The Gila River Indian Community and The Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council recently renovated their camp with three cabin pods located at the Bob and Renee Parsons Leadership Center for Girls and Women at Camp South Mountain. These three cabin pods are a unique tribute to honor women in leadership, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, Astronaut Sally Ride, and the first female Governor of the Gila River Indian Community, the late Mary V. Thomas.

The Gila River Indian Community and The Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, partnered together to honor the late Mary V. Thomas, with a cabin and mural that portrayed the life of Thomas. The project began back in the fall of last year. The family of Thomas, the Community and The Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council had several meetings to discuss and design the development of the cabin.

Mary V. Thomas served two terms as Governor for the Gila River Indian Community, from 1994 to 1999. Being the first and only woman to hold office as Governor to date. Prior to being Governor, Thomas severed as Lieutenant Governor and Council Representative for District 3. During her administration, Thomas was a strong advocate on important issues for the Community in gaming, water rights, and was involved in starting the Education Assistance Program, forming the scholarship program for higher education, building a new jail, courthouse and dialysis center for the Community.

The circular mural is divided into sections to chart the life and legacy of Thomas, who graduated from St. John’s Mission as the Valedictorian and local basketball star, bus driver in her community, postmaster, and having served the Community as District 3 Tribal Councilwoman, Lt. Governor and Governor. All represented in the mural painted by a local artist, Paige Poppe from Scottsdale who has created many murals at the camp where she attended when she was younger.

“This has definitely been a very special one, I think it might be the only one where there’s been such a personal connection and opportunity to meet someone’s family and Community,” said Poppe about the mural at an event held on April 22 to reveal the cabin to family and friends. The event began with opening remarks by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who thanked all those who made this possible. Delane Enos, provided a blessing. June Short-Hair, Director of Communications & Public Affairs Office (GRIC), served as MC for the event.

“It’s been a prayer that we have held for a few years to have the honor of naming this cabin, the number one cabin, after Governor Thomas.” Said Tamara Woodbury, CEO of the Girl Scouts Arizona Cactus-Pine Council who first met Thomas over 20 years ago when Woodbury first moved to Arizona.

“It is really a great honor and privilege that you have allowed us to name this cabin after Mary, and to give girls the opportunity to Arizona.

The event continued with remarks by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who thanked all those who made this possible. Delane Enos, provided a blessing. June Short-Hair, Director of Communications & Public Affairs Office (GRIC), served as MC for the event. It’s been a prayer that we have held for a few years to have the honor of naming this cabin, the number one cabin, after Governor Thomas.”

The exterior of the renovated camp honors women leaders including former Governor Mary V. Thomas, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor and astronaut Sally Ride.

Emma Hughes/GRIN

Continued on Page 10

GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS  ||  www.GRICNEWS.org

GILA RIVER CASINOS BREAKS WORLD RECORDS

Gila River Hotels & Casino now owns the Guinness World Records for biggest card used and biggest bingo balls used in a bingo game Story Page 6
Preventing diabetes and living healthy with diabetes is possible. Gila River Health Care Life Center has the tools.

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Let’s Ask Dr. Roopa

I want my patients and their families to understand that diabetes is treatable and that people living with diabetes can live long healthy and happy lives.

As I have mentioned in my first column, I am an Endocrinologist or a Doctor who has specialized in treating patients with Diabetes, Hypertension, Cholesterol and other Hormonal diseases. As a specialist in Diabetes, my goal is to provide you with more information about diabetes, answer your questions and provide tools and resources that are available in our Community.

Today’s column will focus on learning a little about the term “Diabetes mellitus” and address the most frequent questions I receive from my patients.

**GREEK AND LATIN WORDS**

Let’s start with the basics, the term “Diabetes Mellitus” which in Greek and Latin means, “To pass a large amount of honey sweet urine.” History tells us that this term was coined because people with diabetes would urinate more frequently and feel thirsty all the time.

- This happens when blood sugar (glucose) levels increase and highly concentrates the blood.
- Now the body wants to dilute the blood. So it makes you feel thirsty, and you drink more water, and that can dilute the blood. But drinking more water can also make you urinate a lot too. Hence the term “Diabetes—large amount of urine.”
- Also when blood sugars are high, the kidneys try to remove it by urinating out the extra sugar. Thus the urine has more sugar in it. Hence the term “Mellitus—sweet urine.”

