Sacaton Middle School wins Samsung contest by using technology at “Legacy Orchard”

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Sacaton Middle School has been named Arizona’s state winner in the Samsung “Solve for Tomorrow” contest. This nationwide competition challenges students in sixth through 12th grade to apply science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills to find creative solutions to issues in their local communities.

After receiving a grant from Gila River Indian Community, the Sacaton Middle School recreated an orchard that originally had been done back in the late 1990’s, located on campus. In the beginning of 2018, the students planted 144 citrus trees: orange, pomegranate, peach, grapefruit, lemon and tangelo.

The goal is to teach students agriculture, which plays a strong and vital role in the Community’s history and to connect the student’s closer to the Community. The students have done everything themselves from digging the holes and planting. Mr. Alberto Alaniz, Math and Science teacher at the Sacaton Middle School, guided the students in recreating the orchard. The students used coordinate plane and mathematics to construct and develop the orchard, which is run on a solar irrigation system. The orchard is named “Legacy Orchard” and is focused on being produced for the Community.

Mr. Alaniz says “the idea of the Legacy Orchard is to develop two things: a better relationship with the Community by having an orchard they can go to and glean fruit from when it’s ripe and to introduce students to agriculture and have them go back to the historic roots of the community” - Alberto Alaniz, Sacaton Middle School

Continued on Page 9

Chief Azul celebrated in Sacaton

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Community members gathered on Saturday, Jan. 12, for the fourth annual Chief Azul Day, which happens during the winter solstice. The event was created to recognize and celebrate Chief Antonio Azul who was a veteran and tribal leader. He was considered one of the last traditional chiefs of the Gila River Indian Community. Community members gathered at the empty lot, just north across from the Matthew B. Juan and Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park, in Sacaton. The celebration began with a blessing at sunrise and Community members then participated in a 2-mile walk/5k run.

After the run/walk, participants gathered back at the lot for incentives and some light refreshments, followed by a procession to the west cemetery where Chief Azul’s gravesite is located. The procession was led by various veterans groups across the Gila River Indian Community followed by GRIC Basket Dancers and some Community members.

Descendants of Chief Azul were in attendance. Pacer Reina was delegated to give a few words on behalf of the family, they thanked the Community for honoring their ancestor through this annual event. Afterwards, Gov. Lewis and the family presented wreaths to Chief Azul’s grave and attendees were welcomed to pay their respects by offering sea salt that was brought by spiritual runners.

The event was coordinated by the Veterans and Family Services Office peer support staff Darrell Whitman and Wesley Rhodes.
57TH ANNUAL FAIR AND RODEO

Mul-Chu-Tha

“Bringing People Together to Celebrate Culture and Tradition”

MARCH 8-10, 2019
SACATON FAIRGROUNDS

Carnival Rides • Entertainment • All Indian Rodeo
All Indian Jr. Rodeo • All Indian Masters Rodeo • Parade
Cultural Performances & Demonstrations • Pow-Wow
• Chicken Scratch Battle of the Bands • Skate Competition
Sports & Cultural Tournaments • Frybread Contest
Food, Arts & Crafts Vendors and more…

For more information visit www.mul-chu-tha.com | Special Events: (520) 562-9715 | Email: mulchutha@gric.nsn.us

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE SHALL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR BODILY INJURY, THEFT, OR DAMAGES INCURRED DURING THE MUL-CHU-THA FAIR & RODEO
The Growing Readers & Developing Leaders program assist with literacy in the home. Sienna Whittington/GRDL

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

There is no question that learning to read early helps children in their academic success. One program that is focused on helping to promote youth literacy is the Tribal Education Department’s Native Youth Project, “Growing Readers & Developing Leaders” (GRDL).

The Growing Readers & Developing Leaders project under the Tribal Education Department (TED) just completed its second year and is continuing its four-year plan to give a literacy boost to the Community by providing more books to be put in the homes of Community members. This will better prepare children for a successful life and academic achievements.

