GILA CROSSING COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Special event begins year-long construction for brand new school in District 6

GILA CROSSING COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Groundbreaking ceremony held for Gila Crossing

Tribal leaders and special guests break ground on the Gila Crossing school project.

GRIC teams and athletes compete in the 16th Annual NABI tournament

Gila River team makes it to quarterfinals in Boys Division 2

In the boy’s division, there were a few teams from the Community and a few teams that featured players from the Community. There was Gila River, GR Hawks, Three Nations and 21st Natives that competed in both Division 1 and Division 2.

21st Natives were in Pool A of division 2 and fell to LHoops-FMD, Team Jordan and eventual tournament champions, Team Indigenous. In bracket play, Oklahoman Tushka eliminated them from bracket play with a 77-42 win.

Three Nations, based out of Sells, competed in Division 1 and finished in a three-way tie for second place in Pool H with a 1-2 record. They defeated Chaos, 66-59, but fell to Seneca Chiefs and Cheyenne-Arapaho. In bracket play, Oklahoma Tushka eliminated them from bracket play with a 71-60 victory over AZ Future from Mesa. They followed that win up by dismissing Ak-Chin 63-54.

In the quarterfinals, Gila River was knocked out of the tournament by eventual Division 2 champion Team Indigenous, 78-58.

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GR Hawks, coached by Stan Pratt, competed in Pool F of Division 2. They played Oklahoma Tushka (64-70), Intertribal CA (40-61) and Team Revolution (54-59). In bracket play, they fell to a NAZ Elite from Flagstaff, 57-41.

Gila River, coached by Rudy Flores, claimed the top seed from Division 2, Pool E sweeping Six Nations from Canada (51-41), San Lucy Cobras (84-41) from Gila Bend and Fort Yuma (66-32) from Winterhaven, Calif.

Emerging as the top seed from Pool E, Gila River opened bracket play with a 71-60 victory over AZ Future from Mesa. They followed that win up by dismissing Ak-Chin 63-54.

In the quarterfinals, Gila River was knocked out of the tournament by eventual Division 2 champion Team Indigenous, 78-58.

Continued on Page 6

The Gila River Indian Community is one step closer to bringing a new school to District 6 after a groundbreaking ceremony in Komatke. Guests and dignitaries gathered at the site of the new Gila Crossing Community School to see the project break ground on Saturday morning, July 14 at the GCCS North Campus on Pecos Road.

Anthony Villareal Sr., Gila Crossing School Construction Owner’s Team Chairperson and District 6 Community Council Representative, welcomed all the attendees, which included Community Council representatives, GCCS staff, students and board members, special guests including Mark Swenson, Deputy State Treasurer of Arizona and Rep. Tom O’Halleran, D-1.

Villareal thanked Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis for his dedication to the project as well as Community Council. “I want to thank the Community Council for approving this and supporting this,” he said of the “much needed” project.

In his address, Gov. Lewis described the plan to build the school and how it will meet the needs of the students. “Your Community Council and I decided that we couldn’t wait any longer,” he said. He said he was proud of Council prioritizing the project and “We have a very aggressive building schedule for this school but if we all continue to support this project and each other, we will be standing here next July holding the grand opening for this school.”

Before Gov. Lewis introduced Rep. O’Halleran, he praised the congressman for his commitment to GRIC. “There is

Continued on Page 10

Continued on Page 6
WELCOME, NEW HIRES!
GRHC’s newest employees began working in the following departments: Primary Care, Dental, Dietary, School Health, Women’s Health, BHS, Podiatry, EMS, Patient Registration, EVS, Pharmacy, Life Center, Customer Service, Medical Imaging, and Transportation.

- Ronalda L.
- Darin M.
- Calvin W.
- Leonardine M.
- Cassandra B.
- Terese B.
- Christlyn D.
- Sandra M.
- Armando R.
- Devonnee S.
- Oralia T.

SUMMER FAMILY HEALTH EVENT
10 AM - 2 PM

There will be activities including child immunizations, sports physicals, diabetes education, well child exams, and more!
For more information, contact Robin Henry, FNP, at 520-610-2379.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS
GRHC Outpatient Clinics and Administrative Offices will be CLOSED.

- Labor Day 9/3/2018
- Native American Day 9/21/2018

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GRIN student intern heads back to school

My time at the Gila River Indian News is coming to an end. It probably already has, by the time you’re reading this. My last day at the GRIN is on July 20, 2018; you’re reading this. My last day at the GRIN was on July 18 in Sacaton. From left, Lt. Gov. Robert Stone and Aeneas Antone during a visit to the Executive Office on July 18 in Sacaton.

Aeneas Antone
Gila River Indian News

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Certain reports may not be available or are currently under investigation. Please contact the GRPD for the right to restrict public release.

Incident Log
June 22-30, 2018
Calls for services this week:
Arrest made: 72

District One (Blackwater):
Theft – Officers were requested to meet with the reporting party. Upon the officer’s arrival it was reported the copper wire had been stolen.

Status: Under Investigation

District Two (Sacaton Flats):
No Incidents Involving Part I Crime

District Three (Sacaton Flats):

Burglary – Officers were dispatched to a Church in reference to a burglary. Contact was made with the reporting party who stated that a suspect entered the church, while it was closed, and took items.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four (Stotonic Area):

Auto Theft – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to a suspicious subject. Upon officer arrival a male suspect was observed standing next to the driver’s side of their truck.

