

## Mary Vivian Thomas

1944-2014

*The Gila River Indian Community remembers one of its most dynamic leaders and strongest voices.*



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Former Gov. Mary Thomas when she was inducted into the Women's Plaza of Honor at the University of Arizona in 2012.

## Former Gov. Mary Thomas Passes Away at the Age of 70

By Roberto A. Jackson  
Gila River Indian News

Mary V. Thomas, the first female governor in the Gila River Indian Community's history, whose tireless efforts and resilient leadership set the course for the Community's opportunities in gaming, health care, water rights, public safety and education, passed away on Aug. 21 at the age of 70 of undisclosed causes.

Upon her passing, GRIC Gov. Gregory Mendoza released a statement that read in part, "Governor Thomas played a pivotal role in the shaping of the future of our Community. She indeed was a committed and accomplished leader. Governor Thomas leaves a legacy of public service and professional integrity."

With the advent of gaming, Thomas was a central figure in bringing the Community to the forefront on many critical issues during her two terms as governor.

She served from 1994-1999.

Thomas was a pioneer in GRIC politics as the first woman to hold office as governor. Prior to being governor, Thomas was lieutenant governor and a District 3 Council Representative.

Friends and colleagues of Thomas quickly responded to her passing. Many compassionate notes and messages put into perspective how influential Thomas was during her career.

Mary Rose Wilcox, former Maricopa County Supervisor, said in a statement: "The passing of Gila River Indian Community governor Mary Thomas is a big loss. She'll be remembered as a leader who always cared for her community. I'm privileged to have been able to call her a friend."

State House Speaker Andy Tobin said, "Her impact on the people of the Gila Indian Nation

*Continued on Page 4*

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

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

## District 7 Showcases New Multi-Purpose Building



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

The District 7 Multi-Purpose Building on Aug. 16.

By Roberto A. Jackson  
Gila River Indian News

It's not hard to quantify how much of an impact the new District 7 Multi-Purpose Building will have on GRIC's Maricopa Colony. If you simply look at their current facility and compare it to the new one, you can easily judge the new two-story building to be superior by any measure.

Presently, District 7 operations are managed at an old facility, which was previously a rest home. The previous service center, built in 1976, was the Pee-Posh Veterans Memorial Center, which housed district operations and at one time the Head Start, according to District 7 Council Representative Devin Redbird.

The other way to determine how much of an upgrade the new multi-purpose building is, would be by the look in people's eye when they toured the facility during the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony on Aug. 16. "A lot of them were in shock," said Redbird.

When a new facility opens in the Community, especially a service center, a place that centralizes services for a district, it comes

*Continued on Page 4* *Continued on Page 4*

## Community-Wide Procession and Memorial Services Mark the Passing of GRIC's Former Governor

By Christopher Lomahquahu  
Gila River Indian News

On Aug. 27, the Sacaton Middle School Gymnasium was the center of activity as members of the Community filed into the building to pay tribute to one of Gila River's most iconic governors. The bleachers and floor were filled to capacity as many watched the projector screen, streaming a live feed from the O'otham Ha Ki Chambers (old Community Council chambers) during the lie-in-state service for Mary V. Thomas. Thomas, a woman of strength and determination, was an advocate for various issues facing the Community and Gila River's first female governor.

The life of Thomas was celebrated through testimonies from colleagues, family and friends. Each person touched on her many accomplishments, accolades and what a pleasure it was to be around

Thomas. For the majority of these remarks, it was clear Thomas was a humble person and always had a smile or words of encouragement in her service to the Community.

Thomas was instrumental in establishing the Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council, knowing the future of the Community lies with the youth. "She had faith in our youth; she wanted them to become our future leaders," said District 4 Council Representative Monica Antone.

Lt. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, in his expression of gratitude for Thomas said, "Mary left a legacy. Though she had no children, she saw all of the Community as her children."

During her time as Governor, Thomas invested a majority of her efforts to improve the level of education for the children of the Community. "She dedicated her life to these institutions to bring out



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Family and friends comforting one another during memorial services for Mary Thomas at Sacaton Middle School.

the best and the strongest of our strengths of the Gila River Indian Community," said Lewis.

After the lie-in-state, Thomas's remains were transported to the gymnasium for a public memorial service. To formally start the memorial service the Matachina dancers led by Edward Miguel took to the floor, performing a traditional dance to honor Thomas.

Shortly thereafter people formed a line leading to the remains of Thomas located at the foot of the stage. Among the procession of attendees, people from all walks of life paid their respects to the family of Thomas giving hugs, handshakes, smiles, and laughs of comfort.

*Continued on Page 4* *Continued on Page 4*



# Gila River Telecommunications, Inc.

"Proudly serving the Gila River Indian Community since 1988"

Box 5015, 7065 West Allison Road, Chandler, Arizona 85226-5135  
(520) 796-3333 • www.gilanet.net • fax (520)796-7534

## Are You Saving \$20.70?

Lifeline Awareness Week September 8-12, 2014 promotes the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Lifeline and Link Up telephone consumer support programs. **GRTI would also like to remind you to to renew your Enhanced Lifeline benefit for 2015.**

### **What is Lifeline?**

Lifeline is a government benefit program that provides discounted phone service to eligible, low-income consumers. Eligible consumers may receive one benefit per household. All consumers must prove their eligibility to enroll and subscribers must re-verify their eligibility every year.

### **How Do I Qualify for Lifeline Discounts?**

To qualify for Lifeline, consumers must either have an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or participate in a qualifying federal, state or Tribal assistance program.

### **Have you signed up for Enhanced lifeline?**

Please contact GRTI Customer Service at 520-796-3333 to sign up or renew your lifeline.



## Are You Correctly Listed?

GRTI is currently in the process of preparing the Directory for 2015, we are asking all customers to please update their listings to make sure it is current and correct.

### **Updated listings occur when:**

- Opening a New connect
- Account holder is deceased
- Name change on the account
- Number change
- Moved locations where the address is changed

### **How do you want to be listed?**

- **Listed** - Your name and number will be listed in the telephone directory, there is no charge to you.
- **Unlisted** - Your name and number will not be listed but can be given out by an operator; there is no charge to you.
- **Non published** - Your name and number will not be published or released a \$1.00 per month fee will be added to your phone bill.

If you need to find out your current listing status or need any account changes contact one of our Customer Service Representatives at 520-796-3333 and they will gladly assist you.





Governor  
**Gregory Mendoza**

Lt. Governor  
**Stephen Roe Lewis**

Community Council  
Representatives  
**District 1**  
Arzie Hogg  
Joey Whitman

**District 2**  
Carol Schurz

**District 3**  
Carolyn Williams  
Rodney Jackson

**District 4**  
Jennifer Allison  
Christopher Mendoza  
Norman Wellington  
Monica Antone

**District 5**  
Robert Stone  
Franklin Pablo, Sr.  
Brian E. Davis, Sr.  
Janice Stewart

**District 6**  
Albert Pablo  
Anthony Villareal, Sr.  
Sandra Nasewytewa

**District 7**  
Devin Redbird  
Robert Keller, Tribal Treasurer  
Shannon White,  
Community Council Secretary

GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS

**Zuzette Kisto**  
zuzette.kisto@gric.nsn.us  
CPAO Director  
(520) 562-9851

**Roberto A. Jackson**  
roberto.jackson@gric.nsn.us  
Managing Editor  
(520) 562-9719

**Mikhail Sundust**  
mikhail.sundust@gric.nsn.us  
Community Newsperson  
(520) 562-9717

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
christopher.lomahquahu@gric.nsn.us  
Community Newsperson  
(520) 562-9998

**Gina Goodman**  
gina.goodman@gric.nsn.us  
CPAO Secretary II  
(520) 562-9715

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

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

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

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

[www.gilariver.org/index.php/news](http://www.gilariver.org/index.php/news)  
Material published in the Gila River Indian News may not be reproduced in any form without consent from the Gila River Indian Community



## A Story to Remember



Photo Courtesy of Rolinda Perez

On August 12 it started to rain and the neighborhood kids were starting to play in the street. My family and I gathered under the carport to enjoy the rain. After about 10 minutes outside, the rain started getting heavier with rushing winds. We had to move closer to the walls to get out of the heavy rain, but were able to still enjoy it.

About 20 minutes later my son, Shane Soza, 17, and his cousin, Steven Save, 18, came home early from their daily jiu-jitsu training at the District 6 Fitness Center because rain was seeping into the building where they were practicing, so they had to cancel the training.

The rain was getting worse by this time and the boys were revved up about going outside and running around in the rain. We saw that the wash on Second Circle on Tashquith Road was actually getting full! So they went to the top of the wash to take pictures.

