Tribal Education honors GRIC students at annual Chief Azul awards banquet

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

The 2018 Chief Azul Scholar and Citizenship awards were resting on stage on a burgundy table cloth at the Vee Quiva Event Center. The awards wouldn’t stay on the table very long. Before the night ended, each award was given to a young Gila River Indian Community member for their academic excellence and inspirational behavior. The annual Chief Azul Scholar and Citizenship Awards Banquet, hosted by GRIC’s Tribal Education Department, was held on May 4, honoring students from fourth to 12th grade with a special historic as well. What we’re documenting for our Community and is prophecy for the MAR 5, for a special reason is something that is important to educate its members about how important the river is to the people and the generations that looked to it for nourishment and sustenance for decades.

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Ten GRIC students graduate from Arizona State University

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Members of the Gila River Indian Community were recognized for their hard work and commitment in their field of study at Arizona State University. In an annual tradition ASU hosted the American Indian Convocation, to recognize the accomplishments of Native students at Grady Gammage Auditorium on May 9. In addition to the over 140 graduates present at the convocation, five Community members received their degrees through the Gila River Culture and Language Teacher Cohort program at ASU.

ASU
American Indian Convocation

Ten GRIC students graduate from Arizona State University

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Cash money prizes were given to a young Gila River student, the sprawling development of the MAR 5 is to re-establish that historic cultural and spiritual connection between us and the Kelí Akimel. The site was an idea driven by the Community’s desire to educate its members about how important the river is to the people and the generations that looked to it for nourishment and sustenance for decades.

Continued on Page 7

Educational Preserve coming to MAR 5 site

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community announced plans to develop the Managed Aquifer Recharge Site 5 along the Kelí Akimel. This is going to be very exciting for our Community and is historic as well. What we’re doing for the MAR 5, for a special reason is something that is bringing back the flow of the river,” said Governor Stephen Roe Lewis.

The 2018 Chief Azul Citizen Award winners, 15 high school students, pose at the Vee Quiva Event Center on May 4. Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN
GILA RIVER SUMMER CAMPS

Overnight Camps:

SUNS BASKETBALL CAMP
Wednesday June 27-Sunday July 1, 2018
Prescott, AZ
Ages 6-17 years old

INDIAN YOUTH OF AMERICA CAMP
Wednesday June 13- Friday June 22, 2018
Prescott, AZ
Ages 10-14 years old

NIKE BASEBALL CAMP
Sunday July 15-Thursday July 19, 2018
Prescott, AZ
Ages 10-18 years old

NIKE SOFTBALL CAMP
Sunday July 8-Thursday July 12, 2018
Prescott, AZ
Ages 10-18 years old

Day Camp:

WINGS OF AMERICA RUNNING CAMP
Monday June 25-Tuesday June 26, 2018
Sacaton, AZ
Ages 6-18 years old

MORE INFORMATION
Camps are limited to Gila River enrolled youth, all applications must have proof of enrollment (CDIB or tribal ID).

Spaces are limited to one camp per registered youth and based on a first come first serve basis until filled.

Camp information and registration can be picked up and dropped off at the CPAO Office located within the Governance Center or downloaded on mygilariver.com.

For additional information please contact Alie Walking Badger, Special Events Coordinator at 520-562-9713 or email special.events@gric.nsn.us
Community gives feedback on plans for new Gila Crossing school

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

District 6 stakeholders and tribal leaders hosted a meeting to talk about the future of education in the west end of the Gila River Indian Community. Community council representatives from District 6 and 7 met with the public to talk about the Gila Crossing School design project.

The project is a first of its kind for sovereign tribal communities, looking to build an education facility of their own, because the Community will be using its own funds to back the initiative without relying on the Bureau of Indian Education.

JCI Architecture firm and the Community are working together to reach out to the members from the Districts 6 and 7 to receive feedback on the new school.

Steven Heely, from Akin Gump, said there is a lot of interest from congress about the Gila Crossing School project and that there is a lot of support for the project.

Heely said the owners team had one message for the design team, “This has to be a model, this has to be unique to the Community and has to show a symbol of pride for District 6 and District 7 and the Community as a whole.”

The Community will finance the construction of the school and will be compensated for the construction cost by the federal government in rent payments each year for using the facility.

He said, “This has never been done before in Indian Country, so the administration and congress are very interested in seeing the success of this construction model, so it can be replicated with tribal communities across the country.”

The Community is taking this approach out of timelessness to address the concerns stakeholders have had over the state of the current school and the need to have a new one built to replace it.

Governor Stephen Roe Lewis said, “This is going to be a cutting-edge school that probably doesn’t exist in Indian Country today and is on par with the best schools off the Community... that’s what the children deserve, that’s what our future deserves.”

He said the input on what the school will look like and what it will provide in terms of facilities and educational offerings, was provided in part by the Community leadership, the Gila Crossing School staff and students.

“One of the things that this school is going to be educating is our future leaders, wherever they may go, whether it’s going to be a governor, a community manager, or the head of our water delivery program (Pima Maricopa Irrigation Project), whether it’s going to be an engineer, they’re going to be from this school.”

JCI Architecture is leading the designing of the school under the direction of tribal leaders and GCCS students, faculty and staff.

JCI group is known for projects in education, hotels, gaming and public infrastructure across the country.

The team is led by Principal/Chief Architectural Officer Jim LaPosta, Jr. who was present to give an overview of the three-day work session and project.

He said the team is working on a fast-paced schedule to deliver the final design of the school in a timely manner.

LaPosta said the driving force behind the design process of the school came from the surrounding area and rich cultural history and the input provided by the school.

Although an exact start and completion date has not been finalized, the work is underway to design and build a new school in the west end of the Community.

Gov. Lewis talks about future school plans. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gila River Indian News
Community members came together to recognize an important form of violence during a public outreach event. The Gila River Indian Community Crime Victim Services Department hosted a Sexual Assault Awareness event at the District 2 Multipurpose building on April 28.

The theme of the event was “Embrace Your Voice,” emphasizing the importance of speaking out against sexual assault and sharing stories about how to identify unsafe situations. The lineup of speakers recalled instances of unsafe situations, that went from normal to very harmful, and that talking with your children about the awareness can prevent them from becoming a victim of sexual assault.

