



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

Fair-goers attend the Mul-Chu-Tha Fair on Community Day, Mar. 11. Families enjoyed rides, carnival games, food and other attractions.

GRIC CELEBRATES 54TH ANNUAL MUL-CHU-THA PARADE, FAIR & RODEO

Gila River Indian News
P.O. Box 459
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Roberto A. Jackson Gila River Indian News

Leading up to the 54th Annual Mul-Chu-Tha Fair & Rodeo, tents and rides seemed to rise up from Sacaton fairgrounds like magic. For three days, Mar. 11-13, fair-goers entered into the timeless world of amusement that makes the Mul-Chu-Tha one of the Gila River Indian Community's most unyielding traditions.

As usual, the festivities began with Community Day Mar. 11, when the gates opened for Community members to feast on a free meal and enjoy free rides

for two hours. Community Day also included special presentations, music and announcements.

At the heart of Mul-Chu-Tha is a celebration, and on Mar. 12, that celebration briefly shifted from the fairgrounds to Blue Bird Road in Sacaton for the Mul-Chu-Tha Parade.

Over 80 entries wound through the parade route which featured GRIC tribal leadership, song and dance groups, tribal royalty and a host of other entries under the theme: "Celebrating Our Culture Through Health & Wellness."

After the last entry passed the

grandstand, the crowds left Blue Bird Road and migrated back to the fairgrounds.

The rides spun round and round and the food stands dished out treats for the large crowds that attended on Saturday. The rodeo was in full swing and was one of the bigger attractions at the fair.

The Battle of the Bands maintained its strong following as well, and the Social Powwow brought in many guests too.

Cultural activities took place all weekend at the Cultural Circle, which included a variety of dancing, singing and various demonstrations.

Saturday peaked when Te-jano music sensation AJ Castillo performed to end the night for an enormous crowd on the west side of the fair grounds.

All the events from Saturday carried over into Sunday with more rodeo events, the conclusion of the Battle of Bands (Gertie & the T.O. Boyz won first place in the battle), the thoka tournament, a lowrider carshow and a gospel music jam.

Mul-Chu-Tha Photos on Page 8-9

24-acre St. John's fire nearing full containment

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

Fire crews have been hard at work putting out the St. John's 24-acre fire located in a remote area west of Vatho Road at the bottom of the Gila River in District 6. The fire, which began on Mar. 10 due to human factor, sent fire crews scrambling to the western end of the Gila River Indian Community.

Because of the area's recent history of large fires, officials were initially concerned that the blaze had the potential to become much larger.

According to Alan Sinclair,

Continued on Page 5

New royalty crowned at pageants

GRIN Staff
Gila River Indian News

The annual Miss Gila River and Jr. Miss Gila River Pageants are an opportunity for the Gila River Indian Community to celebrate its culture and history with a metaphorical passing of the torch.

Every year a new class of young women takes up the mantle of ambassadorship and are given the opportunity to experience the Community in a unique way, while learning about its history, culture, people, government, and intertribal relations.

Meet the new Gila River Indian Community royalty delega-



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

The 2016-2017 Gila River Royalty: From left, Jr. Miss Gila River Second Attendant Karissa Mark, Jr. Miss Gila River First Attendant Lehua Lani Dosela, Jr. Miss Gila River Deirdre Copperfield, Miss Gila River Oriana Apkaw, Miss Gila River First Attendant Vila Huerta.

tion for 2016-2017:
Miss Gila River Oriana Apkaw (District 4)
Miss Gila River First Attendant Vila Huerta (D6)
Jr. Miss Gila River Deirdre Copperfield (D5)

Jr. Miss Gila River First Attendant Lehua Lani Dosela (D6)
Jr. Miss Gila River Second Attendant Karissa Mark (D3).

The Miss Gila River and Jr.

Continued on Page 6



Culturally Competent
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Practicing kindness all day, every day

JOB FESTIVAL

On **Friday, April 1, 2016**
Gila River Health Care will host a Job Festival
from **3pm to 6 pm**
at the **Viola L. Johnson Administration Building** in Sacaton.

Gila River Indian Community members are invited to apply
online prior to March 31, 2016 to receive onsite interviews.
See job opportunities and apply online at
GRHC.ORG/Careers.

Must bring: Tribal ID, Resume, High School Diploma or
GED Degree or Certifications

For more information, contact the GRHC Human Resources at:
(520) 562-3321 Ext. 1342 or (602) 528-1200 Ext. 1342

SCHOOL AND SPORTS PHYSICALS

The Primary Care and Pediatrics Departments located at the
HHKMH Campus anticipate a busy summer.

CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE SCHOOL/SPORTS PHYSICALS!
We encourage you to schedule with your provider at any
of our campuses. For a limited time in April, we will also
offer clinics at HHKMH (only) on Saturdays.

Call now to schedule an appointment
(602) 528-1200 Ext. 1495

GOOD FRIDAY CLOSURE

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital Clinics
Komatke Health Center Clinics & Ak-Chin Clinic will be closed.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2016 AND
SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2016**

Normal business hours will resume on Monday, March 28, 2016

**If you need medical assistance, call 9-1-1 or visit the
Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital**



In an effort to enhance your experience at Gila River Health Care,
we are continuing to make improvements by:

- **Expanding and remodeling Primary Care and Pediatric Departments areas at HHKMH.**
- **Introducing new Electronic Health Records Software:** your provider teams across all of our locations (HHKMH, KHC, Ak-Chin Clinic & BHS) are dedicated to keeping your health records safe and accurate. We ask that patients work with us as we learn this new process.

Thank you kindly,
Your friends at Gila River Health Care

/GilaRiverHealthCare

/Gilariverhealth

Gila River Health Care

GRHC.ORG

Main Number (520) 562-3321

Gila River Indian Community
Crisis Line

1-800-259-3449

Recyclable Material Art & Fashion Show

"The Art & Beauty of Recycling"

Earth Day Celebration

Friday, April 22nd, 2016

District Four Community Ball Park

10 am-1 pm

FASHION SHOW BEGINS AT NOON

Show your creative side by designing an outfit or creating a
piece of art using **ONLY recyclable/reusable materials.**



Examples of material you may use:

- **Plastic:** grocery bags, bottles, bubble wrap, old CD's
- **Aluminum:** cans, foil, food containers
- **Paper/cardboard:** boxes, newspapers, shredded paper, magazines



WWW.GRICDEQ.ORG



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

Department of Environmental Quality
Pesticide Control Office

PO Box 2139 • 45 S. Church Street • Sacaton, AZ 85147

Office (520) 562-2234 • Fax (520) 562-3198

GRIC.Pesticide.Office@GRIC.nsn.us • www.GRICDEQ.org



Community Applicator Certification Training

This Community Applicator certification training is:

- **Only** applicable to employees of a Community governmental entity or a GRIC Community member.
- Required within the GRIC for those applicators that use or supervise the use of **general use** pesticides and are without other recognized pesticide applicator credentials.
- A great initial training if you are interested in becoming a professional pesticide applicator.

The (2) day certification training is comprised of twelve (12) training modules:

Day 1

Intro & Pest Management
Pesticide Laws
Pesticide Labeling
Pesticide Formulations
Hazards & First Aid
Personal Protective Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment

Day 2

Pesticides & the Environment
Transportation & Storage of Pesticides
Response to Pesticide Emergencies
Planning Pesticide Applications
Pesticide Applications
Professional Conduct

Professional Conduct

At the successful completion of this course, the attendee will receive their Community Applicator certification card and meet the requirements of the Community's Pesticide Code for general use pesticide applicators within the Gila River Indian Community.

Registration:

Each attendee must submit a completed Community Applicator Certification application **and** attach a photocopy of a GRIC Government Department or Enterprise Employee ID, or GRIC tribal member ID. Priority registration will be given to those applicators who must attend to ensure compliance with GR-05-14.

Training Dates:

May 11 - 12, 2016

Gila River Health Care
Dialysis Center East, Sacaton



**Deadline for submitting
applications to the Pesticide
Control Office is:**

May 6, 2016



Governor
Stephen Roe Lewis
 Lt. Governor
Monica L. Antone
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 Joey Whitman
District 2
 Carol Schurz
District 3
 Carolyn Williams
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GCCS students graduate from D.A.R.E. program

Thomas R. Throssell
 Gila River Indian News

After 12 weeks of vigorous study, 61 rambunctious Gila Crossing Community (GCCS) School fifth graders graduated from D.A.R.E.'s (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) co-curriculum program on Mar. 10.