Contact was made with the suspect who stated they were looking to repair the vehicle, the suspect was booked into DRS.

Status: Suspect (non native) was identified and charged forwarded to MCAO.

Theft – Officers were dispatched to Lone Butte Casino in reference to a stolen purse. Contact was made with the victm, who stated she left her purse next to the machine where her husband was still playing when she returned, she realized her purse was gone and she notified security.

Status: Suspect (non native) was identified and charged forwarded to MCAO.

Theft – Officers were dispatched to Lone Butte Casino in reference to a theft. Contact was made with the victim who stated her cell phone was left to charge in the charging kiosk. When the victim returned she noticed her cell phone was gone. Video shows a suspect walk to the charging kiosk and remove the phone from the cell phone.

The suspect then hands it to another individual who walks off with it. The suspect who took the phone out of the charger has been identified and follow up is being conducted.

Status: Suspect (non native) was identified and charges forwarded to MCAO

Weapon – Officers responded to a residence in reference to a subject in a red Toyota driving recklessly and pointing a firearm at the reporting party. Upon officer arrival the suspect brandished a plastic toy gun and pointed it at the reporting party and her family. The suspect was located and taken into custody after he refused to leave the area.

Status: Under Investigation

Arrest made: 72

District One (Blackwater):

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to two males fighting in the area and a possible stab reported by one of them. Contact was made with the reporting party who stated they were observing the suspect and victim which were arguing and pushing each other when a knife was observed in the suspect’s hand. The victim was located and stated he had been “stabbed” by the suspect.

The victim was treated by GREMBS and released. The suspect was arrested and booked into DRS.

Status: Suspect booked into jail.

Auto Theft – Officers were dispatched to Lone Butte Casino in reference to an auto theft. Contact was made with the victim who stated they were delayed while gambling and a suspect entered the casino at the time and stole her backpack.

The suspect returned and then left the vehicle. The vehicle was not observed leaving in a white SUV.

Status: Under Investigation

District Two (Sacaton Flats):

No Incidents Involving Part I Crime

District Three (Sacaton Flats):

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in District Four for a report of a male suspect which had taken place in District Three. The officer arrived and stated the victim had a physical altercation with a pregnant victim and kicked the victim in the stomach.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in District Four for a report of a male suspect that reported he had been stabbed. The reporting individual was intoxicated and could not give exact information as to the location of the incident. The victim sustained two lacerations to the face and received medical treatment.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four (Stotonic Area):

FBI – The victim reported theft of medication. The victim believes something was possibly stolen by a family member.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four (Lone Butte Area):

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to a burglary. Contact was made with the victim who stated he failed to return his cell phone to the charging kiosk. When the victim returned he noticed a rock had been thrown through a window to gain entry. The victim stated that electronic and personal items were missing from the house.

Status: Under Investigation

District Two (Sacaton Flats):

No Incidents Involving Part I Crime

District Four (Sacaton Flats):

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in District Four for a report of a male suspect which had taken place in District Three. The officer arrived and stated the victim had a physical altercation with a pregnant victim and kicked the victim in the stomach.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in District Four for a report of a male suspect that reported he had been stabbed. The reporting individual was intoxicated and could not give exact information as to the location of the incident. The victim sustained two lacerations to the face and received medical treatment.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven (Maricopa):

No Incidents Involving Part I Crime

Incident Log
July 1-7, 2018

Calls for services this week: 632
Arrest made: 55

District One (Blackwater):

Auto Theft – Officers were dispatched in reference to a stolen vehicle. Contact was made with the victim who stated a work truck had been stolen from the work site. It was verified no other employer had taken the vehicle home so they wished to list it as stolen. The vehicle was entered into the database as stolen.

Status: Under Investigation

Burglary – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to a burglary. Contact was made with the victim who stated he allegedly stole a watch taken from one of the stores. The investigation revealed the watch was in the store shopping for a few watches and according to the store employee the item was returned and failed return one of the watches.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim reported that his back pack was stolen off his bicycle while at the Lone Butte Casino. Video surveillance shows the victim’s backpack on the bike near the entrance while the suspect was walking by and looking towards the area. He then returned back to the bike a few minutes later and takes the backpack. The suspect was observed leaving in a white SUV.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – Officers responded to Wild Horse for a report of a theft. Investigation revealed the victim cashed out at an ATM kiosk located inside the casino. The victim who stated she left her cash that was dispensed from the ATM but forgot to take the cash. The suspect was later identified, did admit to taking the money indicating it was “found” and they did not steal it. Contact was made with the victim who stated no further information would be set up between the two parties.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – Officers were dispatched to Lone Butte Casino in reference to a theft. Contact was made with the victim, who stated her cell phone was left to charge in the charging kiosk when the victim returned she noticed her cell phone was gone. Video shows a suspect walk to the charging kiosk and remove the cell phone from the cell phone. The suspect then hands it to another individual who walks off with it. The suspect who took the phone out of the charger has been identified and follow up is being conducted.

Status: Suspect (non native) was identified and charges forwarded to MCAO

Weapon – Officers responded to a residence in reference to a subject in a red Toyota driving recklessly and pointing a firearm at the reporting party. Upon officer arrival the suspect brandished a plastic toy gun and pointed it at the reporting party and her family. The suspect was located and taken into custody after he refused to leave the area.

