



# GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS



Blackwater - Hashen Kehk - Gu U Ki - Santan - Casa Blanca - Komatke - Maricopa Colony

JANUARY 3, 2014

WWW.GILARIVER.ORG/NEWS

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## Departments team up for outpouring of generosity

By Mikhail Sundust  
Gila River Indian News

Santa Claus made a special trip to the desert two days before Christmas and helped the Tribal Social Services Department hand out gifts to Gila River children. TSS hosted the Christmas meal and gift-giving celebration at Rawhide Western Town with the help of the Gila River Indian Community's Public Safety Division.

"All of your efforts and generosity," said TSS Director Gary Quinn, "has provided 278-plus children with gifts...and the opportunity to be here together." Quinn also thanked a number of local businesses and GRIC entities like Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. and Gila River Sand and Gravel.

"Thank you for your tireless efforts," Gov. Gregory Mendoza said to the parents, "in helping our children find a healthy living environment. ... I want to thank those [who] have taken on the challenge of being foster parents and those that may have adopted children.



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

**Santa and Mrs. Claus greet children at Rawhide Western Town on Dec. 23. Tribal Social Services hosted the gift-giving lunch for participants in its various programs such as the On Eagles' Wings DV shelter.**

Thank you for caring for our children."

Elisia Manuel is one of those caring parents. Manuel never thought she would become a fos-

ter parent. "I never wanted to foster," she said, "honestly, I never wanted to get my heart broken if they took them away from me... but then I knew that I was going to

be able to make a difference in a child's life." Manuel said she fell in love with two boys who used to be in the tribe's Residential Program for Youth and had to take

them in.

On top of that, Manuel was already in the process of applying to be an adoptive parent. A few months later, her caseworker called asking if she was ready to take in another boy, and a few months after that, a little girl. "I became a mom to four kids in a matter of six months," she said, "I tell myself every day, 'I'm so blessed that I'm a mom,'" she

*Continued on Page 5*

## Arizona Cardinals pay tribute to GRIC during regular season finale, Gov. Mendoza named honorary captain



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

**Community Council representatives participate in a video salute by the Arizona Cardinals organization on Dec. 29 at the University of Phoenix Stadium. (Left to right) Carol Schurz, District 2; Cynthia Antone, District 1; Dale G. Enos, District 3; Robert Stone, District 5; Arzie Hogg, District 1; Franklin Pablo Sr., District 5; Norman Wellington, District 4; Monica Antone, District 4; Carolyn Williams, District 3.**

By Joshua Jovanelly  
Gila River Indian News

While the Arizona Cardinals weren't able to deliver a win against the San Francisco 49ers in their last game of the season, the organization did deliver plenty of gratitude for its continued partnership with the Gila River Indian Community Dec. 29 at University of Phoenix Stadium.

Signs of Gila River support appeared throughout the day. The Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84 Color Guard presented the colors during the national anthem.

Next, Gov. Gregory Mendoza walked out to midfield as an honorary captain who stood behind the pregame coin toss as opposing quarterbacks Carson Palmer and Colin Kaepernick shook hands.

In a video that played during the first quarter, nine GRIC Council representatives waved from the field on the big screen during a video that was recorded earlier in the day. About 300 Community members attended the game using tickets that were awarded to each district, cheering on the Cardinals to the final moments of their last-

second 23-20 defeat.

After the game, 15 children from the GRIC Residential Youth Program participated in a mini football skills course on the field with Cardinals mascot Big Red.

The highly visible Gila River presence at the game was meant to highlight Gila River Gaming Enterprise's sponsoring partnership with the Cardinals, which has been in place since the stadium opened when it was known as Cardinals Stadium in 2006. GRIC has an exclusive tribal partnership with the team, making it the only tribe that can advertise with the organization. The golden words "Gila River" adorn various levels of the stadium, while a Gila River graphic could be seen popping up on the video board during replays.

The Gila River delegation was invited directly by Arizona Cardinals President Michael Bidwell. The GRIC Council delegation included: Arzie Hogg and Cynthia Antone (D1); Carol Schurz (D2); Dale Enos and Carolyn Williams (D3); Norman Wellington and Monica Antone (D4); Robert Stone and Franklin Pablo Sr. (D5); and Anthony Villareal Sr. (D6). Councilmembers brought along family members and some sat in the suite level.

Councilwoman Schurz called the day at the game an "awesome

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## Margaret Johnson named Employee of the Year at 2013 Employee Roundup



Jessica Lopez/CPAO

**Gov. Gregory Mendoza presents Margaret Johnson with her award for Governor's 2013 Employee of the Year on Dec. 20.**

Margaret Johnson was named Governor's Employee of the Year at the 2013 Employee Roundup.

Johnson was Governor's Employee of the Month for October and works in Facilities Maintenance as a Building Maintenance Worker.

The roundup was held at the Mul-Chu-Tha Fairgrounds in Sacaton on Dec. 20 and consisted of door

prizes, raffles, games and a lunch.

The other employees of the month who were honored at the event were Roland Justin, Tomas Joseph, Agatha Apkaw, Leslie Stovall, Lori Francisco, Lana Chanda, James Milano, Daniel Sosa, Damon Sanderson, Sonia L. Duarte and Paul Shorthair - GRIN Staff

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## Affordable Care Act - Still Time to Enroll

With the beginning of the New Year, you will continue to hear more about the Health Insurance Marketplace, also known as the Affordable Care Act. Independent experts say the total enrollment in the new private insurance plans offered on both federal and state-run markets are at about 2 million people through the end of 2013. That would be about two-thirds of the federal administration's original goal of signing up 3.3 million individuals by Dec. 31, 2013 and would represent a significant improvement given the technical problems that were experienced during the federal market rollout in October 2013. The overall goal remains to enroll 7 million people by March 31, 2014. In many cases, this will be the first time some individuals will have insurance. Many of these people will have signed up for their insurance plan within the past few days and are being told their last day to sign up for insurance is the end of March. However, it is important that you be equipped with the facts and how they apply to Native Americans:

- There are no deadlines for Native Americans to sign up for health insurance through the Marketplace, the March 31st deadline does NOT apply to Native Americans.
- Native Americans are exempt from any penalties for not having health insurance coverage, to be exempt from these tax penalties make sure you bring your proof of tribal enrollment identification or your Certificate of Indian Blood with you to your health care visits.
- Gila River Health Care (GRHC) will continue to serve Native Americans that do not have health insurance coverage.