An average of only 38 percent of children are ready to read for kindergarten. GRDL is looking to change that within the Community. GRDL introduced its four goals, one: “Create/grow reading habits in the home by distributing culturally relevant books and encourage parent engagement.”

During the wrap up of their second year, they successfully distributed a total of 35,552 books across GRIC between March 2017 – October 2018. Based on their data collected, they reached 133 in the Community which has created and increased their family engagement with reading to their children from 53 percent to 80 percent.

Second goal: “establish a demonstration preschool to expand high quality education and share best practices with all pre-schools.” A preschool classroom was offered to 18 students in August 2017 at Blackwater Community School. Data collected, showed that 100 percent of the students showed an increase in language, literacy and communication skills while also having the O’otham language integrated.

Third goal: “engage students K-8 in STEM based, print rich activities that promote a self-determined reading habit outside of the classroom.” Science, technology, engineering and mathematic programming was offered to Gila Crossing Community School, Sacaton Public School and Blackwater Community School students.

Fourth goal: “establish a cross-sector, professional learning community that build the capacity of schools and existing community organizations to overcome the barriers of book scarcity to close the achievement gap.”

Professional development trainings were provided to the partnered school teachers, assessing their competency in effective strategies for engaging students and teaching styles that focus on increasing student learning.

Growing Readers & Developing Leaders would also like to introduce their new staff, Sienna Whittington, Project Manager and Charlotte Forte, Literacy Coordinator. GRDL is excited to continue meeting project goals for grant year 3 and its success with the Community.

They will be looking to reach at least 100 more parents/grandparents with children 0–5 years old to participate in a 4-8 week Growing a Reader workshops that are one-hour long where families will learn literacy strategies. There’s always a snack provided and children will receive free books at each session. The workshops are tentatively scheduled to begin in March and they will also be offering the workshops continuously through September.

For more information about Growing Readers & Developing Leaders and to sign up for the Growing Reader workshops please contact: (520) 562-3362 or email: Charlotte.Forte.EDU@gric.nsn.us
ASU’s School of Social Transformation will debut an offering of an online Master of Arts degree in Indigenous Education.

ASU’s Center for Indian Education debuts indigenous education online degree

ASU’s School of Social Transformation will offer master’s degrees in Indigenous Education to graduate students in remote areas.

Putting mortarboards on Native Americans has historically been a challenge for colleges and universities. Indigenous peoples’ pathways to higher education are littered with hurdles. Many live in remote areas, commutes can take hours and access to the internet is difficult. That especially rings true for Native American graduate students, who often work and stay in their communities after graduation. Arizona State University’s School of Social Transformation and the Center for Indian Education have figured out a way to bring the campus to the reservation (and other remote parts of the world) with a new online master’s degree program that will debut this month.

“The center develops programs that first begin with a conversation: listening to the needs of indigenous communities who are seeking support to provide new opportunities that meet the needs of their own individual communities,” said Deborah Chadwick, interim co-director of the Center for Indian Education.

ASU now speaks to Chadwick about the new program, which starts this semester.

Q: How did the idea for this program come about, and how long did it take to develop it?
A: The idea for creating an online MA in Indigenous Education program was first prompted by tribal communities and nations located within Arizona and outside the state. In conversations with them, they stressed a need for a graduate program in indigenous education that would allow potential students to stay in their Native communities and/or pursue graduate study while earning a graduate degree. This online program provides students the opportunity to stay within their own communities while strengthening their ability to work in the field of Indian education and within tribal nations’ education programs.

Q: Since this is an online degree, who will be your audience and what is your reach?
A: We have marketed this online program throughout the U.S. and internationally. We envision people will come to the program from multiple backgrounds: education, social science, human services, environmental studies, tourism, tribal and state government entities — with an interest in building their knowledge base that focuses on indigenous education.

Q: What is the benefit of learning this particular material online?
A: The online format of delivery of the Indigenous Education program is a way to reach a greater audience of potential students that might not have the opportunity to leave their community. I believe online courses are more accessible to students who do not have the privilege to leave their communities due to family responsibilities, employment and desires to continue supporting their tribal community.