Status: Under Investigation

Arrest made: 72

District Five (Casa Blanca Area):

No Incidents Involving Part I Crime

Continued on Page 5
Community member is now a Stanford grad

Aaron J. Tohtsoni
Gila River Indian News

District 3 Community member Manuel Jr. graduated this past spring from a world top-10 university, a huge accomplish- ment that it wasn’t without trials. In the end, personal growth and determination helped Manuel Jr. return and finish his degree, a Bachelors of Arts from the School of Humanities & Sciences at Stanford Uni- versity.

A Science, Technology and Society major with a concentration in Innovation and Organization, Manuel Jr. started on the Farm in September 2010 after graduating the spring prior from Basha High School in Chandler.

After starting in 2010, Manuel Jr. stayed at Stanford through March 2012 before taking a three-year break. Returning to summer school in 2015, Manuel Jr. planned for his major and political science minor classes to be completed by 2018.

With his degree completed, Manuel Jr. made the decision to return home with plans to enter the workforce.

“I thought about stay- ing in the Bay and work- ing tech companies,” said Manuel Jr. “I figured I’d come back and help the Community somehow and apply [for a job] here. There are different opportuni- ties here and there but I figured it out now. I got a scholarship from the Community and I figured I should give back in a tangi- ble way.”

In comparison to other universities, Stanford uses a quarter system to semesters, which meant it moved at an accelerated rate squeezing semes- ter-long classes into shorter timeframes.

“If you fall behind it’s hard to get back on track,” said Manuel Jr. “I used to move by day-to-day but moves by week-to-week and now next you know it’s the end of the school year.”

Other challenges that Manuel Jr. say- ed are important to remember are health issues and identity struggles. According to Manuel Jr. the urban setting made it easy not to forget about the identity and “get lost.”

Of things that Manuel Jr. enjoyed about his time attending Stanford was the Native American community that included mem- bers from the Navajo, La- kota, Ponca and Cherokee Tribes. Manuel Jr. also said there was one other Akimel O’odham student who graduated from South Pasadena, Cal- if. that attended school along with him. One of his favorite memories was when the Native Community would host a candlelight vigil in White Plaza on Indigenous Peoples Day. Manuel Jr. served a term as co-chair of Stanford’s Native American Indian Organization.

The biggest culture shock that Manuel Jr. saw was the geographic difference of Northern California’s

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Now, Manuel Jr. will work in the urban setting eventually wants to return to school for a master’s degree and work his way up to earning his doctorate. While he would choose to attend the future, Manuel Jr. may find himself on the East Coast, where he almost went for undergraduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

District 6 (Komat- ke)

Aggravated Assault

- A suspect committed an aggravated assault, misuse of firearms, endangerment and criminal damage while at a residence in the District 6 area. The suspect fired a gun striking several ve- hicles on the property and also the residence. In one of the vehicles a victim was struck in the left ankle and was unsecured with the keys inside of it prior to it being stolen. The victim did not wish to report the ve- hicle stolen and only an attempt to locate as she lat- er learned an friend had possession of the vehicle. The friend later called the victim, stating an unknown suspect just stole the vehicle in the Phoenix area. The vehicle was list- ed as stolen in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

- Two separate, shootings were reported.

July 1-7 2018 Incident Logs from Page 4

July 11 2018 Gila River Indian News July 17 2018

District Six (Komatke)

Aggravated Assault

A suspect committed an aggravated assault, misuse of firearms, endangerment and criminal damage while at a residence in the District 6 area. The suspect fired a gun striking several vehicles on the property and also the residence. In one of the vehicles a victim was struck in the left ankle and was unsecured with the keys inside of it prior to it being stolen. The victim did not wish to report the vehicle stolen and only an attempt to locate as she later learned an friend had possession of the vehicle. The friend later called the victim, stating an unknown suspect just stole the vehicle in the Phoenix area. The vehicle was listed as stolen in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

- Two separate, shootings were reported.
Aaron J. Tohtsoni
Gila River Indian News

Game coverage: Gila River tops AZ Future in NABI opener

Gila River players make their way through the procession. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

After emerging as Pool E’s top seed, Gila River opened up division 2 bracket play with a 71-60 win over AZ Future from Mesa at the 16th annual Native American Basketball Invitational at Maricopa High School on July 12.

During NABI games, the teams played two 20-minute halves with a running clock.

Gila River opened the game on a 11-0 scoring run fueled by Nickolas Harrison and Anthony Escalante with four points apiece during the run. They played an up-tempo game forcing steals and getting out in transition. AZ Future ended their scoring drought with 13:27 left in the first half scoring back-to-back baskets but Escalante and Harrison responded with a lay-up and three-pointer, respectively.

A five-point swing by Robin Whittaker put Gila River up 21-11 with 9:12 left in the first half.

The Gila River team continued to add to their point total doubling up AZ Future, 26-13, on a three-pointer. Gila River took a 16-point lead on an Escalante trey but AZ Future scored five straight points to cut into the lead.

Wesley Cooper ended the first half with four free-throws for Gila River. They led 35-20 at halftime.

Gila River opened up the second half continuing to play pressure defense. A steal and play up by Jara Amador with 16:04 left in the game pushed Gila River to a 17-point lead. But in a fast-paced ‘r&c ball’ style game, AZ Future started to mount a comeback.

After a Harrison drive to the basket for a 16-point lead with 13:31 left in the game, AZ Future’s Logan draining a three-pointer. Harrison responded on the other end with a three-pointer but Logan drained back-to-back three-pointers to get within 51-41.

