



Tribal Nations and the Rise of AI



Page, 3

Native American Day



District 6

Celebrates Native American Day with song, dance, and fireworks at Kalka Park

See Page, 9

English and Math are Improving in Tribal Schools

Some districts have experienced double the number of students testing proficient in Math and English.

See Page, 10

GRICUA Held a Groundbreaking for the Olas S-thoñ Solar Project



Ken Stock, General Manager, (GRICUA) Lt. Gov. R. Antone with Council Representatives Jeanette Blasingim (D-7), Nada Celaya (D-4), and James De La Rosa (D-5) on the groundbreaking of the new solar farm that will bring a bright future to GRIC. Jeston Morris/ GRIN

Jeston Morris Gila River Indian News

CHANDLER, Ariz. — The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Olas S-thoñ Solar Project, marking a major milestone in the community’s renewable energy effort. The event took place two miles west of the Huhugam Heritage Center off Highway 347 and was attended by Lt. Gov. Regina Atone, council representatives, GRICUA staff, and members from various corporations and departments.

A brief history about the Olas S-thoñ Solar Project: In 2014, the Community and GRICUA began a discussion about incorporating renewable energy. In 2018, GRICUA Board and Community Council authorized a request for proposal (RFP) to identify a project developer. Clenera was selected and began development shortly thereafter.

Between 2018 and 2023, Clenera conducted surveys, cultural resource assessment, system interconnection studies,

engineering work, and finalized contract and lease agreements. Most of these components were completed by 2023.

The passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) in 2022 enabled GRIC and GRICUA to receive direct payments in lieu of Incentive Tax Credit (ITC). These changes made it possible for the Community to own and operate it’s own renewable energy project.

In 2023, GRICUA negotiated with Clenera to purchase the project development which was approved by the board and council in spring of 2024.

GRICUA has since completed the engineering phase and issued an RFP for a construction. White Clay Industries, a Native-owned business, and U.S. Solar were selected to build the project, which is expected to take approximately 18-24 months.

Kenneth Stock, GRICUA general manager, opened the ceremony with welcoming remarks, followed by a traditional blessing from Anthony Gray. Lt. Gov. Regina Antone and Council Representative James De La Rosa gave an inaugural solar speech.

“Today we are doing the groundbreaking and dedication for the Olas S-thoñ Solar Project,” Stock said. “This is GRICUA’s 20-megawatt solar project. It has been in the works for many years and is finally coming to fruition. The Olas S-thoñ Solar Project is the first of its kind in GRIC, it’s a large utility scale solar farm.”

Gray offered a prayer and sang an O’otham song, explaining its cultural significance.

“In O’otham culture, the buzzard is the symbol is renewable energy. Its task is cleaning the earth,” said Gray, culture and language program, manager at TED. “The buzzard is good at harnessing and leveraging the sun’s rays. For example, on a cold morning, it stands facing east with its wings spread to absorb the sun’s heat. The buzzard song reflects harnessing energy from the sun.”

Council Representative De La Rosa, District 5, emphasized the project’s broader impact.

“It’s an honor to be here for the groundbreaking for the Olas S-thoñ solar project,” De La Rosa said. “This occasion marks a step

forward in renewable energy and sustainability. Harnessing the sun’s energy is a significant move toward clean energy. This solar energy will not only power GRIC homes but also local businesses. This project symbolizes GRICUA’s commitment to innovation and environment stewardship.”

Lt. Gov. Regina Antone expressed gratitude to all involved.

“This solar project wouldn’t be possible without the planning by GRICUA staff and departments,” she said. “Thank you to everyone who was part of the solar project, including the constructors and workers. You are making an impact on the future generation. Thank you all for attending this historic groundbreaking.”

“We worked on this solar project in the past, but federal regulations prevented us from moving forward,” Celaya said. “We couldn’t do it at the time. We had the land and financing, and the IRA passage in 2022 was a turning point for GRIC. Seeing this project come to fruition is a huge milestone, not only for the

GRICUA, Page 4

Gila River Indian News
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147
Change Service Requested

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Sacaton, AZ
Permit No. 25



FOLLOW US ONLINE:

/GilaRiver @GRIC_Official

@gilariver @gricnews

www.gricnews.org



We are GRHC!

Where Care Meets Community.



PATIENT NOTICE

Ak-Chin Clinic
to Transition from
Gila River Health Care
to
Indian Health Services
Beginning
October 1, 2025

As previously announced to you on September 5, 2025, the operation of the Ak-Chin Clinic will transition from Gila River Health Care (GRHC) to the Indian Health Service (IHS) and be staffed by the Phoenix Indian Medical Center (PIMC).

Ak-Chin Clinic patients are welcome to continue their relationship with GRHC doctors for their primary and available specialty care needs at our other campuses.

We have maintained your medical records in our system to ensure you can easily continue your care with us. To continue your care with Gila River Health Care after October 1, 2025 please speak with your provider or contact the Gila River Health Care Transition team at 602-528-1212.

It has been our privilege and honor to care for your health at the Ak-Chin Clinic. If you choose to continue your care with Gila River Health Care, we look forward to seeing you at one of our other campuses

GET YOUR FLU SHOT TODAY!



THE FLU VACCINE IS AVAILABLE TO GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE PATIENTS.

Walk-in to one of our Gila River Health Care Primary Care Departments or visit a vaccine outreach event.

*Please refer to the calendar of events for updates GRHC.ORG

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
(520) 562-3321 Ext. 1495

Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center
(520) 796-2600 Ext. 2697

Komatke Health Center
(520) 550-6000 Ext. 6060

Pediatrics
(520) 562-3321 Ext. 7337

Public Health Nursing
(520) 550-6042

Scan QR code to view more of our news, information & events:



- Family Planning
- Flu Clinics
- SANE Awareness
- and many more!



Reminder!

GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE'S
Upcoming November Closures

Veterans Day 11/11/25
Thanksgiving Holiday 11/27 - 11/28

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988

GRIC CRISIS HOTLINE 1-800-259-3449



Governor
Stephen Roe Lewis

Lt. Governor
Regina Antone

Community Council
Representatives

District 1
Duane Jackson Jr.
Joey Whitman

District 2
Ann M. Lucas

District 3
Kristina D. Morago
Joseph Manuel Jr.

District 4
Jennifer Allison
Nada Celaya
Lalena Jackson
Leah Williams

District 5
Donovan G. Kyiyitan
James De La Rosa
Franklin Pablo Sr.
Gordon Santos Jr.

District 6
Anthony Villareal, Sr.
Terrance B. Evans
Charles Goldtooth

District 7
Jeanette Blasingim

Gary Mix, Community Treasurer
Shannon White,
Community Council Secretary

Gila River Indian News

Roberto A. Jackson
Roberto.Jackson@gric.nsn.us
CPAO Director
(520) 562-9851

Miguel Sallard
Miguel.Sallard@gric.nsn.us
Managing Editor
(520) 562-9719

Emma Hughes
Emma.Hughes@gric.nsn.us
Community Newsperson
(520) 562-9852

Jeston Morris
Jeston.Morris@gric.nsn.us
Community Newsperson
(520) 562-9718

For more information
GRIN@gric.nsn.us
(520) 562-9715

Write to:
Editor, GRIN
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Published letters or columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Editor or Gila River Indian Community.

LETTERS POLICY: GRIN welcomes letters and columns from readers. Letters *should be limited to 200 words* and be in good taste. Material that could be libelous or slanderous is not acceptable. All letters or columns should be signed with the writer's true name, address and telephone number in the event GRIN may need to contact the writer. *Only the name of the writer will be printed in the paper.* Letters or columns without a complete signature, name, address or phone number will not be acceptable to GRIN for publication. GRIN reserves the right to edit submitted materials for grammar, spelling, and content.

Gila River Indian Community
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147
(520) 562-9715
www.gricnews.org

Material published in the Gila River Indian News may not be reproduced in any form without consent from the Gila River Indian Community



Tribal Nations and the Rise of AI

Wiring the Rez: Tribal Leaders Explore AI and Digital Sovereignty

Jeston Morris,
Miguel Sallard
Gila River Indian News

PHOENIX, Ariz. – The Center for Tribal Digital Sovereignty (CTDS), the Indian Legal Program (ILP) and the American Indian Policy Institute (AIPI) hosted the 11th Annual Wiring the Rez Conference: Artificial Intelligence in Indian Country at ASU’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law (SDOCL) on Sept. 26. Tribal leaders, scholars, professors and members of the public attended the conference.

AIPI and the National Congress of American Indian (NCAI) launched the CTDS at SDOCL on Jun 4, 2024, as cited on NCAI’s website. The center is rooted in ‘digital sovereignty,’ theoretical framework and it’s an umbrella term.

