



29th Annual Indian Nations & Tribes Legislative Day

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

More than 800 people participated in the Governor's Office on Tribal Relations' 29th annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day on Jan. 10, making it the largest such event yet. Held the first week of each regular state legislative session, it allows the state's 22 tribal nations to meet and speak with state officials and lawmakers.

A few main issues discussed included affordable housing, economic development, quality healthcare, behavioral health, education and fraudulent sober living homes.

"These are important functions where tribal leadership can bring issues up with our state lawmakers and also interface and interact with Governor Hobbs and her administration," said Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. "This has really become a very important day...here at the State Capitol."

In addition to Gov. Lewis, Akimel O'odham/Pee Posh

Youth Council member and UNITY's Earth Ambassador Evelyn Enos and Miss Gila River 2023-2024 Mavis Thomas attended the gathering. GRIC departments and entities also exhibited outside on the Senate lawn.

The event began with a joint protocol session with tribes and state representatives. American Legion Post 114 "Bushmasters" from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community posted colors and Miss Indian Arizona Laney Lupe cited the pledge of allegiance.

Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Vice President Paul Russell provided the invocation followed by a traditional song and dance from GRIC's Chi'Chino Spirit.

"Today holds significance as we gather to acknowledge and honor the impact of Arizona's tribes on our state's history, culture and prosperity," said Ben Toma, Speaker of the Arizona House of Representatives.

He added, "As valued partners to the state of Arizona, Indian nations and tribes play a vital role, significantly contributing to



L-R: Tohono O'odham Chairman Verlon Jose, Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel, Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier. Miyana Manus/CPAO

the success of our economy, generating thousands of jobs for Arizonans and billions in revenue."

Toma said the annual event

is more than "ceremonial" and is a "testament to the enduring partnership between the state and tribal communities today and be-

yond."

Arizona State Senate Presi-

Continued on Page 8

Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs' State of the State Outlines Priorities

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis attended Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs' State of the State address during the first day of the 2024 legislative session on Jan. 8, during which she outlined a long list of priorities. They included several topics of significance to tribal nations, ranging from better oversight of sober living homes to expanding

internet access on tribal lands.

"It was an honor to be a guest of Governor Hobbs at her State of the State speech," Gov. Lewis said. "She touched on a lot of important issues facing Arizona, but also for the community."

Hobbs began her address with a land acknowledgment of the Gila River Indian Community and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

"It is my honor to

stand before you today at the opening of the second regular session of the 56th Legislature here on land that will always be connected to the O'odham and the people of today's Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and of the Gila River Indian Community," Hobbs said.

She stated that Arizona residents are relying on their leaders to ensure that "We continue creating good-paying jobs for working-class Arizonans, that

we help lower costs on everyday items, that our water future is secure, that our schools are safe and places of opportunity, that health care is accessible for those who need it and when they need it and that our rights and freedoms are protected."

Hobbs emphasized the importance of partnerships to manage water and just how critical it is for Arizona to work together towards water conservation during the historic drought facing the Colorado River.

She also mentioned tribal education and the sober living home crisis.

"We should also be outraged at this separate, but just as infuriating, sober living home scandal that ruined countless lives and cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars," Hobbs said, "I'm proud we have taken action to crack down on this fraud."

She added that she's asking the legislature to strengthen standards for sober living homes and stronger penalties for "bad actors."



Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs during her address at the State Capitol on Jan. 8. Emma Hughes/GRIN

In addition, Hobbs called on the legislature to work with her to begin a new engineering-focused medical school at Arizona State University (ASU) double the size of the medical schools at the University of Arizona and to start a new medical school at Northern Arizona University with a focus on serving rural and tribal communities.

Hobbs also noted that

her administration will expand high-speed internet to every community across the state, particularly in rural and tribal communities.

"Even though we are a sovereign nation," said Gov. Lewis, "having such great relations, such positive, cooperative relationships with the governor of Arizona... is so critical to us as a Community, as a sovereign nation trying to achieve our goals as well."



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis applauds Gov. Katie Hobbs during her State of the State Address. Emma Hughes/GRIN

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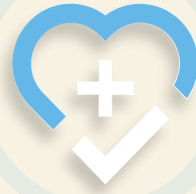
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grhc.org

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MONDAY JANUARY 29, 2024 District 6 Service Center 9 am - 2 pm

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TRW's Newest Addition to the Team spotlight

Velia Moncada
Gila River Indian News

GRIC member Sonja Luevano, District 1, is the newest addition to Gila River Indian Community's Tribal Recreation and Wellness (TRW) program, as the Recreation Manager. Luevano was brought onto the team in November 2023, and has been making significant changes to the way wellness is perceived and available to the Community.

"I am incredibly excited to bring my experience with tribal government and recreation services together to build incredible and invaluable programs for the Gila River Indian Community through the Tribal Recreation and Wellness program," said Luevano in her bio statement for TRW.

Luevano has a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in Social

Justice and Organization Management. Utilizing her degree in areas of Human Resources for the Community's Human Resources Department, Benefits Administration, and Prosecutor's Office concluding a total of 13 years with GRIC.

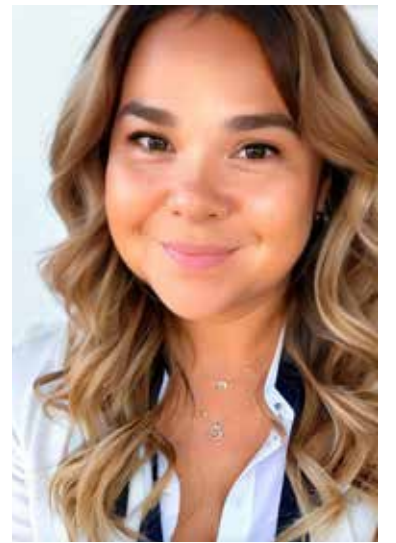
Luevano's goal for the Tribal Recreation and Wellness team is to increase Community member engagement with the TRW program. As she recognizes its importance to maintain a healthy lifestyle and allowing for families to build connections around physical fitness. She plans to achieve this goal by creating more tribal youth sports teams throughout the Community.

Another project she is hoping to include for the TRW staff and Community is creating a Community Activities annual book; Where the book will include information regarding occurring and future events.

"I want Community members to understand that if there is an event happening in District 1, and you're from District 5 and you want to attend, you can! That activity is not just only reserved to Community Members in District 1, it's open for all," said Luevano as she wants to encourage all Community members to participate in any TRW program regardless of what district they come from or reside in.

A fun fact about Ms. Luevano is that she is also the owner of Revolution Sports Center (RSC) in Casa Grande. RSC offers competitive all-star cheer, gymnastics/tumbling classes, toddler classes, mommy and me classes and many more. Her RSC program operates multiple franchise youth sports leagues, including NFL flag football, Jr. NBA Basketball, and Major League Soccer Go (MLS Go).