With 9:55 left in the game, Logan brought AZ Future within single digits, after being fouled shooting a three-pointer and draining three free-throws.

With the game on the line, Gila River turned to the dynamic duo of Harrison and Escalante who scored the team’s final 18-points over an eight-minute span. During the final stretch, Escalante added 10 points.

Leading Gila River was Harrison, 19 points and Harrison added 22.

Gila River continued in bracket play, topping Ak-Chin 63-54.

They were stopped in the quarterfinals by eventual champion Team Indigenous, from Shawnee, Okla., 78-60 ending their NABI run.

Gila River was coached by Rudy Flores and team members included Harrison, Escalante, Whittaker, Amador, Wesley Cooper, Malachi Case, Joseph Juan, Timothy Curley, Zachary Lupe, Isaac Lupe and Allen June.

NABI Night highlights week of games in Arizona for Native basketball teams

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Students took center stage at the Native American Basketball Invitational Night at the Ak-Chin Indian Community Ultra Star Multi-tainment Center on July 11.

128 teams made their way in front of a large stage during a parade of tribal flags that recognized the over 300 tribal nations, that participated in the week-long NABI tournament. NABI Co-founder GinaMarie Scarpa said the turnout of teams from all over Indian country each year has made the tournament a success and is a sign of fast growing movement of Native youth in sports.

She thanked former Phoenix Suns player and three-time NBA champion power forward A.C. Green, who was in attendance at the event, and has been a long-time supporter of the NABI tournament. She also thanked the NABI tournament’s many sponsors, that included the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, Tohono O’odham Nation, San Lucy District, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Additional sponsors of the NABI tournament included Nike N7, the City of Maricopa and the Arizona Chamber of Commerce.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said the NABI tournament has become a movement among indigenous athletes.

“[You] guys are making a statement, you are making your elders and your villages back home proud,” said Gov. Lewis.

He said as a co-sponsor of the NABI games, it is an honor to support the games along with the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

Gila River Indian Community Vice-Chairman Gabriel Lopez welcomed the teams to their community, and he said it was a good sign to see many Native youths involved playing on teams in this year’s NABI tournament.

“My heart feels good that you are with us today,” said Lopez, “We thank you for your blessings and being here with us. We want to wish you safe travels as you return back home.”

NABI Executive Board member Ernie Stevens Jr., said the tournament brings together youth from all over Indian country, which builds character and opens the doors to many possibilities in life.

“The world of basketball and education has taught me life principals of respect of helping one another,” said Stevens, “It’s about helping people, helping others…that’s what our life is all about.”
About 70 youth attend annual camp as part of the Gila River Health Initiative

Aikemel O’otham Alphabet

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<td>vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W, w</td>
<td>wıppo – eyelashes</td>
<td>water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y, y</td>
<td>yu:v – key</td>
<td>yellow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jukbig Mashath

This month’s Ethnobotanical plant highlight will be Chu:ggia, Palmer’s Amaranth Amaranthus palmeri. Chu:ggia grows in disturbed soils and in places where rainfall collects and remains on the ground as puddles. The young leaves and stems of Chu:ggia are gathered and cooked by boiling in a pot on the stove. Gathered Chu:ggia are boiled in support of the updated Orthography. The efforts of the Education Culture Committee utilized the Native American Language Act of 1990, Public Law 101-477, which helped in the case to GRC-Council. Today, the Aikemel O’otham Orthography is being implemented by many Community members and Educators in Our Community. The Huhugam Heritage Center’s Language Program will be contributing by showing a four-part series which includes the Alphabet, Vowels, Diphthongs and Dicriticals. These four sections make up our Aikemel O’otham Orthography. Section One: In the Aikemel O’otham Alphabet the letters F, Q, q, R, r, X, x, and Z, z are not used. We encourage you to practice the sounds of the Aikemel O’otham Alphabet every day.

Youth attend Phoenix Suns basketball camp in Prescott

About 70 youth attend annual camp as part of the Gila River Health Initiative

Aaron J. Tohtsoni
Gila River Indian News

Nearly 70 Community youth basketball players spent a week in Prescott to refine their skills while attending the Phoenix Suns basketball camp. The basketball camp hosted by the Phoenix Suns is funded by the Gila River Health Initiative and this is the 10th year that the Community has sent youth to the camp. This is one of a few sports camps that the GR health initiative sends kids to.

“We send about 70 kids every year and the kids really enjoy it,” said Alix Walking Badger, who accompanied the kids to the camp and is in charge of the health initiative. “It’s important because the kids can advance their skills and also gives them an opportunity that they otherwise might not have.”

The campers are divided into age groups from five to seven years olds, eight to nine year olds, 11 to 13 year olds and 14 years and up. The teams are also leveled out on a skill level so that each team has the same talent level.

From 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., the campers are practicing with their teams going through different basketball drills aimed at improving their dribbling, shooting, passing and physical stamina. They also compete in a basketball tournament that lasts the remaining part of the week.

On the last day of camp, all of the participants meet with camp officials and members from the Phoenix Suns basketball organization, including team mascot the Gorilla, for an awards presentation and raffle prizes. Also on hand was former Phoenix Suns player, Mark West.

A handful of campers from the Community received special award plaques for their hard work and basketball skills including Haiti Gonzales, Miranda Enos, Candace Foulke, Steven Hutchinson, Bria Hutchinson, Maddox Gregory, Nick Harrison, Jeremiah Davis, Gianni Miguel and Amare Prant.

