Gu U Κi Santan Vah Ki - Komatke - Maricopa Colony

**DECEMBER 16, 2016** WWW.GRICNEWS.ORG VOL. 19, NO. 24

## **Community celebrates Water Rights Day**

GRIC will make sure there is water for future generations says Gov. Lewis

Thomas R. Throssell Gila River Indian News

Hundreds of Gila River Indian Community members gathered at the Huhugam Heritage Center on the morning of Dec. 10 to celebrate Water Rights Day and honor tribal leadership, both past and present, who fought a decades long battle to secure the tribe's water rights.

Water Rights Day is an official GRIC holiday celebrated annually on December 10. The holiday commemorates the signing of the Arizona Water Rights Settlements Act of 2004 by President George W. Bush.

The celebration kicked off with the Posting of Colors presented by Post #51 Haskell-Osife Antone.

A congregation of students from St. Peter Indian Mission School led the Pledge of Allegiance and sang the National Anthem in both English and O'otham languages.

District 5 Community Council Representative Robert Stone offered the event's traditional blessing.

The theme of this year's Water Rights Day celebration was "Reflecting on the Past and Pro-



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Runners carried a gourd of water from the Gila and Salt River confluence and placed it at the Huhugam Heritage Center for the Water Rights Day celebration on Dec. 10.

tecting the Future," a point emphasized by Lt. Gov. Monica Antone in her opening remarks.

Lt. Gov. Antone talked of the Community's ancestors who, with their own eyes, saw the Gila River flow and eventually dry up after the Coolidge Dam was constructed.

She recounted a story about a

family of Tohono O'odham who lived near San Luis that would come to the Gila River to harvest. She said that after the waters of the Gila River disappeared the family of Tohono O'odham stopped coming to the river. Several Akimel O'otham went in search of the family only to find that they had all died from star-

vation.

Lt. Gov. Antone's reflection on the past underlined the importance of water to the Community and the life or death consequences that it held for so many of GRIC's ancestors.

"There are many here to-

Continued on Page 10

#### GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY FILES INJUNCTION SEEKING TO STOP SOUTH MOUNTAIN FREEWAY CONSTRUCTION PENDING FEDERAL APPEAL

**Communications & Public Affairs Office** 

Gila River Indian Community

SACATON, AZ. - The Gila River Indian Community on Friday filed a court motion seeking an injunction that would halt the construction of the South Mountain Freeway - and stop the desecration of lands long held sacred

by Community members – pending the outcome of the Community's and other parties' lawsuits against the Federal Highway Administration and the Arizona Department of Transportation.

The motion for injunction, filed Friday with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, outlines the permanent harm that will be suffered by the Community if the freeway is built and South Mountain is permanently destroyed. The motion notes that should construction continue while the years long appeal is litigated, damage to South Mountain and other sacred areas would occur before the appeal is decided. Thus, a victory by the Community would be moot - stopping the Loop 202 extension, but not

saving the sacred lands that are at stake.

"The Community very much hopes that this construction is halted immediately, before permanent harm comes to South Mountain, or Muhadagi Doag in our culture," said Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen

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## Super hero theme leads River of Lights Parade in Sacaton



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

The Paul Family's entry featured Christmas decorations mixed with the super hero theme.

Christopher Lomahquahu Gila River Indian News

The holiday season was in full swing when parade floats of all types and sizes made their way down Casa Blanca Road in Sacaton on Dec. 2.

This year's River of Lights parade had a Super Hero theme and the entries did not disappoint as characters straight out of the Marvel and DC universes and their green pals, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, joined Santa Clause to bring holiday cheer to the children in attendance.

The Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Lt. Gov. Monica Antone teamed up as Superman and Superwoman to lead the parade in greeting the crowd of spectators, wishing them a Merry Christmas.

This year over 20 entries took part in the parade that consisted of Community departments and members.

As the parade went on there was a marketplace for people to purchase handmade gifts made by Community artisans at Ira H. Hayes Mathew B. Juan Memorial Park.

The winners of this year's River of Lights parade were awarded in different categories based on quality, originality, theme and overall appearance and presentation.

The Paul Family was awarded the Governor's Award for best presentation of this year's super hero theme, which consisted of a string of carts bedazzled in various lights of all colors bearing the logos of Batman, Superman and Captain America.

Santa Claus and the Grinch

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Komatke student named Miss Chemawa

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Governor

**Stephen Roe Lewis** 

Lt. Governor Monica L. Antone

Community Council

Representatives District 1 Arzie Hogg Joey Whitman

> District 2 Carol Schurz

District 3

Carolyn Williams Rodney Jackson

District 4

Jennifer Allison Christopher Mendoza Barney Enos, Jr. Nada Celaya

#### District 5

Robert Stone Franklin Pablo, Sr. Brian E. Davis, Sr. Marlin Dixon

District 6 Anthony Villareal, Sr. Sandra Nasewytewa Charles Goldtooth

> District 7 Devin Redbird

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## United In Giving Luncheon highlights tribal grant funding

Mikhail Sundust Gila River Indian News

In 2016, the Gila River Indian Community and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community combined to contribute approximately \$8 million to Arizona cities, towns and counties through the tribes' 12 Percent Grants funds.

The two tribal communities hosted a luncheon titled "United In Giving" on Nov. 29 to show unity and meet with the dozens of local governments and non-profit organizations that benefit from tribal grants.

"I am proud to say that it has been a pleasure to work with Pres. Ray and Gov. Lewis on issues that are important to both communities," said Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey in a video presenta-

"Today's event is just one example where two communities have embraced and thrived within the spirit of the tribal-state gaming compacts that were executed nearly 14 years ago. To note that over 90 grants this year have been awarded by the Salt River and Gila River communities to cities, towns, counties, and organizations throughout the state is a true testament to their commitment and investment to build a better Arizona."

In 2002, voters approved Proposition 202, which brought casinos to tribal communities in Arizona. As part of an agreement with the state, tribes committed to share a percentage of gaming revenue with the state. Of the stateshared gaming revenue fund, 88 percent goes directly to the state and the tribes use the other 12



The Gila River Indian Community and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community celebrated with their grantees at the 12 Percent Grant Funding Luncheon. From Left, Vice-President Martin Harvier, President Delbert Ray, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

percent for grants to support various public welfare causes.

The grants are offered under five categories: Health Care, Public Safety, Education, Economic Development, and Transportation. Non-profit organizations work with cities, towns, and counties to apply for the grants. Gila River has donated \$48.6 million through the 12 Percent Grant program since its inception in

Salt River and Gila River support more than 100 grantees throughout Arizona. Grantees attended the 12 Percent Luncheon, which was held at the Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale.

One of the organizations that shared its story was the UMOM (United Methodist Outreach Ministries) New Day Centers, which provides shelter for single women and living accommodations for single mother families.

"UMOM has been a partner of the Gila River Indian Community for several years," said CEO Darlene Newsom. UMOM recently purchased a new property to expand its ability to house and aid single mothers in need. The organization started a \$3.5 million campaign to purchase, renovate and move into the new facility.

"I'm happy to say, with the contribution from the Gila River Indian Community, who gave us our last 10 percent, our last \$300,000 to finish our campaign, we have raised the \$3.5 [million needed]," said Newsom.

Another organization that shared its story with guests at

> the luncheon was Ryan House, which serves families with children with terminal illnesses life-limiting conditions.

Nearly every day, said Executive Director Al-Crockvssa ett. "There is a family that has just that learned their child has a life-limiting condition or terminal condition. They're devastated, they're alone, they're scared, and they don't know what to do next. They can come to Ryan House. Ryan House is a lifeline for children with life-limiting conditions, from birth to 18. and their families. We are the nation's foremost experts on pediatric palliative care, and we address the emotional, social, spiritual, and medical needs of the child and family from diagnosis through death."

She said, "In 2007, when Ryan House was just a dream, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Gila River Indian Community saw our vision and believed in what Ryan House could be and could do. And with their lead gifts, they helped open our doors, and today the sustaining gifts keep our doors and hearts open to all children throughout the state of Arizona. These gifts, totaling more than \$1.4 million, have been transformative, life-changing investments."