**TYPES OF DIABETES**

There are many types of Diabetes, but to simplify the two types are Type 1 Diabetes and Type 2 Diabetes. Type 1 Diabetes is when the patients cannot make any insulin in their body. Type 2 Diabetes is when the more common type, happens when the insulin made in the body but is not enough or the body develops resistance to the insulin. This Type 2 Diabetes is closely associated with increasing weight, high glucose diet choices and physical inactivity.

The two most common questions asked by my patients when they are diagnosed with Diabetes

1. “Why me? Why doesn’t this other person who eats more or unhealthier than me and who is heavier than me not have Diabetes?”

   - It is mostly because some people are genetically predisposed to diabetes. If you have family members with it and something in your environment triggers it to manifest, then you are genetically determined to get it too.
   - It is not easy to change the genes that we are born with, but it is possible to delay or prevent type 2 diabetes by changing eating habits, exercising and losing weight.

2. “I am frustrated… because there is no cure for diabetes and why bother to work on controlling it at all?”

   - Diabetes can definitely be made dormant and harmless by simply changing one’s lifestyle and taking the required medicines.
   - There are some reports on how losing weight has almost cured people from Diabetes.
   - Keeping the blood glucose under control can help you live like a person without diabetes, and you don’t have to suffer from the diabetes-related complications that commonly affects the eyes, kidneys, and nerves.

At the Life Center in HuHuKam Hospital, we specialize in services for diabetes, endocrinology, and wellness and are open to everyone. You can come here and choose from the variety of our services like Diet education, Exercise and Wellness, Diabetes Prevention, Counselling, and Emotional support. You can consult our Diabetes specialist Nurses and Providers to help you with the management of medicines.

Send your questions to: ASKDROOPA@GRHC.ORG

Until then, practice self-care – Take Care of yourself first #1!

Reminder

MEMORIAL DAY CLOSURE
Gila River Health Care’s Administrative Offices and Outpatient Clinics will be
CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019

Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449

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Miss Gila River and Jr. Miss Gila River are introduced at Community Council

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Miss Gila River and Jr. Miss Gila River were officially introduced to the Gila River Indian Community Council on Wednesday, April 17. During the regularly scheduled council meeting, Gila River Royalty and their family members provided an audience to look at what they will accomplish this year during their reign. Both were crowned at this year’s Mul-Chu-Tha 2019 and will serve as ambassadors for the Community near and far while completing initiatives here at home.

Susanna Osife, Jr. Miss Gila River, from District 2, took to the podium first. This year her platform is focused on “Uniting our youth with our elders.” Susanna expressed how important it is to learn as much as we can about our Community while we’re young. She had previous experience working with elders in the Community and has enjoyed learning from them. Outside of her title, as a student, she’s active in school, with clubs, including sports at Coolidge High School.

Miss Gila River Tyler Owens from District 5 followed. Tyler attends Chandler-Gilbert Community College and is pursuing an Associate’s Degree in Business Finance. Her platform for the year is, “Uplifting others through acceptance and inclusion.” Tyler feels that it is vital for young people locally and throughout Indian Country to feel important in their communities. She’s also passionate about youth getting involved in our/Himdag. She wants for all to be encouraged in learning more, no matter what level we’re at in our own understandings. For Tyler being involved means being active in the community by volunteering, attending meetings, or assisting whenever needed.

Both expressed excitement and gratitude to serve in these roles as part of their closing. After their presentations, each were given sincere words of support and encouragement by members of council. Following the presentation, a congratulatory procession took place where council members and attendees could shake hands and meet Miss and Jr. Miss in the chambers. The both Jr. and Miss Gila River held a short reception in the lobby of the Governance Center where cake and refreshments were served.

Since being crowned, both have kept busy attending numerous events around the Valley including: Arizona’s Capitol Royalty Day, Mr. and Miss Indian ASU Pageant and Pow Wow, in addition to the Mul-Chu-Tha and Five Tribes Treaty of Peace Celebration parades.

Families gather in Sacaton for child abuse prevention

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said, “It’s good to have an individual like Mr. Terry to teach [us] about our ‘O’otham Himdag, and its something for parents to know, to be empowered.”

He said protecting our children is part of our cultural responsibilities, that goes back to the past generations of the Community and the importance of education to bring new ideas and approach to issues like child abuse. “It’s important that our people are come back with a college education, they are finding solutions to our issues, right here with the tools gained at school,” said Lewis.

Lewis talked about outside resources like Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A), who have chapters all across the Nation and around the world. Lewis is said, when a child is in danger, they go out to families, and do what they can to protect and support children and families in need.

