Gila River Hotels & Casinos rolls out new George Lopez’s Chingon Kitchen

Comedian and his partner, a prominent California restaurateur, bring their operation to the Gila River Indian Community

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

There’s a new chingon in the Valley. Comedian turned restaurateur George Lopez opened his second restaurant, George Lopez’s Chingon Kitchen, with his partner Michael Zislis at the Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino in the Gila River Indian Community.

The restaurant rolled out with a bang on May 3 with Lopez and Zislis in attendance for the grand opening events and to christen their second restaurant together. The first Chingon

Continued on Page 7

Overnight Camps:

Indian Youth of America Camp
Wednesday, June 12 - Friday, June 21, 2019 Prescott, AZ Ages 10-14 years old

Suns Basketball Camp
Wednesday, June 26 - Sunday, June 30, 2019 Prescott, AZ Ages 8-17 years old

Day Camps:

All Native Elite Camp: Basketball Skills & Exposure Training Camp
Train with Pro Athlete Bronson Koenig and WNBA Guard Angel Goodrich
Saturday, June 22 - Sunday, June 23, 2019 Phoenix, AZ Ages 8-12 years old

ASU Baseball
Thursday, July 18 - Saturday, July 20, 2019 Phoenix Municipal Stadium Ages 7-14 years old

Transportation will be provided for all camps.
Applications can be picked up in the CPAO Office located within the Governance Center or downloaded on mygilariver.com.
For additional information please contact Alie Walking Badger, Special Events Coordinator at 520-562-9713 or Shannon Redbird (520) 562-9859 or email special.events@gric.nsn.us

FIRST PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO YOUTH WHO HAVE NOT ATTENDED CAMPS. SPACE IS LIMITED TO ONE CAMP PER YOUTH.

Camper Eligibility:
- Youth must meet all camp requirements
- Youth must be enrolled Gila River member and provide proof of enrollment
- CDIB or Tribal Id
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted or reviewed. All required documents must be submitted with camp application
- Youth must be in good standing with Gila River Indian Community and CPAO Camps
- Youth & Parent/Guardian MUST attend mandatory camp orientation

DEADLINE - May 24, 2019
Gov. Lewis signs proclamation in support of Autism Awareness month

According to Autism Speaks, autism affects 1 in 59 children across the U.S., which is why the Elderly Services Program, Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Services and Community advocates hosted an awareness event on autism at the District 3 ballfield on May 4.

To support the cause, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis announced a proclamation declaring May as Autism Awareness Month. The proclamation recognizes the need to provide services, that will help the development of children with autism and autism spectrum disorder.

In light of the growing impact of Autism Spectrum Disorders, the Gila River Indian Community recognizes the need for greater awareness among its members,” said the proclamation. The awareness event started with a mile-walk around the ball field, which was dotted with signs with positive messages to support those with autism.

Lewis recognized the efforts of Community members like Marshall Sunna, who advocates for more awareness on autism.

Sunna, who is a grandfather of three boys with autism, said the responsibility of taking care of a child with autism can take an emotional toll on the parents or grandparents.

“I think raising these kids, physically is not an issue, but emotionally, because it can come with so many questions with little support,” said Sunna.

He said it is good to see the support of Community Council representatives and Gov. Lewis, who has advocated for more children with autism.

Sunna said, previously there was little understanding about autism, which led to the creation of a support group for Community members to learn and understand how to cope and manage the care for a child with autism.

Talia Porter, from District 2, has a son with Asperger’s Syndrome, a condition that falls within the category of autism spectrum disorder.

“It’s been a journey, especially as a single parent,” said Porter.

She said children with autism disorder, can live independent lives, attend school and find a career. Her son went away for two years to attend school to be a welder.

Porter said, working together, will help individuals with autism succeed at life.

