



# The Gila River Indian News



A Gila River Indian Community Publication  
Sacaton, Az.

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## Work on Gila River roll, Docket 228 payout roll is creeping to an end

A notice headed "Docket 228 Payment Roll" in last month's issue of the Gila River Indian News might have started you thinking about ways to spend your Docket 228 per capita money—well, don't hold your breath.

Tina Notah, Gila River Tribal Enrollment Office coordinator, said her office still has a minimum of three to four months work on the tribal roll, then the BIA and tribe have to go through a final approval and certification process.

She said she doesn't want to make any predictions of how long that process will take.

The Enrollment Office, she said, is working on the final 800 names being considered for membership in the tribe.

"I expect it will take anywhere from three to four months to finish. We're averaging about 300 per month," said Notah.

For each of those names to be added to the roll, several things must be done. Ancestral traces must be completed, blood degree verification done, correct tribal identification numbers confirmed, correct addresses gotten, and of course the important verification of enrollment date.

The enrollment date is important because that will determine whether or not a person can share in the per capita payment to qualified tribal members.

In order for a tribal member to participate in any per capita distribution of Docket 228 money, he or she must have submitted an enrollment application or update to the tribe by Oct. 8, 1986.

And according to the use plan approved by Congress, those tribal members eligible to participate in a

per capita distribution are those born on or prior to, and who were living on Aug. 10, 1986, the effective date of the plan.

Anyone who is approved for tribal membership, but who submitted their application after the Oct. 8, 1986 cutoff date may be on the tribal roll, but left off the Docket 228 payment roll.

Notah said as soon as the Enrollment Office sends a batch of names over to the BIA, they are encoded into the bureau's computer system.

Once all challenges and discrepancies are cleared from the roll, another process that likely will take more time, it will come back to the tribe for final approval.

BIA Pima Agency Superintendent Denise Homer said the agency office has been working with the tribe to get the roll completed as soon as possible.

But the reality is that "our only job is to certify the roll that the tribe sends to us."

"We have a very unofficial roll. The (Phoenix) area office developed a membership roll from the 1980 Census. We compare what we have on our roll to what's on the tribe's roll," she said.

But really, it's up to the tribe to determine who they want on their roll, she said, adding that it's the tribe's responsibility to come up with the payment roll.

As names are fed over to the agency office, they are certified as they are encoded into the computer system, she said.

"Once we get the approved roll from the tribal council, the certification will get done immediately," said Homer.



**YOU'LL GET RUBBER OUT OF THIS?**—You bet. Workers at the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co.'s rubber processing plant at San Tan Industrial Park load a rolled bale of guayule into a chopper. It's the first processing phase of turning the shrub into rubber. The guayule is from Gila River's Amerind Technical Laboratories (ATL), which has sent Firestone about 240 tons of the desert shrub. The work by ATL and Firestone, which is financed by the Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is part of an effort to create a source of natural rubber for aircraft tires.

## 1989 is an election year for six seats on Gila River Community council

This is an election year for six members of the Gila River Indian Community tribal council.

The tribal council election will be May 2, and tribal council secretary Janice Apkaw said her office is starting to work on a full election schedule.

Those tribal council representatives whose 3-year terms are up for election are Arnold Kisto of District 2, Perry Jackson of District 3, Barrington Russell from District 4, Lucius Kyyitan of District 5, Anselm Shelde from District 6, and Roderick Sunn from District 7.

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Gila River Indian News  
P.O. Box 459  
Sacaton, Arizona 85247

# IHS and AHCCCS can work hand-in-hand to help Gila River community

The Indian Health Service (IHS) and Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), though very different health care agencies, often combine to provide medical care for Gila River community members.

Lance Lewis, hospital administrator for the IHS Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital at Sacaton, said though IHS is the main provider of health care for tribal members, AHCCCS can also provide care for some community members.

AHCCCS is Arizona's Medicaid, providing indigent health care for the state's needy.

For a person who is unemployed and has limited income, he or she very likely can qualify for AHCCCS care, Lewis said.

This situation can be important to IHS, particularly when a person in those circumstances requires

medical services for which IHS doesn't have facilities, he said.

As an example, said Lewis, say a person is in need of a brain scan or a CAT scan. Since IHS isn't equipped for those procedures either at Sacaton or Phoenix, it would have to refer the patient to a non-IHS medical facility capable of providing that service.

Normally, the IHS Contract Health program would pay for the procedure.

If that person is, however, either unemployed or has limited income, IHS will recommend that they apply for AHCCCS benefits.

If the person qualifies for AHCCCS care, that agency, rather than IHS Contract Health, will pay for the procedure.

Lewis said this can save IHS money. And even when a patient may have a job, or has income above

AHCCCS standards, IHS tries to identify alternate resources for which the patient may be eligible, such as private medical insurance or Veteran's Administration benefits, to pay for medical procedures, he said.

Under these circumstances, he said, "It's just a matter of who pays. Is it us or is it AHCCCS?"

Generally, getting a patient qualified for AHCCCS, which takes more than a week, is done only as the need arises, said Lewis.

Because the process is relatively slow, he said, the medical circumstance would have to be a non-emergency.

If a person were conscientious and unemployed, it would smooth things out and make it a lot faster if they would go through the AHCCCS qualification process before a medical emergency arose, he said.

Nadine Jackson, an AHCCCS eligibility worker at Hu Hu Kam Hospital, said the prime consideration in becoming eligible for AHCCCS care is income.

A few sample income guidelines, she said, are an income of no more than \$3,200 a year for a one-person household, and no more than \$5,354 a year for a four-person household.

When a person comes in, she said, "We need all household members' birth certificates or baptismal certificates, everybody's social security card, all household

members' tribal ID cards, and for the head of the household, something to prove residency, such as a driver's license, recent rent receipt or a utility bill."

"I take the application and send it out to the Florence Medical Aid office, and they process the application," said Jackson.

So far, she said, she's been kept busy taking applications from community residents.

Since last May Jackson has been at the hospital three days a week taking six applications each day. That's the maximum number she can take since each application takes more than an hour to fill out, she said.

She is at the hospital Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and an appointment must be arranged. Call 562-3321, extension 471.

An added benefit, long-term care, has become part of the AHCCCS package.

The nursing home benefit was never included in AHCCCS, but with recent approval by the Health Care Financing Administration, which oversees AHCCCS, a statewide long-term care program is in effect.

The program started serving the developmentally disabled in December, and the elderly and physically disabled in January.

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## Community Calendar

- JANUARY 16—** Holiday in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. Gila River Tribal offices will closed, Sacaton School District schools closed.
- JANUARY 17—** Gila River Tribal Council insurance workshop. Sacaton tribal council chamber, 9 a.m.
- JANUARY 17—** Classes begin at Gila River Career Center and Central Arizona College.
- JANUARY 18—** Gila River Indian Community Tribal Council meeting. Begins at 9 a.m., Sacaton tribal council chamber.
- JANUARY 21—** Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council meeting. Begins at 9 .m. in the Sacaton tribal council chamber.
- JANUARY 30—** Income tax assistance program starts and runs through April 7. See schedule on Page 3 of this GRIN issue.
- FEBRUARY 4—** Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council meeting. Begins 9 a.m. in the Sacaton tribal council chamber.

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## New wood cutting permits required

A new, temporary wood cutting permit form was approved by the Gila River Indian Community Tribal Council on Dec. 7.

This form will be used until a revision of the Native Plant Law ordinance is completed.

The temporary form addresses two very important areas concerning the protection of reservation wood resources and the welfare of Gila River tribal members.

The new permit will enable reservation law officers to determine if trespassing by non-members has occurred, by providing a procedure to check for any violations of Gila River's Native Plant Law.

This permit also protects the welfare of all tribal members who plan to sell or purchase wood.

Without this permit, a tribal member may find himself violating the State of Arizona's Native Plant Law by transporting cords of wood outside of Gila River's boundaries.

This permit states from where the wood originated, and who to contact if there is a question that needs answering.

