Hearing Addresses Issues at the Polls
Governor Lewis calls on greater cooperation between tribal and local governments during elections

JANUARY 19, 2018

The Native American Voting Rights Coalition (NA VRC) held a field hearing on Jan. 11 on the Arizona State University downtown Phoenix campus. The Desert Southwest field hearing on Jan. 11 addresses issues facing their tribal communities during non-tribal elections.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis speaks at the Native American Voting Coalition field hearing at the Arizona State University downtown Phoenix campus on Jan. 11.

District 4 Breaks Ground on Multipurpose Building

At the center of each district of the Gila River Indian Community is a service center, which in their humble beginnings started with a large hall and offices that housed staff dedicated to different tasks and services.

With the New Year comes the realization of dreams as the District 4 Community broke ground on a new multipurpose building on Jan. 12.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
Tribal representatives and District 4 elders break ground on new multipurpose building on Jan. 12. They have been taking place across the country as the NA VRC documents the experiences of Native voters in non-tribal elections.

Governor Lewis calls on greater cooperation between tribal and local governments during elections.

“The community members are transitory and move. It’s about them working with us and looking at innovative ways to keep the voter rolls updated and continuing to educate our tribal members to update information. It is definitely a significant milestone for the community envisioned years ago by what the people wanted to see and have in their district,” said Mendoza. “Now we are here today for the groundbreaking of the new multipurpose building.”

He said throughout the years of planning and meeting by stakeholders, the ideas of what could go into the new multipurpose building went back and forth and set the foundation for what would become the new facility when it is completed.

At the groundbreaking, conceptual art was displayed showing the various rooms and recreational areas such as an outdoor pool, indoor track and basketball court.

Among them are a senior lounge, dining room, multipurpose room, community kitchen and a whole host of comforts to bring a home atmosphere to the two-story facility.

The general contractor, Ar-vad-Okland Construction will be responsible for erecting the 48,470 square foot facility.

This year, Okland Construction will be celebrating its 100th year in building, making the project a significant milestone for the company.

Continued on Page 11
# Crossroads Auto Center

**2018 Celebration Sale**

## Cars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Payment Options</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chevy Malibus</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,999</strong></td>
<td>5 to choose from Starting at <strong>$10,999</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ford Fusions</strong></td>
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<td>5 to choose from Starting at <strong>$12,999</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2012 Cadillac CTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,595</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,999</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2011 Nissan Armada LE</strong></td>
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<td>Fully Loaded</td>
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<td><strong>$14,999</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2015 Nissan Titan</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$229/mo.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$375/mo.</strong></td>
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<td>Only <strong>$18,999</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2014 Ford F-150</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$18,999</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2014 Dodge Challenger</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2017 Ford Mustang</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2016 Dodge Grand Caravan</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>$179/mo.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2015 Ram Express Reg. Cab</strong></td>
<td><strong>$289/mo.</strong></td>
<td>Only <strong>$18,999</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2014 Ford F-150 Reg. Cab</strong></td>
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<td>7,800 miles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2015 Ram Express</strong></td>
<td><strong>$289/mo.</strong></td>
<td>Only <strong>$18,999</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Cars for First Time Buyers

- **2012 Toyota Corolla**
- **2013 Toyota Camry**
- **2014 Toyota Camry**
- **2015 Toyota Camry**
- **2016 Toyota Camry**

## Interest Rate

- **1.99% APR** or lower, as low as 1.99% APR

## Important Information

- Payment based on 700 credit score, 4.5% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit.
- Crossroads Auto Center
  - 1026 N. Pinal Ave., Casa Grande
  - 520-836-2112

## Website

- [www.crossroadsauto.org](http://www.crossroadsauto.org)
GRIC Youth Council Performs Service Project

Aaron J. Tohtsoni  
Gila River Indian News

The Akimel O’odham Pecos Posh Youth Council hosted a community cleanup on Saturday, Jan. 13, in Sacaton. The cleanup started by Matthew B. Juan and Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park and continued up Sacaton Road towards the Casa Grande Road turnoff.

Seventeen AOPPYC members showed up along with the youth council advisory board and were assisted by some Community members for the cleanup and worked for nearly two hours.

“Last meeting I proposed the idea,” said youth council President Randel Curran, referencing his time with the Tribes Club from Coolidge High School. “We did community service projects like this and thought it would be a good idea to try out with youth council.”

Curran was thankful that Community members came out to help assist the youth council in their endeavor to clean up the community. In the future, the youth council wants to continue with their trash cleanups. Curran said the youth council wanted to start on a small scale and eventually expand to clean up areas in other districts across the community.