In accordance with the gaming compact, 12 Percent Grant Funds are directed from tribes through local governments like Pinal County, the Town of Gilbert, or the City of Tempe.

When the voters of Arizona passed Proposition 202 in 2002, I think it was fair to say there was a bit of trepidation and uncertainty as to how the Indian [Gaming] Grant Program would evolve," said Tempe Mayor Mark Mitch-

"Of course, today we can see clearly how broad and how diverse this program has become. What has been created is a vast grant program that is meant to help people in our communities in need or to provide additional services to people to improve their quality of life."

Mitchell, who has known Salt River Vice-President Martin Harvier personally since he was in high school, said the cities and tribal communities are like family, and support each other as one.

"It's a challenge to match scarce resources to support... programs and services within our own communities," he said. "That is why it is good to know that the tribal gaming grant program is successfully supporting these worth-while programs and services. ... I'm sure, if the voters in Arizona could see the diverse group here today, I think they would all agree that the tribal gaming policies that they voted in 2002 are really working."



## Standing Rock Update: Pipeline blocked for now Protectors told to go home, protect themselves from the cold

**Mikhail Sundust** Gila River Indian News

The last time the GRIN checked in on the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's fight to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline, a group of young men from the Gila River Indian Community had driven nearly 1,500 miles to deliver donations of water, blankets and camping supplies to the people at the Oceti Sakowin (pronounced oh-che-tee shuhko-win) Camp. That was in September. A lot has happened since then.

On Sunday, December 4, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced it would not grant an easement for construction under Lake Oahe at this time. The decision was seen as a major victory for opponents of the pipeline, because the easement was necessary for Dakota Access, LLC to construct its pipeline under the lake.

In its declaration, the

Corps said it is calling for an Environmental Impact Study (EIS), which would look at the impact the pipeline would have to the area.

In the EIS, the Corps will explore alternative locations for the pipeline to cross the Missouri River, look more closely at the potential risk of an oil spill, and seek additional information on the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's treaty rights as they relate to Lake Oahe.

With the news of the

Army decision to pursue an EIS, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Chairman David Archambault II issued a statement thanking supporters and volunteers. But with the denial of the easement and a harsh winter setting in, protesters are being asked to leave the camp so as to keep warm and take care of themselves.

The standoff tween the protestors, who themselves water protectors, and the police escalated into violent clashes through much of October and November. The #NoDAPL movement received national attention after video of the violence spread on Facebook and Twitter, but things have quieted down in recent weeks.

Today, snow blankets the land - teepees and SUVs are covered in white. After two blizzards and daily high temperatures below freezing, many campers have reportedly left.

With the help of envi-

ronmental law organization Earthjustice, the tribe in July filed a lawsuit against the Corps, alleging it violated several federal statutes, including the National Environmental Policy Act, among others. That lawsuit has been temporarily put on hold due to the Corps rejection of the easement to see how the EIS and the change of the presidential administration may affect the project moving forward.

#### Cowboy Days & O'odham Tash Grande planning for Casa

**Kevin Reagan** Casa Grande Dispatch

CASA GRANDE -Planning is underway for the city's Cowboy Days & O'Odham Tash series of events in February. The nine-day celebration is an annual tradition dating back many decades that brings an assortment of mostly ro-

deo-themed events to Casa City Manager Larry Rains said there are two new events scheduled for this year's festival: a social Pow-wow and a Toka tournament. Both of these events are rooted in Native American culture. Toka, often compared to field hockey, has been revived on the Tohono O'odham Nation and consists of two teams competing to hit a pucklike object with long mesquite sticks. Pow-wows traditionally consist of Native Americans taking part in a series of dances that are initiated with a ceremonial blessing. Rains said part of the purpose of Cowboy Davs & O'Odham Tash is to renew friendships with the city's Native American neighbors. The Gila River

Indian Community, Ak-Chin Indian Community, Tohono O'odham Nation and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community participate. traditionally Other events such as a softball tournament, parade and roping competitions are scheduled to return again for this year's celebration. Rains estimated that up to 7,000 partici-

pants and spectators have been present for the annual parade on Florence Boulevard — a number, he said, that has been growing in recent years. Native American pageant queens, marching bands and school clubs often participate in the annual parade. Organizations interested in participating in the parade will soon be able to fill out an entry form

online through the city's website. Interested parties can go to the city's website under Cowboy Days and O'Odham Tash for more information and to obtain entry forms, www.casagrandeaz.gov. Cowboy Davs & O'Odham Tash is scheduled to start on February 18.