The question that arises out of discussion about the Health Insurance Marketplace, why should a Native American look into purchasing health insurance coverage? The answer is simple, our federal funding, including Contract Health funding, is not keeping pace with our current patient's health care needs. Given the annual shortfall in funding for Contract Health Services, GRHC is

launching a pilot program, paid for by Gila River Indian Community Tobacco Tax Funding, that will pay insurance premiums for private health care coverage on the federal Health Insurance Marketplace for some Gila River Indian Community Members that currently do not have health insurance available. If you qualify for this program GRHC will buy your health insurance through Blue Cross/Blue Shield; you then will have Blue Cross/Blue Shield that will pay for your health care needs and you will no longer need to rely just solely on the limited Contract Health funding.

We encourage any Gila River Indian Community Member that does not currently have health insurance coverage to stop into visit one of our Benefit Coordinators to learn more about having GRHC purchase your health insurance for 2014. To start New Year off with health insurance coverage, we ask that you bring the following with you to determine your eligibility for this program:

- Proof of Tribal Enrollment
- Arizona State Identification
- Social Security Number
- Previous Year Income Tax Form, W-2's or Pay Check Stubs

### For more information, please contact:

**Cathy Mejia** 520-562-3321 x 1251 or 602-528-1251  
clmejia@grhc.org

**Roberta Alvarez** 520-562-3321 x 1311 or 602-528-1311  
rarmendariz@grhc.org

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stellas@grhc.org

**Armida Molina** 520-562-3321 x 1122  
armidam@grhc.org

## THE PHN MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC

*"Coming to District Center near you!!"*

Throughout each month the GRHC Mobile Medical Clinic is scheduled to be located at each GRIC Community District to provide basic medical care and offer another way for the Community to receive services.

*For the month of January 2014, the Mobile Medical Clinic will be at:*

- District #1** – January 6, 16 & 29, 2014
- District #2** – January 8 & 21, 2014
- District #3** – January 9 & 22, 2014
- District #4** – January 7, 20 & 30, 2014
- District #5** – January 15 & 28, 2014
- District #6** – January 13 & 23, 2014
- District #7** – January 14 & 27, 2014

*No appointments necessary! The mobile clinic is set up as a walk-in clinic!!*

If you need care, have questions about your care or need to coordinate care with your primary provider, come out to the clinic in your area. Some services offered are:

- Well adult & child screenings
- Immunizations
- Medication reconciliation, refills request and medication delivery – Narcotic refill not available at mobile units
- Disease management and education
- Assessment & treatment of chronic illness, minor wound care and treatment
- Referrals to Primary Care Department, specialty providers and or other GRHC services
- Scheduling of follow up appointments and transposition.

Come out and take advantage of healthcare service offered in your Community Districts. For more information contact the PHN office at 520-550-6042.



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Fax: 520.550.6033

**Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital**  
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Phone: 520.562.3321  
Fax: 602.528.1240

**Ak-Chin Health Clinic**  
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Fax: 520.568.3884



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# Gila River Indian News

2014

## Schedule of Deadlines

Governor  
**Gregory Mendoza**

Lt. Governor  
**Stephen Roe Lewis**

Community Council  
Representatives  
**District #1**  
Arzie Hogg  
Cynthia Antone

**District #2**  
Carol Schurz

**District #3**  
Dale G. Enos  
Carolyn Williams

**District #4**  
Barney B. Enos, Jr.  
Jennifer Allison  
Norman Wellington  
Monica Antone

**District #5**  
Robert Stone  
Franklin Pablo, Sr.  
Annette J. Stewart  
Janice Stewart

**District #6**  
Anthony Villareal, Sr.  
Albert Pablo  
Terrance B. Evans

**District #7**  
Devin Redbird  
Robert Keller, Tribal Treasurer  
Jacqueline Thomas,  
Community Council Secretary

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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  
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Month	Submission Deadline Dates	GRIN Deliveries
Example: To get your ad in the first issue in May, the deadline is April 28. Your ad will run in the GRIN on May 2.	Submissions (ads, articles, opinions, etcetera) must be given to the GRIN by the <b>MONDAY</b> before the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. See dates below:	The GRIN will be delivered twice a month on the first and third <b>FRIDAY</b> of each month.
January	December 30, 2013 January 13	January 3 January 17
February	February 3 February 18	February 7 February 21
March	March 3 March 17	March 7 March 21
April	March 31 April 13	April 4 April 18
May	April 28 May 12	May 2 May 16
June	June 2 June 16	June 6 June 20
July	June 30 July 14	Monday, July 7 July 18
August	July 28 August 11	August 1 August 15
September	September 2 September 15	September 5 September 19
October	September 29 October 13	October 3 October 17
November	November 3 November 17	November 7 November 21
December	December 1 December 15	December 5 December 19

Advertisements received after the submission deadline will not be placed in that week's edition unless previous arrangements have been made with the editor. Late advertisement submissions will be pushed to the next month's edition. For more information, contact Gina Goodman at the Communications and Public Affairs Office: (520) 562-9715 or via email at: gina.goodman@gric.nsn.us

### Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park drag strip gets a makeover



Steve Cooper/Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park

Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park began construction in December to revamp its drag strip. A crucial 540 feet of seven-inch-thick, rebar-reinforced concrete will be redone, making it able to withstand the high speeds and horsepower the cars generate. The strip's timing system, scoring system and public address system is also scheduled to be overhauled in time for an upcoming Jan. 17 event. "Everything will be world class," said Paul Clayton, head of the track-managing group Coppertrain.