The Wiring the Rez conference began with the inaugural Tribal Government E-Commerce: Innovating a New Geography of Indian Country hosted by ILP and SDOCL at Wild Horse Pass Resorts and Casinos on February 12-13, 2015. Tribal e-commerce, economic, and online gaming were the primary focus of the conference. Stacy Leads, Regents and Foundation Professor of law at SDOLC, and Traci Morris, executive director at AIPI, gave welcoming remarks. The first panel was an artificial intelligence overview followed by a panel on governance and policy: avoiding the next digital divide.

Elizabeth Reily, executive director of AI Acceleration, and Tyson Winarsky, professor of practice at SDOCL, presented an overview for tribal communities. They discussed AI tool such as Adobe Express, Firefly, Copilot, Gemini, Zoom, Notebook and ChatGPT.

“Three seconds of audio is all that’s needed for AI to produce an 85 percent voice match,” they noted. They also discussed ethical

AI metric such as accuracy, robustness, fairness, bias, safety and efficiency.



Artificial Intelligence in the Tribal Nations/CPAO

The next session featured two panelist and a moderator discussing governance and policy: avoiding the next digital divide. Nelli Babayan, AI director of Federal Civilian, discussed a new moment for AI trends including Agentic AI, Generative AI, deep learning, and machine learning, and artificial intelligence.

She discussed internal impact vis-à-vis customer impact, which focused on reshaping business and reinventing customer engagement. Mari Hulbatta, director of data stewardship at the Chickasaw Nation, discussed data sovereignty, governance and stewardship. “Who are the data stewards in each department, and do they know their role and responsibilities?” Hulbatta asked.

Gary Marchant, regents and foundation professor at SDOCL gave a keynote after lunch.

He discussed narrow AI, artificial general intelligence and super-intelligence. He mentioned the two pessimistic metaphors: the AI bubble and what if AI hits the wall. He concluded his keynote with a question: “Why are we pursuing AI super intelli-

gence?”

One of the breakout sessions was on AI in language and cultural practice. Morris moderated a four-member panel featuring Carrie Billy, consultant; Leonard Bruce, data analyst for the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC); AI Kusklikis, senior associate at American Indian Higher Education Consortium; and Sean Dudley, associate vice president at ASU Knowledge Enterprises.

Dudley gave a panel overview which included generative AI, material preparation for AI data, AI language and cultural learning, which included language assistant and audio preservation, cultural knowledge libraries, council, governance support and virtual language tutor.

Bruce, a GRIC Community member with a master’s degree in science and technology and he is working on his doctoral degree, responded to the question “What is the role of AI’s in tribal governance?”

“Data sovereignty and governance are, concepts grounded in tribal governance,” he said.

“Further, companies can

scrape data from social media, resulting in personal data sovereignty becoming even more important. How is the story you’re telling archived in public space online? We need to think about the future of data sovereignty,” Bruce added.

“The role of tribes, particularly with language and cultural preservation in the context of AI, they ought to be in the center. The community is the protector of stories, history, culture and language. Tribes in a dire situation of losing their languages, and they need to take the lead and leverage AI,” said Billy.

Chris Dechene, executive director for National Inter-Tribal Energy Council, Cora Tso, senior research fellow at ASU and Krystalyn Kinsel, special counsel for Jenner & Block presented on AI’s impact on natural resources.

“The impact of AI on natural resources. First, data centers have rolls and rolls of computer servers and they have a significant impact on water resources. They also utilize a significant amount of electric energy,” said Kinsel.

According to the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), large data centers powering artificial intelligence can consume up to 5 million gallons of water per day. That’s roughly the same daily usage as a town of 10,000 to 50,000 people. Arizona, where water is a precious and limited resource, is expanding rapidly with these high-tech facilities, and this can raise serious concerns.

“For the State of Arizona, many tribes have unresolved water rights settlement for the Colorado River basin. Water consumption for data centers is significant because they use the same amount of water as golf courses. It’s not just any water, its freshwater,” said Tso.

“I am going to address renewable Tribal Nations in the Age of Technology and non-renewable energy, project development and the impact from the new



(L-R) Geoff Blackwell, Chief of Staff, National Congress of American Indians(NCAI); Traci Morris, Executive Director of American Indian Policy Institute; and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addresses the future of AI in Tribal Nations during the closing panel at ASU Law. Jeston Morris/ GRIN

GRICUA Groundbreaking
From Front Page

GRIC tribe but also GRICUA.”

Teresa Mandelin, executive director at Pima Leasing & Financing Corp, highlighted the importance of energy sovereignty. “I am super excited about the groundbreaking for the Olas S-thoñ Solar project for two reasons,” Mandelin said. “First, we have been working on this project for several years and it’s finally happening. Second, this is about energy sovereignty. Many tribes buy electricity to power their reservation. Energy sovereignty is where the tribe is energy self-sufficient meaning they produce their own electricity. I am truly excited because GRIC is leading the way in generating their own electric power.”

“This is historic because the dream of becoming energy sufficient with renewable energy is becoming a reality. It provides positive benefits not only to the environment but also the community. This will be the first time GRIC and GRICUA will produce their own electric power,” said Council Representative Kristina Morago, District 3. This project represents the first utility-scale solar development within the Gila River Indian Community, a significant step toward advancing clean energy and sustainability for future generations.

Benefits of solar panels

Solar panels generate electricity using sunlight, which is a renewable and clean energy source. They do not produce air pollution or noise, making them suitable for any residential and commercial areas. Over time, solar systems can reduce electricity bills by up to 80 percent, depending on usage and system



Lt. Gov. Regina Antone extends thanks to all the GRICUA workers and staff for their work on this new large-scale solar farm project. Jeston Morris/GRIN

efficiency. They require minimal maintenance, typically just occasional cleaning. Arizona’s sunny climate makes solar energy especially effective. Most systems also include energy storage to provide power during cloudy days or nighttime.

Challenges to consider

The initial cost of purchasing and install-

ing solar panels is high. Materials such as silicon, tempered glass and aluminum are used to protect the panels from weather and damage. Solar panels have a lifespan of 25 to 30 years. Recycling them can be difficult due to the presence of heavy metals, and few facilities currently accept them. Solar energy production depends on sunlight. On cloudy or rainy

days, and at night, panels do not generate power. Backup systems help offset this limitation. As the solar farm moves forward, it represents a step toward cleaner energy and long-term sustainability for the Gila River Indian Community.

Community Small Business Showcase Event

DON'T MISS OUT!

Friday, November 7, 2025
9:00AM - 1:00PM

Central Warehouse
1676 S. Nelson Drive Chandler, AZ 85226

GRIC Depts & Districts & Enterprises will be present

Lunch will be provided

Sign up today!
Contact:
Leslie.Carra@thepifc.com
(520)796-2454

PimaLeasing & FINANCING CORPORATION

Showcase your products & services

Meet buyer decision makers

Samples are encouraged & welcome

The first 30 businesses to sign up will secure a seat at the table

GILA RIVER

sacaton market

GRAND OPENING

23RD OCT | 8AM-10AM

+ Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Be a part of the official ribbon cutting to kick off our new chapter

+ Vendors & Exhibits – Explore booths from local partners and businesses

+ Swag & Prizes – Free giveaway, raffles, and exciting prizes!

+ Guest Speakers – Hear from Community leaders

+ Food Samples – Complimentary bites and snacks

363 S. Ocotillo Rd. Sacaton, AZ 85147



S-he:pijig Mashath 2025

The name for this month translates to “The Cold Moon.” This is the time of year that certain birds pass through our community heading south for the winter. Some northern birds stay with us during the winter months. Two Raptors are Vakav (Northern Harrier) and Hauk Shalivkam (Cooper’s Hawk). Vakav’s other O’otham name is S-he:pith Wa’otham (Bringer of the Cold). Vakav can be observed flying low over open fields and desert. When hunting, they will emit a whistle-like shriek, to scare game from hiding. They are easily identified by the white patch on their backside. Another wintering Raptor is Hauk Shalivkam (Cooper’s Hawk). Hauk Shalivkam feeds mostly on other small birds and can be observed catching birds in flight. Hauk Shalivkam are easily identified by their (leather chaps).

There are four Song Birds that spend their winters on our community and their presence are not hard to miss. Thamthal (White-crowned Sparrow) are easily recognized by their black and white stripes on their heads. The adults sing an easily identifiable call early in the mornings and late evenings. They flock in groups and can be observed hopping along the ground foraging for seeds. If there is open water nearby, they

can be observed taking their morning baths, even in cold weather. Another Song Bird is Sua:m Omkam (Yellow-rumped Warbler) and the name refers to the bright yellow patch on its backside. Sua:m Omkam gathers in small flocks and feeds on small insects and seeds. They can be observed flitting about on trees and brush. Their song consists of a quick series short of chirps that are easily recognized. They too, like to take their early morning baths, sometimes with other species of birds. Sua:m Omkam are constantly in motion throughout the day. One Song Bird that is easily identified by its call is Gikuchk’tam (Black Phoebe) and the name means (the whistler). Gikuchk’tam are solitary feeders taking insects in flight or darting out from perches. Their loud two-part series of whistles are easily identified in the early mornings and late evenings. The final Song Bird we will feature in this article is S-veg Vonomman (Ruby-crowned Kinglet). The O’otham name means (wears a red hat) and refers to its red crown that is raised when the bird gets excited. Their song consists of a quick chatter followed by two-part chirps. These small olive and grayish birds can be observed foraging in small flocks.

