American Recognition Day and tournament

Dbacks recognize Arizona tribes with Native American Recognition Day and tournament

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Inter-Tribal Youth Baseball & Softball Tournament was in full-swing, as teams from tribal communities all over the Southwest played ball in four separate divisions. The tournament is sponsored by the Arizona Diamondbacks Baseball organization and takes place across four locations over four days May 29-June 1.

To cap off the on-field action, teams and their families were in full-force at the 2019 Native American Recognition Day event at Chase Field on June 1.

The Native American Recognition Day is an annual event to recognize the diverse tribal history of Arizona, while promoting the game of baseball with youth in tribal communities. Teams who participated in the Inter-Tribal Youth Baseball & Softball tournament, were honored on field, during the pre-game festivities.

Miss Gila River Tyler Owens threw out the first pitch, sending it over home plate, while the pouring of the colors was presented by the Pee Posh Veterans Association. Tyler said, “I get to throw out the first pitch today, I was nervous and I didn’t want to throw out a groundball.” Musician Gabriel Ayala (Pascua Yaqui) played a rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner, before a packed ballpark.

The Gila River O’otham Vets host Veterans Pow Wow

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River O’otham Veterans Association celebrated the completion of their 1st Annual Veterans Day Pow Wow May 25 at the Rawhide Event Center at Wild Horse Pass. Over 200 people gathered to honor the service of veterans in attendance and remember those who passed. This event was nine years in the making and was well attended by many throughout the state of Arizona.

“Today is a day to honor all our fallen veterans from back to front, and back to front,” continued Mr. Schirmer, District 2 Representative, Devin Redbird, District 7 Representative.

Continued on Page 12

NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES SWORN IN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis (second from the left) signs the Arizona DCP implementation agreements, May 29 in Boulder City, Nev. Also signing and looking on are, from left, CRIT Chairman Dennis Patch, Lisa A. Atkins, CAP Board President, Tom Buschatzke, Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Terry Futia, Regional Director for the Lower Colorado River Region of the Bureau of Reclamation, and Mike Hummel, GM and CEO of SRP.

Continued on Page 14

Gila River Indian Community signs historic DCP agreements

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community joined in the historic signing of the Arizona implementation of the Drought Contingency Plan, or DCP, on May 20 in Boulder City, Nev., and attended a last-er ceremony as seven states including Arizona, the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation signed the overall drought contingency plans for the Upper and Lower Colorado River basins.

“We made sure that our water rights and our water settlement were going to be protected,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis who represented the Community.

Gov. Lewis signed six of the seven documents in the Arizona DCP implementation agreements.

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Continued on Page 14
Let’s Ask Dr. Roopa

What Is an Endocrinologist?
Endocrinologists are doctors who specialize in glands and the hormones they make. They deal with metabolism, or all the biochemical processes that make your body work, including how your body changes food into energy and how it grows.

They may work with adults or kids. When they specialize in treating children, they’re called pediatric endocrinologists.

What Do Endocrinologists Do?
They cover a lot of ground, diagnosing and treating conditions that affect your:

- Adrenals, glands that sit on top of your kidneys and help to control things like your blood pressure, metabolism, stress response, and sex hormones.
- Bone metabolism, like osteoporosis
- Cholesterol
- Hypothalamus, the part of your brain that controls body temperature, hunger, and thirst
- Pancreas, which makes insulin and other substances for digestion
- Parathyroids, small glands in your neck that control the calcium in your blood
- Pituitary, a pea-sized gland at the base of your brain that keeps your hormones balanced
- Reproductive glands (gonads): ovaries in women, testes in men
- Thyroid, a butterfly-shaped gland in your neck that controls your metabolism, energy, and brain growth and development

Where to Find One...
An endocrinologist can work in:
- A medical practice with other endocrinologists
- A group with different kinds of doctors
- Hospitals

Some don’t see patients. They may work in universities or medical schools, where they teach medical students and residents or do research.

When to See an Endocrinologist for Diabetes:
Your regular doctor can treat diabetes, but they might refer you to an endocrinologist when:
- You’re brand new to diabetes and need to learn how to manage it.
- Your doctor recommends specialized care for your diabetes.
- You take a lot of shots or use an insulin pump.
- Your diabetes has gotten tough to manage, or your treatment isn’t working.
- You have complications from diabetes.

You can always ask to go to an endocrinologist, too, even though your doctor doesn’t suggest it first. When you see one, you’ll still need to visit your primary doctor as well. They’ll work together.

Send your questions to: ASKDROOPA@GRHC.ORG

Until then, practice self care - take Care of #1!
Dr. Roopa, Your GRHC Endocrinologist!
Annual Elders Day Conference keeps growing with larger attendance

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The Community Services Department and the Elderly Services Program presented the 3rd Annual Elders Day Conference, held on Friday, May 24 at the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass.

The goal for the conference is to provide education, awareness, and prevention with elders in the Community. Regina Antone-Smith, Deputy Director of Community Services Department says the conference originally started out as place for elders to receive information. “We were able to all come together and express concerns of what we wanted to find out,” said Antone-Smith.

The first Elders Conference brought in 200 elders but those numbers have since grown with 400 elders registered this year. Volunteers and caretakers attended to help and participate as well.

The conference began with a breakfast as elders heard remarks from Li. Gov. Robert Stone, Miss Gila River and Jr. Miss Gila River before breaking into workshops. Plenty of informational booths were available. During lunch, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis shared remarks before a performance by Cody Blackbird, award-winning Native American flutist.