If you want to get to know



Sonja Luevano is the new Recreation Manager for GRIC's Tribal Recreation and Wellness Program. Photo Courtesy of Sonja Luevano.

Ms. Luevano or have questions regarding TRW programs, please contact wellness.center@gric.nsn.us or call (520) 562-6087.

GRIN Welcomes New Student Intern



Joseph Morales will cover stories for the Gila River Indian News as an Intern. Photo Courtesy of Joseph Morales.

Joseph Morales
GRIN Intern

I enjoy nothing more than a good story and representation of Native Communities. I, Joseph Morales of the San Lucy District, Tohono O'odham Nation, will now be able to do that. I am happy to share with the Community that I will be an intern with Gila River Indian News (GRIN).

I am currently a full-time student at Tohono O'odham Community College (TOCC). I hope to

obtain my associate in liberal arts this fall and transfer to an in-state university. In the future I wish to obtain my bachelor's degree in English, Media/Journalism or Native American Studies.

Representing Indigenous people is important to me. I will always strive my best to incorporate that into my educational and career goals. I am excited about this opportunity to work with the Community. I look forward to meeting members at future events.

CORRECTION:

In the July 21st, 2023 issue of the GRIN, the article "Artist Donates Artwork that recognizes the MMIP Crisis/Donated painting honors MMIP victims and families": Community artist Todd "Wade" Preston's name was misspelled.



Artista 5/23

★ VETERANS ★ ANNOUNCEMENTS

Iwo Jima Flag Raising Parade and Ceremonies will return to Sacaton

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

The 79th anniversary of the Iwo Jima flag raising will be celebrated once again, with a military parade, fly-over, and ceremonies held in Sacaton on Saturday, Feb. 24.

Hosted by the Ira Hayes American Legion Post 84, the event is expected to bring hundreds of Community members and spectators from across the country for this honored tradition.

It pays tribute to the six U.S. Marines, including Gila River Indian Community member Ira H. Hayes, who raised the American flag atop Mt. Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima, on Feb. 23, 1945.

“We are extremely

happy to be able to continue with this event and to recognize and honor the Hayes relations by having the families serve as Grand Marshall,” said Tony McDaniel, Post 84 Adjutant.

This event returns after being postponed for the past three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

All active-duty military personnel, veteran’s organizations and representatives, church groups, schools, bands, and families are invited to participate in the parade.

Parade line up and staging is scheduled for 7 a.m. located at 168 South Skill Center Road and the parade is set to begin at 8:45 a.m.

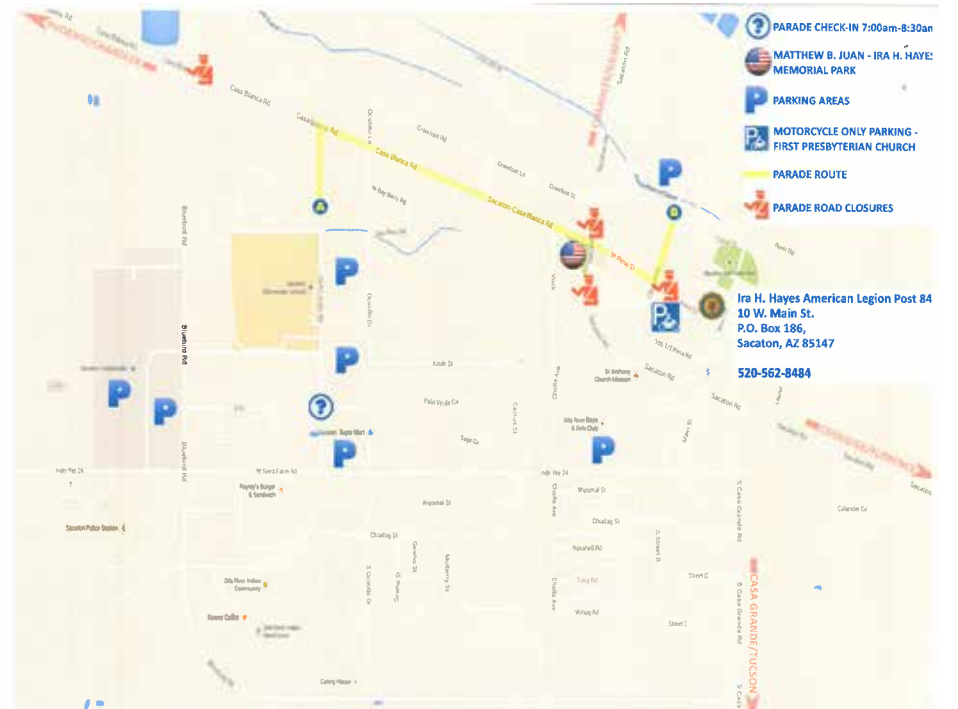
The parade route will begin on Skill Center Road

near the Sacaton Elementary School, proceed on Casa Blanca Road and end near Sacaton Road.

Road closures will be west of Casa Blanca Road and east on Sacaton Road and Pima Street.

Ceremonies will follow at the Mathew B. Juan – Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park. The American Legion Auxiliary Unity No. 84 will host luncheon, along with the St. Peters Indian Mission School and Church.

For more information on the event or to participate in the parade, contact Ira Hayes American Legion Post 85 at (520) 562-8484 or email: ihpost84@gilancet.net



Iwo Jima Flag Raising parade route scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 24. Photo Courtesy of Ira Hayes American Legion Post 84



Matthew B. Juan - Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park in Sacaton, where ceremonies will be held on Feb. 24. Photo Courtesy of the American Legion



Ira Hayes American Legion Post 84 leads the parade during the 74th Flag Raising Anniversary in 2019. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Assistance for Veterans

History of United Service Organizations (USO)



Submitted by
Veteran & Family Services
Office

Are you a veteran that uses the VA for Healthcare and has a disability rating less than 50 percent?

The VA now offers a co-pay waiver to Native Tribal Members that have disability ratings under 50 percent. If this applies to you, please make an appointment and we will assist with getting your paperwork completed to submit for the waiver. You will need to provide a copy of your Tribal enrollment card.

Please contact our office if you don't have a trib-

al enrollment card and we can discuss other documentation that can be used.



United Service Organizations (USO)

On February 4, 1941, the USO was established. This year celebrates its 83rd birthday. The USO is a private non-profit organization that was established by six other non-profit organizations working with the Department of Defense. Active-duty WWII veterans were the first to benefit from this new organization.

The USO has more than 250 locations in countries around the world. Locations can be found on military installations, airports and major metro areas.

Arizona has five locations: three near the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport, and in Ft. Huachuca and Yuma.

Homelessness & Suicide Prevention:

If you are a homeless veteran or are aware of a homeless veteran, assistance is available! You may contact the VA Homeless Veteran Clinic (520) 629-1839, HUD-VASH (520) 629-1839, Arizona DVOP (Disabled Veteran Outreach Program for employment) (520) 509-3555 or BeConnected 866-429-8387.