“We need to start supporting the rest of the families, especially the younger ones, now that the awareness is here, now we know,” said Porter.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis reads from his Autism Awareness Month Proclamation. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

The Gila River Indian Community came together at the District 3 ballfield to raise autism awareness on May 4. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Marshall Sunna discusses his experiences with autistic children. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis reads from his Autism Awareness Month Proclamation. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
For the items. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Theft - Suspect(s) shot the victim's iPhone, which contained his driver license, credit card and U.S. currency ($40) was stolen from a locker, located at AJ Spa and Salon. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Theft - The suspect punched a ticket from the slot machine that was playing after she left to go use the restroom. Casino security officers were alerted. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Theft - The suspect picked up the item after it fell from his back pocket outside of the Chevron convenience store. The suspect picked up the item and left the premises with the victim's property. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Theft - Suspect(s) stole several personal items from the victim's locker. The victim reported it at a slot machine. Casino security officers were alerted. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Theft - The suspect grabbed and hit the victim, punching a cash ticket from the slot machine the victim was playing after she left to go use the restroom. Casino security officers were alerted. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Shoplifting - The suspect and victim were involved in a verbal altercation that escalated and became physical. The suspect struck the victim with his fists and feet. The suspect then stabbed the victim with a broken aluminum broomstick, causing a laceration. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Theft - Suspect(s) trespassed by jumping a gate to access the District 6 Head- start property and force- fully removed the water piping back flow system. The damage incurred was approximately $1,500.00. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.

Theft - The suspect entered the Calvin Klein store, concealed merchandise, and left the store without paying for the items. Law enforcement was notified and Gila River Police Officers responded to investigate. Status: Under Investigation.
Students tour MAR5 Interpretive Trail led by Department of Environmental Quality

Mark Joranstad
Arizona School Administrators

(Phoenix, AZ, May 2, 2019) Superintendent Cheryl Paul (Sacaton Elementary School District) is being profiled in a national campaign showcasing school districts where outstanding leadership has resulted in meaningful and measurable outcomes for schools, students and communities.

The seventh and eighth grade students were the first class to ever visit the trail, which is a culmination of efforts by the Community to bring back the river and the local habitat.

Willard Antone III, GRIC Department of Environmental Quality, Sr. Environmental Planner & Policy Analyst, gave a presentation about the MAR5 site and the features of the trail which opened on March 1.

“This is an opportunity for youth to learn about the culture and history and the importance of what water is to us. For your generation, you probably have never seen the Gila River run, so this is a reflection of what that is like,” said Antone.

Robert Johnson, Huilagam Heritage Center, Language Specialist, told the students about the use of the O’otham and Pee Posh language along the trail.

“We built this as an education center for you and for the members of the Community. Many of the signs have the language of the O’otham, the Pee Posh, and scientific names to describe the flora and fauna and animals as well,” said Johnson.

On the tour, Marcel Hall, Sacaton Middle School Culture Teacher, described the significance of the many plants along the trail.

She described the surrounding mountains and recited their names, and the oral history used by the Huilagam.

Charles Enos, DEQ Aquatic Scientist, was on hand to show the students the many water fowl that reside or pass through the area. He said the number of birds flocking the area is increasing.

Christopher Lomaquahu
Gila River Indian News

Sacaton Middle School students learned about the importance of the Gila River at a tour of the recently opened Interpretive Trail at the Managed Aquifer Recharge Site #5 on May 10.

Students from Sacaton Middle School walk along the MAR5 Interpretive Trail on May 10. Christopher Lomaquahu/GRIN

Willard Antone III gives a presentation to the students. Christopher Lomaquahu/GRIN

Lt. Gov. Robert Stone shares a moment with the riders and gave the riders encouraging words before their ride began. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Bike riders from numerous agencies participate in the Torch Run on May 2. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Gila River Police Department Participates in the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run

Gila River indian News

In support of the Special Olympics Games in Arizona, members of the Gila River Police Department (GRPD) and various agencies participated in the Gila River Indian Community’s Law Enforcement Torch Run on May 2. Those who attended did their part to carry on the Special Olympics Torch from Southern Arizona all the way to Raymond S. Kellis High School in Glendale.

This was to be the site of the summer games. Officer Diane De La Rosa shared that for this year riders came from Gila River Police Department as well as from Gila River EMS, Gila River Office of the Prosecutor, Rangers, and School Resource Officers in support of the Special Olympics Games in Arizona, which is bold and simplified GRIC Seal.


Arizona has numerous legs of relays along the torch run, which end at the site of the summer games.

Officer Diane De La Rosa shared that for this year riders came from Gila River Police Department as well as from Gila River EMS, Gila River Office of the Prosecutor, Rangers, and School Resource Officers.