We encourage you to

get out and enjoy the outdoors as cooler weather arrives. You can attract different species of birds into your yards by several actions. One way is to set up an outdoor Hummingbird feeder next to a widow in a quiet area. Another way is to hang a bird feeder somewhere in your yard and fill it with bird seed. Finally, a bird bath is the best way to attract wintering birds for their daily baths. We encourage you to speak O’otham in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or Speaker and see how they would say the bird names in O’otham. Some bird names might be slightly different between villages. This month’s word match will test your identification knowledge of the wintering birds on our community.

A special Thank You to Vah-ki Elders for sharing their knowledge of O’otham Ñeok in naming a few of the wintering birds. Other information about bird identification, behavior and coloration are related from Wings in the Desert: A Folk Ornithology of the Northern Pimans, University of Arizona Press, 2007; Winter Birds of the Gila River Indian Community- Department of Environmental Quality-GRIC, NAU, Merriam-Powell Center for Environmental Research, 2018.

Community Observes National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims



Community members taking part in the observance, painting pots and rocks. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

SACATON, Ariz. — A small but heartfelt gathering brought Gila River Indian Community members together Sept. 25 to observe the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims at the Department of Environmental Quality.

The day serves as a time to honor loved ones lost to violence and to support families and communities affected by tragedy.

Hosted by the Community’s Victim Services Department, the event provided a space for reflection and remembrance. As part of the observance, participants painted colorful rocks and flower pots to take home or place in DEQ’s memorial garden dedicated to Missing and Murdered Indig-

enous People. The project aims to create a lasting tribute and offer families and friends a place of healing. Each rock carried words of encouragement, symbols of home or the names of those dearly missed.

Organizers said the simple act of painting together fostered connection and solidarity. “It’s about honoring those we’ve lost, but also reminding survivors that they’re not alone,” one Community member said.

Nationally, more than 20,000 homicides are reported each year, according to the Office for Victims of Crime. The annual day of remembrance was established to recognize the impact of homicide on families and communities and to provide opportunities for healing.

The memorial garden is expected to serve as a lasting reminder of both the victims’ lives and the Community’s commitment to supporting survivors.



Virginia Rossel (1st Attendant Miss Gila River), Peyton Thomas (1st Attendant Jr. Miss. Gila River), and Paige Thomas (Jr. Miss Gila River) supporting the event. Emma Hughes/GRIN

S-he:pijig Mashath 2025: Match the Winter Bird’s picture with its O’otham Name!

Sua:m Omkam

Hauk Shalivkam

Thamthal

Gikuchk’tam

Vakav

S-veg Vonomman

Photos Courtesy: allaboutbirds The CornellLab



Winter Bird Count

SAVE THE DATE

DECEMBER 6TH 2025



COMMUNITY MEMBERS & PATIENTS



30TH ANNIVERSARY

TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNANCE

CELEBRATION!

FREE FOOD TRUCKS

- Dewski Catering
- Rosa's Stand
- El Pastorcito Taqueria Phx
- The Pitt BBQ

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Family Activities
- Commemorative Giveaways
- DJ Redline
- Cultural Performances
- Inspiring Guest Speakers

This celebration is scheduled to take place on two occasions.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
Sacaton, AZ
10 AM - 1 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025

Komatke Health Center
Laveen, AZ
10 AM - 1 PM



Get Your Exclusive Commemorative Coin



Honoring Our Heroes: Veterans Day Reflection

Veterans Day is a day to honor living Veterans. It was originally known as Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I. The treaty signed by the Allied Nations and Germany was finalized on the eleventh month, eleventh day, at the eleventh hour in 1918. It has been recognized as a federal holiday since 1938 and was renamed Veterans Day after the Korean War in 1954.

In 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Holiday Bill, which became effective in 1971. The Bill designated the fourth Monday in October as the day of recognition. However, this change diminished the historical significance of the original date and caused confusion. In 1975, a new law was passed to restore the observance to its original date—November 11.

There are many ways Veterans Day can be celebrated: national ceremonies, speeches, local parades, luncheons, and dinners. A veteran may have been drafted or volunteered, male or female, they are still a veteran who took an oath to serve this country and uphold the Constitution. It is important to show appreciation for those that have served. They endured untold sacrifices and dedicated themselves to protecting the freedoms and rights that we all cherish.

There are many ways to support the veterans, not just on Veterans Day, but every day. You can volunteer with or donate to the local veteran organizations, give them cards or letters, say “Thank you,” buy from a veteran-owned businesses, fly an American flag to show support, cheer for them at the parades, change your social media page for the day, listen while they share their experiences, or buy them a meal if you see them in a

restaurant. Many veterans are older and may need help or assistance with yard work, home maintenance, household chores or transportation to the store or a doctor’s appointment.

In 2022, Arizona had an estimated population of just under 455,000 veterans, ranking as the 13th highest state for veteran population.

The Veteran and Family Services Office will be hosting a Veterans Day event. Date Location and time to be determined.

To all Veterans, we THANK YOU for your service!

Office Coordinator- USMC Retired Eric White 520-562-5145
Peer Specialist - US Army Darrell Whitman 520-610-2037
Peer Specialist- USMC Wesley Rhodes 520-610-4384
Veterans Service Officer –USMC Kim Skelton 520-562-5144



VA awards nearly \$40 million in grants to fight Veteran homelessness in Arizona

ARIZONIA – The Department of Veterans Affairs announced on Sept. 25 a \$40 million in grants to six Arizona organizations to help Veterans who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. The Arizona organizations receiving grants are:

- Catholic Charities Community Services, Inc - \$2,089,976
- Primavera Foundation – \$3,087,557
- Community Bridges, Inc - \$4,469,130
- Unites States Veterans Initiative - \$5,732,636
- National Community Health Partners -\$2,397,645
- Nation’s Finest - \$22,942,240

Throughout the fiscal year 2026, the grants will fund the organizations as they help Veterans access:

- Housing and housing counseling
- Health care
- Financial planning services
- Childcare
- Legal assistance
- Transportation

“Supportive services like childcare, housing counseling and financial planning can be important catalysts for preventing or resolving homelessness,” said Stephanie Young, Interim Director, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 22. “These grants will help bring crucial support to thousands of Veterans in need across the nation.”

The grants are among \$818 million in total funds VA is awarding nationwide through its Supportive Services for Veteran Families program, which provides case management and supportive services to:

- Prevent the imminent loss of a Veteran’s home.
- Identify new, more suitable housing situations for individuals and families.
- Rapidly re-house Veterans and their families who are homeless and might remain homeless without assistance.

VA awards grants based on several factors, including the grant recipients’ experience and past performance in providing supportive services to Veteran families, and the need in the area or community where the program will be based. Overall VA improvements during the second Trump Administration

- The backlog of Veterans waiting for VA benefits is down more than 45% since Jan. 20, 2025.
- VA has opened 17 new health care clinics, expanding access for Veterans around the country.
- VA is spending an additional \$800 million on infrastructure improvements to ensure department facilities provide safe and effective patient care.
- Since Jan. 20, VA has offered nearly 1 million health care appointments outside of normal operating

hours. These early-morning, evening, and weekend appointments are giving Veterans more timely and convenient options for care.

- VA is processing record numbers of disability claims, reaching an all-time fiscal-year high of 2.52 million ratings claims for FY25 as of Aug. 8.
- VA has made it easier and faster for VA-enrolled Veterans to access care from non-VA providers at the department’s expense.
- VA has implemented major reforms to make it easier for survivors to get benefits.
- VA is accelerating the deployment of its integrated electronic health record system.
- VA partnered with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to identify and recover \$106 million in duplicate billing.
- VA has brought tens of thousands of VA employees back to the office, where we can work better as a team to serve Veterans.
- In fiscal year 2025 through June, VA has housed 37,534 homeless Veterans.

For more information, contact VISN 22 Public Affairs Officer Cliff Baser at Cliff.baser@va.gov, (520) 792-1450 x 14508.