Not even six minutes later, the two boys came running in the house yelling for me to call 911 because there were two boys, ages 12 and 13, who were yelling for help in the wash. Shane saw the youngest boy go under the water twice and looked like he was getting tired from trying not to drown. The older one was holding on to the thorny trees on the side of the wash trying to reach the younger one. My husband Albert Perez, 54,

grabbed a long orange 55 foot long extension cord and gave it to the boys. He then ran after Shane and Steven who were already running down the wash to help the boys. My other son Johnny Valenzuela, 22, walked up from behind the house and I told him what was happening.

He then ran to help as well.

As I dialed 911 and waited for the police, Shane jumped into the wash to grab the 12 year old who was drowning. His cousin Steven threw the orange extension cord to Shane so he could pull them out. Albert grabbed the cord and helped with pulling Shane and the youngster out of the water.

Johnny ran down stream from the wash and jumped in to catch the other boy who was barely holding on to the thorny branches up the wash.

They were able to get the 12 year old boy to safety and the orange cord was thrown out again to get the older boy.

We found out one of the boys was our neighbor's kid and the other was his friend. The mother came and hugged my boys and husband for saving her son and his friend.

To me, my sons Shane Soza, Johnny Valenzuela their cousin Steven Saves and my husband Albert Perez are heroes. They saved two boys who might have been a statistic during this bad monsoon weather if nobody heard them. My son and his cousin were in the right place at the right time. Thank you for saving the boys Shane, Steven, Johnny and Albert. I love you all. My heroes.

Rolinda Perez

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,  
With the passing of former Governor Mary V. Thomas, I reflect upon how she had a profound effect on my life in the world of tribally owned newspapers.

In January of 1998, the former Governor Mary V. Thomas established the first tribally owned newspaper operated and printed by the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC).

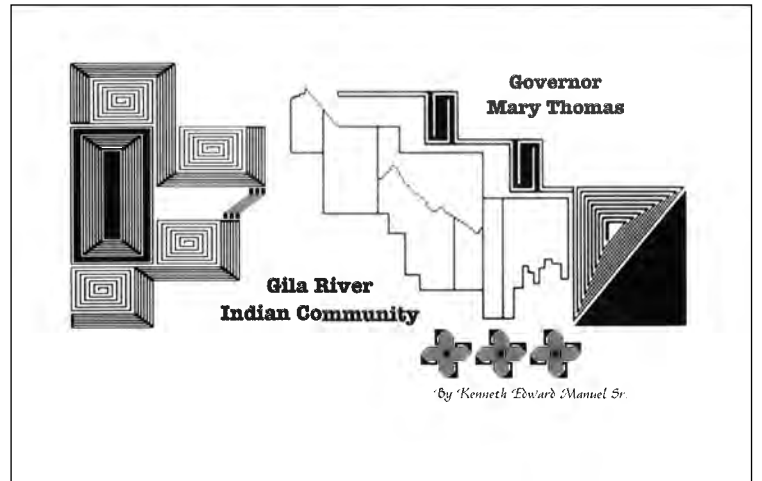
Previously, the Gila River Indian Newspaper (GRIN) had been owned and published by an outside source other than GRIC. Mary listened to the requests of tribal members and departments who requested to establish their own tribal newspaper with content that was specific to the Gila River community that was accessible to all tribal members both on and off the reservation. Carol Jackson hired me as a temporary Editor to assist with the creation of the GRIN.

After the first few months of publishing the monthly issues of the GRIN, I applied for the permanent position as Editor. I fondly remember Mary telling me her vision to keep the community members informed of local tribal news and national headlines, specifically those related to gaming. She saw the importance of Indian gaming for the future of GRIC. With a twinkle in her eye, Mary asked me if I was up for the challenge to have the GRIN printed as a weekly newspaper. Ardell Ruiz,

who passed on a couple of years ago, reported to Mary that it was the best plan to go weekly with the GRIN. It was a huge challenge and the newspaper expanded to one more reporter, Gary Williams. The two of us hustled to print the weekly newspaper, and Mary thanked us repeatedly for our hard work. The decision to make the GRIN distributed as a free newspaper was to let everyone have access to the tribe's news media. Mary encouraged us to recruit advertising to pay for the printing of the newspaper. She developed a Kids Korner in each GRIN issue where an article or piece of artwork was published from the children from GRIC schools.

The best job I ever had was working as the Editor at Gila River Indian Newspaper. I worked hard and many late hours to get the newspaper to press. At times it was difficult to educate people why the newspaper had to be fair in printing stories. My work was fun and I am grateful for the foresight and efforts of Mary Thomas. Gila River Indian Community is one of the leading supporters of a tribal press. Thank you Mary for your guts to be trustworthy of your instincts to establish the Gila River Indian Newspaper. May your journey to the next world be as enjoyable as your adventures on this earth.

Sincerely,  
Jean M. Harmon (Nahomni Mani)



## In Memory of Sherwin P. Mix



I would like to give thanks to all who knew Sherwin, who weren't thanked personally. I would like to thank the community, family, friends and all who were there in our time of need.

Thank you for the flowers, the food, words you spoke of him, your prayers, the comforting words each family member, sister, his children and parents.

Sherwin will be missed. But the memories live on for each of us. You all have the memories... his laughter, smile, the talks and his silly dance. I remember three weeks before his passing he was at the doorway with the music playing. He looked at me and said, "Babe, one day we will dance." I said to him, "I know". And I know we will, when we see each other again.

So, all who knew Sherwin, keep the memories as will I. He will be missed, I miss him daily. My prayers and thanks to everyone.

Thank you, Dionne M.

## The Brandon G. Enos Educational Foundation

Dale, Lisa Enos and family are proud to announce the Brandon G. Enos Educational Foundation has received tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Services. With this designation the foundation will be able to receive monetary donations. Those donors will receive a donation letter for their federal tax returns. The foundation will have the ability to apply for grants through large corporation for more scholarships.

All donations are used to support a scholarship for a Sacaton Middle School graduate. The foundation has plans to expand to other schools within the community. If there are any questions, contact us at (520) 562-3649.

Dale and Lisa Enos

## CORRECTIONS

To report an error call (520)562-9719 or email [GRIN@gric.nsn.us](mailto:GRIN@gric.nsn.us)

# Mary Thomas, first female governor of GRIC

From Page 1



Mary Thomas representing Gila River at a parade during her term as governor. GRIN PHOTO

and Arizona will be felt for many generations to come.”

She was born in Phoenix on April 29, 1944. Her parents were Elwood Dennis, originally from Mishongnovi and Elizabeth Smith from Sacaton. Thomas lived in Sacaton and resided in the same location where she grew up in an adobe house. Her husband was George Thomas from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

In 2012, Thomas sat down for an interview with Lisa Hendricks, then Executive Office intern and Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council President, for a research project on former GRIC governors. In the recorded interview, Thomas recalls her early life growing up in Sacaton, her education, her various occupations and the many aspects to her political career.

Thomas reflected on her early education in Sacaton and Coolidge, and her high school years at St. John’s Indian School in District 6, where she participated in many extracurricular activities and athletics, and was voted most likely to succeed.

When she graduated, Thomas said she wanted to enter the medical field. “I decided after high school I

wanted to be a doctor,” said Thomas.

After college, she worked for FM4 Gila River Corp., as a key-punch operator. Thomas then worked for the U.S. Postal Service, followed by a fruitful tenure with Sacaton Middle School. She said she held a variety of positions with the school and eventually earned a spot on the school board. From her work with the school, Thomas segued to a seat on Community Council.

In 1990 she became lieutenant governor and served with former Gov. Thomas White. She called White “down to earth” and said she benefited from his direction. “I learned a lot from him,” said Thomas.

She followed White as governor in 1994 and the ensuing years would produce rapid change with the institution of gaming. Before leaving office, White signed the gaming compact and Thomas made gaming a priority. “So I picked it up and started working on opening up a casino,” said Thomas.

In the interview, Thomas also mentioned GRIC’s battles for water rights and cited her trips to Washington, D.C. and obtaining funding

for a water delivery system.

In addition to gaming and water rights, Thomas said one of her most rewarding accomplishments was establishing Gila River Health Care. “Now look at our hospital, it’s one of the best in Indian Country,” said Thomas in 2012.

During her administration, Thomas was also involved in starting the Education Assistance Program, forming the scholarship program for higher education, building a new jail, courthouse and dialysis centers to address the high diabetes rates.

Thomas’s leadership remained an asset following her terms as governor. She was active among elder groups in the Community, including the Council of Elders and Elderly Concerns. She also campaigned for GRIC governor in 2011.

Thomas was a woman of distinction and she received many honors and awards during her lifetime. One significant tribute in recent years came from the University of Arizona. On April 13, 2012, Thomas’s name was added to the Women’s Plaza of Honor, which is located on the University of Arizona main campus in Tucson.

## Mary Thomas services

From Page 1

A video montage illustrating the life of Thomas was shown showcasing various moments in her life. Among these moments was her childhood growing up on the reservation and some of the most notable events in her political career.

Later, Gov. Gregory Mendoza addressed the audience regarding Thomas’s service to the Community.

