The buzzer sounds on another NABI tournament for GRIC teams and players

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Native American Basketball Invitational brought teams from across the country to play in the City of Maricopa and tribal communities leading up to championship games at Talking Stick Resort Arena in Phoenix on June 29. After a week of tournament play, eight teams contested for a top spot in the boys and girls’ division gold and silver brackets.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis welcomed everyone to the NABI championship game, in which the Community was a host site for games played during the tournament.

“It’s an honor to be an on-going partner with NABI, we were really honored to host the games at the District 5 Vah-Ki gymnasium,” said Lewis.

When the buzzer rang out, the boy’s gold division FDM team from the Yavapai Nation and other tribal communities, came out the winners, beating their opponent Sweat Rocks Continued on Page 9

CARRYING ON TRADITION
Caravan heads to District 1 for bahidaj harvest

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Rising up early in the morning, groups of families and individuals ventured outdoors to pick fruit from towering desert giants. Community members, visitors and volunteers gathered together for the annual bahidaj harvest, held in District 1 Blackwater on June 29-30.

The evening before the harvest, participants trickled into the small campsite into the late Continued on Page 5

Gila River Hotels & Casinos marks 25 years with special luncheon

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

When Kenneth Manuel, CEO of Gila River Hotels & Casinos, took the stage at Wild Horse Pass’ Acacia Ballroom for a special luncheon on June 21, he brought up some significant things that took place in 1994. Major League Baseball players went on strike and a white Ford Bronco carrying O.J. Simpson led authorities on a surreal chase through Los Angeles.

But away from baseball front offices, and L.A. freeways, the Gila River Indian Community opened their first casino in June of 1994 with 272 slots and about 250 employees. Manuel was a slot attendant back then and the property was the original Lone Butte Casino.

Fast forward to June 2019, Gila River Hotels & Casinos currently operates three properties with hotels, dining, and entertainment to go along with slots, table games and poker. The gaming enterprise marked the milestone with the 25th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon for its Continued on Page 6

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**Facts About Type 2 Diabetes:**

**TYPE 2 DIABETES IS THE MOST COMMON FORM OF DIABETES.**

In the human body, the Pancreas produces insulin to keep the blood glucose levels under control. In simple terms, Insulin acts like a “doorman” to let the glucose enter the cells and get utilized to make energy. In Type 2 Diabetes your body produces insulin, but it is not used properly. This is called INSULIN RESISTANCE.

Insulin resistance develops due to many reasons like in people with family history of Diabetes, weight gain around the abdomen or belly area or even consumption of food with high sugar.

During the initial years of having Diabetes, the pancreas works hard and tries to make extra insulin to make up for the insulin resistance. But, eventually over time the pancreas gets tired from overworking and you will need help from medicines to keep the blood glucose levels under control.

**What Happens If Blood Sugar Levels Are High?**

Blood glucose increases when glucose is unable to enter cells readily. This can cause problems immediately and also over a long course of time. The immediate problem is that the cells without enough glucose in them may not be able to produce enough energy. So they notice more fatigue and lethargy.

Over time, high glucose levels will irritate the blood vessels that carry the blood. These blood vessels will develop blockages. The thinner blood vessels or arteries like those supplying the eyes, kidneys, and nerves are the first ones to be blocked.

These arteries will not be able to supply blood or oxygen to these tissues causing damage which could be permanent.

**This Is How Diabetes Can Affect The:**

- **eyes** - causing vision impairment (blindness or glaucoma)
- **kidneys** - kidney failure (requiring dialysis)
- **nerves** - neuropathy (pain in feet and hands)

In some men, it can also cause erection dysfunction.

With further time progression the large arteries like those supplying the heart, brain, extremities also get blocked, causing heart attacks, strokes and leg amputations. People with diabetes can develop weakened immune system causing a greater risk of infections and poor wound healing due to the improper blood supply. It can also worsen mental activity (mentation) and memory. Thus high glucose in the blood can affect the whole body.

**What Should One Do To Bring The Blood Sugars/Glucose Down?**

People with Type 2 Diabetes can control their blood glucose with healthy eating, being active and working on losing weight. Weight loss will decrease insulin resistance and improve insulin use in the body. In addition to lifestyle changes, you may also need to take some oral medications or shots and insulin to help you decrease your blood glucose levels to normal target.

**GRHC’s Life Center Is A Clinic Specialized In Helping Your Manage Diabetes.**

There is a whole team to help you to get your Diabetes under control:

- **Diabetes Counselors** offer emotional support and answer your concerns
- **Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN)** help you with diabetes education and nutrition counseling.
- **Exercise and Wellness** will guide you through physical fitness through simple exercises to improve your strength.
- **Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and me the Endocrinologist** will help manage the medicines and readily available to answer your questions and concerns.
- **Diabetes Prevention Program** will help those with borderline diabetes or prediabetes so that they avoid diabetes in the near future.

Preventing diabetes and living healthy with diabetes is possible. Call Gila River Health Care Life Center (520) 562-7940 to schedule an appointment, or send your questions to: ASKDRROOPA@GRHC.ORG
Brandon G. Enos Educational Foundation awards GRIC students

If you have attended a promotion ceremony at Sacaton Middle School or Gila Crossing Community School, you’ve probably seen former Community Council representative, Dale Enos present scholarships on behalf of the Brandon G. Enos Educational Foundation. The scholarship provides students with tools and assistance for learning and in honor of his late son, Brandon G. Enos who died in a car accident in 2006.