|                            | Sunday 12/18                 | Monday 12/19                 | Tuesday 12/20              | Wednesday 12/21            | Thursday 12/22                   | Friday 12/23                | Saturday 12/24   |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 12:00pm                    | Creative Native              | Creative Native              | Creative Native            | Creative Native            | Creative Native                  | Creative Native             |                  |
| 12:00pm                    | Holiday Fever                | Walk A Mile In My Mukluks    | The Navajo                 | Holiday Fever              | The Survivors                    | Distribution of Wealth      |                  |
| 2:30pm                     | First Talk                   | First Talk                   | First Talk                 | First Talk                 | First Talk                       | First Talk                  |                  |
| 12.30piii                  | Balance                      | The Sun Run                  | Easy Workout               | Women In Power             | Reality of Modeling              | The New Weight Control      |                  |
| 1:00pm                     | The Native Mascot Issue      | Why Treaties                 | The Other Story of the     | Horse Tribe                | Our Spirits Don't Speak          | Heavy Metal                 |                  |
| 1.000                      |                              | Bands of the Chippewa        | Forgotten Slaves           | An epic story about the    | English - <i>Indian Boarding</i> | Environmental devastation   |                  |
| 1:30pm                     | Spirit In Glass: Plateau     | ceded some 11 million        |                            | connection of human to     | Schools                          | caused by toxic mining      |                  |
|                            | Native Beadwork              | acres of land to the U.S.    |                            | animal & values to action. |                                  | waste.                      |                  |
| 2:00pm                     | Storytellers in Motion       | Ravens and Eagles            | Samaqan Water Stories      | Ravens and Eagles          | Samaqan Water Stories            | Ravens and Eagles           |                  |
| opi                        |                              | Argillite Carver             | Akwesasne Part 2           | Carrying on Tradition      | Posonut - Baskets                | The New Masters             |                  |
| 2:30pm                     | Native Report                | Vitality Gardening           | Vitality Gardening         | Vitality Gardening         | Vitality Gardening               | Vitality Gardening          | ~ (C             |
|                            |                              | Community Gardening          | How to Compost             | History of Aboriginal      | Gardening Therapy                | Berry Picking               | $\mathcal{A}ll$  |
| 3:00pm                     | Seasoned with Spirit         | Vitality Health              | Vitality Health            | Vitality Health            | Vitality Health                  | Vitality Health             | 12 100           |
|                            | Gulf Coast Originals         | Fitness Day                  | Diabetes Management Day    | Spirituality/Creativity    | Nutrition Days                   | Stress Management Day       |                  |
| 3:30pm                     | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &           | From The Spirit              | From The Spirit            | From The Spirit            | From The Spirit                  | From The Spirit             | Gíla<br>Ríver    |
|                            | GRIC EVENTS                  | George Littlechild           | Archie Beaulieu            | Joane Cardinal-Schubert    | Jim Heart                        | Eli Nasogaluak              | Giiu             |
| 4:00pm                     | Back to Pikangikum           | Creative Native              | Creative Native            | Creative Native            | Creative Native                  | Creative Native             |                  |
|                            | Suicide has brought down     | The Navajo                   | Holiday Fever              | The Survivors              | Distribution of Wealth           | Symbolism                   | <b>0</b> (       |
| 4:30pm                     | the communities              | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &           | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &         | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &         | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &               | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &          | Kiver            |
|                            | happiness and cast a grief.  | GRIC EVENTS                  | GRIC EVENTS                | GRIC EVENTS                | GRIC EVENTS                      | GRIC EVENTS                 | 2 00 / 0 /       |
| 5:00pm                     | Maina                        | Working It Out Together      | Indian Pride               | On Native Ground: Youth    | Indian Pride                     | Storytellers in Motion      |                  |
|                            | A mission to fulfill a       |                              | Culture, Traditions        | Report                     | Indian Treaties                  | ,                           | Content          |
| 5:30pm                     | promise to a friend that lay | Sivummut                     | Oskayak Down Under         | Common Ground              | Down The Mighty River            | On Native Ground: Youth     | Comeni           |
|                            | on her deathbed.             |                              |                            |                            | The River That Heals             | Report                      |                  |
|                            | Maina                        | First Talk                   | First Talk                 | First Talk                 | First Talk                       | First Talk                  | Œ                |
| 6:00pm                     | A mission to fulfill a       | Easy Workout                 | Women In Power             | Reality of Modeling        | The New Weight Control           | Aboriginal Economics        | From             |
| 6:30pm                     | promise to a friend that lay |                              | People of the Pines        | Making Regalia             | People of the Pines              | Make Prayers to the Raven   | 2 , 0 , , ,      |
|                            | on her deathbed.             | ·                            | Reservation and Survival   |                            | Crossroads                       | -                           |                  |
| 7:00pm                     | Native Voice TV              | The Other Story of the       | Horse Tribe                | Our Spirits Don't Speak    | Heavy Metal                      | More Than Frybread          | 2016!            |
|                            | Paww - Dibetes               | Forgotten Slaves             | An epic story about the    | English - Indian Boarding  | Environmental devastation        | •                           | 2010;            |
| 7:30pm                     | On Native Ground: Youth      | ] · <b>3</b> · · · · · · · · | connection of human to     | Schools                    | caused by toxic mining           | representing AZ convene     |                  |
|                            | Report Billy Mills           |                              | animal & values to action. |                            | waste.                           | in Flagstaff to compete for |                  |
|                            |                              | Wapos Bay                    | Wapos Bay                  | Wapos Bay                  | Wapos Bay                        | the first ever Arizona      |                  |
| 8:00pm                     | Long As The River Flows      | Going for Gold               | Raven Power                | Lights, Camera, Action!    | Dance Dance                      | Frybread Championship!      |                  |
| 8:30pm<br>9:00pm<br>9:30pm | Fish Out of Water            | Fish Out of Water            | Fish Out of Water          | Fish Out of Water          | Fish Out of Water                | Fish Out of Water           |                  |
|                            | Oconaluftee Village          | Umatilla Band of             | Mississippi Choctaw        | Great Lakes Cultural       | Blackfoot Adventure              | Mahikan Trails              |                  |
|                            | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &           | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &           | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &         | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &         | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &               | GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &          |                  |
|                            | GRIC EVENTS                  | GRIC EVENTS                  | GRIC EVENTS                | GRIC EVENTS                | GRIC EVENTS                      | GRIC EVENTS                 |                  |
|                            | Native Shorts                |                              | Back In The Day            | Indigenous Focus           | Rez Rides                        | Champions of the North      |                  |
|                            | Rocket Boy                   | Harry Snowboy                | Halfway                    | Grave Misgivings           | 2007 Honda Civic                 | Great Whale Cup             |                  |
|                            | Yellow Fever                 | The Activist                 | Rising Voices/Hothaninpi   | For The Rights of All:     | Allan Baldwin: In Frame          | Wapos Bay: Long             |                  |
| 10:00pm                    | Young Navajo vet, Tina       | Suspicious circumstances     | How languages die - and    | Ending Jim Crow In Alaska  | Exploration into the hearts      |                             |                  |
| 10:30pm                    | Garnanez investigates the    | surround the arrest and      | how speaking them again    | Linding Jim Clow in Alaska | and minds of the greatest        | Talon and Raven's dad has   | YULE LOG WIT     |
|                            |                              |                              |                            |                            | Kuia and Kaumatua.               | taken a job in the big city | •                |
| •                          | Navajo Uranium Boom.         | imprisonment of two          | can spark cultural and     | Constitute: 1              |                                  | ,                           | VARIOUS          |
| 11:00pm                    | Alaska Tribes                |                              | American Outrage           | Smokin' Fish               | Lives Around Annapurna           | and their family will have  | CHRISTMAS        |
|                            | The Story of Federal Indian  |                              | Gov't has spent millions   | Story of one man's         | Their hardship, culture,         | to move away.               | C111(15'1 1912(5 |
| 11:30pm                    | Law in Alaska                | Dakota 38                    | prosecuting two elderly    | attempts to navigate       | tradition and way of living      | Forging Bonds: Pow Wow      | MUSIC            |
|                            |                              |                              | women with horses and      | between modern world       | life in that difficult but       | Stories from California     |                  |
|                            |                              |                              | cows in a desolate desert. | and an ancient culture.    | beautiful terrain.               |                             |                  |

### South Mountain Freeway Injunction to Stop Construction from Page 1

R. Lewis. "This freewayhas been 30 years in the planning, so a small delay would mean nothing to the federal and state agencies

involved.

However, the destruction of Muhadagi Doag would be permanent, and would rob the Community

of one of our most import- trails, shrines, and archaeoant and sacred natural resources. We will continue to do whatever we can to protect the mountain and its

logical sites."

Already, freeway construction reportedly has discovered and disrupted more than 20 sites containing protected human remains during the past four months, the motion notes. Community members view

the disturbance or moving of ancestral graves as desecration and destruction of sacred heritage sites.

#### Police Department **Incident Logs** River

Incident Log November 31, 2016 - December 9, 2016

Gila River Police Department reserves the right to restrict the release of certain reports which may not be available or are currently under investigation.

Community Events –

 Community Toy Drive donations may be dropped off at the Police Department between November 31st – December 9th, 2016.

Gila River Police officers responded to 540 calls for service and made 54 arrests

District One:

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Two:

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Three:

Burglary - A suspect forced entry into a residence through the front door after initially failing to enter through a rear window. Several items including a couple of televisions were taken from the home. The residents were not

present at the time of the break in.

Status: Under Investi-

Theft - A native male suspect entered the Sacaton 76 Gas Station and stole several items. The suspect fled the area on foot.

Status: Under Investigation

> District Four: (Stotonic Area)

Weapon – A native male suspect was in a verbal altercation with two other subjects when he discharged his handgun twice into the air. The weapon was not discharged at any subjects.

Status: Suspect was arrested.

Theft – A suspect stole unsecured bicycles from the carport of a residence between the late afternoon and early morning hours.

Status: Under Investigation

(Lone Butte / WHP Area)

Theft – A Hispanic female suspect is believed to

have pick pocketed a victim in the semi parking lot of the Wild Horse Pass Casino and Hotel.

Status: Under Investigation

District Five:

Shoplifting – A female suspect entered the Casa Blanca Chevron and placed a candy bar in the sleeve her jacket and then proceeded to leave the store without paying for the item.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – A suspect

forced entry through a vehicle window and took several items. The vehicle was parked in front of a residence during the late evening hours.

Status: Under Investigation

District Six:

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

District Seven:

No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

Community members and residents may be eligible for

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or mail to P.O. Box 459 Sacaton, AZ 85147

**Questions?** Call (520) 562-9715

## Sterling Garcia named Governor's Employee of the Year at Mix & Mingle

Roberto A. Jackson Gila River Indian News

The final employee event of the year, called Mix & Mingle, featured games, food, fun and the Governor's Employee of the Year award presentation. Held at Main Event in Tempe, GRIC employees attended the Mix & Mingle on Dec. 2 to bowl, play arcade games and to win raffle prizes.

Among all the employees who attended, there was a select group of workers who were in the running for the Employee of the Year award. The employees who won Governor's Employee of the Month in 2016, were all eligible for the honored distinction of Employee of the Year. The suspense was finally alleviated when Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis announced Sterling Garcia from the Management Information Systems Department as the 2016 Employee of the Year.



Sterling Garcia won the Governor's Employee of the Year Award at the Mix & Mingle on Dec. 2 in Tempe, Ariz. at Main Event. From left, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Sterling Garcia and Lt. Gov. Monica Antone.

Garcia won by popular vote issue is solved," said Gov. among GRIC employees in Lewis of Garcia. an online survey.

Garcia is in IT Supat the Governance Center in Sacaton to help several departments in the facility with their IT needs.

"He's there until the cia said.