“We are here to celebrate the life of Governor Mary Thomas,” said Mendoza. He highlighted Thomas’s two terms as governor and the numerous accomplishments her administration achieved. “Thomas’s career has been characterized by integrity and devotion to her people and in-

spiration she gave others to lead,” said Mendoza.

“Mary has always been a strong supporter of education and secured funding for scholarships for many of our students for higher education,” he said. Gov. Mendoza spoke of Thomas’s leadership in gaming, the building of the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital, and the development of the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa.

There were many good things to be said about Thomas as the evening drew to a close, about the life she lived and how much of an impact she has made on the Community and its people.

## District 7 Multi-Purpose Building

From Page 1



Roberto A. Jackson/GRIN

Gov. Gregory Mendoza, Council Representative Devin Redbird, District 7 youth and elders cut the ribbon on the new facility.

at a critical time. The opening of the Pee-Posh Matlachevsh (The Peoples Gathering Place) was no

different. “The service centers are a place where we come together as a community,” said Gov. Mendoza during his remarks.

The grand opening was an all day affair starting at 10 a.m. with a flag raising by the Pee-Posh Veterans Association and Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51, followed by a catered meal and remarks from Redbird, Gov. Mendoza, Lt. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Pee-Posh veteran Dan Jenkins. District 7 staff and District 7 Recreation were on hand all day handling the event.

“It’s a beautiful facility. It’s fitting for the people of District 7, for the Maricopa, Pee-Posh people,” said Lewis.

Elders, youth, District 7 staff and Redbird lined up for the official ribbon cutting. Once the ribbon was cut, the large crowd filed into the building and

toured the facility getting a first glimpse at the results. Elders played chair volleyball in the gym and youth swam in the pool. The district hosted a bingo game and the evening closed out with a performance by chicken scratch band Papago Warrior.

Lewis also said that the only thing that the building was missing was the people. “It’s the people that make the building, it’s the people that are the heart of the building, that make this building come alive,” said Lt. Gov. Lewis.

Although the Community got to see the building and use it for a day of events, the actual date when it will be fully staffed and operational will not be until mid to late September according to Senior Project Manager Benny Dixson of Tribal Projects Development. The main thing the district is waiting for is a federal inspector to check the elevator. Once the elevator passes inspection, the center can get a certificate of occupancy, said Redbird.

It’s been a long road for District 7, especially if you consider the original plans date back to 2007-2008. The groundbreaking was on Sept. 20, 2012 with December 2013 as a target for completion. Redbird said there were issues with the original contractor, West America Corporation that led to the termination of their contract, after which, Sage Construction and Real Estate assumed control of the project.

Redbird said that through it all, District 7 persevered. “I just can’t thank [the district] enough for being patient.”

### PER CAPITA CORNER

#### 2014 SCHEDULE

Deadline	Payment
September 15 (Monday)	October 31 (Friday)

#### REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

If you have moved or have a different mailing address, you must update it with the Enrollment Office. This is critical and affects your Per Capita pay-card, stub/statement, and payment check! Contact the Enrollment Office at (520)562-9790 for more info.

#### KEEP YOUR STATEMENTS IN A SAFE PLACE

The PCO does not verify income. Your stub/statement can be used to verify income. Therefore, save your stub/statement documents in a safe place.

#### HOURS OF OPERATION

The PCO is open to the general public Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. You may also contact the PCO during the above hours at (520) 562-5222 or at (866) 416-2618; the PCO will be happy to mail information to your address upon request. PCO forms are also located online at: [www.mygilariver.com](http://www.mygilariver.com).

#### WAIVER: YES OR NO?

We urge members to confirm with the benefit administrator that a waiver to stop per capita is required to keep benefits coming in. The PCO has had cases where a waiver was submitted then it was discovered that it was not necessary. When a waiver is submitted and processed, it cannot be revoked until after four payments are held back (one year). Please...check with your benefits administrator first and get the information in writing!

### GARNISHMENT

If your payment is garnished, contact the entity that garnished your payment. This would be shown on your stub/statement as: Housing, DPW, Court case# or other purpose. Do not contact the PCO. The entity will be able to handle any acquiring questions that you may have on your garnishment.

### PER CAPITA TRUST ACCOUNTS

#### Trust Statements Mailed Twice a Year

Minor trust statements will be mailed out by Providence First Trust on July 31, 2014 to the child's address on file with the Enrollment Department. So please, when you update your address with Enrollment also update your child's address.

#### Next Request Deadline

September 30, 2014 is the next deadline to turn in required documents related to minor trust accounts for the following:

- 1) **Early Distribution.** This is a request for clothing, medical and educational needs. Early distribution is allowed twice a year and has a dollar limit.
- 2) **Trust Termination.** This is a request to close the minor trust account if the requestor is 18 years old or more and provides a high school diploma or GED certificate. After the requestor reaches age 21 years old there is no education requirement.

#### How to Contact Providence First Trust

Dial (800) 350-0208 or (480) 282-8812 if you have questions about your child's account, statement or distribution request. The PCO will also send you a brochure which contains thorough information about the Trust fund.

**PROVIDENCE VISITS THE PCO  
SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> & 30<sup>TH</sup> FROM 9AM - 5 PM**

### 2014 Trust Schedule

Deadline	Payment
September 30 (Tuesday)	October 15 (Wednesday)

# COMMUNITY UPDATES BY GRIN STAFF

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

## TON and West Valley Cities Break Ground in Glendale

West Valley city officials from Peoria and Glendale, and Tohono O’odham Nation leaders broke ground on the controversial West Valley Resort and Casino in Glendale Aug. 28.

The Nation estimates the West Valley Resort and Casino will cost \$400 million and take 18

months or more to build.

The tribe has faced opposition from the state, city of Glendale, other Valley municipalities and a majority of Arizona tribes since it first announced its plan to build a casino in the West Valley in 2009. In recent months, though, the project has found a foothold

of support in the Glendale City Council.

In a statement, the TON said, “Construction of the West Valley Resort will create thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in positive economic impacts, at no cost to taxpayers. Build-out will occur in phases

over the course of approximately three years.”

Additionally, the tribe has agreed to pay Glendale \$25 million over the next 20 years in gradually increasing annual installments.

The project has faced a number of legal battles in the last five

years and was just recently granted reservation status on its Glendale parcel by the Department of Interior. It still faces Congressional legislation supported by both Arizona Senators John McCain and Jeff Flake that could block the casino.

## P-MIP Works on Pima Canal 5 Upgrade



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

A sign blocks Lateral Road running north along Pima Canal 5 in District 1. Pending Council approval, the road will be permanently closed. P-MIP is making a number of improvements to the 8-mile stretch of PC5 including widening it and lining it with concrete.

By Mikhail Sundust  
Gila River Indian News

Road closures in Districts 1 and 2 will become permanent as the Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project begins the renovation of another section of dirt canal.

P-MIP is tasked with constructing and refurbishing the canal system throughout the Gila River Indian Community. Its latest project involves the rehabilitation and modernization of Pima Canal 5, which stagger-steps northwest through District 1 and into District 2.

“The beginning portion of it is off-reservation, right at McCrae and State Route 87,” said Henrietta Lopez, the P-MIP Outreach Coordinator. “It’s about eight miles in length that we’ll be [working

on], into the District 2 community. What we’re doing right now is just that first stretch.”

Lopez drove slowly in her white tribal SUV, rolling and rocking down a dirt canal bank being “pre-wetted” (to moisture-condition the soil) for construction by a sprinkler system.

“This will go away, though, once we finish that one,” she said, and motioned out the passenger window toward the dirt-lined Pima Canal 5, half full of running water.

The Pima Canal 5 upgrade, like all P-MIP rehabilitation projects, includes expanding it and lining it with concrete.

“We’re going to raise the berm by four to eight feet [and] it’s going to be wider and it’s going to be deeper,” said Lopez. “In the existing system, right now, we can bring

in about 300cfs (that’s cubic feet per second) of water...but with the new system we’ll be able to bring in about 1300cfs.”

The improvements are all a part of the P-MIP master plan and will benefit the tribe and GRIC farmers, but the deeper, wider canals with their faster flows and algae-slicked walls raise safety concerns.

“The Community is used to earthen canals,” said Lopez. “They can get in, they swim, they can get out...but once we line it...it’s not going to be easy to get out.”

The construction project means P-MIP will close Lateral Road (aka BIA Route 175), which is little more than a dirt bank that runs along Pima Canal 5 for about a mile between Highway 87 and Blackwater School Road.

“Everyone in the Community is used to driving on the canal banks,” said Lopez. But, “once we line the system, it’s going to be dangerous. We don’t want people falling [or] driving into the canal – which happens. Even in the unlined system, you have cars going into the canal system.”

