

# GRIN



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GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS | www.GRICNEWS.org

## Officer Involved Shooting shakes Gila River Indian Community

"Our Community government has come together to begin to craft a path forward and has already taken steps to protect public safety here on Community land," Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis

#### **Press Release**

Communications & Public Affairs Office

A Gila River Police Department (GRPD) officer and a 22-year-old Community member were killed on Saturday, June 1, after gunfire erupted outside a dance at a home in Santan, District 4. A second police officer and three Community members were wounded in the early morning incident, according to police.

Gila River Public Safety Dispatch received a call reporting a disturbance at about 2 a.m. Saturday, according to GRPD. As the responding officers worked to calm the disturbance, which involved a large crowd, multiple gunshots were fired. Six people were struck by gunfire, with two of the wounded succumbing to their injuries.

Officer Joshua Briese, 23, became the first sworn GRPD officer killed in the line of the duty, according to the department. Briese had been with GRPD less than a year and was still completing field training.

Alicen Apkaw, 22, a Community member and an employee of the Gila River Resorts & Casinos – Santan Mountain, also died after being shot.

"I know I speak for our entire Community when I say that we grieve for our fallen and injured police officers and every Community member touched by such

tragic violence," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. "Nothing cuts deeper than a life cut short. We will pray for our officers and their families, and for every Community member, every loved one, and every family impacted by what happened."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the GRPD are conducting a joint investigation, according to their statements. The FBI announced on June 2 that two subjects had been arrested in connection with the shootings. The names of the suspects have not been released.

"One is an adult and the other is a juvenile," the FBI statement explained. "Both are males and both are receiving medical care from injuries they received during yesterday's shooting."

Within hours of the shooting, the Gila River Community Council met in a special meeting, voting 17-0 to declare a moratorium on all permitted and non-permitted dances within the Community. Violators will be subject to a fine of up to \$5,000 for dances that do not result in bodily injury and up to \$10,000 for violations that result in bodily injury. Violators may also face criminal trespass charges, the loss of their residence, and the loss of their lease and Residential Housing Improvement Program housing.

Officer Briese was the son of a Yellowstone County, Montana, deputy sheriff, David Briese. On November 3, 2006, David Briese was killed in a car crash outside Billings on his way to back-up another deputy handling a DUI suspect, according to Yellowstone County officials. Joshua Briese was six years old at the time.

"All we can say is God Speed and rest easy," the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office said in a statement. "Knowing Dave and Josh are together again, both left this world serving their community and doing what they loved."

At press time, the injured GRPD officer's name had not been released. The officer was listed in serious but stable condition after surgery for his injuries, according to GRPD. The names and conditions of the injured Community members have not been released.

In previous years, two Community members who worked in law enforcement - Sgt. Kevin Lewis with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Armando Reyes, Jr., a GRPD recruit – lost their lives while on the job. Lewis died in a drowning incident in 1993. Reves suffered cardiac arrest in 2007, while he was in the police acad-

Gov. Lewis spent time with Alicen Apkaw's family at the hospital and spoke to them again by phone.

"From all I have learned about Alicen since her death, she



Joshua Briese, 23, Gila River Police Officer died in the line of duty on June 1. Photo Courtesy of Gila River Police Department

was a beloved daughter and sister, a loyal friend and co-worker, fast to laugh, hard-working, joyous and supportive," said Gov. Lewis. "To lose a young woman like Alicen, in the prime of her life, is a loss I can only describe as devastating."

With the story making national headlines, Gov. Lewis also thanked the many leaders and individuals who reached out to the Community in the wake of the shootings.

"Our Community government has come together to begin to craft a path forward and has already taken steps to protect public safety here on Community land," said Gov. Lewis. "In the meantime, we will be limiting our public engagement on the matter out of respect for our bereaved families and for the investigation that is in progress. Thank you for your continued prayers and support."

# **GRIC's OEM shares Heat and Monsoon Safety Tips**

**Joseph Morales** 

**GRIN Intern** 

The summer season is here, and with it comes the heat and monsoons. There are plenty of things that you can do for yourself and your home to prepare for the summer.

On April 2, The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) held a monsoon meeting for this summer season, which shared tons of information on being prepared in the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC). OEM shared public health concerns with the extreme heat that can cause muscle cramps and dehydration to more severe problems like heatstroke or sudden heart attacks.

Heat in the summer of 2023

had 54 days at 110 degrees or higher and 15 days at 115 degrees and higher. That summer even set a record of 31 straight days of 110 degrees. However, all issues and concerns can be avoided by staying hydrated and being prepared.

According to OEM, District Service Center cooling stations will be active during the summer season and will operate for extended hours if the temperature is 110 degrees or higher. The buildings can provide a place to rest from the harsh elements during the day and provide hydration, and medical attention if needed. Contact your District Service Center for more information

When outside, it is important to drink plenty of water to keep the body hydrated and wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothing. Light foods with high water content, such as strawberries and watermelon, also benefit the body in severe heat.

Signs of heat exhaustion include dizziness, thirst, heavy sweating, nausea, and weakness. In the event of this, move to a cooler area, preferably an air-conditioned room, drink cool water, loosen your clothing, and apply a cool, wet cloth or sit in a cool bath. Seek medical attention if vomitting occurs or if symptoms last longer than an hour.

Heat exhaustion can lead to a heat stroke, which also includes throbbing headache, confusion, dizziness, nausea, hot, red, dry, or damp skin, rapid and strong pulse, fainting, and unconscious-

Be aware of the signs of

dehydration, as they may differ by age. Infants and young children may experience dry mouth, sunken eyes and cheeks, no tears when crying, listlessness, and irritability. Adults may experience extreme thirst, fatigue, dizziness, confusion, less frequent urination as well as dark-colored urine. Seek medical attention if you or someone else becomes disoriented and much sleepier with less activity or has trouble keeping fluids down.

#### Monsoon Season:

Summer brings along the monsoon season, and during last year's season, OEM reported that 25 homes were damaged in District 5 due to high winds and flooding.

Community members should always prepare. Keep supplies on hand such as water, food, radio, flashlight, first aid kit, batteries, tools, medications and other items that can be vital in the event of a shelter in place situation. Also, monitor the Community's social media outlets such as Facebook and Instagram for updates on power outages, shelter locations and other critical information the Community needs in the event of an emergency. GRIC also provides critical information through text messages. To sign up for alerts, text "GRIC" to (520) 485-5040.

The OEM department stores over 4,000 filled sandbags for Community members to reduce damages to residential homes

Continued on Page 4

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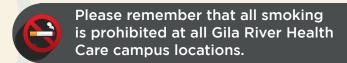
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grhc.org



# **TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024** 10 am - 2 pm

District 7 Multipurpose Building

#### FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS **AND DEMONSTRATIONS:**

· Optometry

· Life Center

· Dental

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- · Women's Health · Foot Health
- **Awareness** 
  - · Dry Needling Demo
  - · Cooking Demo
  - · Health Insurance **Assistance**

#### An Effort to Raise Health and Wellness

For more information, please contact District 7 Recreation at (520) 430-4780.



As the hot Arizona summer is fast approaching, did you know... That sugary drinks can cause **Diabetes?** 



RESEARCH HAS ALSO SHOWN THAT DRINKING SUGARY DRINKS IS LINKED TO TYPE 2 DIABETES.

The American Diabetes Association recommends avoiding sugar-sweetened beverages and switching to water whenever possible to help prevent type 2 diabetes. Sugary drinks also raise blood glucose (blood sugar) and can provide several hundred calories in just one serving.

Just one 12-ounce regular soda has about 150 calories and 40 grams of sugar, a carbohydrate (carb). This is the same as ten teaspoons of sugar. Sugarsweetened beverages include regular soda, fruit punch, fruit drinks,

> energy drinks, sports drinks, sweet tea, sweetened coffee drinks, and other sugary drinks.

If you're looking for alternatives to sugary drinks, consider electrolyte replacement drinks, flavored water with no or low sugar, or those with zero calories.

For more information, please stop by any of our Life Center locations or call 520-562-3321 Ext. 7940







Access our monthly calendar scan QR code, **orvisit** www.GRHC.org/BHS



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988



Governor

#### **Stephen Roe Lewis**

Lt. Governor Regina Antone

Community Council Representatives

> District 1 Arzie Hogg Joey Whitman

District 2 Ann M. Lucas

District 3 Avery White Joseph Manuel Jr.