Originally, the Enos family had begun doing basketball tournaments in memorial of Brandon, but instead the family began a scholarship. “We wanted to do something in his memory and we felt that scholarship was something we can do at Sacaton [Middle School],” Said Enos. Completing this idea, they spent their own money to increase their scholarship to $200. Students at St. Peter Indian Mission School were the first to be awarded with this scholarship. Two students per school are awarded the scholarship. “We wanted to do something we can do at Sacaton [Middle School],” Said Enos. Completing this idea, they spent their own money to increase their scholarship to $200. Students at St. Peter Indian Mission School were the first to be awarded with this scholarship. Two students per school are awarded the scholarship. “We wanted to do something we can do at Sacaton [Middle School],” Said Enos. Completing this idea, they spent their own money to increase their scholarship to $200. 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**Gila River Police Department Incident Logs**

- **Certain reports may not be available or are currently under investigation while the DVS holds the right to restrict public release.**

**Incident Log**

- **June 19 – 14, 2019**
- **Calls for services this week:** 680 Arrest made: 31
  **District One- (Blackwater)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched by the victim who wished to file a report of a missing phone and wallet. The victim stated that while being away due to work, the victim noticed the wallet was missing and called to locate the cell phone and wallet. There was not congruent footage near the cell phone was taken. The suspect to being in the residence was not allowed to pay for the merchandise and the store wished to be assisted in recovering the suspected merchandise. A citation was issued for notice to appear into Kyrene Justice Court. The suspect was advised he was no longer welcome at Tommy Hilfiger. The suspect arrested and booked into jail. Status: Closed

- **District Seven – (Maricopa)**
  - **Burglary** - Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to a burglary at the victim’s home. The victim then noticed the front window; the victim noticed that the front window was shattered and a flat screen television and DVD player were missing. No shoes or clothing were taken. A knife and game controller were located outside and impounded as evidence. Status: Closed

- **District Four- (Blackwater)**
  - **Theft** - The victim called police to report a theft within the residence. The victim was contacted and denied taking the kittens. The victim was taken into custody and was driving by noticed the bus lights were on. Upon arriving at the center, the bus was not allowed to pay for the merchandise and the store wished to be assisted in recovering the suspected merchandise. A citation was issued for notice to appear into Kyrene Justice Court. The suspect was advised he was no longer welcome at Tommy Hilfiger. The suspect arrested and booked into jail. Status: Closed

- **District Six – (Komatke)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched to the Chevron Gas Station in reference to a theft. Officers were advised that a black male entered the store and proceeded to the beer cooler where he entered and took two bottles of six pack and placed them down the front of his pants. The suspect went to the register to pay for gas and walked out to the gas pumps where he drank the bottle of beer. The vehicle then left the premises; a registration check revealed the owners both pictures did not match the male who was observed taking the alcohol. A follow up will be conducted with the registered owners to assist in identifying the suspect. Status: Pending follow up

- **District Five- (Casa Blanca)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched by the victim to report a theft within the residence. The victim stated the driver’s side window is broken and always left down; video surveillance showed an unknown male walk past the victim’s vehicle before making a couple of circles around the vehicle and then walking to a vehicle with a big bag in hand. The suspect was not identified and pending identification.

- **District Eight – (Sicoton Flats)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched by the victim who called to report a theft within the residence. The victim stated the driver’s side window is broken and always left down; video surveillance showed an unknown male walk past the victim’s vehicle before making a couple of circles around the vehicle and then walking to a vehicle with a big bag in hand. The suspect was not identified and pending identification.

**Incident Log**

- **June 23 – 29, 2019**
  - **Calls for services this week:** 722 Arrest made: 27
  **District One- (Blackwater)**
  - **Theft** - The victim called police to report a theft within the residence. The victim was contacted and denied taking the kittens. The victim was taken into custody and was driving by noticed the bus lights were on. Upon arriving at the center, the bus was not allowed to pay for the merchandise and the store wished to be assisted in recovering the suspected merchandise. A citation was issued for notice to appear into Kyrene Justice Court. The suspect was advised he was no longer welcome at Tommy Hilfiger. The suspect arrested and booked into jail. Status: Closed

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- **District Seven – (Maricopa)**
  - **Burglary** - Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to a burglary at the victim’s home. The victim then noticed that the front window was shattered and a flat screen television and DVD player were missing. No shoes or clothing were taken. A knife and game controller were located outside and impounded as evidence. Status: Closed

- **District Four- (Blackwater)**
  - **Burglary** - The report party requested officers to work the suspicious activity in reference to a burglary and criminal damage. Contact was made with the reporting party at the center and was driving by noticed the bus lights were on. Upon arriving at the center, the bus was not allowed to pay for the merchandise and the store wished to be assisted in recovering the suspected merchandise. A citation was issued for notice to appear into Kyrene Justice Court. The suspect was advised he was no longer welcome at Tommy Hilfiger. The suspect arrested and booked into jail. Status: Closed

- **District Five- (Casa Blanca)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched to the Chevron Gas Station in reference to a theft. Officers were advised that a black male entered the store and proceeded to the beer cooler where he entered and took two bottles of six pack and placed them down the front of his pants. The suspect went to the register to pay for gas and walked out to the gas pumps where he drank the bottle of beer. The vehicle then left the premises; a registration check revealed the owners both pictures did not match the male who was observed taking the alcohol. A follow up will be conducted with the registered owners to assist in identifying the suspect. Status: Pending follow up

- **District Three- (Sicoton Flats)**
  - **Burglary** - Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to a possible burglary. Contact was made with the victim; a broken living room window was located with glass (large amount) on the back patio. The victim went through the residence prior to officer arrival indicating no one was inside the residence and did not know where the suspect was. The victim listed a bag of clothing, various shoes and a drone to be missing from the home. A large rock was observed resting on a chair near the broken window; the victim stated the rock was not there prior to her departure from the residence. Photos were taken and evidence collected. Status: Closed

