

## GRIC, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation sign agreement meant to move parties forward on drought contingency plan



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis signs the Drought Contingency Plan in Sacaton on Jan. 18. From left, Donald R. Pongrace, Akin Gump, Linus Everling, GRIC General Counsel, Gov. Lewis, Rod Lewis, former GRIC General Counsel and Katie Brossy, Akin Gump.

### Communications & Public Affairs Office

Gila River Indian Community

On Jan. 19, the Gila River Indian Community Council approved and the Governor Stephen R. Lewis executed agreements

with the United States that will allow Arizona parties to continue their negotiations and efforts to conclude a Drought Contingency Plan, or DCP, to address the severe drought on the Colorado River.



Photo Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Interior

Department of Interior and Bureau of Reclamation signing the DCP and principle agreements between the U.S. and the Community in Washington D.C. on Dec. 19. From left, Mike Connor, Deputy Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and Estevan López, Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation.

These agreements, called the "DCP+ Principles Agreement" and "Bridge System Conservation Implementation Agreement" have three major components. One, the DCP+ Principles Agreement sets forth major principles

on which the United States and the Community agree for purposes of a subsequent "DCP+ Agreement", which is a necessary condition for Arizona participation in

*Continued on Page 3*

## Pima cotton comes back to Community after two decades

Thomas R. Throssell  
Gila River Indian News

While cotton has been a staple fiber used by mankind for thousands of years, there is a more modern and luxurious variation of the plant that stakes its birthplace within the Gila River Indian Community.

Pima cotton, or Supima cotton as it is also known, has been making a comeback at Gila River Farms (GRF) for the first time in over two decades with around 450 acres of the crop grown and harvested in 2015 and 900 acres in 2016.

The crop, which in some circles is called the cashmere of cotton, shares a history with

the Community and has gained worldwide renown as being of high quality.

According to former GRF General Manager Tiffany Horne, the crop's origins began in the Community almost 100 years ago.

She said the crop was originally developed by the United States Department of Agriculture on an experimental farm located in Sacaton during the early 1900s.

"It was previously called American Egyptian (cotton) and was developed here in the desert. The name Pima cotton was given to honor the community here," she said.

While it has been a long time since the fields of GRF have



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

Compactor makes cotton bales for easy pickup and transport.

grown Pima cotton, it is not the first time the farm has delved into the luxury cotton market.

"Gila River Farms grew Pima cotton until from the [late

*Continued on Page 13*

## D3 Elder Honored called a 'Grandmother to Everyone'



Mikhail Sundust/GRIN

Corrine Escalante, District 3, is presented with an honorary blanket by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis at the Elder Concerns Meeting at Vee Quiva Casino on Jan. 11.

Mikhail Sundust  
Gila River Indian News

Corinne Escalante of District 3 was honored at an Elderly Concerns Meeting, held at Vee Quiva Casino, Jan. 11.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said Escalante "is someone who everyone calls their grandmother" and "the backbone of our community in District 3."

Lewis commended Escalante for her volunteerism, helping with elections and being a leader in her church community.

"She's been a die-hard supporter of our church, Sacaton Presbyterian Church," he said before a room full of elders.

Escalante remains an active elder, who plays chair volleyball.

Lewis said she is a great example to the youth, "to stay active, to enjoy life, to be a role model."

Gov. Lewis presented Escalante with a Pendleton blanket and sealed it with a hug while her fellow elders stood in applause.

"I just want to give her a small token of appreciation [to show] how much she means to all of us, how much she means to her community."

Humbly accepting the governor's praise, Escalante said, "The only person that I can thank is my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He's the one that brought me here. I've been through cancer, I've been through deaths of my family, and He gave me the strength to go through all this. And I just praise Him and thank Him."

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Native American Journalists Association

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 16, 2016

The Honorable Stephen Roe Lewis  
Governor  
Gila River Indian Community  
Sacaton, Arizona

Dear Governor Lewis:

As we approach the end of my time in Office, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your partnership.

From the beginning of my Presidency, strengthening our nation-to-nation relationships has been an urgent priority for me and my Administration. In 2009, we hosted the first-ever White House Tribal Nations Conference, and over the course of the past eight years, these annual meetings have been invaluable opportunities to consult with leaders and communities from every corner of Indian Country. In order to increase, streamline, and sustain cooperation between tribal governments and Federal agencies, I established the White House Council on Native American Affairs in 2013. In 2014, we launched the Generation Indigenous initiative, advancing an agenda focused on young people in tribal communities. Together, we created more economic opportunity and acted to protect Native languages and practices; we restored hundreds of thousands of acres of tribal homelands and bolstered tribal sovereignty; we widened access to quality, affordable health care; and we secured vital investments in Tribal Colleges and Universities and in education at every level.

The extraordinary determination and courage of the first Americans—particularly young people—have profoundly inspired me and my team. Their courage and resolve speak to what is best and truest in Indian Country and in America. And while our task remains unfinished, I am proud of the spirit of collaboration we fostered and of the progress we made.

As you continue writing the better future that lies within our reach, know that you have my support and my deepest gratitude.

Sincerely,

## Drought Contingency Plan from Page 1

the Drought Contingency Plan.

Two, it also sets forth a commitment by the Community and the United States to work together to find ways to conserve additional water on Reservation and provide a mechanism for Central Arizona Project reliability and flexibility features in the Community's water delivery system.

Three, under the Bridge System Conservation Implementation Agreement the Community will commit 40,000 acre-feet of its Central Arizona Project water entitlement to remain in Lake Mead in 2017. This commitment by the Community makes it possible for the overall water conservation efforts contemplated in the proposed DCP+ Agreement to succeed in 2017 while the Arizona parties continue their discussions to finalize it.

These agreements are part of a comprehensive Secretarial Order issued by Secretary Jewell that sets forth the Department of the Interior's broad initiative for addressing severe drought conditions on the Colorado River.

Governor Stephen Lewis stated, "Our agreement with the Department of the Interior is an essential step toward a plan for comprehensively addressing Arizona's pressing drought problem. The Community is working hard to try and create a framework that will work for all in the State and is pleased with this very successful first step in that right direction. We want to thank the Commissioner of Reclamation, Estevan Lopez, and his entire team for their tireless efforts and we very much appreciate our cooperation with them. This is just the be-

ginning, but it is an essential first step, and this agreement provides federal support for essential infrastructure needed to ensure reliability and flexibility for our CAP water delivery system."