Also, an owner's receipt for the purchaser is provided to record the transaction. (Keep in mind that a tribal member is entitled to four cords of wood per month.)

Permits may be obtained from each district Service Center, or from the Physical Resources Department, Land Use Planning Office in Sacaton.

In order to obtain a wood permit, a tribal identification card must be presented. Also, a business license must be obtained afterward at the Tribal Treasurer's office in Sacaton, if one plans to sell wood.

Revisions of the Native Plant Law will be discussed at each district to provide explanations to the community, and to hear any comments pertaining to the permit.

by Clarence Chiago  
GR Land Use Planning Officer

## Assistance with income tax forms will be provided by Gila River tribe

The Gila River tribe will again be providing income tax assistance to community members beginning Jan. 30.

The fee for the income tax assistance is inexpensive. The assistance will run through April 7.

Help will be offered from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Mondays at the Gila Crossing Service Center, Tuesdays at Sacaton Service Center, Wednesdays at Stotonic Service Center, Thursdays at the District 5 Veterans' Memorial Center, and Fridays at the Blackwater Service Center.

The fee schedule is as follows. For

preparation of Federal Form 1040EZ, \$5; Federal Form 1040A, \$10; Federal Form 1040, \$15; Federal Form 1040 Itemized, \$25; State Form 140A, \$5; State Form 140, \$10; and State Form 140 Itemized, \$25.

Bring a copy of your 1987 tax return with you, and also bring your 1988 federal and state tax return booklet.

Social security numbers for dependents five years old and older are also required.

No tax returns will be prepared at the tribal administration office until April 10, and then the fees for all returns will be \$25.

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<b>75 Ford LTD wagon</b>	<b>\$650</b>
<b>77 Chevy Monza</b>	<b>\$650</b>
<b>79 Pinto wagon</b>	<b>\$650</b>
<b>65 Chevy half-ton PU</b>	<b>\$750</b>
<b>74 Ford LTD wagon</b>	<b>\$550</b>
<b>64 Ford half-ton PU</b>	<b>\$850</b>



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GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS  
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# Foster Care Program seeks parents

The Foster Care Program of Gila River Tribal Social Services is recruiting families for new foster parents. The program needs stable families,

people who care about children and the community, and people who are willing to share. For more information contact Manuel Johnson, Foster Care worker, at 562-3396, or 899-9565.

# New Mexico firm is hired by tribe to develop bingo management plan

The Gila River tribe has hired a New Mexico firm to draw up a management plan for a bingo operation on the reservation. Grover, Stetson and Williams, an Albuquerque consulting firm, will be paid \$15,000 to develop the plan. The proposal, presented to the Gila

River Tribal Council by Gila River Gov. Thomas White, was approved by the council at its Jan. 4 meeting. A similar proposal that also included Grover, Stetson and Williams was made to the council last spring, but was rejected.



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# Career Center, Central Arizona classes will begin on January 17

Registration for courses offered at the Gila River Career Center in Sacaton is ongoing Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the

## Want to brush-up those work skills? Career Center offering short courses

Short courses and brush-up training in Office Skills, Computer Skills and Retail Skills will begin Jan. 17 at the Gila River Career Center.

Secretary Brush-up Review is designed to provide quick, intensive training on a specific secretarial skill for re-entry into the work force.

Training is arranged by appointment on a space-available basis with instructor Ann Reinhardt. Tuition is \$4 per hour of training.

Micro Computer Applications is a program designed to provide short-term training on a specific disk operating system and software.

Individual training hours can be arranged on a space-available basis. Tuition is \$4 per hour of training.

A short course in Cashier Skills will

## GED testing now available at Career Center

GED tests are now available at CAC's Gila River Career Center in Sacaton.

Tests begin promptly at 8 a.m., and late comers will not be admitted.

Writing skills tests are administered the first Wednesday of each month only, with all other subject areas administered on any other Wednesday.

A \$10 fee will be charged for the first examination. Those retaking the test will be charged an additional \$7.

Fees must be paid in the front office of the Skill Center prior to each test.

Free GED preparation classes and tutoring services are also available at the center.

Students may begin studies any weekday, except holidays and recesses. They are pre-tested in order to determine their readiness to begin the State GED testing.

During 1988 about 122 persons completed their GED tests at the career center.

For more information or to make test appointments, call GED test supervisor Lupe Gastelum at the center, 562-3349 or 723-5522.

## Two finish training

Two Gila River Indian Community residents completed cashier training through Central Arizona College's Skill Center program at the Gila River Career Center.

Gloria Johnson and Amanda J. Sabori, both of Sacaton, received certificates of completion for the course.

## New employees

Four new employees were added to the Gila River Indian Community roster in December.

Stephen Fair was hired as a psychologist with the Behavioral Health program.

Michael Bishop was hired as general manager of the Physical Resources Department.

Doris Blaine was hired as a community health representative with Public Health Nursing.

Bruce Chandler has hired as a sanitarian with the Environmental Health program.

Sacaton is ongoing Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the start Feb. 13. It is a three-week, 40-hour program costing \$50 per person. For more information call the Gila River Career Center at 562-3349 or 723-5522.

career center.

Instruction will begin Jan. 17, the Spring semester starting date for classes throughout the Central Arizona College system. The career center is operated by CAC.

The start of classes was previously advertised as Jan. 9, but the college's governing board changed the starting date to the day after the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

A new schedule of courses offered at the Signal Peak Campus and the Gila River Career Center was mailed to west Pinal County residents early this month.

Courses offered at the career center are included in the schedule's fourth section. Course descriptions and special costs and admissions criteria for these classes are also included.

## It Takes More Than Brushing To Keep Your Teeth Healthy

### Recipes for Good Snacks

These are some recipes for snacks that are nutritious and do not cause tooth decay. Make these snacks for yourself, your family or your friends. Use your imagination to make some more good snack recipes.

### Stuffed Celery



Wash celery and cut into short pieces.

Fill celery with:  
peanut butter  
cheese spread  
cream cheese  
or  
cottage cheese

### Fruit Kabobs



Take: apple slices  
orange slices  
banana slices  
grapes

Place one of each on a toothpick. Add cubes of cheese for variety. Arrange on a plate.

### Crackers Supreme



Take different kinds of crackers. Cover crackers with:

Another cracker may be put on top to make a cracker sandwich.

butter  
cheese spread  
cream cheese  
lunchmeat  
or  
cheese

by Hu Hu Kam Hospital Dental Clinic

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Governing Board of Casa Grande District #82 is inviting the public to be involved in preparing an opposition statement for a Information Report regarding a proposed 1989-90 Override Budget election to be held February 14, 1989. The Information Report will be presented to the County Superintendent. People wishing to participate may contact Kenneth Smith at the Administration Building located at 616 E 10th Street, Casa Grande, Arizona 85222 between December 12-16 or call 836-8532.



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## TO YOUR HEALTH

# Long-term study of diabetes in Pimas is starting to show some returns

In 1982 National Institute of Health (NIH) scientists working at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center began a major, long-term study of the reasons why Indians of the Gila River Indian Community develop non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus at such a high rate.

This study has involved admitting volunteers to the NIH ward for approximately 10 days every year over the last six and one-half years.

After receiving a complete medical history and physical examination, each subject undergoes a wide variety of tests.

The tests are designed to determine how their body reacts to sugar, either given in the vein or given orally, and how the body reacts to insulin—the hormone in the body that lowers the blood sugar.

Tests have also been done on the body's rate of metabolism—that is, how fast the body burns food for energy—and measures have been made of the composition of the body, that is, what percent of the body weight is fat and what percent is nonfat body mass.

In the last year or two, the efforts of the volunteers and scientists have begun to pay off.

First, NIH has found that a low rate of body metabolism is a risk factor for weight gain. The low rate of metabolism also seems to run in some families.

This was the first demonstration of this phenomenon in man. It is now hoped that continued work will find the reason why the metabolism can be low in some people and not in others.