- **District Eight – (Sicoton Flats)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched by the victim, who stated her cell phone was left in a remote area near the store. The suspect was still on scene at the time the report was taken. Status: Closed

- **District Seven – (Maricopa)**
  - **Assault** - Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to a theft within the residence and one having a knife and coming at the victims when they arrived home. The victim then locked the three suspects inside the home by blocking the doors with items. The officer arrived and one of the suspects was taken into custody where they admitted to being in the residence and entering the residence while the homeowner was not home. Two suspects were booked for burglary of the residence. Two suspects arrested and booked for aggravated assault. Status: Closed

- **District Two – (Saticoy Area)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to a theft. The suspect was still on scene and one of the two was also missing money; the suspect was still on scene. Status: Closed

- **District Five- (Casa Blanca)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to a theft. The suspect was still on scene and one of the two was also missing money; the suspect was still on scene. Status: Closed

- **District One- (Blackwater)**
  - **Theft** - Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to a theft. The suspect was still on scene and one of the two was also missing money; the suspect was still on scene. Status: Closed

- **District Four- (Blackwater)**
  - **Theft** - The victim called police to report a theft within the residence. The victim was contacted and denied taking the kittens. The victim was taken into custody and was driving by noticed the bus lights were on. Upon arriving at the center, the bus was not allowed to pay for the merchandise and the store wished to be assisted in recovering the suspected merchandise. A citation was issued for notice to appear into Kyrene Justice Court. The suspect was advised he was no longer welcome at Tommy Hilfiger. The suspect arrested and booked into jail. Status: Closed

**Incident Log**

- **June 23 – 29, 2019**
  - **Calls for services this week:** 722 Arrest made: 27
  **District One- (Blackwater)**
  - **Theft** - The victim called police to report a theft within the residence. The victim was contacted and denied taking the kittens. The victim was taken into custody and was driving by noticed the bus lights were on. Upon arriving at the center, the bus was not allowed to pay for the merchandise and the store wished to be assisted in recovering the suspected merchandise. A citation was issued for notice to appear into Kyrene Justice Court. The suspect was advised he was no longer welcome at Tommy Hilfiger. The suspect arrested and booked into jail. Status: Closed

**Gila River Indian News**

**July 5, 2019**

**Continued on Page 5**
Harvesters broke into small groups as they collected the bahidaj.

Christopher Lomahquahu
GRIN

Bahidaj Harvest
From Page 1

hours of the night to prepare for an early morning of harvesting. The harvest itself was divided into two activities, one in the morning and evening, respectively at 4 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Traveling in a caravan to the harvest site, some participants rode in the back driving on the set of red tail lights in front of them, until it was time to stop.

Gathered in a circle, the participants took part in a prayer by Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Bammy Lewis. Lewis said the prayer is for all who come out to the site to harvest with a good heart, but also for the animals, letting them know of their presence in the area. The prayer is also for good prosperity and the rains that will replenish the land during the summer monsoon season.

Participant Tristin Rivers of District 5 explained the purpose of harvesting:
"The first one you get when you open it up, you smear the jam over your heart, and whatever your belief is to do a prayer," said Rivers.

He said, when you are finished, you leave the eldg or skin of the bahidaj facing up to welcome the rain, which will bring water for crops and the animals.
"This is my fifth time, I enjoy it, you all will enjoy it, it's a good time to experience this," said Rivers.

He said a big part of the harvest is to build friendships, learn from your culture and have patience if the cactus fruit doesn't want to come out of the cactus.

After the prayer and message, the party of harvesters broke off into smaller groups with ku’ipods in hand. The ku’ipod is made from the vap’pai of the cactus (or ha’ha: shan) to create a long pole to pick the bahidaj.

We had to get up early, we came from the west end, just to get here," said Alexis Flores. She and her friend Sara Francisco, participated in last year’s bahidaj harvest, and said coming this year was a good way to get in touch with O’otham culture.

Participants who participated in families working together to harvest the ripe bahidaj and do something that is not done every day. Sandra Johnson with her son and daughter Sara and Christopher, are from District 4, but live in Mesa.
"It's nice to bring the kids out here and do stuff, it’s nice to learn how our ancestors did it, living in Mesa you learn a lot about other cultures, but coming out here really brings things back to home," a family of brothers and sister from Blackwater, also came out to har- vest. Ivy, Amber and Ja- cob Lomahquahu, were out with their mother Jennifer Blackwater and grandson Jonathan to get their haul of fruit.

They said it’s a learning experience, being able to pick fruit that can be found, not far from home, being that its liter- ally in their district backyards. Although they share Hopi ancestry, they also want to know more about the Akinel O’otham way of gathering foods found in nature.

After the collection of bahidaj was complete, each of the groups took their reward to the camp, where it was boiled down for jam and juice.

Status: Closed

District Five - (Casa Blanca)

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to the HuHuKam Memorial Hospital in reference to a stabbing victim. Investigation revealed the victim and another individual arrived at a residence in Casa Blanca to visit a friend. When the suspect came out of the residence and proceed- ed to use vulgar language, question why the victim was there. A physical alter- cation took place and the friend to the victim yelled at the victim stating they needed to get the victim to the hospital; the victim had been stabbed multi- ple times. The victim was treated and released from the hospital. The suspect was not located at the time of incident.

Status: Closed

District Six – (Komatke)

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to the residence in reference to an assault call. Investi- gation revealed the suspect assaulted the victim by striking the victim in the head with a rock. The vic- tim suffered a laceration to the back of the head; pho- tos were taken and later up- loaded into evidence. The suspect was later located and booked into DRS.

Status: The male sus- pect was arrested and booked into jail

Aggravated Assault – Officers were called to the residence in reference to a stabbing. Investigation revealed the victim was stabbed three times in the back by an unknown sus- pect. The victim was trans- ported to a near-by hospital for further medical treat- ment. CPS was notified of the incident due to minors being present during the inci- dent.