In support of the Special Olympics Games in Arizona, members of the Gila River Police Department (GRPD) and various agencies participated in the Gila River Indian Community’s Law Enforcement Torch Run on May 2. Those who attended did their part to carry on the Special Olympics Torch from Southern Arizona all the way to Raymond S. Kellis High School in Glendale.

Arizona Superintendent Profiled in National Campaign to Recognize Public School District Leadership Cheryl Paul Chosen as ‘Exemplar of Leadership’

Mark Joranstad
Arizona School Administrators

(Phoenix, AZ, May 2, 2019) Superintendent Cheryl Paul (Sacaton Elementary School District) is being profiled in a national campaign showcasing school districts where outstanding leadership has resulted in meaningful and measurable outcomes for schools, students and communities.

The series, Superintendent Spotlight, is part of the “Leaders Matter” initiative created by AASA, The School Superintendents Association, which is boldly supported by the Arizona School Administrators.

“On behalf of school district leadership in our state, I am so proud that Cheryl Paul is being recognized for the outstanding work she is doing by AASA’s Leaders Matter campaign,” said Mark Joranstad, executive director, AASA. “Superintendent Paul is an outstanding ambassador in the field of education and is making invaluable contributions on behalf of the students she serves and the community in which they live.”

As noted in her profile, examples of exemplary leadership by Paul include the following:

• National award-winning school program
• Commitment to STEM

“As our state continues to strengthen its public schools, I would advise any school system leader to work with and learn from Superintendent Paul,” added Joranstad.

Public education is the bedrock of Arizona. As public schools succeed, so too will the students in the state’s nearly 225 public school districts. The focus of AASA’s Leaders Matter campaign, which includes the Superintendent Spotlight series, is to illustrate the positive contributions being made by public school leaders such as Paul.

To learn more about the superintendents profiled in the campaign, visit the AASA website. To join the conversation via Twitter, please access #LeadersMatter.
Arizona State University (ASU) hosted their annual American Indian Convocation to recognize the accomplishments of Native students who graduated this spring. The convocation was held at the Grady Gammage Memorial Auditorium in Tempe on Wednesday, May 8 with over 120 graduates present.

In total, there was over 300 Native students who graduated from ASU that represented over 30 tribal communities from across the country and state—256 bachelor’s, 83 master, 19 juris doctorates, and 4 doctoral degrees.

Jacob Moore, Associate Vice-President of Tribal Relations at ASU, served as the master of ceremonies for the convocation. Miss Indian ASU, Tashoni Marrietta Lopez, and Maria L. Hesse, Vice Provost for Academic Partnerships welcomed everyone.

David Martinez, Associate Professor of American Indian Studies at ASU and a Community member, presented the Dean’s Medal for the convocation. Miss Indian ASU, Tashoni Marrietta Lopez, provided the invocation and Maria L. Hesse, Vice Provost for Academic Partnerships welcomed everyone.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis attended along with other tribal dignitaries, who each presented the stole of gratitude to their own tribal graduates during the graduate presentation.

Cassandra Pena, from District 6 received her bachelor’s degree in social work. Pena will be continuing her education in the masters of social work one year program at ASU and hopes to come back and work for the Community.

"That is my goal, I would love to work for the tribe and give back to the Community who has supported me through my education," said Pena, "I would like to work with the youth, maybe doing some program development, community organizing and development."

Darius Jackson, from District 1, wants to return and work for the Community and continue with his education as well. Jackson received his bachelor’s degree in exercise & wellness and plans to work on receiving his doctorate in physical therapy.

"I feel great! It’s amazing. I love going to ASU. It was just a good experience overall," said Jackson.