Garcia humbly accepted his crystal plaque and port and has been stationed Pendleton blanket while acknowledging the entire MIS Department for his award. "Without them, I wouldn't be up here," Gar-

Garcia was nominated for Governor's Employee of the Month in March for his superior work ethic and personal contributions to the Gila River Indian Community. Randy Williams, IT Manager, considers Garcia to be a valuable employee. "Sterling is a great



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Tribal employees enjoyed an afternoon of food, games and raffle prizes at the 2016 Mix & Mingle.

asset to the Community and the MIS Department," he wrote in Garcia's nomination form.

While honoring Garcia, Gov. Lewis and Lt. Gov. Monica Antone also took the opportunity to acknowledge all GRIC employees. Gov. Lewis thanked the employees for their dedication and Lt. Gov. Antone expressed holiday wishes to all the workers. "I want to wish each of you, from my family to

yours, a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy New Year," she said.

The Employees of the Month from 2016 who were nominated for Employee of the Year, in addition to Sterling Garcia, were Ronnie Cheater, Isabel Martinez, Althea Walker, Travis Bradford, Regina Antone-Smith, Lorna Jackson, Francis James, Donna Henderson and Ampara Chee.

## Community members connect with nature at the 2016 Winter Bird Count



Image Courtesy of Gila River Broadcasting Corp.

Mark Larson, President of the Maricopa Audubon Society (left) assist Jr. Miss Gila River Deirdre Copperfield (center) as she observes the bird population in GRIC. Miss Gila River Oriana Apkaw (right) also looks on.

Roberto A. Jackson Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community is home to a diverse group of birds that thrive in the natural reaches of the reservation. From bald eagles to water fowl, Mother Nature has always depended on birds to maintain the innate balance of the environment.

On Dec. 3, approximately 150 bird watchers ventured to three locations in the Community to usher in the 2016 Winter Bird

Count. Community elders, youth and adults were accompanied by experts, rangers and staff from the Department of Environmental Quality and the Huhugam Heritage Center to document the local bird population.

"This is such an important job that we're doing," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis at the Huhugam Heritage Center when the bird count concluded.

The bird counts took place in District 5, District 6 and District 7. The bird counters then went to the Huhugam Heritage Center for presentations and cultural activities.

The bird count is not only an excellent way to document birds but also a way to connect Community with nature.

"The Winter Bird Count is a great way to relate the natural world to our culture," said Althea Walker, DEQ.

Among the youth who attended was Marckie Sabori Lewis, 10, from District 6, who said his favorite part of the bird count was seeing the ducks.



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Bird watchers had a chance to interact with a rescued bald eagle from Liberty Wildlife at the Huhugam Heritage Center following the bird count on Dec. 3.

Several groups participated in the event, in addition to DEQ and the Huhugam Heritage Center, including two Audobon societies, Arizona Game and Fish and Liberty Wildlife. Walker said the participation added to the success of the bird count.

Steven Prager, Important Bird Area Program

Associate from Audubon Arizona, assisted with the bird count and said that birds across the Southwest are being affected by Arizona's worsening drought conditions. He said the bird count is a way to get resources for birds and to share expertise with Community members.

#### St. Peter Indian Mission School students kick off Christmas season with carols



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Students from St. Peters Indian Mission School sang a special score of Christmas carols in front of family and guests on Dec. 7.

Inside the humble confines of the school's chapel, it was standing room only when kindergarten through junior high-level students, led by the school's Language Arts and Humanities teacher Gillian R. Tevlin, brought the spirit of Christmas alive with

their voices.

Each grade sung two songs heralding classic Christmas jingles to those inspired by the birth of Jesus Christ.

It has become an annual tradition put on by the school for the parents and family members to watch their child bring joy to the holiday season. - GRIN Staff



As the calendar year comes to a close we note that the days get shorter and night gets longer. This is the time of year where we spend time with our family members preparing for the Winter Holidays of Christmas and the New Year. Being together as a family and knowing the relationships we have with one another is something that is very important for our Community. Our O'otham ñeo'ok has its own set of words and expressions called i:mik that tell how our family is related to us. This system is unique to our Community and more precise than the English words that are replacing them. When a speaker hears someone say out loud "eñ ba:ba'a!" or "eñ lu:lu'u!" they automatically know that the person is calling for their grandparents on their mother's side of the family. This is because each set of grandparents gets their own specific words. For the father's side the word for grandfather is "vosk" and for grandmother the word is "ka:k (ga:ga'a)." There are specific words in our system of i:mik that specify aunts and uncles both in terms of which side of the family they come from (mother's side/father's side) as well as if they are older or younger than our parents. There are also words that our grandparents, aunts and uncles call us by that each specifies their relationship to us. Knowing our relationship to one another and using the appropriate kinship term is very important as a sign of respect. It was a given in the past that when greeting or addressing a relative you would always first use the correct i:mik term and personalize it by

using "eñ" 'my.' Our system of i:mik is pervasive and found throughout our language. Christmas time in O'otham is referred to by the expression "Jiosh alithag ma:sig thash". Translated literally, this means God's son's birthday and references Christmas as being the date that celebrates Christian tradition of the birth of Jesus. What this phrase also shows is that for O'otham, Jiosh is a male entity. This is because the phrase "Jiosh alithag ma:sig thash" uses the i:mik term "alithag" which is a specific term

only used by a man to refer to his child or by others when referring to a man's child. The opposite term in our i:mik is mad and is used by women when they refer to their child or by others when referring to a woman's child.

Within our ñeo'ok there are names for plants and animals that also use kinship terms and show relationships between nature and natural phenomena. A small red insect that would come out in groups after the summer rains is called ju:k mad. It is known in milga:n as a red velvet mite and is rarely seen anymore. Ju:k mad translates to Rain's child and because it uses the i:mik term mad it shows that for O'otham the rain is a feminine entity. Another example are a group of birds, called sandpipers in milga:n, that are commonly seen along the shores of canals or pools of water, scurrying along looking for food in the mud with their short dark bills. These are known in O'otham as shu:thag ma:mad or Water's children, which uses the plural form ma:mad of the i:mik term mad. This term also uses the i:mik word that is specific for children from a female and indicates how for water is seen as a mother. One last example is a small songbird that is known to nest in wells and can be seen catching insects in mid-flight. This bird is known as the Say's Phoebe in milga:n but is called hevel mo:s in O'otham. Loosely translated this means Wind's grandchild but is more specific than this. In our i:mik mo:s is the word used by a grandmother on the mother's side (hu'ul/ lu:lu'u) to call her grandchild. The use of mo:s as part of the name for hevel mo:s how the wind is seen as a grandmother, specifically one on the mother's side of the family.

Some plant names also show i:mik relationships. One sha'i (bush) with red flowers that is commonly found along Komadk Thoa'ag is called vipismal je:j. This name uses the possessive form of the i:mik term for mother "ie'e" and shows how this plant is the mother for hummingbirds (vipismal). This should be no surprise as the red tubular flowers are perfectly made for vipismal to drink ago must have noticed the hummingbirds that would gather around this plant and gave it such a fitting name.

together, we should reflect on how the language we use influences the way we think and act towards one another. How wonderful would it be for us to bring back our i:mik and use the terms of relationship when we address one another. It would be something that we could hand down to our children as a gift to teach them the proper way of respecting our relatives. On behalf of us at the Huhugam Heritage Center, we wish all of our nanaipoich and hahajuñ a "S-he:kig Jiosh Alithag Ma:sig Thash ch heg Vechij Aithag!

Kakalsi:tha

Hu'u Choikud lu:lsi Gev Otham from. O'otham from long Huai As our families gather Santha Klo:s Ma:kigthag Kampañ

Match the O'otham word with the correct picture!







## 2016 Water Rights Day Celebration from page 1

day...[who] looked after us and I thank the Creator for looking after our people during the hard times our ancestors [endured]," she said.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, focused his remarks on the Community's present leaders and future water

"What is important is that we have our protectors here, the original negotiating team, past governors, council members, elders, veterans, and then our youth. Our youth are going to be our future water protectors," Gov. Lewis said.

He said the tribe fought a long and hard battle to finally take over its own water infrastructure and that future Community water protectors would be needed to continue the work of those who had gone before

"We can't lose our water again," Gov. Lewis said. "We can't let the state or the federal government or any other private interest take our water, that is why we have to be vigilant, we have to be eternally vigilant."