Gila River Police Department (GRPD) School Resource Officer (SRO) Rachele Rodriguez, Sgt. Joaquin Manuel, SRO James Milano, and SRO Ester Poolaw were present to award GCCS students with certificates of graduation as friends and family watched from the school's gymnasium bleachers.

After the students received their certificates, they presented poster boards showing what they had learned over the past four months. Afterwards, the students enjoyed ice cream and cake.

The three GCCS fifth grade classes, made up of Kenneth Young, Sherri Miller and Karen Scott's students, began their D.A.R.E. studies last November.

Rodriguez, who taught all three fifth grade classes weekly, said that the students participated in a variety of activities such as learning how to respond to bullying, peer pressure, the effects of alcohol and tobacco, and learning how to smartly navigate through situations involving illicit substances.

One of the challenges of teaching the classes, said Rodriguez, was gaining the students' trust.

"It's all about building relationships and trust, because its one of those things where when I first walked into the classroom, what do you think I got?" said Rodriguez. The students put their hands in the air because that is what they think when they see my uniform, she said. "My thing was that I wanted to tear down that wall and...build something new. I wanted [them] to get to know me as a person and what I stand for. I am here for the Community and to keep you guys safe," Rodriguez said.

The D.A.R.E. program began in the Community last year after GRPD officers became certified.

"It is a lot of work that the officers put in to teach the classes," said Sgt. Manuel. "They have gone through training for the D.A.R.E. to get certified, which was 80 hours of really intense work."

This is the third D.A.R.E. graduation within the Community since the program started and the SROs are looking forward to another graduating class at Sacaton Middle School (SMS) in April.

The D.A.R.E. co-curriculum program is currently being taught at SMS, Sacaton Elementary School, Blackwater Community School, Casa Blanca Community

School, GCCS, Skyline Gila River District 5, and St. Peter Indian Mission School.

For more information about the D.A.R.E. co-curriculum pro-

gram contact GRPD Sgt. Joaquin Manuel at Joaquin.manuel@gric.nsn.us or call (520) 610-2806.



Thomas Throssell/GRIN
Sixty-one fifth grade students from GCCS hold up their D.A.R.E. graduation certificates Mar. 10.



Thomas Throssell/GRIN
Xavier Ramirez receives his D.A.R.E. graduation certificate from SRO Rachele Rodriguez on Mar. 10

From the family of
 Barrington "Barry" José



We, the family of Barrington "Barry" José, would greatly appreciate any information leading up to his death, which took place at his residence in Hashan-Kehk, District 2, sometime between 7 p.m., Jan. 5 and 3 p.m., Jan. 6.

Any little information will surely help so please don't hesitate to call Jeff Faulkner anonymously at (602) 550-2342, Burlington José at (602) 931-1847, or Thomas "Clement" José at (520)705-2829. The José family is very thankful for your cooperation.

Thank you and God Bless.

CORRECTIONS

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

Important Patient Information

ZIKA Virus

- Zika is a Flavivirus carried by mosquitos, that began in Uganda in 1947, Brazil in 2015, and the first case in Texas (sexually transmitted) confirmed by CDC 2/2016.
- Which Mosquitoes Carry Zika: **Ae. Aegypti I**
- This virus is closely related to viruses like: **Dengue**, Yellow fever, West Nile, St. Louis encephalitis and Japanese encephalitis

See your Doctor if you develop a fever with any of these following symptoms:
 Symptoms appear in 3-12 days (60-80% have no symptoms)

- Muscle or joint pain
- Headache, especially with pain behind the eyes
- Rash
- Conjunctivitis (red eyes)

Pregnant?
 Warning: Zika might be linked to birth defects

- Consider Postponing Travel to Zika-Affected Areas
- While Zika has been found in breast milk, it's not yet confirmed it can be passed to a baby through nursing.

There is no vaccine to prevent Zika virus infection

Important Patient Information

ZIKA Virus

Prevention:

Transmitted directly thru mosquito bites, blood transfusion, sex with an infected person, and infected mother to unborn child. Mosquitoes that spread Zika virus bite mostly during the daytime.

- No vaccine or specific treatment
- Stay in places with air conditioning or that use window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- If you have a baby or child:
 - Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than 2 months of age
 - Adults: Spray insect repellent onto your hands and then apply to a child's face
- Supportive care
 - Treatment with aspirin and NSAIDs (such as Motrin) discouraged

Daytime is most dangerous
 Mosquitoes that spread chikungunya, dengue, and Zika are aggressive daytime biters. They can also bite at night.

Use insect repellent
 It works!
 Look for the following active ingredients:
 • DEET • PICARIDIN • IRL3535
 • OIL OF LEMON EUCALYPTUS (Para-menthane-diol)

Wear protective clothes
 Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants and use insect repellent. For extra protection, treat clothing with permethrin.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Marcy Hamblin
 Infection Prevention Specialist
 (520) 662-3321 Ext.1556

Gila River HEALTH CARE

SMS wins Superstition Athletic League Boys Basketball Title



Photo Courtesy of Sacaton Middle School

From the left, Iver Zavala, Randall Kyvitan, Allen Miguel, JaQuar Alewine, Phillip Johns, head coach D.J. Harris, assistant coach Frank Leon, Jordan Pratt, Trenton Moffett, Weston Pena, Martees June and Jose Rodriguez.

Billye Paulson
Sacaton Middle School

Sacaton Middle School captured the Superstition Athletic League boys basket-

ball championship Mar. 3 with a 60-43 victory over Toltec Middle School. "We worked really hard to get there," eighth grader Phillip Johns, the team's lead-

ing rebounder, said. "And I did it for my family, especially my sisters who pushed me and my brothers helped me get [to the championship]." The Braves posted a 5-4 record during the regular season, outscoring their opponents on average by 26 points. Two of the losses were by forfeit due to transportation issues. The other two losses were by a

combined seven points. "I could not be more proud of this team coming together at the right time to overcome adversities to end the season as the champions," head coach D.J. Harris said.

JaQuar Alewine led the team in scoring, averaging 15 points per game. "I was very excited about winning the title because we played team ball and put forth an excellent effort," Alewine, a seventh grader said. "All our hard work paid off."

Johns put his 6-foot-1-inch size to use, averaging 14 rebounds per game. Another key player for the Braves was Martees June, an eighth grader, who dished out an average of 8 assists per game.

With the team losing only two eighth graders this season, next year's team will once again be the one to beat in Superstition Athletic League play.

GRIC Community Events

For more information on these events and opportunities, visit www.mygilariver.com

Our Lady of Victory Bingo & Food Sale

Saturday April 2
District 2 Event Center
Everyone welcome.
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Adult Co-Ed Kickball

April 29-30
District 4 Ball Park
For more information contact:
520-418-3661

Coupon Class

March 23 6-7 p.m.
District 3 Service Center
Main Hall

Karate Class

District 7 Community Members
Mondays 6:30 p.m.
D7 Service Center
Contact D7 Recreation:
520-430-4780

153rd Five Tribes Treaty

Saturday, April 9
District 7 Service Center & Park
April 7, Elders Volleyball Tournament
520-430-4780

GRHC Nutrition Month Events
Cooking with Healthy Fats and Oils
Monday, March 21, 12-1 p.m.

Cancer Awareness Day
Saturday, March 19 at 9 a.m.
Sacaton Boys & Girls Club

Gila River Police Department Citizen's Police Academy

April 4 – May 23
Application Deadline: April 1
Academy is a 40-hour program
Includes classroom and "hands-on" instruction
More info: 520-562-7105

Parent and Caregiver Wellness Conference

Monday, April 4
7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Casino
GRHC Genesis Program:
520-562-1237

Tribal Elections Voter Registration Closes

Tuesday, April 5

GRIC Community Council Election Day

Tuesday, May 3

RECYCLABLES

CARDBOARD, NEWSPAPER, PHONE BOOKS, SHREDDED PAPER, JUNK MAIL, MAGAZINES, OTHER PAPER

ALUMINUM/METAL CANS

PLASTIC BOTTLES, JUGS, FOOD CONTAINERS

GLASS FOOD & BEVERAGE BOTTLES & JARS

MILK CARTONS & DRINK BOXES

RIGID PLASTICS

RECYCLABLES DO NOT HAVE TO BE SEPARATED
Please NO Styrofoam, plastic bags or saran wrap
Please place BLUE BINS at your curb by 6am on your scheduled collection day