“The young people have been concerned with the cleanliness of the community based on the feedback we have received from last year,” said youth coordinator, Michael Preston. “I was happy with the turnout and the energy that everyone had. It’s been two-fold the turnout and the energy that everyone had. It’s been two-fold what we expected.”

The Department of Rehabilitation, Supervision and the Gila River Police Department assisted the youth council by monitoring the roads and alerting passing vehicles. The Department of Environmental Quality provided shovels and other tools to help pick up debris.

The next tentative date for another cleanup is set for March.

AOPPYC members and volunteers take a moment to pose for a group picture while cleaning along the streets and roads in Sacaton on Jan 13.

COURT NOTICE

Salt River Tribal Court  
Juvenile Proceedings

Print Date: January 19, 2018  
Fradley, Albert—Initial Termination of Parent-Child Relationship & Adoption Hearing & Petition of Name Change Hearing  
Case:J-17-0071/0072/0073  
Court Date: January 24, 2018

Correction

In the January 5, 2018 issue of the Gila River Indian News photos accompanying the “Gila River Runner Joins Wings of America Native Race Team” were incorrectly credited and were courtesy of Melvin Chinchily.
Another issue that was presented by both the Gila River Indian Community and Tohono O’odham Nation was that their tribal lands inhabit more than one county. Having multiple counties led to confusion to which congressional district community members belong to. Furthering the issue of which district to vote in stems from the lack of physical addresses in Native communities, which are often in rural areas.

Panel members also discussed the distrust of Native voters to non-Native poll workers, alleging discrimination or lack of empathy towards Native voters who faced issues at polling sites. Angela Willeford, of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, discussed when a former tribal leader went to vote was informed that she was not on the voting rolls. The former leader ended up casting a provisional ballot. Provisional ballots are collected as normal but unless they are validated and verified, the vote is not officially counted. If a provisional ballot is cast in the incorrect precinct, the vote will not be counted.

Lopez discussed members from the community who reside in District 6 but had a polling place in District 7, which had been unknown to them. She also said that if the poll workers, rather than tell voters where they needed to be, let them cast provisional ballots. This issue was also brought up by Vice-Chairman Jose who said that polling issues on the Tohono O’odham Nation stem from polling places differing from tribal elections to non-tribal elections, often times confusing voters, who are more familiar with staying in their district or community to vote and not having to travel.

Lopez said issues like this can be disheartening to voters. Gila River is very proactive in getting voters registered and teaching them the importance of voting but once they show up and are told they cannot vote, they get discouraged from attempting to vote in the future.

The NAVRC will use the information gathered from the field hearing and combine with information collected from other field hearings to find solutions to the issues that face Native American communities during elections.

From left: Gov. Lewis pictured with tribal leaders during the field hearing on Jan. 11.

Representatives from GRIC and SRPMIC talk about Native voting issues on Jan. 11.
District One (Blackwater):
Auto Theft – The victim called dispatch to report that her vehicle had been taken without permission. Upon the officers arrival contact was made with the victim who stated the vehicle had been stolen to a sibling. While the vehicle was at a family’s residence the vehicle was taken without the sibling’s knowledge. The vehicle was entered into NCIC (National Crime Information Center) as stolen. Later on the day the vehicle was located abandoned and returned to the family.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim reported that the suspect took their cell phone and a wallet without permission. Upon making contact with the suspect it was discovered he was in possession of the cell phone but denied taking a wallet. The wallet was later located at the place of residence and the cell phone was returned.

Status: Charges Forwarded

District Two (Sacaton Flats):
No incidents involving Part 1 Crime

District Three (Sacaton):
Aggravated Assault – The suspect was arrested for assaulting the victim, her mother, by punching her in the face and using two knives to cause lacerations. At the conclusion of the physical altercation, the suspect threatened the victim by stating she was going to have someone shoot up the house. The suspect was arrested on scene and booked into DRS.

Status: Suspect was arrested

Gila River Indian News
January 19, 2018

Incident Log
December 17-23, 2017

Calls for services this week: 542
Arrest made: 35

December 24-30, 2017

Calls for services this week: 564
Arrest made: 22

District One (Blackwater):

Recovery

Status: Charges For

Aggravated Assault – The suspect was reported to have threatened the victim with a firearm. While the officers were on scene they observed a male grab a firearm and pointed it at the victim. The suspect was arrested for aggravated assault. Upon the officer arrival contact was made with the homeowner who stated the suspect had pointed a firearm at them the previous day.