Eventually, NIH is hopeful that it would be able to correct the metabolic rate by some means, such as medicines, to help prevent large amounts of weight gain. The use of medicines would be helpful since

diets is so difficult over the long term.

It has also been found that one of the major reasons why diabetes appears to develop in the Indians of the Gila River Indian Community is that their bodies do not respond normally to insulin.

That is, insulin given in the vein does not lower the blood sugar as much as it should.

This has been a very important observation, and the effort now is to determine the biochemical reason why insulin doesn't work well in these

people.

In particular, it appears that insulin's ability to get sugar into the muscles of people is the most important factor in contributing to the body's poor response to insulin.

Because of this, NIH has been studying in great detail the way in which insulin affects skeletal muscle in the Indian volunteers.

It is strongly believed that the answer to the poor insulin response of the body lies in understanding how insulin affects muscle.

With this understanding, the cause

of the diabetes among the members of the Gila River Indian Community would be much closer to being solved.

This major study is continuing, and NIH would like to thank all those who have volunteered to participate in what has been called a landmark study to prevent the development of non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus among members of the Gila River community.

by Dr. C. Bogardus, NIH  
for the Gila River Indian News

## Volunteers for diabetes study are more than just subjects

It's a sleepy winter's morning in Sacaton. All of a sudden the dogs are barking wildly.

A car pulls up outside the house and out steps Angie Moyah. She is the recruiter and driver for the National Institute of Health (NIH) at the Phoenix Medical Center.

As arranged, she is there to pick up a volunteer for his annual visit to the NIH ward as part of what is called the "Five-Year Study."

Approximately 270 residents of the Gila River Indian Community are involved in this study, and they return every year to the NIH where tests are done to find out what causes so much diabetes in the Pima/Papago communities.

As the volunteer gets into the van and heads for Phoenix, he may be wondering what he and the Indian community will get out of this visit.

Of course, he will be paid for his participation in the research, and he has heard during weekly NIH meetings with Dr. Steve Lillioja, coordinator for the study, about how valuable this work is. In fact this work with the Pimas is recognized world wide as a cornerstone in the

understanding of the causes of diabetes and obesity.

But there is more to this research, the money and the clinical facts.

The research staff looks forward to seeing the volunteers year after year, and they have come to know the volunteers and their families, and consider them part of the "Research Family."

The volunteers have also come to know the NIH staff, and trust them to provide an environment which is not only safe and comfortable for their tests, but one that also allows them to share some of their thoughts and feelings.

This relationship has allowed volunteers to discuss some of their personal problems and some of the problems that plague the Gila River community in general, such as obesity and diabetes and its complications; personal and family problems from alcoholism; and the sadness and grieving of so many young deaths in families.

This growing awareness of the needs of the volunteers has led NIH to develop ways to help where it is possible.

All volunteers, on admission, get a thorough work-up, including a physical examination by a doctor, laboratory work and an EKG.

If the doctor discovers that a specialist referral is needed, such as to the Eye Clinic, then this can usually be arranged while the volunteer is in the ward.

If either diabetes or borderline diabetes has been diagnosed, then an education program is begun, and follow up at the Diabetic Clinic is arranged.

The Diabetic Education Program, which is based on NIH research

findings, can offer detailed information to the volunteers on how to prevent the development of diabetes, or to those with diabetes, how to care for themselves to prevent complications.

As well as discussions with doctors, nurses and the dietitian, videos and computer tapes are used in the program.

Since many families are affected by alcohol abuse, NIH feels it is very important to offer help to those who are interested.

Each Friday evening a counselor from the Indian Rehabilitation Program in Phoenix visits the research unit.

She shows films related to alcohol and drug abuse, and if anyone wishes, she is available for counseling, or she can organize enrollment in the Alcohol Rehabilitation Program.

Also on Fridays, volunteers can attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, Alanon, or Adult Children of Alcoholics meetings within the hospital.

Social Service counselors at Phoenix Indian Medical Center are also available to help with personal or family problems, and can arrange for follow up after they are discharged.

All of these programs fit with the NIH belief that each volunteer is an individual with special physical, social and spiritual needs.

It is hoped that by offering this assistance, NIH can in some way contribute to the Pima/Papago volunteers, who in turn are making a significant contribution to diabetes research.

by Carol Lamkin, NIH  
for the Gila River Indian News

## Gila River, Salt River communities to get money for heart disease study

The Gila River and Salt River Indian communities were among three areas targeted to receive funds to study heart disease among Native Americans.

The funds were awarded as a research grant by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

The other tribes to be studied are the Sioux and the seven tribes of Anadarko, OK. The principal program investigator for the Gila River and Salt River communities is Dr. Barbara Howard of the Medlantic Research Foundation, Washington, D.C.

In the Arizona area, 1,500 members of the Gila River and Salt River communities will be recruited to participate in the study, which consists of questionnaires, blood tests, a physical examination and review of medical records.

The study will compare rates of heart disease and deaths related to heart disease among the participating tribes, and to also measure risk factors for heart disease.

The study will collect data to identify the risk factors responsible for high rates of heart disease among some Indian groups, and identify ways to prevent heart disease from

increasing in other tribes.

Elevated cholesterol and blood pressure have generally been found to be less common for Indian people than for non-Indians.

Diabetes, however, occurs more commonly among most Native Americans, except for Alaska Natives.

Northern Plains tribes and Alaska Natives have higher rates of smoking than United States men and women, and the rates of smoking are quite low in most other tribes that have been studied.

All participants in the study will receive an electrocardiogram, laboratory tests and a physical examination directed at assessing heart disease.

And the Gila River and Salt River communities will receive advice in conducting health research, since they will be helping to coordinate the study.

The tribes will receive data from the study that will help them in planning preventive programs to reduce heart disease.

The data may also help them to obtain additional money to set up and evaluate preventive programs.

## Therapy group for domestic violence

Each Tuesday evening from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. a support and therapy group is held at the Behavioral Health Clinic, Hu Hu Kam Hospital, for victims of domestic violence.

## Eating and exercise programs set

Make this a healthy New Year! Excess weight can be a contributing factor to diabetes, hypertension, gall stones and arthritis.

The community will have several weight control programs from which to choose.

A 10-week program started this month, with meetings at noon and 5:30 p.m. at Hu Hu Kam Hospital.

The group is directed by Thelma Thomas, crisis counselor, Native American outreach worker with Against Abuse, Inc. Call 562-3321, extension 207, for more information.

The program is set up to help you design an eating and exercise program to fit your lifestyle.

An October to December class lost a total of 42 pounds. There is no charge for the January program.

In February a very low calorie diet program will begin. (This will be the type Oprah used to lose weight.)

Call 562-3321, extension 370 for more information about the programs.

# NATIONAL NOTES

## Indian leaders meet with Reagan

Sixteen tribal leaders, among them Gerald Anton, president of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, met with President Reagan Dec. 12 at the White House.

The hour-long meeting, at which Reagan and the Indian leaders talked generally about Indian issues, was called historic by those familiar with Indian affairs, since it was the first such meeting at the White House.

Reagan told the Indians that past federal efforts to help Indians have often failed because the government was attempting to enforce its will on the tribes.

"You, as Indian leaders, have the answers if the Federal Government would just get out of the way. We don't have to cut the money, we need to cut the federal intrusion," Reagan said.

"Tribes need the freedom to spend the money available to them to create a better quality of life, and to meet their needs as they define them. Tribes must make those decisions, not the Federal Government," Reagan said.

Several of the Indians said they fully agreed with Reagan, recommending that federal funds be channeled directly through tribal governments to save administrative costs.

Gerald Anton suggested the White House should help tribes cut through the federal bureaucratic red tape.

And there was near unanimous support of Reagan's remarks concerning the need for greater private sector economic development for Indian tribes.

Reagan said, "Our free enterprise system should give everyone the opportunity to reach self-fulfillment. I'm troubled, however, when I see that opportunity lost for some Indian people, living in substandard conditions in a segregated environment.