TRASH/RECYCLING BIN PICK-UP
DPW 520-562-3343

Recycling Education
DEQ 520-562-2237
WWW.GRICDEQ.ORG

Complete guide at www.grbc.tv		GRBC TV GUIDE						*Schedule may be subject to change.
*** New showtimes for GRIC EVENTS! Now Showing at 6:30am, 10:30am, 3:30pm & 8:00pm. ***								
	Sunday 3/20	Monday 3/21	Tuesday 3/22	Wednesday 3/23	Thursday 3/24	Friday 3/25	Saturday 3/26	
12:00pm	Native Planet <i>Australia</i>	Incas Remembered <i>A wondrous people who once ruled half of South America.</i>	After The Gold Rush	Across the Creek	LaDonna Harris: Indian 101	Mirando Desde Nuestras Raices	Our Spirits Don't Speak English	
12:30pm				Spirit In Glass: Plateau Native				
1:00pm	Storytellers In Motion	Ravens and Eagles	Samaqan Water Stories	Ravens and Eagles	Samaqan Water Stories	Ravens and Eagles	Seasoned with Spirit	
1:30pm	Native Report	Vitality Gardening	Vitality Gardening	Vitality Gardening	Vitality Gardening	Vitality Gardening	Storytellers in Motion	
2:00pm	Seasoned with Spirit	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Native Nation Building	
2:30pm	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	From The Spirit	From The Spirit	From The Spirit	From The Spirit	From The Spirit	People of the Pines	
3:00pm	When I Hear Thunder <i>Finds the tradition of boxing intact on reservations across AZ.</i>	Creative Native The Silversmiths	Creative Native	Creative Native	Creative Native	Creative Native	Making Regalia	
3:30pm		GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	
4:00pm		Working It Out Together	Indian Pride	On Native Ground: Youth Report	Indian Pride	Storytellers in Motion	The Other Side	
4:30pm	Whaledreamers <i>A heartfelt story of the return of an aboriginal whale dreaming tribe from the edge of extinction.</i>	Back In The Day	Oskayak Down Under	Voices Of Hope	Down The Mighty River	On Native Ground: Youth Report	Indian and Aliens	
5:00pm		First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	Indigenous Focus	
5:30pm		Native Report	People of the Pines	Making Regalia	People of the Pines	Make Prayers to the Raven	Dabiyiyuu	
6:00pm	Native Voice TV	After The Gold Rush	Across The Creek	LaDonna Harris: Indian 101	Mirando Desde Nuestras Raices	Our Spirits Don't Speak English	Osiyo, Voices of the Cherokee People Native Report	
6:30pm	On Native Ground: Youth Report		Spirit In Glass: Plateau Native					
7:00pm	Wapos Bay	Wapos Bay	Wapos Bay	Wapos Bay	Wapos Bay	Wapos Bay	Wapos Bay	
7:30pm	Fish Out of Water	Fish Out of Water	Fish Out Of Water	Fish Out Of Water	Fish Out of Water	Fish Out Of Water	Fish Out of Water	
8:00pm	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	GRTV NEWS WEEKLY & GRIC EVENTS	
8:30pm	Native Shorts	Indians and Aliens	Back In The Day	Indigenous Focus	Rez Rides	Champions of the North	Moose T.V.	
9:00pm	Walela	Dakota 38 <i>Jim Miller, a Native spiritual leader and Vietnam veteran, found himself in a dream riding on horseback across the great plains of SD.</i>	From Badlands to Alcatraz	Grab	The Activist	Mohawk Girls	Alaska Tribes	
9:30pm		California Indian: A Tribal Story <i>Nick Thomas, a Pomo Indian and a successful Los Angeles radio host, is forced back to the reservation to help</i>	Medicine Game	Weaving Worlds				
10:00pm	Incas Remembered <i>A wondrous people who once ruled half of South America.</i>		Racing The Rez	For The Rights of All: Ending Jim Crow in Alaska	When I Hear Thunder <i>Finds the tradition of boxing intact on reservations across AZ.</i>	Don't Get Sick After June	Rez	
10:30pm	Spirit In Glass					Video Letters from Prison	Fractured Land	
11:00pm	Rez							

St. John's Fire from page 1

Fire Management Officer Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Pima Agency, the St. John's fire sits inside the old footprint of the 2008 Ethan fire that burned over 6,600 acres from around Phoenix International Raceway down south all the way to District 6. That fire, fueled by salt cedar growth in the riverbed, ended up displacing Community members from the area, he said.

"So, when it was burning again, in salt cedar... we know that the potential is there for it to get big under the right conditions," he said.

Crews from around the state, including Pima Agency wild land firefighters, San Carlos Agency wild

land firefighters, and a Zuni Hotshot crew were part of the 80 individuals that made up the Central Arizona Zone Type 3 Incident Management Team that was initially deployed to contain the fire.

The Boys & Girls Club - Komatke Branch served as the team's command post for operations and support over the past week.

On the morning of Mar. 14, officials said that the team was changed to a Type 4 Incident Management Team, containing one fire crew, the Pima Agency wild land firefighters.

"As long as there is no spread outside of the lines," said Sinclair, "they are mopping it up, they are pushing the heat back more interior until a point in time where we can say it is 100 percent contained where under all the foreseeable conditions... that we are com-

fortable nothing is going to blow embers outside of the lines."

On the morning of Mar. 16, Sinclair reported that the St. John's fire was over 90 percent contained. Additionally, because the Pima Agency crew is currently working on firming up the fire lines, clearing and controlling burns, there will be smoke in the area over the next several days.

The expediency at which operations were set up, allowing fire crews to quickly get on scene is indicative of how well different departments and organizations are able to collaborate within the Community in handling fire emergencies.

The St. John's fire was collaboratively handled by the Central Arizona Zone Type 3 Incident Management Team with oversight by the Pima Agency Bureau of Indian Affairs in conjunction with the Gila River Fire Department, the Gila River Police Department, Gila River Emergency Medical Services, the Gila River Indian Community Cultural Resources Department, Department of Environmental Quality, and the Department of Natural Resources.



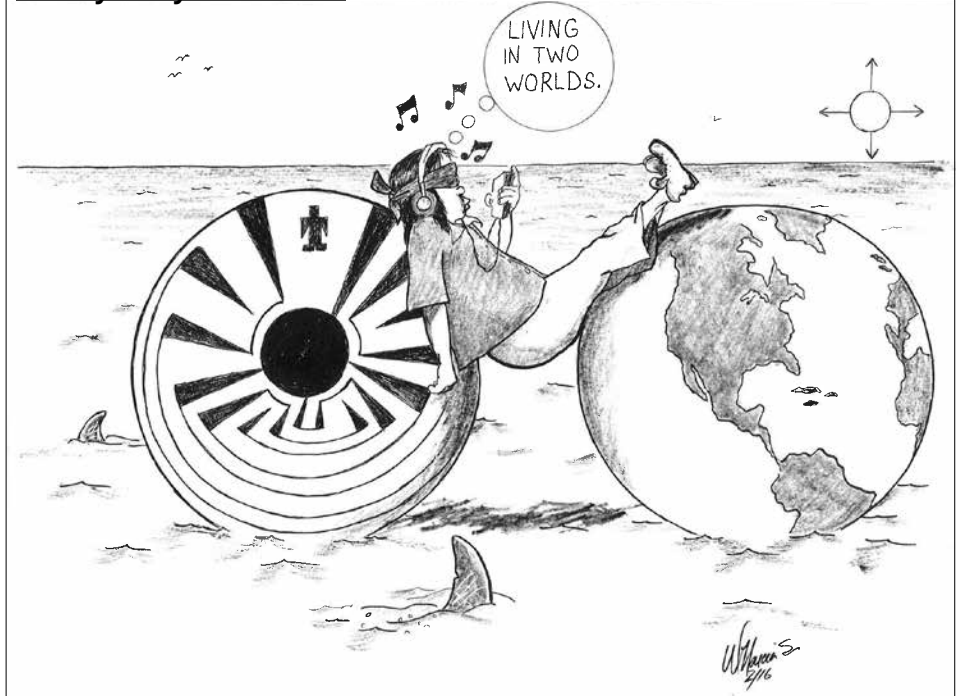
Photo Courtesy of BIA Pima Agency

BIA Fire Management PIMA Crew at the site of the St. John's fire in District 6.



Photo Courtesy of Valerie Azure
Fire crews who battled the St. John's Fire receive a well deserved meal and break Mar. 13.

Art by Wayne Narcia




CALL 811 Before You Dig!

SOUTHWEST GAS

One simple call to 811 gets underground utility-owned lines marked for FREE.