If you are a Veteran who is experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, call the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans at 877-4AID-VET

(877-424-3838). Visit the VA Homeless Programs website to learn about housing initiatives and other programs for Veterans exiting homelessness.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING / TERO DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

31st Annual Career Fair

LEARN • TRAIN • ACHIEVE

10 AM TO 1 PM
Friday, October 31

192 S. Skill Center Rd.
Sacaton, AZ

- Meet local employers, schools & training programs
- Discover jobs, volunteer roles & passion driven opportunities
- Apply and interview on the spot (bring your resume)
- FREE interview outfit with Dress for Success (intake process required to participate)
- Felon-friendly opportunities available
- Lunch sponsored by Gila River Resorts & Casinos

(520)610-8678

Elvira.James@gric.nsn.us

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER/PROGRAMS AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES - TTY/TDD: 7-1-1

Waila Style 87 Brings High-Energy Performance To Kalka Park

Jeston Morris
Gila River Indian News

District 6 celebration blends tradition and modern music for Native American Day

KOMATKE, Ariz. — The District 6 Recreation Department hosted Waila Style 87 for a lively evening of music and dancing at Kalka Park on Sept. 17. The event was part of the Native American Day celebration and drew a large crowd, with parking lots full by 6 p.m. Recreation Coordinator Whitney Sharpe welcomed attendees, and Recreation Assistant Eliana Rhodes opened the event with an invocation. Finger foods and drinks were served early in the evening, with beverages available throughout. Northern Arizona University was also on-site conducting a cancer questionnaire survey.

“Every year in September, we host the Native American Day celebration,” Sharpe said. “Last year, we offered classes and activities. The goal is for the community to come out and learn about O’otham and Pee Posh cultures.

Yesterday we had traditional cooking with food from Ramona Farms. Today’s focus is modernity, with Waila Style 87 entertaining the crowd. A lot of

people love dancing,” said Sharpe.

Band Spotlight: Waila Style 87

Kirkland Chico, the band’s lead singer and manager, arrived early with his group to set up instruments, sound equipment and lighting. The band includes eight members, six of whom performed that evening: two on drums, two on guitars, one on accordion and one on percussion. Chico plays the accordion. Band members hail from Gila River, Salt River and the Tohono O’odham.

“We started Waila Style 87 in 2023, but our members have played in various bands for years,” Chico said. “We play country, Tohono and Waila. Waila is chicken scratch. Tohono is Mexican-style, like cumbia.” Chico named several bandmates: Jacob Lopez from Hashan Kehk, Valerian and Cherish from Salt River, Quentin Martinez from Tohono O’odham, James Perez from District 4 and Allen Lewis from Casa Blanca.

“I played trombone in high school marching band,” Chico said. “I learned from Ronnie Juan, Chris Lopez, Archie Miguel, Neil Norris and Arnold Paul. Growing up, we used to follow Virgil Jose from District 4. Everybody loves to dance to the cumbia.”

Waila Style 87 recently performed at Mustering-In Day in District 7 and continues to play across the region, including Casa Grande, Salt River, Coolidge and southern Tohono O’odham country.

“We’re one of the busiest bands,” Chico said. “We’re booked through this year and into next year. We were invited to play in Caborca, Sonora, Mexico, but had to decline due to short notice.”

Chico said the band is influenced by relatives and earlier generations of musicians. He cited legacy bands from the 1960s through the 1980s, including Big John, Cisco Band, Pima Express, Santa Rosa, The Molinas, The Original Southern Scratch, The Tohono O’odham Braves, Two Rivers and Chad and Company. The name “Waila Style” refers to chicken scratch music, and “87” references the highway the band travels to reach gigs.

Community Celebration.

As the band warmed up, the crowd joined in with two-step, solo and cumbia dancing with fiends and relatives.

The event was a strong turnout for the District 6 community and a successful evening for the Recreation Department.



Community members from District 6 enjoying the music from Waila Style 87 and the Chicken Scratch dance. Jeston Morris/GRIN



The Waila Style 87 band energized the crowd at the Native American Day. Jeston Morris/GRIN

District 6 Celebrates Native American Day with Song, Dance, and Fireworks at Kalka Park

Jeston Morris
Gila River Indian News

KOMATKE – More than 250 Gila River Indian Community members celebrated the Native American Day at Kalka Park on Sept. 18. The event was sponsored by the District 6 Recreation Department.

Parking lots at the park were full, and attendees parked along 51st Avenue and St. Johns Rd.

Community members began arriving at 5 p.m., signing in with the Recreation Department to receive a blue T-shirt. M&D’s Pickle Slushy opened, and attendees lined up for the popular treat.

Whitney Sharpe, recreation coordinator, gave a welcome remark. Aaron Sabori, traditional counselor, offered a blessing for the event and the food. Dewski’s Frybread and Catering served attendees afterwards.

“Tonight’s celebration brings the older and younger generations together,” Sabori said. “It includes traditional singing and dancing, which I attended regularly as a young person. During the 1960s, ’70s and ’80s, celebration like this would last all night with a drum in the middle. These celebrations are so important to our younger generation because they are going to eventually take

over and lead.”

The purpose of District 6 Native American Day was to celebrate Pee Posh and O’otham cultural identity and traditional singing and dancing, said Eliana Rhodes, recreational assistant. “We want community members to come together and celebrate both Pee Posh and O’otham cultures,” Rhodes said Dewski’s Frybread served traditional food, including red chile, tortilla, potato salad, and pinto beans. Attendees enjoyed their meals while watching the basket dance. Xvik, A’an (Two Feathers), led by Terrence Peters, sang O’otham songs for the performing dancers. The group are from Boys & Girls Club in Komatke.

“We started Dewski’s Frybread in 2014,” said William Sunna, owner of Dewski’s Frybread and Catering. “My culinary journey began at McDonald’s when I was 15 years old. I joined Harrah’s Casino as a dining room cook when I turned 18 and eventually started working at Agave Restaurant. I gain buffet chef experience at Gila River Casino and I attended Scottsdale Culinary Institute. As an inmate baker and cook, I gained tremendous experience because everything is made from scratch in dining. I want to



Lead singer Terrence Peters, representing District 6 and the Boys & Girls Club. Jeston Morris/GRIN



Morningstar Delowe leads the O’otham Basket Dancers from District 6 in a celebration of cultural heritage. Jeston Morris/GRIN

give a shoutout to all my current and former crew members. I can’t do this without them. It’s an honor to cater traditional food at this celebration.”

“We are the Xvik A’an with eight members in our group,” Peters said. “We’ll be singing social songs for the dancers. We love being invited to this celebration. We are from here. It’s a privilege and honor to be part of this celebration.”

Light rain prompted organizers to change the schedule around. Kalka Park was cleared for the firework show, which attendees watched the fireworks from their parking vehicles along

51st Ave.

Afterward, cultural performances resumed. Performances included Ase’ Smaav, Cu:dk, Kwiva Ba’ban and Xvik A’an. Ase’ Smaav, is from the Colorado River Indian Tribes in Parker, Ariz. They drove several hours to a perform bird singing and dancing.

The District 6 Recreation Department expressed its appreciation to all the singers and dancers, including Cher Thomas for donating gift bags. Shoutouts were also given to Yolanda Hart Stevens of the Pee Posh Bird Singers and Lorenzo Tahb, Jr. of Ase’ Smaav.

Wiring the Rez Continued

From Page, 3

development.

The tribal land comprises 7 percent of the U.S. land base. Tribes produce 6-8 percent of the renewable energy in United States and they hold 20 percent of the fossil fuel energy,” he said.

“The current electric grid does not meet the power demand for data centers. Therefore, coal powered plants are being re-energized. The GPT-3 training model requires 1,287 megawatt-hours of electricity. Tribes must not only have an energy policy, but it’s absolutely essential to have an energy plan.”

Morris moderated the concluding panel in the Great Hall with Gov. Stephen Roe and Geoff Blackwell, general counsel and chief of staff at NCAI.

“It’s an honor to be here. This is a significant moment moving forward. This is the first AI specific symposium for Indian Country being held here at ASU Law School. AI is an incredible technology that respects and encompasses tribal sovereignty and digital sovereignty,” said Gov. Lewis.

“I am very pleased to be here at ASU Law School along with Gov. Lewis who is the president of AIPI’s advisory board. We all have been involved with this AI movement. It started as digital divide and now its tribal digital sovereignty. It’s a pleasure to be back on O’otham land,” said Blackwell.

Morris read a paragraph from NCAI Resolution No. NC-24-008, “Digital sovereignty is the umbrella term that encompasses the exercise of sovereign authority over physical and virtual network infrastructure and the intangible virtual digital jurisdictional aspects of the acquisition, storage, transmission, access and use of data, including policy developments that impact the tribe’s digital footprint in local and virtual spaces.”

Morris discussed building a body of policy for artificial intelligence in the theoretical framework of ‘data as kin concept’ in the context of digital ecosystem and under the umbrella of digital sovereignty.

“Tribal digital sovereignty is not linked to a singular activity but rather it’s a continuum. It includes the infrastructure, telecommunication, network and data sovereignty, data governance and the flow of information. It is taking care of our kin,” Morris said.

Blackwell reflected on his early involvement in telecommunications regulations. “When I got involved in the hearings at the Gila River Indian Community in 1998 and 1999, the hear-



Leonard Bruce, Data Analyst for the Gila River Indian Community and Sean Dudley, Associate Vice President at ASU Knowledge Enterprise. Jeston Morris/ GRIN

ing focused on the lack of phone services in Indian Country. This situation gave an opportunity for Indian Country to have a seat at the table,” said Blackwell.