“We have so many resources, and it is important that we have more events like this to bring [those] resources together to let Community members know, they have a place to go to seek help.”

“Each and every one of you are here for a specific reason and it takes courage to stand-up against child abuse and any other abuse that goes on in the home,” said Lewis.

Several groups and organizations attend the event to raise awareness about child abuse. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN
DEQ Fuels & Restoration Crew continues to plant native species and remove invasive plant species once dominate the landscape that looks more native in the Community. Other areas the DEQ Fuels & Restoration Crew will be working in include the Base Meridian Wildlife area, west of District 7. The project will be a collaboration between the Community and Arizona Game & Fish Department to remove invasive plant species along the banks of the river near the confluence of the Gila and Salt Rivers.

In addition, the crew will remove salt cedar and create fire breaks on the Community side of the Salt River to prevent the spread of wild fires and the destruction of habitat.

Other areas of the Community where fire breaks are being created includes the Santa Cruz area in District 6, where 70 acres of salt cedar have been removed in the past year.
Community learns about environmental issues at Earth Day celebration

Christopher Lomaquahu
Gila River Indian News

Earth Day brings youth from across the Community for a day of learning about how to preserve the land through conservation. The Department of Environmental Quality hosted their annual Earth Day celebration at the Rawhide Wester Town and Event Center on April 23.

Darius Enos, DEQ Environmental Technician said, in recognition of Earth Day, the department “Honors the Community’s cultural heritage, by protecting, conserving and restoring the Community’s environmental resources. Our vision is a healthy sustainable environment for future generations.”

Susanna Osife, Jr. Miss Gila River, said “Although we honor and are so grateful for our land and environment, today we learn how to care and protect and honor the land.”

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Lt. Gov. Robert Stone were also in attendance to mark the importance of Earth Day.

“We really have good partnerships [here] to talk about the environment,” said Lewis, “This is one of our biggest Earth Days yet.”

He said it really speaks to DEQ’s commitment to provide education on how to look out for the land (O’otham jived). “We need to teach our children to respect and build upon our connection to the river and land and how these things are important to our Him-dag,” said Lewis.

“We have to all be aware of our part in being good stewards over the land, the river, so that future generations can continue to learn how important it is how we can respect it and the animals that live [here],” said Lewis.

At the Earth Day event, several information booths were setup by DEQ’s various divisions, from air quality, water quality, eagle nest watchers program and fuels & restoration efforts. Other GRIC departments who joined the event were the Huhugam Heritage Center, Geographic Information System, Community Health Nutrition, Dept. of Public Works, Chemical-Tribal Emergency Response Commission and Office of Emergency Management. Educational conservation agencies, also lent their time to teach the youth about conservation. Among them, was Liberty Wildlife, who rehabilitates and when possible release birds back into the wild. The National Parks Service, University of Arizona and Intel Corporation, also provided information on the important role of land preservation, environmental issues and how green technology can be used to move away from fossil fuels.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis speaks during the Earth Day event at Rawhide hosted by the Department of Environmental Quality. Christopher Lomaquahu/GRIN

Students learn about the earth through science and hands-on presentations. Christopher Lomaquahu/GRIN

Solar ovens convert the sun’s rays to make treats for Earth Day guests. Christopher Lomaquahu/GRIN

Akimel O’otham Basket Weaving Course

Learn how to make a traditional Akimel O’otham style basket while gaining knowledge about the importance of weaving throughout Gila River’s history. The course is open to GRIC women who would like to revitalize our weaving tradition & develop their skills in creating a small basket.

Every SATURDAY beginning
May 11, 2019 through June 22, 2019 | 9:00am - 2:00pm
Huhugam Heritage Center Classroom

• Several field trips to gather plants will be added to the program.

REQUIREMENTS:
Class size limited to 20 GRIC enrolled members.
Must be female & over 14 yrs. of age (with adult).
Must sign commitment form & be able to attend all of the scheduled 7-weekend classes.
Must provide own transportation to each activity.

To apply, contact Monica King
520.796.3500 ext. 4237

Huhugam Heritage Center
21359 South Metcalf Rd. | Chandler, AZ 85226
520.796.3500 | grichc.org
Bingo game puts Gila River Hotels & Casinos in the record books

Gila River Hotels & Casinos marked their 25th anniversary with a record-breaking celebration at Lone Butte Casino on April 25. With a large-scale game of bingo, on a 200-foot by 200-foot bingo card, Gila River Hotels & Casinos broke two Guinness World Records for the largest bingo card played on and for using 75 individual four-foot wide bingo balls.