Mary Weston is the Elderly Services Program Coordinator and this is her second time coordinating the event. “We didn’t offer it last year, we skipped a year so we can change it to be held in the fall,” said Weston about the event previously being held in the spring,” said Weston about the conference previously being held in the fall which is when Elders Day is presented. “We didn’t want to do them too close.”

“Empowering Elders through Mind, Body and Spirit” was the theme this year, focusing on overall health and wellbeing.

Programs such as Banner Alzheimer’s Institute, Tribal Health Department, Huahugam Heritage Center, Arizona Attorney General’s Office, and Tribal Recreation & Wellness provided workshops. Workshop topics included education on healthy nutrition, exercise, brain health, traditional songs, life planning, scams and identity theft.

“I would have liked to go to all of them. There’s a lot of information that we need. It was really helpful,” said Helen Ramirez from District 2 about the workshops provided for the event. “You get to see all the elders from different districts, your old friends, old school mates that I hadn’t seen for years.”

Ramirez is retired from work and usually just stays home but says she enjoys going out to the different elder events.
Students have fun with science and technology at STEM-Robotics competition

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Sacaton Middle School Science Teacher and founder of the school’s Robotics Club, JoEllen Kinnamon plays a big part in coordinating the Community’s Robotics Competition which was held at St. Peter’s Indian Mission School on Saturday, May 11.

Over the past several years, robotics clubs in the Community have grown in popularity, with SMS, Blackwater Community School, Gila Crossing Community School, and St. Peter Indian Mission School all hosting their own clubs.

Kinnamon, who helped organize the event and has been active in the Community’s robotics scene, said the STEM-Robotics Competition was held to bring all the Community’s schools together.

Previous years the competition was held at Sacaton Middle School but has been working to switch or rotate locations.

The competition began with qualifying events. In the maze category, students attempted to navigate their robot vehicle through a series of twists and turns where teams and individuals had to calculate the angles at which their robot must turn. Also in this year’s competition was the drone field obstacle course.

Honeywell and Intel have been sponsors for STEM-Robotics to support the Community’s youth robotics programs and encourage Community students to enter STEM, robotics, and engineering fields.

“I’m glad to come out to these events like this, especially for the kids,” said Lt. Gov. Stone. “It’s just great to see the kids involved in technology.”

Winners

1st Laura Joaquin EV3 (Mechanical Arm) 7th Grade
1st Lydia Norris Drone Field Obstacle Course 8th/9th grade

2nd Brocc Pasqual & Jesus Mangunia EV3 Sensor & EV3 Mechanical 8th grade
1st Gracie Mark 2nd Aaron Montes 3rd Gerald ValHadenberg

GRIC member is Miss Indian UO

Michaela Begay (center), Community member, District 6, was crowned as the very first Miss Indian UO at the University of Oregon in May. Photo courtesy Amber Simpson
## Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

### Sunday, May 19, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>District One</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>The suspect and victim, the property owner, were involved in a verbal domestic altercation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>District Two</td>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>Suspect(s) later un-lawfully removed the left rear tire and floor jack from the victim's vehicle and resisted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monday, May 20, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>District Three</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>The suspect and victim were involved in a physical altercation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>District Four</td>
<td>Shoplifting</td>
<td>The suspect(s) entered the Tommy Hilfiger store and stole clothing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Tuesday, May 21, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>District Five</td>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>The suspect(s) stole a Motorola E5 Play Grey phone in color cell phone that belonged to the victim while at work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wednesday, May 22, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>District Six</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>The suspect and victim were involved in a physical altercation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Thursday, May 23, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>District Seven</td>
<td>Shoplifting</td>
<td>The suspect(s) entered the Tommy Hilfiger store and stole clothing without paying for the items.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Friday, May 24, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>District Eight</td>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>The suspect and victim were involved in a physical altercation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Note:** The above incidents are just a sample of the cases reported and do not necessarily reflect all incidents that occurred during the mentioned period.
This report is a snapshot of your water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, how it is treated, and how it is delivered to your home. A wide variety of regulatory and public health guidelines are in place to ensure that your water is safe to drink.

**DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

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

**WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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

**WATER QUALITY TABLE**

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is based upon testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

**Microbiological Testing**

The Microbiological Testing section was added to this report in order to sign of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations of the source and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could not all have microbiological data. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

---

**Public Water System No: 0900008215 Station — 2018 Water Quality Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminants</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>A.L.</th>
<th>Exceeded</th>
<th>Typical Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copper, ppm*</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Primary disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliforms</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride, ppm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>5.55</td>
<td>5.55</td>
<td>5.55</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Contact of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate, ppm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Contact of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfate, ppm</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>170</td>
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<td>No</td>
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**Radiological Contaminants**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Contaminants</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
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<th>Year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic, ppm</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Primary disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead, ppm*</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Primary disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranium, ppm</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>24.5</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>7.8</td>
<td>7.8</td>
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<td>Primary disinfection</td>
</tr>
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<td>170</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Primary disinfection</td>
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**Microbiological Testing**

We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations of the source and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could not all have microbiological data. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

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[Continued on Page 16]
By Billy Allen

Cook Memorial Church, the historical edifice in our community that was founded on April 1, anchored many O’otham and Papipaa adapting to a changing world. We know their loss was lamentable. At times Cook’s ministry met some resistance. What do we know of that man who wore some many hats-US veteran, teacher, storekeeper, surveyor, musician, O’otham speaker? Charles Koch was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1856. He enlisted in the United States Calvary in 1857. While serving in New Mexico territory, Koch received injuries that plagued him for the rest of his life. When discharged, Koch “Americanized” his name to Cook. Back in New York, he joined the New York Light Artillery in 1864, reaching corporal rank. In New York, a Presbyte- rian minister’s teach- ings so moved Cook that he vowed to devote him- self to Christianity. When his enlistment was up in 1868, Cook moved to Chi- cago. Chicago had a need for change: crowded slums, a burgeoning immigrant population, factory work- er exploitation, a huge gap between the rich and poor. (Maybe not so different to modern day Chicago?) Mr. Cook was put in charge of the Halstead Street Mis- sion, one of many “settle- ment houses” in Chicago. Settlement houses opened their doors to the down and out; to the newly-ar- rived; provided social ser- vices, and pushed for social change. While in Chicago, Cook’s interest in Native America was sparked when he read a letter about the need for religious and ed- ucational work among the O’otham.