Gov. Lewis interjected and said, “Artificial intelligence is inevitable in Indian Country. As a tribal leader, I consider myself boots on the ground. AI is going to revolutionize and automate industries. The question is: How do we get our tribal members to engage with AI? As a tribal leader, I am very concerned about it. We must embrace it, but embrace it in our terms, with respect to tribal sovereignty.” He added, “At the recent United Nations meetings in New York, they discussed how AI can protect human rights and human dignity. AI is developing at a tremendous speed every day, and Indian Country can’t be left behind. If we are, we become victims rather than agents. We don’t want that. Tribal members must become active AI agents for positive, productive future,” said Gov. Lewis.

Gov. Lewis concluded with a discussion on water rights. “How are we going to protect indigenous water rights? Not only protect but also become efficient user of water. I believe AI can help tribal nations achieve this. The tribes need to be at the AI decision-making table,” said Lewis.

The Big questions is.

Who designs the algorithms? (data tracking system), Who owns the data? Who profits from it? and most importantly. Who gets a seat at the table when decisions are made?

Indian Nations need to be at the center of that conversation, not on the sidelines.

English and math are improving in Tribal schools

Some schools score higher than state average

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PHOENIX – Native American students statewide are seeing remarkable improvement in Reading and Math proficiency with the implementation of school improvement strategies, according to state schools chief Tom Horne. In the Chinle district, some schools are scoring higher than the state average.

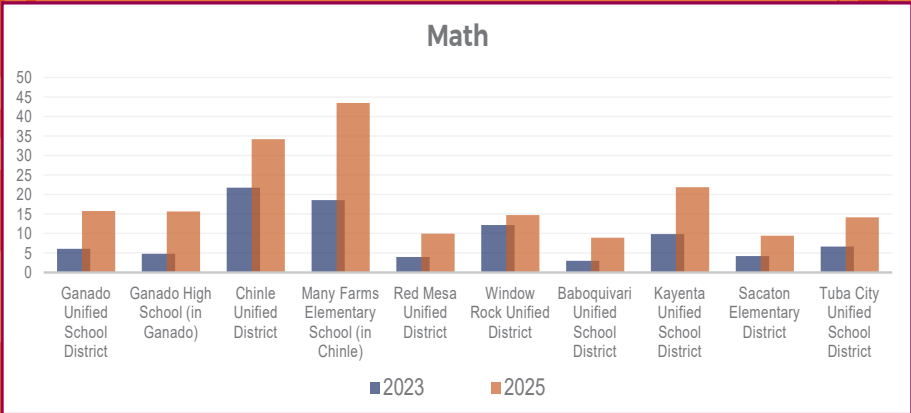
Horne said, “When I took office in January 2023, I was informed that the average proficiency rate for Native American students was five percent. This was very upsetting to me, as it would affect the students’ employment prospects and quality of life. I said that we would change everything we were doing in that respect and give total focus to increasing proficiency rates among Native American students. I met with tribal leaders who were shocked to learn about the five percent number and agreed with me that action had to be taken.” He added, “The Offices of Indian Education and School Improvement have worked together to help improve outcomes for students – providing training, visiting schools, supporting teachers, principals, and superintendents and working tirelessly to help schools and students succeed. With outstanding leadership from leaders of Native American districts, and our help, the proficiency rates of Native American students have soared.”

The Chinle Unified District shows the greatest gains as three of the district’s schools scored above the state average in both Math and English. Scores increased from just over 20 percent proficiency in 2023 to 34 percent districtwide. The district’s Many Farms school reached an incredible 45 percent rate. Growth in Math proficiency was similar.

Other districts have experienced double the number of students testing proficient in Math and English. The Ganado Unified School District saw a 159 percent increase. Growth at Red Mesa Unified District was 149 percent. Baboquivari Unified went up 197 percent and Kayenta Unified School District by 122 percent. The Sacaton Elementary District jumped 124 percent and Tuba City Unified School District increased 113 percent.

Chinle Superintendent Quincy Natay said, “We are extremely proud of the progress our students and teachers have made. These gains are a direct result of our governing board’s support of our vision and strategic plan, dedication of our educators, the support of our parents and communities, and the hard work of our students. We remain committed to building on this momentum and ensuring that all our students, across every grade level, have the opportunities and education to improve their quality of life.”

NATIVE AMERICAN SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT





Groundbreaking for the Ashurst-Hayden Diversion Dam Improvement Project

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

FLORENCE, Ariz. — Improvements and reconstruction of the Ashurst-Hayden Diversion Dam (AHDD), located 12 miles east of Florence, is now underway. Just upstream of the Price Station on the Arizona Eastern Railroad, the dam was constructed in 1922 after Congress authorized funds for all necessary controlling works “for the irrigation from the natural flow of the Gila River of Indian lands on the Gila River Indian Reservation and private and public lands in Pinal County,” according to the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project (P-MIP). The AHDD is a unique diversion dam constructed as a 396 ft-wide and 212 ft-long slab of concrete that “floats” on the

sandy riverbed, diverting water off the stream while allowing the sub flow to migrate harmlessly beneath simultaneously. While it is over 100 years old, very little has been done to maintain it.

In partnership with Hunter Contracting, P-MIP will work on improvements that include replacing flashboards and installing a new four-inch facelift to seal the front of the weir. This will allow the upstream river to be redirected into the northern portion of the forebay, lessening the amount of sediment that could enter the intake gates.

“These long overdue improvements are being made thanks to a great partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation,” said P-MIP Director David DeJong.

On Sept. 26, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Community Council Reps. Duane Jack-

son Jr, Joseph Manual Jr, and Bureau of Reclamation David Palumbo were present for the groundbreaking at AHDD for the reconstruction. The event was marked by a ceremonial first dig, speeches from key stakeholders, and a tour of the project site, providing a glimpse of the future improvements.

According to P-MIP, the current radial gate that sluices sediment takes nearly 45 minutes to open and close. The new radial gate, however, will open and close in less than 60 seconds, a significant improvement that will prevent any unnecessary waste of water and ensure efficient water management.

DeJong added, “Over the past 25 years, there has been an average of 3,984 acre-feet of water wasted through the radial gate or over the dam that we intended

to capture and put to beneficial use.” The project will significantly reduce this waste, contributing to water conservation and environmental sustainability. P-MIP is also developing a standard operating procedure to ensure that the facility is properly maintained and operated. The entire project is expected to be completed by the Fall of 2026.

“It’s really incredible to be out here and see the continued partnership with the Gila River Indian Community, so much progress being made in such a short period of time,” said Palumbo. “This facility will be really important and vital to contributing to water to the basin at large, and really a fundamental piece in a very complex puzzle.”



Ashurst-Hayden Dam reconstruction underway near Price Station, 12 miles east of Florence, Ariz. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Over 25 years, nearly, 4,000 acre-feet of water lost annually. Emma Hughes/GRIN

GRIC Urban Members receive a new van for transportation



Our elders appreciate the new van, it's a small change with a big impact.
Emma Hughes/GRIN

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

CHANDLER, Ariz. — The Gila River Indian Community Urban Members Association (UMA) has been a vital part of the community, providing services for its members for over 20 years. Now, the UMA is celebrating a significant upgrade in its transportation fleet with the addition of a new van. This vehicle will make it easier for members, especially elders, to attend activities, meetings, and social gatherings.

On Oct. 6, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis joined GRIC UMA members to pick up the new addition to their fleet from the GRIC Property and Supply in Chandler.

The new van is not just a mode of transportation, but a comfortable one. It is equipped with plush seating and will serve dozens of UMA members who rely on Community transportation for their needs. “I would just like to thank everybody starting from the Governor, Lieutenant, Council and everybody else who participated in getting us this new van,” said Kristine Nelson, Chair of the Urban Members Association. “We really appreciate it and we will make good use of it.”

The new vehicle, a 2024 Ford Transit van, was made possible through the funding from the Community, which recognized the need for reliable, accessible transportation. UMA Treasurer Felicia Kaufman and elders worked together on the vehicle request. One elder said it will be easier when getting in and out, since the new van features a side step.

“This van will make a tremendous difference in the work we do from transporting our elders to community events and cultural activities across long distances to supporting our newly forming youth group,” said Marie Enos, vice-chair. “It represents more than just new transportation; it’s an investment in connection, opportunity, safety, and the future of our people.”

Enos explained that for many years they relied on an older van that, while it served them well, it was in great need of replacement.

She added, “We are excited for what’s ahead and thankful for the Council’s ongoing dedication to the well-being of our Community.”

“I can’t wait to see all the great things and places that we go with the elders, and especially with our youth program that



“It will be easier getting in and out,” said one elder, smiling at the new side step.
Emma Hughes/GRIN

we’re trying to get going,” said Marie Enos, Vice-Chair.