The ultimate message of the event was letting anyone, who has been the victim of a sexual assault to speak out and that something can be done to prevent it from happening again or to someone else.

Although it is a tough topic to discuss, especially from the experience of a victim or one who knows a survivor, the speakers talked about the importance of being aware of your surroundings and knowing what to do in such a situation.

Awareness booths from Community departments and the United States Attorney’s Office were present to offer information on what to do, outreach services and what are the rights of a victim of sexual assault.

United States Attorney’s Office Tribal Victim Assistance Specialist Haley Guss, said her office provides victim services to the 22 tribes in Arizona and tries sexual assault cases in federal courts. “We take cases from off the reservation and we provide services the same way Gila River victim advocates do,” said Guss. “We prosecute a lot of sexual assault cases and we try to connect our victims to services throughout the whole process.”

Governor Stephen Roe Lewis said there is a need to talk about sexual assault and how that impacts someone who has been the victim of a crime because people seldom talk about it. “We have to make sure that we have those resources to deal with the issue and that we are proactive in taking a stand against sexual assault,” said Lewis. “We also have to remember that sexual assault is a crime that affects both genders and those from various backgrounds and ages.”

He added, that in order to combat the issue, the Community has established a connection with the U.S. Attorney’s Office, who is instrumental in prosecuting perpetrators of sexual assault to bring justice to the victim.

District 2 Council representative Carol Schurz said we need to bring this awareness to the forefront so that the people can be aware and careful of their surroundings and the dangers that are out there.

“It starts with talking about it, sitting down and talking with your children about this awareness and how they can protect themselves wherever they are,” said Schurz.

Lewis said, “Your voice has meaning, it’s about making sure, that if something does happen to you, you don’t keep it inside.”

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SAN TAN VALLEY
36413 N. Genteel • San Tan Valley, AZ 85140
480-835-0567
The water is running as it should within our river system and in continuing to bring life back to the river with the return of plants and wildlife," said Stone.

According to Lewis the project is about recognizing the contributions of Community members that have had an influential part in the return of water to the river.

In his closing remarks, Lewis said his father Lewin Lewis envisioned that one day the site could be used as a way of telling the story of people and to serve as a testament for what has been accomplished.

"[It is] symbolic of our water settlement and everything that our people have been through and fought for and have regained," said Lewis.

Stone said, "To hear the water flowing and going back into the river is something special and to offer a place to depict what is happening, will educate Community members about what is coming back, the water."

"I was always interested in the river and how much it provides to the people. I would remember harvesting willow with my uncle," said Elias, "Before we could swim, there was work involved, because we would peel and strip them."

She said her first involvement with similar projects were with the Department of Environmental Quality Aquatic Scientist Charles Enos, who introduced her to the restoration projects involving the willow tree.

From there DEQ had asked her to help write a grant letter to support the restoration effort, which also led to an opportunity to serve on the cultural committee.

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Certain reports may not be available or are currently under investigation which GDPD holds the right to restrict public release.

Incident Log April 22-28, 2018

Calls for services this week: 642
Arrest made: 66

District One (Black-water):

No Incidents Involving Part 1 Crime

District Two (Sacaton Flats):

No Incidents Involving Part 1 Crime

District Three (Sacaton):

Aggravated Assault – The victim reported that a tan suburban passed him as he was watering the crops. The male passenger appeared to point a black handgun at him from the moving vehicle. The description of the suburban and suspects were given to officers.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The reporting party stated that household appliance and some electronics were missing from the residence. The victim believed it was a family member who may have taken the items without permission.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four (Stotonic Area):

No Incidents Involving Part 1 Crime

District Four (Lone Butte Area):

Robbery – Officers responded to a fight in progress. The investigation revealed that the victim was chased down in his jeep by two suspects in a ford explorer. The suspects threatened to kill the victim and assaulted him with his own baseball bat, which they stole from him. The suspects attempted to rob him of any cash while brandishing a knife. The victim stated that the two suspects told him that he did not “belong here!” The suspects fled before officers arrived. Photos were taken of the skid marks, tire impressions, the jeep and the victim’s injuries and impounded to evidence.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – (Shoplifting) – Officers responded to a call of shoplifting at a store located at the Phoenix Premium Outlet. The investigation revealed that a female suspect entered the store, stuffed her bag with merchandise and then exited the store. Officers were able to identify the suspect and charges were forward to Maricopa County Attorney’s Office.

Status: Charges have been formalized

Theft – A female suspect entered a store at the Phoenix Premium Outlet, took a children’s shirt off the shelf and left the store without paying. The Police Department is currently reviewing surveillance and attempting to ID the suspect.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The suspect took a wallet, car keys and cell phone from Aji Spa which were stolen from a guest. A description of the male and female suspect and their vehicle were given and currently being followed up on. Wild Horse Pass security officer had also observed the couple in the area.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim was at the Lone Butte Casino and reported her purse was stolen as she played a slot machine. A video review revealed that the suspect took the purse and stashed it in her friend’s vehicle. The suspect was arrested on several felony warrants and long formed charges in regards to the theft. The friend of the suspect was also cited and released in regards to the theft.

Status: Suspect 1 – charges were long formed; Suspect 2 was cited and released

District Five (Casablanca):

No Incidents Involving Part 1 Crime

District Six (Komatke):

Auto Theft – A male and female had stolen a vehicle from the parking lot at the Vee Quiva Casino. The reporting party, informed officers that he arrived in the vehicle owned by The Element Corporation and misplaced his keys. It appears the suspects then found the vehicle keys and were able to locate vehicle in the parking garage. The vehicle was later located by Phoenix PD and Towed by All City Tow. A follow up will be conducted with Vee Quiva Casino surveillance staff to obtain the identity of the suspects.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft (from a vehicle) – Officers were called to Vee Quiva Casino in reference to the victim wishing to report that his vehicle was broken into while parked on the second floor of the casino garage.

The victim reported his cell phone and his girlfriend’s purse missing from the vehicle. The dash was taken apart as if the suspect was attempting to take the car stereo.