### CORRECTIONS

In "Tate brothers use martial arts to fight life's battles" (Nov. 1), the article misstated Joe Tate's profession as a Kindergarten teacher in Salt River. Tate is an early childhood teacher aide at the Salt River Early Childhood Education Center. In the same article, the accompanying photograph should have been credited to Joshua Jovanely and not Roberto A. Jackson. *The GRIN encourages comments and suggestions about content that warrants correction or clarification. To report an error call (520)562-9719 or email GRIN@gric.nsn.us*

**YOUR PER CAPITA CORNER**

[www.mygilariver.com/percapita](http://www.mygilariver.com/percapita)

**2014 Quarterly Per Capita Schedule:**

Deadline	Payment
<del>December 16</del>	January 31 (Friday)
March 17	April 30 (Wednesday)
June 16	July 31 (Thursday)
September 15	October 31 (Friday)

**Trust Early Distribution Request:**

March 31	April 15 (Tues)
June 30	July 15 (Tues)

**IRS 1099 Forms to be MAILED**

The 1099 forms for the 2013 per capita payments (plus other GRIC payments you may have received) will be mailed out to your Enrollment Office mailing address by **January 31, 2014**. To ensure you receive your 1099 on time for tax filing, please make sure your Enrollment Office address on file is current.

**REMINDER FOR APRIL 31, 2014 PAYOUT**

New adult applicants: Turning 18 years old before or on April 30, 2014? Apply for adult per capita, by March 17, 2014 to be determined eligible for the April 30<sup>th</sup> payment.

Returned statements/checks: Keep your address current with the Enrollment Office by using the Address Update Form. You can reach the Enrollment Office at 520-562-9790. Also, each time your address changes also submit an IRS, W-9 Form, to the PCO. Always submit your forms before the above deadlines!

**PCO Hours of Operation:**

We are open for the general public Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. You may also find Per Capita information and forms, 24/7

on the Community website: [www.mygilariver.com](http://www.mygilariver.com) or call the PCO during the above hours, at (520) 562-5222 or (866) 416-2618. The PCO will be happy to mail information to your address.

**COBELL INDIAN TRUST SETTLEMENT**

The Per Capita Office is not affiliated with these payments. If you have questions regarding these checks, please call the Indian Trust Settlement (Cobell) at 800-961-6109. For IIM accounts call BIA at 520-562-3608 or the Office of Special Trustees at 888-678-6836.

**PER CAPITA TRUST ACCOUNTS**

**Semi-annual Trust Statements**

Minor trust statements will be mailed out by Providence First Trust by **January 31, 2014** to your child's address on file with the Enrollment Department. Please update your child's Enrollment mailing address as soon as possible.

**Next Request Deadline**

**March 31, 2014** is the next deadline to turn in the following documents related to the minor trust accounts: 1) Early distribution request for your child's clothing, medical and educational needs. Keep in mind that this is allowed only two times per year and is subject to annual dollar limits. 2) Trust termination request to close the minor trust account if the requestor is at least 18 years old and provides a high school diploma or GED certificate. Otherwise must be 21 years old (no education requirements.)

**Per Capital Trust Accounts - Contact**

Call Providence First at (800) 350-0208 or (480) 282-8812 if you have questions related to your child's trust account, statement or distribution requests. You can ask for a brochure which contains information related to the trust.

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# COMMUNITY UPDATES BY GRIN STAFF

Here are some regular updates on the on-going issues pertaining to the Gila River Indian Community.

**Press Release**

## NCAI President: Gov. Walker “Just Took a Big Step Backward” By Signing Mascot Bill

WASHINGTON, DC - In response to a controversial bill signed into law on Thursday, December 19th by Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, making it easier for schools with Native American mascots to keep them and harder for people who want to change the nicknames to challenge them, Na-

tional Congress of American Indians President Brian Cladoosby issued the following statement:

“I was deeply saddened to hear that Wisconsin Governor Walker signed a misguided bill that protects racist stereotypes reinforced by using Native Ameri-

can names and images as school mascots. Many communities, even some in Wisconsin, have recognized that these nicknames do not honor Native people and rejected these outdated notions. Wisconsin just took a big step backward in the journey toward a more inclusive and respectful society.”

*About The National Congress of American Indians:*

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of tribal governments and

communities, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights. For more information visit [www.ncai.org](http://www.ncai.org)

## Gift giving at Rawhide

*From Page 1*

said. “I can’t have my own children but...God blessed me in another way because he knew my heart was willing.”

Manuel sought help from everywhere and TSS backed her up at every turn. “I had to start from the bottom,” she said, “I had nothing. I took advantage of the car seat program so I got free car seats...it was a blessing.”

Manuel is a long-time employee of the Community and is passionate about all things Gila River. Most of all, she wants more people to know about the great things TSS is doing for its people.

“It’s a great program,” she said. “I think we need to get more people active. [W]e have kids that need good homes and if they have a space for them, to open up their hearts and help make a difference in their lives.

“I don’t know how long I’ll

have my boys but I do know that they’ll be loved and cared for until they tell me that they have to go.”

Brittany, a Gila River community member, is another adoptive mother who praises TSS. Currently, she is trying to adopt two of her nieces whom she fears will be forced to leave the Community if they are let into a group home. “[They’re] my nieces so I’d rather keep them with me,” she said.