Gov. Lewis places a stole on Jennell Clark. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gov. Lewis places a stole on Sheryl Bodmer. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gov. Lewis poses with graduates after the convocation in Tempe from left, Alyse Marrietta Lopez, Mikhail Sundust, Lewis, Amanda Mitchell and Darius Jackson... Emma Hughes/GRIN

GRIC students walk at Arizona State University American Indian Convocation

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
When we were growing up, our upbringing not only involved the proper use of hand tools and assigned chores, but also included other aspects of life. Those instructions in proper behavior were taught to us by our Elders, parents and older relatives. One of the first lessons in morals was the phrase “Sap ‘e ve:machak!” (‘Be good and get along with our teacher’) more essential as we had to relate with other community members not in the immediate family. When relating with other kids, we were taught never to conduct ourselves at home or public. The phrase “Sap haichu ‘ab wa:th!” (‘Conduct yourself in the proper manner’) was especially important when we had large communal church gatherings on the holidays, or large public events such as the Mul-Chu-Tha. It was often the case that an older brother or sister took charge of us on our outings. We all had fun and rode the different rides and ate good food. By the end of the night we were totally exhausted and fell asleep as soon as we had loaded into our family pickup truck for the ride home. One other phrase that was drilled into us was the instruction “Sape ah ve:machak humackam!” (Help others when they need your help). This was important because not only were we expected to help our immediate family, but also our relatives on both our father’s and mother’s sides of the family. As we grew older we were sent to live with our grandparents for the summer and helped them with everyday chores and whatever else needed to be done. They too had instructed us in proper behavior and who our relatives were in that particular village. Each summer we stayed with a different family. Some of our relatives worked as day laborers in the crop fields around the many farms throughout the Valley of the Sun. Every able-bodied member of the family helped, even us kids. We earned money by helping our relatives harvest cash crops when they had matured. When we left

for the crop fields it was usually before the sun had come up. We used that time to get a jump on the day and stockpiled produce to be processed as soon as the sun came up. We usually quit work at 1:00 or 2:00 in the afternoon and everyone was paid in cash for the crops they packed into crates bound for the many warehouses, grocery stores and canning facilities. We encourage you to learn these phrases and use them with your family members. Speak with an Elder, or a speaker in your family and learn how to pronounce the phrases. Test your knowledge with the Sape Elithag/Proper Respect word match.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Kitchen opened at San Manuel Casino in Highland Park, Calif., in 2018. “It’s a beautiful little place,” said Lopez of the new dining option at Vee Quiva.

Chingon Kitchen replaces Dika’s restaurant, and it didn’t take long for Gila River Hotels & Casinos to find a new establishment.

“We met Kenneth Manuel (Gila River Hotels & Casinos Chief Executive Officer) and Richard Straffella (Gila River Hotels & Casinos Chief Operations Officer) and they believed in us,” said Zislis. Zislis is the owner of the Zislis Group, which owns 40 hotels and restaurants including the Rock & Brews restaurants in which he is partnered with Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley from KISS.

Dominic Orozco, Chief Marketing Officer of Gila River Hotels & Casinos, said Chingon Kitchen is a great fit for Vee Quiva. “It truly compliments our brand,” said Orozco. At the restaurant, patrons will have their choice of a variety of made-from-scratch authentic Mexican cuisine including a fresh batch of tortillas made everyday. “Chingon is a place where it’s not fast food, but you can get in and get some good food, sit down and be back out playing not an hour later,” said Lopez. Lopez is proud of the menu and said it reminded him of what he ate as a boy. “It’s not a complicated menu, but it’s stuff my grandmother made,” he said.

Diners can also request vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. Lopez is already a familiar face in Phoenix. The comedian said he’s been performing in the Valley for over 30 years. “Don’t be surprised if you see him visiting Chingon Kitchen on a regular basis.

“Whenever they need me to come by, I’ll come by,” said Lopez. Zislis said Lopez has the ability to make every food item he’s judging by his presence at his other restaurant, he will be a familiar face at Vee Quiva. Lopez has already been to his San Manuel location, “14 times in two years,” according to Zislis. The timeline for the opening included a VIP event Thursday, May 2, with music, food and entertainment, which was followed by a pre-opening the next morning prior to the ribbon cutting, which showcased samples of Chingon Kitchen’s charruas, taquitos, burritos, and tacos. In the morning, Lopez taped several interviews with local news stations to promote the restaurant.

“The food’s going to be good from the first day,” said Lopez. Lopez and Zislis said they found a great partner in Gila River Hotels & Casinos.

“It was such a breath of fresh air to work with this team,” said Zislis. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis welcomed Lopez and expects good things from the partnership. “I think this is going to be a great addition to Vee Quiva,” said Gov. Lewis.