"The choice to live on the reservation should be because there is a real opportunity—not because of federal benefits, or because they're forced to live there, but because they can get a decent job, raise a family and be educated in schools equal to those found somewhere else," he said.

Phillip Martin, tribal chief of the Mississippi Choctaw Tribe, responded that the Federal Government should make greater efforts to do business with enterprises on Indian lands.

He also recommended that an economic development council for Indian country be established, consisting of private sector leaders, tribal representatives and federal officials.

Hopi Tribal Chairman Ivan Sidney told Reagan that quality education "is the keystone of true self-determination. We Indian people have the best answer to our problems. What we need from the Federal Government is a helping hand, not just a handout."

It was suggested by others that there be a White House conference on Indian education.

Wilma Mankiller, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, said self-help projects have been more effective than federal solutions to problems.

She told Reagan the archaic federal bureaucracy should be scaled down, providing more resources for the

tribes.

After returning to Arizona, Sidney said the meeting with Reagan will help to soften the relationship with Indians for President-elect George Bush.

Anton said the meeting was a good beginning, with benefits that will continue under the Bush administration.

Bush spokesman Dave Prosseri said if Indian leaders make a similar request to meet with Bush, he will try to honor it. He said Bush is sensitive to Indian concerns and needs.

In preparation for the meeting with the president, the tribal leaders were urged to discuss only issues common to all tribes. Those seeking to resolve specific problems were asked to work with BIA head Ross Swimmer.

The Indian leaders were selected from tribes by Swimmer to represent a geographical distribution of large and small tribes, those with diverse operations, and those with stable leadership.

Others included on the Indian panel were Leonard Burch, Chairman of the Southern Ute Tribe; Morris Thompson, president and chief executive officer of Doyan Limited; Edward K. Thomas, President of the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska; Richard A. Hayward, Chairman of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut; Eddie L. Tullis, Chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians; Zane Jackson, Chairman of the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes; Johnny R. Thompson, Vice Chairman of the Navajo Tribal Council; Edward Lonefight, Chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes; Edgar L. French Jr., President of the Delaware Tribe of Western Oklahoma; Richard M. Milanovich, Chairman of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians; Darrell Wadena, Chairman of the White Earth Reservation; and Bob Rivera from the Coastal Band of Chumash Nation.

### Swimmer says in 10 years BIA will be half the size it is now

There is a transfer of power going on in Indian country, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs is going to have to

turn things over to tribes, Ross Swimmer, head of the BIA, told bureau executives.

Swimmer made the statement during a national BIA executives conference in San Antonio, Texas in December.

"What's important at your level is a willingness and acceptance of this transfer of power. We are going to turn things over to tribes," Swimmer said.

Amendments to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act give tribes new incentive to contract programs that have been run by the bureau, he said.

"We must firmly establish a policy that says tribes are in charge of what happens on their reservations," he said, and they should be allowed to fail in their quest for self-determination.

The BIA should move out of running things for the tribes, and instead work to create an atmosphere that will help tribes work for themselves, he said.

"We have to accept the fact that tribes are going to make mistakes in this effort. What we need to do is turn back and tell them to look to their elected leadership," said Swimmer.

Several things to be put in place include a system of transferring money to Indian tribes instead of the BIA bureaucracy, and not clouding the self-determination amendment with excessive regulations, he said.

He said there should be a commitment that in 10 years there will be true self-determination among tribes, and the bureau will be half the size it is now.

### Arizona among states to get Victims of Crime funds

Arizona is included among nine states awarded grants to develop assistance services for victims of federal crimes on Indian reservations.

Arizona's portion of the approximately \$1 million in grants is \$250,000.

States will subgrant the federal funds to organizations, particularly Indian tribes or tribal groups, that will provide services to Indian victims of federal crimes.

The federal grant funds don't come from taxes, but are from a crime victims' fund financed by federal

criminal penalties, fines, and bond forfeitures.

### Should state courts prosecute non-Indians for reservation crimes?

The U.S. Supreme Court has asked the Justice Department for its opinion on whether a state court may prosecute a non-Indian accused of a crime against an Indian on an Indian reservation.

The court's invitation for comment from government lawyers stems from an appeal by Arizona law officials who want to prosecute a non-Indian school teacher accused of sexually molesting Indian boys on the Navajo reservation.

A lower court ruled the federal courts have exclusive authority to prosecute the man.

### BIA drug testing started in early January

Random drug testing of BIA employees in "sensitive" positions was started in early January in Washington, D.C. and Denver.

Out of approximately 2,250 Interior Department jobs in those two locations where the drug testing will begin, about 300 will be selected by computer for the test.

Bureau-wide, more than one-third of the 14,000 employees fall into testing designated positions. Those positions primarily are in education, law enforcement and other field office jobs considered sensitive.

The test will screen urine samples for marijuana, opiates, cocaine, amphetamines and PCP.

Those who test positive for drugs, those refusing to be tested, or employees who refuse to obtain counseling after testing positive or admitting use, face disciplinary action up to and including removal from Federal Government service.

### Swimmer leaves BIA this month

Ross Swimmer, Interior Assistant Secretary, will be leaving the BIA this month after joining other Reagan appointees in submitting their resignations last November.

Swimmer said he's not interested in serving in another administration.

## Reagan's statement to Indian leaders:

"Welcome to the White House. I appreciate this opportunity to meet with tribal leaders and Indian representatives from across America and to share some thoughts together. Indian people are very important to America and deserve to stand proud for their contributions to this great country."

"As you know, my policy has been built on the concept of self-determination—the right of tribes to have a say in what happens in Indian country. I understand there is a continuing debate about whether this policy is effective or needs to be changed or strengthened. In fact, I was criticized about some comments I made in Moscow about the policy of letting Indian people choose their own way of life."

"Well, I believe we must respect the right of Indian people to live the life they choose, just as we do for every American citizen."

"Sadly, all too often Indian people have been denied their rightful access to the American dream as a result of our Federal

social and economic programs—our efforts to 'help' the Indian. Will Rogers, an Oklahoma Cherokee, once commented, 'It's a good thing we don't get all the government we pay for.' That couldn't be more true than in our dealings with Indian country. Yet the impression seems to remain that the answers lie in Washington, and simply more Federal intervention and more money will solve the problems. You leaders here today know that is not true, just as I do."

"You, as Indian leaders, have the answers if the Federal government would just get out of the way. We don't have to cut the money, we need to cut the Federal intrusion."

"Tribes need the freedom to spend the money available to them to create a better quality of life, and to meet their needs as they define them. Tribes must make those decisions, not the Federal government."

"Our free enterprise system should give everyone the opportunity to reach self-fulfillment. I'm troubled, however, when I see that opportunity lost for some Indian

people, living in substandard conditions in a segregated environment. The choice to live on the reservation should be because there is a real opportunity—not because of Federal benefits or because they're forced to live there, but because they can get a decent job, raise a family and be educated in schools equal to those found somewhere else."

"I believe this can only happen if the Indian people and you, their elected leaders, are free to take the responsibility, be accountable, and call your own plays. All America should be there cheering you on."

"I am proud of Indian people and Native Americans. I want them to be proud of their country and to share in the benefits and blessings they so richly deserve for their many contributions and tremendous sacrifices they made to help get this country going."

"I've been told you have many successes to share with me today as well as some suggestions of how you think I might be able to help."

