

THE GRIN



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Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations 2025



Former Council Representative Edena Antone Honored at WEWIN Conference. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Emma HughesGila River Indian News

Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations (WEWIN) held their annual conference at the Gila River Resorts & Casinos – Wild Horse Pass on July 27-30.

Hundreds of women attended the conference, which provides a wide array of information, workshops, speakers, and panels. This year's theme "Sacred Connections: Embracing Heart, Body, and Spirit," honored the strong balance embodied by Native women. "We are proud to present a program that embodies WEWIN's mission to engage, inspire, and empower women in strengthening tribal cultures, asserting sovereign rights, and fostering leadership," said WEWIN

founder and president Susan Masten. "Over the past 21 years, this conference has become a symbol of pride and resilience for Native American women."

A highlight of the event was the recognition of nominees inducted into the WEWIN Warrior Women's Circle—a distinguished honor reserved for women whose courage, leadership, and lifelong contributions have made a lasting impact.

Gila River Indian Community Council Representative Terrance B. Evans, District 6, nominated former GRIC Council Representative Edena Antone, District 7, for the Warrior Women's Circle. Antone was recognized during the honoring luncheon, where she received the award and a Pendleton blanket.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be in midst of everyone that is here today," said Antone.

In the early 1970s, Mrs. Antone began her career at the District 7 Service Center, where she later became director. During her time in leadership, she confronted critical issues such as housing shortages that left many families, elders, and veterans without safe homes. Her determination to address these challenges led her to seek elected office. From 1977 to 1980, she served as District 7 Councilwoman, where her top priority was pushing for housing solutions.

Although health concerns prevented her from seeking another term, Mrs. Antone's community involvement never ceased. She continued serving on

the Executive Committee and was later elected to the Council of Elders, faithfully attending monthly community meetings.

Beyond governance, she embraced cultural and social activities, representing District 7 in Elder Chair Volleyball

Antone's family and GRIC leadership including Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Regina Antone, and Community Council Representatives Jeanette Blasingim, Kristina Morago, Leah Williams, Nada Celaya, and Terrance B. Evans were present for the honoring.

Even today, Mrs. Antone remains a source of wisdom and encouragement. She is known for offering advice and moral support to those who seek her counsel, while continuing to pray for the strength and well-being of her family and Community.

Her story, filled with perseverance, leadership, and service, embodies the spirit of the Warrior Women's Circle. It is with great honor that Mrs. Edena Antone is celebrated among this distinguished group of women, reminding us all of the enduring power of dedication, community, and prayer.

GRIC Honors Purple Heart Recipients



David Molina and Bruce Hutchinson with their respetives awards in honor of Purple Heart Day. Jeston Morris/GRIN

Jeston Morris

Gila River Indian News

BAPCHULE, Ariz. (Aug. 12, 2025)

— The Veteran and Family Services Office honored Gila River Indian Community Purple Heart recipients during a ceremony at the District 5 Service Center.

The office reaffirmed its commitment to supporting all veterans, surviving spouses and veteran families.

Eric White, a retired Marine Corps veteran and VFSO coordinator, served as master of ceremonies. Lt. Gov. Regina Antone delivered the welcome remarks, followed by opening remarks from Jose Maldonado, a retired Air Force veteran and facility maintenance professional. Gary Anderson, a retired Special

Continued on Page 13

Leadership Presents FY2026 Budget to members



The Executive Office, Office of Community Manager and the Office of the Treasuer present the FY2026 Budget in District 6. Jeston Morris/GRIN.

Jeston Morris

Gila River Indian News

LAVEEN – Komatke District 6. The Office of the Treasurer hosted the Fiscal Year 2026 budget presentation at the Komatke Learning Center on Aug. 13. Community Treasurer Gary Mix presented the fiscal budget to more than 40 attendees.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Regina Antone, and their Executive staff

were in attendance. Also present were Community Manager Suzanne Jones, along with Assistant Community Managers Michael Preston and Jeffrey Martin.

The presentation lasted an hour and a half, focusing primarily on budget earmarks and departmental allocations. Community members asked questions and shared comments throughout the session.

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We are GRHC! Where Core Meets Community.







Join Us in Celebrating 30 Years of Tribal Self-Governance and Excellence in Health Care!

Gila River Health Care proudly invites you to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Tribal Self-Governance at one of our events

Saturday, October 18, 2025 Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital Sacaton, AZ Saturday, October 25, 2025 Komatke Health Center Laveen, AZ

Mark your calendars and help us celebrate three decades of commitment, growth, and community care.

We look forward to celebrating with community members and our patients!

Gila River Health Care's
Administrative Offices, Outpatient Clinics, and
Pharmacies will be

CLOSED

in recognition of

<u>LABOR DAY</u> **Monday, September 1**st

Normal business hours will resume Tuesday, 9/2/2025.

Gila River Health Care's

Administrative Offices, Outpatient Clinics, and
Pharmacies will be

CLOSED

in recognition of

NATIVE AMERICAN DAYS

Friday, September 19th
Saturday, September 20th

Normal business hours will resume Monday, 9/22/2025.

For any information on services open during the holiday, please call Gila River Health Care's main line (520) 562-3321.





COMMUNITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE ON

BANISHMENT

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The Community Council is considering adopting an ordinance that would provide a process for the banishment of tribal members who commit violent crimes and is seeking input from Community members.

The survey is open to GRIC members and will close on SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2025



SCAN QR CODE TO TAKE THE SURVEY

Thank you for your contribution.



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. Kyyitan 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

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Women's Leadership Conference Spurs Career Growth At Gila River Resort And Casino

Jeston Morris Gila River Indian News

Chandler, Ariz. — Gila River Resort & Casino hosted the fourth annual Glow-Grow-Game Women's Leadership Conference at Wild Horse Pass Resort & Casino from Aug. 5–8.

According to Kamie Best, talent development manager, the Glow-Grow-Game Women's Leadership Conference aims to promote growth within the female management team through shared experiences and learning opportunities from industry leaders in casino gaming and local organizations across Arizona.

Since the inaugural conference in 2022, a total of 82 women have participated. Tribal member participation stands at 41%, Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) member participation at 33%, and Other Tribal Households (OTH) at 8%

Over the past three years, 16 women have been promoted as a result of training received through the conference. In 2025, the program introduced a Peer Connector initiative, pairing alumni with new participants for mentorship and support.

Blake Katsnelson, chief operating officer at Gila River Resorts & Casinos, delivered the welcome remarks.

"It is my absolute pleasure to welcome you all to the fourth annual Glow-Grow-Game Women's Leadership Conference," Katsnelson said. "This event has become an annual tradition for our enterprise, and every year it continues to grow in depth, reach and impact."

"We've celebrated 16 role promotions tied directly to this program—16 women who took the skills, confidence and learning they gained here and applied them to achieve their next level of leadership. It's a sign of intentional growth and meaningful representation," he added.

Lt. Gov. Regina Antone delivered the keynote address.

"I wanted to personally welcome you to this Glow-Grow-Game Women's Leadership Conference," Antone said. "You were all nominated for this conference, and congratulations on being selected to attend. Everyone deserves a chance to advance in a leadership and management role within the Gila River Resort & Casino enterprises. I love that fact that each year new participants are selected to attend."

"You are a leader. Your family sees you as a leader. Your community members see you as a leader. Your employer sees you as a leader. I truly thank all of you for the job that you do on a daily basis. So again, congratulations to all of you—I wish you a wonderful conference training," she said

Robin Villareal, chief information officer, shared the origin story of the conference.

"I attended the Global Gaming Women's Conference. I applied for the conference and scholarship, and I was selected," Villareal said. "When I came back, I was so excited that I asked Mr. Kenneth Manuel, our CEO, if we could bring something similar to Gila River Resort & Casino."

"I felt the imposter syndrome. If I felt that way, other women probably feel the same when they apply for a job or ask for a promotion. What can we do to give them a step up in self-confidence, public speaking and delegation?" she said.

"We've had 82 women come through the Glow-Grow-Game Women's Leadership Conference. There's been a lot of growth among the attendees, and many



Lt. Gov. Regina Antone with Robin Villarreal Chief Information Officer of Gila River Resort and Casinos. Jeston Morris/GRIN

have moved up in their positions. We're very proud of them," Villareal added.

Norma Perez, assistant director of food and beverage, reflected on her experience.

"Three years ago, I had the honor of attending this conference. I've been able to share my story with women who may not see themselves as worthy or don't have the necessary work experience," Perez said. "I learned about emotional intelligence during the training. It plays a crucial role in management and leadership, including the hiring process."

"The conference teaches you to get out of your comfort zone and speak up. The first year I came back as a participant, the second year as a speaker at the table, and the third year as an opening speaker. This conference has allowed me to help others," she

Participants shared testimo-

nials about their experiences:

"I took so much away from the conference that it's hard to put it into just one thing. If I could, it would be the confidence I needed to make a big change in my life to believe in myself and just take a chance. I now know that I'll be okay."

"My biggest takeaway was knowing I'm not alone. The women at the conference showed me that we're all human, we're learning, and each of us faces different challenges. With support from one another, we're going to make each other stronger."