No personal or church funds to ease his travel. Cook began a trek—walking— to Arizona. He set out on September 1870 and arrived at the Pima Agency on December 23, 1870. In preparation to give a lecture, he knew of that man who wore some many hats—US veteran, teacher, storekeeper, surveyor, musician, O’otham speaker? Charles Koch was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1856. He enlisted in the United States Calvary in 1857. While serving in New Mexico territory, Koch received injuries that plagued him for the rest of his life. When discharged, Koch “Americanized” his name to Cook. Back in New York, he joined the New York Light Artillery in 1864, reaching corporal rank. In New York, a Presbyte- rian minister’s teach- ings so moved Cook that he vowed to devote him- self to Christianity. When his enlistment was up in 1868, Cook moved to Chi- cago. Chicago had a need for change: crowded slums, a burgeoning immigrant population, factory work- er exploitation, a huge gap between the rich and poor. (Maybe not so different to modern day Chicago?) Mr. Cook was put in charge of the Halstead Street Mis- sion, one of many “settle- ment houses” in Chicago. Settlement houses opened their doors to the down and out; to the newly-ar- rived; provided social ser- vices, and pushed for social change. While in Chicago, Cook’s interest in Native America was sparked when he read a letter about the need for religious and ed- ucational work among the O’otham.

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Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community hosted a conference on wildlife conser- vation and stewardship at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino on May 20-23. The three-day conference was developed around this year’s theme, Native Women, Through the lens of our hands-grandmothers, mothers, and daughters. Based around the confer- ence’s theme, many of the workshops, encouraged women to go into fields related to wildlife and the environment. In addition, they also let them know, they have a place in profes- sion, where males make-up a majority of the workforce.

As the host site for the conference, the Department of Environmental Quality presented a Natural Re- source Management Tribal showcase. The presentation was led by Russell Benford, Environmental Program Manager, who said the various aspects of wildlife management within DEQ.

Gila River Police Department Tribe Sensitive Species.leaders, who portrayed the boundaries of the Community against outside intruders, who use the lands for criminal activities.

Amy Leaders, Region- al Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said, “We run through the day at a fast pace, but we take the time to recognize people for their important contribu- tions at times like this.” She recognized the White Mountain Apache Tribe Sensitive Species and Mexican Grey Wolf program for their work to protect and preserve the wildlife under their area of responsibility.

“They have been an amazing partner in terms of the recovery of species like the Mexican Grey Wolf on their reservation,” said Leaders. She said the pro- gram brings professionalism and dedication to their purpose, because they are doing important work.

Gila River Indian News

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District 6 Recreation Memorial Day celebration includes a walk/run and special presentations

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis Addresses Arizona’s American Indian History of Education

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis

District 6 Recreation

The event was postponed from the previously scheduled date, but Community members including veterans and families were still eager to participate in the healthy activity, which started at the Komatke Market and ended at the District 6 Learning Center.

With addresses by Miss Gila River Tyler Owens, Jr. Miss Susanna Osife, and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, the twenty-plus participants also listened to District 3 veteran Gary Anderson. Lewis stated, “the goal of the [District 6] Recreation was to speak at their Memorial Day,” said Anderson. With 22-years of service in the U.S. Army, Anderson’s talk included slides of GRIC fallen soldiers with their date of death, circumstances and any awards.

“I’m glad he’s bringing it forward,” said Albert Anderson. “I’m glad everybody came together to have this opportunity to honor our veterans and our fallen warriors,” said Gov. Lewis. Miss Gila River Tyler Owens’ cousin, the late Army Cpl. Billy Farris, was among the fallen soldiers included in Anderson’s presentation. She had a special message for the families of those currently serving in the military.

“I think it’s important that we continue to remember those families that made that sacrifice as well and we pray for those who are currently in service that their families never have to face losing a loved one,” said Owens.

Arizona State University’s Downtown Phoenix Campus. The setting was during a training on May 29 for Teach for America’s new teacher cohort. The 3-day training was for 75 first-year teachers who are to be placed in schools all across Arizona. Many of the first-year teachers will teach at Native community schools, so it was imperative to learn about its history with education.

During the panel, Gov. Lewis acknowledged traumas that all Native peoples endured with the on-coming Western expansion of America. Speaking specifically about the Gila River Indian community, he outlined everything from the boarding school era to the damming of the Gila River and the effects on the Community. Lewis stated that, “Tribes in Arizona have only gotten the right to take over our education systems beginning in the 1970s.” Lewis continued to highlight that because Native communities now possess those rights, new developments like the Gila Crossing Community School are possible. This new school will feature a curriculum that is unique to the community, including Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh language and a STEAM (Science, Technology, Arts, and Math) program exclusive to our community. This version of STEAM will include an emphasis on agriculture and hydrology sciences to ensure the land and water are healthy for years to come.