Status: Under Investigation

Weapons – Suspect(s) fired shots in the vicinity of a residence. No structures or persons were struck during the course of this incident. The homeowner reported the incident to the Gila River Police Department. Officers responded and located empty shell casings in front of the residence.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four (Stotonic Area):

Auto Theft – Suspect(s) stole the victim’s vehicle from the driveway of her residence sometime between 7:00 am and 8:00 am, while she was away from the residence.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The suspect stole a purse containing credit cards along with some personal property from the victim’s residence. The suspect is a relative of the victim and is the current lead in the case. The victim also reported several fraudulent transactions were made using his debit card which was also reported

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – Suspect(s) entered the victim’s vehicle and took cash which belonged to the victim. The vehicle was left unlocked overnight when the theft occurred.

Status: Under Investigation

District Four (Lone Butte Area):

Shoplifting – Suspect(s) entered a store located at the Phoenix Premium Outlet, and concealed merchandise. The suspect attempted to leave the store without paying for the items but security identified the suspect(s) before they were able to leave the store. Staff then called the Gila River Police Department to report they had said suspect(s) detained and required police presence. Officers responded and found the suspects to be juveniles. Parental notification was made.

Status: Juvenile suspects were apprehended and handed over to their parents (Charges filed).

District Five (Casablanca):

No incidents involving part 1 crime.

District Six – (Komatke):

The theft suspect intentionally started a bush fire while at the District 6 Park. Security reported seeing the juvenile run from the area. The juveniles’ guardian waved down officers and advised she had suspected juvenile in her care. The juvenile came forward and confessed to officers that he started the fire because he was bored.

Status: Charges will be forwarded.

Theft – The suspect committed the offense of theft from the Komatke Market by taking and removing merchandise from within the store.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven (Maricopa):

Theft – Suspect(s) entered the Vee Quiva Casino and approached the bar. While at the bar the suspect(s) noticed the victim’s cell phone unattended and plugged into a wall charger. The suspect(s) took the cell phone and left the casino. Once the victim noticed his phone was gone he notified casino security and called Gila River Police Department.

Status: Under Investigation

District Six (Komatke):

Theft – Suspect(s) stole tractor batteries from the District 7 Multipurpose Building. Staff advised the suspect(s) cut locks to access the items.

Status: Under Investigation

Arson – A juvenile suspect intentionally started a bush fire while at the District 6 Park. Security reported seeing the juvenile run from the area. The juveniles’ guardian waved down officers and advised she had suspected juvenile in her care. The juvenile came forward and confessed to officers that he started the fire because he was bored.

Status: Charges will be forwarded.

Theft – The suspect committed the offense of theft from the Komatke Market by taking and removing merchandise from within the store.

Status: Under Investigation

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Theft – Suspect(s) entered the Vee Quiva Casino and approached the bar. While at the bar the suspect(s) noticed the victim’s cell phone unattended and plugged into a wall charger. The suspect(s) took the cell phone and left the casino. Once the victim noticed his phone was gone he notified casino security and called Gila River Police Department.

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Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Police Department Officers traded in their blues for running clothes during the Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run held on May 1.

The run raises awareness for the Special Olympics Arizona and is a show of commitment for supporting the games.

According to a statement by GRPD Officer Chavez, this year is the 50th anniversary of the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

According to the Special Olympics Arizona website, it is the largest fundraising event for the games and is a source of financial contributions that create opportunities for the gifted athletes.


He said the route is approximately 18 miles and participants had the choice to ride a bicycle or run.

Some of the participants were a mix of members from GRPD, family and colleagues, who took part in accompanying the torch.

Chavez said the GRPD outpouring of support is something, “We are always proud to participate in this event every year.” He added, the event was made possible by volunteer organizers like Dispatcher Christina Hughes, who took the lead in organizing the GRPD effort this year.

Gila River Police Department lend their support for the Special Olympics during the Law Enforcement Torch Run on May 1.

Arizona State University, discussed his early experiences as a college student at the University of Rhode Island in his keynote address. He was respectful and home-sick during his initial time away from home, but his self-esteem and confidence grew with encouragement from his family. “What I was going through is what many students go through when they are away from home for an extended period of time. I was discovering my true identity,” said Martinez.

Sienna Whittington, K-12 Education Manager, announced the 22 recipients of the 2018 Chief Azul Scholarship Awards, which included the winners and the honorable mentions for fourth through 12th grades. With a strict selection criteria, the students were chosen based on grade point average, attendance, behavior, accomplishments and extracurricular activities. Tribal Education along with Lt. Gov. Stone and Council Representative Hogg handed out each award and the students in each grade posed for applause and photographs.

Following the Chief Azul Scholars, Whittington announced the 2018 Chief Azul Citizenship Award winners. Fifteen students from seven high schools received the award for their exceptional behavior, attitude, desire to succeed, and knowledge of GRIC culture among other qualifications. The Citizenship Award winners won’t be in town for the entire summer. They’ll be packing their bags for an upcoming one-week educational trip to Washington D.C.

Council Representative Hogg, Chairman of the Education Standing Committee, closed out the evening by reminding the students about the individuals who supported them during their education and to also show humility and respect. “Stay humble and remember where you come from,” he said.

The 2018 CHIEF AZUL SCHOLARS
Clover Lewis
Natalie Garcia
Ivan Gage
Maudicia Osife
Dylan Siquieros
Seth Enos
The 2018 CHIEF AZUL CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Ariyanna Charley
Angel Mariequez
Angel Molina
Adrianna Burrell
Theodore Hendricks
Selena Ordenez
Sophia Moreno
Rachel Whempner
Taf Dillon
Susanna Osife
Erica Blackwater
Mercedes Madrid
Jose Canez
Lehua Lani Dosela
Alyssa Sandoval
Karissa Escalante
2018 CHIEF AZUL CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Isaiai Morendo
Adrian Thomas
Angel Ortiz
Kiana Allison
Colleen Kisto
Brandi Donahue
Serina Flores
Sarah VanHardenberg
Alicia Villarreal
Alyssa Sandoval
Erica Blackwater
Lehua Lani Dosela
Karissa Escalante
Rheanna Jackson
Breedra Lewis