"As governor I inherited this...and I want to build on [it]. I am just a part of a long path and...I want to give this to our next governor, our next leadership, and our...youth to continue to build our community, a healthy, vibrant and growing community. To make sure we have water for our future generations," he

Following Gov. Lewis's speech, a group of ten water runners, who participated in the Water Rights Day Run 2016 that began in District 7 on Dec. 9, carried a gourd filled with water collected at the confluence of the Gila and Salt rivers and placed it at the front of the stage. Gov. Lewis greeted and thanked each member of the water runners. The Water Rights Day Runners were Tianna T. Sanchez, Tatianna Perea, Bridgette Smith, Cheyne Molina, Darrell Whitman, Pamela Thompson, Alie Walkingbadger, Veronica Rivers, Ashley Pasqual, Kaitlin Martinez and Paina Lewis.

Shortly after, past GRIC governors Richard Narcia, Donald Antone, and former GRIC lawyer Rodney Lewis, spoke about the history of water in the Community and working with the late Z. Simpson Cox, who was one of Gila River Indian Community's first attorneys and integral in beginning the fight for the tribe's water rights.

"In the beginning, the Gila River Indian Community has been very fortunate to have acquired the services of Cox and Cox



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Attendees listen to Donald Antone, former governor, discussing his involvement in the water negotiations.



National Anthem.

Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

St. Peter Indian Mission School students performed the



Runners delivered water to the Huhugam Heritage Center.



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis discussed the future of GRIC's water settlement



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Richard Narcia, former governor, was in office when the settlement was signed.

attorneys," said Narcia. "Z. Simpson Cox was hired by the Community as General Counsel. He, and later his sons Alfred and Alan guided the Community as

official water negotiations started. I believe the initial groundwork for the Community's water settlement started with Cox and Cox,"



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone offered a history of the leaders who helped GRIC obtain its water settlement.



Rodney Lewis highlighted the legal assistance of Z. Simpson Cox, former GRIC General Counsel.

"I would acknowledge the importance of the work done by Cox and Cox attorneys, not only in water but in other...legal matters with the Community.

I would personally like to thank every member of the Cox and Cox family for their invaluable service to the Gila River Indian Community, thank you," Narcia

Alan Cox, son of the late Z. Simpson Cox, took to the stage and talked about his father's relationship with the Gila River Indian Community and how he came to represent the tribe and fight for its water rights.

"It's been almost 70 years since we started to work for and develop great friendships here in the Community," said Alan.

Z. Simpson was noted throughout his life for representing people who were poor, he said, with up to 90 percent of his clients being pro bono, meaning his legal fees were billed at a reduced rate or completely

Alan said one of the many obstacles his father faced when dealing with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), was that at the time they would simply say they were working on a contract but without showing progress. In effect, stalling.

"The Washington [BIA] office kept saying to my father that they were working on the contract and finally my father took a night flight, went to a hotel, took a shower, took a cab to the United States Senate, went to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate and said 'I have this contract with Gila River Indian Community but the Interior Department won't approve or disapprove," Alan said.

He said that the Majority Leader, who was Ernest McFarland at the time, called the Secretary of the Interior and told him to see Z. Simpson. After discussing the details of the contract with the DOI, no agreement was made and thus began the Community's fight for its water rights, he said.

"This settlement you have today, unlike the settlements that were made by the BIA, by the federal government, you...have a seat at the table," Alan said. "[In] 1935 when the Gila River Decree was entered...your ancestors were not even allowed in the courtroom. This [settlement] is yours. This one is one that you fought hard for, it's one that you will be able to put into effect and be able to bring back the agriculture and development that you so richly deserve," he said.

After Alan's speech the veterans performed the Retrieval of Colors and a lunch of chumuth, red chili, beans, and potato salad was served up by the Sunna Family. The Water Rights Day entertainment was provided by the Pee Posh Song and Dance Group followed by an O'otham social dance.

## GRIC looking for construction innovations in tribal housing

Christopher Lomahquahu Gila River Indian News

Two tribal communities partner with Arizona State University to explore different ways of building more affordable and energy efficient homes.

ASU's Del E. Webb School of Construction students and faculty spoke about their findings at the Innovation in Tribal Housing presentation on Dec. 1.

In tribal communities the availability of homes is even more significant because of the need to provide a quality standard of living without sacrificing costs and quality.

Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis was present to talk about the Community's collaboration with ASU through a new course offered by the school called: Indigenous Project Deliv-



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and John Lewis with ASU students at the Innovation in Tribal Housing presentation on Dec. 1.

ery.

The course explores ways of building affordable, sustainable and energy efficient homes in tribal communities through a semester long project with GRIC and the Tolani Lake Chapter on the Navajo Na-

The Tolani Lake Chapter's goal was to figure out how to improve approaches to home design-build projects at a competitive cost, while the Community looked to reduce energy consumption in residential construction and as an economic driver.

The project was overseen by the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment Professor Wanda Dalla Costa, who is a visiting eminent scholar from Canada.

Costa, who is a member of the Saddle Lake First Nations of Northern Alberta, sought the assistance of the Community and the Navajo Nation to help with the course project.

"I hope [this] is the beginning of future collaborations with tribal communities and the school [here]," said Costa, "I see a lot of opportunity to take [these] real-world projects that come from outside the industry and bring them into the academic settings so that we can begin to push innovation and success."

Gov. Lewis said Gila River Utility Authority Chairman John Lewis contributed to the project from an energy cost perspective, because creating homes that rely on less power will eventually need to be addressed to make homes more affordable.

John said that the cost of living is very important, especially around utilities that need to be considered when building homes.

He said, "Not many people know about [these] types of things that needed to be factored in building homes, because there are a number of things tribes also have to provide for their people."

Undergraduate Christopher Frettoloso, who is pursuing a degree in Urban Planning, said their team incorporated as much of the Community's ideas on what it would like to see in an energy-efficient home.

"Initially [they] were looking for affordable options and sustainable solutions. Energy efficiency was a big concern to reduce the amount of energy being consumed by one home," said Frettoloso.

He said there were other key elements to the design such as being culturally relevant and if possible use materials traditionally used by the people.

"We looked at everything that was recommended from a build de-

sign standpoint. We also looked at incorporating more social space, because we know social gathering space is essential to the culture of the Community," he

Most of all Frettoloso said their project team wanted to explore economic development and job creation, which looked at the possibility of making bricks from recycled materials like paper.

Gov. Lewis said the project is about learning how to make homes that are sustainable in the long run, that would also create jobs for Community members.

"We are at an important position now that we have seen the conceptual design and modeling that allows us to look at the feasibility of how it translates to our Community and how it will become a buildable design," said Gov. Lewis.

## Jolyce Armenta's journey from Komatke to Oregon and back again

Thomas R. Throssell Gila River Indian News

Busy as a bee. That's how 17-year-old Jolyce Armenta could be described in a nutshell.

The Chemawa Indian School senior has been nothing but busy over the past several years, participating in every school club she can find, competing in the Miss Chemawa pageant and earning the title of Miss Chemawa 2016-2017, and most recently, being accepted into Grand Canyon University. Armenta has been on a mission to further her education and live a rich and fulfilling life.

How does a teenager, who is just starting out in life, know to navigate the difficulties of life? That knowledge and discipline comes from the teachings of her parents Joseph and Anna Armenta.

Joseph said that he wants his daughter to have her own mind and to think of what she wants for herself, to be an independent woman.

"I want to push her... to keep that goal [of education] and bring that back to our tribe and pass it on," he said. "When she has her own children, she can do the same for them. That's what I want because I wish I would have done that when I was younger," Armenta said.

And that's what Jolyce has been busy doing. From the very beginning of her education in the classrooms Laveen Elementary School District, she has participated in extracurricular and taken her education seriously.

Which is why, when



Jolyce Armenta with her father Joseph.

it came to choosing a high school, enrolling in a boarding school was a requirement.

"I've always wanted to go to a boarding school because my sister and my brother, my dad, they all went to Sherman in California," she said. "I always thought it would be fun to go out of state."