Katie Hooten, Executive Director for Teach for America Phoenix, expressed how moved she was at a previous address Gov. Lewis delivered. She wanted to ensure that future teachers learned about the history of Arizona from a Native perspective. Hooten stated, “the goal of the panel is deepening their educational context of Arizona, so they are poised to serve their students better.”

With an understanding of the educational landscape and history, the teachers will better grasp how each school differs from the next. Also, through Gov. Lewis’ statement, he made sure students understood that, “No matter the case oppressed people always persevere.”

This panel also included Arizona House Representative for District 23 Reginald Bolding, ASU Professor Dr. Christine Marin, and Mayor of the Town of Guadalupe Valerie Molina. The training was the first of many for the new cohort of teachers. This sort of training is for orientation purposes as many are from out of state.
Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

A local health organization opened a door to a new location that will serve individuals and families living in the East Valley. Native Health, a local health service provider, opened the doors to a new facility, during an open house ceremony on May 29.

Native Health, providing culturally-centered wellness assistance to the American Indian population across the Valley. As part of their comprehensive service list of services, Native Health opened a new medical and behavioral health facility in Mesa.

Native Health CEO Walter Murillo, said the new facility is just one of the growing list of health resources to better serve the American Indian population for a variety of health needs.

He said the new health facility will continue to expand the availability of services to meet the needs of the Native population in Mesa.

City of Mesa Mayor John Giles, who said Mesa has one of the largest American Indian populations of the Phoenix metropolitan area. He said the Southern Avenue location is a much-needed addition to serve Mesa’s Native residents.

“A Mesa, Arizona is a Native American Community, in this zip code, we have the highest population in the state and they are our constituents. He said from WIC, behavioral health and family practices clinics are exactly what the city’s constituents need in a centralized location.

Congressmen Greg Stanton, was also present to support the opening of the new facility, along with Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who said it will improve the lives of Native people, who will pass through Native Health’s doors.

“I really appreciate all that Native Health does throughout the Valley and now for the people of Mesa,” said Lewis. He said everything that you do for Native health and the urban American Indian Community, meets the needs of those living in our urban communities, who’s residents add to the diverse fabric of places like Mesa and Phoenix.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, Council Representatives Monica Antone, Joey Whitman were present to tour the facility and chime in on the importance of service it will bring to the East Valley.

“We have a number of Community members living in the urban setting having with that will lead to a tremendous outcome, all the services that are very critical to treating the Native population here,” said Lewis. He thanked Giles, for his support of the Native community in Mesa, but also throughout the Valley. Lewis said there are many issues at hand, such as missing and murdered Indigenous women, which takes a team effort on a local and federal level to push to the forefront.

“We always pride ourselves in being good partners and helping where we can, as the old saying goes, ‘a rising tide, lifts all boats,’ because this is all about partnerships coming together on so many levels to make things happen,” said Lewis.

Antone said the services provided by Native Health are very important, because they have resources for mothers, those who do not have access to the things they need, like education on how to care for them and provide supplies, such as baby formula for their children.

“As a mother, I think it’s very important and they need to know how to take care of their newborn babies and how to prepare for when they become toddlers,” said Antone.

Whitman said it’s important for the urban members to reach out to places like Native Health, who are ready to help. “If we have an American Indian members living nearby, they can come here and know [they] can do something to help with their health needs or even getting access to food for their families,” said Whitman.

Christopher Lomahquahu/GR

State Representative Greg Stanton, speaks at the Native Health open house ceremony on May 29. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

“It’s an excellent place to go, not only our members that live here, but for others that are nearby,” said Stone, “As part of our partnerships with other entities, like the cities, it’s about going out there, not specifically in a political sense, but supporting each other what groups like Native Health need.”

Murillo presented Lewis and Community representatives with a plaque, as a sign of appreciation for the financial contributions brought through the state shared gaming revenue agreement.

Communications & Public Affairs Office
Gila River Indian Community

On May 28, the U.S. Supreme Court helped protect the Indian Child Welfare Act (“ICWA”) by denying the anti-ICWA Goldwater Institute’s petition for a writ of certiorari in Carter v. Sweeney. The Gila River Indian Community celebrates the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision.

Governor Stephen Roe Lewis expressed the views of the Community stating, “The Community has worked hard to defend our children, upholding ICWA, and fend off these anti-ICWA groups. The U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to deny certiorari is a win for all of Indian Country.”

This case began in 2015 with a constitutional challenge by plaintiffs represented by the Goldwater Institute in an attempt to strike down ICWA and attack membership laws and child custody policies involving the Community and Navajo Nation’s children. The district court dismissed the case for lack of Article III standing because the plaintiffs failed to allege any facts demonstrating that their injuries were traceable to ICWA or that the ICWA actually applied to the foster/adoptive parents and Indian children serving as plaintiffs.

When Goldwater appealed the decision to the Ninth Circuit, the Community achieved a victory when the Ninth Circuit agreed that Article III prevented adjudication of the merits because the case had become moot since the adoption proceedings at issue had been finalized. Having lost on appeal, plaintiffs then filed a petition for rehearing en banc and requested a stay of the Ninth Circuit’s mandate pending the filing of a petition for a writ of certiorari in the U.S. Supreme Court. The Ninth Circuit denied plaintiffs’ requests.

Plaintiffs filed a petition for a writ of certiorari in January 2019 and today the U.S. Supreme Court declined to consider the Ninth Circuit’s decision.

For 40 years, ICWA has successfully protected the best interests of Native American children, and is viewed by national Indian advocacy organizations as critical for ensuring that children and families receive the services they deserve. ICWA provides important protections for all tribes in child welfare proceedings involving Indian children and continues to be significantly challenged by anti-ICWA interests in state and federal courts across the United States. According to Governor Lewis, “The Community will continue to do what is necessary to protect the Community’s children and support its federal and tribal partners who work tirelessly to uphold and defend ICWA.”