District 4 Jennifer Allison Lalena Jackson Christopher Mendoza Nada Celaya

District 5

Brian E. Davis, Sr. James De La Rosa Franklin Pablo Sr. Gordon Santos Jr.

District 6

Anthony Villareal, Sr. Terrance B. Evans Charles Goldtooth

District 7

Gary Mix, Tribal Treasurer Shannon White, Community Council Secretary

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# GRIC's 'Solar Over Canal' Project sets first Solar Panels

Gila River Indian Community

On May 22, the Gila River Indian Community took another step forward on a pioneering clean energy project, placing the first solar panels for the GRIC "solar over canal" project, which will help tackle two critical challenges: clean energy production and water conservation.

The Community is the first entity in the Western Hemisphere to place solar panels over a canal. An integral component of Gila River Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis' "Blue-Green Economy," the Solar-Over-Casa Blanca Canal project will conserve water by reducing evaporation, improve water quality by limiting aquatic growth in the canal, generate clean renewable energy in the most efficient manner possible, and demonstrate a commitment to caring for sacred land by wisely utilizing it for multiple purposes.

With an estimated cost of \$6.744 million for Phase I, the project - built in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – is projected to produce approximately 1 MW of renewable energy. This energy output not only serves to offset the energy needs and costs for tribal farmers but also underscores GRIC's commitment to a future powered



Solar panels are installed over the Casa Blanca Canal on May 22. Emma Hughes/GRIN

by clean, sustainable sources.

At its core, this project represents a proactive response to the looming drought crisis gripping the Colorado River Basin. By covering the canal with solar panels, GRIC not only harnesses clean, renewable energy but also mitigates water evaporation—a significant concern in arid regions. This innovative approach aligns with broader efforts by the Biden Administration to support new solutions to combat the drought crisis, with backing from

federal agencies such as the Bureau of Reclamation and Con-

Looking ahead, GRIC aims to expand the project beyond its initial phase, demonstrating the scalability and effectiveness of this innovative approach - and ultimately reaching the Community's goal of using 100% renewable energy. The long-term

vision includes covering additional miles of the Community's irrigation system, reinforcing GRIC's position as a trailblazer in sustainable resource management. As Governor Stephen Roe Lewis emphasizes, this initiative underscores GRIC's dedication to stewardship and innovation in safeguarding its natural resources for future generations.



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis during the solar panel installation on May 22. Emma Hughes/GRIN



L-R: GRIC Council Rep. Frank Pablo, Council Rep. Brian Davis, Council Rep. Gordon Santos Jr., Jr. Miss Gila River Shayla Davis, Miss Gila River Susanna Osife, and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. Emma Hughes/GRIN



The state primary elections allow you to select your preferred candidate for the upcoming general election (November 2024) at the Federal (U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative) State (State Senator, State Representatives) County (County Supervisor) and City (Mayor, City/Town Council) levels.



**GRIC MEMBERS** REGISTER HERE \*INCLUDES REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION\*\*



VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION



# 2024 Women in Tribal Gaming Symposium held at Wild Horse Pass

Gila River Indian News

The seventh annual Tribal Gaming Protection Network (TGPN) Women in Tribal Gaming Symposium was held at Gila River Resorts & Casinos - Wild Horse Pass on May 22 - 23.

"TGPN is pleased to offer our continuing support to the Women in Tribal Gaming Symposium. Exploring, advancing and building relationships between Indigenous communities to discover mutually beneficial opportunities is something I am passionate about. We could not provide this Symposium without the support of our sponsors," said TGPN Chairwoman Frances Alvarez, in a press release.

The Women in Tribal Gaming Symposium is a gathering of the most professional, innovative and trend-setting tribal government and gaming industry leaders.

Attendees enjoy two days of informative panel discussions, interactive breakout sessions, and simulating networking events, promising to deliver on the TGPN's commitment to support and encourage professional development of colleagues working in tribal gaming while celebrating women and their essential contributions and leadership within the tribal gaming industry.

The symposium's theme this year was "Women Change the Conversation," and featured plenty of workshops and panels, including "Tribal Leadership: Voices of Wisdom" which featured Gila River Indian Community's Lt. Gov. Regina Antone, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Vice-Chair Geneva Mojado, and Alabama – Coushatta Tribe of Texas Vice-Chair Nita Battise. The panel shared the insights, experiences, and strategies from women in tribal leadership.



L-R: Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas Tribal Council Vice-Chair Nita Battise, TGPN Chair Frances Alvarez, Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians Tribal Council Vice-Chair Geneva Mojado, and GRIC Lt. Gov. Regina Antone; Panelists for the 'Tribal Leadership: Voices of Wisdom' during the 2024 Women in Tribal Gaming Symposium. Emma Hughes/GRIN

"I found it very inspirational," said Lt. Gov. Antone. "I really took to their stories, their commitment, and realized how far Gila River has come with female leadership."

This conference is attended by casino professionals, gaming regulators, tribal government officials, industry leaders, gaming

industry providers, educators, and those who want to learn industry best practices from the most influential women in tribal gaming.

For more informa-

tion, visit their website tgpnwomenintribalgaming.

## Two in Custody in Gila River Indian **Community Officer-Involved Shooting**



#### **Press Release**

Federal Bureau of Investigation Phoenix Field

Phoenix, Ariz. - The FBI's Phoenix Field Office and Gila River Police Department along with other law enforcement partners continue their investigation of the officer-involved shooting that occurred in

District 4 of the Gila River Indian Community during the early morning hours of Saturday June 1. Gila River Police Officer Josh Briese and a bystander were killed, and another police officer was wounded.

Two subjects have been identified and were taken into custody yesterday. One is an adult and the other is a juvenile. Both are males and both are receiving medical care from injuries they received during the shooting.

While the FBI does not comment on operational specifics, the FBI and Gila River PD are conducting interviews, gathering evi-

dence, sharing information, and collectively working to identify all angles of the investigation. There is a widely variable pace to investigations given the need for methodical and thorough evidence-gathering.

Once the FBI's case is complete, it will be handed over to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona for a charging decision.

Department of Justice guidelines do not allow for investigative updates. As in any given matter, if/when charges are filed, they will eventually become a matter of public record.



#### HEAT **AWARENESS**

presented by Office of Emergency Management

#### Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated, & Stay Informed



Limit midday outdoor

activities.

Stay in a cool, indoor

environment

Check on elders friends and

neighbors

Check the news for heat

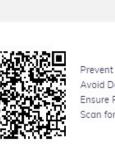
updates-

Text GRIC to 520-485-5040

for community alerts



Prevent Heat Stress Avoid Dehydration Ensure Physical Safety Scan for more heat related information



From the

Front Page

in the event of monsoon

storms and prevent flood-

ing. OEM continues to

prepare their emergency

equipment for response and

storm, it is very important

to conduct an assessment

in and around your home

checking for severe dam-

ages to drywall, roof, AC,

windows etc. Contact you

District Service Center and

In addition, after a

recovery efforts.

report all storm damages.

It is essential to conduct preventive measures on your home. Regularly changing air filters, keeping blinds shut, and working the A/C all help to keep a home cool. Other helpful tips include focusing on cooling one or two rooms rather than the entire house. During the evening, fans, along with light bedding options, can help make sleeping more comfortable and less hot.

The summer can bring many challenges, so it is crucial to be prepared and

aware of the available resources. The Gila River Indian Community Office of Emergency Management is one of many departments that can help prepare you for the upcoming summer and monsoon season. For more information, contact OEM at (520) 796-3755.

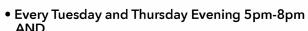
Additional resources can be found on their website, which offers tons of safety tips and information on the summer season: https://www.gricready.org/ index.php/emergency-management.