In July 2022, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Hotline was established. This number is available to anyone in crisis simply by dialing 988. If you are a Veteran, you may call 988 then press 1 for the Veteran Crisis Hotline or text 838255.

The Veteran and Family Services Office can be reached at 520-610-5135.

DISTRICT SEVEN RECREATION & COMMITTEE PRESENT:

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Unlocking Opportunities: NTS Introduces Fiber Install Apprenticeship



Fiber Technician conducts work out in the field. Photo Courtesy of Gila River Telecommunications

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Native Technology Solutions (NTS) a subsidiary of Gila River Telecommunications (GRTI), owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community, is proud to begin offering a new fiber optic technician apprenticeship program.

NTS provides service for structured cabling, access control systems, security systems and fiber optic networks to customers on and off the Community.

Fiber optic technology is used for everyday uses such as telephone, internet and television. It transmits information as light pulses through a glass or plastic

fiber cable and provides better long-distance and high-performance data for telecommunications compared to traditional copper cables. Fiber optic installers are in high demand due to the increasing need for fast and reliable internet connections.

This comprehensive initiative seeks applicants wanting to learn from and assist professionals in the growing field of fiber optics. Apprentices will get hands-on training in line installation and construction of fiber optic cables.

Apprentices will work 40 hours a week for a year, with pay beginning at \$20 dollars an hour, including structured pay increases. NTS has partnered with

Arizona Western College to offer three classes as part of the program, allowing apprentices to receive certification at no cost.

Applicants must be at least 18-years or older, have their high school diploma or GED and undergo a background check. Little to no previous work experience is required and is open to anyone who may be interested. GRIC members and other tribal members are highly encouraged to apply.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is funding this new apprenticeship from the tribal broadband connectivity program. The Gila River Indian Community

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JANUARY 30TH	E&T OFFICE SACATON	START AT 5:30 PM
JANUARY 31ST	D6 SERVICE CENTER	START AT 5:30 PM
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received over \$4 million to improve access to broadband services among its tribal members in Pinal and Maricopa counties.

Broadband network expansion will assist in distance learning opportunities, affordable broadband service, telehealth expansion,

economic growth, workforce development and digital inclusion efforts due to the increased demands for internet access as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With a curriculum designed in collaboration with industry experts, this

fiber optic apprenticeship program will equip participants with the technical knowledge and practical experience necessary to thrive in this competitive field.

More details are on the NTS website at www.native-tech.net/careers.

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Auppa I'ivakithak Mashath 2024-I:mik II



Submitted by
Huhugam Heritage Center

The Akimel O'otham name for this month translates to 'The budding of the Cottonwood tree Moon' otherwise known as January by western society. O'otham ñeo'ok has its own set of terms and expressions called "I:mik" that tells how our immediate family is related to us. In our last article we related about the terms for our immediate household. In this article, we will relate to family on our father's and mother's sides of the family.

When an Otham speaker hears someone say out loud "Eñ ba:ba'a!" or "Eñ lu:lu'u!" they automatically know that the person is talking to their grandparents on their mother's side of the family. In turn, ba:ba'a calls his grandchildren "ba'amaq" and lu:lu'u calls her grandchildren "mo:ms." These terms are

very specific in how we are related to both sides of our grandparents, as well as our aunts and uncles.

On father's side, the term for grandfather is "vo:sk" and for grandmother the term is "ka:k or ga:ga'a." Likewise, vo:sk calls his grandchildren "vo-psmaq" and ka:k calls her grandchildren "ka'akmaq." There are also terms for our aunts and uncles on both sides. Aunts older than mother are called "tha:ð 'o:ks" and aunts younger than mother are called "jisk." Uncles older than mother are called "je'es" and uncles younger than mother are called "thathal."

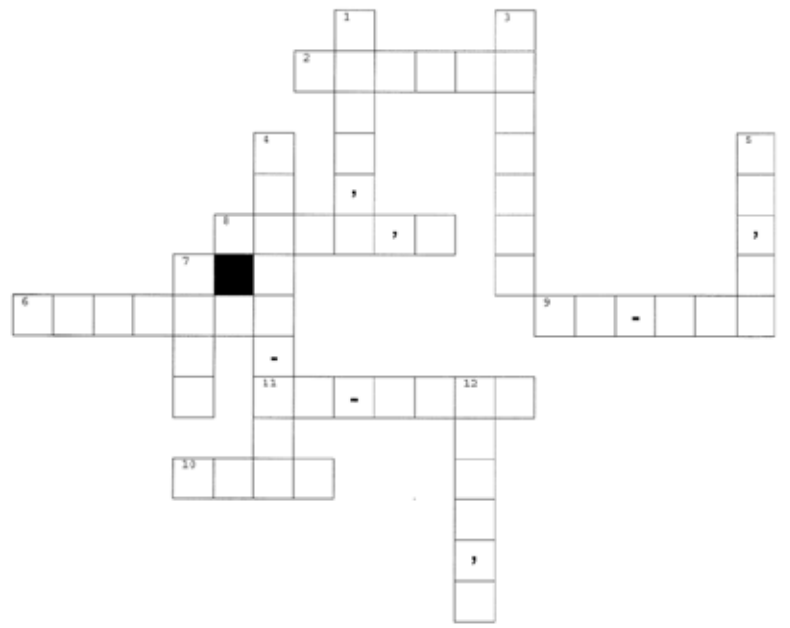
On father's side, the aunt and uncle terms are different. Aunts older than father are called "'o:k 'o:ks" and aunts younger than father are called "vo:vaith." Uncles older than father are called "'o:k keli" and uncles younger than father are called "ha:kith." Knowing our

relationship to one another and using the appropriate kinship term is very important as a sign of respect. Using the possessor "eñ" (my), makes it more personal, as in "Eñ jisk Victoria!" (My auntie Victoria!).

Altogether, our immediate relatives are called "eñ hahajuñ" (my relations). As our families live together, we should reflect on how the language we use influences the way we think and act towards one another. Speak with an Elder or Speaker on how to say and address "I:mik." Terms may be slightly different between the villages. This month's crossword puzzle will test your knowledge of "I:mik" on our parent's side of the family.

A special Thank You to Community Elders for sharing their knowledge of O'otham I:mik which made this article possible.

I:mik II Crossword Puzzle 2024



O:k Amjeð (Father's Side)

- 2. Uncle (Father's Younger Brother)
- 6. Aunt (Father's Younger Sister)
- 8. Grandmother
- 9. Aunt (Father's Older Sister)
- 10. Grandfather
- 11. Uncle (Father's Older Brother)

Je'e Amjeð (Mother's Side)

- 1. Grandfather
- 3. Uncle (Mother's Younger Brother)
- 4. Aunt (Mother's Older Sister)
- 5. Uncle (Mother's Older Brother)
- 7. Aunt (Mother's Younger Sister)
- 12. Grandmother

Solution on Pg. 10

Education Forward hosts Annual Leadership Symposium

Joseph Morales
GRIN Intern

On Jan 3, Education Forward held its annual Arizona Leadership Symposium for scholars, held in Phoenix. This Symposium allowed students to network, under the theme "You Have Everything to Gain."