Q: Is there a central theme in this program?
A: The MA in Indigenous Education program seeks to explore differences between the Indigenous educational processes, or the ways knowledge has been passed down through generations, and Western institutions of schooling. The goal of this degree is to provide students with an advanced theoretical foundation and current practices in Indigenous education, strengthening their ability to work in the field of Indian education and within tribal nations’ education programs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
Meenah Rincon, Media Relations Officer
Phone: (480) 727-3116
About Arizona State University
Arizona State University has developed a new model for the American Research University, creating an institution that is committed to access, excellence and impact. ASU measures itself by those it includes, not by those it excludes. As the prototype for a New American University, ASU pursues research that contributes to the public good, and ASU assumes major responsibility for the economic, social and cultural vitality of the communities that surround it.
Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

District Five (Sacaton Area):

Shoplifting - The suspect then traveled to the Phoenix Premium Outlets and took several items without paying for them. The suspect left the property by vehicle and was arrested.

Status: Under investigation.

District Six:

Theft - The suspect took the victim’s wallet while the suspect was waiting in a vehicle in the Phoenix Premium Outlets parking lot. The wallet was later discovered in a cell phone. The wallet and money taken were returned to the victim.

Status: Under investigation.

District Seven:

Shoplifting - The suspect was stopped by a store in the Phoenix Premium Outlets and grabbed merchandise before exiting the store. The suspect then fled on foot and the victim contacted law enforcement.

Status: Under investigation.

incident in reference to an individual hitting another individual. The suspect was advised that a female subject had arrived at a gas station in reference to a theft of her vehicle.

Status: Recovered

District Three (Sacaton Area):

Auto Theft - Officers were dispatched to a store in the Phoenix Premium Outlets. Dispatch advised the suspect fled the scene in a white four-door sedan. Officers received a report of a motor vehicle accident in the area of the suspect.

Status: Under investigation.

District Three (Saca­ton Area):

Shoplifting - The suspect then fled on foot and the victim called the police.

Status: Recovered

District Two:

No Incidents Regarding Part I Crime.

District Three: Aggravated Assault

The suspect assaulted several subjects within the premises while leaving in a vehicle. The suspect became upset with the initial victim and struck them with a wooden folding table. After assaulting this person, the suspect physically assaulted two minors who were under their care at the time of the incident. Officers responded and the victims were medically evaluated by Gila River Indian Medical Services for their minor injuries.

Status: Under Investigation.

District Four (Lone Butte / WHP Area):

Shoplifting - The suspect entered a store located in the Phoenix Premium Outlets and took several items without paying for them. The suspects left the property by vehicle and were arrested.

Status: Under investigation.

Distance: 457feet

Time: 01/03/2019

Vehicle: Black four-door sedan.

License Plate: 12604W

Location: 12604W. Honeysuckle Street

Police: Sean Green

Petitioners Sena Green and Angelica Hernandez Green (“Petitioners”).

For their Petition, Sena Green and Angelica Hernandez Green (“Petitioners”).

The victims were medical evaluable by Gila River Indian Medical Services for their minor injuries.

Status: Under Investigation.

Burglary - The suspect walked into a store located at the Phoenix Premium Outlets and took several items without paying for them. The suspects left the property by vehicle and were arrested.

Status: Under investigation.

Shoplifting - The suspect entered a store located at the Phoenix Premium Outlets and stole a cell phone. The suspect fled on foot and the victim contacted law enforcement.

Status: Under investigation.

District Five:

Aggravated Assault

Both the suspect and victim were involved in a domestic altercation. The suspect punched and hit the victim with the phone. The victim was then transported by medics to a local hospital for treatment. No one was able to locate the victim.

Status: Under investigation.

District Four (Lone Butte / WHP Area):

Shoplifting - The suspect entered a store located at the Phoenix Premium Outlets and stole several items without paying for them. The suspects fled on foot and the victim contacted law enforcement.

Status: Under investigation.

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Status: Under Investigation.