Status: Case forwarded to Criminal Investigations Bureau

District Seven – (Maricopa)

No Incidents Involving Part 1 Crime

Harvesting Saguaro cactus fruit continued with the bahidaj harvest hosted by District 1 Blackwater. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gila River Indian News July 5, 2019

Page 5

The Department of Community Housing (DCH) has identified a need to assist low-income Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) members who reside off Reservation on the Pinal and Maricopa County areas.

The number of rental units currently available in the Community is insufficient to meet the current de- mand for housing, rental or homeownership. To address the need for rental assistance, DCH has estab- lished the Urban Rental Assistance Program (URAP) for families who are renting a house or apartment. (Homeowners do not qualify.)

To qualify:
• Be at least 18 years old on the date the application is submitted.
• Must reside in Pinal or Maricopa County, portion that are not part of GRIC.
• Applicants or anyone on the lease agreement at the primary head of household.
• Co-Signed leases are not eligible for assistance.
• Applicant must pass a background check.
• Applicants currently under any Section 8 Program or any other Federally Program are not eligible.
• Must meet 60% of the median gross family income requirement. (per HUD Family AMT Chart)
• Rent must not exceed 30% of monthly adjusted household income.
• Must be in an existing apartment/house lease, current in rent payments and have a good tenant history.
• Current GRC CDBG for household of tribal and tribal ID for ALL other members in the household

Applications can be picked up beginning June 10, 2019 at the:
DCH Main Office 136 South Main Street, Sacaton, Arizona 85147
DCH West End Office 119 Tashquap Lane, Laveen, Arizona 85339
ALL District Service Centers or downloaded from www.mygilariver.com

Opens: Thursday, JULY 1, 2019 - Closes: Wednesday, JULY 31, 2019

Submit completed applications to:
DCH: Mail Office Sacaton from 8am-3pm Monday/Friday
(Closed from 12:00pm-1:00pm)

Please call 1-888-930-9367 for more information

For questions or more information please contact
Gila River Indian Community Housing
CPS 1:604-222-3450
DCH 1:602-825-3450

The URAP is not a guaranteed program and is subject to change in accordance with the poverty Indian Housing Plan.

Gila River Department of Community Housing
Urban Rental Assistance Program

Up to $300 per month rental subsidy for qualified applicants

www.mygilariver.com

Current funded URAP participants must reapply to be considered for future funding, funding status and availability are not guaranteed, all late will terminate September 30, 2019.

Cheryl Davis
DCH Urban Rental Administrative Assistant
E-mail: cheryl.davis@grin.az.us or debra.martinez@grin.az.us

The URAP is not a guaranteed program and is subject to change in accordance with the poverty Indian Housing Plan.
Students in the GRICUA’s summer STEA3M program tour centers of learning and exploration

**Christopher Lomaquahu**
Gila River Indian News

Students participated in a week-long summer program to learn about science, technology, engineering, art, agriculture and environment in different settings. The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) hosted its 3rd Annual STEA3M Summer Program for fifth through eighth grade students on June 24-28.

Students interested in science, technology, engineering, art, agriculture, business, and future careers are part of the learning settings. The Gila River Indian Community is located in Maricopa County, Arizona.

**Laura Gonzales-Macias**
Gila River Indian News

Students in the GRICUA’s summer STEA3M program were from June 24-28. Christopher Lomaquahu/GRIN

**FROM THE FRONT PAGE**

“Twenty-five years means something to each and every one of us,” said Manuel who outlined a history of gaming in the Community in his remarks while recognizing the many groups and individuals who contributed to the early and sustained success of Gila River Hotels & Casinos.

“Those original 250 employees have grown at a rapid pace,” said Manuel.

**Emma Hughes**
Gila River Indian News

Earlier this year, Gila River Hotels & Casino broke two Guinness World Records for having the largest bingo card and set of bingo balls to help commemorate their 25th anniversary.

**Community members gathered at Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino and were treated to presentations and live music for the 25th anniversary. Emma Hughes/GRIN**

**Gila River Hotels & Casinos anniversary continues with dinner and live music at Community celebration**

**Derrick Hall**
Arizona Diamondbacks President & CEO

Hall said the Diamondbacks embrace their partnership with the Gila River Indian Community. A large display dedicated to the Gila River Indian Community is located at Chase Field. They celebrate the rain and the community on campus, with an emphasis in Indigenous Rights and Social Justice.

**For our Fall numbers, they’re 3,035 and we are growing and our 2019 will close at 5,000.**

**Valerie Rangel**
EVS Supervisor

Valerie Rangel, EVS Supervisor, was among the honored employees who sat in the very front and was acknowledged by Manuel.

**When I was told a long time ago, this was going to be the future, I never would have dreamed that it would be this big,** said Rangel.

**I enjoy working here,** she said. Those original 250 employees have grown to approximately 3,000 and Manuel said Gila River Hotels & Casinos is looking at additional expansion for Wild Horse Pass.

“We’re celebrating a special milestone today, and I have no doubt in my mind that Gila River Hotels & Casinos will continue to grow at a rapid pace,” said Manuel.
Something to be told or talked about

By Billy Allen

Two Christian mis-
sionaries left their marks on the Gila River Indian Community. Although Reverend Cook preached in American/Milagac and O’otham, it took twelve years before he baptized his first convert, Manuel Rob-
eerts of Blackwater in 1885. This started a slow ava-
alanche as others accepted Cook’s teaching: Maicu Jackson, O’otham police captain; James Vainoo of Gila Crossing; Sala Hina of Casa Blanca; and John Lewis of Santan. Antonio Arzal was a regular parish-
ioner, but waited until 1894 to be baptized. Church re-
cords show Reverend Cook baptized over 1,000 people between 1889 and 1911. Some kept their O’otham names such as Kachalas of Cottonwood dating from 1894. Hannah Lawss Hohokum, others identified by a de-
scription, such as “sore-eyed man,” or “man with weep eyes.”