Harrison, Enos and Emery Jackson Jr. were also on the tournament championship team for the 14 and up age group.

“Our kids have talent and can play basketball and it showed by the number of awards they got,” said Walking Badger. “Overall, I think it was a good experience for everyone that attended and this is something we want to continue providing to the youth to experience.”
An Amazing Special for the Gila River Community

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One coupon per person after usual and customary fees. New patients only.

Must present coupon at initial consultation.

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Jack G. Wright DDS CAGS • Specialist in Orthodontics for adults and children.

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Special Events Email: special.events@gric.nsn.us

2018 Family FOAM FEST

Gila River Indian Community

9.21.18 RAWHIDE CHANDLER, ARIZONA
Youth Council holds 30th Annual Youth Conference at Rawhide

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addresses the youth. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The 30th Annual Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Conference marked a three-decade milestone for the Gila River Indian Community organization that provides a voice for Native youth. This year’s conference was held at the Rawhide Event Center from July 13-14.

As in previous years, the conference empowers the youth of the Community and highlights their contributions as the next generation of leaders. The 29th Youth Council President Randel Curran welcomed the youth to the conference and encouraged the youth to learn as much as they can during the two-day conference.

He talked about the theme of the conference “Kai-Dih,” which is the O’odham and Pee Posh translation of “seed.” He said, “The thought behind that is, we cannot grow as a person without knowing where we come from, recognizing the people that lived here before us and honoring them.”

Part of that legacy is acknowledging their homelands, way of life, and the Community’s history and people. Curran said, “Take the initiative to learn your roots. Take the first step in the right direction and use these next two days to take in as much as you can and learn.”

The conference offered a variety of workshops and activities set on building relations with one another and empowering the youth to take the initiative in pursuing an education. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said, “30 years this has been going on. 30 years makes up a generation of Community youth that are our future leaders.”

He said the youth conference cultivates the next generation of leaders from within the Community who will go on to accomplish great things. “It’s important that you exercise your leadership now, that you exercise important things to change what’s around you,” said Lewis.

The first president of the AOPPYC Tim Terry Jr., from Hashen Kehk, District 2, said everyone is related in some way and that we should support each other as in the past generations. Terry, who overcame a rough upbringing, said there are many challenges present in the Community that the youth have to deal with.

“A know sometimes as young people you have challenges and things that bother you or your family,” said Terry, “I want to encourage you guys to not give up in where you’re going in life…you can make it.”

One of the conferences themes recognizes the pressures of teen life in the Community, but that there is a way and opportunity to make positive strides, even when life seems unfair. “I want to encourage you that even though you may be growing up with things that have been difficult, your life means a lot, you can think out of the box and do better in your lives,” said Terry.

The conference brought several GRIC departments together, including representatives from the University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University and Arizona State University.

It also provided a chance for the attendees to showcase their talents during a live music entertainment sessions provide by Youth council Representatives Adrian Thomas and David Romero. The conference also offered physical activities including a 3-on-3 basketball tournament, and a golf clinic hosted at the Whirlwind Golf Club.
no one who works harder for the Community than Congressman O’Halleran,” said Gov. Lewis. O’Halleran called the occasion a “joyous day,” and said he was excited for the many years ahead. “This is about our children and the future of the [Gila River Indian Community],” he said.

Deputy State Treasurer Swenson followed O’Halleran and read a letter from State Treasurer Eileen Klein. The letter stated: “The Office of the State Treasurer Arizona is honored to be here today for the official groundbreaking of your new Gila Crossing Community K-8 School project. It is a privilege to be part of tribal history on this momentous day and to stand with you in your continued commitment to education at all levels of this community.”

Elders Alma Johns and Priscilla Antone provided a prayer and special message which was followed by a basket dance by Achem A’al Traditional Dance Group. After the dance, Community officials and members of the Owner’s Team performed the groundbreaking ceremony to mark the beginning of the year-long building project.

Lt. Gov. Robert Stone gave the closing remarks and also blessed the food. Lt. Stone said it was “an exciting day,” and commented on the accelerated pace of the work leading up to the groundbreaking. “We’ve come a long way in a short period of time,” he said. The builder on the project is Tutor-Perini Building Corporation, and the architect is JCJ Architecture.

Gila Crossing School Construction Owner’s Team Members: Gov. Stephen R. Lewis Arzio Hogg Anthony Villareal, Sr. (Chair) Rodney Jackson Barney Enos, Jr. Devin Redbird Terrance B. Evans Charles Goldtho Treasurer Robert Keller Treasurer Mentor Suzanne Johns Advisory Members: Anthony Hill, Gila Crossing School Board Chair Isaac Salcido, Tribal Education Department Director

GRIC applauds House passage of Homelands Legislation, H.R. 4032

Communications & Public Affairs Office Gila River Indian Community

The House of Representatives passed H.R. 4032, the Gila River Indian Community Federal Rights-of-Way, Easements and Boundary Clarification Act, on July 17 with bipartisan support. The legislation was introduced by Congressman Tom O’Halleran (D-AZ) with sponsorship from other members of the Arizona delegation including Congressmen Paul Gosar, Andy Biggs, and David Schweikert and Congressman Ruben Gallego, who is also the Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.