The 2018 CHIEF AZUL SCHOLARS are:

- Clover Lewis
- Natalie Garcia
- Ivan Gage
- Maudicia Osife
- Dylan Siquieros
- Seth Enos

The 2018 CHIEF AZUL CITIZENSHIP AWARD winners are:

- Ariyanna Charley
- Angel Mariequez
- Angel Molina
- Adrianna Burrell
- Theodore Hendricks
- Selena Ordenez
- Sophia Moreno
- Rachel Whempner
- Taf Dillon
- Susanna Osife
- Erica Blackwater
- Mercedes Madrid
- Jose Canez
- Lehua Lani Dosela
- Alyssa Sandoval
- Karissa Escalante

GRPD participates in Law Enforcement Torch Run to promote the Special Olympics
Fitness class highlights:

Tribal Recreation & Wellness program also extends the fitness workouts to Tribal departments. This is the GRIC Fire department attending a fitness work-out session.

Events:

Employee Fitness Week started this week and the crowds were great. Awesome teamwork was exhibited. Thank you to the Wellness staff for producing an exciting and organized event. It was quick, fun and a good workout. Congratulations to all…

Tour the District Tour
Tour the District tour has now completed their visit to all seven districts. There was a great following of dedicated participants. A secret incentive will be given to all who completed this tour with a full passport in order to learn about and visit each district.

Sports Highlights:
Elder’s chair volleyball legends Tournament is May 4th from 8am to 2pm.

Strong Man/ Strong Women Fitness event 2018

Strong Man/ Strong Woman Fitness Event 2018 was a huge success. Who knew we had so many strong men & women in our community. Well, the Wellness staff did! There were many participants and spectators out that day. And if you finish it was an accomplishment. Many had so much fun that the question was asked several times, “when will you do another event?”

Elder’s chair volleyball legends Tournament is May 4th from 8am to 2pm.

Champs - Silver Hawks

2nd Salt River Majestics

Calling all Umpires

Do you have experience in umpiring youth baseball? Are you interested in umpiring but have no experience? Do you want a way to earn extra money in your spare time?

Well here is your opportunity to umpire for the New upcoming Tribal Recreation Youth Baseball Season.

The T-ball Season will start the week of June 4th and the Little League season will start the week of June 11th. Individuals that are interested but do not have experience we will have training available and umpires that do have experience, we want your expertise with the up and coming umpires.

Please contact the Tribal Recreation Department
We hope to hear from you soon!

Call: 520-562-6087
Or
Email: wellness.center@gric.msn.us
In the 1690’s Father Eusebio Kino introduced wheat to the Akimel O’otham and Pee-Posh and since that time, this food crop has played a major role in the history of farming for our Community. The last hereditary Chief of the Akimel O’otham, Antonio Azule informed the anthropologist Frank Russell in the early 1900s about Pilkañ Baithag Mashath meaning the ‘ripening of the wheat month.’ Our fertile soils enabled Akimel O’otham and Pee-Posh to grow many wheat fields in our middle Gila River valley. Pilkañ has its own category of language and words associated with growing and harvesting the food crop. A Pilkañ oithag is a wheat field. The head of the wheat is called eshpo (beard) and the stalk is called va’ogach. As days gone by the Tohono O’odham would come north and helped the O’otham and Pee-Posh with the wheat harvest. Men and women formed a line in the pilkañ oithag to pilkañ hi:k (cut the wheat with a sickle) then tied it in a sheave with a short piece of rope as they walked along. These were left on the ground and a horse and wagon was driven at a walk by the driver, and was flanked by men who voksha (picked up the sheave’s) and tossed them to another man who stood in the bed of the wagon. The man in the wagon quickly untied the sheaves and tossed the rope back on the ground. He piled as much pilkañ as he could into the bed of the wagon and when it was full it was driven to the threshing floor. A pole was set up in the middle of the threshing floor and a team of horses was driven around the pole and keihiva (to separate wheat seed by stepping) on it. The threshed wheat would be removed from the floor and placed in a pile before more was added to the threshing floor. At the pile men used a pitchfork and thaichtha (pitched the wheat and straw up into the wind). The wheat seed fell back straight down as the wind carried away the mo:gach (dried wheat straw). The mo:gach and strips of wet ku:jul (Screwbean Mesquite) bark is used to weave the vashom (granary storage basket) where the pilkañ was stored. When flour was needed for che:maith, the women and girls ground the wheat seeds into flour on the mach’chud (grinding stone). The Tohono O’odham were paid in wheat for their labor and they knew when to come up north to help with the great wheat harvest each year. Today, the Gila River Farms and Independent Growers raise a brand of wheat called Desert Durum and most of our annual wheat crop is exported to Foreign Markets around the world. So when you see the combines out harvesting our pilkañ very soon, you will remember a little history of the way men and women worked together in harvesting the old way. We encourage you to learn them in your everyday lives.
The Town of Gilbert honors the late Rodney Lewis with a resolution of the Gila River Indian Community.

Mayor Daniels said, “It is fitting that the late Rodney Lewis is recognized by the Gila River Indian Community. My father, Aaron J. Tohtsoni/GRIN

Chairman Calvert, Ranking Member McCollum and distinguished Members of the Subcommittee, I want to thank you for providing us with an opportunity to present testimony to you regarding the budget for Fiscal Year 2019. I am Stephen Roe Lewis, the Governor of the Gila River Indian Community (“Community”), which is a federally recognized Indian Tribe of over 22,000 tribal members, located near Phoenix, Arizona. The Community utilizes many programs within the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, and Indian Health Service to provide essential services to our citizens and others who live and work on our tribal lands. All of these federal programs are critical to our ability to protect the health, safety and general welfare of our citizens. We oppose any funding cuts to these essential tribal programs and believe that steady increases are warranted given the clear need in Indian Country. I am here today, in part, to testify on the specific problem of Bureau of Indian Education (“BIE”) schools and the need for the BIE to work with tribal governments and this Subcommittee to develop innovative approaches to funding the construction of replacement schools within the BIE system, and the need for this Subcommittee to provide some direction to the BIE on this matter.