According to a Department of Interior news release, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell issued the Secretarial Order on Jan. 18, directing the DOI, along with its bureaus, to continue working to finalize drought contingency plans to assist in reducing water shortages in the Upper and Lower Colorado River Basins. The order also directs the DOI and its bureaus to complete a Colorado River bi-national cooperative agreement with Mexico, called "Minute 32X".

Secretary Jewell said in the news release, "I am proud of the tremendous progress we have made over the last eight years to work with our basin states, tribal and Mexican partners to address

water resource challenges in the Colorado River Basin," said Secretary Jewell. "With water from the Colorado River supporting the life and livelihood for an estimated 40 million people, it is absolutely critical for the Department of the Interior to continue to build on this progress and finalize these agreements."

DOI Deputy Secretary Michael L. Connor said in the release "The Department of the Interior has worked tirelessly with its partners to come to agreements to ensure that all the basin stakeholders move forward with coordinated plans to address the increasing challenges facing all Colorado River communities. This Secretarial Order ensures that Interior will continue to provide essential support for critical actions and paves the way to help carry these important agreements across the finish line."

# District 1 student receives American Indian Education Scholarship

**Terry Willis**  
Coolidge High School

Coolidge High School senior Charisma Quiroz received a \$400 scholarship from the Arizona Indian Education Association. Students prepared an essay for their scholarship. Charisma received the "Make a Difference Outstanding American Indian High School Student" award. She was awarded flowers and a card of congratulations.

On Nov. 29-30, Charisma attended the American Indian Youth Conference at the University of Arizona. The two-day workshop consisted of welcoming, blessing, keynote speakers, a college panel and an eve-



CPAO Photo  
**Charisma Quiroz recently won a \$400 scholarship.**

ning event film "The Cherokee Word for Water."

Some of the workshops were Promoting Tribal Sovereignty, Empowering Native Youth, Water is Life and Nation building

for Tribal Wellness.

Charisma was selected among over 300 applicants. Her essay was written and was nothing more than inspiring and was geared to student living between a society of cultural heritage in today's lifestyle.

Some of the highlights of Charisma's essay included how important it is when you invest your time, you make a good decision of something that you wish to accomplish, whether it is making good grades in school, be a great athlete, being a great person- or just going down to do some community service and help someone who is in need.

Charisma spoke of many people who have inspired her along her jour-

ney. Speech Therapist Ann Johnson from Blackwater Community School was one of them, as she states in her essay. She was very inspiring to her and helped her overcome many challenges.

Charisma is part of the Akimel O'odham Pee Posh Youth Council and has been a Representative for four years. Charisma said her term has ended, but is not the end of my story.

Charisma challenges herself daily. She is involved in many school activities such as FFA, has been a part of JROTC, the National Honor Society, City of Coolidge Youth Council, she has received many awards in her four years of high school including Honor Student, Aca-

demic Achievement, Chief Azule Award and also attended the WIOA Program. She is very involved in her community. She attends many meetings for a variety of needs.

She was Jr. Miss Gila River 2015-2016. She is a part of the Akimel O'odham Basket Dance Group. Charisma spends many hours volunteering in her community for event's including helping the youth and spending time with elders. She has a unique passion for all people.

I have had the great opportunity to know Charisma for over four years. During that time she has shown a warm and caring positive attitude for all. She is a true role model here on the Coolidge High School

campus and has a positive attitude always! She is truly liked by the administration, teachers and her peers.

Charisma will be attending the University of Arizona and majoring in Political Science. Charisma has done an outstanding job through her high school years. I have no doubt she will succeed in all that awaits her in her future.

Charisma is courageous, kind and very consistent. I am confident she will no doubt bring back much experience, growth and a variety of knowledge to her community. She is a positive asset to all that know her, kind and full of life! Her story does not end here! Congratulations Charisma for "Making A Difference."