"Gila River supports, cares and encourages growth for its team members. There are many other women leaders in our organization who deal with the same struggles, and we were able to come together to celebrate our success and connect to help each other grow."



Attendees gather at the fourth annual Glow-Grow-Game Women's Leadership Conference. Jeston Morris/GRIN

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ADVOCATES FOR FEDERAL FUNDING AND PROTECTION OF TRIBAL PROGRAMS

Submitted by Office of General Counsel Gila River Indian Community

The Gila River Indian Community and tribes from across the United States have been focused on policy shifts resulting from Executive Orders issued by the President, new priorities set by the Administration, and laws passed by Congress.

To date, President Trump has issued approximately 200 Executive Orders in the first seven months of his second term. By comparison, former President Biden issued 162 Executive Orders during his entire four-year term. Early Executive Orders regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and freezing of Inflation Reduction Act funding required early advocacy by Governor Stephen Roe Lewis and members of Community Council to ensure protection of tribal sovereignty and self-determination and the continuation of tribal programs and projects.

During the transition of the Administration, the President's Executive Orders called for a reduction in the federal workforce. As a result, many agencies have seen reductions through elimination of positions or through early retirement incentive programs. As a result of education and advocacy by the Community's leadership and other tribes, the Secretary of Health and Human Services exempted Indian Health Service staff from the reductions.

At the Department of the Interior, approximately 450 Indian Affairs employees accepted early retirement and hiring freezes remain in place at these agencies, with the exception of social services and law enforcement personnel. Both agencies are also undergoing reorganization planning as a result of an Executive Order that requires all federal agencies to review exiting functions to determine how delivery of services can be streamlined. The Community has participated in tribal leader consultation about the reorganizations and stressed the need to continue services to tribes and support tribal self-governance programs.

In addition to these staffing changes, the agencies are still working to fill key positions that impact the Community's priorities. The positions of Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs and Commissioner of the Bureau of Recla-

mation within the Department of the Interior have not yet been filled by the President's nominee. Billy Kirkland, the nominee for Assistant Secretary had a hearing in the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in July. A Committee vote is expected when Congress returns in September and then the full Senate will vote on his confirmation this Fall. The Commissioner nominee, Mr. Ted Cooke is well known to the Community from his prior work at the Central Arizona Project. His nomination hearing is expected to take place early in September and like Kirkland, he will likely have a Committee vote and full Senate vote this Fall.

In the meantime, the Community's leadership continues to build relationships with key members of the Trump Administration. During the Tribal Self-Governance Conference last April, the Community met with Scott Davis. Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior (with the delegated authority of the Assistant Secretary) and Kelly Rael, Special Advisor to the Assistant Secretary. Governor Lewis provided a tour of the Gila River Police Department and the Casa Blanca Community School to the federal officials. Since that time, additional meetings have been held in DC and in the Community to discuss Administration and Community priorities such as water conservation projects, streamlining of probate cases, infrastructure and other critical is-

In Congress, the focus has primarily been on confirmation of the President's nominees, funding bills and passage of the Budget Reconciliation bill ("One Big Beautiful Bill"). In April of this year, Governor Lewis testified in the House of Representatives Interior Appropriations Committee and strongly urged appropriators to protect tribal funding - especially given requests to cut federal spending across all agencies. In subsequent meetings and communications, Community Leadership stressed the need for continued funding for healthcare, education, public safety, social services, and infrastructure projects. As a result of the Community's advocacy, and that of other tribal leaders and tribal organizations, appropriations committees in both the House and the Senate have approved bills that either level-fund tribal programs at BIA, BIE and

IHS or provide increases requirements in the bill, for key programs such as healthcare, public safety, and social services. When Congress returns the House and Senate will resume negotiations on the differences in the bills, but overall Indian Country programs were protected, and both the House and Senate committees stressed the need to honor the trust responsibility for tribal governments.

Current funding for fiscal year 2025 will expire at the end of September, so Congressional discussions will be centered on extending the funding through a continuing resolution likely through mid-December. A continuing resolution will require bipartisan support which generally occurs. However, this year, party agreement may be more difficult because of several recently passed bills which were passed with only Republican support and over the objections of Democrats.

One funding bill was the Recissions Act of 2025 that clawed back \$9 billion for USAID, foreign aid and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Democrats are seeking assurances that the Administration won't continue to seek more recissions of already agreedto spending before continuing to negotiate spending bills. In addition,

The second bill that has created tensions in Congress is the Budget Reconciliation Act ("One Big Beautiful Bill). That legislation continued tax cuts that were passed during the first Trump Administration. In addition, the bill would cut funding for certain Medicaid programs beginning in 2026 and also have an impact on SNAP benefits. If left to stand, these cuts could have a significant impact on healthcare for all Americans and especially rural hospitals and families, including tribal healthcare facilities such as Gila River Health Care.

Because the Medicaid cuts are delayed, several members of Congress (who voted for the bill) have already introduced legislation to roll back the cuts passed in the budget reconciliation bill. The Community Leadership will continue its strong advocacy to protect Medicaid and SNAP cuts while also working with the State to buffer any impacts that may arise should these cuts become effective. In early discussions, Community Leadership described the difficulty that the Community and other tribal members would have complying with the strict work and as a result, there is an exemption to the Medicaid and SNAP work requirements for tribal members included in the final-passed

These are only a few of the issues that Community Leadership has tackled during the first seven months of the Trump Administration and the 119th Congress. Governor Lewis, Lieutenant Governor Antone and Community Council have consistently advocated on behalf of the Community and engaged with Congress and Admin-

istration officials to ensure they have a keen understanding of the impacts that federal decisions can/might have on our Community always with the goal of furthering the Community's self-determination and protecting tribal sovereignty.

WHAT TO DO IF STOPPED FOR QUESTIONING FOR **IMMIGRATION STATUS**

We understand that the recent executive orders issued by the President of the United States have raised concerns among Community members regarding the possible targeting of tribal members by immigration agents. We provide the following guidance to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of our Community members, if confronted by ICE agents:

- 1. Remain calm and respectful. Don't run, argue, resist or engage in escalating behavior.
- 2. Have your tribal ID on you if needed to confirm your U.S. citizenship. You may also consider carrying a state-issued ID (like a driver's license) or a U.S. passport.
- 3. Remember the details of your encounter and report them to the Office of General Counsel as soon after the encounter as possible by calling the following number: 520-562-9760
- 4. Ask for the identification of the immigration or other law enforcement personnel who have stopped you, and take note of the person's name, agency, badge number, and contact information if possible, and include this information in any report you provide.
- 5. While it is not likely that you will be arrested after being stopped, if you are, you have federal rights that must be respected, including the right to be silent in response to any questions, but you need to tell them that you are exercising that right.
- 6. Right to ask, "Am I being detained?" Before answering any questions or providing personal information, you can ask, "Am I being detained?" If they say no, you have the right to leave. If they say yes, you can assert your right to remain silent. If questioned, you can politely state, "I choose to remain silent."
- If you choose to answer questions, provide accurate and truthful information.
- 8. You also have the right to a lawyer. If you are arrested, do not resist. You can contact the Office of Defense Services for assistance in finding representation to assist you at the following number: 520-562-5700. You can also notify your local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). 213-977-9500.
- 9. Right to Refuse Entry: Immigration agents cannot enter your home or private property without a warrant signed by a judge. If they come to your home, you have the right to request to see the warrant and verify its authenticity.
- 10. Do not consent to a search: If agents request to search your personal belongings, (e.g., car, phone, backpack), you have the right to refuse unless they have a valid warrant or probable cause to search. You can politely say, "I do not consent to a search." But police may pat down your clothing if they suspect a weapon.
- 11. If you are driving and are pulled over, the officer can require you to show your license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance.



Making Verbs into Nouns in O'otham Ñeo'ok 2025

In O'otham ñeo'ok there is often a relationship between verbs and nouns that identifies the person that performs a type of action. For example, the word (to teach) is "mashcham" and can be used as an action word like in the sentence "Mañ ha mashcham hegam a'al." (I am teaching the children.) This verb can be turned into a noun simply by adding the suffix 'tham at the end and a prefix 'e before the word. By adding these two pieces to the word you change it from being an action word to being a noun that identifies a student, or the person who is being taught. The suffix 'tham changes a verb or action word into a noun and is used in O'otham to identify the person who does the type of action in the verb. For example, the word meaning (to play) is "chichvi" and this can be turned into a noun chichivi'tham just by adding 'tham at the end. This new word chichvi'tham is no longer an action word but identifies a team player or teammate. If you want to be more specific you can add another word to identify the type of player like a thoka chichivi'tham or bo:l chichvi'tham. Another example is "vachvi" (to swim) that becomes vachvi'tham, or swimmer.

Keep in mind, that not all words follow this pattern, especially when another word exists in O'otham

ñeo'ok that identifies the person. For example, the verb (to heal/cure) is "kulañmath" but there is no such person as a kulañmath'tham. That's because O'otham already has a perfectly good word for a doctor/healer which is "makai". Another example is the verb (to cook), which is "hithod". There is no such

person as a hithoda'tham as O'otham already has a word for a (chef) which is "kosñil."