I. BIE School Construction Issues are Pervasive Across Indian Country

It is well-known that BIE-funded schools are marked by remoteness, extreme poverty, lack of construction dollars. This translates to poor and failing school conditions that are not conducive to a 21st Century education for tribal students. In an era when educators across the United States emphasize science, technology, engineering and mathematics as keys to students’ future success, BIE-funded schools lack the basic supplies necessary for the most basic lessons. Rather, tribal students attend dilapidated schools that are rundown, with poor circulation and pose serious safety concerns.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for providing safe and healthy environments for students who attend BIE schools, and the federal government is failing to meet its trust responsibility. Recently, before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Secretary Zinke recognized that “[w]hile inadequate education infrastructure...” and that “[s]chool conditions are not ideal.”

Despite the widespread recognition that there is a significant need for BIE school construction replacement funding, there simply are not enough funds allocated in the budget to meet the needs for BIE school construction across Indian Country. The Community has one BIE school that is on the school construction priority list, however, it is still projected to take years before that school construction will be completed. While that process continues, two other BIE-funded schools in the Community, Gila Crossing Community School (Gila Crossing) and Casa Blanca Community School (Casa Blanca) are in dire need with no plan to address the construction deficiencies of these schools. As discussed more fully below, the Community is extremely concerned that continued delays to the replacement of structurally-deficient BIE schools has created a dangerous environment that threatens the ability of our students to receive the 21st century education that they deserve. The long-term prosperity of the Community depends on the education and retention of our citizens. We need our students adequately educated on or near their homes located on tribal lands so that they can become a part of the Community workforce and be productive Community citizens and leaders. A key component of this is to ensure that our students are educated in safe learning spaces in up-to-date facilities that achieve measurable academic progress. Otherwise, our citizens are forced to leave our Community to receive a sufficient education. This often results in these students not returning to the Community and effectively reducing our membership and economic progress.

Recognizing the reality that the Community faces, much like the rest of Indian Country, the Community has vowed to make education a priority. We are committed to finding a solution to this pervasive problem of lack of school construction dollars and propose in this testimony a path forward for our Community that can also serve as a model for other tribes to replicate.

II. The Three BIE Schools within the Community are in Dire Need of Replacement

The Community is home to three schools that are funded by the BIE: Blackwater, Casa Blanca and Gila Crossing. Casa Blanca was built in 1935 and has a current enrollment of 284 students that span grades K-4. Ga\n
Blackwater opened in 1871 and currently enrolls 310 students in grades K-8. Finally, Blackwater opened in 1939 and currently enrolls 217 BIE-funded students, in grades K-12. In addition, the Community is home to three independent state-chartered schools, two state public schools and two parochial schools. Other students attend off-reservation schools, public and boarding schools. The Community regularly supp\n
Continued on Page 11

Chairman Calvert, Ranking Member McCollum and distinguished Members of the Subcommittee, I want to thank you for providing us with an opportunity to present testimony to you regarding the budget for Fiscal Year 2019. I am Stephen Roe Lewis, the Governor of the Gila River Indian Community.

Chairman Calvert, Ranking Member McCollum and distinguished Members of the Subcommittee, I want to thank you for providing us with an opportunity to present testimony to you regarding the budget for Fiscal Year 2019. I am Stephen Roe Lewis, the Governor of the Gila River Indian Community (“Community”), which is a federally recognized Indian Tribe of over 22,000 tribal members, located near Phoenix, Arizona. The Community utilizes many programs within the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, and Indian Health Service to provide essential services to our citizens and others who live and work on our tribal lands. All of these federal programs are critical to our ability to protect the health, safety and general welfare of our citizens. We oppose any funding cuts to these essential tribal programs and believe that steady increases are warranted given the clear need in Indian Country. I am here today, in part, to testify on the specific problem of Bureau of Indian Education (“BIE”) schools and the need for the BIE to work with tribal governments and this Subcommittee to develop innovative approaches to funding the construction of replacement schools within the BIE system, and the need for this Subcommittee to provide some direction to the BIE on this matter.

I. BIE School Construction Issues are Pervasive Across Indian Country

It is well-known that BIE-funded schools are marked by remoteness, extreme poverty, lack of construction dollars. This translates to poor and failing school conditions that are not conducive to a 21st Century education for tribal students. In an era when educators across the United States emphasize science, technology, engineering and mathematics as keys to students’ future success, BIE-funded schools lack the basic supplies necessary for the most basic lessons. Rather, tribal students attend dilapidated schools that are rundown, with poor circulation and pose serious safety concerns.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for providing safe and healthy environments for students who attend BIE schools, and the federal government is failing to meet its trust responsibility. Recently, before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Secretary Zinke recognized that “[w]hile inadequate education infrastructure...” and that “[s]chool conditions are not ideal.”

Despite the widespread recognition that there is a significant need for BIE school construction replacement funding, there simply are not enough funds allocated in the budget to meet the needs for BIE school construction across Indian Country. The Community has one BIE school that is on the school construction priority list, however, it is still projected to take years before that school construction will be completed. While that process continues, two other BIE-funded schools in the Community, Gila Crossing Community School (Gila Crossing) and Casa Blanca Community School (Casa Blanca) are in dire need with no plan to address the construction deficiencies of these schools. As discussed more fully below, the Community is extremely concerned that continued delays to the replacement of structurally-deficient BIE schools has created a dangerous environment that threatens the ability of our students to receive the 21st century education that they deserve. The long-term prosperity of the Community depends on the education and retention of our citizens. We need our students adequately educated on or near their homes located on tribal lands so that they can become a part of the Community workforce and be productive Community citizens and leaders. A key component of this is to ensure that our students are educated in safe learning spaces in up-to-date facilities that achieve measurable academic progress. Otherwise, our citizens are forced to leave our Community to receive a sufficient education. This often results in these students not returning to the Community and effectively reducing our membership and economic progress.

Recognizing the reality that the Community faces, much like the rest of Indian Country, the Community has vowed to make education a priority. We are committed to finding a solution to this pervasive problem of lack of school construction dollars and propose in this testimony a path forward for our Community that can also serve as a model for other tribes to replicate.