Lt. Gov. Robert Stone called the food, “excellent,” and was impressed by Lopez and his team. “He’s a really nice guy, it’s really good to have that kind of partnership,” said Lt. Gov. Stone. As involved as Lopez is in his restaurant ventures, don’t expect him to take any time off away from the stage.

“We just confirmed that George Lopez will play six shows over two years at the Gila River Hotels & Casinos properties,” said Orozco. A third Chingon Kitchen is in development in Torrance, Calif.
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls honored at the Arizona State Capitol

It was a somber, yet celebratory, event on Sunday May 5 as many gathered for the Day of Awareness and Remembrance for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) at the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix. The event was organized in partnership with the Southwest Indigenous Women’s Coalition (SWIWC) and Honwungsi Consulting Services. The day brought to light multiple aspects of this important issue. It highlighted the proclamation marking May 5 as a Day of Awareness for MMIWG by Arizona Governor Doug Ducey, and provided information and resources concerning domestic violence prevention, and also highlighted the progress towards passing of Arizona House Bill 2570 (HB2570).

Resource booths lined the lawn outside the Arizona State Capitol where a stage was set for speakers and dignitaries. A number of groups participated in the opening of the event including drum group from Hopi, the presentation of colors by Ak-Chin Indian Community and a prayer by Royce Manuel, from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Community. Keli Akimel Hua Modk Cudkdam represented the Gila River Indian Community and performed before the program began.

Organizers requested attendees wear red to support the MMIWG movement. The message was well-received as a sea of red shirts, scarves and accessories adorned nearly all in attendance.

SWIWC presented information for the attendees on the history of MMIWG and the current efforts in Arizona. Jennifer Jermaine, Current AZ State Representative for Arizona’s District 18, served as a champion for introducing and passing HB2570 and gave a summary of the legislation.

“HB2570 will review policies and practices, review prosecutorial trends, and propose measures for how we will solve this moving forward based on what the data says…the goal of this study is to bring everyone together to form comprehensive solutions,” said Jermaine.

Though there is no data to understand the first contact crimes against Indigenous peoples there are some statistics now.

“This movement is nothing new and is an issue that Indigenous communities have had to understand since [European] first contact,” said Leanne Guy, Executive Director of SWIWC.

Jermaine summarized the statistics behind MMIWG. Her findings show that in some tribal communities Indian women face murder rates 10 times higher than the national average, and according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, homicide is the third leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaskan Native girls between the ages of 10-24. It is the fifth leading cause of death of American Indian Girls and Alaskan Native Women between the ages of 25-34, and the National Institute of Justice says more than 4 out of 5 American Indian Women and Alaska Natives will experience violence in their lifetime.

Despite the bleak statistics, there is optimism with HB2570’s presence. HB2570 was passed by the Arizona Senate on May 2 and on May 9 passed in the House of Representatives. Gov. Ducey signed the bill on Tuesday, May 14.

As part of the day’s closure, a moment of silence was held, and SWIWC held a candle light vigil while reading the names of the survivors and victims’ before the State Capitol’s copper dome was lit red.

Monica Antone, District 4 Council Representative, was in attendance and stressed that “tribes need to educate each other so that we can create awareness for the little one’s dancing here today. They blessed us with their dancing so we should honor them and bless those that aren’t here today.”
Tribal Education invites students and families for Chief Azul awards

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

The 2019 Chief Azul Awards Banquet highlighted the achievements of Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh students on Friday May 3, at the Sheraton Grand Resort at Wild Horse Pass. Tribal Education Department presented awards to 40 youth, grades 4-12, including 1 current college student.

The awards are presented to youth who exemplify great qualities in and out of the classroom. There are two award categories: The Chief Azul Scholar Award and Chief Azul Citizenship Award. Recipients had to be nominated by school officials or their tribal counselors in order to apply for either award.

Trina Hart, Education Manager, Tribal Education, said the awards are very competitive. “This year there were approximately 100 applicants that applied for both awards,” said Hart.

Less than half of those applications were selected for this year’s awards. For both Scholar and Citizenship Awards, a panel selected the top three for each grade (two finalists and one winner) with 15 youth receiving Citizenship Awards.