For this month's puzzle we are including five professions that come from five action words. Take a look at the word match and try to identify the person who does the action. Here are five action words that should help you solve the puzzle. Cheg'gia (to fight); gagtha (to sell); o'itham (to hunt); hi:k (to cut) and vaila (to dance). We encourage you to learn their names and use them in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or Speaker and learn to say the names. Professional names may be slightly different between the villages.

A special Thank You to Community Elders, whose knowledge of O'otham Ñeo'ok that made this article possible. haichu huk gagda'tham

mo'o hikam'tham

vathop o'itham'tham

e-vaila'tham

chi:no cheg'gia'tham

Clipart Courtesy Robert Johnson

Gila River's B.T.B. Boys Shine Before NABI Exit Against Cheyenne Arapaho

Jeston Morris

Gila River Indian News

PHOENIX — The Bigger Than Basketball (B.T.B.) boys' team from Gila River defeated the Apache Scouts in a high-energy game at Alhambra Gymnasium on Thursday, July 24.

The final game of the day was electrifying, with Gila River Indian Community members packing the gym to cheer on their home team. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis was in attendance. B.T.B. led for most of the game, with one exception-when the Apache Scouts scored several consecutive points to take the lead.

White Mountain Apache fans erupted in cheers and gave a standing ovation, shaking the gym with excitement. Gila River fans responded with boos, prompting B.T.B to call a timeout. Everyone was on their feet-including Gov. Lewis. After the timeout, B.T.B. stormed back to reclaim the lead. Gila River fans stomped, clapped and roared in support. The game was widely considered one of the most thrilling matchups of the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI). The final score: B.T.B. 61, Apache Scouts 48.

"I am proud of my boys for winning tonight," said Elliot Kisto, head coach from District 3. "B.T.B. has been active for three years. This is our second time advancing to the second round. Everyone played well tonight."

Kisto also gave a shoutout to other Gila River teams: the GRIC Mustangs, 21st Natives, and both the boys and girls teams. "And a big shoutout to the B.T.B. boys team for representing Gila River," he said.

Daniel Smith, head coach of the Apache Scouts, praised his team's effort. "The Apache Scouts are from the White Mountain Apache Reservation. We have 10 players on our team. Our plan is to play as tough as we can and go as far as we can in the tournament," Smith said. "This is our second year playing in NABI. We're bringing in a lot of new players and starting fresh. I'm proud of my players."

The following day,

Friday, July 25, B.T.B. faced the Cheyenne Arapaho team at Central High School Gymnasium. Despite a hard-fought effort, B.T.B. was eliminated from the tournament after a 76–40 loss

"Our last game was tough. Cheyenne Arapaho was more experienced and faster," Kisto said. "But one thing I love about our B.T.B. team is that we didn't give up. The team left everything on the court. I'm proud of the boys. Losing and getting eliminated is a hard pill to swallow, especially for our seniors."

Kisto reflected on the team's journey and mission

"I've been involved with Gila River basketball coaching for four to five years. One of our coaches came up with the name Bigger Than Basketball (B.T.B.). Our program supports educational, college and career goals," he said. "This is the farthest we've gone in the NABI tournament. I'm proud of our B.T.B. team and all the Gila River teams."



The B.T.B. Boys pose at NABI. Jeston Morris/GRIN



B.T.B. Boys player shoots a free throw.. Jeston Morris/GRIN

Gila River Youth Honored at Summer League Awards Ceremony

Tribal Recreation and Playmakers spotlight youth leadership through sports

Submitted by Joseph Morales

Sacaton, Arizona — On Saturday morning, July 26, families and staff from the Gila River Indian Community gathered at the Sacaton Fairgrounds to celebrate the Summer League Award Ceremony. The event was hosted by Tribal Recreation and Wellness in partnership with Playmakers Youth Sports.

Playmakers operates an official NFL Flag program, providing a safe, fun, and competitive space for youth of all skill levels to learn the game and grow as athletes. Through their ongoing collaboration with Tribal Recreation and the Community, they also support other sports like basketball, helping these leagues grow and succeed.

The event began at 8:30 a.m. as families and teams gathered to recognize the accomplishments of young athletes. Staff from Tribal Recreation and Wellness offered opening remarks.

"I just wanted to share the positive experience all of you are witnessing with these leagues," said one staff member. "It's a relationship between Playmakers and Gila River

Our goals are to continue this work, to grow, and to provide a safe space

for families. We welcome all feedback to make this opportunity even better."

Damien Dedmon,
President of Playmakers,
also spoke: "This past season has been awesome.
Feedback from referees
and parents is a great sign.
For me, I'm super thankful
for all the support."

The ceremony honored 10 basketball teams and 8 flag football teams. Youth athletes, ranging in age, were awarded either medals or championship rings. Basketball awards featured the Jr. Suns logo, while flag football featured the NFL Flag-branded logo. Each team had the chance to take photos and proudly display their medals or rings, celebrating their hard work and dedication.

As the event came to a close, Coach Andres Lopez, a community member, shared his perspective. Lopez coached five teams this summer—three basketball and two flag football. "It's important to be out with the youth and the community," he said. "I want to show them the possibili ties beyond our boundaries and what can be brought to Gila River. As they grow, they can continue to learn through sports and find opportunities to better themselves."

The ceremony wrapped up a successful



These young athletes were celebrated with championship rings and medals for their hard work in flag football and basketball. Joseph Morales/GRIN

summer season, highlighting the strong community support behind youth sports. Events like these shine a light on the positive impact of youth programs that encourage, uplift, and inspire the next generation.

With the summer leagues complete, attention now turns to the upcoming fall season. Tribal Recreation and Wellness is exploring a variety of sports for youth, adult, and elder leagues.

For more information, contact Tribal Recreation and Wellness at Wellness. Center@gricnsn.us or Playmakers at playmakersfflinfo@gmail.com.



Future sports stars are honored with championship rings for flag football and basketball. Joseph Morales/GRIN

BED BUG WORKSHOP FOR COMMUNITY HOMEOWNERS

Location:
District 3*

(Depends on # of Registered Attendees) Time: 9AM - 12PM Date: Saturday August 23, 2025

You Will Learn:

- Integrated Pest Management Strategies
- Recognize Signs of Infestation
- Bed Bug Biology

Contact Tison Gill for more info:

Tison.Gill.DEQ@gric.nsn.us (520)610-9950

REGISTRATION:

Open for the first 20 Registrants

BREAKFAST INCLUDED

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

OR SCAN



THE GRIC TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS RELOCATING TO 2 NEW SITES!



TED Main Office- 7050 W. Allison Rd. Chandler



Culture & Langauge Program – D3 Head Start Center 112 W. Seed Farm Rd.

TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (TED) 7050 W. Allison Rd. Chandler, AZ 85226 520-562-3662

www.GRICTED.com
Hours: 8 AM to 5 PM

Culture & Language Program – Contact Anthony
Gray: Anthony.Gray@gric.nsn.us

Phone: (520)610-2334

CILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL EDUCATION

Open to the public Sept. 2nd

TED Main is operational and open for business by appointment temporarily due to office and conference room cleaning

Culture & Language Program is located at the D3 Head Start

Student Services
Advisors are @ the
D3 Head Start daily.
Schedules will be
posted on
GRICTED.com

CHN Host First Annual Toka Women's Health Event

Jeston Morris
Gila River Indian News

SACATON – Community Health Nutrition (CHN) hosted the First Annual Toka Women's Health Event on Aug. 9 at the Sacaton Fairgrounds.

The event aimed to promote wellness through physical activity, cultural preservation, and nutrition education for women in the community. Participants received guidance on hydration, balanced meals, and traditional foods as fuel. The gathering created a welcoming space for women of all generations to connect, learn, and honor the traditional game of Toka.

A total of 42 participants and 28 players, ranging in age from 6 to 72, attended. CHN plans to host the event again next year. CHN operates under the Tribal Health Department (THD), which provided booths representing the Injury Prevention Program, Disease Surveillance Program, and Tribal Recreation and Wellness.

Calista Rocha, community health nutritionist, delivered the welcome remarks and led a lesson on nutrition. Denise Jackson, team captain for Hemakodag, provided a lesson and demonstration on the Toka game. April Morago, team captain for Hemako Ep, brought her team for the demonstration game. Jilayne Jackson sang the Toka song during the opening, and Candalerian Preston, director of Tribal Health, gave the closing remarks. A healthy breakfast was served.

"I'd like to welcome you to the Women's Health Toka Event. I am a nutritionist, and I'm going to share some information about nutrition and hydration," Rocha said.

"We'll start with hydration. We live in Arizona, and we know how hot it can get. Therefore, we need to

stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water and electrolytes. Our bodies need minerals such as magnesium, potassium, and sodium. When you signed in, you probably picked up an electrolyte packet," she said.

"You can stay hydrated by eating fruits and vegetables such as watermelon, strawberries, tomatoes, cucumbers, cantaloupe, pineapple, bananas, bell peppers, lettuce, and celery," Rocha said. "It's important to eat a balanced meal that includes protein and carbohydrates. Protein repairs muscles, and carbohydrates restore your energy." "Traditional food is important. Beans have protein and fiber. Squash is rich in vitamins C, B6, and beta-carotene. Nopal cactus is rich in antioxidants," she added.