“Right now I’ve been trying to fight for adoption,” she said, “but [TSS is] there to help us; they’re there to speak on our behalf to let them know what we been doing.” Brittany has four kids of her own.

She said all her kids enjoyed the TSS event and loved meeting Santa. “It’s good to see what they provide for these kids and what they can do for them.”

The day consisted of Santa Claus, campfires, hot dogs, burg-



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

**Families from the Tribal Social Services program gathered for some holiday fun and fellowship at Rawhide Western Town Dec. 23.**

ers, trees made of Christmas lights, giant wreaths and literally hundreds of wrapped presents, which crowded the Rawhide stage and spilled over to the backstage.

“The event was awesome,”

Manuel said. “My three-year-old [is] loving the toys and...he really liked Santa. This is just a great opportunity for us to be a family.

## Cardinals

*From Page 1*

experience” and commended the team for a hard-fought game. “Fantastic fight!” Schurz wrote in an email. “I truly applaud the Cardinals for an awesome season.”

The partnership with the Cardinals enhances the Community’s economic development, Schurz added. “The relationship [aids] our Community through marketing and building a network much needed these days for the viability and sustainability of the Gila River Indian Community,” she wrote.

Councilman Villareal touted the National Football League’s global reach as a major vehicle for exposing the Community brand.

“The NFL is a worldwide market in it’s own,” Villareal said in a phone interview. “For the Community to be at the level of having the exclusive [tribal] rights to the marketing, that’s obviously a good opportunity for us.”

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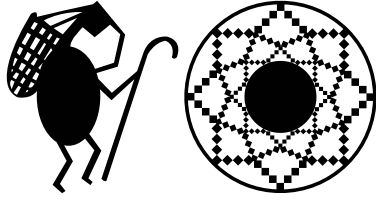
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## SOMETHING TO BE TOLD OR TALKED ABOUT

Traditionally our O'otham New Year is six months away. When summer s-toñ bakes to almost unbearable, we're anticipating that invigorating smell of moist shegoi, washed by June rains. When jegos and ju:k come, the temperature drop sends children running outside. Elders smile, recalling the joy of running through puddles and catching raindrops in their mouth. Our desert turns green, day by day the temperature retreats a bit, and we continue the circular journey to the cold of today, cooped up inside, covered with blankets and craving the warmth. I note the five O'odham words used so far and apologize to Piipash for not knowing enough of your language. I wonder how old these words are—did Huhugam use them? Opinions on our language will be as many as the number of elders asked. Even people who study languages have differing opinions.

The Tepiman family is a group of southern Uto-Aztecan languages spoken in southern Arizona and northern Mexico. The family consists of two subfamilies: the Piman and Tepehuan. The Spanish who arrived here in the late 1600s labeled the Piman as the Upper Pima and our Mexican cousins, the Lower Pima. The Tepehuan group of languages stretches from the northern Mexico state of Chihuahua, into Durango and northern Jalisco. Leading linguists such as Kenneth Hale and David Harris theorize that O'otham is a "continuous chain of dialects belonging to a single language." A dialect is a kind of regional language that uses different pronunciations, grammar, or words than a similar language – like

different branches from a tree. Think of "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off"—the song that has the lyric "You like to-may-toes and I like to-mah-toes" and other verses contrasting different pronunciations. An O'otham speaker from Blackwater and one from the West End will say things differently. They understand each other and neither is wrong in what they say. Another beauty of being O'otham –we are one in spite of our differences.

Other linguists David Shaul and Jane Hill believe that O'otham and Tepehuan languages may have split as late as 1,000 years ago. This led them to their idea "that the proto-Tepiman speech community existed sometime during the first millennium A. D., well within the Huhugam period". Did the Huhugam speak our language?

With their research, Shaul and Hill also proposed there was much borrowing between Tepiman and Yuman languages. The Colorado River was a strong lure to desert groups and resulted in a lot of diversity along its banks. It's very likely that it was common for Natives along the Colorado to speak the two languages. Shaul and Hill believe some Tepiman, Yumans and maybe Zuni were part of the Huhugam system. But their research is not as clear for the O'odham, who now occupy much of the area where there are Huhugam ruins. They feel the largest dialect of modern-day O'otham reflects a people who "spread into abandoned Hohokam regions in the late prehistoric period..." An element of our creation story has O'otham arriving here then battling and displacing the Hohokam elite. Are our stories "myths" or based on historical facts? Will an answer ever be agreed upon?

Questions and ideas to think about during the short days and long nights of the cold season. The elders of today have lived through quite a number of changes within their lifetime. When these experiences are shared, they are precious. If you see an elder asleep in the chair, don't wake them, just toss on another blanket. We're probably dreaming of the O'odham New Year—our childhood summers; of the s-toñ, the ju:k, and hearing nothing but O'otham or Piipash.

The bulk of the information was taken from *Landscapes of Fraud: Mission Tumacacori, the Baca Float, and the Betrayal of the O'odham* by Thomas C. Sheridan. The University of Arizona Press, 2006.



### **Community Services Department Community Notice**

The following changes have been made to the District Assistant Programs administered at the District Service Centers in the Gila River Indian Community.

#### **Effective January 1, 2014**

#### **Attention all Elderly and Disabled Members**

- **No Income test** required for all elderly and disabled members for assistance under **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** and **Home Repair Program (HRP)** – See your District center for more information on this benefit.

Per legal review of tax liability to our members, all other assistance programs will require income verification. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we make the transition. For questions or concerns, contact your local District Service Center Coordinator.