Gila River Indian Community Governor Stephen Roe Lewis applauded the passage of the bill because it will enable the Community to protect culturally significant lands in the Estrella Mountains. The primary purpose of the bill is to fully implement a prior settlement agreement with the federal government which settles a trust accounting suit brought by the Community and requires recodification of all federal rights-of-way on the Reservation. The legislation also clarifies a section of the Community Reservation boundary that will avoid a title dispute with the City of Phoenix. In exchange for the lands at issue in the disputed area along the Northwest boundary of the Reservation, the bill allows the Community to add approximately 3,400 acres of culturally important lands in the Estrella Mountains to its Reservation. The Community is in the process of purchasing this culturally significant land from the Bureau of Land Management.

The legislation passed the House of Representatives by a voice vote and was sent to the Senate where it is expected to be referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. When the legislation passed the House, Governor Lewis remarked, “I am pleased that this bi-partisan legislation was passed out of the House of Representatives today. This legislation will help correct decades of mismanagement of our trust resources and allow the Community to put its reservation lands to their best use for housing, economic development and natural resource uses. The Community will also be able to acquire culturally relevant lands to ensure these areas are respected and left undisturbed. The Community looks forward to swift action in the Senate on this non-controversial legislation.”

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GRP meets with the public at the Coffee With a Cop event

Aneeza Antoine
Gila River Indian News

Elders and the Gila River Police Department came together for Coffee with a Cop at the District 2 Service Center on July 10. Coffee with a Cop gave the police department an opportunity to interact one-on-one with people from District 2. The Police Department often meet people in times of distress so this event gave them time to talk without distractions.

Elders enjoyed a hot cup of coffee, some donuts and fruit. Although the event was mainly for Elders, the doors welcomed teenagers to come in and talk to the police officers. “See Chief [Elliot] is over there really talking to [the teenagers]!” said Francisco Osifo, “They’re really engaged with her and so I think that’s the good thing for the kids.”

The relationship between the GRPD and the Gila River Indian Community has improved throughout the years. Officer Jerred Rosson said he has seen a “180-degree change in the last seven years.”

Osifo said that putting more officers on the road and down to learn GRPD to empathize with the community. “I think putting more officers on the road was a big deal… you still have your officers responding to calls for service, but it frees up those other officers and gives them the chance to really get out and make contact with the elders, the youth, the community in general,” he said.

The event also was a chance to change people’s view of the Police Department. “I mean it made me feel good because [the police are] taking time to acknowledge people that are here.” Osifo said.

A club member receives some assistance while skating.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Arizona Coyotes invite youth from the Boys & Girls Club to Gila River Arena

Children from the Gila River Indian Community
Boys & Girls Clubs took to the ice at a special skate party in Glendale. The Boy & Girls Club

Introducing Ms. Wanda Burton, Principal of Sacaton Elementary School

Ms. Burton has been a nurse at CIGNA Healthplan in pediatrics and urgent care, an allergy office, and taught nursing at the Byrner School. She was a stay at home mom and a homeschool mom in when her first child entered kindergarten. This is where she found her passion for teaching in elementary education. She took online classes to become a teacher when her youngest child started pre-school. When she went to first grade, Ms. Burton completed her student teaching. When she promoted to second grade, Ms. Burton became a first grade teacher. She taught first grade for seven years, then moved to third grade to help students pass math and science on state tests. She felt that teaching writing was her weakness so she became National Board Certified in Literacy, Reading, Language Arts to compile her skills. Ms. Burton remained in the classroom for 13 years teaching EL, 4th, after-school enrichment classes and volunteered as a leader and coach for Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H, softball, soccer, and basketball. She believes experience and exposure is critical to education, so she encouraged her children and the children she works with to embrace opportunities. This is her passion as a teacher, leader, mother to make opportunities available to children, learning and growing through obstacles and failures to reach personal success that builds and sustains a better world.

Introducing Mr. Andre Gillespie, Principal of Sacaton Middle School

Mr. Gillespie is an experienced building level administrator who works to make a difference in the lives of those whom he serves. He said around 100 kids from the Community’s two Boys & Girls branches took part in the event, which provided them with an opportunity to cool down and do something different.

He said that teaching writing was her weakness, and Ms. Burton took online classes to become a teacher when her youngest child started pre-school. When she went to first grade, Ms. Burton completed her student teaching. When she promoted to second grade, Ms. Burton became a first grade teacher. She taught first grade for seven years, then moved to third grade to help students pass math and science on state tests. She felt that teaching writing was her weakness, so she became National Board Certified in Literacy, Reading, Language Arts to compile her skills. Ms. Burton remained in the classroom for 13 years teaching EL, 4th, after-school enrichment classes and volunteered as a leader and coach for Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H, softball, soccer, and basketball. She believes experience and exposure is critical to education, so she encouraged her children and the children she works with to embrace opportunities. This is her passion as a teacher, leader, mother to make opportunities available to children, learning and growing through obstacles and failures to reach personal success that builds and sustains a better world.

Mr. Andre Gillespie

Sacaton Elementary School District 18

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A club member receives some assistance while skating.

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Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • June 20, 2018

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, June 20, 2018, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:10 a.m.