Status: On Going Investigation

District Five (Casa Blanca):

Recovery

Status: Open Investigation

District Four (Stotonic):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Three (Sacaton):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Five (Casa Blanca):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Four (Stotonic):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Four (Lone Butte Area):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Five (Sacaton Flats):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Six (Komatke):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Two (Sacaton Flats):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Five (Casa Blanca):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Phoenix Premium Outlet Store in reference to a theft. The victim stated she knew the suspect who had taken the vehicle. Surveillance footage was taken and submitted into evidence.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Wildhorse Pass Casino in reference to an auto theft. Investigation revealed the suspect left the victim vehicle running as she went into the casino for a few moments. As she exited the casino she noticed her vehicle was gone. The victim was able to locate her vehicle in the City of Maricopa with the assistance of GRPD and Maricopa PD. The vehicle was returned to the victim, it was discovered the vehicle was taken from the national stolen vehicle database.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim stated that the suspect was at her residence and was breaking in. The suspect was arrested for burglary.

Status: On Going Investigation

District Seven (Maricopa):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Six (Komatke):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

District Five (Casa Blanca):

Recovery

Status: On Going Investigation

Aggravated Assault – A juvenile male reported

that while walking in an unknown

location in District Four, he was approached by an intoxicated male and they began to fight. During the fight the juvenile male was cut on his shoulder.

Status: On Going Investigation

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to a prior assault. The investigation revealed the suspect was engaged in an altercation with the victim by forcibly pushing her to the floor causing her

The victim fell on her left side causing pain and discomfort and was transport-

ted to a local hospital for further medical treatment. A follow up was conducted where the victim reported the suspect had thrown hot oil on the victim but the oil did not make contact with victim. The suspect was transported to the hospital for medical treatment to her injuries. The medical report was taken and submitted into evidence.

Status: On Going Investigation

Aggravated Assault – The victim was reported to have been injured in a fight while at the residence in reference to a theft.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Wildhorse Park Casino Parking Lot where the suspect again attempted to flee. The suspect was observed by video surveillance and booked into DRS for multiple offenses.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the состоит 19, 2018. Gila River Indian News

Incident Log
December 17-23, 2017

Calls for services this week: 542
Arrest made: 35

District One (Blackwater):

Auto Theft – The victim called dispatch to report that her vehicle had been taken without permission. Upon the officers arrival contact was made with the victim who stated the vehicle had been stolen to a sibling. While the vehicle was at a family’s residence the vehicle was taken without the sibling’s knowledge. The vehicle was entered into NCIC (National Crime Information Center) as stolen. Later on the day the vehicle was located abandoned and returned to the family.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim reported that the suspect arrested for the suspect and used two knives to cause lacerations. At the conclusion of the physical altercation, the suspect threatened the victim by stating she was going to have someone shoot up the house. The suspect was arrested on scene and booked into DRS.

Status: Suspect was arrested

casino property. The victim did not wish to press charges and only requested she be returned. Only $70.00 was located on the suspect’s person and returned to the victim.

Status: Closed

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been taken without permission. Upon the officers arrival contact was made with the victim who stated the vehicle had been stolen to a sibling. While the vehicle was at a family’s residence the vehicle was taken without the sibling’s knowledge. The vehicle was entered into NCIC (National Crime Information Center) as stolen. Later on the day the vehicle was located abandoned and returned to the family.

Status: Under Investigation

District Five (Casa Blanca):

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Phoenix Premium Outlet Store in reference to a theft. Upon police contact the victim reported three hairs of women’s Ariella and a Perugia woolen blanket were taken from the front of her residence. The victim stated there was video surveillance of the yard and would review the footage to assist in locating the suspect. At this time identification of the suspect is pending the review of footage.

Status: Under Investigation

District Six – (Komatke):

Theft – An unknown male removed a guitar out of a display case without permission from the Vee Quiva Casino. Vee Quiva Security contacted dispatch to report a theft. The empty display case and review surveillance camera footage. The suspect is observed walking in the area and entering a vehicle and leaving the premises.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft - A Case Super "M" backpack was reported stolen. The vehicle was in the area due to being used for construction of the 202 Freeway. Upon receiving confirmation that no one from the company was in possession of the backpack it was reported as stolen.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven (Maricopa):

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Lone Blanca Chevron in reference to shoplifting. The store employee stated a female juvenile walked into the store where she checked the mail in the store and left never checking the mail the female grabbed three bags of chips. The investigation revealed the female juvenile and the driver of the truck were located at their residence. The two went to the store and paid for the goods.