#### **Effective October 1, 2013**

- The percentage increased from 200% to 250% above the Federal Poverty Income Guideline (FPIG) to be eligible for assistance which may provide eligibility to more members. **(FPIG matrix available at the service centers)**
- Increase of emergency minor home repair amount from \$100 - \$300 - work order request must be made, labor and supplies will be taken care of via service center budget. **( A full listing of covered emergency repairs is available at the service centers) Determination of eligible "emergency repairs" will be made after completion of assessment by District Service Center staff.**
- Utility bills under \$25.00 will **not** be paid under Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) \*Past due amounts still need to be paid by the member to avoid service interruption.

<b>D1</b> Alan Blackwater	(520) 215-2110	<b>D4</b> Ramsey Moffett	(520) 418-3661
<b>D2</b> Jeanne Gomez	(520) 562-3450	<b>D5</b> Laurie Thomas	(520) 315-3441
<b>D3</b> Loren Ortega	(520) 562-3334	<b>D6</b> Gilbert Sabori	(520) 550-3804

**D7** D. Ann Manuel (520) 430-4780  
 Pamela Thompson, Director 520.562.9691  
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Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Eugene Lewis, 18, showing the rewards of a successful cross country season. He was born in Sacaton and ran in the 2013 Division IV State Cross Country Championships.

## Cross country runner stays focused, wins medals

By Roberto A. Jackson  
Gila River Indian News

Salt River High School athlete Eugene Lewis, 18, reflected on a successful cross country season with smiles and fresh memories of winning medals and winning the admiration of his family and his school.

Back in November, Lewis, who was born in Sacaton, achieved something that no other SRHS athlete had done: he went to the state championship and earned a medal.

During the race, Lewis's mindset was as strong as his physical game as he kept reminding himself to keep pushing. "I want to win a medal. I want to win a medal," said Lewis.

The AIA Division IV State Cross Country Championship took place last year on Nov. 9

and Lewis placed 15th out of the 159 athletes who competed in a stacked section of runners.

"He's come a long way," said his mother Helena Chiago.

Chiago was extremely happy with Lewis's coaches Brooki Beasley and Jeff Johnson.

She credited them with instilling confidence and good sportsmanship in Lewis.

The senior made it to state last year and didn't win a medal but last year's experience seemed to pay off as he looks to possibly continue his cross country career at a local community college.

He splits his school day between the East Valley Institute of Technology in Mesa and SRHS. He enjoys science and is contemplating a career in law enforcement.

## Miss Gila River and Gov. Mendoza roll through Phoenix in the 2013 Fort McDowell Fiesta Bowl Parade



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

The Gila River Indian Community participated in the 2013 Fort McDowell Fiesta Bowl Parade in Phoenix. The parade, in its 43rd year, was presented by the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation.

Gov. Gregory Mendoza was showcased along with Miss Gila River Lisa Hendricks. Members of the Akimel O'odham/Pee Posh Youth Council walked along the parade route as well.

The parade was held on Dec. 28 and was nearly two miles long. It was broadcasted on KNXV-ABC 15. The parade commenced under the theme "Spirit of the Southwest" and was free to the public.

The families of the Granite Mountain Hot Shots who passed away in the Yarnell Hill Fire served as the Grand Marshals. Top: Miss Gila River Lisa Hendricks and Gov. Gregory Mendoza wave to the crowds.

Above: Nathaniel Talamantez and Thomas Etsitty carry the banner with the GRIC Seal. Right: Adrienne Dixon follows and waves to the people lined along 7th Street in Phoenix.



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Gila River Health Care Family Planning Mobile Medical Clinic (Title X Funded) <b>JANUARY 2014</b>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CALL AND SCHEDULE YOUR FAMILY PLANNING APPOINTMENT TODAY		1 NO CLINIC	2 NO CLINIC	3 NO CLINIC
6 SACATON (SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HOSPITAL CAMPUS) INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 8:00-2:00 PM	7 VHM HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CLINIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 8:30-2:00 PM	8 D5 (BAPCHULE) SACATE HOUSING 8:30-11:30 PM D5 PEDRO SITE 12:00-2:30 PM	9 SACATON DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES	10 NO CLINIC
13 D3 (SACATON) BY BOY'S & GIRL'S CLUB 8:30-2:30 PM	14 AK-CHIN (MARICOPA) CLINIC INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 8:30-2:00 PM	15 D1 (BLACKWATER) MULTI PURPOSE BLDG 8:30-11:30 PM D2 HOUSING 12:00-2:30 PM	16 D6 (KOMATKE) BY KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	17 NO CLINIC
20 NO CLINIC	21 IRA HAYES HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CLINIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 8:30-2:00 PM	22 D4 (SAN TAN) SERVICE CENTER 8:30-2:30 PM	23 NO CLINIC	24 NO CLINIC
27 SACATON (SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HOSPITAL CAMPUS) INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 8:00-2:00 PM	28 CENTRAL ARIZONA COLLEGE FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC	29 D3 (SACATON) BY BOY'S & GIRL'S CLUB 8:30-2:30 PM	30 D7 (Maricopa Colony) SERVICE CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	31 NO CLINIC