“We are glad we were able to celebrate by bringing two Guinness World Records titles to Arizona and make bingo history at Lone Butte,” said Dominic Orozco, Chief Marketing Officer of Gila River Hotels & Casinos.

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

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According to a Gila River Hotels & Casinos press release, patrons started waiting in line at 10:30 p.m. the night before for a chance to get in the record books.

Joan Quattlebaum was the first player to fill her bingo card with five spaces across and awarded $2,500 in bonus free-play.

The morning of celebrations and excitement included appearances by Michael Bankston, former Arizona Cardinals defensive tackle and team mascots D. Baxter the Bobcat from the Arizona Diamondbacks, and Howler from the Arizona Coyotes. “We are so proud of all we’ve accomplished in the community since we opened our doors in 1994,” said Orozco.

Gila River Hotels & Casinos owns and operates three gaming properties, Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte and Vee Quiva.

The balls used in the giant bingo game helped Gila River Hotels & Casinos claim one of two world records. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

GRIC Recycles Electronic Waste! Drop-off locations & hours:

**District 3 Transfer Station**
Monday-Saturday 7:30 a.m – 3:00 p.m.
Enter the transfer station, turn north & proceed to the northwest corner. Place items outside of the fenced area.

**District 6 Transfer Station**
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Every 2nd & 4th Saturday 8:00 a.m.-11 a.m.
Please leave items on concrete slab on the southeast side in the fenced area.

We cannot accept:
- Small household appliances (toasters, blenders, etc.)
- Microwaves
- Large projection TVs

Questions? Contact Janet Travis
GRIC Department of Environmental Quality
(520) 562-2234
gricdeq.org
Something to be told or talked about – Uto-Aztecan. Hackahum ball courts were similar to those throughout Mexico.

Mexican culture is represented across this region, including our community. Animals such as pigs, horses, and cattle came with the Spanish. Much of our foods, words, Catholic religion, some of our names reflect upon Mexico.

Many O’otham/O’odham/Piipaash deal with mistaken identity, being taken as Mexican. But given our historical and cultural ties, it isn’t that surprising. Still, the struggle is real for us as “Undercover O’otham.”

That WAR song, “Cinco de Mayo” has these lyrics: “I met a little Spanish girl on the 6th of May/A pretty seniority, get down, she lived in East LA/ I knew several O’otham ladies who are often mistaken for “sear-itas.”

Renee Apodaca grew up not far from LA and is a fierce LA Dodger Fan. She’s spent 10 years at her retail company and STILL gets called on to interpret (she can’t) for Hispanic customers. Another O’otham, Velda Lewis lives in Tejas (that’s Texas for you non-Spanish speakers) and needs a translator to work with her many Latino clients, but is routinely asked why SHE needs an interpreter. She feels their pain.

My Tohono O’odham grandfather liked to travel and a favorite destination was Nogales/Wawal/Walnuts. After he passed, my family would continue his treks to Nogales to buy blankets, medicine, see the dentist, and take advantage of Mexican liquor laws.

Before we entered a cantina, I was told the only word I was to say was “sí.” We blended in. Back in 1995 “racial profiling” was a buzz word, I was mistakenly racially profiled. I used to catch a city bus to Mesa for my student teaching. I was waiting at the bus stop when a Tempe police car pulled over and two officers got out. They wanted to know where I was going and see identification—all of this in Spanish, I became a pi mache I didn’t know. When they switched to English, I presented my license and ASU student id—nd obviously not knowing much Spanish they let me hop on the bus. If I had my tribal identification card, I would have presented it and quéstioned what authority they had upon our sacred Hackahum land/joved. “Por supuesto!”

In the early ’80s on a San Diego trip, we decided to go to Tijuana. As we crossed over and stood in line for a taxi, some one remembered we had forgotten the camera. I was elected to go back and retrieve it. Walking back, I saw two lines heading back to the United States, and of course, I chose the short line. The line moved fast and when it was my turn, all I heard was Spanish and had no idea what being asked of me! I remember another officer walked over and put his hand up on his holstered gun. He told me I was in the line for Mex-ican nationals going into the United States. As I explained, I did not know that, they asked for id. Once they saw it was an Arizo-na license, they decided to qi me on southern Arizo-na geography. One asked, “What’s that big mountain close to Casa Grande?” Signal Peak? No. Table Top? No. Santan? No. Comadak/Estrellas? No. South Mountains/Smu-hadag? No. I could not make a name to get out of that situation. I saw myself in the juzgado/boonse-gow/court. (A Cheech and Chong song echoes in my head but I would have changed the lyrics to “Born in East CB”.) When it dawned on them that I was most definitely a Native AMERICAN they handed back my id and told me not to get in that line again! I just had to know, so I asked what mountain they had in mind – Mount Lemmon. Pretty obvious that border guards weren’t “A stu-dents” in geography! As I hustled away, I thought I could hear laughter in the background.