# AKIMEL O'OTHAM WEAVERS CIRCL

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GRIC and SRPMIC Partnership (enrolled members) Female and Male Welcome Ages from 16 and up (underage must have adult present) Commitment to Classes

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# FINESS & WELLNE

#### Tribal Recreation and Wellness Hosts Fitness For GRIC Employees

Velia Moncada

Gila River Indian News

The Tribal Recreation and Wellness (TRW) Department hosted its annual Employee Health and Fitness Week (EHFW) from May 13 to 17. The event, held at the Sacaton Fairgrounds and the District 4 gymnasium, aimed to promote well-being among tribal employees through physical activities.

The week's activities included Big Ball Volley-Cornhole/Chicken Throw, 3-Point Shootout Basketball, Tug of War, a Firefighter Challenge and more. The event encouraged both individual and



Employees compete in the tug-of-war challenge. Photo Courtesy of Tribal Recreation and Wellness

group participation, fostering a culture of health and

wellness across the Com-

"The activities we had, we went off what people liked last year," said firsttime EHFW coordinator Tristan Natinai, a TRW Fitness Instructor from District 3. Natinai noted that Chicken Scratch dancing was a new addition to this year's tournament games.

Amber Moristo from District 6, representing the Procurement Warehouse Department, highlighted the Firefighter Challenge as her favorite activity, because she was able to challenge herself and bond with her co-workers.

"My team works pretty well together. It was a nice experience to be a part of a community event," Moristo said in an interview.

The week concluded with a barbecue lunch for the EHFW participants at the Sacaton Fairgrounds. Awards were given to those who excelled in the com-



Participants compete in the 'firefighter challenge.' Photo Courtesy of Tribal Recreation and Wellness



Amber Moristo earns an award for the the tug-of-war challenge. Velia Moncada/GRIN

petitions, both individually and as department teams.

For more information about the Tribal Recreation

and Wellness department, please contact wellness. center@gric.nsn.us (520)562-2026.

#### Participants receive T-shirts for their participation in the week's events. Velia Moncada/GRIN

# TRW hosts First All-Native Youth Soccer League

Submitted by

Tribal Recreation and Wellness

The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Recreation and Wellness Program recently made history by hosting the first all Native American youth soccer league in the area. With over 200 participants ranging from ages 3-15 years old, the league is focused on developing the fundamentals of soccer and fostering a love for the game among Native American youth.

In addition to teaching soccer skills, the league also prioritizes mental health and physical activity. Participants are encouraged

to stay active and engage in healthy behaviors. Players received a jersey, shorts, shin guards, and socks on the first day of the league.

Overall, the combination of physical activity, social interaction, and the release of natural chemicals in the brain through sports can play a significant role in regulating mood and behavior and promoting overall mental well-being. The soccer league has eight Tot Ball Soccer teams, six 6U Ball Soccer teams, four 8U Ball Soccer teams, four 10U Ball Soccer teams. and three 15U Ball Soccer teams. Fun fact: The soccer league team names reflect the names of the communities Elder Chair Volleyball

Tribal Recreation and Wellness, organizers of the league, hope to provide a positive and supportive environment for Native American youth to come together, learn new skills, and build lasting friendships through the beautiful game of soccer. The league has already received positive feedback from participants and families, with many expressing excitement and gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of such a groundbreaking initiative. Due to the weather the League will be moving indoors to the District 3 Gymnasium starting Saturday, June 1, 2024



Youth come out for the first soccer league on May 18. Photo Courtesy of Tribal Recreation and Wellness



Photo Courtesy of Tribal Recreation and Wellness



Photo Courtesy of Tribal Recreation and Wellness

# 

"PROUDLY SERVING THE GILA RIVER "PROUDLY SERVING THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY SINCE 1988" TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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# SEASON

TIPS!

Prepare an **Emergency Kit.** 

**Don't** Drive Through **Dust Storms** or Standing Water.

Avoid using electronics during thunderstorm.

Stay safe and embrace the seasonal transition and the nourishing moisture!

Arizona's monsoon season begins in June and continues through September!

# **OUTAGE?**

Keep an eye out for our social media and text alert in-time updates.

for more info or concerns contact us!











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@NativeTechAZ @AlluvionCom

@GilaRiverTV

@DigitalConnectInitiative

# ★ VETERANS ★ ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 honors Fallen Service Members

Joseph Morales

GRIN Intern

Monday, March 27, marked the nation's Memorial Day. Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51 held their annual event in District 1 - Blackwater to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

The day began with a morning run/walk at the District 1 Annex Veterans Hall. Many participants attended, and T-shirts were waiting for them once they crossed the finish line. Following the run/walk, there would be an honoring ceremony for the fallen heroes. A 21-Gun Salute at the same Veterans Hall build-



Gary Anderson, Sr., shares a presentation on GRIC members who were killed in action. Emma Hughes/

ing would honor the fallen and conclude services held there.

The day continued at the district's multi-purpose building, which held an honor ceremony. The Blackwater Community School (BWCS) Color Guard had the honor of opening the event with the posting of the colors. Chaplain Jewel Whitman provided the opening prayer, followed by a welcome speech from the Command-



Photos of fallen service members and veterans were on display in the gymnasium at the District 1 Multipurpose Building. Photo Courtesy of Joseph Morales

er expressing the gratitude and importance of the day.

Pamela Thompson gave the first presentation of the Missing Man Table ceremony. It is a tradition to remind those in attendance of the fallen, missing, and imprisoned U.S. military service members.

The Blackwater Community Church Choir then followed to share songs and prayers for those who had served the Country.

District 1 Gila River Council Representatives Arzie Hogg and Joey Whitman each gave a speech to recognize the importance of Memorial Day and recognizing our veterans, while Council Rep. Whitman shared his own experience serving in the Army—82nd Airborne Division.

The Gila River Royalty Court was also in attendance, with Miss Gila River Susanna Osife, First Attendant Thalia Ayala, and Jr. Miss Gila River Shayla Davis.

Osife and Davis both gave speeches to those in attendance, expressing their honor at having the honor of speaking and recognizing so many people who dedicated their lives to military service.

Gary Anderson, Sr., an Army Special Forces veteran, shared a presentation to recognize the fallen Gila River members. He shared vital information on multiple individuals, sharing their service, sacrifice, and memories for the audience and their families. Two tables were set aside

to display veterans in the Community, where families could bring photos and share information.

Traditional Singers marked the closing segment of the day and set the last piece with the closing prayer and speech by Auxiliary Chaplain Betty Molina, who touched base that, hopefully, in the future, more tables and families would be able to attend and continue honoring veterans.

After all the festivities were over, lunch was provided for the attendees, followed by a closing dance. The event was a success in honoring those who served and sacrificed so much to represent the Country and the Gila River Indian Community.

# Women's Armed Services Integration Act, Army's Birthday, and Flag Day



Submitted by Veteran & Family Services



On June 12, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed into law the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which allowed, for the first time, women to serve as permanent regular members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and the newly formed Air Force.

Prior to this Act, women could enlist as volunteers in clerical positions or as nurses. The exception to this was during WWII when Congress briefly gave the Women's Army Corps full Army status. At the time of the Integration Act, women were also limited to two percent of the total force in each branch.

#### Army Birthday:

As the British continued to tax the American colonists without representation, it angered the colonists. The colonists dumped tea into the Boston Harbor

so that they wouldn't have to pay taxes for it. This later became known as the Boston Tea Party. This enraged the British, so they imposed more restrictions and taxes on the colonists. The colonists fought back. It went from being a conflict to open warfare. A few months later on June 14, 1775 the Continental Congress voted to create the Continental Army. The next day, Congress voted and appointed General George Washington as the Commander in Chief.



#### Army Fun Facts:

Before World War II, 45th Infantry Division members wore a swastika patch on their left shoulder in honor of Native Americans. It was changed to a Thunderbird in the 1930s.

Twenty-Four U.S. Presidents have served in the Army.

The Army owns so much land that if it was a state, it would be larger than Hawaii and Massachusetts combined.

The famous 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, also known as "The Old Guard" is an official ceremonial unit and escort to the Pres-

ident of the United States, and is also in charge of the "Changing of the Guard Ceremony" at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Old Guard received The American Legion's Distinguished Service Medal in 2016. Happy Birthday to the US Army! And thank you to all who served!



Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the U.S. flag in June 14, 1777. It was adopted by resolution in Philadelphia. It wasn't until August 3, 1949 that President Harry S. Truman signed the national observance into law after Congressional approval. Pennsylvania is the only state to recognize Flag Day as a Federal holiday. The Flag is an emblem of our unity power, thought and purpose as a nation. There have been many versions. In fact, it has been changed 27 times! In 1960, the last star was added for Hawaii. There are 6 American Flags on the moon. Five are standing and one fell over. Each color of the flag has a symbolic meaning. Red stands for hardiness and valor. White symbolizes purity and innocence. Blue represents vigilance, perseverance and justice.



# THE Tribal To Education



#### **Skyline Gila River Students United by Common Mission**

on your side, use that for POWER!" Amare also shared a quote that encourages her, which is, "We can't change the world

The commitment to excellence and development of character for each student that passes through the halls of the school are not only tools that each student will use through their lives but strengths that they will pass to their families and our Gila River Indian Community as a whole. Their 6 pillars of character development begins with establishment of these core values: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship.

unless we change ourselves".

With this strong foundation of character, Skyline Gila River students along with their group leader, Kyle Wines have created a mentor group. The group is comprised of all Juniors (Class of 2025) who meet every Monday at the end of their school day. Most recently these students displayed their acts of service within the Gila River Indian Community at The Caring House Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility here in Sacaton.

The students collected donations from the community to purchase BINGO Day prizes! The student will continue to look for more ways to serve their community in the near future.

The Tribal Education department would like to acknowledge these students for their acts of service and their hearts of gold for not only rallying the funds to provide gifts for BINGO, but for their display of their core values; Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship.



Photo Courtesy of Skyline Gila River Staff

# SAVE THE DATE July 9th, 11:30 a.m. District 3 Boys & Girls Club July 12th, 11:30 a.m. District 6 Boys & Girls Club

#### **Tribal Regalia Mirrors Indigenous Identity**

With the graduation season just around the corner, many students will wear traditional attire as a way to represent their own cultural identity. In 2021, the Arizona House of Representatives passed House Bill 2705 ensuring students are able to wear traditional regalia and objects of cultural significance at graduation ceremonies.

We want to share a little more about what is often worn by our students and their families during graduations.

First, traditional attire. Our clothing has gone through many changes over time. We went from wearing loincloths, wraps and grass skirts to the 1960's where we started seeing plain long sleeve unbleached muslin tops with a colored cotton skirt adorned with rickrack or hand drawn designs. In the 80's the style of dresses went to short sleeve tops and printed cotton skirts with ribbon designs. Lately dresses have begun to resemble ribbon dresses of the northern tribes. For males, many will wear ribbon shirts, these were introduced and made popular during the American Indian Movement in the 1970's.

Second, Seashell necklaces (kokothk) are common among the O'otham and youth. These come from men who would make a pilgrimage to the ocean as a right-of-passage from boy to manhood. Shells would be gathered and brought back home along with sea salt which kept us connected to the ocean. Because the pilgrimage was long and hard, to be given a seashell was a sign of great respect.

And finally, feathers. Feathers from birds hold great significance, usually the strengths of the birds they came from. For example, feathers from a Red-Tailed Hawk signified keen eyesight. The O'otham word to attach a feather to one's hair is called sivtha. Whether a feather is worn or freely given to you it must be cared for and treated with high respect.

We wish a big Congratulations to all of our students as they complete another step in their educational journeys.



Photo Courtesy of Antonio Davis

P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147

P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147

P. 520-562-3662 F: 520-562-292 TRIBAL EDUCATION

P: 520-562-3662 F: 520-562-2924 www.GRICTED.com

Assistant Director of Education

# Gila Crossing Community School Holds Annual Student Science Fair

Velia Moncada

Gila River Indian News

The Gila Crossing Community school (GCCS) held its 25th annual science fair on May 15, 2024. 115 students from kindergarten through sixth grade participated in the event judged by five Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project (P-MIP) engineers and technicians.

"The science fair is just amazing," said Karen McQueen, the founder and coordinator of the fair and a school librarian for 29 years. "It teaches the kids tons of things. It teaches them public speaking, and it also teaches the scientific process."

Each year, GCCS faculty and staff coordinate with their academic agenda to involve students in the study of the scientific processes through the application of a science fair project. Seth Garcia, who teaches science and social studies to GCCS sixth graders, said the fair expands his students' knowledge of the world around them.



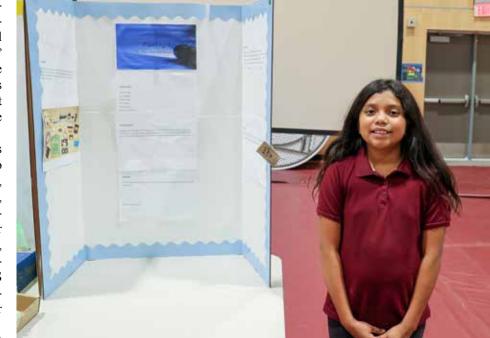
Sr. Civil Engineer, Hong Mai, greets a GCCS student for their presentation of their science fair project. Photo courtesy of Kristina Morago (P-MIP)

"The focus of my curriculum for social studies and science is critical thinking and research," said Garcia. "Knowing the scientific method means understanding how we get information that we have about the world."

Student participants presented their projects to the P-MIP judging panel, which included Hong Mai, Sr. Civil Engineer; Anthony Jones, Civil Engineer Technician; Jim Edison, Civil Engineering Technician; Raphael Pedro, MIS Technician; and Liane Iglesias from the Gila River Indian Irrigation District.

"I liked how we got to present things and show people what we can do and what we are capable of," said Dani Miguel, District 6, a fourth grader who created a homemade LED flashlight from scratch. Miguel said her experiment would be helpful in case there was a power outage, so she can figure out a way to create light.

Julian Miguel, a fifth grader from District 6, demonstrated the power



Dani Miguel, District 6, fourth grader at Gila Crossing Community School presents her project on a homemade LED flashlight. Velia Moncada/GRIN

of chemical reactions by mixing baking powder with water in a water bottle to create oxygen to fill a balloon. Julian said his fascination with chemical reactions stems from another science project, when he created a bottle rocket. He said his favorite part of the science fair was "the experimenting."



Parents of GCCS students attend the after-school science fair, reading the projects students created. Velia Moncada/GRIN

More info: coolidgeschools.org

# Casa Grande Union High School holds 10th Annual Pow-Wow



Gila River Royalty are honored at the CGUHS Pow Wow. Velia Moncada/GRIN

#### Velia Moncada

Gila River Indian News

The 10th annual Casa Grande Union High School (CGUHS) graduation social Pow Wow hosted various dancers and speakers from different tribes around the Valley. The event, which celebrated the Indigenous CGUHS senior class of 2024, was held May 15 inside the Jack Spilsbury Gymnasium. The CGUHS Amerind Club, a group of Native American teenagers at CGUHS, organized the event along with Gene Manuel, District 3, and the CGUHS JOM (Johnson O'Malley Program) student advisor.

"We really appreciate the Community when they come out to support all of our students, because this is for them. It's for our graduates and really for our native Community," said Manuel in an interview with the GRIN.

Manuel explained that

the Pow Wow began in 2013 when CGUHS Amerind Club student members wanted to organize a social Pow Wow for graduation. With permission from the CGUHS District board, and Manuel's assistance, the class of 2013 Amerind club students hosted the first CGUHS graduation social Pow Wow.

"We're just keeping the Pow Wow going," said Jordan Watahomigie, Student President of the Amerind Club at CGUHS from District 3. "It's really fun to come check out."

Watahomigie mentioned that the Amerind Club is happy to provide their peers, teachers, and the public with the social Pow Wow experience. The Amerind Club raises funds for the CGUHS Indigenous graduates by selling popovers and providing graduates with a stole and feather for their academic complesion.

"This is healing for everyone here," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, speaking to the crowd at the CGUHS graduation Pow Wow.

Gov. Lewis acknowledged that Indigenous Communities have faced issues suppressing Native American students from wearing their cultural regalia upon graduating, "We have to honor our culture and doing this, here at Casa Grande Union High School, having a Pow Wow reinforces (ending suppression)," said Gov. Lewis.