A good portion of the attendees were representing Native American Communities, making up a little less than 100 students out of the 366 attending.

"We try our best to reach out to the Native American community members for exposure and

catering to those rural areas," stated Alexis Salter, a success advisor from San Carlos Apache Tribe.

The symposium featured many workshops, networking, and keynote opportunities for students to gain insight into various organizations.

"We are trying our best to continue reaching out to more Native American community members and school boards," said AdviseAZ Project Coordinator Johnathon Moore.

This year's Annual Symposium appeared to be a success for students across the state, especial-

ly those representing their Native American Communities.

Good news for students in the upcoming year, with Education Forward Arizona set to have roughly 30 spots available for Native American students to apply and receive the Freeport-McMoRan Native American College Scholarship and members of the Gila River Indian Community are eligible to apply. If interested and want to learn more of the requirements, please visit: <https://bit.ly/FM-Native-American-Scholarship> or EducationForwardArizona.org.

HUHUGAM HERITAGE CENTER

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NOVEMBER 29TH - FEBRUARY 28TH

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HUHUGAM HERITAGE CENTER
21359 S. Maricopa Road, Chandler, AZ 85226 | 520.796.3500



Attendees during the Education Forward Arizona Annual Leadership Symposium on Jan 3. Photo Courtesy of Joseph Morales.

Arts & Entertainment

Crossing Thresholds: O'otham Artists Create Art at NASCAR in Honor of Native American Heritage Month

Velia Moncada
Gila River Indian News

Indigenous artists are continuously crossing the threshold into spaces where Indigenous people aren't commonly heard or seen. For one GRIC artist, a recent collaboration with NASCAR is proving that Indigenous representation can thrive in the world of motor sports.



Paul Molina, District 7, during his three day process of "Spirit of the Land." Photo Courtesy of Paul Molina

Two O'otham artists displayed their Indigenous roots for NASCAR in honor of Native American Heritage Month back in November of 2023. Community artist Paul Molina, from District 7, participated in the painted car hood project, giving birth to the painted car hood piece, "Spirit of the Land," on November 5, 2023 at the Phoenix Raceway along

with Tohono O'odham artist Paul "Nox" Pablo.

"NASCAR wasn't really on top of the lists of businesses I was expecting to work with but surprisingly enough, they reached out to me and another artist; one from Gila River, me, and another artist from the Tohono O'odham Nation," said Molina in an interview with the GRIN.

Molina explained that NASCAR found him after Googling "Native American artists in Arizona." They liked his work and reached out to Molina via Instagram. From there he was included for the 72nd year anniversary as a live art exhibit feature - working on the project of a car hood in front of many car racing fanatics.

"My design process for this particular project was just overall expressing who I am as an Indigenous male. And coming from Gila River, I wanted to incorporate that, but also, I didn't want to tell a story that we were not supposed to tell. I wanted to give the viewers a taste of who Gila River is, and kind of what we are about," said Molina.



L-R: Paul Molina, District 7, shows off his artwork "Spirit of the Land" to race car fanatics with Tohono O'odham artist, Paul "Nox" Pablo, showing off his art work, "Play to win, all or nothing." Photo Courtesy of Paul Molina

"Spirit of the Land" depicts images containing a significant meaning for Indigenous people: A hawk that plays the role of a messenger between the physical world and the spiritual world, the mountains depicting the Sierra Estrellas of the westend, a young woman representing the future generations to arrive, and tobacco for blessings and spirit. Lastly, the fea-

ture of the 72nd NASCAR diamond was also painted onto the hood.

Molina said that this particular art piece was meaningful to him because it was influenced by his close relatives. He used acrylic paint with crystal medium textures, and molding putty to emphasize the wings of the hawk in the light. Molina spent three days and 10 hours in

total to complete the project.

The "Spirit of the Land" car hood painting project is housed at the Phoenix Raceway in Avondale. Paul "Nox" Pablo's creation, "Play to win, all or nothing" connected Tohono O'odham games and stories of the spirit of fast movement in relation to the sport of NASCAR.

GRIC Sponsors the Herberger Theater's New Musical: Islander

Velia Moncada
Gila River Indian News

Islander: A New Musical debuted on Jan. 13 at the Herberger Theater thanks in large part to the title sponsor, the Gila River Indian Community. The mystical play, about a girl on a sparsely populated island who encounters a mysterious stranger, covers societal, environmental and economic issues as well as loneliness, loss and the need for human connection.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis expressed, "I believe this is an excellent opportunity for the Community to make an impact and one where the Community will mutually benefit from the relationship."

The production won Best New Musical at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, a major international arts showcase. In it, two female actors play 26 roles on a minimalist set consisting of a giant white fiberglass bowl. The contemporary Scottish folk/pop score uses live looping technology that creates echoing, reverberating



Islander: A New Musical, will run until Jan. 28 at the Herberger Theater. Photo Courtesy of Herberger Theater.

sound.

"It's a very unique story, yet a story we can relate to in a lot of different ways," said Mark Mettes, President and CEO at Herberger Theater Center. "This partnership really helps us to bring audiences in Arizona to the Herberger Theater and get a first look at this amazing show."

Mettes said the layered story of *Islander* is relevant to the theater's mission and goals of connecting with the Community. He said he is delighted that having GRIC as a sponsor helps the Herberger Theater establish itself as a theater for all, and he looks forward to continuing the partnership. "We are moving in

this direction to be able to reflect values that are common to all of us as human beings," said Mettes, thanking GRIC for the sponsorship.

In *Islander*, myth and reality collide, covering topics of climate change, community displacement, divesting from the land, and connection with and disconnection from technology, people and animals, while also exploring motherhood and girlhood.

"The themes sort of touch lightly but in ways that spark things for a person individually," said Doreen Sayegh, producer and general manager with Pemberley Productions. The performance of

Islander has captivated audiences intellectually, artistically and emotionally, she said. She added she was curious how the people of Phoenix would connect to

the whale scenario in the story because the city of Phoenix is the first in the *Islander*'s tour without a huge body of water.

"It feels really special



Sylvie Stenson and Stephanie MacGaraidh performing on stage of the Herberger Theater Center for *Islander*. Photo Courtesy of Herberger Theater.

to us to have this kind of partnership, so first, a big thank you [to the Community] for being a part of it in this way, and then, having a real open invitation to have an open dialog about it," said Sayegh as she invited the Community to see the performance of *Islander*.