Burglary - The suspect walked into a store located at the Phoenix Premium Outlets and stole several items belonging to the victim’s employer while it was parked in front of her residence. The victim was away from her residence when the vehicle was stolen. The victim immediately reported the vehicle stolen upon the discovery.

Status: Under investigation.

District Five:

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Both the suspect and victim were involved in a domestic altercation. The suspect punched and hit the victim with the phone. The victim was then transported by medics to a local hospital for treatment. No one was able to locate the victim.

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Status: Under investigation.

District Four:

Auto Theft - Officers dispatched to WHP Casino parking lot. Contact was made with the store manager, who stated that the suspect fled the scene.

Status: Under investigation.

District Five:

Auto Theft - Officers dispatched to Vee Quiva Casino parking lot. Contact was made with the store manager, who stated that the suspect fled the scene.

Status: Under investigation.

District Four (Lone Butte Area):

Shoplifting - The suspect then fled on foot and the victim called the police.

Status: Recovered

District Six:

Theft - The victim contacted dispatch to report that items were taken from their home. Upon police arrival, the victim discovered several items were missing.

Status: Under investigation.

District Seven:

Shoplifting - The suspect ran the victim’s vehicle off the road and then held the victim at gunpoint before taking the victim’s car key.

At that time the suspect then left the area in a white four-door sedan. Officers received a report of a motor vehicle accident in the area of the suspect.

Status: Under investigation.

District Six:

Theft - The suspect then fled on foot and the victim called the police.

Status: Under investigation.

January 18, 2019 Gila River Indian News Page 5
Barnaby Lewis gives presentation on traditional songs and dances at the HHC

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

At the Huhugam Heritage Center an introduction to traditional Akimel O’otham songs and dances was presented by Barnaby Lewis, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, on Jan 10.

Lewis talked about the origin of traditional Akimel O’otham songs and dances and how that is representative of spiritual connections and the surrounding land, in which the Akimel O’otham reside.

Other topics discussed was the proper etiquette, that is associated with traditional music and the types of instruments used for specific songs.

Lewis said that although, many of the songs are based on lore, the performance of the songs is equally important.

He said it is important to understand the meaning and to experience participating in cultural events around the Community.

He said his knowledge of the songs comes from his mentorship from various Community elders, who knew songs from the oriole, swallow and macaw and ant songs. Many of the songs are specific to different areas of the Community and may not be known to singers from other districts.

“They were really good people, good friends, that I spent a lot of hours with them individually, singing together, each had their own songs they sang,” said Lewis, “they were taught with the purpose that at some point in the future to help O’otham learn about the songs and know where they come from.”

He said the origin of each song has its meaning in traditions, some come in the form of dreams, a spirit or place of particular significance to the people. Some of the songs are associated with the landscape.

One song Lewis described was about an oriole flying near a mountain, called Crooked Red Mountain.

“An oriole was flying by and it heard songs coming from the mountain. The oriole kept flying looking for an entrance, so it could go inside and learn those songs, but couldn’t,” he said.

The song describes the oriole’s disappointment in not finding the source of the songs coming from the mountain, which in Akimel O’otham oral tradition, the Crooked Red Mountain is a place where spirits live.

Throughout the presentation, Lewis gave insight into the etiquette of singing and dancing in social settings. One of those was the use of a cactus stick and woven basket to create the spirited sound of O’otham music.

Guests eventually replaced the cactus stick and the woven basket gave way to a cardboard box. According to Lewis, the gourd was an instrument used in traditional ceremonies, while the cactus stick was primarily implemented in social dances.

It is among these changes, that have shaped traditional songs and dances into what many Community members see today.

Lewis used an illustration of the Huhugam to show what their life may have been like and how they used songs to make sense of the world around them.

“This is a depiction of our Huhugam ancestors, that may have been preparing for a ceremony,” said Lewis, “It’s these kind of pictures, that reaffirms our perspectives and appreciation of all these things that we learned from our elders of today and of the past.”

Community youth, that attended the presentation was Precious Vicente, Akimel O’otham/Pee-Posh Youth Council President. Vicente said the presentation brought more insight into how Akimel O’otham dances are performed and that it is something she would share with the AOPPYC, as a way to promote the culture within the organization.