Forty years of mis-
sionary work took its toll on Reverend Cook. Word was sent to Presbyterian seminars for someone to go to Arizona and help. Dirk Lay and his wife arrived in Sacaton in September of 1910 with the plan to stay for one year.

Dirk Lay’s first at-
tempts at reviving Sunday school, didn’t go well. The first meeting had only one participant. Mr. Lay kept on his mission and within ten years reservation wide Sunday school attendance had over 1,600 children. The next project was to raise money to replace the old adobe Sacaton Church dating from 1884. O’oth-
am elders Manuel Roberts, Horace Williams, Edward Jackson, John Howard, and Xavier Cawker traveled to various parts of the coun-
try to raise money. Con-
struction began on the First Pima Presbyterian Church of Sacaton, but Reverend Cook’s health declined, formally retiring in 1914 and earning his eternal rest on May 4, 1917. The church was renamed in his honor in 1918.

Other original church-
es: Blackwater [181], Gila Crossing (1895), and Vah ki (1897) to be rebuilt. The Vah ki church was re-
named the Culbertson Me-
monial Chapel, to honor the parents of a donor who do-
nated five thousand dollars. Dr. Lay and Horace Will-
liams, an O’otham evange-
list, were part of the dedica-
tion service.

Dirk Lay came to re-
alize that the Pima Indian Agent did not have always have the best interest of O’otham/Pipaash as a guiding force. Good minis-
ters don’t just preach, they also listen, and he respond-
ed to O’otham/Pipaash complaints about the con-
tinued water loss. In 1912, Dirk Lay and BIA employee Herbert Marten began looking into the actions of Indian Agent J.P. Alexander. A House Indian Affairs Committee hearing was scheduled. Mr. Marten read a letter from Antonio Azul, giving testimony of a failed water pumping project, and not-
ed Alexander’s conflict of interest with land specula-
tor, Dr. A. J. Chandler. (Dr. Chandler wanted Congress to build a bridge across the Gila so guests at his San Marcos Hotel could drive to the Casa Grande Ruins.) Congress scheduled more study, i.e. nothing.

In 1923, the Arizo-
na Christian Endeavor Union’s state convention was held in Sacaton. Dr. Lay was elected president and invited to speak at the World Convention held in Arizona later that year. Fifteen thousand delegates heard Dr. Lay speak of work done with O’otham/Pipaash. When Arizona Congress-
man Carl Hayden told Dr. Lay that the Coolidge Dam bill would probably not be heard, Dr. Lay went to Washington D. C. to rally support from Congress. Ar-
izona Senator Ralph Cam-
eron arranged for Dr. Lay to stay in Washington, D. C. and work for this bill to be heard.

The bill for San Car-
los Dam was passed by the House Committee on Indian Affairs. Senator Thaddeus Stevens of Wisconsin, the Synd of Ar-
izona, the National Staff, the Committee of One Hundred and the Indian Rights Association, the bill seemed a lost cause with only days left before Congress would adjourn. As a last ditch effort, Dr. Lay wrote a letter to Presi-
cident Calvin Coolidge. On June 7, the President signed the bill authorizing the con-
struction of a dam across the Gila River near San Car-
los, Arizona. It meant water for O’otham/Pipa-
ash, but gave rise to other problems, such as the lack of farm equipment, money to purchase seed and pre-
paring the land for irriga-
tion. Dr. Lay was probably deceived in gaining support for a dam at old San Car-
s. Carl Hayden saw to it that about 15,500 acres of reservation land and 23,000 acres of off reservation fields would get water. Dr. Lay wound up staying for twenty-seven years until he was transferred to Sioux lands in South Dakota. Lt. Colonel Dirk Lay contin-
ued to serve as chaplain for the 158th Infantry, Arizona National Guard so when the Guard was mobilized to the Panama Canal Zone,Lt. Colonel Lay deployed along with his Bushmas-
ters. Lt. Colonel Lay died while serving in the Canal Zone on December 1, 1944. A Christian soldier to the end, an example for all of us.

Information was tak-
en from An Ooasis Remem-
bered by Robert Ramsey; The Pima-Maricopa by Henry F. Dobyns; Peo-
ples of the Middle Gila by John P. Wilson; Archives of the Coolidge Examiner of December 8, 1944; A History of the Presbyterian Work among the Pima and Papago Indians of Arizona by John M. Hamilton.

Annual O’otham New Year celebration held in Sacaton

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

Community members gathered last night to celebrate in the O’otham New Year at the Sacaton Fair Grounds on June 22-23.

Before the event be-
gan, there was a small demonstration of the tra-
ditional women’s game, toka. For this O’otham New Year, many women traditional dancers stepped into the cultural circle to start the celebration led by a women’s singing group.

“This year the O’oth-
am New Year begins with an average of 50 women performing the Basket, Flower and Coyote dances. This is a tradition of men singing for the wom-
en.” Pamela Thompson explained on this year’s historic opening. “In our O’otham tradition, men have taken the lead in sign-
ing our songs and there are protocols where women only sing and sit behind the men and sing. They also do not gourd when the men are singing.” A special thank you to Precious Vicente, Pamela Thompson and Barnaby Lewis for making this happen.

The celebration brought out hundreds of people from the Communi-
ty. O’otham Nation and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members and royalty to celebrate the new year. The O’otham New Year is celebrated during the summer solstice, which marks the longest day of the year. Monoons storms and bighadja harvesting also takes place during the new year.