For tickets to the show, which runs through Jan. 28, visit www.herbergertheater.org or visit the box office. It runs 90 minutes and includes light stage haze and brief moments of flashing lights.



HEADLINES

EXECUTIVE OFFICE



Stephen Roe Lewis
Governor



Regina Antone
Lt. Governor

Tribal Leaders convene for first-ever Indian Nations & Tribes State of the State Address

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

On the morning of Jan. 10, before the 29th Annual Indian Nations & Tribes Legislative Day started, Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs delivered the first Tribal State of the State address. It was a revision of her general State of the State address in which she outlined goals and accomplishments in working with tribes and maintaining partnerships.

Hobbs joined the Inter Tribal Association of Arizona (ITAA) as it hosted state tribal leaders including Gila River Indian Community's Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Lt. Gov. Regina Antone at the Heard Museum's Steele Auditorium in Phoenix.

Recapping the ways her office has broadened relations with tribes, Hobbs noted that the Governor's



Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs shares her State of the State address before state Tribal leaders on Jan 10. Miyana Manus/CPAO

Office on Tribal Relations previously had only one staff member. On day one of her administration, she said, she expanded staff, brought on tribal members and began to revitalize the office.

"The Governor's Of-

ice of Tribal Relations has already transformed the state's relationship with all of you and it's critical that we are able to keep this momentum going," she stated.

Also, during last year's Indian Nations & Tribes Legislative Day, she invit-

ed tribal leaders to the Executive Tower at the State Capitol. Many of those leaders had never been invited to the governor's office, she recalled, despite serving their communities for many years.

"You have my word,

for as long as I am governor, you will always be welcome on the ninth floor," Hobbs stated. She added, "While my door is certainly always open, I know how important it is to meet with each of you in your communities."

She also discussed topics crucial to tribes including education, public safety, transportation, broadband internet services, housing and water.

Hobbs emphasized that the state recently has seen the most impactful water negotiations in years, adding, "It's also why I have made sure tribes will continue to have a seat at the table as we navigate the future."

Last year, Hobbs appointed Gov. Lewis, Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel, Colorado River Indian Tribes Chairwoman Ame-

lia Flores, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona Executive Director Maria Dadgar and Navajo Nation Legal Counsel Bidtah Becker to her Water Policy Council.

She said their perspectives were key to ensuring that the council's proposals took tribal needs into account.

The Hobbs administration also resumed water settlement discussions and put an end to prohibiting tribes from putting lands into trust.

She added, "I will continue working with everybody: farmers and agriculturalists, urban and rural communities, local and regional entities, and the leaders here in this room today to find the solutions we need to ensure our water is secure tomorrow and for the future."



Hundreds attend the 29th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day at the State Capitol on Jan. 10. Miyana Manus/CPAO



Lt. Gov. Regina Antone and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis on Jan. 10 Emma Hughes/GRIN

From the Front Page

dent Warren Petersen highlighted the importance of the state and tribes working together as well, particularly on water conservation and the "tremendous growth of the tribal gaming industry and its positive impact on our state's economy."

Petersen also touched on state spending priorities lawmakers expect to tackle. "This year, the legislature will continue to work to provide much-needed inflation relief, help increase healthcare workers in Arizona to meet the growing demand of medical and healthcare needs for our citizens," Peterson stated, "and we're going to ensure that taxpayer dollars dedicated to transportation are allocated efficiently towards the roads and infra-

structure that you rely on." Gov. Lewis spoke about the need for tribes to be involved with critical issues in the state. "We have a seat at the table when it's important," he said.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier, Hualapai Tribe Chairwoman Sherry Parker, and Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel gave a tribal nations' address during the session.

They also emphasized that one of the biggest concerns for tribes is the devastating fraudulent sober living home scandals happening throughout the state and nation and the rippling impacts it has on tribal communities.

"This particular issue is an example where tribal leadership must also challenge itself to improve and to provide services to lessen the impact of these kinds

of circumstances," said Harvier. "I look forward to working with the legislature to clarify any laws that can be part of a permanent solution."

UNITY Ambassador Evelyn Enos, who attended for the first time, said, "I've never been inside the State Capitol, nor in the House of Representatives let alone on the [House] floor, so I was hoping to just be able to see and hear what the tribal leaders were going to say about new projects, current issues and initiatives being discussed."

Enos was invited to sit with State Rep. Teresa Martinez and Gov. Lewis. She shared that one highlight was the touching story Chairman Miguel told during his address about how Indigenous youth today still struggle to find and accept their identity.

Following the session, United National Indian

Tribal Youth (UNITY) presented a youth workshop.

Enos stated, "As a GRIC youth who is doing my part in helping to uplift other youth in the Commu-

nity, I can't find a better way to do that than by going out and meeting people who are as excited and passionate as I am to share resources and partner up to

get these materials out into the community, bettering our generation one step at a time."



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and UNITY Earth Ambassador Evelyn Enos in the House of Representatives on Jan. 10. Miyana Manus/CPAO

U.S. Department of Energy Announces \$562 Million for States and Tribes to Strengthen and Modernize America’s Power Grid

Allocation request and applications now being accepted for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law’s Fiscal Year 2024 Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grants



Press Release
GRID Deployment Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. — on Jan. 18, the U.S. Department of Energy released the Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grant fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Administrative and Legal Requirements Document (ALRD) to open the allocation request and application period for fiscal year 2024 (FY24) grant funding. Supported by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and administered by GDO, these grants help modernize the electric grid to reduce the impacts of climate-driven extreme

weather and natural disasters while also ensuring the reliability of the power sector. As of January 2024, DOE has awarded a total of more than \$772 million in FY22/23 grants to 52 participating states and territories and 103 tribal entities, to boost clean electricity, decrease energy costs, and keep the lights on for millions of Americans across the country. Now, an additional \$562 million in funding is available through FY24 grants. Applicants have until April 17, 2024, to request FY 24 grant funds.

“Every community deserves a strong and reliable energy grid that can deploy

cleaner, affordable power to homes and businesses,” said Maria Robinson, Director, Grid Deployment Office, U.S. Department of Energy. “Thanks to the transformative investments in grid infrastructure from President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we can help protect our main streets and downtowns during extreme weather events, while creating good-paying jobs in the process.”

Over five years, the Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grants will distribute \$2.3 billion to states, territories, and federally recognized Indian tribes, including Alaska

Native Regional Corporations and Alaska Native Village Corporations, based on a formula that includes factors such as population size, land area, probability and severity of disruptive events, and a locality’s historical expenditures on mitigation efforts. The states, territories, and Indian tribes will then award these funds to eligible entities to complete a diverse set of projects, with priority given to efforts that generate the greatest community benefit while providing clean, affordable, and reliable energy. This approach allows for the greatest flexibility to provide tailored solutions for each grant recipient.