The celebration combined traditional Indigenous ceremonies with the recognition of academic success, creating a unique and meaningful occasion for graduates. Indigenous craft vendors, students, faculty of CGUHS, and public visitors enjoyed the event and learned about the Indigenously proud CGUHS students.

# FREE SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM

Address

Coolidge Junior High Cafeteria 800 N. 9th St.

Heartland Ranch Elementary Cafeteria 1667 W. Caroline St. When

June 3rd - 27th Monday - Thursday

Breakfast 7:30-9:00 AM Lunch 11:00-1:30 PM



Healthy, nutritious meals for kids 18 & under.
No cost or sign up reqired.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF THE GILARIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY SUMMER CULTURE PROGRAM The BGC GRIC is happy to introduce Akimel O'otham-Pee Posh culture & traditions into our programs, along with the language and history of our tribes we are also offering some of the experiences listed below. For more info please call: Terry Peters@(602)541-8093 Email:Terrence.peters@bgcgric.org Gardening LESSONS

# Gila River Seeking CASA Volunteers



**Submitted by**Gila River Indian
Community Court

Seeking volunteers to assist children, Court Appointed Special Advocates are everyday persons who are specially trained and appointed by a Gila River Indian Community Court Judge to speak in the best interest of children who are abused or neglected.

The CASA is an official part of the judicial proceedings, working alongside attorneys, social workers, and other professionals. By handling only two or three cases at a time, the CASA has time to thoroughly explore the history of each assigned case.

The CASA talks with the child, parents, family members, neighbors, school officials, doctors and others involved in the child's life who might have facts about the case. The CASA reviews all court facts about the case and all court documents pertaining to the case. The CASA is then expected to submit formal reports to the Judge at every scheduled hear-

ing. The CASA continues to monitor the case to assure that the judicial and child welfare systems are moving ahead to secure a safe, permanent home for the child, and that court-ordered services are provided to the child and family. The CASA is a valuable resource for the Judge, attorney for the child and social worker in reaching the goal of permanency.

If you are interested in being a volunteer please contact Sharon Banda at 520-562-9860 Ext. 9928.

# NABI Announces Partnership with Arizona's Family Sports

Semi-finals and championship games will be held at Footprint Center

**Press Release** 

Native American Basketball Invitational

PHOENIX — Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI), already the biggest and most prestigious all- Native American basketball tournament in North America, will reach an even larger audience this summer. The boys' and girls' division semi-final and championship games will be broadcast live from the Footprint Center on Arizona's Family Sports. This new partnership reflects the overall growth of the invitational, which will take place July 22-27 in Phoe-

"This is an exciting time for NABI. Because of the tournament's popularity, we will now have six games at the Footprint Center—the home of the Phoenix Suns and Mercury—and have them televised on

AZ Family Sports," said GinaMarie Scarpa, NABI president. "Not only will this give more of our athletes the chance to play in this iconic arena, but it will allow more people the opportunity to come and cheer them on—or watch from home."

This year, 225 teams applied to compete in the annual NABI tournament. A record-breaking 196 teams will participate, representing more than 180 Tribal Nations. Pool and bracket games will be played at Grand Canyon University, and various local high school gyms, through another partnership announced earlier this year. The final four teams in the boys' and girls' divisions will play at the Footprint Center before moving on to the championship games.

"Arizona's Family Sports is proud to add NABI to our programming

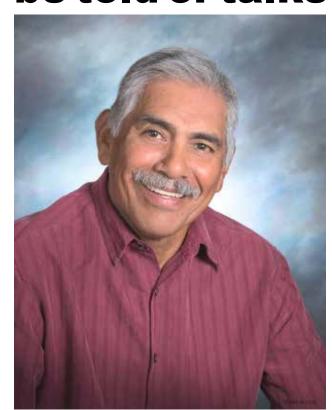
lineup, which also includes the Phoenix Suns, Mercury, Phoenix Rising, and AIA High School Championships," said Debbie Bush, VP and General Manager of Arizona's Family. "We are excited to bring NABI to even more sports fans across Arizona and learn more about NABI's mission and accomplishments off the court as well."

Throughout the week-long program, the student-athletes will participate in the NABI College & Career Fair and NABI Educational Youth Summit. NABI uses the love of basketball to unite thousands of Native/Indigenous youth, inspiring them to develop their talents and skills to pursue higher education and become future leaders

For more information about NABI: www.NA-BINation.com



# A'AGA: Something be told or talked about



Submitted by Billy Allen

Most O'otham ceremonies I can attend are tied less to the beginnings of life but more to the end of life. However I did attend a tribal ceremony which lifted my spirits. The setting, food, and company was excellent.

Gila River Tribal Education held the Antonio Azul Scholar and Citizenship Awards banquet. Headman Azul encouraged O'otham to seek education as a way towards self-determination and self-sufficiency. The banquet proved we are following our headman's dream. Listening to the accolades of GRIC students was a glimpse into the future. I came away with less doubt and fear for our people and the world.

So who was Antonio Azul, "one who is high or i:da u:gkcu? O'otham himdag had villages select a man as a representative. In turn these men chose one man to make decisions for all. The word chief can either be respectful or condescending. I prefer the term headman as there is no word in O'otham for chief.

above us?" K hedai 'o wud

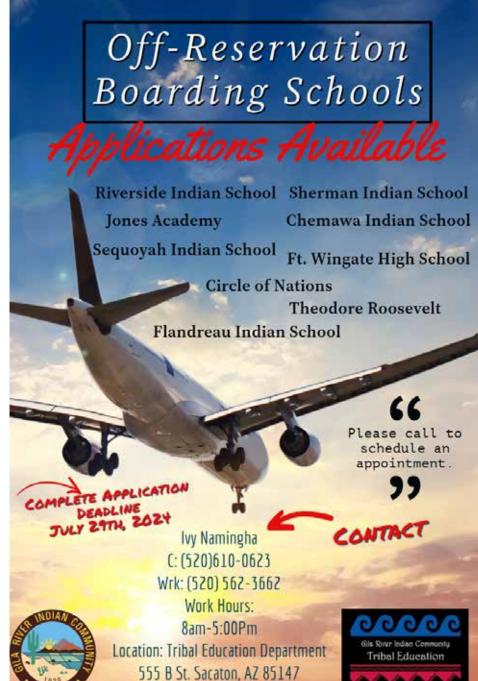
First, some history. Around 1820, Shondal Keli/Old Soldier was the O'otham headman. He led men upriver to repair a brush diversion dam, to raise the water level in order to flood a kui/mesquite grove on the low bank. (This was roughly 30 miles east of Florence, near Riverside.) When the kui/mesquite beans ripen, it was gathered, crushed in round holes on rocks, then the vihog/beans could be ground like flour. The O'otham repair party was attacked and

Shondal Keli was killed.

Following O'otham himdag, Shondal Keli's weapons, shield and body were burned on site. The group divided into the wounded, men who had killed an enemy, and the main party. Once it was determined the wounded could travel, the walk home began. Enemy killers had to be separated for sixteen days, in order to be cleaned and atone for the killing of another person. At the end of sixteen days, then and only then would they be allowed back to daily life.

Shondal Keli from Mound Top Village, 3 miles east of the va'aki/ Casa Blanca. When the main party reached Mound Top, all of Shondal Keli's cattle, horses, and belongings were distributed to his relatives. His name was no longer to be said out loud. He had no son, so a young sub-leader, Anton, was suggested to stand as the next headman. In time, Keli Anton would summon O'otham-Piipaash/Pee Posh warriors to provide safe escort for soldiers, emigrants along the Gila.

Around 1817-18, Antonio was born. Where Keli Anton went, so did the boy. Keli Anton led many fights against the O:b but could not defeat old age and walked to the other place, as the old people used to say around 1850. Antonio was selected to be the next headman, for the people felt the qualities of the father were with the son. Many felt Antonio was too young. After much debate, a tentative consensus was reached.



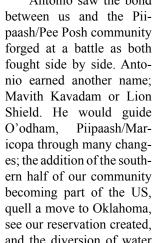
Antonio saw the bond and the diversion of water

from our akimel. He asked for schools and also accepted the Chrisitan word.