It wasn't just a family tradition and travel that attracted Jolyce to Chemawa Indian School. It was sage advice from her father that ended up sealing the deal of picking a boarding school for her secondary educa-

Joseph said that he knew that ditching, alcohol, and drug use were prevalent in the public school system and that he wanted his daughter to avoid those pitfalls and focus on her education and self-development.

Before she knew it, it was time for her to leave her desert home of Komatke and travel to the green landscapes of Salem. Ore. "It was scary at first. I couldn't [just] go home and relax, it was just different," she said. "There were times [I missed home] but I was able to call home and ask how everyone was doing and check up on them."

Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN While Jolyce's nerves were in a bundle, her fa-

ther's own anxieties were

bubbling to the surface. "I know how she is, she is the daddy's girl out of all my other kids," Joseph said. "I was just afraid you know, you have to take care of yourself, you have to make sure vou have all these things that you need like shampoo," he said. After a short pause, he added "I was kind of afraid of boys, how they are, that was the main thing I was scared of."

Over the past three years Jolyce made herself at home on the Chemawa Indian School campus, participating in a large variety of school clubs. A few of the clubs she joined were the quilting club. American Indian Science and Engineering club, Pow Wow, volleyball, boxing, softball, and hiking clubs. She was also a member of the Northwest Youth Corps, a non-profit job training education and outdoor school program that teaches youth through hands-on experience.

While this may seem like an overwhelming number of activities to take part in, for Jolyce it is better to be busy than bored.

"If you don't get your-

self involved in school then it is boring," she said, adding that you have to make your own fun.

"My freshman year... my roommates, who were all seniors, they were telling me to have fun, but to not waste [my] time doing nothing or trying to get in with the bad crowd. The more fun you have here, the more memories you make and the four years do pass. I thought it would be a long time but now that I look at it, it really did fly by more quickly than I thought," she

past Novem-

ber Jolyce took part in the school's annual Miss Chemawa pageant for the second time, the first of which she was unable to win the crown. However, this year, hard work, determination, and a bit of luck were with her as was able to win the Miss Chemawa 2016-2017

"When I got crowned, it felt unreal," she said. "When they said I was Miss Chemawa 2016-2017 I was happy, I started crying."

Jolyce's streak of success hasn't ended yet. With her acceptance into Grand Canyon University last October, where she will work towards becoming a pediatrician, and her upcoming May 12 graduation from Chemawa Indian School, it seems that for Jolyce, the sky's the limit.

While Jolyce is motivated to continue her education and experience as much as life has to offer, she is humble and understands that she could not have accomplished these goals on her own.

"When I do think about it, I wouldn't have anything if it weren't for my dad and my step-mom," Jolyce said.





Don't throw the old ones in the trash! Take them to one of the electronic waste collection events:

- January 7<sup>th</sup> at the District 7 Service Center, 9:00 am -2:00 pm
- January 14<sup>th</sup> in District 3, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at the Dept. of **Environmental Quality Office** 45 S. Church St. in Sacaton, across the street from the

library



We also accept:

- Small kitchen appliances (toasters, blenders, etc) Phones - all types
- Video games
- **Printers**
- Small household batteries (no car batteries)
- Remote controls
- Digital alarm clocks
- **Hair Dryers** Curling irons

Power cords rge appliances, light bulbs or microwaves

# **COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS**

## Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • December 7, 2016

#### **ACTION SHEET**

85147; Phone (520) 562-9720; Fax (520) 562-9729

**CALL TO ORDER** 

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday December 7, 2016, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:08am

**INVOCATION** 

Provided by Councilwoman Nada Celaya

**ROLL CALL** 

Sign-in Sheet Circulated Executive Officers Present: Governor Stephen R. Lewis Lt. Governor Monica Antone (9:51) **Council Members Present:** 

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4- Nada Celaya, Jennifer Allison, Christopher Mendoza, Barney Enos, Jr.; D5- Brian Davis, Sr. (9:51), Marlin Dixon, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr. (9:51), Charles Goldtooth, Sandra Nasewytewa; D7- Devin Redbird (9:49)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA APPROVED AS AMENDED

### PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-min-

\*1. Insurance Manager Introduction Kimberly Childers Presenter: Pamela Thompson

DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

\*2. Introduction of Ms. Yichun Xu, Hydrologist

Presenter: Kimberly Antone

MS. KIMBERLY ANTONE INTRODUCED MS. YICHUN XU. MS. XU PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HER BACKGROUND. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EX-PRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.

3. GRHC Introduction of Executive Director of Behavioral Health, Priscilla Foote

Presenter: Ginger Fligger

MS. GINGER FLIGGER INTRODUCED MS. PRISCIL-LA FOOTE. MS. FOOTE PROVIDED A BRIEF OVER-VIEW OF HER BACKGROUND. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EX-PRESSED WORDS OF CONGRATULATIONS AND EN-COURAGEMENT.

4. Introduction of Joann Nelson, Early Childhood Special Services Manager

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

MR. ISAAC SALCIDO INTRODUCED MS. JOANN NEL-SON. MS. NELSON PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HER BACKGROUND. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.

5. Introduction of Gabriella Alvarez, Education Manager Presenter: Isaac Salcido

MR. ISAAC SALCIDO INTRODUCED MS. GABRIELLA ALVAREZ. MS. ALVAREZ PROVIDED A BRIEF OVER-VIEW OF HER BACKGROUND. GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EXPRESSED WORDS OF WELCOME.

\*1. Gila River Indian Irrigation & Drainage District (GRIIDD), Third Quarter Management Report

Presenter: Ronald C. Allison

REPORT HEARD

\*2. North Santa Cruz Wash Project Report and Update Presenter: Seaver Fields

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

\*3. Proposal Tortosa Subdivision Drainage Impact to GRIC Presenter: Seaver Fields

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. Management Information Systems FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: Jocelyn Young, Pamela Thompson

REPORT HEARD 5. Communication & Public Affairs Office FY2016 Annual

Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: June Shorthair. Pamela Thompson REPORT HEARD

6. Department Of Public Works FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: Ross Schroeder, Kelly Gomez

REPORT HEARD

7. Youth Council FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Michael Preston, Pamela Thompson REPORT HEARD

8. Office Of Community Manager FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenter: Pamela Thompson

Community Council; PO Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 9. Community Services Department FY2016 Annual Report 28. Office of the Prosecutor FY 2016 Annual Report (Octo-(October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

> Presenter: Joanne Miles-Long, Pamela Thompson REPORT HEARD

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 90-MINUTE LUNCH BREAK. THE MEETING RECON-VENED AT 1:53 P.M.]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO HEAR REPORTS #10, #11, #13, #23, #28, #43 & #44 AND ACCEPT THE REMAINING REPORTS MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR REPORT #35, REQUEST ESC COORDINATE WITH **EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN PROVIDING** ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR **CLARIFICATION** 

10. Human Resources Department FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Keith Graham, Pamela Thompson, Kelly Go-

REPORT HEARD

11. Department Of Community Housing FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenter: Kelly Gomez REPORT HEARD

12. Department Of Transportation FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Timothy Oliver, Kelly Gomez

13. Department Of Housing Development FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: JoAnn Garcia, Kelly Gomez REPORT HEARD

14. Facilities Maintenance Department FY2016 Annual Re-

port (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: Manuel Robles, Kelly Gomez **ACCEPTED** 

15. Tribal Projects Development FY2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: Howard Reno, Kelly Gomez

ACCEPTED

16. Lone Butte Development L.L.C. FY2016 Annual Report Presenter: Esther Manuel

**ACCEPTED** 

17. Legislative Wrap-Up Report Presenters: Meghaen Dell'Artino, P3

**ACCEPTED** 

18. Gila River Voters Registration Board 2015 Report To Community Council

Presenters: Voter Registration Board

ACCEPTED

19. Gila River Voters Registration Board 2016 Report Presenters: Voter Registration Board **ACCEPTED** 

20. Land Use Planning & Zoning FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Kimberly Antone, Kelly Gomez **ACCEPTED** 

21. Department of Environmental Quality FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Robert DeLeon, Kelly Gomez **ACCEPTED** 

22. Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: David DeJong, Kelly Gomez ACCEPTED