Complete guide at <a href="http://www.grbc.tv">www.grbc.tv</a>							
GRBC TV GUIDE							
*** GRTV News Weekly and GRIC Events Showing at 7:00am, 11:30am, 4:30pm & 9:00pm. ***							
Sunday 1/22		Monday 1/23		Tuesday 1/24		Saturday 1/28	
12:00pm	Creative Native <i>Honouring Our Mothers</i>	Creative Native <i>Home Sweet Home</i>	Creative Native <i>Walk A Mile In My Mukluks</i>	Creative Native <i>The Navajo</i>	Creative Native <i>The Hopi</i>	Creative Native <i>The Survivors</i>	Creative Native <i>Home Sweet Home</i>
12:30pm	First Talk <i>Murray Porter</i>	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	Legends from the Sky <i>Burdened by survivor's guilt after a disastrous military tour, searches for his missing grandfather.</i>
1:00pm	<b>BARNABY LEWIS - GRIC CULTURAL PRESENTATION</b>	Carriers of Culture	Lives Around Annapurna <i>Culture, tradition and way of living life.</i>	<b>HOOKED From Prescription to Addiction</b>	People of the Beautiful <i>River Brothers cause the loss of ancestral lands.</i>	LaDonna Harris: Indian 101 <i>Comanche social activist.</i>	Seasoned with Spirit <i>Gulf Coast Originals</i>
1:30pm	Storytellers in Motion	Ravens and Eagles <i>From Hand to Hand Part 1</i>	Samaqan Water Stories <i>Remembering Celilo Part 2</i>	Ravens and Eagles <i>From Hand to Hand Part 2</i>	Samaqan Water Stories <i>Haida Gwaii</i>	Ravens and Eagles <i>The New Collectors - Pt. 1</i>	Seasoned with Spirit <i>Gulf Coast Originals</i>
2:00pm	Native Report	Vitality Gardening <i>Seed-Saving</i>	Vitality Gardening <i>Community Gardening</i>	Vitality Gardening <i>Northern Garden Update</i>	Vitality Gardening <i>Welcome to Vitality</i>	Vitality Gardening <i>Cactus Care</i>	Landing
2:30pm	Seasoned with Spirit <i>Gulf Coast Originals</i>	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Vitality Health	Sivummut
3:00pm	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>LIGHTS OF THE WORLD GRAND OPENING</b>	From The Spirit <i>George Littlechild</i>	From The Spirit <i>Archie Beaulieu</i>	From The Spirit <i>Joane Cardinal - Schubert</i>	From The Spirit <i>Jim Heart</i>	People of the Pines <i>Legacy of Casinos</i>
3:30pm	Turquoise Rose <i>A Navajo girl from AZ, attends college and must choose between a trip to Rome or visit her ill grandmother.</i>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>
4:00pm	Working It Out Together	Indian Pride <i>Indian Treaties/Sovereignty</i>	On Native Ground: Youth Report	Indian Pride <i>Tribal Relations with U.S.</i>	Storytellers in Motion	The Other Side <i>Viriden: "Hand"</i>	
4:30pm	Goshen <i>Depicting the diet and lifestyle of the indigenous Tarahumara, striving to maintain their ancient culture against all odds.</i>	Sivummut	Oskayak Down Under	Common Ground	Down The Mighty River <i>More Power Than We</i>	On Native Ground: Youth Report	Indians and Aliens <i>Harry Snowboy</i>
5:00pm	Native Voice TV	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk	First Talk <i>Blind Date</i>	<b>2016 WATER RIGHTS EVENT @ HUHUGAM HERITAGE CENTER</b>
5:30pm	On Native Ground: Youth Report	Native Report	People of the Pines <i>The World of the Serrano</i>	Making Regalia	People of the Pines <i>Invasion and Response</i>	Make Prayers to the Raven	<b>Current and past leadership speak on their experiences and involvement regarding GRIC water rights.</b>
6:00pm	Wapos Bay <i>Journey Through Fear</i>	Lives Around Annapurna <i>Culture, tradition and way of living life in difficult but beautiful terrain.</i>	<b>BARNABY LEWIS - GRIC CULTURAL PRESENTATION</b>	People of the Beautiful <i>River A plot by brothers that caused the loss of their ancestral lands.</i>	LaDonna Harris: Indian 101 <i>Comanche political and social activist.</i>	Legends from the Sky <i>A Native American Vet, burdened by survivor's guilt after a disastrous military tour, searches for his missing grandfather.</i>	Wapos Bay <i>The Elements</i>
6:30pm	Fish Out of Water <i>Moose Cree Outdoor</i>	Wapos Bay <i>The Elements</i>	Wapos Bay <i>All's Fair</i>	Wapos Bay <i>As The Bannock Browns</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Guardians</i>	Wapos Bay <i>Guardians</i>	Wapos Bay <i>The Elements</i>
7:00pm	Fish Out of Water <i>Moose Cree Outdoor</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Oujebougomou</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Kahnawake</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Navajo Village Heritage</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>White Mountain Apache</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Batoche National Historic</i>	Fish Out of Water <i>Oujebougomou</i>
7:30pm	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>	<b>GRTV NEWS WEEKLY &amp; GRIC EVENTS</b>
8:00pm	Native Shorts <i>Shimasani</i>	Indians and Aliens <i>Sandy Masty</i>	Back In The Day <i>Performing</i>	Indigenous Focus <i>Joseph's War Pony</i>	Rez Rides <i>Burning Up Mad Mohawk</i>	Champions of the North <i>The Great Whale Cup</i>	Moose T.V. <i>Foreign Film</i>
8:30pm	<b>HOOKED From Prescription to Addiction</b>	One More River <i>Part 1</i>	Yellow Fever <i>Young Navajo vet investigates the history of the Navajo Uranium Boom.</i>	<b>2016 WATER RIGHTS EVENT @ HUHUGAM HERITAGE CENTER</b>	More Than Frybread <i>22 Native American AZ frybread makers convene in Flagstaff to compete for the first ever AZ Frybread Championship!</i>	Maina <i>In the aftermath of a bloody confrontation between her band, the Innu tribe, and the Inuit, Maina, daughter of Grand Chief Mishtenapuu, finds herself on a mission that will change the course of her life.</i>	Native Planet - New Zealand <i>A sacred lake decimated by years of industrial pollution.</i>
9:00pm	Rising Voices/Hothaninpi <i>How languages die and how speaking them again can spark cultural and community restoration.</i>	One More River <i>Part 2</i>	A Man Called Ishi	<b>Current and past leadership speak on their experiences and involvement regarding GRIC water rights.</b>	Goshen		Native Planet <i>Ecuador</i>
9:30pm		Rez <i>Survival on the Rez or uncertain future away from it.</i>	K'ina Kil: The Slaver's Son				Deep into the Amazon <i>jungle to meet one Aboriginal tribe.</i>

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# Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

**January 1 – 7, 2017**

Gila River Police Department reserves the right to restrict the release of certain reports which may not be available or are currently under investigation. Community Events – Coffee with a Cop. Calls for services this week: 601, Arrest made: 21

**District One- (Blackwater):**

**Sexual Assault –** The victim states while sleeping she was unknowingly moved and when awoke she was outside of the residence. A male was standing near her talking to her when she awoke. As she left the residence she realized she was sexually assaulted and notified police. Criminal Investigations Detectives took over the investigation.

Status: Under Investigation

**Theft –** A compressor was stolen from under the porch area during early morning hours

Status: Under Investigation

**District Two – (Sacaton Flats):**

No incidents regarding part 1 crime

**District Three- (Sacaton):**

**Aggravated Assault –** The victim stated they were stabbed in the alley way while walking in the south housing area. The victim sustained non-life threatening injuries.

Status: Under Investigation

**Aggravated Assault –** The juvenile victim stated that her ex boyfriend phys-

ically assaulted her and placed a gun to her head. Criminal Investigation Detectives took over the investigation

Status: Under Investigation

**Aggravated Assault –** A juvenile victim was stabbed twice and air lifted to a neighboring hospital where they underwent surgery for non-life threatening injuries.

Status: Under Investigation

**Auto Theft –** The victim reported that their maroon Chevy impala was taken without permission and reported to dispatch as stolen. The vehicle was entered as stolen.

Status: Under Investigation

**Auto Theft –** The victim stated that a family member took her vehicle without her permission and was requesting to report it as stolen. The suspect later returned to the residence with the vehicle that sustained minor damage. The suspect was taken into custody.

Status: Suspect was arrested

**Theft –** A vending newspaper machine was taken from the Sacaton Super Mart; the victim stated he received a call indicating his machine was found in the desert area of Azule Street

Status: Under Investigation

**Theft –** A vending machine was damaged; the

reporting party arrived at work at observed the machine to be pried open

Status: Under Investigation

**Burglary –** The victim reported that her residence was broken into and items were taken; which included two television sets. The victim had not been home due to caring for her mother

Status: Under Investigation

**Theft –** The victim reported that her daughter took per laptop without permission and stated that she was going to sell it. The suspect left the residence prior to officer arrival; information was gathered regarding the stolen item.