A full list of current grant recipients, as well as highlights on how they intend to deploy their funds is available online. FY22/23 grants will continue to be awarded on a rolling basis until all applicants have received their

awards. The process of requesting FY24 allocations depends on an applicant’s current status in the program.

- Existing Grant Recipients that have already received grants for FY22/23 will have 90 days from the issuance of the ALRD amendment to request FY24 allocations.

- Current Grant Applicants that previously submitted a grant application for FY22/23 but have not yet received their grant at the time the ALRD amendment is issued, will have 90 days from the issuance of the ALRD amendment to amend their previously submitted grant application to include the FY24 allocations.

- New Grant Applicants are eligible applicants that did not submit a grant application for FY22/23 will have 90 days from the issuance of the ALRD

amendment to submit a grant application for FY24 allocations. Several one-time actions must be completed before an application can be submitted. Applicants are encouraged to address these items as soon as possible, as some may take several weeks to complete.

The allocation requests and applications are due by 11:59 pm ET on April 17, 2024. Specific state and tribal grant allocation amounts were published in December 2023. A number of application resources are available, including guidance documents, application templates, and an application completion tutorial video.

A public webinar will be held from 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM ET on February 1, 2024. Registration is required.

Learn more at the Grid Deployment Office website.

INFORM | ENGAGE | INSPIRE

“O’OTHAM & PEE-POSH UNITY”



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
2024 INAUGURATION

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Announcements & Notices

GRIC COURT NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF, Petitioner/ Plaintiff

MARGARET ROBLES
Case Number: PB-2023-0038-DE
CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING
TO: Manuel Hernandez

Please take notice that a **Review Hearing** has been scheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

This matter has been scheduled at the place and time set forth below:

Monday, February 12, 2024 at 2:00 PM in Courtroom VII, Westend Judicial Center, 4751 West Pecos Road, Laveen, AZ.

Dated this 3rd day of January, 2024.

GRIC COURT NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
 In Re Case: **Eugene Meza vs. Whispering Wind Walker**
 Docket Number: **FM-2023-0049-PT**
 This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR, your hearing may be held in absentia and a warrant may be issued for your arrest, forfeiture of your bond, judgment in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered.

Review Hearing
Westend Judicial Center,
4751 West Pecos Road,
Laveen, AZ 85339

6th day of May, 2024 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom VII before the Honorable No Judge

GRIC COURT NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
 SHAWN ANDREW CARRA Petitioner/Plaintiff VS. MARLEE JEAN HOWARD Respondent/Defendant
Case Number: FM-2023-0067-PT
SUMMONS Civil Division
TO: Marlee Jean Howard
 P.O. Box 1336, Sacaton, AZ, 85147

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:

Monday, March 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.

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

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

Dated this 8th day January, 2024

GRIC ORDER OF PROTECTION

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY STATE OF ARIZONA

Order of Protection
 Case No. **CV-2024-0005-OP**
 County: PINAL/MARICOPA State: AZ

PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF:
MARGARET VICKIE JOHNSON
 Date of Birth: 03/19/1965

VS.

RESPONDENT
MALACHE RED CLOUD CASE
 Relationship to Petitioner: Nephew

Section 2265). Federal law provides penalties for possessing, transporting, shipping, or receiving any firearm or ammunition (18 U.S.C. Section 922(g) (8)). Only the Court, in writing, can change this order.

THE COURT FURTHER ORDERS:
RESIDENCE: The Petitioner is granted exclusive use and possession of the residence listed below.
CUSTODY OF MINOR CHILDREN: The Petitioner is granted custody of the minor children: _____
DEBTS: The Respondent shall pay the following debts: _____
PROPERTY: The Petitioner is granted possession of the following property: _____

PROTECTED LOCATIONS: Respondent shall not go to or near the Petitioner's or other Protected Person's:
RESIDENCE: 240 Gila Buttes Circle
WORKPLACE: _____
SCHOOL/OTHER: _____
OTHER ORDERS: _____

WARNING - See Gila River Indian Community Code Section 5.711(F)(13).

This is an official Court order. If you disobey this order, you will be subject to arrest and prosecution for disobeying this order and any other crime you may have committed in disobeying this order. A copy of this order will be registered with the Gila River Police Department. See Gila River Indian Community Code Section 5.711 (G)(2).

ADDITIONAL WARNING TO RESPONDENT: Violations of this order should be reported to a law enforcement agency, not the Court. Nothing the Petitioner does can change or undo this order without the Court's written approval. You must appear in Court to ask a judge to modify (change) or quash (dismiss) this order. Even if the Petitioner initiates contact, you could be arrested and prosecuted for violating this order. If you do not want the Petitioner to contact you, you have the right to request a Order of Protection against the Petitioner. However, orders are not automatically granted upon request.

January 8, 2024
 Date

Darren Pedro Martinez
 Judge's Printed Name

DOB: 12/22/99	SEX: Male	SSN:	RACE:
EYES: Brown	HAIR: Black	HT: 509	WT: 150

DRIVERS LICENSE #: D1008742	STATE: AZ	EXP DATE:
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THE COURT HEREBY FINDS:
 That is has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter.
 There is reasonable cause to believe that the Respondent may commit an act of domestic violence or has committed an act of domestic violence.
 Additional findings of this order are as set forth below.

THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS:
 That the above named Respondent be restrained from committing further acts of abuse or threats of abuse.

That the names Respondent be restrained from any contact (in person, by phone, in writing, by electronic mail or social media, fax or through unauthorized third parties) with the Petitioner.

Additional terms of this order are set forth below.
The terms of this Order shall be effective until January 6, 2025

WARNINGS TO RESPONDENT:
 This order shall be enforced, even without registration, by the courts of any state, the District of Columbia, any U.S. Territory, and may be enforced on Tribal Lands (18 U.S.C. Section 2265), Crossing state, territorial, or tribal boundaries to violate this order may result in federal imprisonment (18 U.S.C.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT:

- FACE Co-Teacher (1) – Starting @ \$17.14
- Parent Educator (2) – DOE
- Desktop Specialist (1) – Starting @ \$18.19 (All positions are open until filled)
- Parent Liaison (1) – DOE
- Instructional Assistants (10) – Starting @ \$17.14
- Bus Monitor (1) – Starting @ \$15.22
- Elementary Teachers (3) – DOE
- Interventionist (Math & Reading) (1) - DOE
- Science Teacher (1) – DOE
- Cultural Specialist-Part-time (2) - DOE

BONUS:

- Sign-On Bonus of \$2,000 (prorated)
- Hard-to-Fill Bonus of \$4,000 (may apply to some positions)

School Information:

Casa Blanca Community School is located in District 5 in Bapchule, Arizona a few miles from Interstate 10 and 25 miles south of Phoenix Metropolitan Area (15–20-minute drive). Our district is located on the Gila River Indian Reservation south of Chandler, Arizona.