# WAILLA

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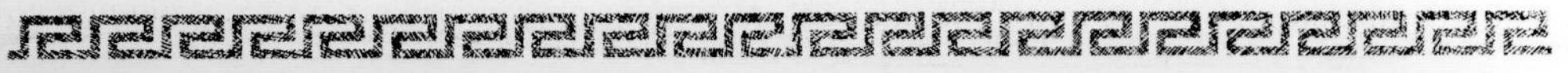
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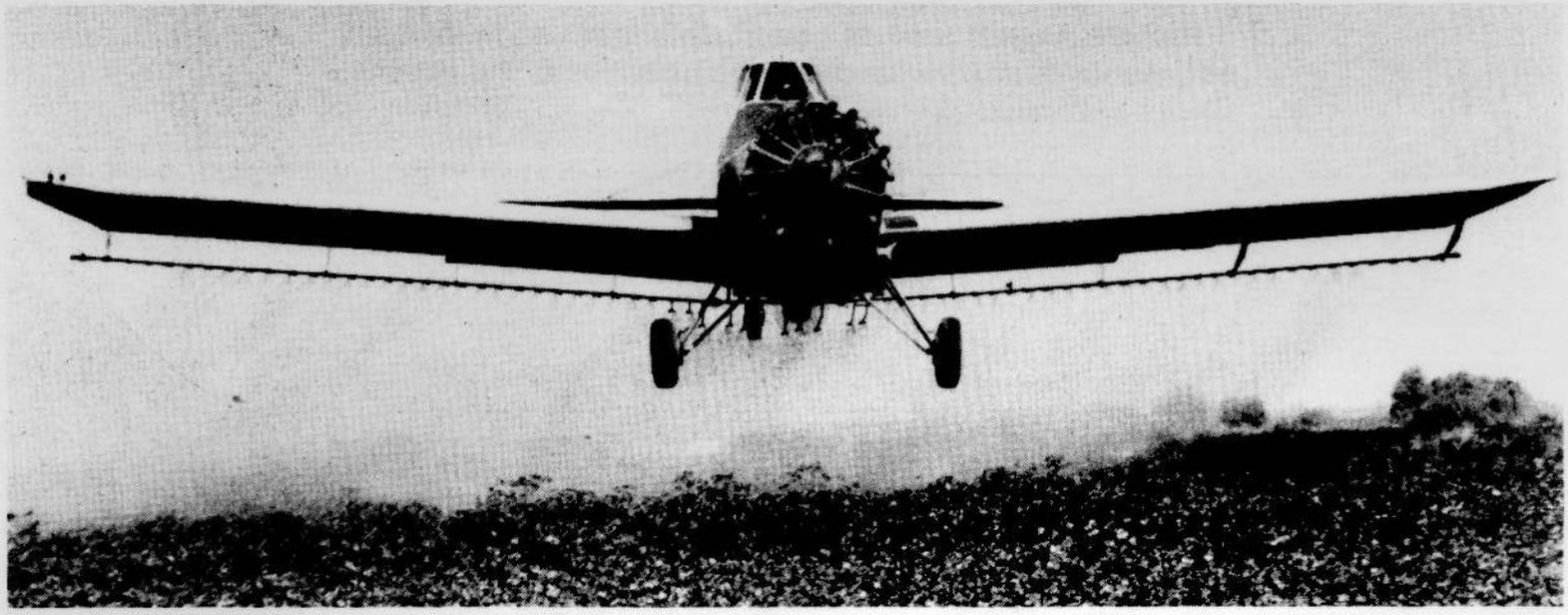
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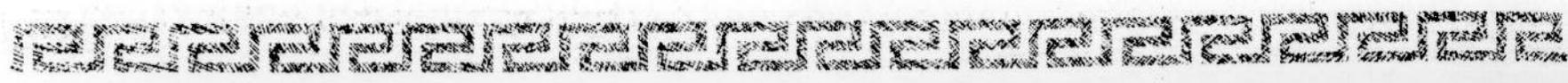
# GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

JANUARY 1989

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY, SACATON, ARIZONA 85247

PAGE 1





AMERIND TECHNICAL LABORATORY  
George Abel, Manager  
1988 7-21-87

### REPORT TO THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

This report is a summary of some of the activities of the various offices and departments of the Gila River Community government during the 1988 fiscal year, October 1, 1987 to September 30, 1988.

It is intended to provide general information to the community about the function and activities of the various offices and departments.



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#### REPORT TO THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

This report was compiled and produced by the  
GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS  
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Sacaton, Arizona 85247  
(602)562-3311

## GILA RIVER TRIBAL COUNCIL

562-3311 extension 230

The tribal council is the voice of the community in dealing with matters both within the tribe and with outside agencies. These matters include the tribe's relationship with other governments, legal and law enforcement matters, matters that affect the social and general well being of the tribal community and fiscal matters of the tribal government and the community.

The tribal council is made of 17 members elected from the community's seven districts.

The 1988 council was made up of the following members:

**District 1**—Ardell Ruiz, whose term expires in June 1990, and Harry Cruye Jr., whose term is up in June 1991.

**District 2**—Arnold Kisto, whose term expires in June 1989.

**District 3**—Perry Jackson, term is up June 1989. Mary V. Thomas, term expires June 1990.

**District 4**—Barrington Russell, term expires in June 1989, and Nadine Terry, term expires in June 1991. Spencer Thomas and Malcom Eschief, terms are up in June 1990.

**District 5**—Lucius Kyitan, term expires June 1989, and Daniel Tree, term expires in June 1991. Rod Dixon and Dana Norris Sr., terms expire in June 1990.

**District 6**—Anselm Shelde, term is up in June 1989, Carleton Giff, term expires June 1990, and Lawrence Enos, term expires June 1991.

**District 7**—Roderick Sunn,

whose term is up in June 1989.

The tribal council also appoints members to six standing committees that help the tribe function as a government body. These are Government and Management, Economic Development, Natural Resources, Health/Social, Education and Legislative committees.

The council also establishes advisory boards and Education and Legislative committees.

The council also establishes advisory boards, committees, commissions, and charters reservation corporations.

These include the Gila River Housing Authority, Gila River Utility Authority, Gila River Farms,

Gila River Arts and Crafts, Inc., Sun Vally Marina Corp., Lone Butte Industrial Development Corp., San Tan Economic Development Corp., Gila River Fair Commission, Gila River Enrollment Committee, Gila River Law and Order Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, Water Conservation Committee, Health Board, Gila River Indian Enterprises, Inc., Pima Leasing and Financing Corp., Gila River Airport Authority, San Tan Landowners Corp., Gila River Development Corp., Pima Maricopa Indian Development Corp. No.'s 1, 2 and 3, the I-10 Development Corp., Water and Sanitation Board and Gila River Telecommunications, Inc.

## GILA RIVER EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Thomas R. White, Governor

William R. Rhodes, Lieutenant Governor

562-3311 extension 202

The Executive Office of the tribe is made up of the Governor, who is the chief executive officer for the Gila River Indian Community, and the Lt. Governor, who both serve as the lead contact in relations with Federal, state and other

local governments.

The governor also is the chief administrator for the community government, and has administrative responsibility for the operation of the tribal office and all officials and employees, other than elected officials, who

work for the the Gila River Indian Community.

In 1988 Thomas R. White took the office of Gila River Governor that he won in the November 1987 tribal election. White had served as lieutenant governor of the tribe.

Also in 1988, William R. Rhodes, who won the lieutenant governor's post in the November 1987 tribal election, took office.

## HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Carlton Terry, Administrator

562-9239

The Housing Improvement Program helps community members at Gila River and at Ak Chin who are in dire need of repairs or renovation to their homes, and in special circumstances can help a person or family build a new home.

The program offers help in minor repairs, which have an upper cost limit of \$2,500, and major rehabilitation, which is limited to a cost of \$20,000.

Community members who seek help through the program must be recommended by a District Housing Committee from their respective community, and then go through an acceptance process that uses an impartial point system to determine need.

The program has three employees—a program administrator, a construction foreman, and a secretary. The number of temporary employees fluctuates depending on the work.

During 1988 the program completed one major rehabilitation project, completed building a new home that was started in 1987, and started

construction on two new homes that have a planned completion

date of late October. Also in 1988 the program began

planning for a major rehabilitation project in District 7.





## PERSONNEL OFFICE

**Orlando Manuel, Director**  
562-3311 extension 218

The Personnel Office, as its name implies, deals with personnel—employees of the tribe. When it comes to tribal employees, it is responsible for hiring, letting go, and just about everything in between.

The office maintains the personnel records of employees, maintains a classification and pay plan for them, maintains an employee retirement plan and a recognition and awards system, and plans and develops policies and procedures for employees.