Weather Elements Crossword

Across

1. Rainbow
2. Whirlwind
3. Lightening
4. Cloud
5. Wind
6. Thunder
7. Snow
8. Hail
9. Dust storm
10. Drizzle (Light Rain)

Down


Nui'kosh G-4 Photo Robert Johnson
Throughout the Gila River Indian Community there are many music lovers and some of the most popular music genres can be noted as chicken scratch/cumbia, country, rap/hip hop and reggae but one genre that isn’t so popular is metal. Often described as loud and noisy and misunderstood by most, but to some, metal music is much more than just noise.

“Ocean Harvest” is a metal band with three of its members from the Gila River Indian Community and one from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. The band formed back in 2014 when vocalist, Winston Jose decided he wanted to revisit an old dream of having a band of his own. He first collaborated with two of his friends before moving on to making music with his brother, Elias Jose on guitar and childhood friend, Blaine Peters on drums. The three-piece group eventually recruited Ruben Dawahoya for bass. The group originally performed under the name “Infinite” before changing it to “Ocean Harvest” with the current line up. All members grew up with metal, punk rock and hardcore music backgrounds. Although the band is not well known locally within the Community, they are looking to change that by playing more local shows, hopefully within the Community and give some recognition and build up to the metal scene and inspiring the youth and musicians.

Bassist, Ruben, is looking to contribute to this through a side project he started as a music promoter and sponsor under the name “Red Feather Entertainment and Booking,” originally starting off with the idea of simply putting on a local metal show, but with the scene being so small, it was hard to find people to make it happen by creating a way for him to support and promote the metal scene. Ocean Harvest has made a name for themselves outside the Community, from playing small local backyard shows to playing the stage at the various venues throughout Arizona such as the Marquee in Tempe and even playing out of state, in California and New Mexico. The band has had the opportunity to play with and open for some notable metal bands such as Soulfly, Nile, Carnifex, Harm’s Way and Oceano to name a few. They have all expressed their love and passion for metal music, agreeing that it has given them something so much more for them than just a hobby of playing and making music which has helped them out a lot in their own personal lives.

These young men are doing something they love and creating something that they can share with everyone and while their genre isn’t completely understood by many, they continue to have the support of their friends and family but most importantly motivating themselves and each other and they hope to inspire others to do what they love.

The band is currently working on the release of their self-titled EP, but have music that can be found on iTunes and Spotify. Social media has been a big help to the band for getting out their music and show dates. You can find them on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram under the name “Ocean Harvest” and for more information on their upcoming EP and show dates. “Red Feather Entertainment” can be found on Facebook and Instagram as well. Ocean Harvest will be playing at the 57th Annual Mul-Cha-Tha Fair and Rodeo.

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Ocean Harvest looking to make a name for themselves in the metal scene
The Gila River Indian Community's Department of Environmental Quality is seeking a tribal resolution supporting the establishment of a partnership between DEQ and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The partnership would allow the entities to work towards restoration of the environment.

The resolution is being worked on by Russell Benford, Environmental Program Manager for DEQ, who would facilitate an intergovernmental agreement between AZGFD and the Community to restore and propagate native plants.

“DEQ is working with the Arizona Game and Fish Department to develop programs to remove exotic species that disrupt the natural environment. Our goal is to work on projects that protect and maintain natural resources for future generations to enjoy,” Benford said. “These projects are important to the community, as they help maintain a healthy ecosystem that supports the cultural and natural heritage of the Gila River Indian Community.”

Benford also explained the process for participating in the competition. “Teams can present their ideas at the community orchard in Gila River, which will be held on [date]. The winning project will receive a $10,000 prize package, and the second place winner will receive a $5,000 prize package. We encourage all community members to participate and share their ideas to help maintain a healthy ecosystem.”

The purpose of the competition is to foster a relationship between DEQ and the Gila River Indian Community, to develop a template for future projects, and to provide opportunities for community members to learn about environmental restoration.