NOT CALLING CAN BE LIFE THREATENING AND COSTLY

You can harm yourself or others, disrupt natural gas service to an entire neighborhood, and potentially be responsible for injuries, repair costs, and criminal penalties.

Natural gas lines can be buried anywhere. If you ever suspect a natural gas leak, call 911 and Southwest Gas at 877-860-6020 immediately, whether you’re our customer or not.

For more information about natural gas safety, visit swgas.com/safety or call 877-860-6020.

Call 811
Before you dig!

ONE SIMPLE CALL TO 811 GETS UNDERGROUND UTILITY-OWNED LINES MARKED FOR FREE.

Whether you're a homeowner or professional excavator, every digging job requires a call — even small projects — so be sure to:

• Call 811 at least two working days before starting any digging project
• Wait for the site to be marked
• Respect the mark
• Dig with care

State Representative Greg Stanton speaks at the Native Health open house ceremony on May 29. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
Gila Crossing Community School Celebrates 8th Grade Promotion in Big Way

The ceremony’s location was made possible through an agreement facilitated by Gila Crossing Board Member Angie Flores. The new setting was beyond initial expectations, but organizers underestimated the attendance amount this year as many were left standing. Regardless the ceremony went off without any issues and had a good showing of community leadership.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Community Council Representative Evans were in attendance as well as the entire Gila Crossing School Board.

Congratulations Class of 2019

Valedictorian Samuel Dillon and sister at the Gila Crossing promotion on May 23. Courtesy of Dr. Taylor

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

As the school year closes for all, Gila Crossing Community School celebrated its eighth-grade promotion ceremony May 21. Despite the logistic challenges of their original location, the school secured an excellent new site at one of the conference rooms at the Vee Quiva Hotel and Casino’s Event Center. The ceremony honored the Class of 2019 of 54 eighth-grade students that will most likely transition to either Cesar Chavez or Betty Fairfax High Schools next school year.

The principal of Gila Crossing, Dr. Brian Taylor, said, “the facility was impressive, and the graduates were equally impressive, they were dressed appropriately and carried themselves well with good behavior.” This past school year was Dr. Taylor’s first, and the closeness of the community moved him. He saw this closeness throughout the school year and again at the ceremony with a large number of family members in attendance.

There were honors and accolades presented at the ceremony including Salutatorian, Azerrion Harvey, and Valedictorian, Samuel Dillon. Maya Lewis received the Brandon G. Enos Educational Foundation scholarship, which provides school supplies for her when she begins high school. Also, Maya Lewis and David Tashquith were accepted to the Native American Business Institute conference, hosted in Michigan this month.

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Congratulations

Ariana Manuel and Alison Miguel (center) with their certificates. Courtesy of Dr. Taylor

Carolyn K. Thompson, District 3, Master of Business Administration, University of Arizona, Elzer College of Management. Courtesy of Carolyn K. Thompson

Sacaton Middle School presents the class of 2019 at eighth grade promotion

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

The eighth-grade class from Sacaton Middle School spent one final night surrounded by their classmates before their official promotion to high school on May 22. High school and college awaits the class of 2019, but a gym filled with supporters celebrated their final act as Sacaton Braves before they leap to the next level of their education.

Dr. Cheryl Paul called this close-knit class of over 50 students “unique” and addressed them directly in her welcome message.

“You have learned how to be trustworthy, treat people with respect, be responsible, and fair, as well as embrace any leadership opportunities.”

The eighth-grade promotion was attended by the Sacaton Elementary School District Governing Board, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, Tribal Education Director Isaac Saclito and Chemawa Ambassador Sunny Pratt from Chemawa Indian School and former Sacaton Middle School student.

“I think this is one of the most outstanding classes we’ve ever had, for a number of different reasons,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. The basketball team won a championship, the student body also organized an initiative to change the dress code. They presented to the governing board and Sacaton schools will now offer two more colors for the students.

“This was all initiated by the kids,” said Dr. Paul. The focus stayed on the students as they enjoyed their last moments at Sacaton Middle School.

“This is your day,” said Lt. Gov. Robert Stone.

Lt. Gov. Stone also told the students that the Community believes in them and to look ahead to more accomplishments.

“You know you have a bright future; this is only a little step of your life going forward,” said Lt. Gov. Stone.

Dale Enos presented Lillian Baptista and Cesar Marketing scholarships. Gerald VanHardenburg and Tryaina Johns also spoke on behalf of their classmates in addition to Matthew Williams who gave a farewell address. Williams called this year amazing and said the class is ready to take “a big leap into our future.”
AZ Savages during the pre-game festivities at Chase Field. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

A base runner from team Outkast slides into third base, during a match-up against the Yaqui Bombers. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Musician Gabriel Ayala performs the national anthem, while the Pee Posh Veterans Association presents the colors before the Dbacks game on June 1. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Players from C.G. Pirates wait their turn in the dugout to bat during a game on May 31. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Tribal royalty, including Miss and Jr. Miss Gila River (left-center) at Chase Field. Kyle Knox/GRIN

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

na Osie said, “It’s been a good experience for us, to see all the royalty here, it is so amazing, it’s a new experience for me being here.”

She said representing the Community, is one of the most important parts of attending events like NARD, they allow others to see the culture of the Community on display.

Batting to victory

The Gila River Bears took home the top spot, defending their title in the Single A Baseball division, shutting out the C.G. Pirates 9-0. Despite coming up short in the tournament, the C.G. Pirates were awarded a second-place trophy for their hard-earned effort.