The office also assists tribal programs in the training of new employees, and provides payroll and deduction services for them. The office also is responsible for a

grievance and appeals system for employees.

Besides this day-to-day tracking of tribal employees and their needs, in September the office staged an employee field day, which was a daylong social activity at Compton Terrace. It was an effort to help tribal employees get to know one another, and to promote good working relations among the tribal employee force.

The Personnel Office in 1988 had six fulltime employees.

**Insurance Office.** The main task of the tribal insurance office is to make sure that tribal property and tribal employees are properly insured. The office

places coverage with various insurance companies, making efforts to write policies that provide the best coverage.

The office works to provide general liability coverage for the entire tribal government system, property and casualty coverage for tribal government buildings throughout the reservation, including the contents. It also provides for coverage of tribal buildings in the tribe's industrial parks.

Coverage is also provided for the approximately 144 vehicles owned by the tribal government. The office issues driving permits to operators of tribally owned vehicles, and offers defensive

driving courses.

It also handles Worker's Compensation Insurance for all tribal employees, the retirement plan for employees, and employee benefits, which include medical, dental, life and disability insurance coverage. And, of course, the office also handles claims for coverage benefits.

The office has three employees—the insurance manager, an employee benefits clerk, and an insurance clerk.

## PLANNING AND EVALUATION

**Lloyd Notah Jr., Director**  
562-3311 extension 209

The Planning and Evaluation Office does just that, it helps tribal programs and officials as well as the reservation's districts plan for programs and projects, and helps to evaluate them.

In the area of planning, the office provides planning program analysis, which really is making sure that information and comments about planned projects is gotten from the communities that will be affected.

The office also provides

advisory management to those tribal programs that receive and operate with federal (BIA) Public Law 93-638 money, and acts as a contact between those programs and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

It also seeks funding for tribal programs from federal, state and private foundation sources, and monitors tribal programs that receive those funds to ensure that they meet the requirements that will allow them to continue to receive those funds.

The office provides assistance to individual districts of the reservation, often providing information to help them write their budgets. Technical assistance in the form of proposal writing, planning programs and compiling reports is provided to elected tribal officials. Assessments or evaluations on various tribal programs are done for the tribal council and tribal administration upon request.

In 1988 the Planning and

Evaluation Office continued to work with the more than 20 tribal programs operating on BIA P.L. 93-638 money.

The office, which in 1988 had five fulltime employees, also helped the tribe acquire block grant money from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which will eventually be used to build and renovate kitchens for the reservation's elderly residents.

## PHYSICAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

**William Talbow, Director**  
562-3301

The Physical Resources Department of the tribe is an umbrella that encompasses seven programs that deal with land water and buildings on the reservation.

**Water and Sewer.** The program provides for the delivery of safe water for domestic use in homes in six of the reservation's seven districts, and also is responsible for garbage and trash collection in those same districts. In 1988 the program had 12 employees.

**Land Use Planning.** This program identifies reservation land that can be used for future development for commercial and industrial uses, agriculture, housing, roads, utilities and sewer. Once land is committed to be used for certain development, the program can be involved in the actual use planning. The program had six employees.

**Surveying and Engineering.** The program does the necessary surveying for homesites that are assigned on allotted land, for rights of way, and for easements for utilities. Last year the program

had one surveyor.

**Irrigation Rehabilitation.** The program works to improve culverts and canals of surface irrigation systems and pumped water facilities in order to ensure that water is delivered to agricultural fields. The number of employees fluctuate between seven and 20 depending on the workload.

**Pest Control.** The program monitors all pesticides that are used for agricultural applications, and also monitors

the storage and management of chemicals such as agricultural pesticides, herbicides, insecticides and rodenticides. In 1988 the program had two employees.

**Building Maintenance.** The program functions to keep in a state of repair, all tribal buildings and real estate, such as the tribal building and tribal fair grounds. Last year's building and maintenance crew numbered three.

In 1988 the Physical Resources

Department completed a new sewer system in Sacaton. The work was started in 1987 using IHS and HUD development money. Also, using a HUD block grant, new sewage lagoons were completed in districts one, four, five and seven.

The department, also in 1988, by forming a corporation, started an effort by the tribe to take over the telephone system on the reservation.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**Paul Klores, Director**  
562-3311 extension 226

The Economic Development Department is responsible for initiating and coordinating tribal economic development activities, and planning for future commercial and tourism projects.

The department monitors about 55 tribal leases with various types of businesses. Agricultural leases are monitored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The department also supervises the tribe's business enterprises, which include two convenience markets at Casa

Blanca and Komatke, Gila River Chevron Station, Sacaton Auto Supply, and Casa Blanca RV Park.

The department provides supplementary assistance upon request to tribal government agencies, districts, and the various tribal corporations, which include Lone Butte Industrial Development Corp., San Tan Economic Development Corp., Blackwater Industrial Development Corp., Gila River Farms, Sun Valley Marina Corp., Memorial Airfield Corp., and Gila

River Arts and Crafts, Inc. Additionally, some consulting and referral services are provided to individual tribal members considering or operating businesses.

During 1988 the supply store and convenience markets acquired new managers. The RV Park, which when it opened in December 1987 was filled to capacity, has since been operating without adequate resources, slowing development and necessitating unusual solutions to maintain operation.

In March 1988 the department director's position became vacant, and was unfilled until November. One staff member was assigned to manage Casa Blanca Market.

Throughout 1988 the department operated with less than full staffing, and for a long period could only perform its duties with the aid of the Community Manager, the staff having been reduced to two fulltime employees.

## LEGAL OFFICE

**Rodney Lewis, General Counsel**  
562-3311 extension 334

The Law Office is the legal counsel for the tribe. It has the responsibility to advise and represent the tribal council, tribal officials, and tribal government departments and offices in all legal matters. The office, however, does not involve itself with water related matters, but assists an outside law firm that represents the tribe in that legal area.

The law office is also responsible for the criminal prosecution of both adult and child offenders, and in 1988 during the first eight months, 532 adults and 117 child offenders were prosecuted by the office.

And in matters involving children, the office represents the tribe in both the reservation court and in state courts. In 1988 the office was involved in 78

children's cases that were brought to the tribal court. In addition, the office represents the tribe in all Indian Child Welfare Act cases, which during the course of the year averaged about 30 cases at any one time. These cases generally involve tribally affiliated children who live off-reservation, but who have been abused or neglected.

The office also helps the

various departments and offices of the tribal government with contract problems, and with interpretation of federal laws and regulations, and helps the tribal council with developing and drafting tribal ordinances.

The Law Office has two attorneys, three para-professional prosecutors and two legal secretaries.

## PROPERTY AND SUPPLY

**Property and Supply Clerk**  
562-3311 extension 235

The Property and Supply office in a sense is a conduit that keeps the tribal government supplied with the tools it needs to operate, and with information

it requires to function effectively.

The office's two employees handle all of the incoming and outgoing mail for the tribal government, as well as mail and

memos between tribal departments and offices.

And in order to keep the tribe operating effectively, the Property and Supply office orders

supplies and issues them to the various tribal departments and offices.

## TRIBAL COURT

**Renay Peters, Chief Judge**  
562-3311 extension 268

The Tribal Court's main function is to administer the Gila River Law and Order Code, and ordinances. It does this through two separate court locations—the Sacaton Court located in District 3, and the Westend Judicial Center located in District 6.

Cases in Tribal Court are tried according to the tribal Law and

Order Code, or as required by federal and state authority, or other factors, such as tribal customs and traditions.

The chief administrator in the court is the Chief Judge, who in addition to presiding over cases before the court, also oversees all operations under the court system.

The court also has two

associate judges and a Children's Court judge. The Children's Court judge presides over criminal and domestic cases that involve juveniles.

Other court employees include a court administrator, who serves both the District 3 and District 6 courts, and 13 other employees serving in both courts.