Gila River Health Care Family Planning Mobile Medical Clinic (Title X Funded) <b>FEBRUARY 2014</b>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CALL AND SCHEDULE YOUR FAMILY PLANNING APPOINTMENT TODAY				
3 D3 (SACATON) BY BOY'S & GIRL'S CLUB 8:30-2:30 PM	4 VHM HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CLINIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 8:30-2:00 PM	5 D5 (BAPCHULE) HEADSTART 8:30-2:30 PM	6 NO CLINIC	7 NO CLINIC
10 CENTRAL ARIZONA COLLEGE FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC	11 AK-CHIN (MARICOPA) CLINIC INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 8:30-2:00 PM	12 D1 (BLACKWATER) NEW HOUSING 8:30-2:30 PM	13 D6 (KOMATKE) BY KOMATKE HEALTH CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	14 NO CLINIC
17 NO CLINIC	18 IRA HAYES HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CLINIC BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 8:30-2:00 PM	19 D4 (SAN TAN) SNAKETOWN CIRCLE HOUSING 8:30-2:30 PM	20 SACATON DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SERVICES	21 NO CLINIC
24 SACATON (SOUTHWEST SIDE OF HOSPITAL CAMPUS) INSIDE MOBILE UNIT 8:00-2:00 PM	25 CENTRAL ARIZONA COLLEGE FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC	26 D3 (SACATON) BY BOY'S & GIRL'S CLUB 8:30-2:30 PM	27 D7 (Maricopa Colony) SERVICE CENTER 9:00-2:00 PM	28 NO CLINIC

# Tribal Law and Order Act implementation begins

The year 2014 marks the Community's implementation of the Tribal Law and Order Act, a federal act that allows tribes to prosecute felony level crimes if certain criteria is met by the Community. The implementation will be done in two parts. On January 1, 2014, the Community will roll out its revised criminal code as it pertains to misdemeanors. By May 1, 2014, the entire criminal code, including never before prosecuted felony-level crimes in the Community, will be implemented. Prior to TLOA, tribes were of a misdemeanor judicial system of sentences not to exceed 365 days. Even offenses, like murder, sex assault and arson were less than one year.

According to 25 U.S.C. § 1302(C), for the TLOA to be fully enacted the Community must meet (5) requirements:

- Provide effective assistance of Counsel
- Provide an indigent defendant with the assistance of a defense attorney licensed to practice law by any jurisdiction
- Require that a judge hearing a case with the possibility of a sentence exceeding 365 days to have (1) sufficient legal training and (2) be licensed to practice law by any jurisdiction
- Make the criminal laws publicly available
- Maintain a record of the criminal proceeding, including audio

The goal is to have the Community's criminal justice system fulfill all five requirements by the May 1 enactment date.

### Effective assistance of Counsel

The Community has been providing this service for the past ten years. The Defense Services Office, a Community backed legal defense team of licensed attorneys, has been defending community member defendants since 2003. Four Rivers Indian Legal Services, which maintains an office in Sacaton, also has licensed attorneys at the ready.

### Provide legal defense for indigent defendants

While community member defendants accused of a crime under the laws of the Community have been receiving and will continue to receive the services of the Defense Service Office,

an indigent defendant subject to the laws of the Community have not always had this opportunity. On January 1, 2014, if a defendant is indigent and subject to more than one year of imprisonment, the court shall appoint a licensed attorney from Defense Services Office or conflict counsel.

### Make criminal laws publicly available

The revised criminal code, rules of evidence, rules of criminal procedure, and other portions of the GRIC Code that were amended are available on mygilariver.com and also gilariver.org under the Judicial tabs. You may also find hard copies of these laws and rules at your service center, the Department of Rehabilitation and Supervision, the Ira H. Hayes Library or you may request the laws and rules from the Community Council Secretary's Office.

### A licensed judge with sufficient legal training

Under Rule 41 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Community has defined "sufficient legal training". All judges who may hear felony-level cases must comply with this Rule, including associate judges, judges pro tempore (a temporary judge) or Court of Appeals judges.

### Maintain a record of criminal proceeding

The Community Court is working towards having its courtrooms equipped with the necessary recording equipment.

A Public Service video has been developed to educate community members of the roles of certain criminal justice departments which are directly impacted by the implementation of Tribal Law and Order Act.

Acting Police Chief Alameda, Acting Chief Prosecutor Chuck Allen, Director of Defense Services Office Cecilia Vaca, Chief Judge Anthony Hill, Director of Probation Services Casey Bilagody, and Director of Department of Rehabilitation and Supervision Randy Tracy all share their departments' roles in offering services to defendants and victims once the TLOA is implemented on May 1, 2013. - *Office of General Counsel*



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## Completed Legislation

### TITLE 13 BUSINESS LICENSES AND TAXATION CHAPTER 1 DEFINITIONS

13.101 "Business" includes all activities or acts engaged in or caused to be engaged in with the object of gain, benefit or advantage, either direct or indirect, but not casual activities or sales. A casual activity or sale occurs when a person engages in an isolated transaction that is not conducted with such frequency or is not one of a series of activities as to be sufficient to consider the person as regularly conducting the activity. "Business" shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. A manufacturing or industrial concern.
- b. Wholesale merchants.
- c. Retail merchants.
- d. Automobile service stations or garages.
- e. A cotton gin or dairy enterprise.
- f. A farming or agricultural operation making use of more than two hundred acres of land within the Gila River Indian Community.
- g. A concern providing crop dusting, harvesting, planting or similar services to farming or agricultural operations.
- h. Retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers or any other business not located or having a place of business on the Reservation, but making sales and deliveries on the Reservation.
- i. Any enterprise or amusement park, sports arena or center which is open to the public.
- j. A motel, hotel, rooming house, trailer court or park, or mobile home park.

### COMPLETED LEGISLATION

A copy of this 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.

## ANALYSIS OF BROWNFIELD CLEANUP ACTIVITIES

### Former Dela Tek Facility Former Blackwater Industrial Park

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Gila River Indian Community Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will be submitting a \$200,000 cleanup grant proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the former Dela-Tek site located within the former Blackwater Industrial Park. A 20% match is required for the grant.

This Analysis of Brownfield's Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) is intended as a screening tool to ensure and document that the appropriate type of cleanup is selected to address the environmental contamination issues at the former Dela-Tek site. The preferred remedial action considers the site characteristics, surrounding environment, land-use restrictions, potential future uses, and cleanup goals.