Prior to announcing the awards, Lt. Gov. Robert Stone shared his own experiences as a student. “Young ones here, know that your parents, relatives, and the whole community really support you and want you to succeed in whatever you do,” said Lt. Gov. Stone.

As names were called, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, Community Council Representatives Jennifer Allison and Arzie Hogg were on stage to give the awards and congratulate everyone.

Family members in attendance proudly supported each student’s accomplishments. At one point, all recipients were asked to stand and thank their parents in attendance to show gratitude for their support.

“As District 1 Council Representative Arzie Hogg stated to the youth, “you’re all here because of one right decision after another.” Then encouraged the youth to continue on that path and for parents to also continue their support as they become adults.

Recipients of this years awards stand to be recognized before acknowledging and thanking their families and support in attendance. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Table lined with the awards uniquely designed for the Chief Azul Scholar and Chief Azul Citizenship Awards. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Marlena Whitehair shares her pride about wearing the GRIC graduate stole at her high school graduation. Kyle Knox/GRIN

You are invited to Adult Life Skill: “From Prison to Praise”
You can overcome obstacles and build the life you want.

Guest Speaker Frantz Bozak from AZ Common Ground

Wed. May 29th, 2019
9:00am - 12:00 pm
Location: Employment & Training Department, Sacaton

For more info contact: Eulonda Martinez
520-562-3388/87
CAP moves forward with Drought Contingency Plan at board meeting

Christopher Lomaquahu
Gila River Indian News

The state of Arizona’s plan to address drought conditions is closer to becoming a reality. Central Arizona Project, the state’s largest water management and delivery provider, hosted a board meeting on the future of water levels in the lower basin, on May 2.

The full agenda included a discussion and consideration of action on the Drought Contingency Plan. The Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement consists of Arizona, California, and Nevada, which will require them to contribute water to Lake Mead storage at predetermined elevations.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addresses the board meeting regarding the DCP on May 2. Christopher Lomaquahu/GRIN

The Arizona lower basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement is an agreement to reach a comprehensive framework to address future water shortages.

At the meeting, board members Karen Cesare and Jennifer Brown voted to authorize President Lisa Akins to sign agreements outlined in the DCP.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis thanked the board for making the motion to sign the DCP agreements. “I’m here today, to express the Community’s support for both a framework agreement and Non-Indian Agricultural litigation agreement as well,” said Gov. Lewis.

The agreement establishes the mitigation of reductions to CAP NIA priority water under the drought contingency plan. "This" package of agreements, represents the final milestone of our long journey together, the DCP," said Gov. Lewis.

Gov. Lewis lauded the board’s actions in moving to approve the framework agreement, stating that it is an historical agreement, that can be attributed to the state’s willingness to work together.

Mark Lewis, CAP Board Member, said “I appreciate your time and showing up to our board meetings and our events and your general counsel who put [this] together.” He shared the same sentiments about the agreement and how it is a key part of setting the stage for everyone included in the DCP.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, GRIC Royalty, and Darius Jackson with Coolidge High School seniors after the farewell breakfast.

Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis visits with seniors over breakfast. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis spoke of his experience and gave words of encouragement to the students. Among the special guest speakers were Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Isaac Salcido, Director of Tribal Education, June Shorthair, Thomas and Lorenza Aleman sang a traditional song and a closing message was given by Osiele who is also a student at Coolidge High School.

These students stay dedicated all year long,” said Ms. Terry, K-12 Gila River Student Advisor at Coolidge High School. “It’s been an emotional week, but I know these guys are going to go far on their journey, do well and come back and be future leaders for Gila River Indian Community.”