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Continued on Page 11
in the area. Following the overview of the agriculture classes, each class did a presentation to demonstrate what they’ve learned. Mr. Rodriguez’s class discussed compost, explaining what it is and how it provides nutrients to the soil as well as reduces waste. They also gave tips on starting a compost.

III. BIE School Construction Innovative Funding Solution

In January of 2017, the Community wrote to BIE leadership to request the exploration of a partnership to develop alternative funding mechanisms to replace BIE-funded schools that are not on the BIE construction priority list. In November of 2017 the Acting Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Office of Facilities, Property and Safety Management (Facilities), in conjunction with BIE, were willing to discuss alternative school construction funding options under existing statutory authority. Since that time, the Community has been working with Facilities and BIE staff to explore an innovative approach to fund school construction. We have made significant progress in these efforts to craft a funding solution such that the Community has proposed fronting the costs of construction to replace Gila Crossing, leveraging Backwater’s facilities to the BIE through a commercial lease. The Community, BIE and Facilities staff worked together to calculate the total square footage, based on appropriate school enrollment numbers and programming, and to calculate the total cost of construction and applicable costs of the facility. Interior leasing staff then prepared an estimate of the commercial lease based on those numbers which resulted in an annual lease amount of $5.8 million. While the Community would initially front the construction costs, it would seek to subsequently finance the project costs using existing programs, such as New Markets Tax Credits or a USDA program.

The Community and Interior would enter into a commercial lease for the newly constructed Gila Crossing while keeping Backwater on the BIE priority list. Because this is the first BIE school construction replacement project of its kind, assuming the venture was satisfactory to the Community and Interior, the Community would envision this model being a model for a leasing-construction program at the BIE.

The Community wants to have the school operational by the 2019-2020 school year. Given this short timeframe, the Community has already dedicated its own funds to retain a design build contractor, architect and project manager for the new Gila Crossing school in order to provide momentum and signifi- cant in the future, to build much needed schools across Indian Country. While access to capital may vary across Indian Country, the proposed innovative funding approach will result in replacement of more schools than the current system would permit. Our Indian students deserve nothing less.

IV. Conclusion

In conclusion, BIE school construction is absolutely critical for the Community and the future of our children. The Gila Crossing school campus is overcrowded, lacks sufficient classroom space and consists mainly of modular structures that date back to the 1970’s or have been acquired from other tribes in the 1990’s. The Community’s goal is to work with the BIE to construct a new school where our children will be able to walk through the halls of new, safe and clean schools that they can be proud of as we provide them with an appropriate education to equip them for careers and higher education. And the new Gila Crossing facility will provide the best investment in the Community’s funds, with the greatest return for students, parents, staff and community members.

This is a unique opportunity to create a state-of-the-art learning environment for our students and one that offers exceptional educational programming. If the Community hopes to experience a dramatic improvement in the education system, it starts with the “house” the students are educated in, and requires that our students, parents, staff and community members have access to the types of programs to finance this innovation. If the Community is successful in this venture, we strongly believe is probable. In order to be successful, however, this innovative approach requires a commitment from Congress and the Administration to provide funding for the BIE to lease back the facilities from the Community in the amount of the annual commercial lease, which is $5.8 million, beginning with a prorated amount in fiscal year 2019 once the school construction is completed. The Community appreciates Interior’s efforts in working with the Community to explore this innovative approach to solving the BIE school construction problem. We hope that this Subcommit- tee and the full Committee will view this venture as an opportunity to solve this pervasive problem and support an allocation of additional funding for this project and other schools in the future.

Thank you for considering our request and providing the Community an opportunity to share our additional funding for this project and the Community’s request on this matter.
State tribal leaders call on federal government to maintain Native health care coverage

Many Native Americans could be facing the possibility of having to meet work requirements to continue receiving health care. Medicaid reform, now adding a work requirement, was passed in three states with 10 more eyeing the possibility.

Native Americans receiving health care at Indian Health Services, which is under the Health and Human Services Department, would be affected because low federal spending on IHS has left tribes dependent on Medicaid to help supplement costs.

Tribes are seeking an exemption from the work requirements, but the Trump Administration is contending that such preferential treatment, based on race, is unconstitutional. The Trump Administration is viewing Native American tribes as one race rather than sovereign, individual governments.

The state of Arizona passed HB 2228, which provides a waiver for Native Americans from the work and lifetime requirements of Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), which is Arizona’s Medicaid program. The effort was bi-partisan and signed by Governor Doug Ducey but federal officials have the power to reject such requests.

“We are calling on the Trump Administration to catch up with the times, re-read your constitution and treaty obligations and get with it,” said Rep. Eric Descheenie-D. “It’s the law of the land in the state of Arizona, we just need the federal government to do their jobs.

State Representatives, Descheenie-D and Wenona Benally-D, were joined by Tohono O’odham council member Daniel Preston, San Carlos Apache Healthcare board member Dr. Vicki Stevens and Alida Montiel, Health Policy Director of the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, for a press conference at the state capitol’s rose garden to call on President Trump to recognize treaties that relate to health care coverage for Native Americans.

“Our hospital depends on Medicaid to fund the healthcare we provide to members of our tribe,” said Dr. Stevens, a member of the San Carlos Apache Tribe. (Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services) policies will in effect bankrupt our hospital.”