#### 2.0 REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

This section identifies various remediation alternatives that may be used to address the environmen-

tal contamination issues at the former Dela-Tek site. The "no Action Alternative" is used as the baseline against which all other alternatives are analyzed.

The following broad categories of evaluation criteria were considered in assembling remediation alternatives at the former Electro Treatment site.

- Overall protectiveness to public health and welfare of the environment

- Feasibility in achieving site redevelopment

- Impacts to the proposed future use of the property

- Impacts to the surrounding environment

#### 3.1 No Action Alternative

The "No Action Alternative" would leave contaminated soil in place. This property would remain an environmental hazard and a blighting influence in the industrial park.

#### 3.2 Soil Excavation Alternative

The "Soil Excavation Alternative" would remove identified areas of soil contamination across the site and excavate them to a depth of 4 feet below ground surface (BGS).

The "Soil Excavation Alternative" would be effective in the short-term by allowing the immediate removal of highly impacted soil. In the long-term, this option would enhance the overall remedial strategy by reducing the mass of residual soil impacts. This option will also support the future reuse of the property.

#### 3.3 Natural Attenuation Alternative

Natural attenuation is a viable remedial alternative since groundwater has not been impacted at the site. This remedial technique is a long-term technique for addressing contamination. Reduction in soil contaminants would be minor in the short-term if this option were used; therefore, rendering the site not available for foreseeable future use.

#### 4.0 PREFERRED REMEDIATION ALTERNATIVE

The Remedial Alternatives were evaluated based on effectiveness, implement ability, the cost of each alternative, and the potential future uses of the property.

All of the alternatives are considered technically feasible and capable of protecting human health and the environment.

DEQ has recommended the Soil Excavation Alternative and Natural Attenuation Alternatives as its remedial strategy for the former Dela-Tek site. The combination of these alternatives is the most efficient with respect to case closure and will support the potential future use of the property.

Point of Contact:

Janet Bollman

GRIC Department of Environmental Quality

Hazardous Waste Specialist

(520)562-2234

janet.bollman@gric.nsn.us

#### Public Notice

1. GAIL BROWN  
Permanency Hearing  
Case #: J-10-0121/0122  
Court Date: January 29, 2014 at 3 p.m. in  
Courtroom #2, 1st Floor  
FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT  
YOUR RIGHTS  
Jurisdiction: Salt River Pima Maricopa  
Indian Community Court  
Address: 10005 E. Osborne Rd. Scottsdale,  
AZ 85256  
Building: #23  
Contact: 480-362-6315

## Veterans Serving Veterans: Group offers support, therapy for returning vets

By Mikhail Sundst  
Gila River Indian News

What can the Community do to better serve its veterans? What services do they think are lacking? That's what a local group, spearheaded by an ex-Marine, is asking Gila River veterans directly. They're also reaching out to the family members of veterans, thinking, in some cases, they may be more likely to respond.

One part advocacy group, one part equine therapy group, Veterans Serving Veterans holds breakfast meetings on Saturday mornings. "We want it to be casual. We want it to be engaging," said group founder Andy Miritello. "We try to get away from that idea of just creating another group of people [having] a meeting."

Miritello is a combat veteran. Despite his college deferment, he volunteered for the Marine Corps in the midst of the Vietnam War in 1968. He was 18.

Miritello has been working for the Community for the past 15 years as the building trades instructor in the Employment & Training Department.

Easily recognizable in his ever-present cowboy hat, boots, ponytail and vest, the 64-year-old cowboy from upstate New York is probably best known for the counseling work he facilitates with his various equine therapy classes, serving at-risk youth on the reservation.

Working with horses is way of reconnecting and building trust, he said. Kahvyoo Spirit, one of his classes, "is a strategy...used

for creating well-being within individuals, developing leadership [and] providing improved positive self-esteem with self, peers and community."

In the past few years, Miritello's office experienced a high volume of traffic from veterans of the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He realized that a lot of combat veterans could benefit from a similar method of equine therapy.

"I was doing the behavioral health prevention program for kids," Miritello said. He figured, "It's no different for this group. Their experiences have been different but they still suffer the fact that they're not connected with those things that are meaningful in their life. A lot of them come back [from war] and they disconnect themselves."

Veterans Serving Veterans was born to serve this need.

"I basically wanted to serve veterans, particularly the younger ones," he said. "The approach is a little bit different (from the work he does with the Community youth)...but they're still building strategies and you're still developing [connections] in order to enforce their own individual strengths." During the sessions, a licensed therapist is on hand.

Miritello connected with Michael Rhinehart, who works in substance abuse and suicide prevention for Gila River Health Care's Behavioral Health Prevention Program.

"When the Vets Serving Vets came out," Rhinehart said, "we decided, 'Well it's all prevention,



Joshua Jovanelly/GRIN

#### File photo.

we're all in collaboration together, so why not support that?"

Rhinehart says his boss has made it a priority to help with VSV program. Priscilla Foote is the Behavioral Health Director at GRHC. She's "humble and involved" in all the programs her department works with.

Foote also happens to be the daughter of Urban Giff, a prominent elder veteran who helped organize the VSV group and was a great morale booster for its partic-

ipants and leaders. He brings a connection to the traditional O'odham warriors that few others could, Rhinehart said. At a recent breakfast meeting, Giff told the members about how the O'odham used to have healing ceremonies to integrate warriors back into the community.

Veterans Serving Veterans is currently seeking out young leaders among Gila River veterans to foster and sustain the community. "Joey Whitman from Blackwater [is] an excellent example of a young person that has stepped out of his comfort zone to help provide services for veterans his age," Miritello said.

VSV has become a collaboration between Miritello and Rhinehart. Both of their employers have backed the program in their own

ways. BHPP pays for the breakfasts and E&T provides the meeting space.