The struggle is real for us “Undercover O’otham.” Please use caution for yourself, towards others, and be safe when partying for Cinco or whichever celebration you may be at-tending during this month. A-hua!
Close Up student program successfully completes another year for 2019

Guadalupe Perkins, a senior at Coolidge High School, during the community development session at Close Up. Photo provided by Michael Preston/ Gila River Youth Coordinator

Youth elected as GRIC Tribal prosecutors celebrate the end of a mock trial as part of their Close Up activities. Kyle Knox/ GRIN

Kenneth Manuel, CEO of Gila River Hotels & Casinos, facilitates one of the sessions for the Close Up program. Photo provided by Michael Preston/ Gila River Youth Coordinator

Close Up 2019 concluded Wednesday, April 17 at the Gila River Governance Center. Twenty youth participants got a crash course in a variety of sessions that helped to understand how our tribal government operates. This included: mock elections for Governor and Lt. Governor for the Community, tribal council representatives, designating prosecutors and defense attorneys, Chief Judge, and various Community member roles. The event is all encompassing and requires every participant to take on a role and share the Community responsibilities. This approach forces the youth to take a different view of how our Community operates. And it also offers the opportunity to contribute to its wellbeing.

The program continues to evolve and improve year to year. And new sessions are incorporated if there’s a need, such additions include water rights and tribal sovereignty. Every session was facilitated by local experts and representatives in their respective fields. Interestingly, the session on sovereignty serves as the most enlightening and difficult session to teach for youth. But as they learn, participants become inspired when they realize how much self-determination our government is afforded as a sovereign tribal nation. The program for 2020 will include a new session on ethics. The goal is to help youth understand it and how to exercise good ethics when navigating decisions that affect our Community.

Michael Preston, Youth Coordinator, expressed his admiration for the questions the youth asked of speakers throughout the event. Preston observed that much of what youth are concerned with stems from issues they face in their communities. It shows everyone that not only are they observing what’s wrong in the Community, but it also demonstrates their interest in creating change. Close Up is not only to learn how government operates but also provides a space where youth can dialogue and feel empowered to innovate new ideas and solutions. Another benefit of Close Up is the youth interaction and building of their own social network amongst one another. Youth create relationships with others as peers and future professionals. Some years, there’s one participant that may not reside on the reservation or isn’t as engaged in the Community as others. So, Close Up provides those participants a chance to meet other youth, provides a deeper understanding of the Community and sparks their interest to get involved.
Native Nations play finishes up run with performances at Indian Steele Park

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

That’s a wrap! The Native Nations play, which performed two shows, over two days, invited audiences from all over to Indian Steele Park in Phoenix, on April 27-28.

The play featured members from various tribal communities, including the Gila River Indian Community, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Tohono O’odham Nation.

“Native Nation,” is based on the experiences of Indigenous people from all walks of life. The play is written by Larissa Fast-Horse (Lakota), and was directed by Michael Garces, Cornerstone Theater Company Artistic Director. It is a collaboration between Arizona State University Gammage and Los Angeles based Cornerstone Theater. The partnership, brought together American Indians from the greater Phoenix area to try their hand at acting, while also exploring identity and place in today’s society. In Cornerstone’s previous productions, several of the actors did not have any theater experience. Fast-Horse and Garces, said that it adds to the sense of community, when a play is based on real experiences and perspectives found in Native people.

At the heart of the play, was a fictional competition between three individuals, all vying for the “Ultimate Indian” pageant. The skit, tested three individuals on their knowledge of Native culture, but with one catch, one contestant was non-native.

The underlying theme of the story was about cultural identity and how Native people struggle to remain culturally grounded.

During the early process of writing the plays, other themes incorporated into the production were related to child custody, cultural knowledge, enrollment blood quantum and a myriad of issues Native people face in contemporary times.