Status: Charges are being forwarded to the Prosecutors Office

District Six (Komatke):

Burglary – Officers responded to a residence where a vehicle was taken when a male subject unlawfully entered the residence. The bike trail was located near the home and a witness also gave a description of the vehicle to include the occupants of the vehicle. A follow up was conducted and the vehicle was located near the residence. The bike trail was returned to the residence with the exception of the television.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft (Shoplifting) – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Outlet Coach Store in reference to a theft. A theft investigation was conducted revealing a male stole a pair of running shoes while at Coach Store leaving in another vehicle.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Phoenix Premium Outlet Coach Store in reference to a theft. A theft investigation was conducted revealing a male stole a pair of running shoes while at Coach Store leaving in another vehicle.

The victim did not know who took it or what had happened the night before.

Status: On Going Investigation

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to a prior assault. The investigation revealed the suspect was engaged in an altercation with the victim by forcibly pushing her to the floor causing her

The victim fell on her left side causing pain and discomfort and was transport-

ted to a local hospital for further medical treatment. A follow up was conducted where the victim reported the suspect had thrown hot oil on the victim but the oil did not make contact with victim. The suspect was transported to the hospital for medical treatment to her injuries. The medical report was taken and submitted into evidence.

Status: On Going Investigation

Aggravated Assault – The victim was reported to have been injured in a fight while at the residence in reference to a theft.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Wildhorse Pass Casino in reference to an auto theft. Investigation revealed the suspect left the victim vehicle running as she went into the casino for a few moments. As she exited the casino she noticed her vehicle was gone. The victim was able to locate her vehicle in the City of Maricopa with the assistance of GRPD and Maricopa PD. The vehicle was returned to the victim, it was discovered the vehicle was taken from the national stolen vehicle database.

Status: On Going Investigation

Theft – The victim reported that the suspect was at her residence and was breaking in. The suspect was arrested for burglary.

Status: On Going Investigation

District Three (Saca-ton):

Recovery

Status: Under Investigation

District Four (Casa Blanca):

Recovery

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim reported a vehicle be-

ing stolen from their residence. The victim stated there was no debris on the carport where the vehicle was parked such as broken glass. The victim stated the vehicle was taken sometime during the night while they had been sleeping. The victim advised they were in a collision in the area of District Five and had been recovered.

Status: Closed

Auto Theft – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to a vehicle that was taken from their residence. The investigation revealed that the suspect went to the residence asking for an individual, while the family was inside the residence, they heard the vehicle start and drive away. Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office’s vehicle was driven with the intent to conduct a traffic stop but the vehicle fled. Officers were able to locate vehicle at the Wildhorse Pass Casino Park-

ing Lot where the suspect again attempted to flee. The suspect was observed by video surveillance and booked into DRS for multiple offenses.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven (Maricopa):

Theft – The victim reported her vehicle had been stolen from the Phoenix Premium Outlet Coach Store in reference to a theft. A theft investigation was conducted revealing a male stole a pair of running shoes while at Coach Store leaving in another vehicle.

Status: On Going Investigation

District Five (Casa Blanca):

Aggravated Assault – A juvenile male reported
The Gila River Indian Community hosted an inauguration to welcome the returning and incoming leadership at the Rawhide Event Center on Jan. 20.

Among the celebration, were cultural dances and performances provided by local basket dance groups from across the Community. Incumbent Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and newly elected Lt. Gov. Robert Stone were given the oath of office. Included in the formal ceremonies were the individuals that have been voted to serve as Chief Judge and Associate Judge, who also took the oath of office: Chief Judge: Donna Kisto-Jones. Associate Judges: Dallas DeLowe, Janice F. Breckenridge, Lucille An-.
Getting to Know the Youth Council Vice President

Aaron J. Tohtsoni
Gila River Indian News

Angel Raynaldo Ortiz, 17, is in his second year participating in the Akimel O’otham Pee-Posh Youth Council and is serving as the 2017-2018 Vice-President. Ortiz is a senior at Coolidge High School and resides in the Blackwater Community but is originally from District 7.

“My time on youth council has been productive,” said Ortiz. “It’s about giving back to your community and being there for your people. The reason I ran for youth council was to take on the roots of my great-grandfather, Harry Croye, he was a councilman for District 1.”

Ortiz feels that being a part of the youth council is a great stepping stone for what he plans to pursue as a career. After graduating high school this spring, he is aspiring to attend the University of Arizona and major in political science. Upon completion, Ortiz would like to return to the Gila River Indian Community and at age 25, run for a council seat.

In his spare time, Ortiz is involved in a lot of extracurricular activities. Taking pride as a Maricopa Pee-Posh bird singer. He was a two-year member of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC), spent time as an amateur boxer but most importantly serves as a community suicide awareness advocate.