Whether you're a homeowner or professional excavator, every digging job requires a call — even small projects — so be sure to:

- Call 811 at least two days before starting any digging project
- Wait for the site to be marked
- Respect the marks
- Dig with care

Not calling can be life threatening and costly. You can harm yourself or others, disrupt natural gas service to an entire neighborhood, and potentially be responsible for injuries, repair costs, and criminal penalties.

Natural gas lines can be buried anywhere. If you ever suspect a natural gas leak, call **911** and Southwest Gas at **1-877-860-6020** immediately, whether you're our customer or not.

For more information about natural gas pipeline safety, visit swgas.com/safety or call **1-877-860-6020**.

New Miss Gila River, Jr. Miss and attendants for 2016-17

from Page 1



Oriana Apkaw is crowned by Sienna Whittington on Mar. 5. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Miss Gila River pageants were held on Mar. 4-5, respectively. For the first time in years, the pageants were held in the village of Komatke in the Gila Crossing Community School gymnasium.

Both pageants began with a fun opening number featuring all five contestants dancing to "We Will Rock You" by Queen, choreographed by Bianca Hernandez, Casa Grande Union High School's Miss Amerind First Attendant.

As always, the pageants highlighted contestants' depth of cultural understanding with a traditional attire segment and a traditional talent portion called the Time Honored Presentation. Each contestant also demonstrated poise under pressure in the impromptu questions. Miss Gila River contestants were given the added challenge of delivering a Contemporary Presentation.

On the first evening of pageant weekend, the Jr. Miss Gila River contestants offered brief introductions in traditional attire.

Dosela wore a two-piece muslin dress made by her mother with an aqua blue water design to represent the river, and wore shell necklaces and earrings given to her by her brother.

Mark wore a formal traditional two-piece dress in lavender purple to honor her family members and everyone who has battled with cancer.

Copperfield wore a traditional two-piece O'otham dress of purple to pay homage to her late grandmother, Darlene Jackson, adorned with stitched basket designs, Pee-Posh pottery and a river design. In her introduction, she said that if chosen, "My platform is to preserve our culture in our modern society."

During the Time Honored Presentations, each young woman featured tra-

ditional aspects of their culture. Dosela sang the Quail Song and had some assistance from backup dancers; Mark did a dance depicting the coming of rain clouds and the monsoon season; and Copperfield sang the Blackbird Song with an assistant playing the gourd in the background.

Before announcing the winner, Charisma Quiroz, Jr. Miss Gila River 2015-2016, gave a big thanks to the Community, her family and the royalty committee for their support and guidance throughout the past year. The committee presented her with a parting gift of flowers and artwork by District 7 Paul Molina, and she led a social dance to say farewell.

When the scores were all tallied up, Deirdre Copperfield was crowned Jr. Miss Gila River. She demonstrated wonderful grace and poise in her acceptance speech, saying, "I want to thank everybody. This year we're going to grow close...I can't wait to create more memories. Thank you."

Pageant weekend picked up the next day with the Miss Gila River pageant, starting much like the previous night but with some more experienced contestants.

The Time Honored Presentation is one of the more challenging portions of the pageant because contestants are required to demonstrate knowledge of O'otham or Pee-Posh culture.

Apkaw put together a ku'ipad or harvesting stick made from the ribs of saguaro (hash'an) that is utilized by the O'otham people to pick saguaro fruit (bihidaj). She said harvesting is a good way to learn about O'otham culture and foods and it has always been a way for the O'otham to connect with the environment and for the nourishment of the bihidaj.

Huerta laid out a table

adorned with the squaw berry bush, which sprouts small cherry tomato-sized grapes during the spring season. She said that most people look at the squaw berry bush and never realize that it can be of nutritional value and explained how it is used for the coloring of baskets, dresses and is useful as an antioxidant.

In the Contemporary Presentation, Apkaw performed a cover of Grandpa (Tell Me 'Bout the Good Old Days'), by The Judds, while Huerta showed off her talent for fashion by having models wear traditional dresses she made.

Before dispensing awards, the Miss Gila River Royalty Committee honored outgoing Miss Gila River Sienna Whittington with flowers and artwork.

"I knew that I could be true to myself and show young women that higher education is possible and achievable," said Whittington. Most of all she cherished her experiences meeting the youth, elders and the many people she encountered.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said, "She [represented] the Community with an incredible amount of poise," and she has inspired younger generations of O'otham and Pee-Posh women to be leaders.

When the votes were tallied in the Saturday contest, Apkaw was chosen as the next Miss Gila River.

Apkaw currently attends Tohono O'odham Community College and will transfer to Arizona State University in the fall to study Anthropology. Her platform emphasizes health and wellbeing in the Community through positive influences that can be incorporated into everyday life.

In delivering her acceptance speech, Apkaw was overjoyed and said, "I want to thank everyone for attending and I will do my absolute best in representing the Community."



Deirdre Copperfield is crowned by Charisma Quiroz on Mar. 4. Mikhail Sundust/GRIN



Outgoing Miss Gila River Sienna Whittington takes her farewell walk before crowning her successor. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Artist brings life and color back to Sacaton schools



Russell Blackwater's murals at Sacaton schools feature traditional pottery and baskets. Thomas Throssell/GRIN

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

Over the years the colorfully painted faces of Sacaton Elementary School (SES) and Sacaton Middle School (SMS) have taken on the harsh elements of southern Arizona and slowly lost their luster, but thanks to local artist Russell Blackwater the schools have regained their dramatic façade.

Blackwater, 54, whose artwork can be seen throughout the Gila Riv-

er Indian Community, has been painting murals for the past 16 years, and with his crew, has been hard at work touching-up SES and SMS.

Restoration began late last year, with Blackwater's crew touching-up the school buildings from the beginning of November through the first week of December. The paint crew moved onto SMS but due to bad weather was delayed, finishing the school's paint restoration in early February.

Blackwater originally painted the school murals in 2001, which were first restored in 2009. The murals feature traditional O'otham pottery and baskets set upon a desert landscape under a blue sky dotted with drifting white clouds.

Now, and for the next several years, Sacaton students will be able to enjoy the reinvigorated bright colors of their school buildings.

Contact Russell Blackwater at rblkwtr@yahoo.com.

HUHUGAM HERITAGE CENTER

Match the O’otham tool or item with its picture!



Turning action into tools with the O’otham suffix -kuḍ

Our O’otham ñeo’ok is full of many words that describe actions (verbs) as well as words for people or things that perform those actions (nouns). Often there are relationships between words where the word describing an object is built upon another action word. For example, if you want to tell someone in O’otham to turn on the gas stove in your house, you can simply tell them “I na:th heg na:thakuḍ.” The action word in this sentence is na:th and taken by itself simply means to make a fire. The object word, na:thakuḍ, here refers to the stove and when you say it you’ll notice that it is built on the action word na:th. The change from na:th to na:thakuḍ is done through the use of two separate word endings, called suffixes. The first suffix –a makes the word longer by turning na:th into na:tha and changes the meaning from an action word into a noun, in this case the fire itself. The second suffix changes the meaning even further to create a word na:thakuḍ that refers now to the instrument or tool that makes fire; in this case the stove. Na:thakuḍ is an interesting word as

its meaning has extended over time. When cast iron stoves were first introduced into our community many decades ago they were referred to as na:thakuḍ. Nowadays as cooking is done mostly indoors a na:thakuḍ can refer to anyplace where fire is made or cooking is done. It can be a gas or electric stove, an outdoor grill, a fireplace or even a microwave oven. Although cooking has become modern, that primordial relationship between fire and cooking is still found within the two words in our O’otham ñeo’ok.

As our O’otham universe started to evolve we needed a way to measure time, this is especially true when we began to count the days before a large festivity was held. The leader of the hosting village would send out bundles of sticks to the surrounding villages. The sticks were stuck in the ground and at sunset each day a stick was removed until the day of the event. This was one of our first O’otham calculators that were used to measure the solar days before a big event. By itself kuinth means to count and

if I performed the counting it would become eñ kuintha, the things that I counted. The first tools or instruments that were used to help track time back in those days were called kuinthakuḍ. Here again we can see the relationship between the action word kuinth and the tool/instrument used to perform the action kuinthakuḍ. Other items used to count or measure were introduced to our community such as rulers, measuring tapes, and modern calculators, but nonetheless they are all labeled as kuinthakuḍ; an instrument used to measure distances and calculate numbers on an infinite scale. Now at the end of the day when we have cooked all the food in the na:thakuḍ and counted or measured items with the kuinthakuḍ we become tired and go voi or lay down on our voikuḍ, or bed. This month’s word match will focus on items that make our everyday lives much easier and can be found in the home or at the store, some items that we carry with us every day. We encourage you to learn these words and use them in your everyday lives.

na:thakuḍ

shoñvikuḍ

kuinthakuḍ

pikchulthakuḍ

voikuḍ

ki’ishpakuḍ



Join DEQ in celebration of Earth Day by participating in an Environmental Challenge!