How to apply:

For more information and online application please visit: www.cbcschools.com

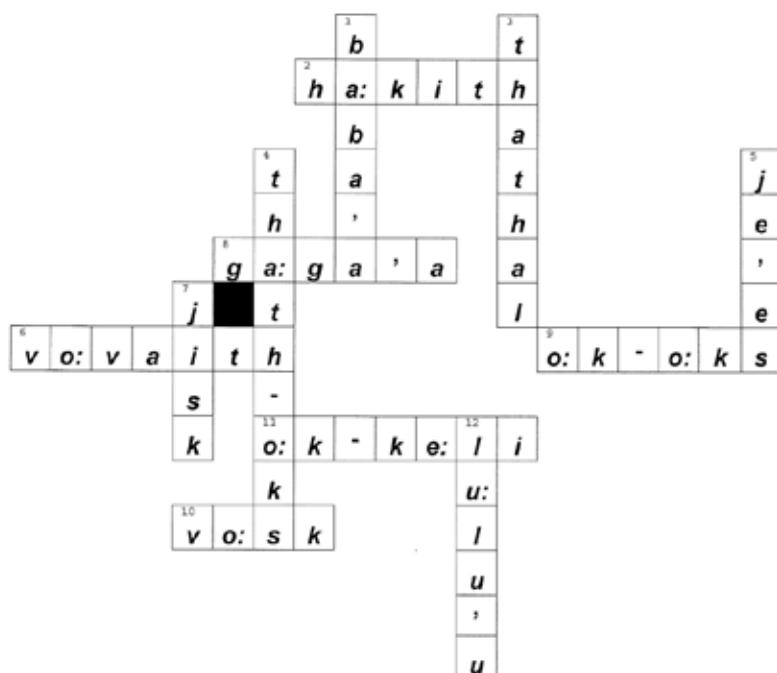
Contact Information & School Location:

For additional information regarding a position, contact the Human Resources Office at (520) 315-3489 ext. 2531. Casa Blanca Community School is located at 5297 West Nelson Road, Bapchule, Arizona.



Updated 01/08/2024

I:mik II Crossword Puzzle 2024 SOLUTION!



FOOD HANDLER AWARENESS TRAINING

ON JULY 18, 2022 THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY ADOPTED THE 2009 FDA MODEL FOOD CODE, ANNEX, AND SUPPLEMENT THIS TRAINING COURSE IS DESIGNED AND REFERENCES THIS CODE

BASIC LEVEL CLASSROOM TRAINING FOOD HANDLER AWARENESS (FHA)

2.5 hour long course • Certificate of Training Upon Completion

In-Person Classes on a First Come First Serve Basis

LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE PER CLASS

Doors will close 15 minutes after class has begun.

1st Wednesday of each month from 9:00am -11:30am

3rd Wednesday of each month from 1:00pm - 3:30pm

District 3 Tribal Health Department Building • 433 W. Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ

FHA Scope: The Food Handler Awareness training is locally designed to be about 2 ½ hour introductory instruction to food safety. This training provides individuals with overview of foodborne illness and contamination, receiving, storing, preparing and serving food, personal hygiene, cleaning and sanitation, and pest prevention. A food handler is defined as any person employed in a food premise, who at any time may be involved in the manufacturing, preparation, packing or service of food for sale.

For More Info or Questions
 Please Call GRIC THD:
(520) 562 - 5100



****NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT****

RESIDENT NON-MEMBER REGISTRATION

DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2024

The Community's Residency Ordinance requires all adults (18 years of age and older) who are not enrolled members of the Gila River Indian Community, but who reside within the boundaries of the Community to register their residency.

- ✓ All non-member residents 18 years of age and older who reside within the boundaries of the Community must register their residency with the Enrollment Department by January 31st each year.
- ✓ Previously registered non-member residents will receive a renewal form by mail. All other non-member residents should contact the Enrollment Department.
- ✓ The Registration Form maybe submitted in person at the Enrollment Office, a photo ID is required.
- ✓ Registration Forms can be submitted by email, fax or mail. Notary required.



Contact Information:

Mailing Address:
PO Box 97
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Physical Address:
525 W Gu U Ki
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Phone: (520) 562-9790 | Fax: (520) 562-8103
Email: enrollment.dept@gric.nsn.us

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • Dec. 20, 2023

ACTION SHEET

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, December 20, 2023, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:10 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Nada Celaya

ROLL CALL

Standing Committee Assistant Lisa Hendricks called the roll

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2- Ann Lucas; D3- Joseph Manuel, Jr.; D4- Christopher Mendoza, Jennifer Allison, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5- Franklin Pablo, Sr., Brian Davis, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans(9:10); D7- Devin Redbird

Executive Officers Present Via WebEx:

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present Via WebEx:

D5- James De La Rosa

Council Members Absent:

D3- Avery White (Medical)

D5- Gordon Santos, Jr. (Illness)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ADD AND ACCEPT THE MATERIAL FOR A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TENTH GENERAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENT TO ADULT GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS FROM AVAILABLE COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDS UNDER RESOLUTION #9 AND TO ADD THE MATERIAL AND TO BE CONSIDERED AS A CONSENT ITEM

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORTS #5 AND #18 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1, #2, #4, #7, #11 THROUGH #17, #19, #20, #21, ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #5 THROUGH #9 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED AND TO INCLUDE AND ACCEPT THE ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FOR NEW BUSINESS #6

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS

>1. Boys & Girls Club – 4th Quarter Report 2023

Presenters: Jason Jones, Mark Clavell, Soyet Antone, Tamara Peters

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>2. FY2023 Fourth Quarter Report for Four Rivers Indian Legal Services

Presenter: Sarah Youngblood

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. FY2023 Agriculture Report

Presenters: Erika Hernandez, Laurie Thomas

REPORT HEARD

>4. Executive Travel Report ending September 30, 2023

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>5. Gila River Health Care Tobacco Tax Grant FY23 Annual Report (Oct. 1, 2022-Sept. 30, 2023)

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, GRHC Executive Leadership

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>6. Gila River Indian Irrigation and Drainage District – FY 2023 Annual Report (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

Presenter: Ronald Allison

REPORT HEARD

>7. Department of Land Use Planning and Zoning – FY2023 Annual Report (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

Presenter: Kimberly Cooper

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

8. Enrollment-Census Department-FY2023 Annual Report (October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

REPORT HEARD

9. Office of the Prosecutor FY2023 Annual Report

Presenter: Curtis Slatina

REPORT HEARD

10. Office of Emergency Management FY2023 Annual Report (October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023)

Presenter: Bruce Harvey

REPORT HEARD

>11. Sacaton Elementary School Annual Report for SY 2022-2023

Presenters: Stephanie Celis, Robert Lewandowski, Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>12. Sacaton Middle School Annual Report for SY2022-2023