In 1988, three new judges who

were elected in the November 1987 tribal election took office. Chief Judge Renay Peters, and associate judges Darlina Milda and Annette Stewart took office.

Also in 1988, Dallas DeLowe was appointed Children's Court judge by the Gila River Tribal Council.

## ACCOUNTING OFFICE

**Alda Thomas, Treasurer**  
562-3311 extension

The Accounting Office functions to provide general accounting services for the Gila River tribal government—its programs, offices and departments.

Much of the day-to-day accounting service is ensuring that all the bills the tribe incurs are paid. These payments generally are to vendors, suppliers and individuals.

In 1988, the task of keeping the tribe current on its accounts

involved the processing and issuing of anywhere from 50 to 100 checks each work day, paying out daily anywhere from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

The office is also responsible for issuing tribal business licenses, dance permits, and collects tribal sales taxes.

The Accounting Office is overseen and monitored by the Treasurer, who is appointed by the Tribal Council.

The Comptroller for the tribe,

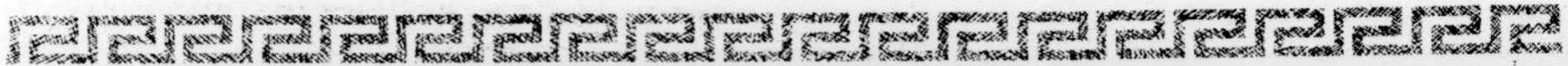
subordinate to the Treasurer, is responsible for keeping an efficient financial management system for the tribe.

The Comptroller focuses on tribal investments, financial planning, financial analysis, statements and reports.

In 1988 the office installed and began using a computer system for its accounting operations. Previous to that, the office had shared computer time with a Phoenix company, but opted to

use its own system for more efficiency and better return for the money spent on the time sharing arrangement.

Last year the Accounting Office had 13 employees.



## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

**Gilbert Ennis, Director**  
562-3311 extensions 274 and 275

The Gila River Education Department administers several educational programs that provide services for students in pre-school through college.

**Special Services.** This program provides services for handicapped children who attend schools at Gila Crossing, Casa Blanca and Blackwater.

The program helps to identify handicapped students, evaluate them and then refer them to appropriate schools or programs. It also helps the schools set up individualized education programs for the students. About 250 students a year are served by the program.

**Student Services.** Included under this program are Higher Education, Employment Assistance, Johnson O'Malley.

Higher Education services helps qualified students from the community get into college and assists them in finding financial aid. About 55 students were helped by the program in 1988.

Employment Assistance helps students choose between either junior college or technical/vocational training. It also helps to find funding for the students. At the end of the 1988 fiscal year 67 students were provided service by the program.

The Johnson O'Malley program focuses on students in schools at Kyrene, Laveen, Casa Grande and Coolidge. Counselors work directly with students, focusing on the individual and self image, and making efforts to expose them to experiences, such as youth conferences and workshops, that will help them grow both educationally and socially. The program also serves as a liason between parents and

the schools. During 1988, as in other years, the Johnson O'Malley Program was available to about 1,200 students attending schools in the four areas.

**Early Childhood Head Start.** The intent of this program is to get three and four-year-olds off and running educationally.

It does this by offering an education and social setting early on to help youngsters grow. There are education centers in five of the community's seven districts. A sixth, closed this year because of renovation to the building in which it was housed, will reopen next year. At the close of the fiscal year the program served 203 students.

**Off-Reservation Boarding School Office.** The main function of the office is to help those students attending boarding schools succeed there. It helps new and continuing students process applications, and helps parents communicate with the schools—mainly Phoenix Indian, Sherman, Santa Rosa Boarding School—and their administrators.

The office is working to become a presence on the campuses so students can have a place to turn when they want help, and is also working to set up a network with school administrators so the tribe can be informed when students might need help to stay in school.

At the beginning of the school year, which corresponds with the end of the 1988 fiscal year, there were about 30 students from the community attending Phoenix Indian School, about 73 at Sherman, and fewer than 10 at Santa Rosa.

**Blackwater Community School.** The school is operated by the tribe under a contract arrangement with the BIA, but more importantly, it is using a different philosophy to educate young tribal members.

The school, which started the 1988-89 school year with 57 students, focuses on the individual and that student's sense of worth, parental involvement, respect for others, and awareness of culture and language.

In 1988 the Education Department was involved in an effort to develop a set of education standards for schools throughout the reservation for grades kindergarten through eight.

S. Joe Lewis in particular,

principal at Blackwater Community School, has been working with government and public school administrators to develop the standards, which would create a continuity of curriculum throughout all schools on the reservation.

Also in 1988 the department was allocated federal money for a program of Substance and Alcohol Abuse Prevention in the reservation schools. Teachers have testified that the program is becoming effective, with students becoming aware of the problems and more willing to talk.

The Education Department has an employee roster that fluctuates between 85 and 88 for its five main programs.



## ENROLLMENT OFFICE

**Tina Notah, Coordinator**  
562-3311 extension 261

The job of the Gila River Enrollment Office is to keep a current tribal membership roll, and to provide services to the community that relate directly to that roll.

Those services include the processing of certifications of Indian blood needed for some employment, higher education financial aid, medical service and social security.

The Enrollment Office works continuously to update and keep current the membership roll of the tribe.

And in accord with its federal contract, the office also provides enrollment services for the Ak-Chin Tohono O'odham Indian Community.

The Enrollment Office works with a seven-member Enrollment Committee, which has the

responsibility of hearing membership appeals and petitions for membership.

In 1988, in its effort to bring the tribal roll current, the office completed work on about 75 percent of the roll. According to enrollment information, in 1988 there were about 10,300 members of the Gila River Indian Community.

Also in 1988, the office

completed compiling demographic statistics on tribal members, breaking down the population by tribal affiliation (Pima or Maricopa).

The Enrollment Office through most of the year had six employees, and added one more during the last few weeks of the fiscal year.

## EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM

**Alvin Jones, Director**  
562-3387, 963-0903

The Employment and Training Program has the task of providing training and employment services for residents of the Gila River Indian Community and the Tohono O'odham Ak-Chin Reservation.

These services are designed to

help people overcome barriers that have kept them either unemployed or underemployed.

To help people, the program, which is funded under the federal Joint Training and Partnership Act (JTPA), uses several components. It arranges

on-the-job-training with employers, Community Services Employment provided primarily by government agencies, places young people in youth programs where they work parttime, and can set up classroom training programs for participants to

learn what it's like to have a job, and what's expected of them.

## AMERIND TECHNICAL LABORATORY (ATL)

George Abel, Manager  
562-3838, 899-2266



The ATL program is constantly looking for ways to help the tribe develop certain agricultural crops into commercial crops.

ATL's major work is with the guayule plant—a rubber bearing desert shrub. The program is involved with research and development on guayule pointing to further commercialization of the plant.

Over the past several years ATL has reduced by 75 percent the cost of producing seedlings for transplanting into fields. The program currently has 400 acres of guayule.

The program is also working to build an inventory of basil, cham and gum tragacanth harvesting seeds and plants. The goal is to eventually get enough seeds and plants so the the plants can be developed into commercial crops.

Cham contains gum used in foods and for cooking, basil is used for seasoning food, and gum tragacanth is being researched for use in medicines.

In 1988 ATL succeeded in a program of directly seeding guayule into the field. Currently, most guayule crops are transplanted seedlings germinated in greenhouses.

Also in 1988, ATL began delivering guayule shrubs to Goodyear's guayule rubber processing plant at San Tan Industrial Park. The processing plant is being tested and modified for rubber production.

ATL has 17 regular employees, and adds up to 12 temporary workers depending on seasonal seeding and transplanting.

## SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Lewis Lane, Director  
562-3396, 899-9565

The Social Services Department has one task, but it is a monumental one—to look out for the welfare of the community and those members who are in need. It does this by delivering services that include intervention, counseling, child welfare services, family services, and residential or institutional care.

**Family Assistance.** This program provides help to community members in several areas, including financial help, burial assistance, adult residential care and protective services for adults.