Questions? Please contact Employment and Training at (520) 562-3387/88 or (480) 963-0902/03.
HEADLINES
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

“Putting Our People First”

Gov. Ducey’s Office hosts the 24th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day

The annual Indian Nations and Tribal Legislative Day marks the long standing relation between the state of Arizona and the tribal communities in Arizona. From left, Gov. Lewis, Chairman Robert Miguel, Ak-Chin, Chairwoman Gwendena Lee-Gatwood, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Vice-President Myron Lizer, Navajo Nation, President Jonathan Nez, Navajo Nation, First Lady Phefelia Herbert-Nez, Navajo Nation: Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Tribal nations traveled from all over the 48th state, to attend an event set aside to recognize the cultural heritage and contributions to Arizona, during the Fifteenth Legislative session at the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix on Jan. 16.

The Governor’s Office on Tribal Relations, hosted the Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day annual event, to mark the long-standing relations the state of Arizona. It also is a chance for representatives from each of the 22 tribes of Arizona, to get to know their state representatives during the joint protocol session held in the Senate building. The Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day, invites a large gathering of students from schools within the urban population and reservations to the event. The majority of them are high school and come eager to learn about how the state and tribes work together over important issues.

Gov. Lewis said, “Tribes have an important role to play within the state of Arizona, it’s important to have both the house and the senate together to listen to and understand issues tribes face.”

He said, “To hear about topics like gaming, education and water, these are important topics for discussion, that need to be brought to the attention of the state representatives, in which many tribes reside within their legislative districts. "Tribal communities are important to the economy and the history of Arizona, but one of the most important issues is putting together a drought contingency plan that will plan for the future of Arizona," said Lewis. "Because of [our] water settlement, we are a central player to the DCP, this is going to be history-defining for all of the state of Arizona," said Lewis.

The list of invited tribal leaders to speak were, Gwendena Lee-Gatwood, White Mountain Apache Tribe Chairwoman, Hualapai Tribe Chairman, Dr. Damon Clarke and Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel.

Gatewood said, her community is thriving economically and has been able to reap success from recreational activities like hunting and skiing. Although her community has benefitted from recent financial progress, Gatewood said they should not forget the history of the people and what they had to experience to make a better future.

Gatewood said, “We have endured a lot of struggles in our lifetime, our women and our ancestors, very trial-driven, but endured.” Her message for the students was, “Through adversity, that’s when you are the strongest, and then you are ready to take on the world.”

Clarke spoke on education, because it is one aspect of life among the Hualapai people, that is in need of improvement. He said, “To see [our] youth succeed, we have to provide for them through education, to encourage them that they are able to succeed with their full potential.”

Clarke cited the importance of the Grand Canyon to his people and how that has benefitted his tribe in the area of tourism.

Despite the economic prosperity from tourism, Clarke said law makers must visit tribal communities like his, to see first hand, what needs to be done to improve the lives of the Hualapai people.

“We make the long trip to come here to events like this, why not have many of [you] come to visit our tribes and see what needs to be done,” said Clarke.

Ak-Chin Chairman Miguel talked about the agricultural success of his small community, that started with minimal equipment and a few acres of land to farm.

“When we are successful as a community, we are all successful as the state of Arizona,” said Miguel. He emphasized the importance of tribal economies to the state of Arizona.

“Through decades, we have been able to establish ourselves as one of the largest farming communities in the Southwest,” said Miguel. “When gaming came into our economy, we have been able to provide an improved quality of life for our people.”

On the lawn of the capitol building, Native students and visitors interacted with representatives universities, education programs and tribal organizations.

In the afternoon session, there were presentations on different topics like, Native Youth Know, a workshop to educate youth on indigenous foods and preservation. The presentation also discussed today’s challenges in practicing traditional food systems in tribal and urban communities.

Elsewhere, a presentation discussing missing and exploited American Indian women, was held in the Old Senate room of the Capitol Museum. Another presentation offered participants an opportunity to sample indigenous foods from six tribal communities, during the lunch hour on the Senate lawn.