INQUORATION

Provided by Councilwoman Pamela Johnson

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Robert Stone

Council Members Present:
D1-Dr. Whitney, Anzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Nadia Celaya, Jennifer Allison, Barney Enos, Jr., Pamela Johnson; D5-Janice Stewart, Martin Dixon, Franklin Pablo, Sr., D6-Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:
D5-Lawrence White, Sr.; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr.; Charles Goldtooth

APPROVAL OF A GENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)
*1. Introduction-Julian Garza, Tribal Social Services Director
Presenter: Pamela Thompson
MS. PAMELA THOMPSON INTRODUCED MR. JULIAN GARZA. MR. GARZA PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND AND HIS PLANS FOR THE DEPARTMENT. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EXPRESSED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.

2. Introduction of American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Staff
Presenter: Scott Gemberling

REPORT HEARD

REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Scott Gemberling

REPORT HEARD

5. GRICA FY18 Quarter 2 Report Presenter: John Lewis, Leonard Gold

REPORT HEARD

6. ORT Notice of Filing-Connect America Fund Inter-Carrier Compensation (CAF-ICC) Data
Presenter: James Meyers, Board of Directors 

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS TURNED THE CHAIR OVER TO LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE

7. Monthly Activity Report Ending May (Executive Session)
Presenter: Suzanne Johns

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

[LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE CALLED FOR A 5-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVANED AT 10:52 A.M.]

RESOLUTIONS
*1. A Resolution Authorizing The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community and Ak-Chin Indian Community To Enter Into Interoperable Talkgroups In The Gila River Public Safety Radio System (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Commander Ronald Bliss, Chief Kathleen Elliott

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Rescinding Resolution GR-086-17 And Consenting To And Approving The Acquisition For Right Of Way For A Grant Of Easement For The Gila River Indian Community Department Of Transportation Project No. ROW-D-14-01-01 Crossing Aloted And Community Trust Land Parcels For The Purpose Of Constructing, Operating, Managing And Maintaining A Roadway And Utilities Corridor By The Gila River Indian Community Department Of Transportation Located In District 4 And As Shown On Drawing Number 4014-0689-EA-01 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenters: Calvin Touchin, Antonellion Antion

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Ratifying The Decision Of Gila River Fire Department To Opt-Out Of The Public Safety Risk Pool (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Sharon Hanvier

APPROVED

4. A Resolution Ratifying The Decision Of Gila River Police Department To Opt-Out Of The Public Safety Risk Pool (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Sharon Hanvier

APPROVED

5. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 42 To The Gila River Indian Community Capital Projects Fund Budget For Fiscal Year 2018 Through 2022 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Suzanne Johns

APPROVED

6. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Indian Community To Amend The FY 2018 Intergovernmental Agreement With The Regional Public Transportation Authority To Accept ATAN Bus Stop Improvement Funds (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, NRSC concurs)

Presenters: Gregory McDowell, Debra Brunner

APPROVED

7. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Transportation Improvement Program For Fiscal Year 2018 Through Fiscal Year 2022 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, NRSC concurs)

Presenters: Gregory McDowell, Steve Johnson

APPROVED

8. A Resolution Granting The Plma-Marioca Irrigation Project Permission To Permanently Remove A Portion Of The Spur Rail Line In The Former Santan Industrial Park For The Construction Of The Santan Flood Protection System In District 4 Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: David H. Dejong

APPROVED

9. A Resolution Granting A Permanent Irrigation Easement, A Permanent Drainage Easement, And A Temporary Construction Easement To The United States Of America For Reach Santan IB Canal On Portions Of Allotted Trust Land Located Within The Exterior Boundaries Of The Gila River Indian Reservation And Setting The Amount Of Compensation Due To The Community For The Community's Undivided Interests In Such Allotted Trust Land And Rescinding Resolution GR-28-18 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: David H. Dejong

APPROVED

10. A Resolution Approving The Relinquishment Of Jennifer Ruth Flores From The Gila River Indian Community Membership Roll (LSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Sheila Riley-White

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby Enacts The Following Ordinance Amending Title 1, Chapter 1 Of The Gila River Indian Community Code To Add Sections 1.105 And 1.106 And Adding Chapter 7, Specifying The Duties And Standards Of Conduct For The Chief Judge And Other Judges Of The Community Court (LSC motioned to forward the Ordinance to Council for discussion and action striking H of 1.708)

Presenter: Mandy Clisenos

APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gila River Telecommunications, Inc., Independent Auditor’s Report And Consolidated Financial Statements, December 31, 2017 (ESC motioned to forward to Council under New Business and to include the additional language from Isaac Salcido; CRSC concurs)

Presenters: Starleen Samegustava, Priscilla Espinoza, Edwardine Thomas, Nina Allison

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

3. Deficiency Response Plan And Procedures (ESC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation to approve the deficiency Response Plan And Procedures)

Presenter: Lori Stinson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

4. Basic Financial Statements, Independent Auditors Report, And Single Audit Reporting Packaging Ending September 30, 2017 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Suzanne Johns

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

5. Independent Account’s Report On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures Related To Compliance With The Revenue Allocation Ordinance Year Ended September 30, 2017 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, Suzanne Johns

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

MINUTES

1. March 21, 2018 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. June 6, 2018 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH ADD-END NOTATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

> G&MSC & LSC WORK SESSION, JUNE 21, 2018, 9AM

> G&MSC WORK SESSION WITH GILA RIVER GAMING ENTERPRISES, JUNE 22, 2018, 9AM

> IPC MEETING, JUNE 21, 2018, 1PM

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:13 p.m.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
In Loving Memory of Warren K. Williams

A very heartfelt “Thank you” to all those who helped put our son Warren K. Williams, also “Weets” to rest. Thank you for the many cards of encouragement it really helped lift our spirits during our time of mourning. In gratitude we recognize and thank all who donated their time and help during this time.