For community members who find themselves temporarily in dire need of financial help, the program administers General Assistance payments. This help is for people who don't have a source of income to meet the basic needs of food, shelter, clothing and transportation, or whose income is below poverty standards. General Assistance help averages from 400 to 500 cases per month, with most cases involving families.

Adult Protective Services investigates reports of neglect, abuse or exploitation of the elderly in the community. Started in 1988, this new program investigates an average of 10 referrals a month.

In-Home Care or Homemaker Services, which it is more commonly known, provides homemaking services—such as help with cooking, cleaning and home upkeep—to community adults and elderly who are incapacitated. The service, which is designed to prevent placement in an institutional

home, is for those who are functional but who need help with homemaking chores. In 1988 Homemaker Services were provided to an average of 22 households each month.

Burial Assistance is provided to deceased community members who didn't have resources for burial. This assistance generally is requested by relatives, and last year the program provided for an average of seven burials each month.

Residential Care For Adults is provided for adults and elderly who are either physically or mentally incapacitated to a point that they aren't functional in the home, and who need a supervised setting. Often placement is in off-reservation homes or institutions, however, in 80 percent of the cases, adults are placed in the American Indian Nursing Home, which is located on the Gila River Indian Community. The program in 1988 averaged about 44 cases per month.

**Residential Care (Youth Home).** The Youth Home provides emergency shelter for children 11 years old and under who have been physically neglected, abused or sexually molested. Placement is usually for up to six months, however, that may be exceeded up to one year or longer. Occasionally children older than 11 are placed in the home. The facility can accommodate 12 children at a time, and it is always at capacity.

**Child Welfare.** This service is divided into four areas—Child Protective Services, Institutional Care, Permanency Planning and

Foster Homes.

Child Protective Services investigates allegations of physical abuse, sexual abuse and reports of physical, emotional or medical neglect among children. Between 20 and 30 referrals each month are investigated.

Institutional Care is for those adolescents who have serious emotional and behavioral problems, and who have been determined to be a danger to themselves, their families or the community. Most of the youths are placed in residential treatment centers in the Phoenix and Tucson areas. Though more are needed, budget limitations allow the program 16 placements per month.

Permanency Planning is a program designed to set up adoption or placement of children whose families have become dysfunctional or the home inadequate to meet the needs of the child. Efforts are to keep the child in the community, so often children are placed with relatives. In 1988, out of 22 children identified as needing a permanent home, four were guided through the legal process and freed for adoption.

The Foster Homes program seeks homes and families to serve as foster homes. In 1988 the program was involved with 22 families that were licensed and certified as foster families, with most located on the reservation. Each of the homes took an average of three foster children.

**Child Welfare Support Services.** This program provides In-Home Counseling to work with families identified by Child Protective Services to be at risk of child abuse or neglect.

And the Parenting School Training program works with teen mothers on parenting skills, in other words, how to be a good mother. In 1988 there were no referrals on young mothers who went through the program.

In order to receive any of the services provided by the Social Services Department, a person must meet certain eligibility requirements. They must be 1) an adult or child either enrolled with the tribe or eligible for enrollment, 2) must live on the reservation, 3) meet income guidelines.

The Social Services Department, which last year had 38 fulltime employees, focuses on keeping families strong and intact.

### REPORT TO THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

This report was compiled and produced by the Gila River Indian News for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community. For more information about various tribal government offices, departments or programs, contact the tribal government offices in Sacaton, Arizona.

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## COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

**Mema Silversmith, Community Services Resource Specialist**  
**562-3334, 562-3335**

The Community Services Program, through its District Service Centers and district coordinators, works to ensure that a variety of human services are provided and delivered to the community.

These include services for the elderly and handicapped, the Elderly Feeding Program, fire department, recreation, Save

The Children Federation, and housing. The Community Services Program also administers the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

One of the prime responsibilities of the Community Services Program is to assist the communities in planning by providing information, technical assistance and communication

through the community service centers. The program works closely with Community Resident Boards, which are policy making boards for each district.

In 1988 the program staged a two-day workshop in Management Skills for its Service Center coordinators, resident board members and community members. Its summer program

was also successful, establishing recreational programs in districts one and seven of the reservation.

There are 10 employees, including the resource specialist and seven Service Center coordinators. The Community Services Program office is located in the District 3 Service Center at Sacaton.

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

**Vi Johnson, Director**  
**562-3321, extension 378**

The Department of Health Services in a sense is the health watchdog for the community, providing health related services for the community through its five divisions.

**Nursing.** This division, through its Public Health Nursing and Community Health Representatives (CHR) programs, provides community health nursing services for prevention of disease and to promote health.

This is done by setting up in each district a team made up of a CHR, Licensed Practical Nurse, and a Community Health Nurse. The nursing division provides health care through home visits to pregnant women and new mothers; stages well-child clinics for immunizations, physicals and counseling; conducts a school health program; and is involved in home health care for the elderly and handicapped.

The division's Family Planning Program provides information and education about available medical services and methods of birth control.

**Health Education.** This division provides support services to other divisions in the department and to the Indian Health Service—support that includes the development of health related materials for classroom teaching, library and community use. The division also provides for classes in fitness, exercise and nutrition, and will assist in teaching health topics in schools.

**Behavioral Health.** Five programs within this division help

to address behavioral health issues in the community.

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (ADAP) provides treatment for alcoholism and substance abuse through individual and group counseling for adults and children, through its residential treatment center for men and women, and through a community education and prevention effort.

The Biobehavioral Health Program provides psychiatric and psychological evaluation of adults and children, and helps to educate community members regarding the recognition, treatment and prevention of mental disorders. It also provides treatment in the form of counseling, child and family psychotherapy, individual and group therapy, and medication therapy.

The Early Suicide Prevention Program provides community education about suicide, and works to reduce suicides and suicide attempts.

The Medical Social Service Program works with families that have a member hospitalized, helping them cope with the situation. It also works with families to arrange the placement of a member in an institution, and where possible, helps families create a home atmosphere so a member doesn't have to be placed in an institution.

The Chronic Mental Illness Program helps to identify chronically mentally ill persons in

need of help.

**Support Services.** The department's Division of Support Services delivers a variety of services from transportation to health inspections.

The Medical Transportation Program, which has ambulances stationed in the Sacaton and Westend areas, provides emergency medical transportation to Gila River and the Ak Chin Reservation. It also transports patients to dialysis centers for regularly scheduled visits.

The Environmental Health Program inspects and investigates health hazards related to water and sewage facilities, conducts food service and hygiene safety inspections, and works on infection control and accident prevention.

The division's Data Coordinating Center tracks diseases, such as diabetes, arthritis and kidney disorders, among community members. It also tracks medication taken by community members who participate in health studies conducted by the National Institute of Health.

**Nutrition.** The Nutrition Division makes sure that needy families, the elderly and the very young receive nutritious food.

The Commodity Food Distribution Program ensures that all needy and qualified families receive commodity food.

The Elderly Nutrition Program provides the elderly with one well-balanced meal, usually

served at the District Service Centers, five days a week, and delivers meals to the home bound. It also provides nutrition education for the elderly.

The Maternal Child Health Program provides information and education about nutrition to mothers of very young children. It also provides formula and juice for the children, and milk, cereal, juice and other nutritious food for the mothers.

The program serves Gila River and the Ak Chin Reservation, and off-reservation patients who use on-reservation health facilities.

In 1988 the various divisions and programs of the Department of Health Services provided needed health related services to just about all segments of the community. To highlight just a few—the Medical Transportation Program responded to 2,752 calls—1,101 were emergencies; the Nursing Division maintained a better than 98 percent immunization rate reservation-wide, with five of seven districts recording a 100 percent rate; ADAP conducted 2,110 counseling sessions, and made 162 presentations to about 3,000 community members representing all seven districts; for the MCH Program the average number of patients seen over the year was 1,161; and the Data Control Center was opened in 1988.

The 15 programs in the Health Department last year employed about 100 people.