Status: Under Investigation

**Theft –** The victim stated that a family member had been using her social security benefits without her permission; and not allowing her to purchase items she needs. The victim was removed from the residence so she would feel safe and away from the family members

Status: Under Investigation

**Theft- The victim stated that the suspect took a coin purse and a cell phone from her while they consumed intoxicating beverages together. The suspect was gone prior to officer arrival**

Status: Under Investigation

**District Four (Stotonic Area):**

**Aggravated Assault –** The victim was physically assaulted and strangled by her boyfriend of five months. The suspect was intoxicated and would not allow the victim to leave.

Status: Suspect was arrested and taken into custody

**Aggravated Assault- The suspect and victim were involved in a physical altercation while intoxicated. The suspect caused injuries to the victim which resulted in the victim to be transported to Chandler Regional for his fractures and broken bones. The suspect was gone prior to officer arrival**

Status: Under Investigation

**Aggravated Assault –** The victim was delivering newspapers when the suspects pointed a rifle and a handgun at him and threatened to kill him if he did not leave. The victim was unharmed who reported the incident to the Police.

Status: Under Investigation

**Aggravated Assault –** The victim reported that he was hit in the head with a chair approximately three times losing consciousness during the altercation. The suspect was on scene when officers arrived and was taken into custody.

Status: Suspect was arrested and taken into custody

**District Four (Lone Butte Area):**

Aggravated Assault –

Reporting party stated the suspects were on his property and shot his granddaughter with a BB. The victim was transported for further medical treatment and evaluation.

Status: Under Investigation

**Theft –** The reporting party stated a theft of construction equipment occurred at a construction site across from the street from the Sheraton Resort Conference Rooms.

Status: Under Investigation

**Shoplifting –** The suspect stole merchandise from the Saks Fifth Avenue Off Fifth by removing the theft detection device and left the store without paying. Loss Prevention was able to retrieve the stolen merchandise and detain the suspect.

Status: Suspect was cited into Kyrene JP

**Theft –** The victim reported that an employee stole a check book and financial information from an office after being terminated.

Status: Under Investigation

**Theft- The suspect took a bag containing cash from a server while the server was assisting a customer. The suspect was identified when she later returned back to the casino.**

Status: Suspect was cited into Kyrene JP

**District Five- (Casa Blanca):**

Theft – The victim

reported that someone had entered her backyard through a locked gate and stole her white and brown pitbull that she recently purchased.

Status: Under Investigation

**District Six – (Komatke):**

**Aggravated Assault- A juvenile victim was shot in the shoulder for unknown reasons. The juvenile was transported for non-life threatening injuries.**

Status: Under Investigation

**Auto Theft- The victim reported his car being taken without his permission as it was stationary on Beltline due to having car trouble and becoming disabled. The vehicle has been entered as stolen.**

Status: Under Investigation

**Auto Theft- The victim left her keys in the restroom of a residence. When she realized her keys were not in her possession she returned to the restroom but the keys were missing. The victim later returned with a spare key to find her vehicle was missing. It was later revealed her vehicle was involved in a single vehicle accident.**

Status: Under Investigation

**District Seven – (Maricopa):**

No incidents regarding part 1 crime

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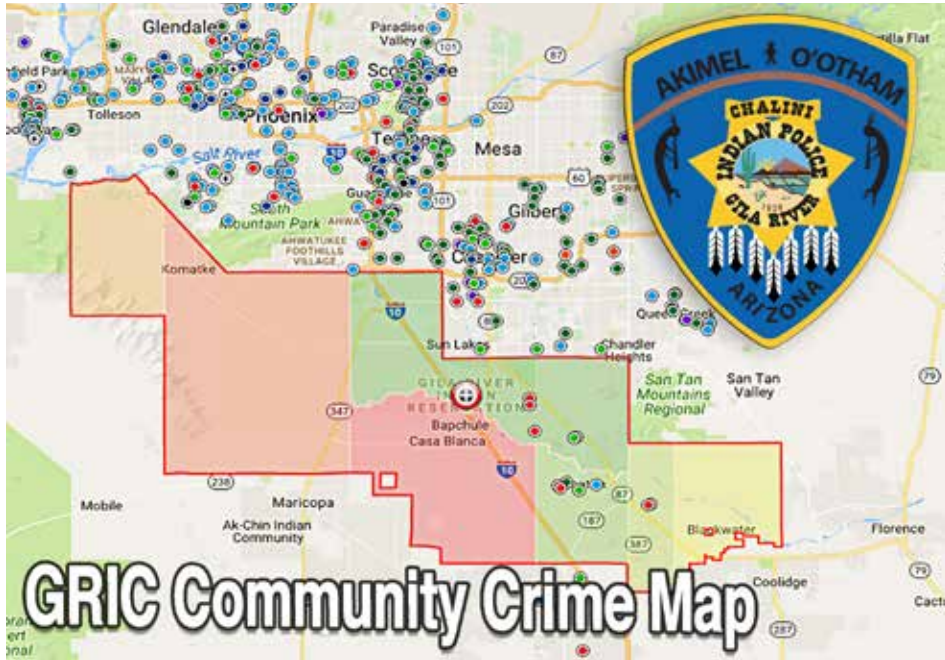


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Rebecca Webb Ext: 4225 Fred Pinsky, Esq. Ext: 4228

Habib Pierce-Byrd, Esq. Ext: 4223

# Gila River Police rolls out online Community Crime Map



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

The Community Crime Map will show all reported crimes in GRIC.

## Tribes converge at State Capitol

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
Gila River Indian News

Tribal leaders from across the state of Arizona attended 22nd Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day at the Arizona State Capitol on Jan. 17.

The daylong event was an opportunity for American Indian communities to get to know their state legislature and show how meetings are held concerning important matters to tribes.

Senate President Steven Yarbrough welcomed the gathering of tribes expressing his appreciation for attending the tribal legislative day.

The Office on Tribal Relations, the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, and the Arizona Indian Gaming Association organized the event to recognize American Indians for their contributions.

The sharing of culture and history are just some of the reasons tribes are recognized at the legislative day.

It was also an opportunity

for tribes to share ideas on health, agriculture and economic development.

With a few opening remarks Yarbrough, said it was a day for sharing stories, talking, listening and learning about the rich history of the indigenous peoples of Arizona.

Speaker of the House J.D. Mesnard spoke about the partnership between the state and the tribes.

He said they are responsible for thousands of jobs and billions of dollars generated by tribal gaming, which have helped improve the state's economy.