The District 3 Toka field is located at the northwest corner of Bluebird and Seed Farm roads. The goals are on the east and west sides, although Toka fields traditionally have goals on the north and south sides.

"Our Toka team name is Hemakodag. It means togetherness or unity. We chose that name because our team members come from different places, such as Gila River, Ak-Chin, and Chui Chu. I've been playing Toka for 15 years. I started when I was living in Ak-Chin," Jackson said.

"Much of the Toka tournament play happens on the Tohono O'odham Nation. The Grandmama Toka Tournament is held in Sells, where more than 20 teams participate annually," she said.

"There are four teams on Gila River: Hemako Ep, Akimel O'otham, Hemakodag, and Hogin. Two teams are from Salt River. The Tohono O'odham Nation has approximately 20 teams," Jackson said. "Toka teams are usually named after the village they come from. April Morago's team name is Hemako Ep,



Denise Jackson team captain demosterating the Toka rules. Jeston Morris/GRIN

which means 'let's playone more.' Her team has 25 to 30 members."

"Down south refers to the Tohono O'odham Nation. One rule of thumb when you're down south is don't say 'punk' or 'stick.' The O'otham names are significant," Jackson said. "The stick is called the u'usago, and the ball is called the 'ola. The stick is made from mesquite."

"I went to April Ignacio in Sells, Arizona. She possesses Toka knowledge and taught me how to make the u'usago and 'ola and how to play Toka," Jackson said. "In the past, men harvested mesquite for u'usago. At one time, the game stopped. April Ignacio's mother, Verna, researched how to revive the game, including making the u'usago and 'ola. Mesquite is preferred down south, while Ak-Chin uses willow."

"When we harvest mesquite to make u'usago, we cut pieces at least six-feet long. The mesquite must be green. Not every u'usago is the same—they vary in size and shape," Jackson said. "To make the u'usago, you remove all the small branches, dig a trench, and build a fire

inside. When the fire turns to embers, you lay the mesquite in it. In two to three minutes, you'll hear it popping. Afterthe poppistops, you take it out and shape the wood while it's still hot."

"You sand off the rough areas. When cutting to size, you cut from the top—the root side, which has a wider diameter. The bottom is the tip of the u'usago, which contacts the 'ola," she said. "My first u'usago was given to me by a retired Akimel O'otham Toka player. It was made of willow."

Preston gave the concluding remarks.

"Thank you for coming out to the Toka Women's Health Event. This is our first Toka event for our department. I express my sincere appreciation to all of you for attending and showing your support. I want to thank Denise Jackson for educating community members and THD staff about the significance of Toka," Preston said.

"As women, we often put others before our own health. I'd like to remind everyone to take care of their health by doing a mental health and wellness checkup," she said. "One thing I've learned is that the only way to help

someone is to help yourself first."Morago reflected on the event following the demonstration game.

"We've been playing Toka for 10 years. My girls respect the game—they're keeping the Toka tradition alive," said Morago, captain of Hemako Ep. "I appreciate meeting new people and giving them the opportunity to try something new."

"To enhance new players' interest, it might be a good idea to have them watch a couple of games and then invite them to play at an event like today's," she said.



Learn all about the club as the new program year begins.

Meet 4-H staff, register your youth and enjoy yummy ice

cream!

THURSDAY, 9/4/25 - DISTRICT 3 SERVICE CENTER

THURSDAY, 9/18/25 - DISTRICT 5 SERVICE CENTER





Players take the field proving that wellness and tradition know no age limit. Jeston Morris/GRIN

At the beginning of presentation, Gov. Lewis introduced senior staff who oversee all Gila River Indian Community departments. He also recognized Community Council Representative Jeanette Blasingim from District 7.

"I want to thank you for your patience, consideration and understanding. We are presenting this information to you. It includes the capital project and operating budgets," said Gov. Lewis.

highlights of the operating and capital budgets. The budget packet is 1,600 pages. If you have any questions or comments, please raise your hand. We'll have

the Q&A at the end," said Treasurer Mix.

"I'd like to thank all of you for attending. The presentation includes a lot of numbers, but we do hear you—and we have been hearing you. I've met with some of you, and you've talked to me," said Lt. Gov.

Community members posed several questions and comments during the presentation:

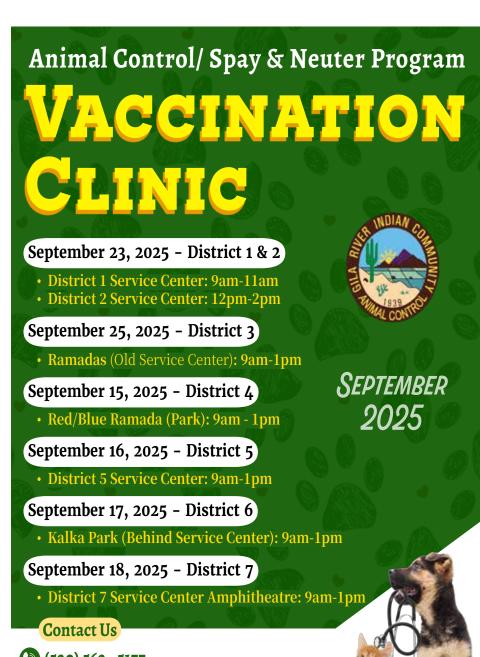
· One member asked

concern about inflation, asking whether the proposed budget would be sufficient given rising costs expected later in the year.

- Another asked about TED scholarships and potential cuts to Pell Grants, wondering if members should seek additional scholarships and grants to cover higher education tu-
- A member raised concerns about potential cuts to Medicare and Medicaid



Community members at the District 6 Learning Center for the FY2026 Budget Outreach. Jeston Morris/GRIN.





Digital Connect exists to help people improve their quality of life using modern technology.

It has been a Techie Camp summer!

We are grateful for the opportunity to bring AZ StRUT's Techie Camps to the Gila River Indian Community. So far this summer, DCI has provided three Techie Camps for a total of 59 GRIC youth. In each camp, students get hands-on experience taking apart computers, learning how the components connect, and putting them together again The best part is, at the conclusion of every camp, each student receives a free laptop that is theirs to keep!







Thanks to all of our partners for making these Techie Camps possible! **AZ StRUT Boys & Girls Club Komatke** Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority

Gila River Health Care Elev8 Program

Please visit our website or follow us on Facebook & Instagram:

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GRIN 2025 NFL SEASON PREVIEW



Roberto A. Jackson Communications & Public Affairs Office

It's a crisp 100 degrees in September here in Arizona. That can only mean one thing – it's football season, baby. The desert is especially barren and desolate for football fans in the Valley until the Arizona Cardinals take the field. That's when we turn our attention to the turf at State Farm Stadium and away from the saguaros along the I-10.

It's time for the GRIN's NFL preview — which is all the homework you'll need to pass the season with flying colors. We got your division winners, wild-cards, and eventual champs, but let's not get too greedy. How about we take a stroll through 2024 and see if there are any lessons learned from what was another wild season?

The Philadelphia E-A-G-L-E-S didn't just beat the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl LVIX, they exacted the kind of revenge that would make John Wick proud. After losing to Kansas City in Super Bowl LVII, the Eagles evened the score with a lop-sided victory, 40-22.

Here in Arizona, the Bird Gang was sitting pretty atop the NFC West with a 6-4 record heading into the bye-week. That was as good as it was going to get for the Red Birds, who finished with a sub .500 record at 8-9. The Cardinals are starting year three of the Monti Ossenfort-Jonathan Gannon regime and they are looking to make a jump in the standings after adding some big pieces in the offseason and developing their young talent.

Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen won the MVP, and Washington Commanders quarterback Jayden Daniels ran away with the Offensive Rookie of the Year award, the same way he ran away from the Sun Devils before winning the Heisman at LSU.

The Detroit Lions had the best record in franchise history at 15-2, and the Tennessee Titans locked up the number one pick in the draft by losing their final six games and finishing the season with a disgusting 3-14 record.

It was a typical offseason in the NFL. Coaches getting canned, players trying to avoid the can and a heaping helping of trades and contracts galore. The 2024 NFL Draft was cheesy in more ways than one as Green Bay hosted it in April.

What will this season bring? For one lucky team, the ultimate enshrinement among the NFL's pantheon of champions. For others? Failure. That's the hard truth for teams hoping to hoist the coveted Lombardi Trophy.

But now let's look ahead. Who will win Super Bowl LX? Could the Eagles repeat another Rocky sequel in the City of Brotherly Love? Or is there a scrappy team in Glendale (that wears red) ready to shock the world? If Kansas City doesn't make it back, is there someone else in the AFC ready to take over? Well, look no further, because the GRIN is at it once again with our picks for the 2025 NFL Season. Set, hike!

AFC EAST winner Buffalo Bills

Members of the Bills Mafia are no longer in witness protection — because their team is the class of the division with five straight AFC East titles and they're about to add another. But they still haven't made it to the big game in the Josh Allen era; however, this year the odds might be in their favor.