Following the canal northwestward, the Community will also be closing Arrowweed Road where it intersects with the canal near the D1 and D2 border. Furthermore, all dirt roads, including a portion of Baptist Church Road

north of Blackwater School Road and south of the Catholic church, that parallel the canal will be permanently closed to the public as improvements are made to the system, including where the canal crosses Sparrow Road in D1.

P-MIP has worked for the past several years with the GRIC Department of Transportation and the D1 and D2 Community leaders to remove Lateral Road, a portion of Arrowweed Road and a portion of Baptist Church Road from the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Indian Reservation Roads Inventory.

In August GRIC-DOT and P-MIP secured motions from D1 and D2 Community meetings authorizing the permanent closure and removal from the IRR inventory. P-MIP and GRIC DOT will now go through the Community Council to have the roads permanently closed and removed from Indian Reservation Roads Inventory.

The work along Pima Canal 5/Lateral Road should be finished in November, but it will take until well into 2015 for the rest of Pima Canal 5 in western D1 and D2 to be completely refurbished.

## Active Assailant Demonstration



Zuzette Kisto/CPAO

At the Phoenix Premium Outlets, the Gila River Indian Community conducted an Active Assailant Emergency Medical Support (AAEMS) demonstration. On Aug. 23, GRIC’s Public Safety Division staged a scene that mimics an active assailant incident, where an armed person uses deadly physical force on another person(s) and continues to do so while having access to additional victims.

## Reporting Illegal Dumping

Submitted by C-TERC  
Gila River Indian Community

The dumping problem on the Gila River Indian Community is not a new one; it has been happening for several years now. People see it as a fast easy way to dispose of their unwanted garbage and so they throw it out in the desert area where it does not belong.

These types of dumping are known as wildcat dumping. The individual[s] will move in and out of the area very quickly.

The dumping problem not only affects Community members, but also affects the environment as well. Trash in the past was biodegradable. Trash would deteriorate and not be a significant factor affecting the environment. Trash now has a longer half-life, meaning it stays in the environment a lot longer and may be more hazardous.

Over the past several years, our Community has been a victim to illegal dumping. This has



included construction debris, household trash, old furniture, household appliances, etc., all the way to barrels of used oil. It is our right to report this kind of activity in order to stop the act of illegal dumping. If you witness illegal dumping, immediately call the Gila River Police Department.

Gila River Police will determine whether the Gila River Fire Department should be called to the scene depending, or determining the substance of what has been dumped in that area. Don’t endanger yourself and others by do-

ing your own investigating. You never know what you might come across.

Gila River Police are aware of what needs to be done in these types of situations when the Community calls in

a report. The appropriate agencies are notified that play a key role in the specific type of dumping that occurred.

Effective investigations will help in the future to keep illegal dumping from happening in our Community.

What can you do? Please immediately report illegal dumping in your area. If you do notice any illegal dumping occurring,

please attempt to get as much specific information as possible. This would include vehicle descriptions, color and type of vehicle, license plate numbers and any identifying marks on the vehicles such as a company name. Please contact Gila River Police Department at 562-4511 or 562-4512. In

addition, you can help by using the proper trash bins provided at your residences.

We want to make sure that we help keep our Community clean and safe for our future generations!

### GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

★★ VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT ★★

The Gila River Indian Community Council has declared the following Board vacancy:

Board/Committee	Number of Vacancies	Deadline
Community Judge (Alternate)	One (1)	September 15, 2014 12:00 noon

Community members interested in serving as the Community Judge on the Court of Appeals, must submit one original copy of a Letter of Interest and a Résumé to the Community Council Secretary’s Office by the deadline date, (include your address, phone number and email address on your résumé). Community Council Secretary’s Office is located at the Governance Center, 525 West Gu u Ki, mailing address P.O. Box 2138, Sacaton, AZ 85147; Phone (520) 562-9720

# A'AGA: Something to be Told

By Billy Allen

September (Vashai Gakithag Mashath or Dry Grass Month) – fall is coming. That means the state fair is coming! Before his passing, Emmett White of Vahki/Casa Blanca wrote a Gila River Indian News article (September, 2009) reminiscing about his childhood trip to the state fair. It is a very interesting, informative article about the early days

As youngsters, we looked forward to “Indian Day,” when Native Americans were admitted free. “That popover smell” comes to mind when I think of the state fair. If I got lost at the fair, I knew to head to the Indian village where I would soon see an elder’s familiar face. Couple that with the smell of popovers, anxiety floated away, just like the smoke. When I did meet up with family, stern looks came at me, but the way I saw it, I didn’t get lost, they wandered away. Lines for popovers were long and mostly non-Indian. State fair popover prices were just too high for our pocket change. I was always puzzled when non-Indians put honey or powdered sugar on popovers. In Vahki/Casa Blanca – at least on the south side – we sprinkled salt on our popovers.

We called those delicious disks “oam-ajitha” or “wamuchtha”. This can be best translated as being browned. (According to the Saxton/Enos dictionary, oam refers to brown, orange or yellow.) When you fry the popovers/fry bread, you have to pop it over allowing the other side to turn brown. Somewhere along the line they became popovers. Recipes also differ: powdered milk or not? Bluebird or La Piña flour? Lard or oil? Other food debates: menudo – white or red? Red chile or green chili? Some say posol, others say pozole. You say potato, I say babas.

During my childhood a special treat on a chilly morning was when ñ je’e would make breakfast popovers. A hot popover with mush (oatmeal) ranks right up there with a Denny’s Grand Slam. My mother took it up a notch making popovers shaped like a little man, a popover man! Kids’ table etiquette demanded that we immediately bite the head off. In the late 1960’s, when my older brother was sent to Vietnam, letters (snail mail) were the only form of communication. Sometimes my mother would mail him popovers. He told us that when the popovers made it to Vietnam, they had begun to spoil. My brother would salvage what he could; scrape off the mold and savor a bit of home, so far away. Other young men from his company joined in the treat.

Now, we have to admit that popovers are not really traditional food. Wheat flour and lard are new arrivals to our land. An Internet search about fry bread will result in a lot of sites crediting/blaming the Navajo “Long Walk” for inspiring the invention. However, many cultures have food items similar to popovers/fry bread. Jamaicans have “johnnycakes.” Reggae-loving O’otham would feel right at home munching on those, yea mon. Indians (the ones over there) have bhatoora and puri. Mexicans have sopapillas – a lot of elder GRICsters loved to raise that flag at Pancho’s – more sopapillas, s-hottam!

I have to acknowledge that popovers are definitely not a healthy food. Just like there are “debates” about popover recipes there is a controversy about whether popovers should even have a place on Native American plates. Back in January of 2005, after losing another relative to diabetes, Suzan Shown Harjo wrote an article for Indian Country Today calling on Native Americans to boycott fry bread. It was not a popular stance. To a great degree, our health is in our hands. If our hands held popovers less often, it would be a good step. There’s no Popover Monster, so I’ll take a cue from Cookie Monster and label popovers as a “sometimes food.”

## Gila River Trail Riders Group Seeks Support

By Christopher Lomahquahu  
Gila River Indian News

The subject of suicide has been the hot topic of today’s issues, affecting people across the nation both in the spotlight and away from it. The issue is clear: suicide knows no race or social economic status. The Gila River Trail Riders group, a grass roots organization, has been offering voluntary time and resources for the past five years to help the youths of Gila River who are experiencing behavioral issues.

The Trail Riders group, as the name denotes, takes the lessons outdoors, where, under the bright and sunny skies, much of the teaching is done through the use of horses as a form of therapy. This form of intervention is unorthodox, but not unique as the use of horses in behavioral therapy has been practice before in other places.

Priscilla Antone of District 6 is a key player in the establishment of the Trail Riders. Antone understands her involvement with the Trail Riders requires the assistance of other individuals who are able to put the time into each outing.

In recent times, the number of volunteers has fluctuated, leaving Antone the task of recruiting new individuals to donate their time.

Antone, being well aware of the high rates of suicide among teens in the Community, sought the establishment of the group to try and deter youths from making harmful choices. “We’re not counselors, we just want to help. We wanted the people to come together and share stories,” said Antone.

Additional reasons included educating



the youths about the history of the Community and its close association to horses as a part of daily life. “When I was young, I could remember some of the men in my family would use horses to travel long distances, sometimes pulling wagons, which is how we got around back then,” said Antone.

The plan was to use the parcel of land at “M” Mountain located near the intersection of State Route 347 and Casa Blanca Road. Antone stressed the development of the area requires volunteers with the experience and resources that can be donated. “The challenges are in the volunteers needed to help develop the area around [“M” Mountain],” said Antone, noting that a horse corral, shading for the youths and other conveniences need to be built to accommodate projected activity.

The group meets the first Saturday of every month at 7 a.m. at the Koli Equestrian Center at Wild Horse Pass, which is serving as a temporary location for the Trail Riders until the permanent location is developed and completed.

The equestrian center offers the horses and facilities the trail riders hope someday will be available at their intended location.