Each students was presented with red tail hawk feathers by Ms. Terry and Mr. Curley.
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • May 1, 2019

ACTION SHEET
Community Council; P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER
The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in the Community Council Chambers at the Government Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:14 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 Hopp; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Jennifer Allison, Pamela Johnson; D5-Janice Stewart, Marlin Dixon, Lawrence White, Sr., Thomas White; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans
Council Members Absent:
D4-Barney Enos, Jr.; D7-Devin Redbird

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

REPORTS
1. Trespass issues – Community Signage Report
Presenters: Robert DeLeon

REPORT HEARD

RESOLUTIONS
>1. A Resolution Approving The Consent To Assignment And Assumption Of Business Lease From Bob Bondurant School Of High Performance Driving, Inc. To Stig Investments, Inc. (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs)
Presenters: David White, Jason Croxton

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Approving The Amendment To Sublease Between The Gila River Indian Community and Stig Investments, Inc. D/B/A Bob Bondurant School Of High Performance Driving (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs)
Presenters: David White, Jason Croxton

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. A Resolution Designating Three Parcels Containing 43.157 Acres More Or Less, Of Reservation Land In District Three For The Purpose Of Establishing Drainage Systems; And Granting Rights-Of-Way Easements To The Land Use Planning And Zoning For The Purpose Of Designing, Operating, Managing, And Maintaining The Drainage Systems And Applicable Appurtenances (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Norman Brewer

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES
1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby Amends Title 8, Chapter 1, Removal And Exclusion Of Non-Members Of The 2009 Gila River Indian Community Code (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Office of the General Counsel

APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS
>1. Health & Social Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancies to the Community Council – (2) Council Seats (H&SSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council Seat Vacancies)
Presenters: Health & Social Standing Committee

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. Natural Resources Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancy to the Community Council – (1) Council Seat (NRSC forwards to Council to declare vacancy for (1) Council Seat)
Presenters: Natural Resources Standing Committee

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Economic Development Standing Committee Declaration Of Vacancy to the Community Council – (1) Council Seat (EDSC forwards to Council to declare (1) Council Seat Vacancy)
Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Presenters: David White, WHPDA Board, REDW

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. Community’s Exterior Boundary – Dependent on Reserves Projects Report (NRSC forwards to Council with additional information for approval, LSC concurs)
Presenters: Kim Antone

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT AND PROCEED

[ADJENDUM TO AGENDA]

>6. Delegation for Travel for NCAI GRIC Representatives (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation to utilize Dues & Delegations for Councilwoman Monica Antone for her tenure of service with NCAI)

Presenters: Government & Management Standing Committee

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>7. Government & Management Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancies to the Community Council – (3) Council Seats (CRSC forwards to Council to declare vacancy for (3) Council Seats And to be added to the consent agenda for the May 1st meeting and added at the Approval of Agenda)
Presenters: Cultural Resource Standing Committee

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>8. Department of Community Housing Participation in Addressing Homelessness in Tribal Areas - Homeless Housing and Services Technical Assistance Initiative Approved by HUD (G&MSC forwards to Council to delegate Councilwoman Monica Antone utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenter: Laurie Thomas

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MINUTES
1. January 2, 2019 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

>2. April 17, 2019 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS
>1. 2019 AUTISM EVENT, DISTRICT 3
BALL PARK, 9 A.M.
>2. ANTHONY VILLAREAL, SR. TAKING PERSONAL TIME OFF
>3. PRAYERS REQUEST FOR JUDY BARNAR-GAS FAMILY
>4. PRAYERS REQUEST FOR HARDEN SOKE’S FAMILY
>5. PRAYERS REQUEST FOR BRANDON JACKSON’S FAMILY
>6. TRANSPORTATION GRAND OPENING, DISTRICT 4, TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2019
>7. MS. KINNAMON RETIREMENT, THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019
>8. EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS TRAVELING TO BOARDING SCHOOL GRADUATIONS
>9. CHIEF AZULE AWARDS CEREMONY, FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019, WHP SHERATON, 6 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:07 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Sape Elithag/Proper Respect: Match the phrase with its picture!

Sap ‘e vem chichokih!?...

Sap ‘e vem deelooaktah!...

Ha kaiham heg ge...

Sap ‘e vem ootchehakah!...

Sap ha vemachk heg homachkah!...

Sap ‘o ha vemachkh!...

Sap hekachth heg haichu maachkhaniy!...

Sap hekachth ‘ab wazh!...

Sap ‘o ha vemachkh heg homachkah!...
Gila River Health Care celebrates Komatke Health Center’s 10-year mark

Lt. Gov. Robert Stone provides a traditional song and blessing for all Komatke Health Care Center staff and Gila River Health Care Corporation’s Executives and Board. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Gila River Health Care staff, board members, and Community members celebrated the 10-year anniversary of the Komatke Health Care Center on May 2.