Exceeding four score and ten years in age, Antonio Azul became a great grandfather or Vi:kol. He also walked to the other side. West Cemetery in Sacaton, has become a gathering place every December as many celebrate his roles of farmer, statesman, warrior and ambassador for O'otham and Piipaash/ Pee Posh. I would like to

believe he also has less fear or doubts about us or a:cim. These young scholars will

Some of the material is taken from the writings of Senator Carl T. Hayden, Arizona Pioneer Biographies@ASU Libraries. Carl Hayden spent 56 years in Congress representing Arizona. Also Peoples of the Middle Gila, John P. Wilson.



Gila River Indian Community

562-95

REPORT MISUSE OF GRIC PROPERTY/EQUIPMENT, THEFT OR FRAUD. ALL CALLS ARE ANONYMOUS.

NAMES OR PHONE NUMBERS WILL NOT BE USED WHEN DISCUSSING CONCERNS.

Gila River Indian Community Internal Audit Department



# **COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS**

# Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • April 15, 2024

#### **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, April 17, 2024, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:08 a.m.

#### **INVOCATION**

Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

#### **ROLL CALL**

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll **Executive Officers Present:** 

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

**Council Members Present:** 

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2- Ann Lucas; D3- Avery White, Joseph Manuel, Jr.; D4- Christopher Mendoza, Jennifer Allison, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5-James De La Rosa, Franklin Pablo, Sr., Brian Davis, Sr., Gordon Santos, Jr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth(9:30), Terrance Evans; D7- Devin Redbird **Executive Officers Absent:** 

#### Lt. Governor Regina Antone

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORT #3, ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #2, #3 #4 AND #7, AND ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #1 AND #6 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA; DISPENSE NEW BUSINESS #7 AND REMOVE NEW BUSINESS #5 FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT THE REGU-LAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

#### PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. Introduction – Neomi Martinez, Assistant Finance Director

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Neomi Martinez TREASURER GARY T. MIX INTRODUCED MS. NEOMI MARTINEZ AS THE NEW ASSISTANT FINANCE DIREC-TOR. MS. MARTINEZ HAS THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE FOR THIS POSITION. MS. MARTINEZ HAS BEEN EMPLOYED WITH THE COMMUNITY FOR 20 YEARS IN JULY AND HAS HELD A FEW POSITIONS IN THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT. MS. MARTINEZ HOLDS A BACHELORS IN BUSINESS AND A MASTERS OF ADMINISTRATION DEGREE FROM NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY. MS. MARTINEZ IS EXCITED FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEM-BERS CONGRATULATED MS. MARTINEZ ON HER NEW POSITION AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH HER.

2. Introduction-Tribal Elections Program Community Council Elections Coordinator- Ms. Zuzette Kisto Presenters: Michael Preston, Zuzette Kisto MR. MICHAEL PRESTON INTRODUCED MS. ZUZETTE KISTO AS THE NEW TRIBAL ELECTIONS COORDINA-TOR. MS. KISTO HOLDS A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVER-SITY. MS. KISTO HAS BEEN EMPLOYED WITH THE COMMUNITY FOR 23 YEARS IN VARIOUS POSITIONS. MS. KISTO IS GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK IN THIS NEW POSITION. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS CONGRATULATED MS. KISTO ON HER NEW POSITION AND LOOK FORWARD TO IMPROVE-MENTS WITHIN THE PROGRAM.

#### **REPORTS**

\*1. Preserving Our Himdag: A Narrative Proposal for Woodland Management on Gila River Indian Community Presenters: Lisa Gover, Ashton Lynch, Zacharay Picciotti REPORT HEARD

2. Executive Travel Cards – Guidelines Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix REPORT HEARD

>3. Gila River Health Care Tobacco Tax Grant FY24 First Quarter Report (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023) Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors. Deborah Tinslev. Judith Roth, Max Haake, Owen Ayers, Dr. Viji Murugavel, Susan Kelley, Kerry Van Volkinburgh, Dr. Anthony Santiago

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. Tribal Education Department-Hiring Dashboard Updates 04.03.2024

Presenter: TeriLynne Kisto

REPORT HEARD

5. St. Peter Indian Mission School Tribal Allocation Quarter 1 Report for SY 2023-2024

Presenters: Sister Martha Carpenter, Lance Reyna REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO GO INTO EXECU-TIVE SESSION

6. FY24 Financial Activity Report ending March 31, 2024 (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

SESSION

>1. A Resolution Approving A Grant Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The State Of Arizona, Governor's Office For Highway Safety, For Grant Agreement No. 2024-405D-015 And Approving A Limited Waiver Of Sovereign Immunity Limited To Arbitration (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda) Presenters: Jesse Crabtree, William Morago, Weston

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-DA

>2. A Resolution Approving A Grant Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The State Of Arizona, Governor's Office For Highway Safety, For Grant Agreement No. 2024-PTS-024 And Approving A Limited Waiver Of Sovereign Immunity Limited To Arbitration (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; LSC concurs)

Presenters: Jesse Crabtree, William Morago, Weston

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-DA

>3. A Resolution Approving The Reprogramming Of Blackwater Community School Tribal Grant Funds (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; ESC concurs)

Presenter: Todd Araujo

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-

>4. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Termination Of Per Capita Trust Accounts And Directing The Distribution Of Trust Assets To Certain Beneficiaries (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Neomi Martinez, Gary T. Mix

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-

5. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 57 To The Gila River Indian Community Capital Projects Fund Budget For Fiscal Years 2024 Through 2028 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with correc-

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix **APPROVED** 

6. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 3 To The Gila River Indian Community Operating Budget For Fiscal Year 2024 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with corrections)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

**APPROVED** 

>7. A Resolution Approving The Relinquishment Of Cheyenne Autumn New Moon From The Gila River Indian Community Membership Roll (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-DA

**ORDINANCES UNFINISHED BUSINESS NEW BUSINESS** 

>1. Housing Advisory Committee Appointment – District Three (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to appoint Katie Joaquin to the Housing Advisory Committee and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Derwin Cooper

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-

2. Colorado River Conference GRIC Delegation (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for any interested Council member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenter: Javier G. Ramos

MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & **DELEGATIONS** 

3. GRSG FY23 Financial Statements and Audit Report (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept; EDSC concurs)

Presenters: Michael Morago, Donna Stowell, Brian Hemmerle

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

4. Homeless Encampment (NRSC supports options B & C and forwards to Council as FYI; H&SSC concurs) Presenters: OCM, LUPZ, CSD, ESP, DEQ, TSS, GRPD, APS, DCH, THD, and GRHC Behavioral Health ITEM HEARD

REMOVED FROM CONSENT

>5. District 1 Appointment to the Law Enforcement Citizen's Advisory Board (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval for Lynelle Blackwater and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Shannon White

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT LYNELLE BLACKWATER TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CITI-ZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD. MOTION DEFEATED

>6. District 7 Appointment to the Law Enforcement Citizen's Advisory Board (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval for Martha Miller and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Shannon White

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-

7. Hospitality Opportunity (Executive Session) (EDSC forwards to Council in Executive Session under New

Presenters: Ad Hoc Economic Development Opportunity Steering Committee

DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### **MINUTES**

1. April 3, 2024 (Regular) **APPROVED** 

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A WILD HORSE PASS DEVELOPMENT AU-THORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.
- THE GILA RIVER FARMS WILL BE HOLDING A BLESSING FOR THE RENOVATED BUILDING ON MON-DAY, APRIL 22, 2024 AT 8:00 A.M.
- CASINO EXPANSION OWNERS TEAM MEET-ING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024 AT NOON
- SERVICES FOR MR. LAWRENCE MAKIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024 AND TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024 IN DISTRICT 2
- GOVERNOR LEWIS WILL BE ATTENDING THE WATER SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024
- PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR THE FAMILIES OF MR. AARON JACKSON AND STEPHEN WALKER, SR. OF DISTRICT 6

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:53 A.M.

- \* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
- > Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

# **COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS**

# Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • May 1, 2024

#### **ACTION SHEET**

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

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, May 1, 2024, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton. Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:03 a.m.