The duo seeks to create a community of veterans and veterans' relatives that can openly discuss issues and make a plan to take action on them.

"Nobody wants to go to another meeting [and] just talk about things that aren't happening," Miritello emphasized. "They want to [talk about the issues] and then provide the strategy to make it happen."

Housing, mental health and promoting a hiring preference for veterans are the top concerns for Gila River veterans.

Rhinehart and Miritello are optimistic. "I think times have changed," Miritello said. "We're trying to instill a lot more respect, nationally, for our returning veterans than we did during Vietnam."

Miritello went 35 years without seeking help for the effects war took on him and wants to help others young veterans avoid living with the substance abuse and paranoia commonly associated with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, PTSD.

"I've reached out to ask, 'How can I help others?' ... That's my therapy," he said.

The next breakfast/meeting is Jan. 25 at 9:00AM on the lawn outside the Employment & Training office. Call Andy Miritello at 480-250-6284 for more information on Veterans Serving Veterans.

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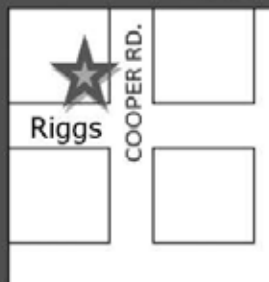
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# Miss Gila River's Winter Gathering

Friday, January 17, 2014  
Mul-Chu-Tha Fair Grounds at Cultural Circle  
6:00PM - 10:00PM

An evening to enjoy songs and dance of our  
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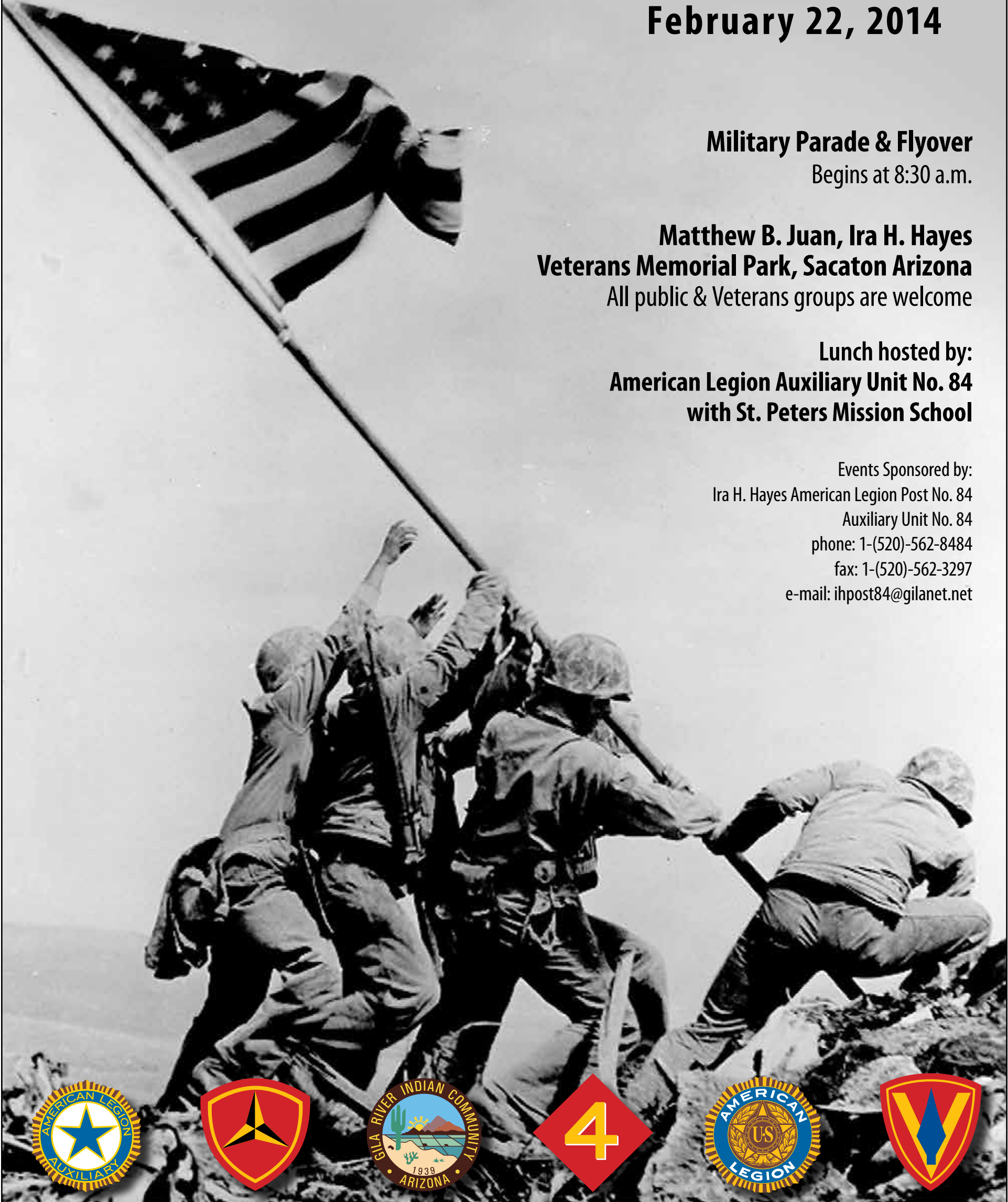
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[Kelly Whitman \(480\) 229-0228](tel:4802290228) | [Diana Antone \(520\) 483-6274](tel:5204836274)

# 69TH ANNIVERSARY

## IWO JIMA FLAG RAISING

February 22, 2014



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Begins at 8:30 a.m.

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Veterans Memorial Park, Sacaton Arizona**

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