White Mountain Apache Tribe Chairman Ronnie Lupe has had a front seat to politics that dates back to 1966.

He said tribal gaming is a beacon of success that can only be expressed in the way that it is used, which is for education, capitol projects and public safety.

"Tribal gaming supports emergency services, education, wildlife conservation and the state's tourism industry," said Lupe.

Lupe said despite the overwhelming success of tribal gaming, there are other tribes that live in rural areas of the state that are still working to reach the success other tribal communities have enjoyed for years.

From one leader to another Lupe encouraged his fellow tribal leaders to use the legislative day to collaborate with one another and build partnerships on matters that are important to them.

After a brief lunch break there was even more reason to stick around the capitol for presentations.

On the third floor of the old senate room of the capitol museum, a presentation on indigenous food was hosted by the Arizona Department of Agriculture.

Department Director Mark Killian talked about the importance of recognizing the state's Native farmers and the practices they have followed for hundreds of years.

According to a press

*Continued on Page 13*

**Thomas R. Throssell**  
Gila River Indian News

In this modern age of technology where everyone seems to be connected through social media and can tell you what the latest hip celebrity had for breakfast this morning, the average person still might not know who their neighbors are or what types of criminal activity are occurring within their own community.

To strengthen communication between the Gila River Police Department and the people it is sworn to protect, the GRPD in partnership with LexisNexis Risk Solutions has rolled out a six-month pilot program for Community members to stay informed about local crime through an online map called Community Crime Map.

The map, which can be visited at <http://communitycrimemap.com>, shows all reported crimes that have occurred within GRIC since January 2016 and automatically updates itself with new data three times a day. Information on the website details the type of crime, date, time, and general location of where criminal activity occurred.

Community members will not only be able to see and learn about crimes that occur in their own neighborhoods, they will also be able to directly send anonymous tips to GRPD.

GRPD is also working with LexisNexis on a neighborhood crime alert system that Community members can sign up for that will alert them to any criminal incidents that occurs in their designated area. This alert system is currently offline but will soon be a feature in the Community Crime

*Continued on Page 10*



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis meets with state and tribal representatives at Indian Nations and Legislative Day at the Senate Building, Jan. 11.



Students from tribal communities visit informational booths at the Indian Nations and Legislative Day held at the Arizona State Capitol on Jan. 11.

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# “Be”-ing in O’otham

A common question that is often said amongst O’otham speakers is “Tho:ḍ hegai?”, which is a question that might be directed at you if you’re a newcomer or stranger amongst the group. This question literally asks “Who is he/she/that one?” and is the conversational version of the more formal phrase “Tho: ‘o vuḍ hegai?” This question utilizes the O’otham word vuḍ which is often heard in O’otham conversations and has a specific purpose in O’otham sentences. In O’otham sentences vuḍ is used to link or identify two words (often nouns) as being one and the same. This can be seen in the following example sentences.

- 1) Añi ‘añ vuḍ Akimel O’otham. (‘I am Akimel O’otham.’)
- 2) Mateo ‘o vuḍ viappoi. (‘Mateo is a boy.’)
- 3) Hegai uvig ‘o vuḍ ba’ag. (‘That bird is an eagle.’)
- 4) A:pi ‘ap ḍ eñ navoj. (‘You are my friend.’)

All four sentences above have the same form in that they each start off with a noun (Mateo) or pronoun (Añi, Hegai, A:pi), are followed by a form of the auxiliary (‘añ, ‘o, ‘ap), are then followed by the word vuḍ and end with a type of noun. What is interesting about all of these sentences is that there is no true verb in the form of an action word present in the sentence. The auxiliary verb which is present (‘añ, ‘o, ‘ap) is only there to provide information about the subject and does not provide any information on the type of sentence. Vuḍ in these sentences expresses the idea that the subject (the first noun) is linked or identical with the predicate (the final noun). You can think of vuḍ as being like an equals sign (=) in that it communicates the idea that the two nouns are one and the same (Añi=Akimel O’otham, Mateo=viappoi,

hegai uvig=ba’ag). This type of word is called a copula and works similar to the word “be” in English.

In everyday conversation vuḍ shortens to ḍ and it is often this form that is used by speakers. The corresponding sentences from above would shorten to the following.

- 5) Añi ‘añ ḍ Akimel O’otham. (‘I am Akimel O’otham.’)
- 6) Mateo ‘o ḍ viappoi. (‘Mateo is a boy.’)
- 7) Hegai uvig ‘o ḍ ba’ag. (‘That bird is an eagle.’)
- 8) A:pi ‘ap ḍ eñ navoj. (‘You are my friend.’)

Although there is no change in meaning with these sentences you can imagine that it is harder to hear the word vuḍ in its shortened form. Even O’otham speakers may not (consciously) realize that the shortened form ḍ is the same word as vuḍ. This is especially true in commonly used phrases and questions (Tho: ḍ hegai? Sha:chuḍ i:tha?) where the ḍ sounds like it attaches to the closest word.

O’otham ñeo’ok is flexible and allows for different orderings of words without changing the basic meaning. This is true with sentences that use vuḍ. Another possible ordering for the sentences above is one where vuḍ appears at the beginning. It is actually this order that is commonly heard in casual conversations. Vuḍ is never spoken in its full form when it appears at the front of the sentence but shortens and changes slightly to sound like a th (in some dialects it will sound like a ḍ). When appearing at the front it will attach to the following auxiliary to create the sentences seen below.

- 9) Thañ Akimel O’otham. (‘I am Akimel O’otham.’)
- 10) Tho viappoi heg Mateo. (‘Mateo is a boy.’)
- 11) Tho ba’ag hegai uvig. (‘That bird is an eagle.’)
- 12) Thap eñ navoj a:pi.

(‘You are my friend.’)

By this point you should be able to understand the word vuḍ and all its forms that it appears in. As you can see it is a very useful word when you want to identify someone or something to another person. So the next time you hear the question “Tho: ḍ hegai?” you should be able to think of an answer using the word vuḍ. See some of the possible answers in the following puzzle.

Tho:ḍ hegai? Word Match: Match the person or animal with its picture!

Hegai keli ‘o vuḍ ma:kai.



Hegai u:v ‘o vuḍ ha-mashchamtham.



Hegai cheoj ‘o vuḍ bo:l-chichvitham.



Hegai chehia ‘o vuḍ e-vailatham.



Hegai haichu thoakam ‘o vuḍ mi:thol.



Hegai uvig ‘o vuḍ kakaichu.