Intertwined into the play, are stories of food sovereignty, missing and murdered Indigenous women and other issues Native people face at home. The idea of introducing these scenarios, is to bring to light the complicated journey Native people travel to find solutions to life changing events, such as the treatment of a child being taken away from a family or veterans finding peace at home.

Claude Jackson, a Community member played the role of Henry, a moderator for the play. He spoke about the important of language in Native society. “Many natives consider language sacred because it comes from within a person’s soul, that is made manifest with the breath of life, oxygen.”

Another character, Molly, who played by Ceyshie Napa (Dine), chimed in about the importance of parenthood within in Native culture. “I always believe the most important thing we can teach our Native children is to be themselves.” said Molly. “Henry helped remind us we are standing on Indian land, Native land, and not just because this is a reservation or special place reserved for Natives... [You] might even call it a Native Nation, because you never leave our land, no matter where you go,” said Molly.

The event also featured local artists who showcased their paintings, jewelry and crafts, as the play went on throughout the evening.
The National Center of American Indian Enterprise Development launches website at Phoenix Premium Outlets

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis is joined by Sam McCracken and Nike’s Native American Employment Network members. Kyle Knox

Native Edge is the latest effort to come out from the Native Center of American Indian Enterprise Development. Native Edge is an online portal that will provide business development, training, and serves as a hub for numerous employment opportunities for Native American professionals.

On April 18, The National Center launched the online portal at the Nike Factory Store at the Phoenix Premium Outlets located near Wild Horse Pass.

You may wonder, why launch at Nike factory store? Well, that’s because Nike is one of the newest employers to join Native Edge to help solidify the partnership Native American employees from Nike in attendance at the Nike Factory Outlet. McCracken wanted “to help grow the footprint of our Native American employees base at Nike whether it be here at the Chandler store or up in Beaverton, Ore.”

McCrancken’s statement is important since Native Edge will provide an additional pathway for all of Native country to find potential employment at noteworthy companies locally and nationally. What’s also remarkable is that all the employer partners on Native Edge are actively seeking out Native American applicants to join their companies. This is key in distinguishing Native Edge from other mainstream job search engines.

On this occasion Governor Lewis was “Proud and excited the launch was here in the Gila River Indian Community, at our [Nike] store, at our Wild Horse Pass where this was created by leaders before me by those decision makers for economic development opportunities that would strengthen our economy, provide jobs for our Community members, and provide resources for all the important areas we need to invest in.” Governor Lewis recognizes the importance of Native Edge and feels confident that it will support our community members which is, as he said, part of the initial vision for the development of entities like Wild Horse Pass and Phoenix Premium Outlets.

Looking forward at success and benchmarks for Native Edge Chris James hopes to enable professionals the opportunity of working at large notable companies. Those opportunities weren’t given to him so he is thrilled at what Native Edge can provide for young professionals.

So, if you or someone you know is looking for work you should consider Nativeedge.com. The service is free of cost and can open new doors you may have never thought possible.

The Native American Agriculture Fund, a charitable trust, tours Gila River Farms

The Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF) toured of the Gila River Farms for an inside look at operations.

The Native American Agriculture Fund provides grants to eligible organizations for business assistance, agricultural education, technical support, and advocacy services to support Native farmers and ranchers. NAAF is the largest philanthropic organization devoted solely to serving the Native American ranching and farming community.

The Charitable trust was created by the settlement of the landmark Keepseagle v. Vilsack class-action lawsuit with $266 million in funding that in accordance with the terms of the settlement agreement, must be distributed funds within a 20-year period.

Participants, which included a NAAF trustee, NAAF staff members, and a few Keepseagle Fast Track Grantees, learned about the Community’s long tradition of cultivating the land with limited water resources, holistic approach to commercial farm management, and successful ventures into specialty crop production.

Gila River Farm staff and Community leadership shared the vision for tying together cultural heritage and economic development through agricultural production. Farm operators gave an overview of the challenges and opportunities associated with a large-scale operation.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis provides opening remarks during the event. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gov. Robert Stone/ Lt. Governor

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

COURTESY OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY’S OFFICE • APRIL 17, 2019

ACTION SHEET

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

CALL TO ORDER
COUNCIL SECRETARY SHANNON WHITE INFORMED THE COUNCIL THEY WERE WITHOUT A CHAIRPERSON; COUNCILMAN ARZIE HOGG WAS APPOINTED TO CHAIR THE MEETING

The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, April 17, 2019, in the Community Council Chambers at the Government Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Councilman Arzie Hogg at 9:05 a.m.