Community Council
District Three Staff
District Three Maintenance Crew and all those who helped dig the grave.

Gila River Police Department escort

Details & EMS on standby.

Thank you, Anton Antion for officiating the wake and burial.

To all our relations & friends for making the picture badges, the “In Loving Memory” banner, donated food, water, flowers. We could not have done this without your well wishes, love and concern for our family. Please if we did not acknowledge you, forgive us. God Bless your cares and generally.

Dennis & Detre Williams & Family

Congratulations

Roman Drake Sabori
Sorry this is late but we your family congratulate you on receiving your diploma at RSI.

Love,
Your Family

What's New at GRICUA?

GRICUA Summer Interns

Henry William

High School Intern

My name is Henry Williams. I am 17 and I am originally from District 1, but I live in District 3. I have 3 brothers and 4 sisters. I am the second oldest and my sister’s name is Jonessa Williams. I like lika the Dallas Cowboys and when I get older I want to join the NFL so I can go out and serve our country. I currently go to Goodbye High School where I am a part of the JROTC. My parents’ name is Jason and Antonio Williams. My favorite hobbies are football, basketball and basketball in JROTC. Fun fact: I like to cook fun food. Mia Jose – High School Intern

My name is Mia Jose. My mom’s name is Danielle Allen and my dad’s name is Ryan Jose. I also have a little sister named Persephone. I am 16 years old and got enrolled at Florence High School. I don’t do much but like to stay in my room. My favorite hobbies are drawing and reading. Fun fact about me is I like chocolate and milk ice cream, they are good! Rachel Ann – High School Intern

My Name is Rachel Ann. My mom’s name is Danielle Allen and my dad’s name is Ryan Jose. My biological father is the late Robin Mack. I currently go to goodbye High School. I will be a junior this year. My usual hobbies are either hanging out with friends for teaching myself how to make music or alternatively I am creative with clothes. I am currently in District 7 and I am sometimes self-taught in programming but just the basic stuff.

Elyssa Withrow – Middle Intern

My name is Elyssa Withrow and I am 14 years old. I am from Florence. My maiden name is Ryan Jose. My father’s name is Ryan Jose. My biological father is the late Robin Mack. I currently go to Goodbye High School. I will be a junior this year. My usual hobbies are either hanging out with friends for teaching myself how to make music or alternatively I am creative with clothes. I am currently in District 7 and I am sometimes self-taught in programming but just the basic stuff.

K. Williams, aka “Weets” to rest.

Gail Hunnicutt, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, at the Native Right To Vote event in Sacaton discussed the long battle for

Thank you, Arturo Anton for officiating the wake and burial.

To all our relations & friends for making the picture badges, the “In Loving Memory” banner, donated food, water, flowers. We could not have done this without your well wishes, love and concern for our family. Please if we did not acknowledge you, forgive us. God Bless your cares and generally.

Dennis & Detre Williams & Family

Congratulations

Roman Drake Sabori
Sorry this is late but we your family congratulate you on receiving your diploma at RSI.

Love,
Your Family

What's New at GRICUA?

GRICUA Summer Interns

Henry William

High School Intern

My name is Henry Williams. I am 17 and I am originally from District 1, but I live in District 3. I have 3 brothers and 4 sisters. I am the second oldest and my sister’s name is Jonessa Williams. I like lika the Dallas Cowboys and when I get older I want to join the NFL so I can go out and serve our country. I currently go to Goodbye High School where I am a part of the JROTC. My parents’ name is Jason and Antonio Williams. My favorite hobbies are football, basketball and basketball in JROTC. Fun fact: I like to cook fun food. Mia Jose – High School Intern

My name is Mia Jose. My mom’s name is Danielle Allen and my dad’s name is Ryan Jose. I also have a little sister named Persephone. I am 16 years old and got enrolled at Florence High School. I don’t do much but like to stay in my room. My favorite hobbies are drawing and reading. Fun fact about me is I like chocolate and milk ice cream, they are good! Rachel Ann – High School Intern

My Name is Rachel Ann. My mom’s name is Danielle Allen and my dad’s name is Ryan Jose. My biological father is the late Robin Mack. I currently go to goodbye High School. I will be a junior this year. My usual hobbies are either hanging out with friends for teaching myself how to make music or alternatively I am creative with clothes. I am currently in District 7 and I am sometimes self-taught in programming but just the basic stuff.

Elyssa Withrow – Middle Intern

My name is Elyssa Withrow and I am 14 years old. I am from Florence. My maiden name is Ryan Jose. My father’s name is Ryan Jose. My biological father is the late Robin Mack. I currently go to Goodbye High School. I will be a junior this year. My usual hobbies are either hanging out with friends for teaching myself how to make music or alternatively I am creative with clothes. I am currently in District 7 and I am sometimes self-taught in programming but just the basic stuff.

K. Williams, aka “Weets” to rest.

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Gila River Health Care’s Board of Directors and Executive Leadership Team are honored to advance the Gila River Indian Community’s vision of providing a compassionate, self-governed healthcare system that reflects the cultural and spiritual needs of the Community.

We kindly request the pleasure of your company for a celebration for the official opening of Hau’pal Health Center.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018
10am - 4pm
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