# Ho’ok A:ga

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Kelly Washington | Barnaby Lewis

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Gila River Indian Community shall not be held responsible for bodily injury, theft, or damages incurred during the Mul-Chu-Tha Fair and Rodeo.



# Post 84 repairs and paints damage to Japanese internment camp monument



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

From left, Ira H. Hayes Post 84 Sergeant at Arms Gilbert Gonzales, concrete mason Martin Isvak, Post 84 Senior Vice Commander Bill Dixon, and Post 84 member Thomas Dauer.

## Thomas R. Throssell Gila River Indian News

Over the past two months, members of Ira H. Hayes Post 84 have been hard at work repairing damage to the Japanese internment camp and veteran monument located in District 5 within the Gila River Farms area.

The site received multiple gunshots to three of the eight columns that make up the structure. One of the columns was so severely damaged it was almost completely shot through. In addition to the damage to the monument's columns, the base on which the monument's plaque sits, was vandalized with spray paint.

After being notified of the vandalism by Lt. Gov. Monica Antone during a Nov. 12 GRIC Council meeting, Post 84 members Thomas Dauer, Sergeant at Arms Gilbert Gonzales, Senior Vice Commander Bill Dixon, and concrete mason Martin Isvak repaired the vandalized structure on Dec. 12.

Members of Post 84 cleaned the damaged areas by scraping out remnants of broken concrete, applied a glue polymer, filled the holes with fresh concrete and left it to dry.

Dixon, who assisted in repairing the damaged columns, said it was the largest amount of vandalism he had ever seen inflicted on the monument. He added that he was hopeful the site

would become protected.

"That way, we won't have so much of this trouble here," he said. "We will be coming out here and be repairing it if necessary, up until there is some kind of

protection put up for this place."

On January 11, members of Post 84 added the last coat of white paint to the patched areas of the monument's columns

and covered several spray painted areas of the site.

Post 84 Adjutant Tony McDaniel, said that while people do come to the area and shoot guns, it appeared that this specific act of vandalism was a deliberate attempt to destroy the monument.

"Nobody has ever actually shot up the monument like that before. People come out here and they shoot off in to the distance all the time," he said. "It looked like they were trying to destroy a whole pillar. That's just crazy, there is no reason for it. This represents United States military personnel and their families that got stuck here due to circumstances beyond their control. It's a place to respect."

The Japanese internment camp and veterans monument now stands fully repaired and repainted due to the efforts of Ira H. Hayes Post 84 members and their commitment to taking care of the monument.

"It took a little work, but it is just part of serving the Community," said Mc-

Daniel. "It's part of what we...do, (a) commitment to serve."

While Post 84 is committed to serving the Community, the group of veterans feels a special sense of responsibility to the monument due to one of their former members, Mas Inoshita.

"As a young man, [Inoshita] was interned here at the camp," said McDaniel. "From here he enlisted into the service." Inoshita joined the Military Intelligence Service in the U.S. Army, serving as a translator during World War II.

"Mas took in the responsibility to maintain this place. When [he] got too old to keep coming out here, [he] asked [us] to commit to maintain this area, so that is what we have been doing for 20 years now. It is a commitment that we made to Mas, and a commitment that we made to the Japanese American Citizens League, and to those who were interned here, that we come out and we...clean it up and repair [it]," he said."



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN


Tony McDaniel adds a coat of white paint over one of the monument's columns that was damaged by vandalism.



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Thomas Dauer attempts to scrub off graffiti from the Japanese internment camp monument in District 5.

55th Annual  
**MUL-CHU-THA**  
Fair & Rodeo




March 10-12, 2017

**"Celebrating 55 years of Culture, Strength and Unity"**

**YOUTH COMMUNITY MEMBER ELIGIBLE CONTEST**

In celebrating the 55th Annual Mul-Chu-Tha Fair and Rodeo, we are inviting our young tribal members to enter our Art Contest or Essay Contest. These contests are in grades 4th-12th. Students may enter one contest or both contests.

All winners will be invited to the Mul-Chu-Tha ceremony




**ART  
CONTEST**

Each Contest will have winners in these grade levels

4th-5th Grades: 1st Prize, 2nd Prize, 3rd Prize

6th-8th Grade: 1st Prize, 2nd Prize, 3rd Prize

9th-12th Grade: 1st Prize, 2nd Prize, 3rd Prize



**ESSAY  
CONTEST**

**Art Guidelines:**

**"Creatively depict the Community's culture, strength, and unity"**

- Art entries should be on an 8 1/2" X 11" sized paper or for 3 Dimensional items 8 1/2" X 11" X 4" - pens ( colored), pencil ( colored), markers ( colored), paint, ceramic, wood, clay, etc. entries are allowed.
- Art Rubric will be used to judge entries.

**Essay Guidelines:**

**"Express your perception of the Community's culture, strength, and unity"**

- Essays should be no less than 200 Words for 4th-5th Graders, 300 Words for 6th-8th Graders, 400 Words for 9th-12th Graders. All essays should be typed, 12 point font, and double spaced.
- Six Traits Writing Rubric will be used to judge entries.

All entries must be submitted to Tribal Education Department by **Friday, February 3, 2017**

All Entries must include completed entry form

**\*LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED\***

Winners will be announced on Monday, February 13, 2017

Any questions, please contact the Tribal Education Department at: Office: (520)-562-3662

# Monument sponsored by Haskell Osife-Antone vandalized in District 1

**Thomas R. Throssell**  
Gila River Indian News

A Gila River Indian Community veteran's monument, located outside the old District 1 Service Center in Blackwater, was vandalized earlier this month with portions of the concrete structure smashed to pieces. Because of the severity of the damage parts of the monument were dismantled and are undergoing repairs.



Photos Courtesy of District 1 Service Center

**Blackwater veterans monument was erected in 2008.**

The monument, which is sponsored by Haskell Osife-Antone Post 51, was erected in 2008 to honor veterans for their sacrifice and lists the names of Community veterans who were killed in action during wartime.

The monument's plaque reads, "A grateful nation and our tribal community thanks all its Veterans. From all wars, con-

flicts and peacetime. We express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your sacrifices."

The four names listed on the plaque are Antonio Haskell Osife (U.S. Army, K.I.A. WWII), Dudney Arlentino (U.S. Army, K.I.A. Vietnam), Dwight Blackwater (U.S. Army, K.I.A. Vietnam), and David Drake Perkins (U.S. Army, K.I.A.

Vietnam). The bottom of the plaque reads, "Some Gave Some, Some Gave All."