23. Tribal Social Services FY2016 Annual Report (October 1. 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Lee Ann Wander, Pamela Thompson MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DISPENSE AND SEND BACK TO HEALTH & SOCIAL STANDING

COMMITTEE 24. Tribal Health Department FY2016 Annual Report(October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Christina Floyd, Pamela Thompson ACCEPTED

25. CSD- Elderly Service/Elderly Nutrition/Nutrition Assistance Wellness/Recreation FY2016 Annual Report Presenters: Veronica Rivers. Regina Antone-Smith. Pame-

**ACCEPTED** 

26. Elections Office FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Nadine Shelde, Pamela Thompson **ACCEPTED** 

27. Fire Department FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: Thomas Knapp, Pamela Thompson

ber 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Brian Tacheenie, Pamela Thompson MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE

29. Defense Office FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Claude Jackson, Pamela Thompson **ACCEPTED** 

30. Enrollment/Census Office FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Connie Blackwater-Hogg, Pamela Thompson

31. Department of Rehabilitation and Supervision FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: Ron Lopez, Pamela Thompson **ACCEPTED** 

32. Office of Emergency Management FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Robert DeLeon, Pamela Thompson 33. Police Department FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1,

2015-September 30, 2016) Presenters: Kathleen Elliot, Pamela Thompson

**ACCEPTED** 34. Head Start October Monthly Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenter: Patricia Valenzuela

**ACCEPTED** 

35. Student Achievement Update (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenter: Fredrick Poitra

**ACCEPTED** 

36. Johnson O'Malley Quarter Report SY 2016-2017 Presenter: Gabriella Alvarez

**ACCEPTED** 

37. Employment & Training/TERO FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Lana Chanda, Pamela Thompson **ACCEPTED** 

38. CSD – Ira Hayes Library FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Joanne Miles-Long, Pamela Thompson **ACCEPTED** 

39. Tribal Education Department FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016) Presenters: Isaac Salcido, Pamela Thompson

**ACCEPTED** 40. Tribal Historic Preservation Office FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016) Presenters: Barnaby V. Lewis, Kelly Gomez **ACCEPTED** 

41. Huhugam Heritage Center FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015 - September 30, 2016) Presenters: Shirley Jackson, Kelly Gomez

**ACCEPTED** 

42. Cultural Resources Management Program FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015 - September 30, 2016) \ Presenters: Kyle Woodson, Kelly Gomez **ACCEPTED** 

[MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 5:13 P.M.] \*43. Monthly Financial Report Ending October 31, 2016 & FY2017 Capital Projects Review & Update (Executive Session)

Presenters: Treasurer Robert G. Keller, Mike Jacobs, Pamela Thompson

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE **SESSION** 

44. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report October 2016 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Carolyn Thompson, Interim Planning & Oversight Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE

#### **SESSION** RESOLUTIONS

\*1. A Resolution Consenting To And Approving The Acquisition For Right Of Way For A Grant Of Easement For Gila River Indian Community Department Of Transportation Project No. ROW\_005.D1.08 Crossing Allotted And Community Land Parcels For The Purpose Of Constructing, Operating, Managing And Maintaining A Roadway And Utilities Corridor By The Gila River Indian Community Department Of Transportation Located In District 1 And As Shown In

Continued on Page 13

### WHAT'S NEW AT GRICUA?

GIS Technician Maci Hernandez ASU in 2013 and received a Bache-



Meter Replacement Project Update

The GRICUA Meter Replacement project has been completed for all residential meters in Districts 1-5 and parts of 6. We'd like to thank you for your coop-

Pamela Thomas Earns CCD Certificate



eration. The new electric meters have state of the art technology that will allow GRICUA to offer innovative benefits to our customers. Please watch for information on these new benefits in 2017 If you have any questions please call GRICUA at (520)796-0600.

GRICUA Board Secretary Pamela Thomas has successfully completed the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). The CCD curriculum consists of five courses designed to provide essential knowledge and skills required of directors. The knowledge that Ms. Thomas has obtained through NRECA's education and training courses will continue to benefit Ms. Thomas and GRICUA in the years ahead.



GRICUA is happy to introduce our new GIS Technician - Marci Hernandez. Marci is originally from Rowland Heights, a small town in the Los Angeles area and moved to Arizona about ten years ago. Marci graduated from

Studies. Before joining GRICUA, Marci worked part-time for the City of Maricopa with the Development Services Team. She assisted with map making for their General Plan update. Some of her hobbies include reading, attending stand-up comedy shows and trying new foods. She is very happy for the opportunity to work with the GRICUA family! GRICUA's

lor's Degree in Geography and Justice

Budget Program

GRICUA's Budget Billing Program is a no cost program that averages out your seasonal highs and lows based on a rolling twelve-month average of your bills. Customer bills will vary from month to month, however they should stay at a consistent average based on your rolling usage. Budget billing amounts will be able to be submitted to your District Service Center for Community assistance based on your eligibility. Please call (520) 796-0600

or stop by our office for more information on our Budget Billing Program. Registration forms can be obtained on our website (www.gricua.net), at your District office, at District Days or by mail. All registration forms need to be submitted to GRICUA for approval.

Reminders

**GRICUA District Days 2017** GRICUA will be at the Public Health Billing Resource Center (433 W Seedfarm Rd in Sacaton) on the following days to accept payments from 10am to

> January 5 February 9 March 9 April 6

May 4 June 8 July 6

August 7 September 7

October 5 November 6 December 7 CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

GRICUA is a member of Arizona Blue Stake Please call 1-800-782-5348 to request an underground line locate of both GRICUA and SCIP on reservation facilities.

GRICUA welcomes your comments. You can email comments to gricuacomments@gricua.net. You can also go to our website at www.gricua.net.

GRICUA's Hours of Operation Monday - Friday 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM Payments are accepted on-line and by phone both during our normal operating hours as well as afterhours. If you have any questions regarding your statement or payment options please call during normal business hours.

#### **COURT NOTICE**

Marcus Michael Schurz Notice of Default Judgment Hearing Case: C-14-0045

Court Date: January 24, 2017 Courtroom #4, 2nd Floor FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT

YOUR RIGHTS JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

COURT BUILDING: #23

ADDRESS: 10005 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256 CONTACT: (480) 362-6315

Ramona Sabori Default Notice Hearing Case: C-16-0060

Court Date: January 10, 2017 at 3:30 pm Courtroom #4, 2nd Floor

FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT BUILDING: #23 ADDRESS: 10005 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256 CONTACT: (480) 362-6315

#### **COURT NOTICE**

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMU-NITY COURT STATE OF ARIZONA **BETTY MOLINA** Petitioner/Plaintiff

**EDDIE ESPINOZA** Respondent/Defendant TO: EDDIE ESPINOZA 4907 QUI STREET CASE Number: CV-2016-0285-RO CIVIL SUMMONS

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila

River Indian Community Court. YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/ RESPONSE HEARING regarding this

matter on Friday, January 6, 2017 at 9:00 AM in

Courtroom I, AK.IMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seedfarm Road, Sacaton,

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response

and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

is made, it shall be filed

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the

relief demanded in the complaint or

GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona

DATED this 15th day of November,

#### CASA BLANCA SCHOOL **BOARD ELECTIONS**

Casa Blanca Community School Post Office Box 10940 Bapchule, Arizona 85121 School Office : 520-315-3489 Fax: 520-315-3505 Administration: 520-315-1868 Fax: 520-315-3938 NOTICE OF CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD

ELECTION ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, day, December 30, 2016. The follow-2017 Parents & Guardians: The Casa ing persons are eligible to vote in the election (and sign petitions for Board Blanca Community School is pleased to announce that it will be holding an candidates): Enrolled members of the election on Friday, January 6, 2017 to Gila River Indian Community who are at least eighteen (18) and who reside fill one (1) seat on its Board of Trustees. The polling station will held at within District 3, 4, or 5 as of January 6, Casa Blanca Community School. The 2017, OR Parent, grandparent, or legal polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to guardian whose name is on file as the 5:00 p.m. CBCS's Board meets at least responsible party for a child currently twice per month. Board members are attending Casa Blanca Community expected to attend a School Board School. Any questions regarding the election should be directed to Ms. Flo Orientation for New Members which consists of a detailed overview of Casa Long at the above number. Blanca Community School's day to **COURT NOTICE** day operations; attend periodic work The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian sessions (usually held over a two day

Community Court period on the weekend); attend various 10005 E. Osborn Road Scottsdale, Arout-of-state trainings and conferences; izona 85256 have reliable transportation; be avail-(480) 362-6315 able to reach by phone; and be available to meet when given short notice.