The annual Indian Nations and Tribal Legislative Day marks the long standing relation between the state of Arizona and the tribal communities in Arizona. The list of invited tribal leaders to speak were, Gwendena Lee-Gatwood, White Mountain Apache Tribe Chairwoman, Hualapai Tribe Chairman, Dr. Damon Clarke and Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel.

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“Through decades, we have been able to establish ourselves as one of the largest farming communities in the Southwest,” said Miguel. “When gaming came into our economy, we have been able to provide an improved quality of life for our people.”

On the lawn of the capitol building, Native students and visitors interacted with representatives universities, education programs and tribal organizations.

In the afternoon session, there were presentations on different topics like, Native Youth Know, a workshop to educate youth on indigenous foods and preservation. The presentation also discussed today’s challenges in practicing traditional food systems in tribal and urban communities.

Elsewhere, a presentation discussing missing and exploited American Indian women, was held in the Old Senate room of the Capitol Museum. Another presentation offered participants an opportunity to sample indigenous foods from six tribal communities, during the lunch hour on the Senate lawn.
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • January 2, 2019

ACTION SHEET
Community Council; P.O. 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, January 2, 2019, in the Community Council Chambers at the Government Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:18 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Pamela Johnson

ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Executive Officers Absent:
Lt. Governor Robert Stone
Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman, Arazie Hogg, D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Jennifer Allison, Barney Enos, Jr. (10:03), Pamela Johnson; D5-Janice Stewart, Martin Dixon, Thomas White; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evan; D7-Devin Redbird (11:29)
Council Members Absent:
D5-Lawrence White, Sr.
APPROVAL OF A GENDA
APPROVED AS AMENDED
PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)
REPORTS
1. FY 2018 Annual Report (October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018) – Huhugam Heritage Center
Presenters: Monica King, Shirley Jackson

REPORT HEARD
2. FY18 Annual Reports – District 1-7 Service Centers
Presenter: Joanne Miles-Long

REPORT HEARD
3. FY18 Annual Report – Community Services Department
Presenter: Joanne Miles-Long

REPORT HEARD
Presenter: Michael Preston

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:29 A.M.]

5. Tribal Projects FY18 Annual Report
Presenter: Howard Reno

REPORT HEARD
6. FY 2018 Annual Report – Department of Transportation
Presenter: Timothy Oliver

REPORT HEARD
7. FY 2018 Annual Report Communications & Public Affairs Office
Presenter: June Shorthair

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
8. GHRC Opioid Initiative
Presenter: Jamie Arthur

REPORT HEARD
9. Gaming Commission General Report to the Community Council for November 2018 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Dale Enos, Courtney Moyah

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
REPORTS #9 & #11
10. Gaming Commission Annual Report to the Community Council for November 2018 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Dale Enos, Courtney Moyah

DENISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interior Oversight & Planning Committee

ACCEPTED AT REPORT #9
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 1-HOUR LUNCH BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:24 P.M.]

RESOLUTIONS
1. A Resolution Approving Membership Of The Gila River Indian Community In The National Indian Gaming Association For Calendar Year 2019 And Authorizing Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) For The Community’s Annual Dues (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Shannon White
APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving The Agreement Between The Gila River Department Of Rehabilitation And Supervision And The Arizona Department Of Corrections To Take Part In The Correctional Officer Training Academy (G&MSC concurs with LSC to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Ron Lopez
APPROVED

3. A Resolution Authorizing The Department Of Community Housing To Submit A Grant Application To The United States Department Of Housing And Urban Development, Public And Indian Housing, FY 2018 Community Development Block Grant Program For Indian Tribes And Alaska Native Villages (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: William Picotte
APPROVED

ORDINANCES
UNFINISHED BUSINESS
NEW BUSINESS
1. District Six Letter Of Appointment To The Law Enforcement Citizens Advisory Board (LSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Citizens Advisory Board Members

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
HARRY WILLIAMS
2. Wild Horse Pass Development Authority Board Of Directors Declaration of One (1) Vacancy (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare the vacancy and advertise for 60 days; subject to the Code of Conduct)
Presenters: David White, WHDPA Board