The District 1 Service Center will rebuild the concrete structure of the monument and Post 51 will polish the plaque and are in the planning process of adding more names to the monument.

Post 51 member, Darrell Whitman, said that there were pieces of broken concrete littered around the vandalized monument and it appeared someone used a hammer to chip away at the concrete part of the struc-



Photos Courtesy of District 1 Service Center

**Blackwater veterans monument vandalized earlier this month**

ture. "Respect went out the window when they started doing that. Usually people don't mess with the stuff over there," he said.

Whitman added that there was surveillance footage showing a group of individuals vandalizing the monument and the Gila River Police Department would be looking into the incident.

Whitman added that there was surveillance footage showing a group of individuals vandalizing the monument and the Gila River Police Department would be looking into the incident.

## Community Crime Map from page 6



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

**GRPD Commander Jeff Hunter and Communications Administrator Teresa Villescaz.**

Map.

In addition to local crimes, the GRIC Community Crime Map lists known sex offenders, providing a photograph, street address, age, and type of crime committed. Once the offender box is selected, the map is populated with local sex offenders, represented by a person's purple silhouette, which can be clicked on for more detailed information.

Teresa Villescaz, GRPD Communications Administrator, said that the project was a long work in progress, built from address and street data collected by GRIC's Geographic Information Systems section (GIS) over the past 10 years. "Every residence, road, and trail has been mapped and addressed", she said.

"The [GRPD] Rangers and GIS, [they] went out and [they] GPS'd every single trail," said Villescaz. "Every single trail in the community now lies within our database. It has been a

huge undertaking."

While this system is useful to Community members who want to see what criminal activity is going on in their neighborhoods, it is also a useful tool for the GRPD.

Villescaz said that there are two parts to the new system, one is the Community Crime Map that Community members can view to see criminal activity within GRIC, the second is a more robust tool offering GRPD officers quicker and more detailed access to information about possible suspects and local neighborhoods.

GRPD Public Information Officer Caroline Brown explained how the system works using a hypothetical criminal incident of an individual vandalizing property.

"If I were to go to that call for [vandalism], I would respond and have to take that person to jail. I would request a case number from dispatch, they

would assign me that case number and I would take the [individual] to jail [and] book [them] in," she said. All information about the vandalism from the suspect's name, location, date, time, case number, and more is entered into the GRPD's electronic record management system.

"LexisNexis would pull that information from

that case number; they only pull certain information like the time, the date, and populate that onto the map."

Villescaz noted that the map is a huge benefit to GRIC because Community members can actively know what is going on around them and better protect themselves.

"Unfortunately crime

is there, so how can you as a citizen do more? For example, if I log in [to Community Crime Maps] and see quite a lot of burglaries around my area, now I can take those proactive measures. Let's make sure doors are locked, taking that extra step to protect myself," she said.

"It also allows us to build a transparency with

the Community without affecting ongoing investigations or our victims. This allows them to see what's been going on. This is as real time as we can get. It pulls from our database three times a day so they are seeing really live information," said Villescaz.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 DISTRICT 6 Service Center 5:45-7:15pm Walk/Run Motivational Talk with Waylon Pahona	2	3 DISTRICT 2 Service Center 5:45-7:15pm Yoga & Chair Yoga + Community Mentors & Support Group	4
5	6	7	8 DISTRICT 1 Service Center 5:30-7:00pm Zumba + Goal Setting	9 DISTRICT 3 Service Center 4:30-6:00pm At-Home Workout Ideas + Tracking Your Fitness	10 DISTRICT 5 Service Center 5:45-7:15pm How to Use Your Fitness Center + Veggie Fear Factor!	11
12	13	14	15 DISTRICT 6 Service Center 5:45-7:15pm Tai Chi + Stress Management	16 DISTRICT 1 Service Center 5:30-7:00pm POUND + Self Inquiry	17 DISTRICT 5 Service Center 5:45-7:15pm Hot Hula + Self Esteem/Self Image	18
19	20	21 DISTRICT 6 Service Center 5:45-7:15pm At-Home Workout Ideas + Tracking Your Fitness	22	23 DISTRICT 3 Service Center 4:30-6:00pm Circuit Training + Self Inquiry	24 DISTRICT 2 Service Center 5:45-7:15pm POUND + Overcoming Obstacles with Waylon Pahona	25
26	27	28 DISTRICT 1 Service Center 5:30-7:00pm Yoga & Chair Yoga + Community Mentors & Support Group				

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# ASU alumnus served as special agent in the FBI before working for GRIC



Photo Courtesy of ASU NOW  
**In 1987, Arizona State University alumnus Manuel J. Johnson graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology.**

**Amanda Stoneman**  
 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, ASU

From being a first-generation college student to catching a notorious bank robber featured on "America's Most Wanted," Arizona State University alumnus Manuel J. Johnson leveraged his interpersonal skills to build a career.

"I'm really proud of my service in the FBI. It was a great career," said Johnson, a member of Gila River Indian Community. "But I really feel like the accomplishments I've had in my life happened because I stood on the shoulders of those who have come before me and sacrificed before me."

Born in Phoenix, Johnson was raised by his mother who inspired him to work hard and pursue a higher education. He said he always knew he would attend ASU, but his chosen field of study didn't come so easily to him.

"Some students know exactly what they want to do when they get here; others it takes a while," Johnson said. "I started in the business college, but as I took more courses, I didn't have the same interest."

Johnson sought out an

African-American studies class to draw parallels between the plight of African-Americans and his own experience as an American Indian. The course was taught by professor and chair of sociology A. Wade Smith, who worked tirelessly to improve race relations on the ASU campus.

"When I was here, there weren't many minority professors," Johnson said. "I identified with him because he was a minority ... and always had time for me. I remember he suggested I get a degree in sociology."

In 1987, Johnson graduated from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences with a bachelor's degree in sociology. He started working for the Gila River Indian Community in the social services department. Then he worked for the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona,

an organization representing most of the tribes in the state. Johnson said dealing with law enforcement in his position piqued his interest in the FBI.

In 1990, Johnson applied to the FBI, training at the FBI Academy the following year. His first indoctrination to the bureau was as a special agent assigned to the Salt Lake City Division in the small town of Vernal, Utah. He handled federal criminal violations on the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation.

Johnson transferred to the Los Angeles Division as part of a resident agency in West Covina, California. He was assigned to the violent-crimes squad and pursued a range of criminal investigations including bank robberies, kidnappings, extortions and fugitive matters.