“It was hard fought by both teams, said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, “They’ve won back-to-back wins for the Bears and they are building a great organization in District 4.” Lewis said the turnout was great, including eight of the teams being from the Community.

About NARD he said, “It goes back to 1998, when we started our great relationship with the Dbacks. We have really have had a lot of Community involvement with them, one of them through baseball clinics with our youth.”

In the Double A division play, the AZ Savages took top honors, as the champs, besting the Chiricahua WindTalkers 12-1.

Other teams, that led a successful run in the tournament, were the Horned Frogs, who took home the championship in the Triple A Baseball Division. In Triple A Softball Division play, Yaadilah Sports, blanked the SW Natives to capture the championship.

Eight teams that had representation from the Community were Team Outkast, AZ Savages, C.G. Pirates, Gila River Bears (Single A/Triple A), Xtreme Heat and Gila River Elite.

“If it’s awesome, these boys worked hard out there, and it’s a good feeling to repeat in this tournament,” said Bears Coach Mondo. He said the kids are ready to take on each game and when they get on the field, they know what to do.

On the other side of the bench, “We knew it was going to be tough coming into this competition, but unfortunately it didn’t come our way, but we are looking forward to the next one,” said, C.G. Pirates Coach Conrad.

He said in advance of each game and tournament, they get them ready both mentally and physically, but also to get his players ready for advanced baseball leagues they are eligible to play in when they age out of Single A play.

Congratulations to all the youth baseball and softball teams, who participated in this year’s tournament.
Gila River Skate Parks, Leading Example for Future Skate Parks

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

A dozen youth skateboarders from the San Carlos Apache Tribe (SCAT) paid a visit to two District skate parks on May 17. The site visit was for research purposes on behalf of the SCAT Chairman Terry Rambler’s Office. Manuel Johnson from Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis’ office and Reuben Ringlero from Seven Layer Army welcomed the delegation before setting out on their tour.

Along with the youth was Cali Stands, Executive Assistant to Chairman Rambler. She was very impressed with what she saw upon arrival at the District 3 Skate Park. “I like the ramada overhead to provide shade, the size of the ramps, and overall layout,” said Stands as she watched the youth skate the park.

Stands later confirmed that in attendance agreed that the SCAT parks should feature shade, concrete, quarter & half pipe ramps, ledges, rails, and stairs.

All the youth from SCAT were thrilled to ride for the day as they cheered on their peers as they performed various jumps and tricks. Tony Steele, one of the SCAT youth, had a great time riding because moving between ramps is seamless. Transitions from ramps to drops require little effort for skaters at the District 3 park because of the way it’s set up. Reuben Ringlero, of Seven Layer Army, stressed to the delegation how Gila River Indian Community’s support is vital to the local skate community. Ringlero also attributes much of their success and local visibility throughout the state to the support they receive for their numerous events.

The San Carlos Apache Tribe is planning to construct two skate parks in their community over the next two years. The site visit is one of many for the group who also went to the District 4 Skate Park. These trips are vital for providing critical feedback from the youth at established skate parks throughout the state. Their goal is to create an excellent park for their youth that will also feature aspects for BMX bikers to utilize as well.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

our traditional tribal warriors up to today,” stated Douglas Juan of the O’otham Veterans Association. Mr. Juan, United States Army Veteran, serves as the Chairman for the O’otham Veterans Association Celebration. This celebration is the association’s first event that serves as a community-wide Memorial Day celebration. This celebration is a tribute to our traditional tribal warriors up to today, stated Douglas Juan of the O’otham Veterans Association. Mr. Juan, United States Army Veteran, serves as the Chairman for the O’otham Veterans Association Celebration. This celebration is the association’s first event that serves as a community-wide Memorial Day celebration. This celebration is a tribute to veterans from across the Gila River Community. The association collaborated with the US Department of Veterans Affairs to host “Stand Down” events throughout the Community. These events would serve as resource fairs for veterans to find new and existing services available for them. Later other tribes would become part of these events to collaborate and support one another including Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and The Tohono O’odham Nation.

Chairman for the O’otham Veterans Association Celebration and Officer of the Ira H. Hayes Legion Post 84 Tony McDaniel, United States Navy, looks forward to the event growing more significantly every year. In the coming years, he hopes to see more dancers but said 30 Gourd Dancers present is a great sign for a first-time event. Lastly, he wants to see a higher number of contributions to their Honor Table. The Honor Table is a communal space for veterans’ family members to place photos to honor and remember all GRIC veterans together.

Ira H. Hayes Post 84 Staff
Kyle Knox/GRIN

The youth of San Carlos Apache Tribe with Manuel Johnson, GRIC Executive Office, and GRIC representatives at the District Skate Park on May 17. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Youth skates at the District 3 Skate Park quarter pipe. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Graduating Recognition Banquet

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB - GILA RIVER
KOMATKE BRANCH

5047 W. Pecos Rd., Laveen, AZ 85339

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019
6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

G.E.D./HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE GRADUATES
PLEASE R.S.V.P. AT THE LINK BELOW:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GRAD2019_

DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2019
Questions contact the Tribal Education Department at (520) 562-3662
Gov. Lewis receives special recognition at water conference

Christopher Lomaquahu
Gila River Indian News

Water and agricultural experts convened at a conference on the current state and future of Arizona agriculture. The Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona hosted its annual meeting and conference at the Salt River Project Para Club Pavilion on May 16.

The conference is meant to address the issue of water and food systems conservation and production during drought conditions. Chris Udall, Executive Director for Agribusiness & Water Council of Arizona, welcomed the attendees to the conference.