Due to the loss of close individuals by suicide, Ortiz felt the need to be able to provide a voice and help those that might be struggling with personal issues. Especially, since suicide is on the rise and has been an issue within the community. Helping others is something that he truly enjoys and thinks is important.

“I like helping people, I like helping my community and I like helping my tribe,” said Ortiz.

When it comes to role models, Ortiz looks to Muhammad Ali and his great-grandfathers, Croye and Leland Hall. Because of his accomplishments and involvement in the youth council and the community, Hall gave him his great-grandson the Pee-Posh name, Komatnia.

During his first year on the youth council, Ortiz served as a District 1 representative and was the only Pee Posh member of the youth council at that time. Being culturally respectful, Ortiz learned how to sing in the O’otham language.

Moving forward, Ortiz knows that school is going to be tough as he prepares to major in political science. But knows that he is going to have to step up his game and never slack off as he chases his dreams.

Ortiz reiterated that his grandfathers, Hall and Croye, have been instrumental in helping him get to where he is today and are two individuals that he truly looks up to and is thankful for their support.

Ortiz is the son of Tracey Colt and Larry Ortiz.

Angel Ortiz talks about his term as the 2017-2018 AOPPYC Vice President.

“I do my best to go out and serve the community and help my people because that is what I am there to do,” said Ortiz.
Information Technology Support & Services

The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) is an enterprise of the Gila River Indian Community (Community) that provides electric service within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation. The GRICUA office is located approximately 7 miles south of downtown Phoenix.

GRICUA is seeking statements of qualifications from vendors who can provide full Information Technology (IT) support and services to GRICUA. The support and services must include all aspects of GRICUA’s IT systems and controls located at three sites, GRICUA’s Main Office, GRICUA’s Warehouse and the GRTI COLO. Specifically, the support and services would cover all IT systems, services, software, hardware, staffing and support models.

GRICUA’s network servers are at a COLO at GRTI located at 7065 W. Allison Rd, Chandler, AZ 85226, about 2 miles from GRICUA.

A pre-submittal conference will be held on January 23, 2018. Attendance at the pre-submittal conference is required in order for your organization to submit a Statement of Qualifications. Responses to the RFQ are due no later than February 12, 2018 at 2:00 PM. The complete RFQ can be found at www.gricua.net/employment.html. All formal inquir- ies must be submitted to Landrea Larney, Administrative Assistant, at laraney@gricua.net or by fax to 520-796-0672.

Testing for the Native Language Teacher Certification

The Tribal Education Department will be administering a test for Community Members seeking certification from the Arizona Department of Education to teach the Animal O’otham Language.

Requirements:
- At least 18 years of age
- Completed TED Application
- Copy of Tribal ID or Certificate of Indian Blood
- Valid Arizona Maricopa (AFO) Card
- Must be employed at least one month prior to application with the Gila River Indian Community or an educational agency which serves Gila River Indian Community Members
- $50 Fee to be paid to the Arizona Department of Education

Deadline for TED application is Friday, February 16th, 2018.

| Thursday March 1, 2018 | 9:00am |

SOLUTION!

Tho voz am nolavthaka wali.

S-owm de:diliam

Ch’u’t

Chichino i:wage

Ko’kol

Muc’ch

Ha’t

Tho:mdil
Obituaries

Messiah Amir Shane McKinney of Sacaton Flats was born at Casa Grande Banner Hospital on December 30, 2017. He later died in Mesa, AZ on December 31, 2017. Messiah is the son of Christina McKinney of Sacaton Flats. Survivors include his two sisters Anayah, Aleija and brother Aidel Thomas and brother-in-law Thomas all from Sacaton Flats, AZ. Maternal grandmother Rebecca Molina of Sacaton Flats, AZ, great grandmother Armida Molina of Sacaton Flats and great great grandfather Estelánmolina Sr. of Coolidge, AZ, paternal great grandparents Curtis St. and Mary “Pearl” McKinney of Coolidge, AZ, uncles: Ricky Rodriguez, Tyrant, Terrance and Reggie McKinney of Coolidge, AZ, Marquise McKinney of the state of Oregon, Davion Chabertia of Coolidge, AZ, including many great grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles. Messiah was preceded in death by his grandfather Curtis McKinney, Jr. of Coolidge, AZ.

Rosary will be on Thursday January 11th, 2018 at Event Center in Sacaton Flats at 6:00pm. Funeral mass on January 12th 2018 at Our Lady of Victory Church in Sacaton Flats at 9:00am, burial will be at Sacaton Flats Catholic Cemetery.