#### **INVOCATION**

Provided by Councilman Terrance Evans **ROLL CALL** 

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

**Executive Officers Present:** 

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Regina Antone

**Council Members Present:** 

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2- Ann Lucas; D3- Avery White, Joseph Manuel, Jr.; D4- Christopher Mendoza, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5- James De La Rosa, Franklin Pablo, Sr., Gordon Santos, Jr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7- Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:

D4- Jennifer Allison (Illness)

D5- Brian Davis, Sr. (Illness)

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORT #7, RESOLUTION #4, AND NEW BUSINESS #1 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1 THROUGH #5, ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSI-NESS #4 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

#### PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. Introduction – 2024-2025 Miss and Jr. Miss Gila River Court

Presenters: Roberto A. Jackson, Michael Preston, Kelly

MR. ROBERTO JACKSON INTRODUCED THE 2024-2025 GILA RIVER ROYALTY COURT.

MISS GILA RIVER - SUSANNA OSIFE, DISTRICT 2. MS. OSIFE JUST CELEBRATED HER BIRTHDAY AND IS 22 YEARS OLD. MS. OSIFE ATTENDS TOHONO O'ODHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE PURSUING A DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION WITH A CERTIFICATE IN DIGITAL MEDIA. MS. OSIFE'S PLAT-FORM IS "FOCUS ON THE COMMUNITY'S CULTURE" THROUGH DANCES, LANGUAGE, AND TEACHINGS FROM ELDERS. SHE IS EXCITED FOR THIS OPPOR-TUNITY.

JR. MISS GILA RIVER - SHAYLA DAVIS, DISTRICT 1. MS. DAVIS IS 15 YEARS OLD AND SOPHOMORE AT IMAGINE PREP COOLIDGE. MS. DAVIS IS AN AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE AKIMEL O'ODHAM PEE POSH YOUTH COUNCIL. MS. DAVIS' PLATFORM IS "LEADERSHIP IN THE YOUTH" TO PREPARE YOUTH TO BE IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS. MS. DAVIS IS EXCITED TO BE A ROLE MODEL FOR THE YOUTH. JR. MISS GILA RIVER 1ST ATTENDANT - BRIA HUTCHINSON. MS. HUTCHINSON IS 14 YEARS OLD. MS. HUTCHINSON'S PLATFORM IS "CULTURAL AWAKENING AND YOUTH FITNESS" TO ENCOUR-AGE YOUTH AND ELDERS TO GO TO EVENTS AND CLASSES IN LEARNING, DANCING, AND SINGING. YOUTH FITNESS IS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HEALTH AND FITNESS.

VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS CONGRATULATED THE ROYALTY COURT AND PROVIDED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT.

[GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:07 AM]

#### **REPORTS**

>1. Community Technology Center FY2023/2024 2nd **Quarter Report** 

Presenter: Connie Jackson

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. Pee-Posh Veterans' Association 3rd Quarter Budget Report

Presenters: Arnie Bread, Sr., Veronica Kinsel ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. Pee-Posh Veterans' Association 4th Quarter Budget

Presenter: Arnie Bread, Sr., Veronica Kinsel ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. Pee-Posh Veterans' Association Final Budget Report Presenters: Arnie Bread, Sr., Veronica Kinsel ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. K-12 Education Program Quarter 2 Report SY 2023-2024

Presenter: Anna Edwards

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. Fellowship Update - O'odham Inspired 3D Models

Presenter: Leonard Bruce REPORT HEARD

7. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council March 2024 (Executive Session) Presenters: Gaming Commission, M. Scott Sanderson, Lydia Acosta

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS

#8 AND #9 8. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report March 2024 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Richard Strafella, Blake Katsnelson, Tony DeMark, IOPC **ACCEPTED** 

9. Schedule of Investments - March 31, 2024 (Executive

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix ACCEPTED AT REPORT #8

#### RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving The Gila River Indian Community Through The Victim Services Department To Accept From The United States Department Of Justice, Office Of Justice Programs, Office Of Victims Of Crime, The 2023 Tribal Victim Services Set Aside Formula Grant (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Katherine Lewis, Marisa Cervantes **APPROVED** 

2. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Grants Administration Policy (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Michael Preston, Gleebah Enos, Lisa Lindner, Michelle Bowman

#### **APPROVED**

3. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Indian Community Court To Submit A Grant Application To The United States Department Of Justice, Office Of Justice Programs, Bureau Of Justice Assistance, For The FY 2024 Adult Treatment Court Program Competitive Grant Solicitation (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; LSC concurs)

Presenter: Rachel Hernandez

#### **APPROVED**

>4. A Resolution Amending Ryan Allison's Tribal Homesite Assignment/Agreement By Dividing The Parcel Into Two Separate Parcels Located In District Three Within The Gila River Indian Reservation And Approving A Fifty Year, Homesite Assignment/Agreement For Richard Allison (NRSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda) Presenters: Subdivision Administration Team, Kimberly Cooper, Corinna Ortiz, Talia Apkaw, Ryan Allison, Richard Allison

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Brandon Jacob Tate Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

**APPROVED** 

#### **ORDINANCES**

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO GO INTO EXECU-TIVE SESSION

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Wild Horse Pass Water Infrastructure Update (Executive Session) (EDSC forwards to Council in Executive Session under Unfinished Business)

Presenters: Paul Vanderveen, Barney Enos, Jr., Scott Bender, Suzanne Jones, Treasurer Gary T. Mix MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE **SESSION** 

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Joint Residential Housing Improvement Program Home Abandonment Policy (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to lift the moratorium on the abandonment of homesites; NRSC and LSC concur)

Presenters: Kimberly Cooper, Wayne Allison, Lynette Johns

#### TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. Gila River Indian Community Head Start/ Early Head Start Budget Modification Narrative (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Michelle Tohtsoni, Sherilyn Analla MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

3. Gila River Indian Community Head Start/ Early Head Start Carry Over Request Narrative (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for

Presenters: Michelle Tohtsoni, Sherilyn Analla MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

>4. Housing Advisory Committee Appointment – District Seven (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to appoint Leola Lynch to the Housing Advisory Committee and for placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Derwin Cooper

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGEN-

5. didg@álič Immersion Training October 15-16, 2024 in Anacortes, Washington (H&SSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & **DELEGATIONS** 

6. 2024 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Annual Regional Tribal Consultation May 14-15, 2024 in Las Vegas, Nevada (H&SSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenter: Health & Social Standing Committee MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & **DELEGATIONS** 

7. 50th Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference June 4-5, 2024 in Flagstaff, Arizona (H&SSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenter: Health & Social Standing Committee MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & **DELEGATIONS** 

8. World Indigenous Suicide Prevention Conference July 22-25, 2024 in Niagara Falls, New York (H&SSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenter: Heath & Social Standing Committee MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & **DELEGATIONS** 

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO GO INTO EXECU-**TIVE SESSION** 

9. MYFA Concerns (Executive Session) (H&SSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session) Presenter: Heath & Social Standing Committee MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE **SESSION** 

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DISPENSE 10. Government & Management Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancies to the Community Council – (3) Council Seats (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare (3) Council seat vacancies)

Continued on Next Page

#### **Announcements & Notices**

#### Actions Sheets Cont.

Presenter: Government & Management **Standing Committee** 

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THREE (3) COUNCIL SEAT **VACANCIES** 

11. Legislative Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancies to the Community Council - (2) Council Seats (LSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council seat vacancies)

Presenter: Legislative Standing Committee MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DELCARE TWO (2) COUNCIL SEAT **VACANCIES** 

12. Education Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council - (1) Council Seat (ESC forwards to Council to declare (1) Council Seat Vacancy)

Presenter: Education Standing Committee MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE ONE (1) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY

13. Economic Development Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council (1) Council Seat (EDSC forwards to Council to declare (1) Council Seat vacancy)

Presenter: Economic Development Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE ONE (1) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY

#### **MINUTES**

1. April 3, 2024 (Regular) **APPROVED** 

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- CHIEF AZULE AWARDS BAN-QUET WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024
- MMIP WALK WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024 AT THE GOV-**ERNANCE CENTER**
- LAW DAY EVENTS ARE TAK-ING PLACE AT THE TRIBAL COURT WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024
- GRIC JOB FAIR WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:36 A.M.