In addition to providing rides, GRIC UMA hopes the van will foster stronger

bonds among members. For more information on services provided by UMA, visit gilariveruma.org or call (480) 534-7334.



The New 2025 Ford Transit van for the GRIC Urban Members Association.
Emma Hughes/GRIN

Four Southern Tribes Gather for a Cultural Resource Report



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Regina Antone with the Working Group Representatives. GRIC Photo

MARICOPA, Ariz. Leaders and members of the Four Southern Tribes gather Saturday, Oct 1, at Harrah’s Ak-Chin Casino to present their annual Cultural Resource Working Group Report and Updates. Representatives from the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Tohono O’odham Nation, Gila River Indian Community and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community attended the meeting, which focused on cultural preservation, intertribal collaboration and youth engagement.

Youth councils from each tribe also participated, sharing updates on communi-

ty initiatives, cultural education efforts and leadership development programs.

During the gathering, the Gila River Indian Community announced it will host the next round of Cultural Resource Working Group meetings in the final quarter of 2025. The meetings aim to strengthen tribal partnership and promote the protection of ancestral knowledge and traditions.

The event highlighted the commitment to cultural perseverance and unity across the Four Southern Tribes.

187

SR 187: SR 387 to SR 87 Improvement Project

PROJECT FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW

The Arizona Department of Transportation will begin a project to improve State Route 187 located in the Gila River Indian Community. Work is tentatively scheduled to begin in the fall of 2025. These improvements will include pavement preservation, shoulder widening, and new turn lanes.

PROJECT ELEMENTS

▶ Adding a new right-turn lane on SR 187 approaching SR 87

▶ Adding a new right-turn lane on SR 87 approaching SR 187

▶ Adding a new left-turn lane on SR 187 approaching Casa Grande Road

▶ Widening the roadway to accommodate 8-ft shoulders on both sides

▶ Removing and replacing the asphalt

▶ Constructing drainage improvements

▶ Replacing bridge railing

▶ Relocating traffic signal equipment at the SR 187/SR 87 intersection

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Construction is anticipated to start fall 2025 and is expected to be completed in spring 2026. Schedules are subject to change due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

WHAT TO EXPECT

▶ Traffic control devices will guide motorists through the construction area.

▶ Construction work is tentatively from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

▶ Expect temporary delays as traffic is redirected through a single travel lane.

▶ ADOT will provide advance notice of restrictions and closures to email subscribers.

STAY INFORMED

Visit the project website for more information azdot.gov/SR187 and to subscribe for project updates by email.

CONTACT US

▶ Phone: ADOT Project Information Line: 855.712.8530

▶ Email: Dulce Maria Rojo at DRojo@azdot.gov

▶ Mail: ADOT Communications and Public Involvement, 1221 S. 2nd Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85713

LEGEND/LEYENDA

Project area/Área del proyecto

Proposed Turn Lanes/Carril para dar vuelta

MP Milepost/Poste de Milla

Map not to scale/EI Mapa no está a escala

23 810005

Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other nondiscrimination laws and authorities, ADOT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Persons that require a reasonable accommodation based on language or disability should contact Dulce Maria Rojo at Projects@azdot.gov or 855.712.8530. Requests should be made as early as possible to ensure the State has an opportunity to address the accommodation.

25-872256

ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF

TRANSPORTATION

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Highway

Administration

ADOT Tracs: F064101C

Federal Project: 187-A (200) T

100%

FIBER TO THE HOME

CELEBRATION

Friday, November 14, 2025
District Five Service Center
6:00PM–9:00PM

- Bouncing houses for the kids
- Catered meal to the first 500 attendees

- Promotional item giveaway
- Recognition ceremony

Entertainment by Gerti and the T.O. Boys



Reminder
EARLY OFFICE CLOSURE

NOVEMBER 14
at 12:00 P.M.







COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • October 1, 2025

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, October 1, 2025, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Lt. Governor Regina Antone at 9:07 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Terrance Evans

ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll
Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis (9:09)
Lt. Governor Regina Antone
Council Members Present:
D1- Joey Whitman, Duane Jackson, Jr.; D2- Ann Lucas; D3- Kristina Morago, Joseph Manuel, Jr.; D4-, Jennifer Allison, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5- James De La Rosa, Franklin Pablo, Sr., Donovan Kyyitan, Gordon Santos, Jr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7- Jeanette Blasingim
Council Members Absent:
D4- Leah Williams

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ADD THE GRGE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM UNDER PRESENTERS FOR REPORT #2 AND DISPENSE RESOLUTION #3
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #4, #5, #6 AND #8 THROUGH #47 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

RESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION
1. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council August 2025 (Executive Session)
Presenters: M. Scott Sanderson, Gila River Gaming Commission
HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
2. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report August 2025 (Executive Session)
Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Blake Katsnelson, Tony DeMark, Majdi Kayyali, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee
HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
[GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15 MIN BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:57 A.M.]

RESOLUTIONS

>1. A Resolution Granting A Right-Of-Way Easement To The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority Over A Parcel Of

Community Trust Land In District Three For The Purpose Of Providing Electric Power At The Intersection Of I-10 And SR387 As Part Of The I-10 Widening Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs with corrections, NRSC concurs)
Presenter: Ken StockACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community's 2025-2026 Tribal Membership And Designating. Delegates In The National Congress Of American Indians (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval to select new delegates) Presenter: Shannon White.

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving A Data Sharing Agreement Between The Arizona Department Of Education And The Gila River Indian Community (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with adding language to the resolution requiring the Tribal Education Department to return to Council within 90 days with a data destruction plan; ESC concurs)
Presenters: Sherilyn Analla, Lance Reyna
DISPENSED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>4. A Resolution Of Consent To Grant A Temporary Special Event Liquor License To Gates Open WA For Use At The Rawhide Western Town Event Center On October 31, 2025 Through November 2, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Bartley Harris, Kaleb Lester, Duncan Wiston
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>5. A Resolution Of Consent To Grant A Temporary Special Event Liquor License To The Chandler Compadres, Inc. For Use At The Rawhide Western Town & Event Center On November 15, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Bartley Harris, Kaleb Lester, Duncan Wiston
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Master Transit Services Intergovernmental Agreement No. 128-75-2026-00 Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Regional Public Transportation Authority Providing For Fixed Route Transit Services (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Steven Johnson
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>7. A Resolution Rescinding GR-061-23 And Approving The 2025 Community Council Standing Committee Policies And Procedures (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and to allow elected and appointed officials until November 1, 2025 to file with the Community Council Secretary’s Office any required oath of office and financial disclosure

forms; NRSC, H&SSC, LSC, ESC, and EDSC concurs)
Presenters: Michael Carter
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO MOVE TO A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 24, 2025

>8. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing Amendment #1 To The October 1, 2024, Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP (C7605) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter, Governor Stephen R. Lewis, Jason Hauter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7808) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concur)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>10. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Yoder & Langford, P.C. For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7820) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>11. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Center For Applied Research, Inc. For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7819) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>12. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Rothstein Law Firm For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7818) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>13. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Dorsey & Whitney, LLP For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7809) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>14. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Rosette, LLP

For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7817) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>15. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And DR Law PLLC For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7810) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>16. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Public Policy Partners For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7816) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>17. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Linus Everling For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7811) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>18. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Keller-Bliesner Engineering, LLC For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7812) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>19. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Lippes Mathias, LLP For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7813) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>20. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Osborn Maledon, P.A. For Fiscal Year 2026 (C7814) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>21. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Peter Mock Groundwater Consulting, Inc. For Fiscal

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • October 1, 2025

Year 2026 (C7815) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)
Presenters: Javier Ramos, Michael Carter
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>22. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Maricopa For Maricopa CAASA DbA Be Awesome Inc., 347facts.Com Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>23. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Peoria For Soldier's Best Friend, Service Dog Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>24. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For Arizona Sustainability Alliance, Sow It Forward And Food Tech For The Future Projects (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>25. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For Creighton Community Foundation, Frescazona Interventional Nutrition Center And Market (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>26. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For Rising Families Youth Sports Program Expansion Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>27. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For Rosie's House: A Music Academy For Children, Free After-school Music And Leadership Program For Under Resourced Youth (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>28. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For Saavi Services For The Blind, Reaching Empowerment Through Achievement And Learning (R.E.A.L.) Program For Blind Children (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>29. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Phoenix For The Phoenix Symphony, In-School Assembly Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>30. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For Arizona Friends Of Foster Children Foundation, Workforce Development For Youth Aging Out Of Arizona Foster Care (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>31. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For Arizona Science Center, Stem Learning Programs For Low-Income Children (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>32. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For Assistance League Of Phoenix, Delivering Dreams Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>33. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For The Children's Museum Of Phoenix, Free First Friday Nights And Idea Fellows Programs (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>34. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant

Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For Desert Foothills Library, Book Buds Intergenerational Reading Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>35. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For Fresh Start Women's Foundation, Impact Program: Empowering Women To Succeed (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>36. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For Girl Scouts – Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Girl Scout Leadership Experience (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>37. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For The Lost Boys Center For Leadership Development, Mentorship Education And Leadership Development For Immigrant African Youth Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>38. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For The Mentorkids Usa, Ilead My Generation Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
resenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>39. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Scottsdale For Three Precious Miracles, Keeping Culture Connected Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>40. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Surprise For Wham Art Association, Art: A Path To Healing Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement

on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>41. Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The Town Of Gilbert For Gilbert Park Rangers, E-Bike Request (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>42. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The Town Of Gilbert For The Native American Management Internship Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>43. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The Town Of Gilbert For Women's Health Innovations Of Arizona, Expanding Access To Trauma-Informed Maternal Mental Health Care Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
resenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>44. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To Pima County For Tucson Unified School District, Pistor Middle School, Mariachi Education Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>45. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Coolidge For Coolidge Public Works, Liquid Waste Sewer Vacuum Truck (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
Presenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>46. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues To The City Of Coolidge For Imagine Coolidge, Inc. Preschool (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)
resenter: Cheryl Pablo
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT AP-PROVAL OF AGENDA

>47. A Resolution Authorizing A Grant Award From The Gila River Indian Community's State Shared Gaming Revenues

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • October 1, 2025

To The Town Of Jerome For Jerome Fire Department, Command Vehicle (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda) Presenter: Cheryl Pablo

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1.401.D the definition of decorum; G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with changes; NRSC, H&SSC, LSC, ESC, and EDSC concur)

Presenter: Michael Carter

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO MOVE THIS ITEM TO A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 24, 2025

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE TWO (2) VACANCIES AND ADVERTISE FOR 60-DAYS SUBJECT TO A BACKGROUND CHECK

2. NCAI 82nd Annual Convention & Marketplace November 16-21, 2025 – Seattle, WA (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for any interested Council member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations) Presenter: Government & Management Standing Committee

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

TEACHER IN-SERVICE WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025 AT SHERATON GRAND

GOVERNOR LEWIS ANNOUNCED THE PASSING OF HUMANITARIAN JANE GOODALL

FUNERAL SERVICES WILL BE HELD FOR ERNIE STEVENS, JR. ON OCTOBER 4-5, 2025 IN GREENBAY, WISCONSIN

1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby Enacts The 2025 Amendments To The 2011 Code Of Conduct For Community Officials (G&MSC forwards to LSC with a recommendation of changes made to Section 1.501 A.4.C and adding substantial in front of evidentiary support; G&MSC forwards to LSC to add in Definitions under

1. Gila River Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gila River Indian Community Board of Director’s Two (2) Vacancies (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business to advertise for 60 days subject to a background check) Presenter: Shannon White

MINUTES


ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:27 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)


> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM



GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

2025 SEPTEMBER CRIME REPORT

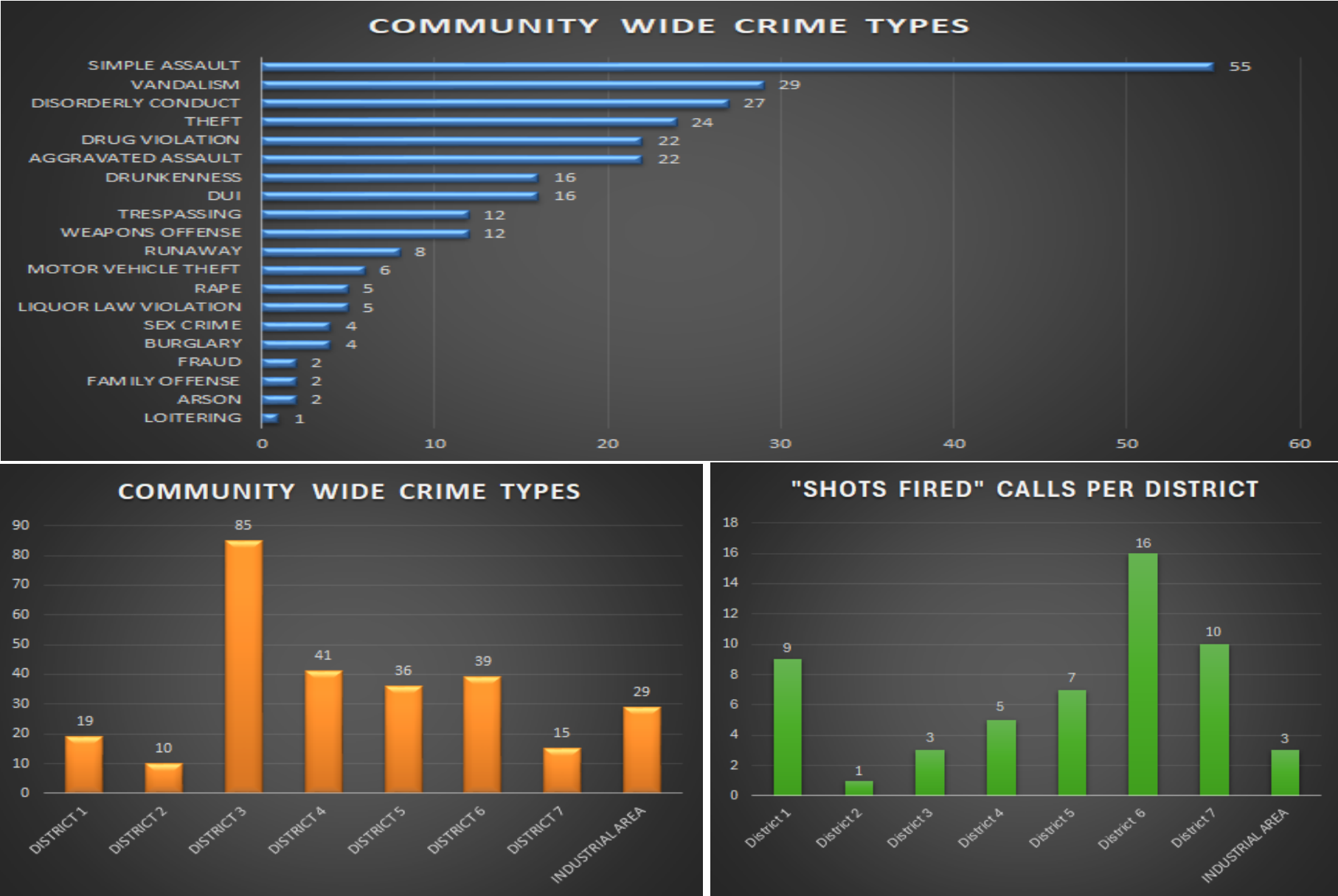


Crime Data Report

Summarizes crime and shots fired incidents that were reported to the Gila River Police Department (GRPD). The metrics included in this report are the crimes by type, crimes by district, and shots fired related calls for service. This report includes data from September 1- September 30, 2025.

* CRIMES BY DISTRICT Chart: Crimes occurring in industrial areas have been removed from the districts and been given their own column to reflect a more accurate representation crime within the respective district (this only impacts District 4 and District 6).

Data is subject to change if new information or revisions are made



Announcements & Notices

COURT NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT STATE OF ARIZONA
CYNTHIA SUE YANES ,
Petitioner/Plaintiff
VS.
ELMILLIO DALLAS JUAN,
Respondent/Defendant
CASE Number: FM-2018-0111-PT
CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING
Please take notice that a(n) Motion Hearing has been scheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court. This matter has been scheduled at the place and time set forth below:
Thursday, November 20, 2025
at 3:00 PM in Courtroom I,
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,
721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.
GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.
DATED this 30th day of September, 2025
Katherine Search
Clerk of the Gila River Indian Community Court

COURT NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
STATE OF ARIZONA
EDNA MAE YARAMATA
Petitioner/Plaintiff
VS.
CORNELIUS JOSEPH LEWIS,
Respondent/Defendant
CASE Number: CV-1991-0399-ZCS
CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING
Please take notice that a(n) Motion Hearing has been scheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court. This matter has been scheduled at the

CASE Number: CV-1991-0399-ZCS
CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING
Please take notice that a(n) Motion 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, December 8, 2025
at 10:30 AM in Courtroom I,
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,
721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.
GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.
DATED this 1st day of October, 2025
/s/ Katherine Search Clerk of the Gila River Indian Community Court
Copy of the foregoing served by 1st Class Mail Certified Mail Process Service This 1st day of October, 2025 to: Whai Homoko Lewis
8145 S 83rd Ave
Laveen, AZ 85339

COURT NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT STATE OF ARIZONA
EDNA MAE YARAMATA
Petitioner/Plaintiff
VS.
CORNELIUS JOSEPH LEWIS,
Respondent/Defendant
CASE Number: CV-1991-0399-ZCS
CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING
Please take notice that a(n) Motion 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, December 8, 2025
at 10:30 AM in Courtroom I,
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,
721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.
GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.
DATED this 1st day of October, 2025
/s/ Katherine Search
Clerk of the Gila River Indian Community Court
Copy of the foregoing served by 1st Class Mail Certified Mail Process Service
This 1st day of October, 2025 to: Cornelius Joseph Lewis
P.O. Box 10702
Bapchule, AZ, 85221