How will the Miami Dolphins do? That depends on the health of Tua Tagovailoa. The offense boat-raced opponents in years past, but the waters were choppy last year. If things click on both sides of the ball and wide receiver Tyreek Hill rebounds, then they'll have some happy Dol-fans.

Mike Vrabel returns to New England to take over as head coach of the once-mighty Patriots. Did quarterback Drake Maye flash enough last year to vault his status among the game's elite QBs? The slate may be clean for Vrabel, but he's still a year or two away from putting it all together.

The New York Jets are not flying under anyone's radar this year. New coach, new quarterback—same old Jets. Cornerback Sauce Gardner and defensive lineman Quinnen Williams are still the stars on this team, along with wide receiver Garrett Wilson, but that's not enough to climb out of last place in the division.

AFC North winner – Baltimore Ravens

The spotlight will be on quarterback Lamar Jackson to lead the Ravens. He shakes defenders, but will he shake his losing record in the playoffs? His team is ready, and along with running back Derrick Henry, they could very well dominate and be kings of the North.

The Cincinnati Bengals have a habit of starting the season slow. They always seem to be digging themselves out of a hole, but quarterback Joe Burrow has all the moxie they need to get some early wins this season.

The Pittsburgh Steelers are consistent under head coach Mike Tomlin, as in they seem to never have enough juice to get out of the Wild Card round. I don't think a 41-year-old Aaron Rodgers is the answer, but maybe I'm still mad from when the Cardinals lost to Aaron Rodgers on Thursday Night Football back in 2021.

I always thought the term "no brown in town" referred to the Cleveland Browns. It might as well be. Lake Erie never smelled so bad as when the Browns play, and their quarterback situation is about as crowded as the dance floor during Community Day. You can't argue with defensive end Myles Garrett, as he leads the team from the defensive side of the ball.

AFC West winner Kansas City Chiefs

Kansas City's 15-win season last year came with some questions, which we all saw in the Super Bowl. I think the three-peat talk was a distraction, not to mention the constant cutaways to Taylor Swift during their games. Don't worry, Swifties: Kansas City's window is still open, at least for this season.

"Ahhh, the Denver Broncos!" Hey, they're in the thick of a competitive division, and according to head coach Sean Payton, they are already a bona fide Super Bowl contender. Big talk. But they did make the playoffs last year, and this year we'll see if they are for real.

Los Angeles Chargers Pro Bowl left tackle Rashawn Slater is lost for the year, so Bolts fans are getting their suffering in a little early this season. We'll see if John Harbaugh's khakis have enough starch in them to keep them in the hunt come postseason.

The year was 2002. Visors were popular and so was Nickelback. It was also the last time the Silver and Black won a playoff game. Let's just keep that

streak alive, what'd ya say? Tourism is down in Las Vegas — and so are the Raiders' chances of getting out of the AFC West cellar.

AFC South winner Houston Texans

The AFC South looks weak once again, so don't be surprised if another 10-7 record gets the job done for the Houston Texans. They're hoping to get more out of their offense, and it'd be nice to see C.J. Stroud pass for more than the 20 TDs as he did last

It always feels like a wait-and-see situation in Jacksonville with quarterback Trevor Lawrence. Can he prove to the league that he's a franchise guy worthy of that \$275 million contract? They pulled off a big trade on day 1 of the draft for Travis Hunter, which has the fan base excited.

It's going to be a whole lot of nothing if Indianapolis Colts quarterback Anthony Richardson can't figure things out at the NFL level. Daniel Jones isn't the greatest insurance policy either. Cue the hot-seat talk for the coaches and members of the front office.

Pencil in a few W's for the Tennessee Titans this year because the payoff will have to wait until number one pick Cam Ward gets more comfortable. He was the best quarterback in college last year, and the talent is definitely there for a successful rebuild.

AFC Wild Card Teams Cincinnati Bengals Denver Broncos Los Angeles Chargers

NFC EAST winner – Philadelphia Eagles

The Eagles earned the nod to lead the East once again after winning their second Super Bowl in franchise history. I don't see a letdown occurring — unless something happens to star running back Saquon Barkley.

The Washington Commanders faced off against their NFC East rival, Eagles, in the NFC Championship game last year and were brought back down to Earth after a marvelous season. Their defense has to make things easier for Jayden Daniels to keep pace with Philly.

The Dallas Cowboys have a new head coach, and they get to face-off against the Eagles in Week 1. The run game has to improve if there's any chance of a bounce-back year in the "Big D." But remember, it's Jerry's World, we're just living in it.

The New York Giants are hoping quarterback Russell Wilson helps them move on from last year's three-win record. He does have a sure thing in wide receiver Malik Nabers, and defensive tackle Dexter Lawrence should have another Pro Bowl season.

NFC North winner Green Bay Packers

The Green Bay Packers will scoot past the Lions for the top spot in the division. Quarterback Jordan Love has a new target in rookie wide receiver Matthew Golden to put up big numbers. They're ready to hang with the best teams in the league.

The Lions were oneand-done in the playoffs last year after earning the number one seed. The truth is that the injury bug swarmed on them like locusts. They changed things up with their coordinators, but with the same talent, they'll be solid again.

I don't expect the Minnesota Vikings to match last year's 14-win campaign. It's going to be the J.J. McCarthy show since Sam Darnold headed out west. There are still enough weapons for McCarthy to succeed, though.

I thought the Chicago Bears had potential last year, then they went on a 10-game losing streak after starting 4-2. The culture in Chi-Town needs a shift, and new head coach Ben Johnson is the front office's choice to dig them out of this hole.

NFC West winner – Los Angeles Rams

I'm shaky on quarterback Matthew Stafford's 37-year-old back, but the Los Angeles Rams had a big midseason turnaround last year to make it to the second round of the playoffs. If Stafford is upright, then their up-and-coming defense should do most of the heavy lifting.

It's a big year for quarterback Kyler Murray and the Arizona Cardinals. Expectations are high, and a lot will be riding on his shoulders to make the playoffs. If the offense can make enough big plays down the field, then that will give the revamped defensive line more opportunities to go after opposing OBs.

Last time we saw Sam Darnold, he was getting hosed by the Rams in the playoffs, yet he still bagged a \$100.5 million deal from the Seattle Seahawks. The Seahawks won't light it up on offense this year, but they will stick to their identity and put their trust in second-year head coach Mike MacDonald.

Aren't the San Francisco 49ers the favorites to win the NFC West? Not with that roster. They've had more departures than SFO, and the stars that do remain come with a hefty price tag or aging bodies. They were loaded in years past, but that's not the current situation in the Bay.

NFC South winner Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Quarterback Baker Mayfield brought new life to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers last year, and they're the only organization in the division that really has their head above water right now.

The Atlanta Falcons have the most expensive backup quarterback in the league right now with Kirk Cousins. It's up to Michael Penix to bring back the "Dirty Bird," but improving the defense is the real key in the ATL.

The Carolina Panthers went through a lot of adversity last year, although they looked pretty good beating the Cardinals. I think they might have something good with rookie playmaker Tetairoa McMillan, but the team overall needs more development.

There's no voodoo in all of the Big Easy that's going to save the New Orleans Saints' season. I'm worried about their quarterback situation as is new head coach Kellen Moore.

NFC Wild Card Teams Arizona Cardinals Detroit Lions Washington Commanders

Super Bowl LX prediction:

Super Bowl LX will be one for the ages as the Baltimore Ravens take on the Washington Commanders. Only about 40 miles separates these two cities, but on February 8, 2026, they'll be the last teams standing at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif. Lamar Jackson vs. Jayden Daniels — the match-up we need after last year's big game disappointment. With all his MVPs, Lamar Jackson gets to add a Vince Lombardi Trophy to his résumé, and Charm City will be champs once again and maybe more after that.

Super Bowl Winner – Baltimore Ravens

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • August 6, 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, August 6, 2025, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:02 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

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, Duane Jackson, Jr.; D2- Ann Lucas; D3- Kristina Morago, Joseph Manuel, Jr.; D4- Leah Williams, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5- Franklin Pablo, Sr., Donavan Kyyitan, Gordon Santos, Jr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7- Jeanette Blasingim

Council Members Absent:

D4- Jennifer Allison

D5- James De La Rosa

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE REPORT #1, RESOLUTIONS #1 THROUGH #9 AND 11 THROUGH #16; AND NEW BUSINESS #1, #9 AND #10 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS PRESENTED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

REPORTS

>1. Community Technology Center FY2024/2025 3rd Quarter Report

Presenter: Connie Jackson

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA 2. Gila River Health Care Annual Report (April 2024-March 2025)

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, Dr. Anthony Santiago, Judith Roth, Carolyn Thompson, Susan Kelley, Dr. Viji Murugavel, Kerry Van Volkinburgh, Russel Goddard REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #3, #4, AND #5

3. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council June 2025 (Executive Session)

Presenters: M. Scott Sanderson, Gila River Gaming Com-

Presenters: M. Scott Sanderson, Gila River Gaming Commission

ACCEPTED

4. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report June 2025 (Executive Session) Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Blake Katsnelson, Tony DeMark, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