Donovan L. Franciso, 48, Passed on December 29th, 2017 in Chandler, AZ. Mr. Francisco was born on October 24th, 1969 in Sacaton to the late Clement Francisco and Sheila Wilson. He leaves behind his wife, Neida Koruh-Fran, 4 daughters, Alyssa, Brianna, Tianna and Gabrielle Francisco, along with 2 step-children Adrian and Andrua Waldehat, his mother, Sheila Wilson, a sister, Frances Alvarez, a niece and a nephew, and many other loved ones.

Wake will be from 6:00-10:00 p.m. on January 12th at the St. Peters Indian Mission Feast House, followed by funeral services beginning at 8:00 a.m. on January 13th at the St. Peters Indian mission.

Friday, February 23
Exceptional Rodeo
The cowboys and cowgirls from the Central Arizona College Rodeo Team will host students from the Casa Grande School District in a series of similar rodeo events for this fun-filled winter. Horseback riding, team roping, face painting, bouncing ball riding, and visits from local rodeo royalty are among the activities planned for the day. Free spectator admission. Student/school selection is done by the Casa Grande Elementary School District.

Saturday, February 24
Women’s Barrel Race
This day will focus on the ladies. There are an estimated number of 200 barrel racers who participate each year. Over 300-400 spectators. The WPRA timed event will be added this year. Free spectator admission.

Saturday & Sunday, February 24 & 25
Ranch Rodeo
Fun for the whole family. The cowboys and their ranch horses compete in four team events: wild cow milking, stray gathering, calf branding, and trailer loading. There will also be a saddle bronce individual competition. Buckles, prizes and added money reward the top teams and individuals. The crowd will enjoy action, excitement, thrills and laughs as they cheer for their favorite teams.

For additional information, please visit www.casagrandecowboydays.com.
Behavioral Health Services onsite interviews will be held. To be considered:

- APPLY ONLINE
- MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

Not a Behavioral Health professional? Not a problem. We have many positions available in several departments. Join us and speak with a recruiter about other opportunities.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

VIOLA L. JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
534 GU U KI STREET, SACATON, AZ 85147

EMAIL: HIREME@GRHC.ORG • VISIT: GRHC.ORG/JAN25
CALL: (520) 562-3321 EXT. 1342

The Flu is a contagious disease that can be serious. Every year, millions of people get sick, hundreds of thousands are hospitalized, and thousands to tens of thousands of people die from the Flu. The CDC urges you to take the following actions to protect yourself and others from the Flu.

1. Get yourself and your family vaccinated!
2. Take everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of flu viruses!
3. Take antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them!

Avoid close contact with sick people, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, cover your coughs and sneezes, wash your hands often, and clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with Flu viruses.

FEBRUARY 2018 AMERICAN HEART HEALTH MONTH
For more information on activities, contact the Diabetes Prevention Program: (520) 562-7940.
District 4 service center workers pose for a group picture at the site of the multipurpose building groundbreaking on Jan. 12.

From former Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and past District 4 council representative John Antone, each recognized the individuals that had a part in helping shape the projects key elements. Several other guest speakers echoed the same enthusiasm for the new multipurpose building.

'It is really important that we take care of the earth here [before we build anything to bring positive things.... knowing it has a unique purpose of serving the people in a good way.'  
Lt. Governor Robert Stone was present to add remarks to the morning’s program. 
We thank all of those people involved in the project...It’s a community decision, it’s the people’s decision and to finally get where we are today breaking ground on this new facility,” said Stone. 
He said the new multipurpose building is a positive sign for the members of District 4 and all the services that will be available to them. 
"The whole purpose of a community is to have our leadership and to have our people work together over various things, including a building, which I see is a community coming together,” said Stone. 
District 4 Council Representative Pamela Johnson hearkened back to her childhood growing up with her grandparents on the Tohono O'Odham Nation in times when infrastructure and amenities were limited. She said communities like GRIC have come very far and is a blessing to see vital pieces of infrastructure become a reality for the people.

Several other guest speakers echoed the same enthusiasm for the new multipurpose building. The transportation service will be available to the general public during all hours of operation. The project is expected to be financed by FTA Section 5311 Rural Program public transportation funds, with additional funds to be provided from Gila River Indian Community tribal funds. The total federal share of operating and capital projects is expected to be $1,450,445. Gila River Indian Community ensures that the level and quality of transportation service is provided without regard to race, color, or national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. For more information regarding our Title VI/ADA obligations or to file a complaint, please contact us at the address given below.