He emphasized the importance of working together to create a viable future for agriculture, that will benefit all Arizonans. Part of the plan for a viable future, Udall said is inviting everyone to the table to discuss how water can be used responsibly and effectively for agricultural use.

Tom Davis, President of Agribusiness and Water Council of Arizona, explained the purpose of the council. The council is a state affiliate of the National Water Resources Association, that lobbies for water municipalities and its affiliates.

Davis announced the addition of awards to honor those who manage agribusiness and water issues in the state of Arizona, that includes tribal governments.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis was present to receive a special recognition award for his contributions to the current water issues in the state of Arizona. Davis said the Community has been instrumental in the DCP, to get it implemented into action.

The council has responsibility over the Western region of the United States, advocating for more attention to water resources. Davis said the council is the state affiliate of the National Water Resources Association and lobbies for water municipalities and affiliates on agriculture.

“The things, that [we] have been involved in this last year, are in conjunction with the department of agriculture with the state of Arizona, we host a roundtable in late December.”

Because of the water crunch, we want to do something a little different and recognize those, who are influential to helping solve our water problems, through the Drought Contingency Plan,” said Davis.

ITCA brings together tribes, counties and state for voting strategy session

Secretary of State (center) Katie Hobbs at the ITCA voting strategy meeting. From left, Sheri Bodmer, Bonnie Lyons, Joyce Lopez, Hobbs, Jackie Thomas, Naomi Bebo, Office of General Counsel, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

The groundwork for an effective voting discussion between Arizona tribes and the counties began at the Native Vote Strategy Session hosted by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona at the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass on May 31.

The all-day agenda covered reviews, procedures, panels, and remarks from Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and a discussion with Arizona Secretary of State Katie Hobbs and Election Services Director Sambo Dul.

The first portion of the session focused on strengthening the relationship between tribes and counties on elections. Maricopa, Apache, Pima and Pinal Counties presented and were part of panels to connect with tribes and share information.

“We’ve been trying to foster good tribal and county relationships around voting because when tribes and counties aren’t communicating effectively then we run into election protection problems during early voting and on-day elections,” said Travis Lane, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Assistant Director.

ITCA is hoping to resolve any early voting or on-day elections issues.

Other organizations partnered to the session and to offer support.

“They have a lot of organizations here that tribes can go to who have offered assistance like Arizona 1, Clean Elections,” said Joyce Lopez, District 6 elector who attended the event.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis was a featured speaker and he called voting a “sacred right,” for Native Americans.

“This is such an important meeting that we’re facing today,” said Lewis.

The voting strategy session was also a chance to discuss some challenges facing Arizona. Secretary of State Hobbs said hiring a tribal liaison was a priority for her office but according to Hobbs, her budget request for a tribal liaison was removed in the budget process and is not included Arizona’s recently passed budget for fiscal year 2020.

“The budget process didn’t play out the way we hoped it would. We’re working with the [Gov. Doug Ducey’s] office on solutions,” said Hobbs. Gov. Lewis responded to Hobbs’ news by saying, “I want to recommend to our fellow tribal leaders in Arizona that we write a letter to Gov. Ducey in regards to getting that tribal liaison funding as soon as possible.”

The work between the state and tribes on elections will continue. Hobbs did offer support to pass a tribal consultation policy and to make helpful changes in the voter registration form, and also for someone to opt out of the option to update their driver license address when they update their voter registration.

“It’s important that we not only protect our tribal members’ rights to vote not only on the reservations but also off the reservation,” said Gov. Lewis.
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • May 15, 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 was held Wednesday, May 15, 2019, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona.

Stephen R. Lewis called to order at 9:11 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated: Executive Officers Present: Governor Stephen R. Lewis Lt. Governor Robert Stone

Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman, Azrie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams (9:22); Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Barney Enos, Jr. (9:20); Jennifer Allison; Pamela Johnson (9:15); D5-Janice Stewart, Marlin Dixon, Lawson White, Sr., Thomas White; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Dennis Redbird (10:00)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS NOTED AND THE AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

REPORTS

1. Peina Leasing & Financing Corporation 2018 Annual Report

Presenter: Elizabeth Antone

REPORT HEARD

>2. Four Rivers Indian Legal Services 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Diana Lopez Jones, Jeffrey Thomas

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84 2nd Qtr Expenses

Presenter: Chesley Juan, Jr.

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA [G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs]


Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANY REPORTS #5, #6, #7

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION


Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

5. Gaming Commission General Report to the Community Council for March 2019 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Dale Enos, Courntey Mohay

ACCEPTED

6. FIN Quarter Treasurer’s Report (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

ACCEPTED

7. FY 19 Monthly Financial Report ending April 2019 (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

ACCEPTED

RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Approving The Arizona Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Framework Agreement (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenter: Jason Hauter

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving The Agreement Between The United States Of America And The Gila River Indian Community For The Delivery Of Intentionally Created Surplus (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenter: Jason Hauter

APPROVED


Presenter: Jason Hauter

APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Arizona Water Banking Authority And The Gila River Indian Community For The Development Of Intentionally Created Surplus Firming Credits (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenter: Jason Hauter