ACCEPTED

5. Investment Report ending June 30, 2025 (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

ACCEPTED

RESOLUTIONS

Presenter: Bruce Harvey

>1. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community's Office Of Emergency Management To Submit Grant Applications For Securing External Funding To Build And Expand Programs For A Period Of Five (5) Years (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; LSC concurs)

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >2. A Resolution Approving The Payment Of \$855,716 To The Gila Crossing Community School, Inc. Using Gila Crossing 105(L) Lease Capital Reserve Funds To Cover Operation And Maintenance Shortfall (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement

on the consent agenda; NRSC and ESC concur) Presenters: Todd Araujo, Michael Carter

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >3. A Resolution Of Consent To Grant A Temporary Special Event Liquor License To Active Family Development Foun-

dation For Use At The Rawhide Western Town Event Center And Sonoran Lawn On August 30, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Duncan Wiston, Kaleb Lester, Lorenzo Sierra IV ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >4. A Resolution Of Consent To Grant A Temporary Special Event Liquor License To Active Family Development Foundation For Use At The Rawhide Western Town, The Event Center And The Sonoran Lawn On September 12, 2025 And September 13, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Pre-

senters: Duncan Wiston, Kaleb Lester, Lorenzo Sierra IV ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >5. A Resolution Of Consent To Grant A Temporary Special Event Liquor License To Active Family Development Foundation For Use At The Rawhide Western Town Event Center And Sonoran Lawn On October 18, 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Duncan Wiston, Kaleb Lester, Lorenzo Sierra IV ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >6. A Resolution Approving The Assignment Of Approximately 39.5668 Acres Of Community Trust Land (Cotton Gin Site) Within District 6 Of The Gila River Indian Reservation To The Gila River Farm For Agricultural Use (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)

Presenters: Gila River Farm Board, Benito Alvarez, Jr. ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >7. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Operating Budget And Capital Projects Budget For Fiscal Year 2026 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Tony DeMark, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >8. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 2 To The Gila River Indian Community Operating Budget For Fiscal Year 2025 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >9. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 61 To The Gila River Indian Community Capital Projects Fund Budget For Fiscal Years 2025 Through 2029 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >10. Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Internal Audit's Department Annual Audit Plan For Fiscal Year 2026 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council in Executive Session with a recommendation for approval) Presenter: Dena Thomas

APPROVED

>11. A Resolution Approving The Attached Attorney Contract For An Assistant General Counsel, Position No. 700503003 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council in Executive Session 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 The Attached Attorney Contract For An Assistant General Counsel, Position No. 700503004 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council in Executive Session 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 Amending The Tribal Homesite Assignment/Agreement For Amelia Rodriguez By Dividing The Parcel Into Two Separate Parcels Located In District One Within The Gila River Indian Reservation And Approving A Fifty Year Homesite Assignment/Agreement For Gary Rodriguez (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, DHD Staff, Amelia Rodriguez, Gary Rodriguez

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >14. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Marilyn Fae Enos Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council under Resolutions with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sara Duenez

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >15. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Richard Alan Garcia Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council under Resolutions with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sara Duenez

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA >16. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Oliver Jeffrey Delores Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council under Resolutions with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Sara Duenez

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

>1. Request For Support To Allocate Funds To Supplement The El Paso Natural Gas Scholarship Applications

(G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; ESC concurs)

Presenters: Lance Reyna, Sherilyn Analla

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA 2. Immigration Issues and Proposed Letter for Consultation (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business as FYI, LSC concurs)

Presenters: Alfred Urbina, Javier Ramos, Michael Carter MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT THE IMMIGRATION ISSUES AND PROPOSED LETTER FOR CONSULTATION AS INFORMATION

3. 2025 International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Annual Conference; October 25-29, 2025 Tampa Bay, Florida (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for any interested Council member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenters: Steven Olkewicz, Shima Arab

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD TO COUNCIL THE 2025 INTERNATIONAL CITY/COUNTY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (ICMA) CONFERENCE OCTOBER 25-29, 2025 IN TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA TO ALLOW ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & DELEGATIONS

4. GRIC Single Audit Report for the Year Ending September 30, 2024 (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept)

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Ryan Luetkemeyer, Mark Graham, Neomi Martinez, Jesse Contreras, Faye Patton MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD THE GRIC SINGLE AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEP-TEMBER 30, 2024 TO COUNCIL WITH A RECOMMENDA-TION TO ACCEPT

5. National Tribal Health Conference September 7-12, 2025 in Phoenix, Arizona (H&SSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations) Presenters: Health & Social Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD TO COUNCIL THE NATIONAL TRIBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 7-12, 2025 IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA TO ALLOW ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & DELEGATIONS

6. Gila River Health Care Board of Director's Notice of Two (2) Vacancies (H&SSC forwards to Council with a recommendation to advertise for 60 days subject to a background check)

Presenter: Robert Horton

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD THE GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S NOTICE OF TWO (2) VACANCIES TO COUNCIL AND ADVERTISE FOR 60 DAYS SUBJECT TO A BACKGROUND CHECK

7. Gila River Health Care Corporation & The Caring House FY2024 External Audit (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session with a recommendation to accept; H&SSC concurs)

Presenters: Chris Tyhurst, Pauline Tang, GRHC Board of Directors, Judith Roth, Max Haake, Dr. Anthony Santiago MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD THE GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE CORPORATION & THE CARING HOUSE FY2024 EXTERNAL AUDIT TO COUNCIL WITH A RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT

8. FY2025 Internal Audit Department 3rd Quarter Report (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session with a recommendation to accept)

Presenters: Dena Thomas, Kyromi Martinez-Pablo MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD THE IN-TERNAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT 3RD QUARTER REPORT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION, TO COUNCIL WITH A RECOM-MENDATION TO ACCEPT

>9. Conditional Employee Contract (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business as FYI and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Suzanne Jones, Governor Stephen R. Lewis, Lt. Governor Regina Antone, Javier Ramos

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA ANNOUNCEMENTS >10. Children's Court Judge's Resignation (LSC forwards to Council as FYI and placement on the consent agenda under New Business)

Presenter: Anthony Hill

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA 11. Hiawatha Indian Asylum Annual Honoring (CRSC forwards to Council for any interested Council member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenters: Reylynne Williams, Larry Benallie, Jr., Darius

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO FORWARD THE HI-AWATHA INDIAN ASYLUM ANNUAL HONORING TO COUNCIL FOR ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND UTILIZING DUES & DELEGATIONS

MINUTES

1. May 7, 2025 (Regular) **APPROVED**

2. July 15, 2025 (Special) **APPROVED**

3. July 16, 2025 (Regular) **APPROVED**

G&MSC, LSC, H&SSC JOINT MEETING FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M.

Page 11

- LITIGATION TEAM MEETING FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2025 AT 1:00 P.M.
- COUNCILMAN JOSEPH MANUEL, JR. WILL BE ON TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON, D.C. AUGUST 7-9, 2025 FOR WATER MEETINGS
- A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE GRICUA SOLAR PLANT WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M. IN DISTRICT 6 AT THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
- THERE WILL BE A PINNING CEREMONY AT THE GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR FIVE (5) OFFICERS AT NOON AT GRPD

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:26 A.M.

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



Gila River Police Department Crime Analysis Unit (CAU)

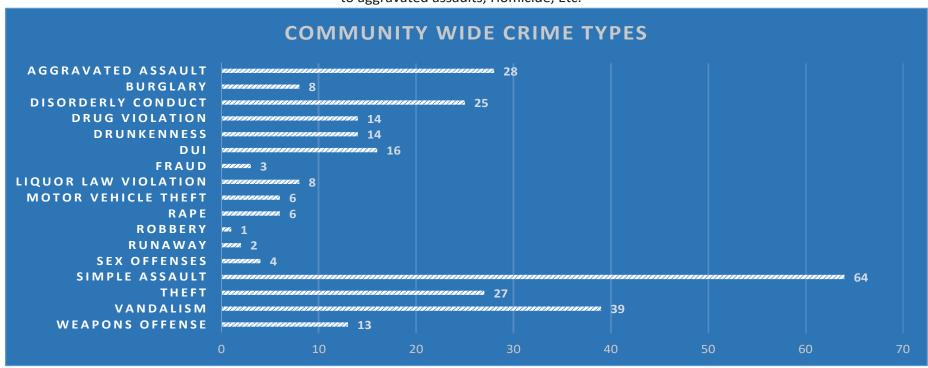


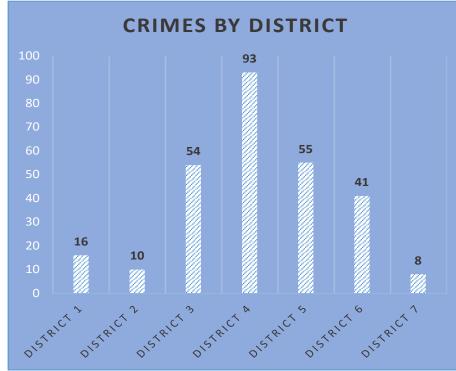
2025 JULY CRIME REPORT

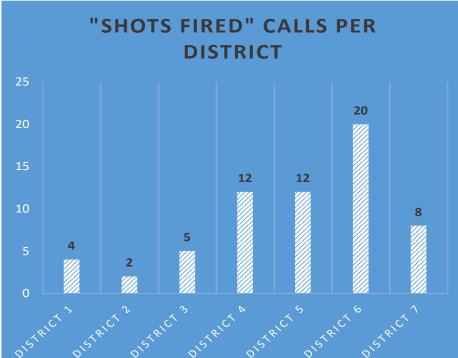
Crime Data Report

Summarizes crime incidents that were reported to the Gila River Police Department (GRPD). The metrics included in this report are Crimes by Type, Crimes by District and "Shots Fired" Calls for Service by District. This report includes data from July 1- July 31, 2025.