COURT NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT STATE OF ARIZONA
EDNA MAE YARAMATA
Petitioner/Plaintiff
VS.
CORNELIUS JOSEPH LEWIS,
Respondent/Defendant
CASE Number: CV-1991-0399-ZCS
CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING
Please take notice that a(n) Motion 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, December 8, 2025
at 10:30 AM in Courtroom I,
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,

721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.
GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.
DATED this 1st day of October, 2025
/s/ Katherine Search
Clerk of the Gila River Indian Community Court
Copy of the foregoing served by 1st Class Mail Certified Mail
This 1st day of October, 2025 to: Cornelius Calvin Lewis
PO Box 11085
Bapchule, AZ 85221

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
COURT DATE NOTICE
In Re Case: In the Matter of Ryan Allison
Docket Number: CV-2025-0143-NC
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 ordered.
Answer/Response Hearing
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147
27th day of October, 2025 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Gwendolyn Morago

COURT NOTICE

N THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
COURT DATE NOTICE
In Re Case: In the Matter of the Estate of Elizabeth Wellington
Docket Number: PB-2025-0030-DE
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 ordered.
Answer/Response Hearing
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 21 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147
28th day of October, 2025 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Gwendolyn Morago

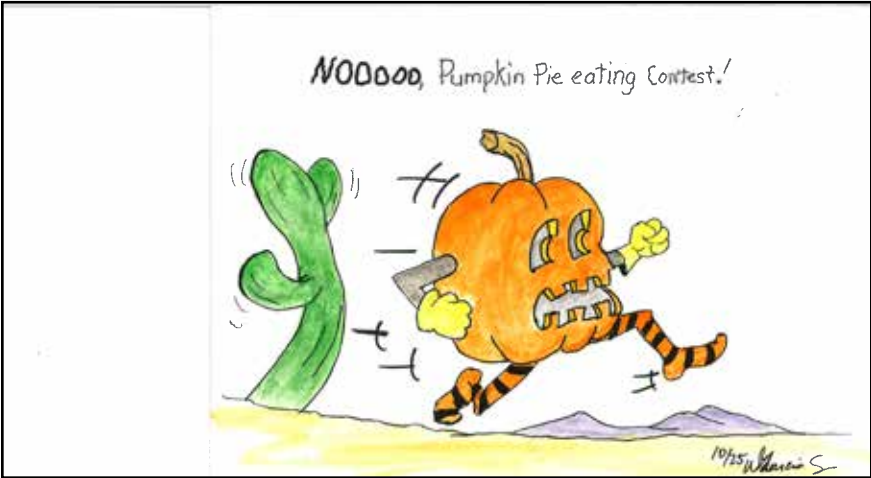
COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
COURT DATE NOTICE
In Re Case: In the Matter of the Estate of Lea Marie Salkey
Docket Number: PB-2025-0031-DE
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 ordered.
Answer/Response Hearing
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147
28th day of October, 2025 at 10:30 AM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Gwendolyn Morago

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA
COURT DATE NOTICE
In Re Case: In the Matter of :Lerio Fayrene Brown-Angulo
Docket Number: JC-2025-01 00-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 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 ordered.
Answer/Response Hearing
AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147
21st day of October, 2025 at 1:00 PM in Courtroom V before the Honorable Kami D. Hart
Issued bv: Acunia-Narcia Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025



Join the Community Health Education Program as we celebrate

NATIONAL HEALTH EDUCATION WEEK



Open to all who want to participate!
Incentives are limited to GRIC Members and GRIC Residents

Throughout the week, discover the impactful work of the Community Health Education Program and take the opportunity to meet our incredible team!

Scan the QR code or use the link to register!



<https://forms.office.com/g/8Y1iE4RGz8>

Tuesday October 21
Lunch & Learn
Bring your lunch and join us for a health education session from 12pm-1pm
*Wireless earbuds/speaker for the first 10 people to register and attend.

Thursday October 23
Rest & De-stress
Stop by the GRIC Tribal Health Department to pick-up your very own rest and relax kit.
*Limited to the first 25 individuals to pick-up.

Wednesday October 22
Snap a pose!
Find one of our program health flyers in the community and send us a selfie with it. *Participants will be entered in a raffle for a Stanley tumbler.

Friday October 24
Mindful Morning Mile
Join us at 7:00am at D3 Fairgrounds Walking Path as we finish the week strong. *Hydration back packs for the first 50 people to complete the mile.

If you have any questions regarding any of the events/activities please contact Community Health Education Specialist, Shaine Boyd, at (520)562-5139 or via email at Shaine.Boyd.THD@gric.nsn.us.

GOVERNMENT



S-he:pijig Mashath 2025: Solution!

Sua:m Omkam

Hauk Shalivkam

Thamthal

Gikuchk'tham

Vakav

S-veg Vonomman



Photos Courtesy: allaboutbirds The CornellLab



Department of Land Use Planning and Zoning

RESCHEDULED
PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE

Project Name: Riggs Road Storage
For: Zoning Change
Location: East of Interstate 10 & North of Riggs Road
Date and Time of Public Hearing: November 8, 2025 at 9:00 AM
Place: District Four Service Center

Notice is hereby given that the Gila River Indian Community’s Natural Resources Standing Committee on **Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.** in District Four at the Service Center 1510 West Sesame Street Sacaton, AZ 85147, will hold a public hearing to discuss and consider a Zoning Change Application submitted by Riggs Road Storage LLC for a proposed retail store and outdoor storage site.

The public hearing is to solicit public comments on the proposed Zoning Change and allow the Natural Resources Standing Committee to review and verify that the proposed Zoning Change, as it is submitted, contains such requirements and safeguards as are necessary to protect adjoining property and the public’s health and safety.

Public comments can be submitted prior to the public hearing by emailing the Department of Land Use Planning and Zoning at LUPZSupportGroup@gric.nsn.us and cc PlanningDevelopmentTeam@gric.nsn.us. Any questions may be directed to Corinna Ortiz, Project Manager at PlanningDevelopmentTeam@gric.nsn.us or (520) 562-6003.

PUBLIC HEARING IS FOR MEMBERS OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY ONLY.
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.



If you have any questions, please contact the Planning Development Team at the Department of Land Use Planning & Zoning (520) 562-6003 Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER

PLAYOFF SAVINGS

Easy - Fast - Local

2022 Chevy Blazer LT



STYLE COMFORT AND
ECONOMY

2024 Hyundai Tucson SEL



AWD • VERY NICE!

2022 Chevy Traverse



3RD ROW SEAT
GREAT FAMILY RIDE

2024 Nissan Kicks SV



ECONOMY AND
UTILITY

2023 Dodge Charger GT



STYLE, COMFORT
& ECONOMY

2022 Ford F-150 XLT



4X4 • V-8
LOADED

2024 Chevy Silverado 1500



CUSTOM • JUST 8K MILES
SHOWROOM CONDITION

2022 Kia K-5 GT



LINE BEAUTIFUL CAR
ONLY 19K MILES!



Apply Now!

2018 Toyota Camry LE



CLEAN • LOW MILES
GREAT FUEL ECONOMY



View Our Inventory!



WE HAVE THE LINEUP TO PROVE IT



2023 Ford Explorer

2023 Nissan Altima

2023 Ford F-150

2022 Ford Edge

2022 Ram 1500

2024 Kia Sportage

2025 Chevrolet Traverse

2024 Buick Encore

2022 Chevy Trax

2021 Nissan Altima

2023 Kia Soul

2023 Nissan Sentra

2023 Chevy Malibu

2023 Kia Forte

2023 GMC Acadia

2022 Nissan Sentra

2023 Nissan Murano

2023 Nissan Versa

2024 Chevy Equinox

2019 Kia Optima



CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER

1026 N. PINAL AVE., CASA GRANDE

Call or Text

520-836-2112

INSTANT CREDIT APPROVAL

www.crossroadsauto.org



*On Approved Credit, not all buyers will qualify. Tax, Title, License and Doc Fees Plus \$2,000 down payment @6.9% for 72 months. Vehicles subject to prior sale. Photos for illustration purposes only.



BUSTA RHYMES
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 | 8PM



THREE DOG NIGHT
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 | 8PM



TWO FRIENDS HALLOWEEN
WITH MC4D
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 | 8PM



THE JACKSONS
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 | 8PM



NIGHT RANGER
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8 | 8PM

**MORE
UPCOMING
SHOWS**

NOV 9 | CHEAP TRICK AT *WILD HORSE PASS*
NOV 13 | TODD RUNDGREN: STILL ME (STILL WE) AT *WILD HORSE PASS*
NOV 14 | 38 SPECIAL AT *WILD HORSE PASS*



TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE!
BUY TICKETS AT **PLAYATGILA.COM**