dixon, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr., D6-Charles Goldtooth (9:16), Sandra Nasewetywa; D7-Devin Redbird (9:06)
Council Members Absent:
D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5 minutes)

REPORTS

Presenters: Isaac Salcido, Jaime James
REPORT HEARD

Presenters: Isaac Salcido, Jaime James

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

*3. GRWS Report (Executive Session)
Presenters: Akin Gump

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

FY MOD 38 Capital Projects Review & Update 3/31/2017 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Suzanne M. Johns, Kelly Gomez

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS

GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONTINUED AT 10:52 A.M.

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Gila River Indian Community And Maricopa County For Improvements To Baseline Road From 91st Avenue To 77th Avenue (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval, NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Lt. Governor Monica Antone, Javier Ramos, Kelly Gomez

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving The Mutual Termination Of Business Lease No. B-GR-48-2A Between The Gila River Farms And The Wilbur-Ellis Company LLC, (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs; NRSC concurs with correction on dates)
Presenters: Gila River Farms & Javier G. Ramos

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Authorizing a Memorandum of Agreement for the Sharing of Public Health Data between the Arizona Department of State Health Services And The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Health Department (H&SSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Christina Floyd
APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Transit Service Agreement Contract No. 128-75-2016 Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Maricopa County Community College District (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval, NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Jason T. Haulter, Thomas L. Murphy
APPROVED

5. A Resolution Approving Long-Term Storage Deliveries Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Roosevelt Water Conservation District (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval, NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy
APPROVED

6. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving Amendment #1 To The October 1, 2016 Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Osborn Maledon, P.A. (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas Murphy
APPROVED

7. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Di-recting The Distribution Of Trust Assets To Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Suzanne M. Johns
APPROVED

8. 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
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

9. A Resolution Approving The Memorandum Of Under-standing Between The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Education Department And Maricopa County Community College District (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval, EDC concurs)
Presenter: Isaac Salcido
APPROVED

10. A Resolution Amending Resolution GR-311-08 To Grant 35.8820 Acres, More Or Less, Of Community Trust Land To District Six As Residential Use For Area 3 For The Development And Construction Of A Community Subdivision As Shown In Drawing No. 40617-0050 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Wynona Baheshone
APPROVED

11. A Resolution Amending Resolution GR-312-08 To Grant 57.2400 Acres, More Or Less, Of Community Trust Land To District Six As Residential Use For Area 4 For The Development And Construction Of A Community Subdivision As Shown In Drawing No. 40617-0084 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Wynona Baheshone
APPROVED

12. 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 WHPDA to approve and forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Jason Croxton, Dale Gutenson
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

[ADJOURN TO AGENDA]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Tribal Leaders Letter (Executive Session)
Presenter: Linus Everling
ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE TRIBAL LEADER LETTER FOR DISTRIBUTION; FOR GOVERNOR'S OFFICE TO CONDUCT PHONE CALLS TO TRIBAL LEADERS; DIRECT OGC AND THE OUTSIDE COUNSEL TO PURSUE A GAMING COMPACT AMENDMENT WITH THE STATE AND OTHER PARTIES

2. 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 TABLE NEW BUSINESS

* Gila River Farms Budget Request 2017 (G&MSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Gila River Farm Board, Cletus Shirley
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE

2. Following Proposal (G&MSC motions to forward to Council for discussion, NRSC concurs)

3. District 6 Enrollment Committee Member Appointment (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Wayne Nelson, Jr.
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MS. YOLANDA ELIAS

4. Tribal Law Enforcement Executive Symposium May 10-11, 2017 Warm Springs, OR
Presenters: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO OPEN UP TO INTERESTED COUNCIL

[ADJOURN TO AGENDA]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

5. Concern Regarding Petition (Executive Session)
Presenter: Office of General Counsel
ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

> INITIATIVE INFORMATION FORWARD TO COUNCIL FOR CLARIFICATION PURPOSES
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ADD UNDER NEW BUSINESS #6 CONCERN REGARDING PETITION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:22 P.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
IS MY WATER SAFE?
This report is a snapshot of your water quality. It includes 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 because 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 human activity including:
- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlives; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban water runoff, 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 uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided 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.

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) 796-4539.

Department of Public Works Annual Water Quality Report 2016

Public Water System #000400474 Sacaton - 2016 Water Quality Table
Water year results from a ground water source. 2016 Annual Water Quality Report as required by Title 28, A.R.S.

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Water Quality Table

Department of Public Works Annual Water Quality Report 2016 Continued on Page 17
Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, may have an increased risk of getting cancer. While your drinking water meets the EPA standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The EPA standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Special Education Statements:

Additional Information for Arsenic

Arsenic

Arsenic is a poison which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Arsenic in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Additional Information for Lead

Lead

Lead is a soft shiny metal that can be found in older buildings and plumbing systems. Lead was once commonly used in solder, plumbing pipes, and paint. It can be found in drinking water if the piping material was made of lead or if lead paint was used. Lead can be present in water because of corrosion of lead pipes, fixtures, and solder. Corrosion occurs when there is a difference in the chemical composition of the water and the plumbing material. Lead levels can be reduced by using water for several hours before use, using a new water system, or using a water treatment device.

Total Coliform

Coliform bacteria are present in the stool of animals and humans. They are considered to be a general indicator of the possibility of other harmful bacteria in drinking water. Coliform bacteria are often found in water supplies that have been exposed to sewage contamination. The presence of coliform bacteria in drinking water is considered to be a health risk because it can indicate the presence of other harmful bacteria, such as pathogenic bacteria.

Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria that are present in the stool of animals and humans. They are considered to be a general indicator of the possibility of other harmful bacteria in drinking water. Fecal coliforms and E. coli are often found in water supplies that have been exposed to sewage contamination. The presence of fecal coliforms and E. coli in drinking water is considered to be a health risk because it can indicate the presence of other harmful bacteria, such as pathogenic bacteria.

Total Coliform

Total coliforms are a group of bacteria that are found in the digestive tracts of animals and humans. They are considered to be a general indicator of the possibility of other harmful bacteria in drinking water. Total coliforms are often found in water supplies that have been exposed to sewage contamination. The presence of total coliforms in drinking water is considered to be a health risk because it can indicate the presence of other harmful bacteria, such as pathogenic bacteria.
CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS
MAIN ENTRANCE & NORTH PARKING LOT PROJECT ARRIVAL EXPERIENCE

MARCH 20 - APRIL 30, 2017

- No impact on existing patient or staff parking
- No impact on existing patient or staff parking
- No impact on existing patient or staff parking
- Temporary relocation of the bus stop 50 feet west until 6/1/17.

NEW BUS STOP:
- Temporary relocation of the bus stop 50 feet west until 6/1/17.

MAIN ENTRANCE & NORTH PARKING LOT PROJECT ARRIVAL EXPERIENCE

PHASE 1: CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY ACCESS ROUTE UNDERWAY
- By September 2017, the patient drop-off, front entrance, and main lobby at HHKMH will be completed, thereby eliminating the need for the Temporary Entrance and completing all HHKMH construction projects which began in 2016.

For more information, contact the GRHC Human Resources Department at (520) 562-3321 ext.1342 or (602) 528-1200 Ext. 1342.
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The day to remember all those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and are no longer with us. Honor the memory of the Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, and Marines that served this country to ensure freedom.