INVOCATION
Provided by Councilwoman Monica Antone ROLL CALL
Sign-in Sheet Circulated
Executive Officers Present:
Lt. Governor Robert Stone (10:04)

Executive Officers Absent:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Council Members Present:
D1-Joe Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carolyn Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Barney Enos. Jr. (9:07), Jennifer Allison, Pamela Johnson (9:07); D5-Janice Stewart (10:04),

Marlin Dixon (9:17), Thomas White; D6-Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:
D5-Lawrence White, Sr.

APPROVAL OF A GENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS NOTED AND THE AGENDA AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INSTRUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)
1. 2019-2020 Miss Gila River Jr. & Miss Gila River Introductions

Presenter: June Shorthair

MS. JUNE SHORTHAIR INTRODUCED MISS GILA RIVER TYLER RENE OWENS AND JR. MISS GILA RIVER SUSANNA NICOLE OSIFE.

EACH PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THEIR BACKGROUNDS AND PLAT FORMS. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOM & ENCOURAGEMENT.

(15-minute break)

[CHAIRMAN ARZIE HOGG CALLED FOR A15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENCED AT 10:04 A.M. WITH LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE CHAIRING THE MEETING.]

REPORTS
1. 2019-2020 1st Qtr. 2018 4th Qtr & 2019 1st Qtr Ira H. Hayes Auxiliary Unit 84 Report

Presenter: Carletta McDaniel

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA


Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA


Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. FY-19 First Quarter Report – Department of Community Housing

Presenter: Laurie Thomas

REPORT HEARD

5. Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley – Gila River Branches Second Quarter Report 2019

Presenters: Chito Figueroa, Soyet Antone, Emiliano Morondos

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. Gila River Sand & Gravel Corp Quarterly Report

FY 19 Qtr 1

Presenters: Michael Morago, Bob Gazis

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

7. State Legislative Update and Recommendations (Executive Session)

Presenters: Public Policy Partners, Office of the General Counsel

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND MOVE THIS ITEM UNDER NEW BUSINESS #5

LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE CALLED TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ADDRESS NEW BUSINESS #5

[ADDITION TO AGENDA]

NEW BUSINESS

5. State Legislative Update and Recommendations (Executive Session)

Presenters: Public Policy Partners, Office of the General Counsel

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE HOUSE BILLS AND SENATE BILLS. AND RECOGNIZE SENATE BILL 1088 AS A PRIORITY

[LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE CALLED FOR A 1-HOUR LUNCH BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENCED AT 1:36 P.M.]

RESOLUTIONS
1. A Resolution Approving the Designation of Certain Portions of New Gila Crossing Community School For Community Use During Non-School Hours (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC & ESC concur) Presenter: Michael Carter

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Authorizing and Approving the Termination of Per Capita Trust Accounts and Directing the Distribution of Trust Assets to Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval) Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. A Resolution Authorizing and Approving An Intergovernmental Agreement between The Gila River Indian Community and The City of Chandler (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval) Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. A Resolution Approving and Ratifying an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Maricopa County and The Gila River Indian Community Establishing a Cooperative Highway Improvement Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval) Presenter: Thomas Knapp

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

>1. Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority One (1) Board of Director Appointment

Presenters: Community Council

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. DHD 2014 RHIP Housing Construction Project Report (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendations) Presenter: JoAnn Garcia, Javier Ramos

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT AMENDMENTS NEW BUSINESS

>1. Gila River Farms Budget 2020 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation to approve the FY20 Budget)

Presenter: Stephanie S. Manuel

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. Notification of Appellate Court Vacancy (LSC motioned to declare the vacancy for (60) days advertised through Human Resources; and the option of extending the expired term for the current Appellate Court Judge until the vacancy is filled)

Presenter: Yolanda Johnson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCIES FOR 60-DAYS, ADVERTISE THROUGH HUMAN RESOURCES AND EXTEND THE EXPIRED TERM FOR THE CURRENT JUDGES, UNTIL FILLED

>3. District Seven Letter of Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission for Jana Sunn (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval) Presenter: Sharon Lewis

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. Gila River Farms (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council in Executive Session under New Business)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert Keller

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT [ADDITION TO AGENDA]

5. State Legislative Update and Recommendations (Executive Session)

Presenters: Public Policy Partners, Office of the General Counsel

HEARD AFTER REPORTS

MINUTES

1. February 20, 2019 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. April 3, 2019 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Joey Whitman on travel, Sunday, April 21 thru Thursday, April 25, 2019