APPROVED

5. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Early Head Start To Submit A New Non-Competitive Grant Application To The United States Department Of Health And Human Services, Administration For Children And Families, Office Of Head Start American Indian/Alaska Native Program Branch, Head Start Bureau, Department Of Health And Human Services In Order To Provide Renewed Funding For The Head Start/Early Head Start Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, to be placed on the Consent Agenda)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. A Resolution Approving The Submission Of Year Four Of The Five Year Grant Application To The American Indian Alaska Native Program Branch, Head Start Bureau, Department Of Health And Human Services In Order To Provide Renewed Funding For The Early Head Start Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, to be placed on the Consent Agenda)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. A Resolution Approving A Limited Waiver Of Sovereignty Immunity For The Purpose Of Any Arbitration Or Other Legal Action To Enforce An Order, Award, Or Relief Arising From An Approved Arbitration Action Pursuant To The Terms Of The Investment Management Agreement To Be Entered Into Between The Investment Committee Of The Gila River Indian Community And UBS Financial Services, Inc. (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, to be placed on the Consent Agenda)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

APPROVED

[ADDITIONUM TO AGENDA]

8. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Community Court To Submit A Grant Application To The United States Department Of Justice, Office Of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), FY19 Family Drug Court Program, FY19 Competitive Grant Solicitation

Presenter: Ruben Baca

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby Amends The Gila River Indian Community Code By Enacting The Sovereign Immunity Code To Be Codified As Title 4, Chapter 2 Of The Gila River Indian Community Code (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; G&MSC concurs)

Presenter: Casandra Wallace

APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

[Addendum to Agenda]

1. 2014 Housing Update

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD TO THE NEXT GOVERNMENT & MANAGEMENT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD TO THE LITIGATION TEAM TO ADDRESS ANY LEGAL ISSUES AND TO MONITOR NEW BUSINESS

>1. Gila River Sand & Gravel Independent Audit Report FY-18 (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for consideration, to be placed on the Regular Agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenters: Bob Gazis, Henry & Horne

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA


Presenters: David White, WHPDA Board

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

3. Cocaine, Meth & Stimulant Summit November 8-10, 2019 in Miami, Florida (H&SSC Forwards to Council to open to any Council Member to attend utilizing dues and delegations)

Presenters: Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND

4. Certification of 2019 Community Council Election Results (LSC forwards to Council for Certification of the 2019 Community Council Election Results for District 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7)

Presenter: Nadine Shidle

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 2 CAROL ANN SCHURZ

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 3 AVERY WHITE

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 4 DELMAR JONES

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 5 FRANKLIN PABLO, SR.

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 6 CHARLES W. GODDOTH

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 7 DEVIN REDBIRD

5. Community Council Secretary’s Office FY 2020 Budgets (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council as information)

Presenter: Shannon White

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

>6. The Caring House FY2018 External Audit (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council to be accepted, to be placed on the Consent Agenda; H&SSC concurs)

Presenter: Chris Tynhurst

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. Housing Plan (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council for inclusion in the Housing Work Session under New Business in Executive Session)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert Keller, REDW

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SCHEDULE A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

[ADDITIONUM TO AGENDA]

8. Bureau of Indian Affairs Western Region Office Plan To Consolidate Salt River Agency and Pima Agency (G&MSC forwards to Council for inclusion in the Housing Work Session under New Business in Executive Session)

Presenters: Casandra Wallace

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE AND SEND TO THE WESTERN REGION OFFICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

> WELL WISHES EXPRESSED TO THE OUT-GOING COUNCIL MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:56 P.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
Special Education Statements: Additional Information for Arsenic
White your drinking water meets the EPA standard for arsenic, it does contain levels of arsenic. The EPA standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a minimal known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Additional Information for Nitrate
Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural applications. If present, elevated levels of nitrate can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. PWS systems is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4711 or at http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water.

Appreciation Notice
The Leslie family would like to pay our heartfelt appreciation to you and your kindness and thoughtfulness during our time of sorrow. We deeply appreciate you and your commitment to protect against potential problems for water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

Approval Notice
Dear Chief Administrator Ron Lopez, Our Water Company was so overgrown with weeds that our family plots and loved ones graves can hardly be seen. We want to thank Officer Ted Cuellar and Officer Harold Medrano for offering to bring a crew of inmate prisoners to help clear out the overgrown weeds.

We appreciate the additional help to get our weeds under control.

Thank You

Yours truly,

Chief Administrator Ron Lopez
The Blackwater Community School’s Family and Child Education (FACE) program has been continuing to work on projects as part of a grant they’ve received. With the help of the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy program grant, the FACE program has created self-sustaining projects that contribute to the students and Community.

Their “Elderly complex beautification and cleanup” project has been very successful with students and parents cleaning the yards of the elderly complex. The students also planted flower pots and provided their choice of flower seeds.

Another project that the school has been working on is the “uniform giving shed” to provide any student in need of a new or gently used school uniform. The shed is now open and located at the school and offers other clothing items such as jackets. The shed is also open for any donations.

The school had a ribbon cutting ceremony for the uniform giving shed on April 29. Lt. Gov. Robert Stone was present to cut the ribbon for the new shed at the school.

To celebrate the success of their projects, the FACE program rewarded the students that have worked hard and participated in the projects. Students and parents were treated to a day of pizza and fun activities at the District 1 multipurpose building.

John Fullen, teacher for the FACE Program says it couldn’t have been done without all the parents’ ideas, involvement and hard work in the program. Blackwater Community School has continued to celebrate the success of their students and parents. A preschool graduation ceremony was held on May 22, at the District 1 multi-purpose building.

Two of the graduating classes performed a song and dance. One, a modern song and one a traditional round dance which was sung by Barnaby Lewis. Awards and certificates were given to the students. The graduation ceremony also acknowledged GED graduates in the FACE program, who were also inducted to the National Adult Education Honor Society: Jason Williams, Kaitlin Jackson, Anna Gonzales, and Nicholas Antone.
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Doors Open 5:30PM  Program 6:00PM  Dinner 6:30PM–8:30PM

Live Music 6:30PM–10:30PM

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