Data is subject to change if new information or revisions are made. "Shots fired" calls do not include calls that have been reclassified to aggravated assaults, Homicide, Etc.







Announcements & Notices

COURT NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN **COMMUNITY COURT** STATE OF ARIZONA YASMINE DAVIS, Petitioner/Plaintiff JUSTIN DAVIS, Respondent/Defendant CASE Number: FM-2025-0049-DV CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING Please take notice that a(n) Review Hearing has been scheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court. This matter has been scheduled at the place and time set forth below: Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 21 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ. GIVEN under my hand and the seal

of the Gila River Indian Community in

DATED this 4th day of August, 2025

COURT NOTICE

the State of Arizona.

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

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,

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 10:00 AM

in Courtroom I before the Honorable

forfeiture of your bond, judgment in

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

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 GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA EMILY ANN JUAN Petitioner/Plaintiff VS.

JOSEPH FERRAL BROWN Respondent/Defendant CASE Number: FM-2025-0024-PT CIVIL SUMMONS TO: Joseph Ferral Brown

READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. THIS IS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT THAT AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS. IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT, CONTACT AN ATTORNEY OR ADVOCATE FOR HELP.

You are hereby notified that a civil action has been filed against you, the Respondent/Defendant, in the Gila River Indian Community Court. You are required to appear and defend this action in Court withinthe time applicable.

You shall appear and respond at an ANSWER/RESPONSE HEARING on: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 2:00 PM in Courtroom I,

AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, A7

You may respond in writing. However, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required.If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unlessthe time is extended by order of the Court. The Court staff is not allowed to give you legal advice but staff is available to assist you with general information such as scheduling and procedures.

You have the right to represent yourself or you may hire an attorney or advocate to represent you. If you represent yourself, you have the responsibility to properly complete all your Court papers and file them

when they are due. The Court has a listing of attorneys and advocates who are licensed to practice in the

court. Please do not wait until your hearing to ask for time to hire an attorney or advocate.lf you are not able to appear in Court at the above date and time, please immediately file a motion with the Court to reschedule. A judge will determine whether to approve your motion. You should be in court at least 15 minutes before the hearing. DO NOT come to court if you are sick. If you fail to appear and defend in Court, a default judgment will be entered against you and in favor of the Petitioner/Plaintiff for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition. GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Gila River Indian Community Court in the State of Arizona.

DATED this 22nd day of July, 2025

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA JENNIFER MARIE JAMES Petitioner/Plaintiff

vs.
NATHANIEL HERNANDEZ
Respondent/Defendant
TO: Nathaniel Hernandez
CASE NO.: FM-2025-0036-PT
CIVIL ORDER TO SHOW
CAUSE

Address: 10303 Mawid Street, Sacaton, AZ, 8514 7 WHEREAS in the above matter, you were to appear for the Answer/ Response Hearing scheduled on July 7. 2025 at 10:00 AM.

IT HAS COME to the attention of the Court that you failed to appear as ordered for the above matter.

THEREFORE-

AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUO

721 West Seed Farm Road Sacaton, AZ 85147

On 29th day of September, 2025 at 10:30 AM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Gwendolyn Morago And there and then show cause, if

any you have, why this Court should not find you in contempt. FAILURE TO APPEAR without good

FAILURE TO APPEAR without good cause may subject you to prosecution or other penalties.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.DA TED this 17th day of July, 2024

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

NOTICE **PROPOSED LEGISLATION** REVISIONS TO TITLE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS The Legislative Standing Committee ("LSC") is considering proposed revisions to Title 1 of the GRIC Code, to amend the Code of Conduct for Community Officials. A copy of the proposed revisions to Title 1 of the GRIC Code in their entirety are available for review at each District Service Center and the Community Council Secretary's Office. The Office of General Counsel will present the proposed revisions and answer questions on the proposed revisions to Title 1 of the GRIC Code at the Legislative Standing Committee meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the Community Council Secretary's Office, Conference Room B & C. Community members may comment on the proposed ordinance at the Legislative Standing Committee meeting, or by contacting their Councilmember(s) and/or the chairperson of the Legislative Standing Committee. If you would like to provide written comments on the proposed revisions to Title 1 of the GRIC Code, please provide them by email to the Office of General Counsel at OGC.HelpDesk@ gric.nsn.us or by mail to the Office of the General Counsel, P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147. TITLE 1

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

CHAPTERS 4-5 CHAPTER 4. STANDARDS OF

CONDUCT

1.401. Authority; Findings; Intent & Purpose.

The Constitution and A.Authority. Bylaws of the Gila River Indian Community(1960) were formed pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act (25 U.S.C. § 461 et seq.) and were adopted for the common welfare of the Community and provide structure for the Community to enact laws governing conduct within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation (25 U.S.C. § 476). The Community enacts chapters 4 and 5 of this title under its inherent civil, legislative, adjudicative and regulatory authority.

B.Findings. Recognizing that the best interest of the Community is served byensuring accountability, order, discipline and integrity in all matters of conduct by Community Officials, the Community Council finds:

1. That the Community Council enacts chapters 4 and 5 to regulate the conduct of Officials pursuant to its authority under Articles VI, VII, and XII of the Constitutionand Bylaws of the Gila River Indian Community (1960);

2.That establishing and requiring adherence to standards of conduct to avoid conflictsof interest as to the use of public offices or property for private gain, and to avoidgranting favored treatment to persons, businesses or organizations in situationswhere there is a conflict of interest, is necessary to ensure the integrity of theCommunity's political process and business decisions made on behalf of theCommunity;

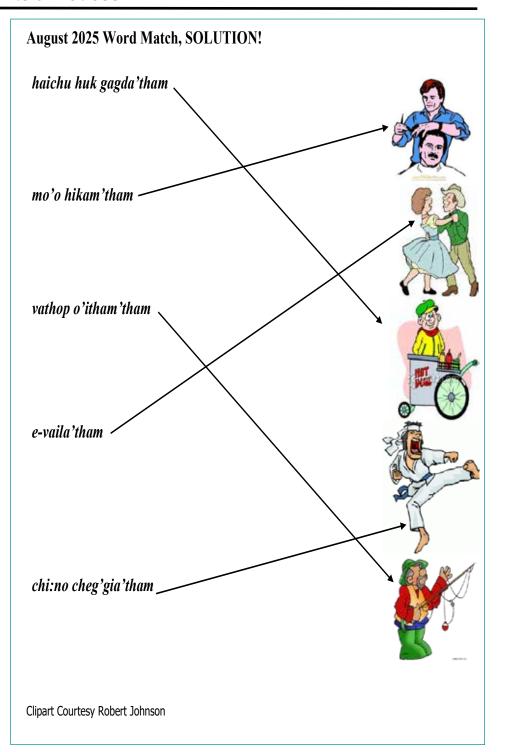
a. That providing for a more informed citizenry by requiring the disclosure of significant economic and business interests and affiliations of Officials whichinvolve any potential for conflict with the primary interests of the Community and Community government is necessary to ensure the integrity of the Community'spolitical process and business decisions made on behalf of the Community;

4.That requiring Officials to abstain from using any function of their office or duties,in a manner which could place, or appear to place, their personal, familial,economic or special interests before the interests of the Community is necessary toensure the integrity of the Community's political process and business decisionsmade on behalf of the Community; and

5.That past audits of Community enterprise boards dictates the need to establishminimum standards of conduct for all Community enterprise boards, and are further

**A copy of this proposed ordinance in its entirety is on file and available for review

at all District Service Center coordinators' offices and the Community Council Secretary's office.**





★ VETERANS ★ ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Price of Freedom: GRIC's Purple Heart Legacy

From Page 1

Forces veteran, gave a presentation on the history of the Purple Heart.

Recognition awards were presented by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Lt. Gov. Antone. Lewis also gave the closing remarks. Former Community Council Representative Jewel Whitman, of District 2, offered the opening blessing and luncheon prayer.

The Gila River Indian Community was officially recognized as a Purple Heart Community on Aug. 26, 2022. The designation honors veterans who were wounded or killed in combat. The Purple Heart is the oldest U.S. military decoration awarded to service members wounded or killed in action.