“As far as being at ‘M’ Mountain, that depends on the amount of volunteers we get to be able to host our activities,” said Antone.

Each time the Trail Riders host a gathering, individuals are invited from various disciplines with one goal in mind: sharing lessons that can empower the youth to make positive choices in their lives. The guest instructors teach on a variety of topics from health to moral stories rooted in culture and how to be responsible individuals.

The use of horses, along with the introduction to basic horsemanship skills, allows the kids to interact with other youths, enabling them to build communication skills.

“It’s a form of healing for the kids and it breaks the fear because unlike people, the horses aren’t going to get mad or yell at them,” said Antone.

On the financial spectrum of things, the goal is to see the Trail Riders achieve 501 (c)(3) status to become a non-profit organization. What is also important is the need for people with experience in exploring funding and what processes are necessary to obtain it. “We need more knowledgeable people who know the business side of things, so we can look for grants,” said Antone.

Currently, the group receives grant aide that is distributed from the Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Services department, where they have established a good rapport with the leadership. Antone acknowledges that it may need to seek additional sources of funding to keep the group in operation to expand its capabilities.

The main goal for the Trail Riders is for the children to have a better life.

**Kel'i Akimel Ha~Thash**

**CHICKEN SCRATCH**  
**BATTLE OF THE BANDS**

**Friday, September 19th, 2014**  
**District 3 Ballfield (Sacaton, AZ)**  
**10:00a.m. to 10:00p.m.**

**There will be Vendors, Food, & Fun!**

**For more information contact:**  
**(520)610-1652**

Bring a umbrella & chair.

### Suicide Prevention Bike Ride



By Annie Gutierrez  
Gila River Indian News

Suicide continues to be a growing epidemic in society, especially among Native Americans. With numbers increasing in Native Country, Michael Chingman of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe and the Eastern Shoshone Suicide Prevention Program plan to raise awareness on the issue by hosting a suicide prevention bike ride across Wyoming from Sept. 8 – 14.

Chingman, a Boys & Girls Club employee and daily bike rider, decided to use one of his favorite pastimes to raise awareness about a sensitive subject that is dear to him. In collaboration with Chingman, the Eastern Shoshone Suicide Prevention program and the tribe's Health Youth Diabetes Program plan to journey together from the Idaho-Wyoming border thirty miles out of Jackson Hole, Wyo. to the Wyoming-Colorado border outside the city of Laramie.

"I believe this bike ride will open the hearts of our native people," said Chingman in an email.

Along the way, riders will stop to tie ribbons to reflector polls for families who have lost someone to suicide. During the week, the Eastern Shoshone tribe will be hosting a walk and community cookout event as riders travel through the Fort Washakie community. When bike riders reach the Wyoming-Colorado border on the 14th, the suicide prevention program will close the event with a traditional ceremony.

"Anything you put your mind to, it can be done," said Chingman, and there will be others who will support you. "Our community is coming together for this ride and

### GRIC Recycling Calendar

For issues regarding bin pick-up call the Dept. of Public Works at 562-3343  
For recycling information call the Dept. of Environmental Quality at 562-2234

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

wants this to make an impact on our youth to see that suicide isn't a way to get attention in life."

The Bike Ride through Wyoming is the first time the Eastern Shoshone Tribe will be hosting such an event and is asking for donations and participation from other tribes in Native Country.

"We are always looking for companies or families who would like to donate anything to this suicide prevention ride," said Chingman. "We can take donations such as water, Gatorade, food or even if there's other tribal programs who would want their shirts worn on the ride."

"We are asking other native people who would be interested to come and join this ride. It will be a ride to inspire other tribes and reservations to set a goal and help keep suicide out of our native people's lives."

To honor the Gila River Indian Community, former Gila River Health Care employee and Healthy Active Natives creator Waylon Pahona will be joining Chingman and others on

U.S. Department of the Interior

### Land Consolidation Efforts Underway

LAND BUY-BACK PROGRAM FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations, created to implement part of the Cobell Settlement, is offering fair market value to landowners for voluntarily restoring fractional land interests to tribes, which helps ensure that tribal homelands stay in trust.

Many landowners have already been paid. While purchase amounts will vary, some individuals are receiving thousands of dollars for transferring land to tribes. All sales are voluntary, though landowners will only have 45 days to accept offers.

**Offers are currently pending for eligible landowners with fractional interests within the proposed transmission corridor on the Gila River Indian Reservation**  
**Deadline: October 10, 2014.**

**Landowners are encouraged to contact the Trust Beneficiary Call Center (TBCC) to learn about eligibility and to ensure their contact information is current:**

**1 (888) 678-6836**

More information is also available from your local Fiduciary Trust Officer (FTO) at the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, or on the web at: [www.doi.gov/buybackprogram](http://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram)

the bike ride across Wyoming. "I would like to raise awareness for Gila River and ride for the Community," he said.

Prior to the bike ride, Pahona will be hosting a three-mile walk in Gila River and encourages Community members to join him on Sept. 6 to pay tribute to loved ones who have fallen victim to suicide. The walk will begin at 7 a.m. in Sacaton starting in two directions: Sacaton Road and Casa Blanca Road and will end at the Ira Hayes Memorial Park. In addition to the walk, ribbons will be carried by families who lost someone and will be collected by Pahona to take with him on the bike ride through Wyoming.

If anyone is interested, has questions or would like to make a donation to the Eastern Shoshone Suicide Prevention Bike Ride Across Wyoming, contact Michael Chingman at (307) 349-7290 or via email at [mcbuck2th@hotmail.com](mailto:mcbuck2th@hotmail.com).

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**GREGORY**

# MENDOZA

The People's Choice

# FOR GOVERNOR

**PEOPLE, NOT POLITICS SOLVE ISSUES . . . .**

Together, we are a part of a movement that actually helps Community members thrive, not just survive.

My campaign champions **PEOPLE**: Our **COMMUNITY, CULTURE, COMPETENCE**, and ever growing **CAPACITY**. I have done what I said I would do by being active, visible and transparent with our Elders, Urban Members, Veterans, Youth, and Districts. You speak. I listen and advocate for our future. Respectfully, I submit myself as the People's Choice for Governor.

**MY PRIORITIES**

✓ PEOPLE ✓ HOUSING ✓ EDUCATION  
✓ HEALTH CARE ✓ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Community Council Action Sheets

Wednesday August 20, 2014

## ACTION SHEET

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

### CALL TO ORDER

The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday August 20, 2014, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Gregory Mendoza at 9:04 a.m.

### INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Robert Stone

### ROLL CALL

Sign-In Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Gregory Mendoza

Lt. Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4- Monica Antone, Jennifer Allison, Christopher Mendoza; D5- Brian Davis, Sr., Janice F. Stewart (9:20), Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Albert Pablo, Sandra Nasewytewa; D7- Devin Redbird (1:50)

Council Members Absent:

D4- Norman Wellington, Sr.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

### PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

#### 1. River Of Dreams

Presenter: Cheryl Pablo

MS. CHERYL PABLO INTRODUCED MR. MARK STODOLA AND MS. ALISA CHATINSKY. MR. STODOLA PROVIDED A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE DARING ADVENTURES PROGRAM AND EXPRESSED WORDS OF GRATITUDE. MS. CHATINSKY PROVIDED FURTHER INFORMATION OF THE PROGRAMS BENEFITS TO ITS CLIENTS.

2. Mr. Lorrie Henderson, CEO Gila River Health Care

Presenters: Myron G. Schurz, GRHC Representatives

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

### REPORTS

\*1. Gila River Indian Community-Arizona Department of Transportation PARA Grant - Multimodal Pedestrian Safety Study

Presenter: Michael Lomakema

### REPORT HEARD

2. Gila River Indian Community Sponsorship Benefit Arizona Cardinals Away Game Drawing & Ultimate Fan Contest

Presenters: Zuzette Kisto, Shannon Redbird

### REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DEFER TO

### NEW BUSINESS #5

[GOVERNOR GREGORY MENDOZA CALLED FOR A

15-MINUTE BREAK

RECONVENED AT 10:35AM]

3. Gila River Telecommunications, Inc., 2nd Quarter 2014 Update

Presenters: Derek White, Charles Miller, GRTI Board Of Directors

### REPORT HEARD

4. Franzoy Consulting, Inc Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report

Presenter: C. Eugene Franzoy

### REPORT HEARD

5. Hardee Consulting Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report

Presenter: James E. Hardee

### REPORT HEARD

6. Peter Mock Groundwater Consulting, Inc. Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report

Presenter: Peter A. Mock

### REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

7. Curry Law Office, PLC Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report (Executive Session)

Presenters: Andrea Curry, Esq., Thomas L. Murphy

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

8. Dorsey & Whitney, LLP Fiscal Year 2014 Annual Report (Executive Session)

Presenters: Mary J. Streitz, Linus Everling

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. Gaming Internal Audit Fiscal Year 2014 Third Quarter Report (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. Monthly Financial Report Ending July 2014 (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