Challenge 1: Yard Clean-up Challenge- participants submit before and after photos of their yard clean-up.

Challenge 2: Eco-friendly Yard Challenge- participants submit photos of their yard or landscaping in your yard that is eco-friendly, such as plants and vegetation that requires minimal watering, or reuse of old items as decorative features.

Tips for recycling can be found on page two of this flyer.

Your photos, along with your name, the physical address of your yard, and a brief description of the yard must be submitted to the following email address or mailing address by **April 15, 2016**:

gilariverdeq@gmail.com

-or-

GRIC DEQ
PO Box 97

Sacaton, AZ 85147

One yard will be voted winner for each challenge, with the winners receiving a **\$50 Home Depot gift card!** The two winning yards will be announced at the DEQ Earth Day event which will be held on:



APRIL 22
10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
DISTRICT FOUR COMMUNITY BALL PARK
1510 W. SESAME ROAD, SANTAN, AZ

Sac City Jam brings exciting hoops action to GRIC



Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

The Sac City Jam basketball tournament is bringing fast-paced action back to the Gila River Indian Community from April 8-9, with games being played at the Gila River Wellness Center and the Boys & Girls Club.

Kelly Whitman, Recreation Sports Coordinator, said that the Sac City Jam is made up of two tournament events, the high school boy’s tournament held at the Boys & Girls Club – Sacaton Branch and the high school girl’s tournament held at the Gila River Wellness Center in Sacaton.

Entry to the tournament is free and the deadline to officially register for the event is April 1, by 5 p.m. Space is limited to a maximum of 12 boys teams and 8 girls teams.

Additionally, entrants must be 14 to 18 years old and currently attending a high school. A birth certificate and high school I.D. are required documents to enter the tournament.

Community members are encouraged to watch the events but are advised to bring their own chairs, as in-house seating is limited and may fill quickly.

We usually have a packed house for the tournaments, said Whitman. All types of people come out to watch the tournament, from the youth to the elders, everyone comes out.

“It brings out a lot of the community just because our community loves basketball, people will be out there regardless if they are supporting a team or not,” said Whitman.

For more information about the Sac City Jam basketball tournament email Kelly.whitman@gric.nsn. us or call (520) 562-2025.

54TH ANNUAL MUL-CH

Photographs by Mikhail Sundust & Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News



MUL-CHU-THA FAIR & RODEO

Cultural Circle

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

In a weekend full of carnival rides, live music, greasy foods, and horse-riders, the cultural circle is surrounded by serenity and is always one of the most popular corners of the Mul-Chu-Tha Fairgrounds. It is a space for people to share their culture through traditional songs, dances and other customs and presentations.

One new event to the Mul-Chu-Tha festivities was a 280-mile group run that began in Hopi Land and ended in the Sacaton Fairgrounds cultural circle.

The run was created to reconnect the people and the runners to restore common culture and teachings.

The group consisted of Native and non-Native runners from Arizona, New Mexico, California, and Hawaii, but mostly from the O'otham, Hopi and Tewa nations. The long-distance relay was organized by Jivik Siiki, Hashen Kehk, and took the group three days to complete.

"Mulchutha originally means 'a time of the races,'" said Siiki. "So we're trying to re-instill that understanding, [and regain] that connection."

Siiki also said the run was, "a wonderful journey and the people who participated found it hard to leave one another. We did what we set out to do, which was to bring prayers from Hopi to Pima land, to reconnect us and inspire greatness. Thanks to everyone who shared in this epic adventure, who supported us, offered prayers for us to make it safely to Gila River, and who gave us food and water. Thanks to all the Hopi and Tewa, Hawaiian, Yurok, Dine', Jemez, O'otham, KUYI Hopi Radio and other tribal nations that shared their strength with the runners."



Photo Courtesy of Pamela Thompson

Photo Courtesy of Pamela Thompson

Rodeo

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

The 2016 Mul-Chu-Tha Rodeo was a four-day, riding, roping and wrangling barnburner where dozens of cowboys and cowgirls, ages 5 to 55 and older, saddled up for some dusty days in the Sacaton sun.

Ray Champ, a professional rodeo announcer and member of the Crow tribe of Montana, pumped up the crowd as the emcee of the weekend roundup, which consisted of a Master's Rodeo, a Junior Rodeo and an All-Indian Rodeo.

The Master's Rodeo was held on Thursday, Mar. 10, the Junior Rodeo on Friday, Mar. 11, and the All-Indian Rodeo on Sat-

urday and Sunday, Mar. 12-13.

One of the most exciting events of the weekend was the Wild Horse Race, which assigned six teams of three brave cowboys to one wild horse each. All at once the six horses were released and the teams worked to subdue, saddle and ride their horses through a goal line.

In the competitions for buckles and prize money, the riders found tough competition in the team roping, breakaway and barrel racing events. Unfortunately, however, no rider in the All-Indian Rodeo was able to hold onto a bull for a full eight seconds in the bull-riding event.

Results on Page 13.



Secure Your Will with the GRIC Enrollment Department

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community Enrollment Department is now offering storage of wills for Community members. If you would like to have your original will stored for safekeeping at no cost, visit the GRIC Enrollment Department.

The new service is a part of the recently revised Probate Code, Title 10 of the Community's Code of Ordinances, which the Community Council enacted on July 1, 2015.

Section 10.316(A) of the revised Probate Code allows all Community members the option to store their original will under seal with the Enrollment Department.

The Enrollment Department does not make or provide copies of the original will. The original will is stored in a tamper-proof envelope, separate from Community member's enrollment files. Original wills are kept in a fireproof cabinet in a secured area. A very limited number of employees may access the original wills, only to receive and release them as properly requested.

"Once someone expires that has a will here, the only person that we're allowed to release it to is the court administrator,"

said Enrollment Director Jane Johnson. The department will only release an original will that is on file to a court administrator upon receiving confirmation of death.

A Community member who creates and executes a valid will is called a testator.

To deposit a will, the testator must show proper I.D. and proof of enrollment with the Gila River Indian Community. A testator has the right to return to the Enrollment Department after depositing their original will to review it or to remove it from storage.

Furthermore, if the testator is unable to deliver their original will to the Enrollment Department or would like to remove an original will on file from storage but physically cannot, they may delegate another person, an agent, to act on their behalf with the testator's written authorization.

If you do not currently have a will, you can have a will prepared at Four Rivers Legal Services in Sacaton or by any attorney of your choice. Four Rivers Legal Services phone number is (520) 562-3369.

For more information on the storage of wills, contact the Enrollment Department at (520) 562-9790.

Do you as a community member know you have the option to store a will and keep it secured?



GRIC Code Title 10, Section 10.316 provides:

The option of storing your "original will" at the Enrollment Department.

Any Community member having made a "will" may provide the original "will" under seal to the Enrollment Department of the Community.

Safe. Secure. Accessible.

WILLS CAN BE PREPARED AT:
FOUR RIVERS LEGAL SERVICE
(520)-562-3369
OR BY AN ATTORNEY OF YOUR CHOICE



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT THE
ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT
(520) - 562 - 9790

'GRFD Turbo' donates to 100 Club following half marathon



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Members of the Gila River Fire Department hold their donation check to the 100 Club in the name of fellow first responders and to support their families.

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community firefighters took on the challenge to donate money to an organization that provides financial support to local first responders.

Four Gila River Fire Department Firefighters came together to form the team GRFD Turbo to compete in the 8th Annual In-

tegrated Medical Services Half-Marathon First Responders challenge on Feb. 19.

The 13.1 mile race started at Estrella Mountain Community College and spanned across eight cities throughout the West Valley, including an exchange point at Luke Air Force Base, and then on to the finish line at the Westgate Entertainment District in Glendale.

GRFD Firefighter Ga-

briel Rubalcaba helped organize the team along with fellow firefighters

Kiohud Sanderson, Jamison Ashton and Cheyenne Pancott, who came together after they saw a Facebook post by the 100 Club of Arizona about the race encouraging fire and police personnel to participate in support of a charitable cause close to their hearts. The 100 Club of Arizona is a non-profit organization that provides support to public safety professionals and their families following tragic circumstances such as death or injury.

GRFD Turbo competed against 15 other first responder teams from across Arizona for a first place prize of \$200, which the team planned to donate to the 100 Club if they won, in addition to the already guaranteed \$200 that IMS agreed to donate on behalf of each competing team.