Deceased Purple Heart recipients from past campaigns include:

- One from World War I
- 36 from World War II
- Eight from the Korean War
- 17 from the Vietnam War
- One from Operation Iraqi Freedom
- One from Operation Enduring Freedom

One World War II recipient was a prisoner of war. Of the 64 total recipients, 22 were killed in action. The community currently has nine living Purple Heart recipients, six of whom attended the

2025 Purple Heart Recognition Award recipients:

- Detective Jason Greeley
 - Bruce Hutchinson
- Franklin Peter Jackson Sr.
 - Van Johnson
 - Frank H. Lewis
 - Fernando Mendez

- · David Molina
- Gary Rodriguez
- Everette Stone

"I want to welcome you to Purple Heart Day. This event is very touching and heartwarming. Let's honor our military service members who were wounded or gave the ultimate sacrifice in combat. Let's never forget our veterans," Antone said.

"The Purple Heart is more than just a medal. It's a symbol of unimaginable sacrifice. When we see this medal, we see the bravery of those who served. It tells a story of commitment, resilience and the willingness to put everything on the line for our country and for one another," Maldonado said. "Today we honor your bravery and ultimate sacrifice. Your stories, service and legacy will never be forgotten."

Anderson's historical presentation highlighted several Purple Heart recipients:

Matthew B. Juan: After high school, Juan joined the Ringling Brothers circus. He was arrested in Texas for not having a draft card - Native Americans were not yet U.S. citizens. He enlisted under the name Matthew B. Rivers and was assigned to the First Infantry Division. He served in France and was killed by machine gun fire during the Battle of Cantigny, becoming the first Arizonan casualty of World War I.

• Pfc. Joshua Morris: A graduate of Tucson Indian Boarding School, Morris enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1943. In a letter from his records, he wrote, "I wanted to be a Marine because they're tough. They killed a Pima boy. I am here to take his place." The "Pima boy" referred to Cpl. Richard Lew-



Five Purple Heart Recognition Award recipients stand with Lt. Governor Regina Antone and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. Jeston Morris/GRIN

is, the first GRIC member killed in action and posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. Morris was wounded five times during the Battle of Guam and was from District 6.

• Sgt. Harold Marrietta: An Airborne Infantry

soldier who participated in Operation Van Buren in Vietnam. He was killed by small arms fire while on patrol and is one of three GRIC members not buried at home. He is interred at Arlington National Cemetery.



.Franklin Jackson Sr., a Purple Heart recipient. Jeston Morris/GRIN

Cpl. Billy B. Farris: Killed by an improvised explosive device during a support operation in Iraq on Dec. 3, 2006. He was assigned to the 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington. Farris attended St. Peter Indian Mission Catholic School and graduated from Chemawa Indian School before enlisting in 2004. He was from Bapchule.

"I'd like to express my appreciation to the Office of Veterans and Family Services for hosting this event. This is such important history — American history and Community history," Lewis said. "I want to thank Gary Anderson for presenting the Purple Heart history. He is our military historian. Personal military history is vital for closure, especially for Purple Heart families who are grieving."

"The Alamo Scouts Family and Bushmasters were encour precursors to modern spe- office.

cial forces, and they are part of our history. Gila River's military history is American history," Lewis added. "In 2025, it's so important to keep this history alive. Gila River continues to honor and recognize all of its veterans, especially those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. I am humbled and honored to be part of this annual event."

"Purple Heart designation signs have been posted to recognize and honor Purple Heart veterans. Parking spots have been designated at Service Center buildings in each district for Purple Heart recipients," White said

The luncheon was catered by Dewski's Frybread and Catering. The Purple Heart award plaque was designed by Lisa Hendricks.

Anyone with knowledge of Purple Heart recipients not currently on file with the Veteran and Family Services Office is encouraged to contact the



Detective Jason Greeley with Van Johnson a Vietnam veteran. Jeston Morris/GRIN



Gary Rodriguez with his Purple Heart award. Jeston Morris/GRIN

Gila River Indian News Page 14 August 22, 2025



Events at Wild Horse Pass GRIC Member Discount Available*

*A valid Tribal I.D. must be presented at the time of purchase at box office or entry to receive the Tribal discount. Discount dates and eligibility may vary.



SIRSSIRD MOTORSPORTS PARK

SAT, 8/23

MIDNIGHT MADNESS

MIDNIGHT MADNESS RETURNS FOR LAST ONE OF THE SUMMER AT FIREBIRD MOTORSPORTS **PARK ON AUGUST 23RD**

GATES OPEN: 7:30 PM TRACK HOT: 8:30 PM - 1:00 AM JOIN US FOR AN ACTION-PACKED NIGHT.

KIDS 12 AND UNDER ARE FREE! \$5 OFF AT THE DOOR WITH ANY VALID TRIBAL ID

FIREBIRD MOTORSPORTS PARK -20000 S MARICOPA RD





SECOND SAT OF THE MONTH OCT - MAY: **BEGINS OCT 11**

8 SECOND **SATURDAYS** RODEO

GRIC MEMBER GA TICKET DISCOUNT FOR \$12 GA TICKET IN TICKET OPTIONS.





SAT & SUN, OCT 25 -26

JARIPEO Y BAILE

GRIC MEMBER GA TICKET DISCOUNT FOR \$5 OFF GA TICKET IN TICKET OPTIONS.



TICKETS & INFO WILDHORSEPASS.COM

COMMUNITY NOTE



SACATON MARKET

Sacaton Market is open seven days a week 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Currently in its soft-opening phase, the market has limited stock and is not fully open with amenities. WIC and EBT are not yet available at the new location. Until those services are active, GRIC Market will continue to accommodate WIC/EBT purchases.

Additional features, including the Sacaton Market Gas Station and a Laundromat, are expected to open soon.







Gila Crossing School **FACE Program (Family and Child Education)**

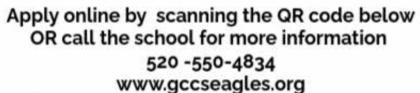
enroll today



Parent/caregivers with children 3yrs - 3rd grade Providing Preschool classes along with Adult Education, Basic Skills, GED, Higher Education, Digital Skills, or Employability Skills.

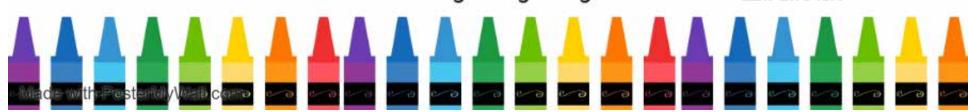
Home based program:

Service prenatal to Kindergarten age, with child development, early learning skills, and supporting parents and their family needs. We provide Virtual Home Visits, Resources, Screenings, and Family Circle events.











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STYLE, COMFORT & ECONOMY

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BIG BEND AWD NICE RIDE!

2023 Ford Explorer



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2023 Dodge **Durango RT Hemi**



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VERY CLEAN WITH JUST 51K MILES · MUST SEE! 2024 Kia Sorrento S Hybrid



Call or Text *5*20-836-2112

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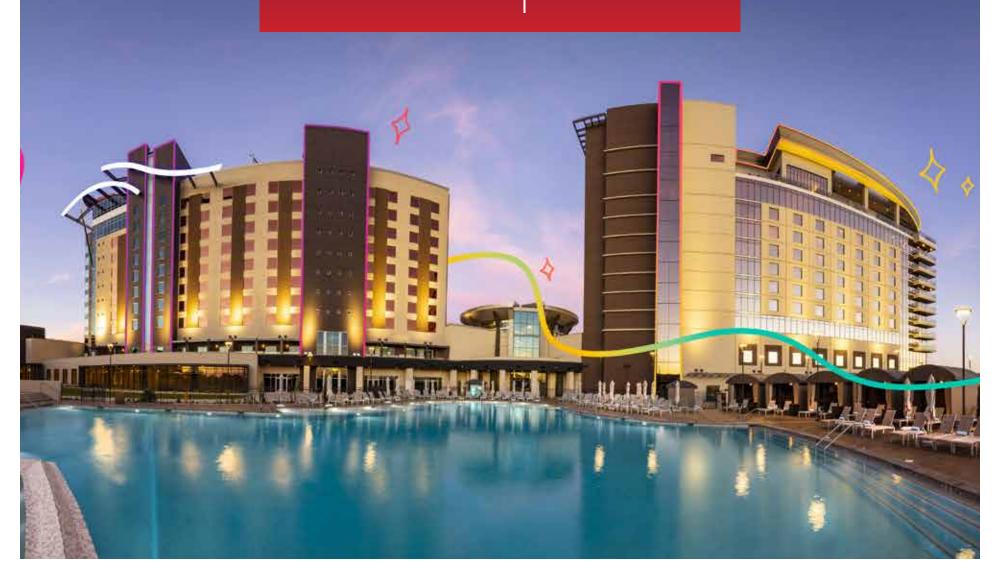
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1026 N. PINAL AVE., CASA GRANDE *On Approved Credit, not all buyers will qualify. Tax, Title, License and Doc Fees Plus \$2,000 down payment @6.9% for 72 months. Vehicles subject to prior sale. Photos for illustration purposes only.







INEIRE HARGINGIA

At Gila River, we offer more than just dealer roles — our award-winning resorts rely on diverse talent to deliver exceptional guest experiences. With locations at Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte, Vee Quiva, and Santan Mountain, we're proud to provide top-tier entertainment, innovative gaming, and rewarding career opportunities. Visit our career fair and interview for open positions and become part of the Gila River Casino family.



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FOR MORE INFO VISITWorkAtGila.com