- \* Denotes TABLED from previous meet-
- > Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

#### **Public Notice**

#### GRIC Department of Environmental Quality

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF AMBIENT AIR MONITORING NETWORK REVIEW

Pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §58.10 Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Air Quality Program (AQP) will make its annual monitoring network plan available for public inspection prior to submission to the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Annual Ambient Monitoring Network Review and Data Summary present changes to and data collected from the air quality monitoring network during calendar year 2023. This document will be available for review at the GRIC DEQ office located at 168 Skill Center Dr., Sacaton, AZ 85147, and on the AQP website at www.gricdeq.org under Public Notices.

Public comments may be submitted in writing to GRIC DEQ Air Quality, P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, Arizona, 85147. Additional information is available from GRIC DEQ Air Quality, 168 Skill Center Dr., Sacaton, AZ 85147, the AQP website (www.gricdeq.org under Air), or by calling 520-562-2234.

#### **GRIC COURT NOTICE OF HEARING**

IN THE CHILDREN'S COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of Boss Docket Number: JC-2024-0083-CA,

This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time, and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR a warrant may be issued for your arrest or judgment entered in favor of the other party or if you fail to appear as an interested party you may be found in contempt of Court.

> Answer/Response Hearing: DATE: July 16, 2024 TIME: 10:00 AM LOCATION: **AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI** 721 West Seed Farm Road Sacaton, AZ 85147

#### **CIVIL RESTRAINING ORDER**

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

DEBRA GARCIA, Plaintiff(s)

MORRIS RAY CLASHIN III,

Defendant(s)

Case Number: CV-2024-0068-RO

THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER HAVING COME BEFORE THIS COURT, upon a motion for a RESTRAINING ORDER; and it appearing that a Restraining Order is needed and the Court finding good cause to issue and place into effect, this date,

a Restraining Order against the named defendant, MORRIS RAY CLASHIN III.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE NAMED DEFENDANT IS RESTRAINED FROM COMING ABOUT THE NAMED DEBRA GARCIA, **ERLENDA RAMON, IN ANY MANNER:** 

FOR THE PERIOD OF SIX (6) MONTHS COMMENCING ON 04/19/2024 AND ENDING ON 10/16/2024.

FURTHER, A WARRANT OF ARREST WILL BE ISSUED, IF DEFENDANT VIOLATES THIS RESTRAINING ORDER.

Dated: April 19, 2024

## TEMPORARY CIVIL RESTRAINING ORDER

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

JOSIE MARIE SAMPSON,

Plaintiff(s) VS.

MARIA

Defendant(s)

Case Number: CV-2024-0076-RO

THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER HAVING COME BEFORE THIS COURT, upon a motion for a RESTRAINING ORDER; and it appearing that a Restraining Order is needed and the Court finding good cause to issue and place into effect, this date,

a Restraining Order against the named defendant, MARIA ANTONE.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE NAMED DEFENDANT IS RESTRAINED FROM COMING ABOUT THE NAMED JOSIE MARIE SAMPSON. IN ANY MANNER:

THE RESTRAINING ORDER HEARING SCHEDULED ON Friday, June 7, 2024 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KU KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ

FURTHER, A WARRANT OF ARREST WILL BE ISSUED, IF DEFENDANT VIOLATES THIS RESTRAINING ORDER.

Dated: April 26, 2024

#### TEMPORARY CIVIL RESTRAINING ORDER

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

#### DANIEL MACAZAN.

Plaintiff(s)

ZACHARY LEWIS,

Defendant(s)

Case Number: CV-2024-0111-RO

THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER HAVING COME BEFORE THIS COURT, upon a motion for a RESTRAINING ORDER; and it appearing that a Restraining Order is needed and the Court finding good cause to issue and place into effect, this date,

a Restraining Order against the named defendant, ZACHARY LEWIS.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE NAMED DEFENDANT IS RESTRAINED FROM COMING ABOUT THE NAMED DANIEL MACAZAN, IN ANY MANNER:

UNTIL THE RESTRAINING ORDER HEARING SCHEDULED ON Friday, June 7, 2024 at 9:30 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KU KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ

FURTHER, A WARRANT OF ARREST WILL BE ISSUED. IF DEFENDANT VIOLATES THIS RESTRAINING ORDER.

Dated: April 26, 2024

#### TEMPORARY CIVIL RESTRAINING ORDER

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

DANIEL MACAZAN,

Plaintiff(s)

JULIAN LEWIS, Defendant(s)

Case Number: CV-2024-0112-RO

THE ABOVE ENTITLED MATTER HAVING COME BEFORE THIS COURT, upon a motion for a RESTRAINING ORDER; and it appearing that a Restraining Order is needed and the Court finding good cause to issue and place into effect, this date,

a Restraining Order against the named defendant, JULIAN LEWIS.

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT THE NAMED DEFENDANT IS RESTRAINED FROM COMING ABOUT THE NAMED DANIEL MACAZAN. IN ANY MANNER:

UNTIL THE RESTRAINING ORDER HEARING SCHEDULED ON Friday, June 7, 2024 at 9:30 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KU KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ

FURTHER, A WARRANT OF ARREST WILL BE ISSUED, IF DEFENDANT VIOLATES THIS RESTRAINING ORDER.

Dated: April 26, 2024

### Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

**Blotter** 

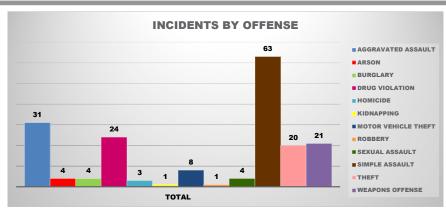
Report

Gila River Police Department

CRIME **ANALYSIS** UNIT

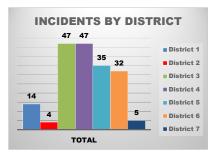
#### FOR: GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS

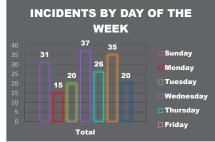
**REPORTING DATE: 05/01 - 05/31/2024** 



#### **TOP Community Wide Crimes**

From May 1 to May 31, 2024, the crimes most frequently committed were Simple Assault (63), Aggravated Assault (31), Drug Violation (24), and Weapon Offenses (21).





#### Incidents by District and Day of the Week

From May 1 - 31, 2024, the district(s) with the highest reported crimes was District 4 (47), and District 3 (47). Between May 1- 31, 2024, the day of the week with the highest reported crimes occurred on Wednesday's Most crimes were reported to have occurred between the hours of 7 P.M to 10 P.M.

06/03/2024 Page 1 of 1

# Crossroads Auto Center









# Doing Business At Crossroads Auto Center Is Easy, Just Ask Our Customers!

"My husband and I were walking to work from downtown Casa Grande to the distribution center every day because we didn't think we would qualify for an auto loan. A friend told us about Crossroads. The process was so easy and within just a few hours we were on the road. An amazing experience, we highly recommend them." - R.O.

# Casa Grande's Favorite Used Car Dealer!

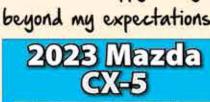








"Best experience I've ever had buying a car! They took all the hard work out of the search and got me into my new RAV4. The car is in excellent condition and I'm so happy. They really went above and beyond my expectations. Highly recommend!" - M.G.











DON'T MISSOUT

"These guys were the only people to approve me for a really nice vehicle with my low credit score. got an amazing deal with an affordable payment. They worked with me and got me the truck of my dreams. Thank you, guys, so much." - A.R.











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## **TOBY KEITH & JASON ALDEAN EXPERIENCE**

PERFORMED BY AMERICAN RIDE & CHRIS LOZANO

SATURDAY, JUNE 22 | 8PM



**NIKKI GLASER** FRIDAY, JUNE 28 8PM



**LUDACRIS** AT OASIS POOL PARTY SATURDAY, JUNE 29 | 6PM



**CHIQUIS** SUNDAY, JUNE 30 | 8PM



**MARTIN LAWRENCE** FRIDAY, JULY 19 | 8PM SATURDAY, JULY 20 | 8PM

MORE **UPCOMING SHOWS** 

JULY 25 | ZIGGY MARLEY AT WILD HORSE PASS JULY 27 | TWO FRIENDS AT WILD HORSE PASS & THE SUNSHINE BAND AT WILD HORSE PASS AUGUST 2 | AIR SUPPLY AT WILD HORSE PASS





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