Many in attendance recalled the days before Komatke’s opening when the only thing available was the Gila Crossing Clinic—its very presence one of a kind, a place to call home. It was easy to see that residents of the West End were very happy to now have a new facility to provide quality care.

Health Care Executives and Community leaders were in attendance to give remarks throughout the event. A basket dance group set the tone as part of the opening followed by music. Gov. Steven Roe Lewis and Lt. Gov. Robert Stone praised the health care center staff in their remarks, and Lt. Gov. Stone welcomed everyone and provided a traditional blessing for the occasion.

“Our board, the leadership, decisions are made to ensure that the Komatke Center provides quality care. It’s a distinguishing feature here on the West End.”

Komatke Health Care is the first clinic in Indian country to have a drive-through pharmacy, a radiology department within a clinic. Allison was proud to share all of this while continuing highlighting that Komatke works under a Legacy of Care model providing services from cradle to grave. And as part of the celebration she stressed, “I don’t want to honor a building, I want to honor the people that work in the building and the community that utilize our service.”

CIVIL SUMMONS

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA TO: FELICIA JOY ALMANZO-NARCIA
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a civil action has been filed against you by the Gila River Indian Community Court.

YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/Response Hearing regard- ing this matter on Monday, July 1, 2019 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom L, AKEMEL OTTHAM, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

JORDAN DENNIS NARCIA
Petitioner/Plaintiff

FELICIA JOY ALMANZO-NARCIA
Respondent/Defendant

CASE NUMBER: FM-2019-0026-DV

CIVIL SUMMONS

Gila River Indian Community

When you call, refer to Case Number FM-2019-0026-DV.

Gila River Indian Community Board Chairman Myron Schurz provides remarks on Komatke’s 10 years of operation. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Gila River Health Care Board of Directors Chairman Myron Schurz brought a perspective that 10 years ago the Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino wasn’t at its current size, there was no construc- tion Community School, nor was there a freeway in development for that mat- ter. Chairman Schurz said that leadership at GRIC and Gila River Health Care will continue to make improve- ments as needed for the Community to ensure that the Komatke Health Center continues to thrive.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Casa Blanca Community School

The Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Services hosted the “Planting Seeds of Change: A Mental Wellness Expo,” on Saturday, May 4. The expo was open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and offered a variety of workshops and activities for all ages for hands-on learning about a variety of topics.

In previous years, events like this were usually held conference-style but this year they wanted to try something different.

“We wanted to plant seeds of change. We wanted to have a fun, hands-on learning event and grow in regards to mental wellness and what that looks like,” said Anna Pacheco, Prevention Specialist for Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Prevention Program.

Pacheco explained that this is the first event of its kind and helps to open the doors of the building. Behavioral health staff and sponsors coordinated the event, over the past four months and hope to do it again next year.

The event was held at the New Beginnings Building located behind the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital. Participants registered onsite and received a backpack with informational items, and had the option to attend any workshop of their choice at the “come and go” event. The event was designed for visitors to connect with the community and discover helpful resources. With May being Mental Health Awareness Month, the expo also promoted ways to recognize common mental health symptoms in teens and adults while growing a positive view on mental health.

The expo also included a healthy relationships workshop that discussed healthy family relationships and communication with painting exercises. A mindfulness workshop was also held and introduced exercises and techniques that could be used to help with anxiety, loneliness, depression, and discontent through meditation, aromatherapy, and even coloring as a stress reliever. Suicide prevention, recognizing signs of opioid crisis, grief, depression, gardening, and healthy eating were some of the additional workshops.

The expo was located behind the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gila River Healthcare staff thank traditional basket dance group following their performance. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Mental wellness is promoted at the Planting Seeds of Change expo
1648 N. Pinal Ave.
Casa Grande, AZ

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NATIVE AMERICAN RECOGNITION DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

FIRST PITCH 7:10PM

Join the Arizona Diamondbacks for Native American Recognition Day presented by Gila River Hotels & Casinos. Enjoy pre-game entertainment. Festivities begin at 5:00PM and will include Native American drum groups, dances, vocalists, royalty and more!

dbacks.com/nard.