Firefighter Ashton had this to say, "We placed second, losing by a heart-wrenching two seconds to a much younger team of competitors from the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy. It was an amazing and hard-fought race that we were leading until the final 10 feet."

Although the race did not end the way they planned, GRFD Turbo set an impressive chip time of one hour, thirty-six minutes and twenty-six seconds. In order to fulfill their commitment to donate \$200 to the 100 Club of Arizona they reached out to fellow GRFD Firefighter and East Valley Firefighter Charities representative, Jesse Zuniga, to assist them in their donation.

"[We] made the donation in the name of our fellow first responders. This was a good opportunity to support our firefighter family," said Captain Zuniga.

With everything coming together on Mar. 10, the team visited the 100 Club of Arizona main office in Phoenix to present a \$200 check to the Director of Marketing and Events, Jennifer Howland, which was broadcast to the social media video sharing application Periscope and posted on the 100 Club of Arizona's Facebook page.

The team hopes to make the IMS Half-marathon First Responder Challenge an annual tradition and are seeking to enter other races to support their fellow first responders.

Annual Cancer Awareness Day continues to provide Community members with a chance to share experiences

Thomas R. Throssell
Gila River Indian News

The 7th Annual Cancer Awareness Day "#HonoringTheJourney" will be held on Mar. 19 at the Boys & Girls Club - Sacaton Branch. Registration for the one and three mile Walk/Run will begin at 7 a.m. with the event starting at 7:30 a.m. The main portion of the event will begin at 9 a.m.

According to Devin Pablo, Community Health Education Specialist for the Gila River Indian Health Department, the purpose of the event is to allow Community members to share their experiences dealing with cancer.

"Cancer [has] become such a big issue within the Community [we wanted] to develop an event that raised awareness as well as honored anybody who has been affected by cancer, whether they had cancer and survived it, [or] whether they are dealing with cancer at the moment," said Pablo.

We try to get people from the Community to speak on their experience or their journey, whether it was they themselves that dealt with cancer, a family member, or a friend, he added.


There will be an Honor Balloon Release where Community members each receive a balloon, write a message on a note, tie the note to the balloon, and then release the balloon into the air.

The Three Star Kualia Group and the Salt River Senior Steppers will provide entertainment

A t-shirt and lunch will be provided for the first 500 guests.

The 7th Annual Cancer Awareness Day is sponsored by Gila River Health Care, Gila River Gaming Enterprises, and the Gila River Indian Community Governor's Health Initiative.

For more information about the event or to volunteer, call Victoria Allison at 520-550-6007.



GRIC SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT

In conjunction with GRIC Community Council Elections

Tuesday May 3, 2016

Gila River Indian Community will be holding a Special Election to make amendments to the tribal constitution.

This election will ask voters to amend only the following articles:

- A) ARTICLE VI-QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS
- B) ARTICLE VII-APPOINTED OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS;
- C) ARTICLE VIII-TENURE OF OFFICE;
- D) ARTICLE IX-VACANCIES;
- E) ARTICLE X-ELECTIONS;
- F) ARTICLE III-MEMBERSHIP; SECTION 6 ONLY;
- G) ARTICLE XV-POWERS OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Other amendments maybe considered at a November 2016 election.

Voting Poll Hours: 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Poll locations:

District 1	District 4
District 2	District 6
District 3	District 7

District 5 Veteran's Memorial Building

Please bring one of these forms of identification when you come to vote:

- Tribal Identification Cards Arizona
- State Identification Card
- State Drivers License

For more information please call:
GRIC Communications & Public Affairs Office at (520) 562-9715
Or email, info@gilariver.org

Victor Antone sworn in as Chief Judge



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

Victor Antone, accompanied by family, is sworn in by Judge Jay Pedro on Mar. 2.

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

Victor Antone was sworn-in as Chief Judge of the Gila River Indian Community Tribal Courts on Mar. 2.

Judge Antone received Bachelor's Degrees in Philosophy and Political Science from New Mexico State University in 1981 and earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Northern California in 1996.

While living and earning his education in Sacramento, Antone made frequent trips home to visit family and friends. As a law student in California, Antone worked for the U.S.

Attorney's Office and the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office. During that time, he said, his aim was always to return to the Community to help and serve its people.

For several years in the early 2000s he worked for the Gila River Indian Community as a Police Ranger, which gave him valuable insight and experience to working for the Community.

After serving as an associate judge for a few years, he served as the GRIC Chief Judge from 2006-2008. He has served as an associate judge for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Court for the past seven years.

Antone says, "The court is the last bastion of tribal sovereignty," and he believes that the "survival of tribal sovereignty will depend on true, open communication between the court, the tribal government and the people."

Antone was raised primarily by his grandfather, Juan Antone, in the Upper San Tan area in the time of horses, wagons and mud houses. Today he lives in District 4 with his wife Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, two stepdaughters, and five grandchildren. In his downtime, he enjoys spending time with his family. He says, "These grandkids, they make life enjoyable."

U.S. Dept. of Labor reps visit GRIC



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

L-R: Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs Deputy Director Tom Dowd, OFCCP Dir. Patricia Shiu, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Indian and Native American Employment Rights Program Dir. Theresa Lujan.

Mikhail Sundust
Gila River Indian News

With its Employment and Training Department, which utilizes a combination of employment services and resources to funnel job seekers into a variety of workplaces, the Gila River Indian Community is on the forefront of workforce innovations in Indian Country.

Representatives from the U.S. Department of Labor visited the Gila River Indian Community on Mar. 8 to learn about employment issues facing Native American communities in a meeting with tribal leaders, federal contractors and other agencies with American Indian employment programs.

"The Gila River In-

dian Community is a role model for combining tribal employment rights and job training into one department," said Theresa Lujan, director of the Indian and Native American Employment Rights Program in an email. The INAERP is overseen by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs at the DOL.

OFCCP Deputy Director Tom Dowd, said, "No matter where you live in this country, we all need jobs. We all need the dignity of work, and we need the opportunity to be able to take care of our families."

"The mission of [INAERP] is to advance awareness of employment rights for Indian and Native American workers and

job seekers on and near their historically underserved communities," said OFCCP Director Patricia Shiu.

The representatives from the DOL met with Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and a number of GRIC departments like the Employment & Training Department, Tribal Employment Rights Office, Americorps, and labor services agencies from other Arizona tribes.

Lana Chanda, director of the GRIC E&T Department, said the DOL likes the system E&T has developed because "it's like a one-stop-shop for people. They don't have to go to [multiple] places to try to find work."

After meeting with tribal leaders and employers, the guests from the DOL enjoyed a brief tour of the reservation and learned a little more about the history and geography of the Community.

"It's an honor to host the Department of Labor," said Gov. Lewis. "It's important to protect the Native American wage-earners and job-seekers... We as tribal leaders do our best to support that among federal departments."

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • March 2, 2016

ACTION SHEET

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

CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday March 2, 2016, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:16am

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Robert Stone

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3- Carolyn Williams, Rodney Jackson; D4- Nada Celaya, Jennifer Allison, Christopher Mendoza, Angelia Allison; D5- Brian Davis, Sr., Marlin Dixon, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr. (11:15), Albert Pablo, Sandra Nasewytewa

Council Members Absent:

D7- Devin Redbird

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED CHIEF JUDGE

Victor Antone, Chief Judge

Presenter: Judge Jay Pedro

JUDGE JAY PEDRO PROVIDED THE OATH OF

OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED CHIEF JUDGE

VICTOR ANTONE

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

1. 2015-2016 Miss Gila River and Jr. Miss Gila River Farewell Address

Presenter: Reyllyne Williams

MS. REYLYNNE WILLIAMS INTRODUCED JR. MISS GILA RIVER CHARISMA QUIROZ AND MISS GILA RIVER SIENNA WHITTINGTON. JR. MISS GILA RIVER AND MISS GILA RIVER PROVIDED THEIR FAREWELL ADDRESS AND EXPRESSED WORDS OF GRATITUDE. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS EXPRESSED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.

(15-minute reception to follow)

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:39 A.M.]

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

6. P3 State Legislation Issue (Executive Session) (G&MSC

motioned to forward to Community Council)

Presenters: Office of General Counsel & P3

ITEM HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

REPORTS

1. GRICUA's FY15 Audited Financial Report

Presenters: John Lewis, Leonard Gold, Adam Cavin

REPORT HEARD

2. Human Resources Monthly Dash Board Report

Presenter: Shawna Schultz

REPORT HEARD

3. GRTI 4Q 2015 Update

Presenters: Bruce Holdridge, Peter Quam, GRTI Board of

Directors

REPORT HEARD

4. Haskell Osife-Antone Auxiliary FY16 1st Quarter Summary and Financial Report

Presenter: Betty Molina

REPORT HEARD

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR AN HOUR AND HALF LUNCH BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 1:53 P.M.]