Along with the all-
night traditional singing and dancing, attendees were treated to menudo at midnight and giveaway dances. By midnight most of the attendees filled the cultural circle in a tradition-

Sacaton Elementary School District

School starts August 5th!!!

Registration is now open for Preschool to 8th grade students who will be attending Sacaton Elementary School or Sacaton Middle School in the 2019-2020 school year.

New students must bring the following:

• Birth certificate
• Proof of tribal enrollment
• Immunizations
• Proof of physical residence (example: utility bill, rental agreement, or documentation from state, tribal, or federal agency, etc.)
• Social security card
• Legal documents (court order/Powder of Attorney)
• Transfer grades (from last school attended)
• Legal documents (court order/Powder of Attorney)
• Proof of physical residence (court order/Powder of Attorney)
• Immunization record (6th grade only)

Office Hours:

Elementary School 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Middle School 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Uniform Shirts Now On Sale – 2 for $10:

• Elementary School – Purple, White, Yellow
• Middle School – Purple, White, Blue

FAMILY BBQ and MEET THE TEACHER night is AUGUST 1st

The all-night celebration included meals and traditional dances. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Basket dancers gather at the Cultural Circle during the O’otham New Year celebration. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Information was taken from An Ooasis Remembered by Robert Ramsey; The Pima-Maricopa by Henry F. Dobyns; Peoples of the Middle Gila by John P. Wilson; Archives of the Coolidge Examiner of December 8, 1944; A History of the Presbyterian Work among the Pima and Papago Indians of Arizona by John M. Hamilton.

Annual O’otham New Year celebration held in Sacaton
Youth gather at the annual AOPPYC Youth Conference

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

While school is out, most youth are looking for positive activities to occupy their time. Gila River Indian Community youth didn’t have to look far as the UltraStar Multi-tenant Center was the site for the 31st Annual Gila River Youth Conference. The Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Council perform a traditional song opening the 31st Annual Gila River Youth Conference on June 28. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Tatanka Means Inspires Akimel O’odham and Pee Posh Youth

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

At the 2019 Gila River Youth Conference June 28, the keynote address was a comedic performance by the National Indian Gaming Association’s 2018 Entertainer of the Year, Tatanka Means. Means is a nationally renowned Native American actor and comedian representing Navajo, Oglala Lakota, and Omaha Nations.

“The was fit,” Means said of the audience and the atmosphere during his performance. “The theater was packed, youth were present, aware, and it was amazing,” said Means of the opening. His keynote address mixed comedy and words of inspiration. Many times, throughout the presentation, the crowd and those standing were seen with their heads back, mouths open, belting out uncontrolled laughter. Some of his best advice for youth is, “get out of your comfort zone, try things that make you uncomfortable because that’s how we grow.” Means was thoroughly impressed with the Youth Council’s Secretary Angel Molina. After his performance, she addressed the youth and was visibly nervous. Regardless, Means advised the courage she showed in her remarks saying, “She got out of her comfort zone, she’s growing as a young woman, and as a leader.”

In his performance, he mentioned his sobriety, and told the youth how important it is to stay away from alcohol and drugs. He refers to both as “tricksters” that offer one thing but come from the Tohono O’odham Nation and Fort Apache Indian Tribe.

The youth council also went into caucus to nominate each other or themselves to serve as district representatives on the council for the upcoming year.

Tatanka Means keeps busy, and you can catch him in future movie releases including “Once Upon a River,” “The Chickasaw Rancher” and “The Liberator.” He is active on Instagram, and you can find more information about his acting and comedy at Tatankameans.com.

Comedian and actor Tatanka Means was the keynote speaker at the annual youth conference. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Please call LUPZ’s Subdivision Administration Team at 520-562-6003 to make an appointment for tribal homestead updates and beneficiary changes.
In the boy’s silver division, Red Storm (California) routed Three Nations, beating them 80-48.

In the girl’s games, NM Elite (New Mexico) repeated as champions to capture the gold division title over Unity (Washington state) 70-66.

Also from New Mexico, Pink Thunder would lead their way to victory over the Florida-based team, Shooting Stars 56-49.

FMD consists of players from the Yavapai Nation, Gila River Indian Community, Colorado River Indian Tribe and San Carlos Apache Tribe. On the team, was Community member Nickolas Harrison, who contributed to the team’s win, with a volley of three-point shots.

On the home front, the Gila River Boys and Girls teams had impressive performances, but could not break the first round of gold and silver bracket play. The GR boys fell to the Yavapai Nation, 73-59, during gold bracket play, while the Snaketown boys team could not get a rhythm going in their game against Alaska, falling 67-37 in the silver bracket.

In the girl’s division, the teams from the Community made good runs, but also fell short of advancing in the gold and silver division brackets. The Snaketown girls put everything on the court, but could not hang with Pink Thunder (New Mexico), who took a late game lead to victory, 45-34 to move up in the gold bracket.

In the silver bracket the GR girls lost a close game to Meskwaki Nation, 30-28.

The tournament championship games wrapped up a week of activities, that included career fairs, junior basketball camps, and an appreciation night for the teams. It was a chance for teams to take a break to interact with the various activities organized with NABI and tournament sponsors.

Before the championship games at Talking Stick Resort Arena, Gov. Lewis introduced Miss Gila River Tyler Owens and former tournament competitor Grace Elias, from District 7, who is a freshman at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). At UCLA, Elias is on the rowing team, also played basketball at Westwood High School and was a four-year varsity basketball letter-winner.

During the tournament, the NABI foundation awarded $10,000 scholarships to two students with ties to the Community. Twin sisters Camilla and Leanna Lewis, who will be attending Stanford University this fall, are the great-grandchildren of Eugenia Apkaw from District 4. Their father is Patrick Lewis.