Deborah Brunner  
GRC Transportation Department  
PO Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147  
(520) 562-6306 / deborah.brunner.dot@gric.nsn.us

Human service agencies that receive assistance from other Federal agencies for non-emergency transportation services are encouraged to participate and coordinate with the provider in the planning, design and delivery of transportation services. Agencies may obtain copies of the service description and submit proposals for service coordination. Private bus and taxi operators may request copies of the project service description from the above named person and may submit comments on the service as described. If you wish to comment on any aspect of the proposed project, submit a proposal or a request for service coordination or request a public hearing on this project, you must make your interest known in writing fifteen calendar days of the date of this publication and provide your comments within fifteen calendar days of your receipt of the project service description. Your requests and/or comments must be forwarded to the above person.

If any member of the public needs special ADA assistance or Limited English Proficiency (LEP) accommodations at the Public Meeting, notify the name given above at least 5 days in advance of the Public Meeting.

Every reasonable effort will be made to provide ADA assistance and/or to provide vital information to LEP individuals in the language requested.
Get out the Vote!

Did you miss an aired local event or just want to see it again? Give us a call and we'll replay it for you!
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • January 3, 2018

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, January 3, 2018, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:16 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Janice Stewart

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Absent:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman (9:26), Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz, D3-Rodney Jackson; D4-Nada Celaya, Barney Enos, Jr., Pamela Johnson; D5- Janice Stewart, Robert Stone; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans (9-17)

Council Members Absent:
D3- Carolyn Williams; D4-Jennifer Allison; D5- Marlin Dixon, Franklin Pablo, Sr., VACANCY; D7-Devin Redbird

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

Presenter: Scott Gemberling

MR. SCOTT GEMBERLING INTRODUCED MR. SAMUEL GIBBON. MR. GIBSON PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GOVERNOR STEPHEN LEWIS EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME AND EXPRESSED CONCERNS.

REPORTS

1. Gila River Health Care FY17 Tobacco Tax Annual Report
Presenter: Scott Gemberling & Gila River Health Care Representatives

REPORT HEARD

2. FY2017 Annual Report (October 2016-September 2017) - Tribal Health Department
Presenter: Christina Floyd

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. FY2017 Annual Report (October 2016-September 2017) - Elderly Nutrition, Elderly Services Program, Nutrition Assistance and Tribal Recreation
Presenter: Joanne Miles-Long

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Presenter: Robert DeLeon

REPORT HEARD

Presenter: M. Lando Voyales

REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Nadine Sheldie

REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Kathleen Elliot

REPORT HEARD (GOVERNOR STEPHEN LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:33 A.M.)

Presenter: Barnaby V. Lewis

REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Kyle Woodson

REPORT HEARD

10. FY2017 Annual Report (October 2016 - September 2017) – Huhugam Heritage Center (HHC)
Presenter: Shirley Jackson

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION


Presenters: Kenneth Manuel & Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

12. Gaming Commission General Report To The Community Council For November 2017 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Serena Joaquin, Courtney Moyah

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

[LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE CALLED FOR A 1-HOUR LUNCH BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENE D AT 2:28 P.M.]

RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Fire Prevention Fee Schedule (LSC forwards to Council with corrections with a recommendation for approval EDSC concurs)

Presenter: Casandra Wallace

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Building Safety Division Revised Fee Schedule (LSC forwards to Council with amendments with a recommendation for approval EDSC concurs)

Presenter: Casandra Wallace

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving Amended And Restated Bylaws Of The Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. (EDSC approves and forwards to Council)

Presenters: NRSC Board of Directors, Joan S. Burke

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. Unfinished Business

(a) Update of the Land Purchase Program at WHP Motorsports Park (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendations to follow the strategy of Sun Valley, WHPDA and the Office of General Counsel memorandum with a memorandum to follow the strategy of Sun Valley, WHPDA and the Office of General Counsel set forth in the memorandum, NRSC and EDSC concur)

Presenter: Ronald Rosier

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CONCUR WITH THE RECOMMENDATION

2. ASU AIPI Economic Development Study (EDSC forwards the cover letter to Council with a recommendation to follow the strategy of Sun Valley, WHPDA and the Office of General Counsel memorandum with a recommendation to follow the strategy of Sun Valley, WHPDA and the Office of General Counsel set forth in the memorandum, NRSC and EDSC concur)

Presenter: Henrietta Lopez

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT AS FYI (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval) Presenter: Henrietta Lopez

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE 7. Blackwater School Final Space Allocation (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council for consideration and approval of an invitation to participate in a feasibility study for a high school at St. John the Baptist in District Six. Further, Ruotolo Associates will be available January 4, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Council Secretary’s Office, ESC concurs) Presenter: Fr. Antony Tinker