5. Head Start December Monthly Report 2015

Presenter: Patricia Valenzuela

REPORT HEARD

6. CCDF ACF-700 Report and Supplemental Narrative

Presenter: Melissa Madrid

REPORT HEARD

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

7. Nutrition Assistance Program, Elderly Nutrition,

Elderly Services Program, Tribal Recreation & Wellness Center Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report

Presenters: D. Ann Manuel, Acting Director, Mary

Tatum, Veronica Charles, Alvin Casoose

REPORT HEARD

8. Employment & Training/TERO Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report

REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Lana Chanda, Director

REPORT HEARD

9. Tribal Education Department Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report

REPORT HEARD

Presenter: Isaac Salcido, Director

REPORT HEARD

10. Tribal Health Department Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report

REPORT HEARD

Presenters: Janice Anderson, Acting Director

REPORT HEARD

[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A

10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT

4:30 P.M.]

GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS SUSPEND THE

RULES TO HEAR ORDINANCE #2

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

ORDINANCES

2. Amendment to Title 13 for Medical Transportation (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval with corrections and a draft of regulations, HSSC & G&MSC concur)

Presenter: Robert Yoder

APPROVED WITH CHANGES

11. Youth Council Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Report

Presenters: Michael Preston, Youth Coordinator

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER

EXECUTIVE SESSION

12 7. Gaming Commission General Report to the Community Council for February 2016 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Serena Joaquin, Courtney Moyah

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

13 8.Gila River Gaming Enterprise Inc. Monthly Report (Executive Session)

Presenters: Joseph Magliarditi, GRGE Board of Directors,

Janice Ponziani

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

*1. A Resolution Authorizing the Gila River Fire Department To Submit A Grant Application To The U.S. Department of Homeland Security to Fund Critically Needed Equipment, Protective Gear, Emergency Vehicles, Training and Other Resources Needed to Protect the Public And Emergency Personnel From Fire and Related Hazards (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Thomas Knapp

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE

2. A Resolution Authorizing The Tribal Historic

Preservation Office To Submit A Grant Applicant To

The Cultural Resource Fund For A Phase II Grant

Application (G&MSC motioned to forward to

Community Council with recommendation for

approval; CRSC concurs)

Presenter: Barnaby Lewis

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Approving the Amendment of

Attached Roles & Responsibilities, Elderly and

Disabled Quality of Life Program (G&MSC motioned

to forward to Community Council with

recommendation for approval; LSC forwards to

Council under resolutions for discussion and

possible action)

Presenters: Ann Manuel, Linda Sauer

APPROVED

4. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Adam Nickolas Cardona Jr., into the

Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to

Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

5. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Russell Andreas Pasqual into the Gila

River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council

with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

6. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Eric Earl Lewis Jr. into the Gila River

Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with

recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

7. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Carl Anthony Cook into the Gila River

Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with

recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

8. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Hunter Mitchell Fasthorse into the Gila

River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council

with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

9. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Brody Mato Fasthorse into the Gila

River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council

with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

10. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Jenitha Mical Stevens into the Gila

River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council

with recommendation for approval contingent upon

additional information)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

11. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Raheem Dayton Moneim Trujillo into

the Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to

Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

12. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Christopher James Pio into the Gila

River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council

with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

13. A Resolution Approving the Petition for the

Enrollment of Yvonne Marie White into the Gila

River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council

with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Wayne Nelson Jr.

APPROVED

14. A Resolution Approving The Bureau Of Indian

Affairs – Pima Agency Proposal To Obtain Federal

Funding Under The Bureau Of Indian Affairs'

Woodlands Management Program To Restore A

Large Portion Of The Komatke Thicket Located In

Districts Five And Six Within The Gila River Indian

Reservation To Its Natural Condition (EDSC

forwards to Council with recommendation for

approval)

Presenter: Ronald Rosier

APPROVED WITH CHANGES

ORDINANCES

1. The Gila River Indian Community Council Hereby

Amends The Gila River Indian Community Code By

Amending Ordinances GR-01-20 And GR-07-10, And En-

acting The Revised Children's Code To Be Codified At Title

7 Of The Gila River Indian Community Code (LSC forwards

to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Rebecca Hall, Sunshine Whitehair

APPROVED

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

2. Amendment to Title 13 for Medical Transportation (LSC

forwards to Community Council with recommendation for

approval with corrections and a draft of regulations, HSSC

& G&MSC concur)

Presenter: Robert Yoder

HEARD AT REPORTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Outline for Catholic High School Planning

(G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council

for discussion and recommendation; ESC concurs)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CREATE A

PLANNING COMMITTEE TO EXPLORE THE

POSSIBILITY OF A CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL;

TO BE COMPOSED OF THE CHAIRS AND

VICE CHAIRS OF ESC, G&M, AND CRSC,

Continued on Page 13

From Page 12

POSSIBLY GOVERNOR; IN ATTENDANCE TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL, THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS, PHOENIX DIOCESE, AND THE ATTENDANCE OF ANY OTHER PARTY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE DEEMS NECESSARY; THE PLANNING COMMITTEE SHALL PROVIDE REGULAR UPDATES AND A FINAL RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

2. VAWA Implementation - Request for Direction (LSC forwards to Council for discussion and possible action)
 Presenter: Michael Carter
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE [GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 10-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 7:50 P.M.]
 [ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

3. AIGA Concern (Executive Session)
 Presenter: Linus Everling
 ITEM HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

NEW BUSINESS

1. Amendment to Title 13 for Medical Transportation (LSC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval with corrections and a draft of regulations, HSSC & G&MSC concur)
 Presenter: Robert Yoder
 MOVED UNDER ORDINANCES AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. Declaration of Vacancy (1) for GRTI Board of Directors (G&MSC motioned to Declare Vacancy for (1) BOD Subject to Code of Conduct advertised for 60 days)

Presenter: Belinda Nelson
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE AND ADVERTISE FOR 60 DAYS

3. CAL Resignation (G&MSC motioned to forward the letter of resignation to Community Council)
 Presenter: Cynthia Antone
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT

4. Revised GRIC Higher Education Scholarship Application (ESC forwards to Council pending Law Office review)
 Presenter: Jim Larney
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

5. Maricopa Village Christian School Written Plan SY 2015-2016 (ESC forwards to Community Council with recommendation for approval)
 Presenter: Larisa Quijano
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

6. P3 State Legislation Issue (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council)
 Presenters: Office of General Counsel, P3
 MOVED BEFORE REPORTS AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA [ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

7. Community Council Secretary Vacancy Declaration
 Presenters: Community Council
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ADVERTISE; TO WAIVE THE 90-DAY NOTICE AND TO ADVERTISE FOR 30-DAYS TO ALLOW FOR INTERVIEW PROCESS AND HAVE THE APPOINTMENT MADE AT THE FIRST MEETING IN JUNE

MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

>ARZIE HOGG ON TRAVEL TO ALBUQUERQUE, NM, MARCH 7-11, 2016
 >PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR ACUNA FAMILY
 >FOUR TRIBES MEETING IN AK-CHIN, SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2016, 9AM
 >LSC WORK SESSION, D6 TOUR AND MEETING REGARDING THE BOUNDARY ISSUE
 >EDSC WORK SESSION THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2016 &

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2016, 8AM
 >COMPACT NEGOTIATION MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 03, 2016

ADJOURNMENT
 MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:43PM
 * Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is announcing the 30-day public comment period for CEMEX Construction Material South, LLC's air quality operating permit will begin on February 29, 2016. Public comments will be accepted in writing until March 29, 2016, after which staff will review and respond to all the comments received. CEMEX is located within the Gila River Sand & Gravel Maricopa Plant in District 4 and will be permitted for Particulate Matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10), Particulate Matter (PM), Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), and Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) emissions.

why the permit should or should not be issued. Grounds for comment are limited to whether the proposed permit meets the criteria for issuance prescribed in the GRIC Code: Title 17, Chapter 9 of the Air Quality Management Plan. Only persons who submit written comments may appeal a permit decision. Copies of the permit application, the proposed permit, and relevant background material may be reviewed during normal business hours at the DEQ offices. Requests and written comments may be delivered or mailed to:

Gila River Indian Community
 Department of Environmental Quality
 Attn: Ryan Eberle
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147
 Physical Address: 45 S. Church St., Sacaton, AZ 85147