In 2016, the Native American unemployment rate was 12 percent, nearly three times the national average. With some Indian reservations in rural areas finding employment is hard. Arkansas and Indiana are the first three states to begin establishing Medicaid work requirements with 10 more states looking at the same option. Based off 2014 census data, nearly 620,000 Native Americans live in those combined 13 states.
ATTENTION 2018 GRADUATES

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE GRIN WILL HAVE
A SPECIAL GRADUATION SECTION

ALL GRADUATING COMMUNITY MEMBERS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO
SUBMIT YOUR GRADUATION PHOTO TO BE INCLUDED
IN THE JUNE 1 ISSUE

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PHOTOS WILL BE MAY 29, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
THE GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS
This report is a snapshot of your water quality. Included in this report are data about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

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

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity including:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining;
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and
- Radionuclides, which may naturally occur or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

WATER QUALITY TABLE

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

Continued on Page 16
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, April 18, 2018, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Lt. Governor Robert Stone at 9:15 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilman Martin Dixon
ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present: Lt. Governor Robert Stone
Executive Officers Absent: Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman, Arizzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Nada Celaya, Barney Enos, Jr., Pamela Johnson; D5-Janice Stewart, Martin Dixon, Lawrence White, Sr., Franklin Pablo, Sr., D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth; D7-Devon Redbird (9:35)
Council Members Absent:
D4- Jennifer Allison; D6- Terrance Evans
APPROVAL OF A AGENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED
PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)
1. Request For Council Agenda item Presentation River Of Dreams d.b.a. Daring Adventures
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
MS. CHERYL PABLO INTRODUCED MS. ANN WHEAT. MS. WHEAT PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM AND EXPRESSED WORDS OF GRATITUDE AND PROVIDED A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION TO THE COMMUNITY. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.
2. Introduction of GRHC Chief Medical Officer – Robert Patel
Presenter: Myron Schurz
MR. MYRON SCHURZ INTRODUCED MR. ROBERT PA- TEL. MR. PATEL PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HIS BACKGROUND. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.
3. Introduction of Pima Leasing & Financing Corporation Executive Director – Michelle Fox
Presenter: Jennifer Allison
MS. NADA CELAYA INTRODUCED MS. MICHELLE FOX. MS. FOX PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HER BACKGROUND. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.
4. 2018-2019 Gila River Royalty Court Introductions
Presenters: Gila River Royalty Committee
[LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENE AT 10:23 A.M.]

REPORTS
1. Pool-Veterans Association First And Second Quart- er FY2018 Reports
Presenter: Arnie Bread Sr.
REPORT HEARD
Presenter: Lori Simson
DISPENDED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. Rivers Indian Legal Services 2nd Quarter Report
Presenters: Anthony Young, Diana Jones-Lopez
REPORT HEARD
RESOLUTIONS
1. A Resolution Approving A Ground Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority For The Construction, Op- eration, And Maintenance Of Sacaton 2 Substation Site (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, EDSC concurs)
Presenters: Casaudrina Wallace, Kathy Galloway APPROVED
2. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community 2018 Procurement Policy And Rescinding The Existing Procurement Policy Authorized Prior To Resolution GR-230-08 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Lawrence Makil, Treasurer Robert G. Keller APPROVED
3. A Resolution Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Maricopa County For Street Lighting On 51st Avenue/Bellline Road And Saint Johns Road (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Luis Durazo, Howard Remo APPROVED
4. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Directing The Distribution Of Trust Assets To Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Suzanne Johns APPROVED
ORDINANCES UNFINISHED BUSINESS
1. WHPDA 2018 Annual Plan Request D (G&MSC mo- tioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs)
Presenters: Dale Gutenson, WHPDA Board
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
2. FAA Proposed Amendments for West Flow Area Depar- tures at Sky Harbor (NRSC forwards to Council for further discussion and action; and recommend Council initiate a Consultation Team to meet with FAA; CRSC concurs)
Presenter: Barnaby V. Lewis
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
CRSC concurs)

GILA CROSSING NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION OWNERS TEAM TRAVEL MINUTES
1. April 4, 2018 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
W/ CORRECTIONS
* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

RESOLUTIONS
1. Seeking Guidance on Bald Eagle Mortality (NRSC for- wards to Council with recommendation for approval to have Governor write a formal request to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Ser- vices for the remains of the juvenile bald eagle that was fledged from the Hayfield/Pee Posh Wetlands next site, CRSC concurs)
Presenters: Russell Benford, Dale Ohnmeiss
DISPENDED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. District Two Letter Of Appointment (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sharon Lewis
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPONT
3. District Three Letter Of Appointment (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sharon Lewis
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPONT
4. District Four Letter Of Appointment (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Sharon Lewis
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPONT
5. COT Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino Expansion & Renovation Plan (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward the Casino Expansion Owner’s Team expansion and renovation plan specifically to the Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino to Council with recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs in Executive Session)
Presenters: Dale Gutenson, Treasurer Robert G. Keller
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
6. Gila Crossing New School Construction Travel
Presenters: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

EXECUTIVE SESSION
4. Gil River Indian Irrigation Drainage District Board of Di- rector Appointments Three (3) (Executive Session)
Presenter: Reviewing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT
EXECUTIVE SESSION
5. Code of Conduct Follow Up
Presenters: Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER
EXECUTIVE SESSION
6. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Gila River Indian Communities Request To Enter Into A Consulting Agreement With The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service For The Remains Of The Juvenile Bald Eagle That Was Fledged From Hayfield/Pee Posh Wetlands (Executive Session)

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Continued on Page 16
Action Sheets from Page 15

Jennifer Allison (9-12); Barney Enos, Jr.; D5- Janice Stewart, Marlin Dixon, Lawrence White, Sr., Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth; D7-Devin Redbird (9-28)

Council Members Absent:
D4- Pamela Johnson; D6-Terrance Evans

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

REPORTS

1. K-12 3rd Quarter Report

Presenter: Sienna Whittington

REPORT HEARD

2. Vocational Training Programs

Presenter: Laus Chanda

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. January – February Early Headstart 2018

Monthly Report

Presenter: Lori Slanin

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby Amends Title 5 Criminal Code To Include A New Chapter 18, Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction (LSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Javier Ramos

APPROVED

DPW Annual Water Quality Report 2017 from Page 14

Special Education Statements:

Additional Information for Arsenic

While your drinking water meets the EPA standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The EPA standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Additional Information for Nitrate

Nitrate in drinking water is used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/basics-information-about-lead-drinking-water.