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO PROCESS AND MOVE FORWARD

6-P-MIP to Conduct Test Wells on Tribal Lands within District 1–5 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval) Presenter: Henrietta Lopez

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

5. Invitation to Participate In Feasibility Study Of A High School At St. John The Baptist In District 6 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council for consideration and approval of an invitation to participate in a feasibility study for a high school at St. John the Baptist in District Six. Further, Ruotolo Associates will be available January 4, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Council Secretary’s Office, ESC concurs) Presenter: Governor Stephen R. Lewis

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT AS FYI (NRSC forwards to Council with a recommendation to follow the strategy of Sun Valley, WHPDA and the Office of General Counsel memorandum with a recommendation to follow the strategy of Sun Valley, WHPDA and the Office of General Counsel set forth in the memorandum, NRSC and EDSC concur)

Presenter: Ronald Rosier

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CONCUR WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OGC

6. A Resolution Making And Second To Enter Executive Session

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

> PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE MARTHA PETE FAMILY

> PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE MARTIN LARA FAMILY

> LIE IN STATE FOR GOVERNOR WILLIAM R. RHODES, JANUARY 5, 2018, 2PM-5PM

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:34 P.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
Tribes Legislative Day 2018

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Tribal leaders from across the state of Arizona attended 23rd Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day at the Arizona State Capitol on Jan. 10.

The day long event was an opportunity for American Indian communities to get to know their state legislature and show how meetings are held concerning important matters to tribes.

Senate President Steven Yarbrough welcomed the gathering of tribes expressing his appreciation for attending the tribal legislative day.

In speaking to the attendees, Yarbrough said the House of Preventatives and Senate appreciated the time House of Representatives and senators from across the state, host the annual event on a Wednesday during the first week of each regular legislative session.

The sharing of culture and history are just some of the reasons tribes are recognized at the legislation day and is an opportunity for tribes to share ideas on health, agriculture and economic development.

With a few opening remarks Yarbrough, said it was a day for talking, listening and learning about the rich history of the indigenous peoples of Arizona.

Speaker Pro Tempore for the House of Representatives Thomas Shope said as a state representative, it is important to maintain relationships with tribes that fall under their legislative districts and to be aware of the issues they face.

He recognized the Community, which falls within the Pinal County boundary of the 8th Legislative District, lauding GRIC for many of it partnerships with the surrounding cities.

Throughout the day there were information booths from local universities and tribal communities offering attendees a look at the partnerships between the state and the tribes benefiting all of the state of Arizona and its citizens.

He said they are responsible for thousands of jobs and billions of dollars generated by tribal gaming, which have helped improve the state’s economy.

As sovereign nations, Tribal Nations and Communities are relevant and major contributors to local economies and share a unique government-to-government relationship with the State of Arizona and the United States federal government.

We hope that you take the opportunity to learn from tribal and state officials during this important event.

Shope said as a state representative, it is important to maintain relationships with tribes that fall under their legislative districts and to be aware of the issues they face.

On the agenda three guest speakers were tribal leader leaders from across the state during the joint protocol session that was held.

Yavapai-Apache Nation Chairwomen Jane Winicki talked about the successes of her tribes in gaming operations, while Tohono O’odham Nation President Edward Manuel focused on the importance of government-to-government relations. The Last speaker, Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye said Arizona tribes should be included in the decisions made a the state level and that tribes have a lot to offer in terms of economic opportunity and growth for the state.

In speaking to the attendees, Yarbrough said the House of Preventatives and Senate appreciated the time.

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Left: Yavapai-Apache Na
tion Chairwomen Jane Winicki speaks at tribes legislative day on Jan 10.

Winicki talked about the success of tribal gaming in her community and how it has benefitted them economically.

Left: Former White Moun
tain Apache Tribe Chair
tman Ronnie Lupe is rec
ognized for his years of service in tribal leadership at the 23rd Annual Tribes Legislative day on Jan 10. Lupe has been a champi
on for many causes within his community, advocat
ing for water rights the tribe.

From left: House member T.J. Shope, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, house member Rebecca Rios at tribes legislative day event on Jan 10.

Photo Courtesy Executive Staff

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Gila River Indian News

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From left: House member T.J. Shope, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, house member Rebecca Rios at tribes legislative day event on Jan 10.

Photo Courtesy Executive Staff

Gila River Indian News

FEBRUARY 10, 2018: 8AM-2PM
Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass | 35700 W. Wild Horse Pass Blvd. Chandler, AZ
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IWO JIMA EVENT IS A NO FLY ZONE. NO PERSONAL DRONES ALLOWED.