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE AND ADVERTISE FOR 60 DAYS
Presenters: Sister Martha

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
4. Blackwater Community School Written Plan SY2018-2019 (ESC forwards the Blackwater Community School Written Plan SY2018-2019 to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Jagdish Sharma

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
5. Skyline Gila River School Written Plan SY2018-2019 (ESC forwards the Skyline Gila River School Written Plan SY2018-2019 to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Vaughn Flannigan

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
6. Sacaton Elementary School District Written Plan SY2018-2019 (ESC forwards the Sacaton Elementary School District written Plan SY2018-2019 with the amendment to the title to include District 18 and (Pre-K-8) to Council with recommendation of approval)
Presenter: Cheryl Paul

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
7. Gila Crossing Community School Written Plan SY2018-2019 (ESC forwards the Gila Crossing Community School Written Plan SY2018-2019 and the carry over amount of $27,466.71 to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Jim Mosley

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
8. Casa Blanca Community School Written Plan SY 2018-2019 (ESC motioned to forward the Casa Blanca Community School Written Plan SY2018-2019 to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenter: Kim Franklin

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE MINUTES
1. September 5, 2018 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
2. October 11, 2018 (Special)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
3. November 7, 2018 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS
> PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE & ERIC STONE FAMILY

>PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR IRVIN JENKINS FAMILY

> BRIEF UPDATE ON U.S. GOVERNMENT SHUT DOWN

ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:05 P.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
Gila River Hotels & Casinos’ employee team members took part in a community project at the Phoenix New World Education Center on Jan 15.

The troupe of GRH&C team members teamed-up with the online car dealer Carvana and the Arizona Coyotes Foundation, to build a playground set provided by the national non-profit organization “KaBOOM!”. When all the work was completed, the school’s students gave the playground construction crew of over 200 volunteers a round of hi-fives in appreciation for constructing the new playground.

Crews of volunteers broke-up into small teams to work on painting murals on the school’s wall, laying down a mulch foundation and erecting the playset, just in time, before the skies started to trickle with rain drops.

The school’s principal Jesus Armenta said, “[We] want to thank KaBOOM! for getting the volunteers together to make this possible. I really thank the parents for getting everything organized, thanks to everyone for making this happen.” To close out the morning of festivities, the students and volunteers gathered in front of the playground to belt one big howl along with the Arizona Coyotes mascot Howler.

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Arizona Coyotes and Gila River Hotels & Casinos help build a Phoenix playground
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Gila River Hotels & Casinos is excited to announce its 25th Anniversary! Throughout 2019, we will celebrate this remarkable milestone by providing you with spectacular gaming promotions, sensational special events, and roll out a campaign dedicated to helping local organizations that positively contribute to the community.

In honor of our 25th Anniversary celebration you’ll see new items and promotions, including 25th Anniversary Chips, 25th Anniversary table felts, and an unbelievable 25K Progressive Giveaway that will be held every month this year!

That’s $25,000 that guests will win at each of our three properties every month for the next 12 months – totaling $75,000 every month and almost $1 million in guaranteed giveaways throughout 2019! It’s an amazing time to play at Gila River!

Also, keep your eyes open for exclusive 25th Anniversary events including special anniversary parties, star-studded live shows, and a world record-breaking extravaganza that will be marked in the history books!

As in years past, Gila River and its team members will continue to be closely involved in creating meaningful change in the local community through charitable donations and volunteerism.

The enterprise will maintain and foster its partnerships with local sports organizations like the Arizona Diamondbacks, Arizona Cardinals, Arizona Coyotes, and ASU Athletics, as well as create new partnerships with local nonprofit organizations in an effort to aid children in the areas of health and education.

It is the year of Gila River, so make sure to be a part of our 25th Anniversary celebration and rake in the rewards as we party all year long at Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte, and Vee Quiva.

Thank you for making us your entertainment destination for the past 25 years, and here’s to another 25 years of living the good life at Gila River Hotels & Casinos!