1. April 18, 2018 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

> PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR JACOB RODRIGUEZ FAMILY

> PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR ARINDA RAPHAEL FAMILY

> PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR FRANCES INSAMO FAMILY

> H&SSC WORK SESSION, THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018

SUSPENSION OF RULES ADDING #7 & #8

APPROVED

8. NCAI Travel Extension

Presenters: Community Council

MANDATORY WORKSHOP – JULY 13, 2018

APPROVED

6. Economic Development Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy (1) Council Seat

Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE VACANCY (1) COUNCIL SEAT

APPROVED

4. Government & Management Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy (1) Council Seat

Presenters: Legislative Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE VACANCY (1) COUNCIL SEAT

APPROVED

> PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR FRANCES INSAMO FAMILY

> H&SSC WORK SESSION, FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2018

SPECIAL GILA RIVER FARM BOARD MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2018, NOON

ADJOURNMENT MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:00 a.m.

Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
District 2 and District 5 get their custom miniature libraries

Christopher Lomaquahu
Gila River Indian News

Two more mini-librarys have gone up in the Community, allowing residents of Districts 2 and 5 to have access to free books as part of the Growing Readers, Developing Leaders initiative.

Casa Blanca Community School teacher and member from District 5 Ted Huerta painted the artwork for the mini library that was installed at the District 5 multipurpose building on April 30.

The library takes several elements from the surrounding area and basket designs, which Huerta says represents one of the Community’s most known forms of art. He also incorporated the Japanese Internment camp memorial and landscape that looks back at the agricultural landscape below.

Huerta said the library holds a special meaning because he dedicated it to his father, who designed the basket.

Another mini library was also installed in District 3 on March 27. Casa Blanca Community School teacher Fabien Vincent, a 6-year-old, who passed away in March. I wanted to dedicate the library to him because he was always smiling and he was a part of the school here in Casa Blanca.”

Huerta painted a portrait of Vincent and incorporated an image of Spiderman, because it was Vincent’s favorite superhero.

“I teach art and music and so literacy is a big part of teaching and with today’s technology I think picking up a book is still the way to go,” said Huerta.

District 2 member Sarah Yucupisio is also a contributor to the Community wide mini-library project.

She said it was her first time working on a project of its kind and it was a learning experience about her own district.

“I visualized what I wanted to put on there, one of them being the Hashen Kehek or Cactus Stand in front. I definitely wanted to start there,” said Yucupisio.

Yucupisio incorporated a basket into her artwork, which she said, “The basket on the east side of it is done by a Community member. Her name is Kathy Nish, she passed away, but she was the one that designed the basket.”

On the opposite side of the mini library Yucupisio included the St. Michael Chapel that is located down the street from the D2 multipurpose building.

“It’s still there and everyone sees it, everyone from the Community knows it...there was a Father there, he was Father Augustine,” she said.

In addition to the cac-tus she painted an oriole bird, which represents her mother’s uncle, Edward Osife, who was one of the last Oriole singers in District 2.

Another mini library will be installed soon in District 3 at Sacaton. This will conclude one part of the Growing Readers, Developing Leaders initiative to promote literacy in the home.

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Case: Marisa Hernandez Civil Plaintiff
Jeremy Ray Austin Defendant

Dallas Delowe
Westend Judicial Center, P.O. Box 7156, Mesa, Arizona 85207

In this case, a hearing may be held in absentia if neither party, or counsel for either party, appear at the hearing.

Marisa Hernandez was named as a party to the case.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Gila River Police Department.

The prosecution was handled by Raynette Logan, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona.

Notice of Hearing

Marina Manetta, a member of the Gila River Indian Community, was sentenced to 5 years for possession of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking.

The prosecution was handled by Raynette Logan, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

Vacancy Announcement

Casa Blanca Community School is now hiring for the following 2018-2019 School Year positions: Business Manager, Maintenance Technician/ Groundskeeper, and Substitute Teacher.

CBCS is also hiring for the following positions: Face-to-Face Co-Teacher, Human Resource Coordinator, and Instructional Assistant.

For more information, visit www.clubschools.com/Employment.

Registration Begins APRIL 16, 2018

1. Age requirement is child must be 5 years old by August 31st.

2. Student must be enrolled at CBCS for the 2018-2019 school year to participate in the summer program.

Contact information: Angela Moreno or Farrah Secody
(520) 315-3489 Ext: 2521

Enrollment Information

KINDERGARTEN BOOTCAMP
For students who have not had any Early Childhood Program experience.

KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION CAMP
For preschool students who are currently enrolled in an Early Childhood Program.
Here’s what you need to know…

When customers bring their nickel to Premier Auto Center, they can receive up to $4,500 off any vehicle in stock from Premier Auto Center at the listed price.

The “Drive for a Nickel” promotion helps customers get a great deal on a nicer, newer vehicle from Premier Auto Center. The program is designed to boost dealership inventory, encourage customers to trade in their old car, energize the economy, increase sales and put safer vehicles on our roadways. No local, state or federal tax dollars are being used to fund this program.

This is a limited time opportunity. Transactions must be made between April 1, 2017 and June 30, 2017 or when the funding for the program runs out, whichever comes first.

We apologize in advance, but this special offer may not be combined with any other special or discount. 

I’m in a Pickle!

My doc says I gotta calm down but how do I get your attention? I know…

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### Cinco de Mayo Sale·A·Bration!

**$5 DOWN**

**$5 MONTH**

(1st Payment)

May 4th–May 8th

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 Chevy Trax</td>
<td>$255/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Chevy Traverse</td>
<td>$355/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Ford Taurus Limited</td>
<td>$265/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Nissan Sentra</td>
<td>$195/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Buick Enclave</td>
<td>$295/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Buick Verano</td>
<td>$255/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Hyundai Sonata</td>
<td>$275/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Nissan Altima SL</td>
<td>$385/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Hyundai Elantra</td>
<td>$195/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Nissan Pathfinder</td>
<td>$305/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Ford Fusion</td>
<td>$225/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Chevy Cruze</td>
<td>$195/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 Dodge Caravan</td>
<td>$225/mo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016 Ram EcoDiesel</td>
<td>$385/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Ford Edge Titanium</td>
<td>$335/mo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Chevy Impala</td>
<td>$335/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee</td>
<td>$305/mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Jeep Renegade</td>
<td>$255/mo.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*Payment based on 720 credit score, 2.99% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit. Photos for Illustration purposes only.*
REMEMBER THE BRAVE MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES SERVING THIS COUNTRY.

MEMORIAL DAY
MAY 28, 2018