[GOVERNOR GREGORY MENDOZA CALLED FOR AN

HOURLY AND HALF LUNCH BREAK

RECONVENED AT 1:50PM]

### RESOLUTIONS

\*1. A Resolution Requesting That The Gila River Indian Community Election Board Set An Election On The Attached Proposed Constitution Amendments Pursuant To Article XVII Of The Constitution And Bylaws Of The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation to approve)

Presenter: Javier G. Ramos

DEFEATED

2. A Resolution Approving The Amended And Restated Stored Water Recovery And Central Arizona Project Water Exchange Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Arizona Public Service Company (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenter: Thomas L. Murphy

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving A Limited Waiver Of Sovereign Immunity For The Limited Purpose Of Arbitration And Enforcement Of Any Arbitration Award Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Gila River Farms As Lessees And AGCO Finance, LLC. (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenter: Tiffany Turner

APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Arizona Department Of Water Resources And The Gila River Indian Community (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenters: Linda Sauer, Jason Hauter

APPROVED

5. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Gaming Enterprises Inc. Operating Budget And Capital Budget For Fiscal Year 2015 (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenters: Janice Ponziani, Kenneth Manuel, Board Of Directors

APPROVED

6. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing An Investment Consulting Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And UBS Financial Services, Inc. (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller

APPROVED

7. A Resolution Approving A Lease Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Gila River Health Care Corporation (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval; NRSC, H&SSC & EDSC concur)

Presenter: Elizabeth Antone, Ronald Rosier

APPROVED

8. A Resolution Authorizing The Community Services Department To Submit A Grant Application To The United States Department Of Health And Human Services, Administration For Children And Families, Office Of Community Services, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval; with the corrected dollar amount)

Presenter: Ann Manuel

APPROVED

9. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease On Allotment 1801 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Three Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Dean Howard

APPROVED

10. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease On Allotment 2235 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District One Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Dean Howard

APPROVED

11. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease On Allotment 3190 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Dean Howard

APPROVED

12. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease On Allotment 3432 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Dean Howard

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE;

MOTION WITHDRAWN

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE

RESOLUTIONS #12 & #13

13. A Resolution Consenting To A Non-Transferable Fifty Year Residential/Homesite Lease On Allotment 3432 Located On Allotted Trust Land In District Five Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Dean Howard

TABLED AT RESOLUTION #12

[Addendum to Agenda]

14. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community's 2014-2015 Tribal Membership And Designating Delegates In The National Congress Of American Indians

Presenter: Shannon White

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DELEGATE,

COUNCILMAN RODNEY JACKSON,

COUNCILMAN JOEY WHITMAN,

COUNCILWOMAN SANDRA NASEWYTEWA,

AND COUNCILMAN BRIAN DAVIS, SR

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ADD

COUNCILWOMAN CAROL SCHURZ TO THE

DELEGATION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

[GOVERNOR GREGORY MENDOZA CALLED FOR A

10-MINUTE BREAK

RECONVENED AT 4:11PM]

### ORDINANCES

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Elections Update (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council)

Presenter: Scot Butler

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

2. Litigation Team Vacancy (1) (Litigation Team and G&MSC forward to Council to declare one (1) vacancy with recommendation of appointing Councilman Rodney Jackson)

Presenters: Linus Everling, Thomas L. Murphy

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT

COUNCILMAN RODNEY JACKSON

NEW BUSINESS

*Continued on Page 9*



# GRICUA Mentor Program



## Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority

The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) is an enterprise of the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC or Community). GRICUA was established by GRIC Council resolution in 1999. GRICUA is governed by a Board of Directors that reports to the GRIC Council. GRICUA has a staff of 25 that provides electric services to over 2,200 residential and commercial customers within the Community.

The GRICUA Board of Directors has set a goal of:

"... having the General Manager of GRICUA be a qualified Gila River Indian Community Member. The GRICUA Board recognizes that to achieve this goal requires planning and development of a mentoring program to provide the appropriate levels of training for potential qualified GRIC Members."

The first step to achieving this goal is to identify qualified interested members of the Community who would be interested in being considered for participation in this program. To register to be considered for participation in the Mentoring Program, please send your letter of interest and resume to 6640 W. Sundust Rd Box 5091, Chandler, AZ, 85226 or email to [gricuamp@gricua.net](mailto:gricuamp@gricua.net).

### Utility Management Training Program

- Must be a member of the Gila River Indian Community.
- Must possess a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering, Accounting, Finance or Business.
- Successfully complete the 2-5 year Utility Management Training Program



*Deadline to register December 31, 2014 12:00 AM  
Please visit [www.gricua.net](http://www.gricua.net) for more information.*

**By Mikhail Sundust**  
Gila River Indian News

With an eye to the future, one Gila River enterprise is looking to implement the age-old concept of tribal self-governance into its business model with a new program.

"It's the goal of every tribe to be self-determined and have the tribal members be in charge of the key roles within the community," said Gila River Indian Commu-

nity Utility Authority Board Vice-Chair Belinda Nelson.

That's been true for generations and now GRICUA is putting the call out to GRIC members locally and worldwide that if you have an interest in acquiring the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to reach management level status in the energy industry and you want to work at home in the Arizona desert, sign up to be a candidate in the GRICUA Utility Management Training Program.

For now, GRICUA is in somewhat of a pre-screening phase.

"We were getting ready to start looking for potential candidates and [found] there is no existing database that we," could draw from, said General Manager Leonard Gold.

The purpose of the training program is to give Community members a hands-on learning opportunity and work experience being a manager for a power company.

"Whether they end up working here or work somewhere else," said Gold, "it's the experience [and] the training that we're going to provide, which will give anyone some great background to go anywhere."

The board hopes the program will have additional, widespread benefits to the community.

"Having a [Community member in the] general manager position, I think, would be a good role model for kids to kind of start [them] looking for careers in math and science," said board treasurer Neil Banketewa.

"Plus it's long-range," said Nelson. She said, in the past, the Community has seen a lot of non-tribal members in positions of power but that trend is changing. "It's good to see the direction and the focus [going] into educating Community members. It's good just to see the younger people, like John, sitting there [as chairman]."

Bringing the conversation back to the training program, GRICUA Board Chairman John Lewis said, "I think the long-range goal is, obviously we want a Community member in a management position... If not general manager, they may be the CFO if they have the right type of [experience and knowledge]."

The power company is going to great lengths to reach Community members everywhere.

"It could be a guy who works for an accounting firm locally... like in Mesa or something, or it could be an electrical engineer in the Army and he's stationed in Germany and he's about ready to retire," said Lewis. "[GRIC members] are spread out all over."

So how do I get into the program?

GRICUA is asking people to submit their notice of interest online at [www.gricua.net](http://www.gricua.net), where the company has created a form to establish a pool of eligible, interested Community members. Once a large enough database is established, next year they will invite the potential candidates to apply.

"This is just going to be a database of people who are interest-

ed... Once we have enough people, it'll close on Dec. 31 (2014)," said Lewis.

What are the qualifications?

The program is for Gila River Indian Community members only.

Interested members must have a Bachelor of Science degree in business, engineering, accounting or finance.

Potential candidates must be willing to commit 2 - 5 years to the program.

Is this a full-time, paid position?

This is not an internship; it is a full-time, salaried contract position with GRICUA benefits. The salary rate is yet to be determined.

How long is the program?

"[This] is not a short-term program," said Gold. "We're working on getting them utility training... to give these individuals the skillsets they would need to run this organization."

The program is two to five years, depending on how much and what kind of experience the candidates have.

How many candidates are they looking for?

The program allows for up to three candidates/interns but the board could select only one or two.

If I get into the program, does that guarantee me a management position at GRICUA?

No. As Gold said, "This is a commitment on the side of GRICUA and the individual... You're going to have to prove yourself along the way and show your commitment. At the end of the [program], the board will make the final decision, do you fit or do we have to look now for another person? Or the [candidate] at the end of the day may say, 'You know, I've gone through the training and I've seen all this and it's just not going to be what I want to do.' So there's a risk on both parties."

### Action Sheets from Page 10

1. Proposed Land Purchase Report (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation of approval)

Presenters: Rod Tuttle, Dante Nash  
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. Election Process for Special Election for District 4 Community Council Representative (LSC concurs with the Special District 4 Community Council Election Plan, to forward to the Council with recommendation to hold a Special Council Meeting for Sept. 5, 2014 to Declare a Vacancy for District 4 Council Representative, and the Council Certify the Candidates on Sept. 17 for the Election to be held on Nov. 4, 2014)  
Presenters: Legislative Standing Committee  
APPROVED

3. Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. - Vacancy position to the Federal Communications (FCC) Native Nations Broadband Task Force (EDSC forwards to Council concurring with GRTI's nomination of Councilman Robert Stone for recommendation of approval)  
Presenter: Anthony Newkirk

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO NOMINATE COUNCILMAN BRIAN DAVIS, SR.