ANDRIA MARIE KISTO Petitioner, Case No. C-14-0045

MARCUS MICHAEL SCHURZ, NO-TICE

(MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT) Respondent.

To: MARCUS MICHAEL SCHURZ, 1. The Court has received a Motion for Entry of Default Judgment filed against you in this Court. A copy of the Motion and affidavit of amounts owing is at-

tached to this Notice. 2. You are given Ten (10) days from the date the Process Server hands you this to file an Answer, Motion to Dismiss or other responsive pleading

3. If you want to Deny the Motion, you must file a Written Answer, Motion to returned to Casa Blanca Community Dismiss or other responsive pleading within 10 days of service unless the law requires otherwise.

4. You should go at once to a Legal Counsel or Advocate to see if they will prepare a written answer for you.

5. If you do nothing , the Court may grant a Default Judgment against you and you will be obligated to pay the judgment and award. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default) PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Facility Name: Vulcan Asphalt - San Tan Plant

Facility Address: 2126 N. Tanner Rd., Sacaton, AZ 85147 (within the Gila River Sand & Gravel San Tan Plant in

Owner Name: Vulcan Asphalt, LLC Owner Address: 2526 E. University Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85034

Air Contaminants Emitted: Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) Carbon Monoxide (CO) Sulfur Oxides (SOx) Particulate Matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10) Particulate Matter (PM) Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) Public Notice Start Date: December 16, 2016. Public Notice End Date: January 16. 2017. Public comments will be accepted in writing until the public notice end date, after which staff will review and respond to all the comments re-

Any person may submit a written comment or a request to the DEQ to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of receiving oral or written comments on the proposed air quality operating permits. Such comments and requests shall be received by the DEQ within 30 days of the date of the first publication notice. A written comment shall state the name and mailing address of the person, shall be signed by the person, his agent or his attorney and shall clearly set forth reasons why the permit should or should not be issued. Grounds for comment are limited to whether the proposed permit meets the criteria for issuance prescribed in the GRIC Code: Title 17, Chapter 9 of the Air Quality Management Plan. Only persons who submit written comments may appeal a permit decision.

Copies of the permit application, the proposed permit, and relevant background material will be available for review at the DEQ Sacaton office (during normal business hours) and on the AQP website at:

http://www.gricdeq.org/index.php/education--outreach/public-notices.

Requests and written comments may be delivered or mailed to:

Gila River Indian Community Department of Environmental Quality Attn: Ryan Eberle

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147

Physical Address: 45 S. Church St., Sacaton, AZ 85147

For further information, please contact Ryan Eberle at (520) 796-3781 or visit our office located at 45 S. Church St.. Sacaton, AZ 85147. Our office hours are Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### From Page 12

Drawing Number 40112-0492-EA, Page 1 And 2 (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, with correction)

Presenters: Warren Wiltshire, Megan Jackson **APPROVED** 

2. A Resolution Approving Tribal Education Allocation Funds For Schools Located Within The Gila River Indian Reservation (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval and to include a cover memo from the Director of Education addressing disciplinary action when not in compliance, ESC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and amendments)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido **APPROVED** 

3. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Fire Department To Submit A Grant Application To The United States Department Of Homeland Security Assistance To Firefighters Grant (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Thomas Knapp **APPROVED** 

4. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Fire Department To Submit A Grant Application To The United States Department Of Homeland Security Assistance To Firefighters Grant (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Thomas Knapp

**APPROVED ORDINANCES** UNFINISHED BUSINESS

If you are interested in running in the

election, you must meet the following

member qualifications: Be at least

twenty-one (21) years of age as of

January 6, 2017 (the date of election):

Be a Community member; Reside in

District 3, 4, or 5 and have lived in the

District in which you are running for at

least one year prior to January 6, 2017;

Have a high school diploma, or GED;

Successfully undergo a background

check and drug/alcohol screen; Obtain

an Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card;

and Submit a timely petition signed by

seven eligible voters from your District.

To obtain a petition to get on the ballot,

please contact Ms. Flo Long at CBCS,

(520) 315-3489. Petitions must be

School no later than 12:00 p.m. on Fri-

1. Gila River Sand & Gravel Board of Directors Two (2) **Appointments** 

Presenters: Reviewing Committee MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT RICHARD NARCIA AND GORDON DOMINGO

**NEW BUSINESS** 

1. Memorial Airfield Trespassing Report (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval to concur with LUPZ recommendations outlined)

Presenters: Kimberly Antone, Paul Shorthair MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION

2. Lone Butte Development FY2016 Audit Report (G&M-SC motioned to forward to Council under New Business; EDSC concurs)

Presenter: Corrine Wilson MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT [ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

3. Request for Additional Reporting Presenter: Community Council MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DIRECT THE TRIBAL GAMING OFFICE, GAMING COMMISSION AND COURTS/JUDICIAL TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORT BY THE SECOND MEETING OF JANUARY 2017

**MINUTES** 

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

> COUNCILMAN ARZIE HOGG ON TRAVEL DECEMBER 12–16, 2016

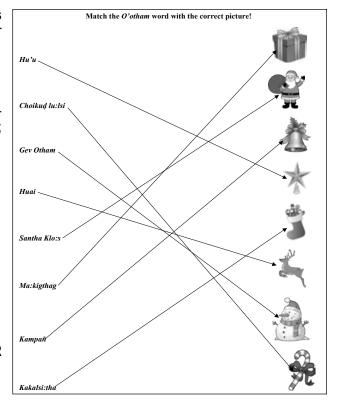
>LSC MEETING OF DECEMBER 13, 2016 CANCELLED

>RAYMOND WHITE'S SERVICES FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2016 >WATER RIGHTS CELEBRATION, HUHUGAM HERI-TAGE CENTER. 9AM - 2PM >75 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF PEARL HARBOR

**ADJOURNMENT** 

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:48PM

\* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)



#### River of Lights Parade

#### from Page 1

put aside their differences this year to help the box shakers and movers in Shipping and Receiving roll their way to the Com-

munity Managers Award in the best GRIC department category.

Mr. and Mrs. Paws (an entry by Merry Kriss Kyybest family category. Stringing their lights

itan) featured tiny pooches,

in tow strolled their way to

the Directors Award in the

to resemble a small winter wonderland in the desert, the Tribal Recreation Department and Wellness Center received the Kids

of lights.

Not to be outdone, the District 1 Service Center and Community Services

Choice Award for best use Department had something special for the crowd with their entry taking home the Judges Award for best overall entry.

> Connect with GRHC in f 😉 🔞 🕏

Photos by Christopher Lomahquahu

WE WORK FOR YOU!











Wishing you a safe and peaceful holiday season!

Your friends from Gila River Health Care

# This Christmas buy yourself a new Ride and we'll pay for your Holiday Shopping!



# So let's get shopping! PLUS NO PAYMENTS UNTIL 2017



2009 Dodge 2500 4x4 Low Miles SAVE THOUSANDS



2010 Ford F-150 4WD \$389/mo.



2011 Toyota Sienna \$239/mo.



2013 Cadillac XTS

\$399/mo.



2013 Ford Explorer \$395/mo.



2014
Toyota Tacoma
\$299/mo.

# **2010**Dodge Charger



**2011**Dodge Ram 1500



**2011** Infiniti G37



**2012** Chrysler 200



2012 Ford Edge



<sup>\$</sup>15,999



**2013** Nissan Altima



2014 Kia Soul



\$11,999

**2014** Mazda CX5



<sup>\$</sup>14,999

2015 Jeep Patriot



**2016**Hyundai Elantra



2016

Ford Fusion





CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER 1023 N. PINAL AVE., CASA CRANDE 520-030-2112

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GILARIVER CASINOS

Wishing you and your family a holiday season full of cheer!

# GILARIVER

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