Any person may submit a written comment or a request to the DEQ to conduct a public hearing for the purpose of receiving oral or written comments on the proposed air quality operating permits. Such comments and requests shall be received by the DEQ within 30 days of the date of the first publication notice. A written comment shall state the name and mailing address of the person, shall be signed by the person, his agent or his attorney and shall clearly set forth reasons

For further information, please contact Ryan Eberle at (520) 796-3781 or visit our offices located at 45 S. Church St., Sacaton, AZ 85147. Our office hours are Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

2016 Mul-Chu-Tha All Indian Rodeo March 12-13, 2016

2016 Mul-Chu-Tha All Indian Rodeo March 12-13, 2016	Donovan Yazzie	10.21	Howdy Henry	1st place
All Indian Rodeo Men's All Around	Earl Dixon	2nd place	3rd place	Arena Ben
Donovan Yazzie	13.84	Garrison Begay	11.58	2nd place
All Indian Rodeo Women's All Around	4 Tribes Team Roping	BULL RIDING	4th place	Arena Ben
Katrina Wells	1st place	No Qualified Rides	Adam Christopher Ruiz	3rd place
Ladies Team Roping	Shea Enos	2016 Mul-Chu-Tha Bull Bash March 12-13, 2016	Stick Horse Barrels	Jocelyn Con'Nei'Sen'Ney
1st place	John Romo	14-17 STEER RIDING	1st place	4th place
Debbie Robbins	7.16	1st place	Cole Whitehorse	Jocelyn Con'Nei'Sen'Ney
Melanie Greymountain	7.31	Shane Crawford	71	5th place
2nd place	Ty Romo	2nd place	69	Kash Long
Debbie Robbins	7.31	Frank Walker	69	Junior Rodeo Ages 14-17 All Around
Danielle Lowman	Bareback	3rd place	Zechariah Lupe	71
7.57	1st place	18 & OVER BULL RIDING	No qualified rides	Latrell Long
3rd place	Delveechio Kaye	2016 Mul-Chu-Tha Junior Rodeo March 11, 2016	Junior Rodeo Ages 6-9 All Around	Bull Riding
Deniel Lee	80	Junior Rodeo Ages 5 and Under	Cayden Jackson	1st place
Serena Dahozy	Saddle Bronc	Mutton Bustin'	Steer Riding	Latrell Long
7.62	1st place	1st place	1st place	2nd place
Century Team Roping	Ace Long	Cole Whitehorse	Stran Kinney	Ky Farland
1st place	74	2nd place	Ribbon Roping	3rd place
Charles Justin	2nd place	Rope Justin	1st place	Shane Crawford
Emerson Begay	Vince Tsosie	3rd place	Coil Stran Watchman	Ribbon Roping
8.48	72	Angel Ramon	2nd place	1st place
2nd place	Ladies Breakaway	4th place-	Jocelyn Con'Nei'Sen'Ney	Hiyo Yazzie
Shea Enos	1st place	Tiyah Kinney	Caleb R. Begay	2nd place
John Romo	Debbie Robbins	Dummy Roping	Girls Barrel Racing	Britten Shirley
12.57	3.34	1st place	1st place	Girls Barrel Racing
Team Roping	2nd place	Cole Whitehorse	Sierra Farland	1st place
1st place	Brittany Bird	2nd place	2nd place	Brandon Ben
Shawn Shirley	3.47	3rd place	Charlize Littlelight	2nd place
Ryan Justin	3.82	4th place-	Co-ed Breakaway	Aron Kenton
6.41	4.00	Tiyah Kinney	1st place	Team Roping
2nd place	Ladies Barrels	Stick Horse Racing	Kash Long	1st place
Conway Ethelbah	1st place	1st place	2nd place	Brandon Ben
Cody Goklish	Katrina Wells	Cole Whitehorse	Isaac Lupe	2nd place
6.53	17.48	2nd place	Team Roping	Brandon Ben
3rd place	2nd place	3rd place	1st place	Brandon Ben
Ralph Romo	Sammy Bird	Dustyne Yazzie	2nd place	Brandon Ben
Steve Romo	17.96	Stick Horse Racing	Isaac Lupe	3rd place
7.83	3rd place	1st place	Team Roping	Hiyo Yazzie
4th place	Constance Benally	2nd place	1st place	
	18.09		2nd place	
	Tie Down			
	1st place			
	Donovan Yazzie			

WHP rolls out the red carpet for NIGA Chairman's Welcome



Thomas Throssell/GRIN

L-R: Gila River Gaming Enterprises Board member Deborah Griffin, National Indian Gaming Association Treasurer Andy Ebona, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Council Representative Jennifer Allison, NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens Jr., GRGE board member Alison Anderson, Council Rep. Robert Stone, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, Council Rep. Devin Redbird, GRGE board member Rebecca Carpio, and GRGE board vice-chair Lawrence H. Manuel.

Thomas R. Throssell Gila River Indian News

The Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino gave guests the Hollywood treatment as they rolled out the red carpet for the National Indian Gaming Association's (NIGA) Chairman's Welcome Reception on Mar. 13.

The casino, which hosted the event, was the focal point for over a thousand

guests, who dined on delicious hors d'oeuvres, listened to nationally known speakers representing organizations involved in Tribal Gaming, and enjoyed world-class musical entertainment performed by rock band 38 Special.

Representing the Community at the standing-room-only event were Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone,

and several Community Council members.

NIGA, a non-profit organization made up of 184 Indian Nations involved in tribal gaming, supplied several speakers, including NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens Jr., Oneida, and National Congress of American Indians President Brian Cladoosby, Swinomish. The speakers reminisced on how different life was during

tribal gaming's infancy and the positive impacts it has had to Native communities across the United States.

As the evening progressed, former NIGA Chairman Rick Hill, Oneida, took the stage and presented the 2016 Charlie Hill Spirit Award to Richard Tall Bear Westerman, Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota Oyate of South Dakota, for positively contributing to the Native community.

According to a NIGA news release, Westerman received the award for his work through the Tall Bear Group, a company that provided gaming services and products to clients. More recently, the company was awarded a 20-year Power Purchase agreement of 20 megawatts of solar power. This power project encompassed an area of 250 acres at a cost of \$51 million and now provides 250,000

homes with power throughout southern California.

"I wouldn't be here without Indian Gaming," said Westerman. "Everything from my education, to my home, my land, my businesses, and who I am, pretty much over the last 20 years, is due to the work of people like Ernie Stevens and Rick Hill," he said.

The event concluded with guests filing into Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino's music venue, The Lounge, to watch a perfor-

mance by 38 Special.

Gila River Gaming Enterprises Board of Directors Vice Chairperson, Lawrence H. Manuel said of the spectacular evening, "It was a fantastic night... [and] it was a great honor to be the casino chosen for the Chairman's Reception." When you realize that this NIGA event has different tribes from all over the U.S. coming to our area, and the fact that we were chosen to host, it means we are doing something right, he said.

Match the O'otham tool or item with its picture!

na:thakuḍ	
shoivikuḍ	
kuinthakuḍ	
pikchulthakuḍ	
voikuḍ	
ki'ishpakuḍ	

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 - Using mosquito repellents on exposed skin.
- Follow directions on mosquito repellents

- CLEAN OUT GUTTERS**
- USE INTACT SCREENS IN WIND**
- DUMP STANDING WATER. MOSQUITOES BREED IN ALL UNTREATED WATER**
- COVER, REMOVE OR PROPERLY STORE ITEMS THAT MAY COLLECT WATER**
- KEEP YARD ITEMS COVERED AND DUMP ANY COLLECTED WATER**
- FIX LEAKY FAUCETS**
- COVER REFUSE CONTAINERS AND JUNK PILES**

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Learn about prevention, risks, and other up-to-date information by visting:

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153RD

FIVE TRIBES TREATY OF PEACE CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 9, 2016

Gila River Indian Community's | District 7 Service Center & Park
8035 S. 87th Ave., Laveen, AZ 85339 (83rd Avenue, South of Baseline Road)

Thursday April, 7, 2016 - Elders Volleyball Tournament

April 9, 2016 –

Competition/Tournament: Skateboard, 5K Run/Walk, Tug-of-War, Bird Dance, Pow Wow, Red Chili, Fry Bread, Tortilla, Horseshoe, Billiards, Domino.

Entertainment: Traditional Dance Groups and Live Bands.

Kids Games: Sack Race, Water Balloon Contest, Three-Legged Race, Watermelon Eating Contest, Bounce House.

General information please contact, District 7 Recreation:
(520) 430-4780

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