4. Revenue/Internal Audit Department 3rd Quarter Report Fiscal Year 2014 (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council)  
Presenter: Treasurer Robert G. Keller  
MOTION MADE, SECOND AND DEFEATED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT [Addendum to Agenda]

5. Gila River Indian Community Sponsorship Benefit Arizona Cardinals Away Game Drawing & Ultimate Fan Contest

Presenters: Zuzette Kisto, Shannon Redbird  
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE MINUTES

1. July 3, 2014 (Special)  
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA [Addendum to Agenda]

2. August 12, 2014 (Special Meeting)  
APPROVED WITH CORRECTIONS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

>LITIGATION TEAM MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2014

>REQUEST TO DEFER ALL UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE INQUIRIES TO MR. MARIO MOLINA

>SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2014, 1PM

>G&MSC/ESC SPECIAL JOINT MEETING, FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2014, 9AM

>G&MSC/ SPECIAL JOINT MEETING, FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2014, 1PM

>D7 ELDER'S MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2014 PANGEA ON THE AGENDA

>GOVERNOR TO ATTEND THE AITCA MEETING, FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:43pm

\* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

**Press Release****PIMA DESIGNER REPRESENTS NATIVES AT INTERNATIONAL FASHION SHOW****Native American Designer Chosen for Melbourne Fashion Week**

PHOENIX, AZ, September 1, 2014 –

Cher Thomas (Pima/Cocopah) will be the sole Native American fashion designer at 'The Indigenous Fashion Runway' as part of Virgin Mobile Melbourne Spring Fashion Week in Melbourne, Australia, on Saturday, September 6, 2014. Fashion Week at Melbourne is one of the top major fashion showcases in the world. Thomas will be showing her clothing designs with other chosen Maori, Aboriginal, and African fashion designers.

Global Indigenous Management established the Indigenous Fashion Runway three years ago to encourage new talent to break into the fashion industry. Thomas out competed other Native American designers nationwide as a new artist whose work nurtured confidence and positive self-esteem in Indigenous youth.

Thomas began her company, Cher Thomas Designs, over two years ago and chooses to garner inspiration from traditional designs and stories of her Akimel O'odham (Pima) upbringing in the Komatke Village of the Gila River Indian Community near Laveen, AZ. The work that she is debuting in Melbourne is a contemporary collection featuring intricate appliqué work,

based on designs appropriate for consumerism as to not betray the sacred meaning of ceremonial images.

On the honor of showing in Australia, Thomas states, "This renders me overwhelmed with appreciation, humility and joy! I am grateful for such an incredible opportunity to not only share my work with the world, but most importantly, to further unify Indigenous artists the world over." Cher Thomas Designs has been previously featured in Native Max Magazine, the Beyond Buckskin blog, and most recently in the Denver March Powwow's business expo and fashion show.

For event information: <https://that-smelbourne.com.au/msfw/event/curevt3>

For information on Cher Thomas Designs: <http://www.cherthomasdesigns.com/>



Photo/Anthony Collins  
**Cher Thomas.**

**RE-ADVERTISEMENT****VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
THE GILA RIVER ROYALTY COMMITTEE**

Number of Vacancies	Term of Service	Deadline
Three (3)	3 years	OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Community members interested in serving on the Gila River Royalty Committee (GRRC) must submit a Letter of Interest to the Communications & Public Affairs Office, (include your address and phone number). Provided below is the GRRC Purpose and Terms of Membership outlining the qualifications, duties & responsibilities of the positions.

The purpose of the Gila River Royalty Committee shall be to coordinate the annual Miss Gila River Royalty Pageant as well as oversee the travel itinerary and coordinating activities within the Gila River Indian Community, State of Arizona agencies, and organizations throughout the United States.

Membership to the Gila River Royalty Committee shall be open to any enrolled members of the Gila River Indian Community, of which, two seats will be specifically filled by former Miss Gila River title holders

Members of the Gila River Royalty Committee are expected to maintain a positive attitude and influence to the Gila River Royalty.

Letters of interest can be submitted:

In person to the Communications & Public Affairs Office located in the Governance Center, 525 W. Gu U Ki, Sacaton AZ 85147

By Mail to:  
Communications & Public Affairs Office  
Attn: Royalty Committee  
P.O. Box 459  
Sacaton, AZ 85147

By E-mail to:  
[misgilariver@gric.nsn.us](mailto:misgilariver@gric.nsn.us)

For more information please contact: 520-562-9859

**For Immediate Release**

Gila River Man Sentenced to Over 15 Years

PHOENIX – On Aug. 25, 2014, Curtis Ray Manuel, 23, of Bapchule, Ariz., a member of the Gila River Indian Community, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge G. Murray Snow to 187 months in prison to be followed by lifetime supervised release. Manuel pleaded guilty on June 11, 2014, to abusive sexual contact of a minor.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafekidhood.gov](http://www.projectsafekidhood.gov).

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Gila River Police Department. The prosecution was handled by Raynette Logan, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

**GRIN NFL Preview '14****By Roberto A. Jackson**  
**Gila River Indian News**

We've done our best to stave off the hunger for the upcoming NFL regular season. We suffered through the Winter Olympics and something called the World Cup. Throw in a couple horse races and dog shows and I think we're about ready for Week 1.

As far as last season is concerned, Peyton Manning's record setting campaign was a big story. He now holds the record for most touchdowns (55) and passing yards (5,477) in a season.

The real excitement came in the playoffs, particularly in the NFC Championship game when the Seattle Seahawks and the San Francisco 49ers duked it out in unforgettable fashion. Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman tipped a pass intended for 49ers receiver Michael Crabtree in the endzone to seal a 23-17 Seattle victory. Sherman then went on to give the best interview since Charles Ramsey.

The big matchup between the Seattle Seahawks and the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XLVIII was over before Bruno Mars brought out the Red Hot Chili Peppers. The Seahawks earned their first title by blowing out the Broncos 43-8.

As usual we like to give you our picks for the upcoming season. Last year we went with the Atlanta Falcons beating the Broncos in the Super Bowl. Well, at least we got the loser right. Don't worry we switched crystal balls and all our forecasts are coming out clear as a bell.

So here are the GRIN's annual NFL picks with all the playoff teams, conference winners and Super Bowl champion.

**NFC East**

After a disappointing season, Washington sent head coach Mike Shanahan back to the tanning bed. I see them improving this year under a revived Robert Griffin III and new head coach Jay Gruden.

The Dallas Cowboys will be gunning for another 8-8 season. Wide receiver Dez Bryant is going to have another big year, and if quarterback Tony Romo is healthy, he'll put up huge numbers too. But those guys don't play defense.

The New York Giants are looking to get quarterback Eli Manning back into form after significant drop off in his play last year. His 27 interceptions make you wonder if he can still be the same guy he was before he rapped in those commercials.

The Philadelphia Eagles come into this season as contenders. However, no one has won consecutive NFC East titles since the Eagles won four in a row from 2001-2004. Look for the Eagles to get knocked off the perch in a tight race for first place.

Division Winner: New York Giants

**NFC South**

The Carolina Panthers were tops in the NFC South last year. You wonder about their weapons on offense which hurts their chances in the long run.

If the New Orleans Saints could take their Super Dome grizzly with them on the road, they wouldn't lose a game—all their problems happen away from the Big Easy. If they get home-field advantage in the playoffs, watch out.

The Atlanta Falcons are trying to work their way back from a dismal season, but it's going to take more than an appearance on Hard Knocks to turn things around.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers shuffled the deck this offseason after posting four wins. I'll give them a few more victories than last year but not much more than that.

Division Winner: New Orleans Saints

**NFC North**

Last season, the "Black and Blue" division was a few shades

lighter than expected. The Green Bay Packers won the NFC North with an 8-7-1 record. With a healthy Aaron Rodgers, this team can go as far as it wants to in 2014.

The Chicago Bears have another year under head coach Marc Trestman and if they play up to their potential, they'll be in the mix for a playoff spot.

Talent isn't a problem for the Detroit Lions. The right head coach could bring this team to life, I'm just not sure if Jim Caldwell is the guy to do it.

The Minnesota Vikings hope to make a splash if rookie quarterback Teddy Bridgewater can be the franchise guy.

Division Winner: Green Bay Packers

**NFC West**

The Seahawks won't have a Super Bowl hangover, but I do think they will have a Super Bowl headache. But even if they take a step back, they will still be better than most teams out there.

The Niners are eager to reclaim the top spot in the West but they have more to overcome than previous years.

If the Arizona Cardinals can mitigate the losses of some key pieces on defense, the bird's nest will be rocking once again—but that's no easy task.

If I had a choice between a pack of snarling wolves or the St. Louis Rams defensive line, I would choose the wolves. But losing quarterback Sam Bradford will keep them behind in the standings.