Prayers requested for Leatrice Celaya’s family

Prayers requested for Gina Webb’s family

Prayers requested for Fletcher Allison’s family

Prayers requested for Armando Jim’s family

Ligation Team meeting, Thursday, May 2, 2019, 9am

Health & Social Standing Committee and Education Standing Committee joint meeting, Thursday, April 18, 2019, 5pm

Councilman Carol Schurz on travel Monday, April 22, 2019 thru Thursday, April 25, 2019

Prayers requested for Leonard Manual’s family

District 3 Silver Hawks won the Chair Volleyball Gold Division Champion

District 7 Quails were runner up in Silver Division ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:54 P.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes A CONSENT AGENDA ITEM
For Immediate Release

MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR CASINO ROBBERY

PHOENIX – On April 15, 2019, Ryan Pearson, 32, of Payson, Ariz., was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Susan M. BRIDGES to 36 years in prison to serve followed by three years of supervised release. Pearson had previously pleaded guilty to the commission of armed robbery, armed bank robbery, and identity theft during a 2017 robbery of the Bally’s Casino in Payson, Ariz. of two armed bank robberies, and one armed bank robbery with a firearm. Pearson has been identified as a serial bank robber and has committed multiple armed bank robberies in various states. Pearson has served less than 10 years in prison for a 2011 armed robbery with a firearm. Pearson was identified as a serial bank robber and has committed multiple armed bank robberies in various states. Pearson has served less than 10 years in prison for a 2011 armed robbery with a firearm. Pearson was identified as a serial bank robber and has committed multiple armed bank robberies in various states. Pearson has served less than 10 years in prison for a 2011 armed robbery with a firearm.

Pearson admitted to his guilt and will be serving 25 years in prison. Pearson will also be under the supervision of the Bureau of Prisons for three years of post-release supervised release. Pearson will be under the supervision of the Bureau of Prisons for three years of post-release supervised release. Pearson was convicted of armed robbery and identity theft during a 2017 robbery of the Bally’s Casino in Payson, Ariz. of two armed bank robberies, and one armed bank robbery with a firearm. Pearson has been identified as a serial bank robber and has committed multiple armed bank robberies in various states. Pearson has served less than 10 years in prison for a 2011 armed robbery with a firearm. Pearson was identified as a serial bank robber and has committed multiple armed bank robberies in various states. Pearson has served less than 10 years in prison for a 2011 armed robbery with a firearm.

Job Posting

For more information about the available positions, please visit the website of the Gila River Indian Community.

SUMMONS TO APPEAR

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA
ALFREDO URIAS
Pettitioner/Plaintiff

vs.

MATTHEW MICHAEL CHICO
Respondent/Defendant

CASE Number: FM-2019-0024-PT
SUMMONS TO APPEAR
STATE OF ARIZONA
CIVIL SUMMONS
CASE Number: FM-2019-0024-PT

TO: MATTHEW MICHAEL CHICO
Respondent/Defendant

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

SUMMONS TO APPEAR

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA
CHASTITY ROLAND LOPEZ
Pettitioner/Plaintiff

vs.

MATTHEW MICHAEL CHICO
Respondent/Defendant

CASE Number: FM-2019-0026-PT
CIVIL SUMMONS

TO: MATTHEW MICHAEL CHICO
Respondent/Defendant

SUMMONS TO APPEAR

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA

HOW TO APPLY: For more information and online application please visit www.cbcschools.com/Benefits/Medical, Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance, 401K Retirement, Paid Time Off, School Information: School is located in the rural area on the Gila River Indian Community Reservation. Contact Information: For additional information and online application please visit www.cbcschools.com/Benefits/Medical, Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance, 401K Retirement, Paid Time Off.
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

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

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) 562-8887 or email special.events@gric.nsn.us
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THIS IS A LIMITED TIME OPPORTUNITY. TRANSACTIONS MUST BE MADE BETWEEN APRIL 1, 2017 AND JUNE 30, 2017 OR WHEN THE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM RUNS OUT, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

WE APOLOGIZE IN ADVANCE, BUT THIS SPECIAL OFFER MAY NOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR PRICE DISCOUNT.

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$305/mo.
2018 Dodge Caravan

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2016 Dodge Charger

$275/mo.
2016 Toyota Camry

$250/mo.
2017 Chevy Equinox

$299/mo.
2016 Honda Civic

$299/mo.
2016 Nissan Altima

$399/mo.
2016 Toyota Camry

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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.