Presenters: Don Schopp, Robert Lewandowski, Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>13. Tribal Education Department FY2023 Annual Report October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Presenters: Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>14. K-12 Program FY2023 Annual Report October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Presenters: Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>15. Child Development and Education Support Services FY2023 Annual Report October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Presenters: Tamara Thompson, Lance Reyna, Anthony Gray

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>16. Culture & Language Program FY2023 Annual Report October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Presenters: Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>17. Ira Hayes Library FY2023 Annual Report October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Presenters: Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>18. Employment & Training and TERO FY2023 Annual Report October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Presenters: Lana Chanda, Dyron James, Michael Preston

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>19. Accessing Choices in Education (ACE) FY2023 Annual Report-October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

Presenters: Arlanna Jackson, Lance Reyna, Anthony Gray

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>20. Huhugam Heritage Center – FY 2023 Annual Report (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

Presenters: Shirley Jackson, Michael Preston

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

DA

>21. Cultural Resource Management Program – FY2023 Annual Report (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

Presenters: Kyle Woodson, Michael Preston

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

22. FY2024 Financial Activity Report ending November 30, 2023 (Executive Session) Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Approving The Submission Of Year Two Of The Five Year Grant Application To The United States Department Of Health And Human Services, Administration For Children And Families, Office Of Head Start, American Indian And Alaska Native Programs For Renewed Funding For The Gila River Indian Community Head Start/Early Head Start Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with corrections to the attachments)

Presenter: Michael Preston

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Gila River Indian Community Head Start/Early Head Start Program To Submit Year One Of The Five Year Grant Application To The United States Department Of Health And Human Services, Administration For Children And Families, Office Of Head Start, American Indian Alaska Native Programs For The Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Grant (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with corrections to the attachments)

Presenter: Michael Preston

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving Membership Of The Gila River Indian Community In The Indian Gaming Association For Calendar Year 2024 And Authorizing Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) For The Community's Annual Dues (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Shannon White

APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving And Ratifying The Construction Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Alcom Construction Arizona, Inc. To Construct The Sacaton Market (EDSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Casaundra Wallace

APPROVED

>5. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing Amendment #1 To The Agreement (C7431) Between The Gila River Indian Community And Keller-Bliesner Engineering, LLC Fiscal Year 2024 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)

Presenter: Javier G. Ramos

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>6. A Resolution Amending Resolution GR-010-20 And Approving An Amendment To The Amended Articles Of Incorporation Of The Pima Leasing & Financing Corporation And Approving An Increase In The Indebtedness And Liability Of Pima Leasing & Financing Corporation (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenter: Teresa Mandelin

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>7. A Resolution Authorizing The Application For, Receipt Of, And Administration Of The Tribal Electrification Program And Approving

Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority's Proposed Lone Butte Solar Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenters: Ken Stock, Arnold Mejia

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

>8. A Resolution Approving The Third Amendment To The Gila River Indian Community Governmental 401(K) Plan Effective January 1, 2024 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval, adding Catherine Langford as a presenter, and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Catherine Langford

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

>9. A Resolution Authorizing A Tenth General Assistance Payment To Adult Gila River Indian Community Members From Available COVID-19 Relief Funds (G&MSC forwards to Council on December 20, 2023 with a recommendation for approval with amendments)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ORDINANCES

1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby Amends The Gila River Indian Community Code By Rescinding GR-06-16, Gaming Ordinance, And Enacting The Revised Gaming Ordinance, Title 22, Chapters 1-12 (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Gaming Commission, M. Scott Sanderson, Lydia R. Acosta

APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. FY2023 Annual Performance Report (APR) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept)

Presenter: Derwin Cooper

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

2. GRICUA FY24 and Beyond Presentation (EDSC forwards to Council with recommendation to hold a Special Council

Meeting in executive session on January 22, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.)

Presenter: Ken Stock

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON JANUARY 22, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.

3. Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Services Mental Health First Aid Training Request from Gila River Indian Community Tribal Council (H&SSC forwards to Council with recommendation to schedule the training on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Conference Room B & C of the Council Secretary's Office)

Presenters: Jaimee Lee, Anna Pacheco, Priscilla Foote, Dr. Anthony Santiago

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO HAVE THE GILARIVER HEALTH CARE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. IN CONFERENCE ROOM B & C OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY'S OFFICE

4. Sacaton Elementary School Tribal Education Allocation Written Plan for School Year 2023-2024(ESC motioned to forward to Council with a recommendation for approval under

Continued on next page

Action Sheets Cont.

New Business)

Presenters: Stephanie Celis, Robert Lewandowski, Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE SACATON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TRIBAL EDUCATION ALLOCATION WRITTEN PLAN FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024

5. Sacaton Middle School Tribal Education Allocation Written Plan for School Year 2023-2024 (ESC motioned to forward to Council with a recommendation for approval under New Business)

Presenters: Don Schopp, Robert Lewandowski, Anthony Gray, Lance Reyna

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE SACATON MIDDLE SCHOOL TRIBAL EDUCATION ALLOCATION WRITTEN PLAN FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024 GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:17 A.M.

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

6. WHPDA Infrastructure Update and Concerns (Executive Session) (EDSC forwards to Council in executive session under New Business) Presenter: Paul Vanderveen

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

MOTION MADE AND SECOND THAT ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED COME BACK TO THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL IN 30 DAYS WITH A RESOLUTION OR SOLUTION THAT WOULD INCLUDE ANY COSTS, THE MOU IN QUESTION, ANY POTENTIAL VENDORS OR CONTRACTS, AND OR ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WOULD HELP TO ADDRESS THIS MATTER

MINUTES

1. November 15, 2023 (Regular)

APPROVED

2. December 6, 2023 (Regular)

APPROVED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• LITIGATION TEAM MEETING, THURSDAY DECEMBER 28, 2023 AT 2:00 P.M.

• OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON, TOMORROW AT 11:30 AT SIVLIK GRILL, THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

• VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS PROVIDED WORDS OF WELL WISHES TO LT. GOVERNOR MONICA ANTONE AS HER TENURE AS LT. GOVERNOR

• HEALTH & SOCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE WORK SESSION, THURSDAY DECEMBER 21, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M. ON PRIORITIES

• HEALTH & SOCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING, FRIDAY DECEMBER 22, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M. ON OPIOID PERMISSIBLE USE

• LT. GOVERNOR ANTONE THANKS EVERYONE FOR THE KIND WORDS

• GILA RIVER GAMING ENTERPRISES LUNCHEON FOR LT. GOVERNOR ON DECEMBER 29, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M. AT SANTAN MOUNTAIN CASINO

• RIGHT OF WAY NEGOTIATION TEAM MEETING, THURSDAY DECEMBER 21, 2023 AT 11:00 A.M. VIA WEBEX

• CULTURAL RESOURCE STANDING COMMITTEE WORK SESSION, FRIDAY DECEMBER 22, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:37 P.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

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