Division Winner: Seattle Seahawks

**Wild Card Teams:**

San Francisco 49ers, Arizona Cardinals

**AFC East**

Stop me if you've heard this one: the New England Patriots are the best team in the AFC East. They'll position themselves again for a legitimate shot to represent the AFC in the big game.

I haven't felt this good about the Jets since they took on the

Sharks over on the Upper West Side. But the New York Jets will have to make up for some holes on the roster if they want a shot at the Wildcard.

The Miami Dolphins were an 8-8 team last year and you can "mark it eight dude," again this year.

I love rookie wide receiver Sammy Watkins but the Buffalo Bills are a few years away from righting the ship.

Division Winner: New England Patriots

**AFC South**

Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck is only getting stronger and this is a great opportunity for them to make a serious run in January.

Cardinals' fans are familiar with the Tennessee Titans new head coach Ken Whisenhunt. He gets a second chance with the Titans, who are looking for stability after a subpar season.

This may sound weird but the Jacksonville Jaguars were the best 4-12 team in the NFL last year. It will be another uphill battle, but I like Blake Bortles and what they are building.

In rookie defensive end Jadeveon Clowney, the Houston Texans have a star in the making but quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick can only take them so far.

Division Winner: Indianapolis Colts

**AFC North**

The Cincinnati Bengals and quarterback Andy Dalton will have another strong regular season, but we all know what happens when they get in the playoffs.

The Pittsburgh Steelers will shake off the rust and bounce back from consecutive 8-8 seasons as long as head coach Mike Tomlin stops trying to trip players from the sideline.

The Baltimore Ravens took a step back last year, but good organizations don't stay down for long, and the Ravens are one of the best.

Cleveland fans will have to try their luck during basketball season when LeBron James suits up for the Cavaliers, because the Browns aren't going anywhere.

Division Winner: Pittsburgh Steelers

**AFC West**

The Denver Broncos are the clear favorite once again, and their high-powered offense, led by quarterback Peyton Manning, doesn't appear to be slowing down.

The Kansas City Chiefs capped off their turnaround season by blowing a 28-point lead in a wild-card playoff game against the Colts. That will be their last sniff of the playoffs for a while.

The San Diego Chargers are the second best team in the West and capable of another playoff appearance with their usual late-season heroics.

The Oakland Raiders should try taking a bath in tomato sauce just to get the stink off. If they don't move out of that walking boot of a stadium, the black hole might have to take a long cruise down the Interstate 5.

Division Winner: Denver Broncos

**Wild Card Teams:**

Baltimore Ravens, San Diego Chargers

**Super Bowl**

Could this be the year a team plays the big game on their home turf with Super Bowl XLIX at University of Phoenix Stadium? We'll put that dream on hold for a minute. The two teams lining up for kickoff will be the Green Bay Packers and the Indianapolis Colts. Andrew Luck wants what Aaron Rodgers has, but he's going to have to wait another year. It will be raining brats and cheddar and the Pack will bring the Vince Lombardi Trophy back to Titletown.

Super Bowl Champion: Green Bay Packers

# Officers Sworn In, Join GRPD

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

From left, Officers Charles Johnson, Jesus Salomon, Anthony Cortez and Larry Chavez were sworn in as Gila River Police Department officers by Chief Judge Anthony Hill Aug. 15.

**By Mikhail Sundust**  
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Police Department welcomed four new officers into its ranks Aug. 15: Officers Larry Chavez, Anthony Cortez, Charles Johnson and Jesus Salomon.

“The significance of today’s ceremony cannot be [understated],” said Gov. Gregory Mendoza at the swearing-in, standing before a courtroom full of proud family members and Community leaders at Sacaton’s Loditha Ku Ki.

“Today the officers will be sworn in and receive their badge,” he said. “It is a visible sign that the wearer of the badge is a person of integrity, character and courage... On behalf of the Executive Office, on behalf of the Gila River Indian Community, I want to say congratulations to each of you and welcome to the Gila River Indian Community.”

Officer Johnson has been a police officer for seven years. He made the move from the Goodyear Police Department to find a more rural setting in Gila River.

“I’m originally from Kentucky so I like being out in the country and off the paved roads,” he said. “That appeals to me much more than suburban policing. Goodyear is a great town but it’s very [suburban].”

He also said, compared to working in a city, Gila River “actually has a culture and a history to it that is unique. So there’s a

distinction in working in a place that’s not just based on location but it’s based on history and culture. That’s pretty cool to me.”

Johnson hopes to one day become a Ranger in the GRPD. He has three children and a wife of 11 years named Heather.

At 37, Officer Salomon enters his new career as a police officer with the energy, motivation and optimism he would have at half his age.

Salomon put himself through school at the Glendale Community College Law Enforcement Training Academy while working as a correctional officer in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

He said he is grateful to his wife Leticia and his two sons for supporting him.

All four of the candidates mentioned how welcomed they felt making the transfer to Gila River.

“This community has been embracing us since day one,” said Salomon. “I felt the warmth...it’s very welcoming. I am blessed for the opportunity the Community’s given me and I’m ready to go out there and protect and serve, as I’ve sworn to do.”

Likewise, Officer Chavez said, “They’re so accepting... you really feel like family from day one. That’s one of the greatest things. I feel it and it’s genuine... and I appreciate that. I feel like I can have a successful career here.”

Chavez has a wife, Denise, and an 11-month-old son named Aiden. He worked for six years as a detention officer in the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office before at last pursuing his life-long dream of becoming an officer of the law. He signed on with GRPD, who contracted him and sent him through the police academy.

“My dream was to become a police officer,” he said. “Gila River opened their doors and I’m more than grateful to them for that.”  
Officer

## As Governor, I plan to;

- Be proactive in deciding the future of our Community regarding gaming
- Establish an agriculture plan to utilize and protect our water
- Evaluate the top heaviness of all departments of our tribal government
- Continue to support our Culture and language and widen the scope of current programs which will invigorate our language through cultural activities
- Evaluate and work with the Tribal Council, Committees and Boards to lessen threats to our Community such as drug trafficking, illegal dumping, and violence in our Community
- Stand firm on the 202 No Build issue
- Promote healthy activities and support athletes to compete in all sports
- Work cooperatively with local, Tribal, State and National governments
- Produce a plan that will enable and support our students to excel and our schools to receive better school grades from ADE
- Strengthen our Social Service Department to protect the vulnerable
- Support our Community members and the programs available for them.



## NOTICE OF LAND AVAILABLE TO BID

**Property Type:** Agricultural  
**Acres:** 760 Tribal Farmable Acres  
**Features:** Farmed 10+ years  
Electricity/Power  
Water – Well  
**Location:** West of State  
Highway 347 &  
Riggs Road

**BIDS MUST BE SEALED AND SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 6, 2014 AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DAY (5:00 P.M.)**



5350 N. 48<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite#245  
Chandler, Arizona 85226

For Additional Information Contact:

Jessica Romo  
(520) 796-2456

Cortez experienced the police academy along with Chavez.

“I was born here in Sacaton but my mother’s T.O.,” said Cortez. After graduating high school, he spent 26 years as a field artilleryman in the U.S. Army.

Cortez and his wife Priscilla Granado have two children and one granddaughter.

When he retired from the military, he felt his duty to serve had still not expired.

“I thought, ‘What better way

to continue serving [than to] go back home and be a police officer in the community I was born in?’ So I’m glad they gave me the opportunity.”

# O'ODHAM VETERANS CELEBRATION

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2014**

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community  
Salt River Community Building  
1880 N. Longmore Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85256  
contact Pacer at 480.362.7490 or  
edward.reina@srpmic-nsn.gov

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2014**

Gila River Indian Community | Boys & Girls Club, Dist. 6  
51st Ave & Pecos Rd, Komatke, AZ

**0530**

**BLESSING & CLEANSING CEREMONY**

**0800**

**REGISTRATION & CELEBRATION**

**0900-1500**

**OPENING CEREMONY, POSTING OF COLORS, GUEST SPEAKERS, VETERANS BENEFITS & HEALTH INFORMATION,  
ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS & CRAFTS BOOTHS, FREE LUNCH.**

**DOD DISTRIBUTION TO ALL VETERANS, DOOR PRIZES AND MUCH MORE!**

contact Gary Rodriguez at 520.251.1292 or rodriguezgary@hotmail.com

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2014**

Tohono Odham Nation  
Desert Diamond Casino  
1100 W Pima Mine Rd, Sahuarita, AZ  
contact Ron at 520.383.1900 or  
ronald.homewytewa@tonation-nsn.gov

**OCTOBER 11, 2014**

Solomon, AZ  
Lopez-Hernandez American Legion Post #95  
2256 S 3rd Ave Solomon, AZ 85551  
contact Ray Apodaca 928.965.0785

**GILARIVER**

GAMING ENTERPRISES, INC.

Owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community

WinGilaRiver.com  
800-WIN-GILA