Patrick said they support their daughters’ academic achievement, and that sports has been a part of their lives growing up. “They are very athletic and play in sports during their high school years, but basketball has always been their number one sport,” said Patrick.
Gov. Lewis joins panel of tribal leaders for INSPIRE program at ASU

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis (seated left) with Ak-Chin Indian Community Council member Delia Carlyle and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier with high school students in the INSPIRE program, a residential college readiness program for American Indian high school students. Participants stay in a residence hall and develop academic and personal success behaviors while connecting with ASU American Indian students, staff and faculty. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • June 19, 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, June 27, 2019, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:17 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Pamela Johnson

ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Robert Stone
Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz;
D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone;
D5-Delmar Jones, Pamela Johnson; D6-Anthony Villarreal,
Franklin Pablo, Sr., Thomas White; D7-Anthony Villarreal,
Mr. Charles Goldtho, Terrace Evans; D7-Devin Redbird (9:55)
Council Members Absent:
D4-Jennifer Allison; D5-Janice Stewart

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORTS #1, #2, #4, #5 AND #6
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #8, #9, #10, #11, #12 AND #14; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #5 AND #7; AND NEW BUSINESS #1 AND #5
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AMENDED AGENDA

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS
1. Introduction Of Head Start Manager Carolina Kelley
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

MR. ISAAC SALCIDO INTRODUCED MS. CAROLINA KELLEY. MS. KELLEY PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HER BACKGROUND AND PLANS FOR THE HEAD START. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS, GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS, AND LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME AND ENCOURAGEMENT.

REPORTS
1. K-12 Education Program Quarter 3 Manager’s Report
Presenter: Trina Hart

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. Saint Peter Indian Mission School FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report
Presenter: Sister Martha Carpenter

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. Maricopa Village Christian School FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report
Presenter: Al Chatman

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. Sacaton Elementary School District #18 FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report
Presenter: Wanda Burton

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. Skyline Gila River FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report
Presenter: Vaughn Flannigan

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. Gila River Police Department Evidence Room Update/Presentation
Presenter: Jeffrey Hunter, Dan Olson

REPORT HEARD
7. F-MIP Construction Update
Presenter: David De Jong

REPORT HEARD
Presenter: M. Lando Voyles

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
9. Gila Crossing School Quarter 2 Report SY2018-2019
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
12. Blackwater Community School FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report
Presenter: Pamela F. Johnson

REPORT HEARD
14. Introduction-Digital Connect Initiative
Presenter: James Meyers, GRTI Board of Directors

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
13. Chemawa Indian Boarding School Report
Presenter: Petersburg Mohawk

REPORT HEARD
15. Gaming Commission General Report for April 2019 (Executive Session)

MOTION MADE: Courtney Moyah, Dale Enos

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT RESOLUTIONS
A Resolution Approving An Intergovernmental Agreement Between Maricopa County And The Gila River Indian Community For Improvements To The Hunt Highway Alignment From Dobson Road To Old Price Road (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with correction)
Presenter: Casandra Wallace

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Operating Budget Modification No. 2 For Fiscal Year 2019 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with corrections)

MOTION MADE: Treasurer Robert Keller, Executive Officer
to Council with recommendation to accept

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE WITH CORRECTIONS
3. A Resolution Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement With The City Of Avondale For The Community To Sell To The City Of Avondale, Approximately 18.2 Acres Of The Community’s BLM Land That Was Included In The H.R. 4032 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with additional material; NRSC concurs)

MOTION MADE: Jason Hauter

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. A Resolution Approving The Agreement Between The Roosevelt Water Conservation District And The Gila River Indian Community Providing For The Delivery Of Community CAP Water For Water Storage At A Groundwater Savings Facility (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)

MOTION MADE: Jason Hauter

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. A Resolution Approving The Master Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Regional Public Transportation Authority For Bus Services (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with additional material)

MOTION MADE: Timothy Oliver, Gregory McDowell, Kathyleen Curley

ACCEPTED/APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. A Resolution For A New Land Assignment On Reservation Land In District Three Community To The Department Of Environmental Quality For Facilities; To Design, Construct, Operate And Maintain As Shown In Drawing NO. 40318-0390 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

MOTION MADE: Norman Brewer

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. And The Gila River Broadcasting Corporation, Inc. To Submit An Application For A Technical Assistance Grant From The Native American Business Development Institute For A Feasibility Study On Behalf Of The Digital Connect Initiative (EDSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: James Meyers, Clarice Chiago-Jones, GRTI Board of Directors

ACCEPTED/APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
ORDINANCES
1. Gila River Farms (Audit REDW) (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation to accept)

MOTION MADE: Tony Garlich

ACCEPTED/APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
2. Water Plan Update Work Session Request (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for April 27, 2019; NRSC concurs)

MOTION MADE: Jason Hauter

MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR A WORK SESSION ON JUNE 27, 2019 AT 9AM
3. Judicial Assessment Proposed Scope Of Work (LSC forwards to Council under New Business with recommendation for approval with additional information regarding the scope of work)

MOTION MADE: Thomas Murphy

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE ASSESSMENT AND TO DIRECT THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL TO RETAIN FADELL CHANEY LAW FIRM TO PERFORM THE ASSESSMENT
4. Gila River Voter Registration Board (G&MSC motions to dissolve GVRVB; LSC concurs and forwards to Council with additional material)

MOTION MADE: Shannon White

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO PROCEED AND APPROVE
5. Gila River Indian Community FY 2018 Department of Tribal Programs And Administration Single Audit And Per Capita AUP (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session with recommendation to accept and add to the Consent Agenda)

MOTION MADE: Treasurer Robert Keller, REDW

ACCEPTED/APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. Indian School Issue (Executive Session) (ESC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

MOTION MADE: Michael Carter

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DIRECT GOVERNOR LEWIS TO SEND A CEASE & DESIST TO SKYLINE LLC, INSTRUCTING THE COMPANY NOT TO USE THE TERM “GILA RIVER” MINUTES
1. May 15, 2019 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
2. June 5, 2019 (Regular)
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
ANNOUNCEMENTS
~ Robert’s Rules Training. Thursday, June 20 & Friday, June 21, 2019, Wild Horse Pass
~Councilman Arzie Hogg on travel week of June 24-27, 2019
ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:00 A.M.

- Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
- Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
- Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PHOENIX PREMIUM OUTLETS WELCOMES LE CREUSET JULY 2019

New retailer slated to open during wave of leasing activity at Phoenix Premium Outlets.

PHOENIX, AZ – Simon, a global leader in retail real estate, is pleased to announce that Le Creuset will join the dynamic mix at Phoenix Premium Outlets on July 1, 2019. Recently the center also welcomed American Eagle, Cabi Outlet, K-Momo and an expanded Kate Spade New York.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Le Creuset to Phoenix Premium Outlets,” said Danielle Nelson, Director of Marketing and Business Development at Phoenix Premium Outlets. “Le Creuset will enhance our retail mix, and we are pleased to continue to expand our offerings for our shoppers.”

Renowned French cookware company, Le Creuset, is making a splash at Phoenix Premium Outlets! The store will offer the company’s colorful cookware including enameled cast iron, stainless steel cookware, kitchen tools and more!

The 947 square-foot retailer will be located next to COACH Outlet across from the Food Court.

To celebrate the exciting addition, Le Creuset will offer shoppers a variety of activities and promotions including special pricing on products, a gift with purchase and the chance to win a colorful Le Creuset Dutch oven! The retailer will also host live cooking demonstrations on July 6 and 7 with samples from famous Phoenix chefs.

Phoenix Premium Outlets has seen a wave of leasing activity including men’s and women’s lifestyle brands. American Eagle which is located in a 4,115 square-foot store next to Famous Footwear and GNC in Agave Court. Cabi Outlet, a trendy women’s fashion brand, opened in a 2,300 square-foot space next to BOSK Hugo Boss, and K-Momo, a men’s clothing brand founded in Phoenix, opened near The Cosmetics Company in a 2,532 square-foot space. The colorful Kate Spade store opened this year has expanded in their new 5,645 square-foot space next to GUESS Factory Store and ALDO.

About Phoenix Premium Outlets

Phoenix Premium Outlets features extraordinary savings of 25 to 65 percent off exceptional brands including Kate Spade New York, COACH, Michael Kors, Polo Ralph Lauren, Under Armour, and more. Enjoy the mountainous views of Arizona at this outdoor shopping center located within Wild Horse Pass off of I-10 at East 162. Shoppers can keep up-to-date on promotions, events, and general news by visiting the website www.premiumoutlets.com/phoenix.

Public Notice

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is announcing the 30-day public comment period for the issuance of the air quality operating permits for the following existing facilities:

- Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino 156091 Rd, Chandler, 85226 District 4
- Smurfit Kappa N.A. 6725 W. Allison Blvd, Chandler, 85226 District 4
- Triax Industries 6519 W. Allison Rd., Chandler, 85226 District 4
- BOSK Hugo Boss, and K-Momo, a men’s clothing brand founded in Phoenix, opened near The Cosmetics Company in a 2,532 square-foot space. The colorful Kate Spade store opened this year has expanded in their new 5,645 square-foot space next to GUESS Factory Store and ALDO.

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Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The American Indian Language Development Institute at the University of Arizona celebrated 40 years of American Indian language promotion and education during a symposium on June 13-14.

Founded in 1978, AILDI started with help from the National Endowment for Humanities by Lucille Watahomigie and Dr. Leanne Hinton, a linguist at the University of California Berkeley. Four decades later, the AILDI continues to teach language revitalization workshops with tribal communities at various locations across the nation.

During the symposium, a poetry reading was held in the U of A student union ballroom to recognize their extensive work in linguistics.

Dr. Ofelia Zepeda, who’s work with the O’odham language and involvement with AILDI, was highlighted at the poetry reading. Gila River Indian Community member Joyce Hughes was also present and shared her experiences working with Zepeda.

“She is a supporter of Indigenous people, teachers, students, who are trying hard to revitalize the preservation and maintaining of our tribal ways,” said Hughes. She said after completing her undergraduate degree in education at Arizona State University, Zepeda encouraged her to get involved with AILDI at U of A.

At U of A, Hughes obtained her Masters of Arts in Linguistics, with an emphasis on Native American Linguistics and Language in 2016. Hughes said AILDI encourages students and participants of their workshops to be creative with how they incorporate language into their curriculum.

At the poetry reading, Zepeda read a list of selected poems from her book, “When it Rains: Tohono O’odham and Pima Poetry.” Her book was first released in 1982, and has seen a resurgence, as more individuals from O’otham tribes, look to it as a source of knowledge about the language.

Zepeda said, “I joined them the second year that they held the program. I was still a student when I started teaching for them, so it’s been 39 years being here.”

“I think it drove me to stay with this kind of work, because when I started there were a lot more people and children speaking the language when they were coming into school,” said Zepeda. She said at the time the education was on bi-lingual education, learning the O’otham language along with English.

Hughes read poems from the late Henrietta Pablo, such as “Hevel,” a poem describing wind, as a traveling force with an origin and destination and one where Pablo travels went to Albuquerque, describing the diverse desert and mountainous scenery, being grateful for mother earth’s gifts.

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She also read other poems from Floretta Rhodes, “Hemho Añ Am Him,” and another one about Ira H. Hayes, who raised the flag on Iwo Jima.
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