"Los Angeles was a

good experience for an agent because it's a big city," Johnson said. "I remember getting a lead in our office about the Oklahoma City bombing. We got a DMV photo of this individual who looked like the composite drawing of suspect John Doe No. 2. It turns out it wasn't him, but you never know in those situations."

After Los Angeles, Johnson was transferred to Flagstaff, Arizona. He was assigned to the Navajo and Hopi reservations, where he handled violent crimes such as homicides, child abuse and assault cases.

"When you work with Native American communities, you really have to build trust," Johnson said. "You use your people skills a lot. My understanding and educational background in sociology came in handy as I worked in

various communities as a special agent."

Johnson retired from the FBI in 2014 and went back to the Gila River Indian Community. Currently, he works in the Executive Office as the intergovernmental liaison where he fosters and maintains government-to-government relationships at all levels on behalf of the community.

"When I came back to Gila River, all I wanted to do was fit in, work with my community and help," Johnson said. "If I can influence young people in some way to find their passion in life, then I feel like I made things a little better for somebody, for others, for the community."

*Reprinted with permission from Arizona State University. Originally printed on Jan. 5, 2017 on [asunow.asu.edu](http://asunow.asu.edu)*

# Waila Festival brings O'otham sister tribes together to assist students



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

**Carl & Buddies perform at the WailaFest at Rawhide Western Town & Steakhouse Frontier Hall on Jan. 14.**

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
 Gila River Indian News

At the start of each year, as the weather draws people indoors, O'otham communities come together to dance to waila music as they revel in the spirit of friendship and food.

O'otham bands made their way to Rawhide Western Town & Steakhouse Frontier Hall on the Gila River Indian Community to spread their love of music at the Waila Festival on Jan. 14.

As in years past the Waila Festival Inc., a non-profit organization, is made of individuals from GRIC, Tohono O'odham Nation, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Ak-Chin Indian Community.

The event also featured traditional dance performances by Apache Crown Dancers, The Fifth Generation Basket Dancers and Hunter Family Hopi Dance

Group outside on the grassy lawn of the frontier hall. Guests browsed the arts and crafts booths at the "Circle of Art & Culture," which featured several Native artisans.

It is also a time to recognize the hard work put forth by students who are awarded financial aid through the Sister Tribes Academic Reward Scholarship program.

This year a student from the Community, Amanda Mitchell, and a student from the Tohono O'odham Nation, Andrew Rios, were selected as the recipient's for the STARS award at the festival.

Mitchell, a student at Chandler Gilbert Community College, who will be transferring to ASU in the fall, plans to major in Indian Law Policy.

Although Mitchell thought going back to school would be challenging, she earned 3.5 grade point average, on top of working full time and being

a parent.

Both Mitchell and Rios received \$1,000 in scholarship aid for maintaining a 3.5 GPA.

Rios, a student at Arizona State University, is pursuing a bachelor's degree in business sustainability from the W.P. Carey School of Business.

Rios, San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation, said the scholarship helps, because the financial aid relieves some of the stress as a full-time student.

"It allows [me] to focus my energy on keeping my grades up and education a priority that much more," said Rios.

Craig Lewis, the Marketing and Sponsorship representative for the Waila Festival Inc., said that although there were only two STARS recipients this year, he hopes more college students consider applying for next year's program.

"If they can maintain a 3.5 (GPA) we would like to



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

**Amanda Mitchell thanks the WailaFest Inc., organization for being chosen as one of the scholarship recipients.**

award a \$1,000 scholarship, if they can maintain a 3.0 (GPA) then we will award a \$500 scholarship and then if they are involved in their community...we will award a \$250 scholarship," said Lewis.

He said hopefully next year there will more awards to give out and that for students who have thought about it and have not already applied should consider doing so.

The festival featured performances of Carl & Buddies, Tohono O'odham Braves followed by an evening with Gertie & the T.O. Boyz.

Music is just half of the reason to come out, and that education should be another reason to come out and promote the success of students that face the day-to-day grind of life, classes and being able to provide the essentials, if not for themselves, but for their family.



Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

**Carl & Buddies Waila Band saxophonist Ervin Lopez gets ready to perform at Waila Fest.**

# COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • January 4, 2017

## 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 January 4, 2017, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by presiding Chairman Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:07am

### INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Sandra Nasewytewa

### 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 (9:17), Rodney Jackson; D4- Nada Celaya, Christopher Mendoza, Barney Enos, Jr.; D5-Brian Davis, Sr., Marlin Dixon, Robert Stone, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr. (2:01), Charles Goldtooth (9:11), Sandra Nasewytewa

Council Members Absent: D4- Jennifer Allison; D7- Devin Redbird

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

### REPORTS

\*1. Office of the Prosecutor FY 2016 Annual Report (October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016)

Presenters: Brian Tacheenie, Pamela Thompson

REPORT HEARD

2. Casa Blanca Area Drainage Master Study Finalizing and Reporting Results

Presenters: Seaver Fields, Yichun Xu

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. GRHC 2016 Annual Report

Presenter: Ginger Fligger

REPORT HEARD

[LT. GOVERNOR MONICA ANTONE CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK.

THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 11:57 A.M.]

4. Head Start November Monthly Report

Presenter: Patricia Valenzuela

REPORT HEARD

5. GRICUA's FY16 Q4 Report

Presenters: John Lewis, Leonard Gold

REPORT HEARD

6. GRTI 3Q2016 Update

Presenters: Bruce Holdridge, Board

REPORT HEARD

### RESOLUTIONS

1. A Resolution Authorizing And Approving A Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Gila River Indian Community, Department Of Environmental Quality, And The Salt River Project To Install And Maintain An Artificial Nesting Structure In The Gila River Community Riparian Corridor For The Preservation And Conservation Of Bald Eagles (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, with corrected dates on the MOU, CRSC concurs)

Presenters: Russell Benford, Robert DeLeon

APPROVED

2. A Resolution Confirming the Ability of Wild

Horse Pass Development Authority and Rawhide

Western Town to Offer Governmental Employee Benefit Plans To Their Governmental Function Employees (EDSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Jason Croxton, Dale Gutenson, Linda Sauer

APPROVED

3. A Resolution Confirming the Ability of Pima Leasing Financial Corporation to Offer

Governmental Employee Benefit Plans to their Governmental Function Employees (EDSC motions to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Treasurer Keller, Suzanne Johns

APPROVED

### ORDINANCES

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Wild Horse Pass Development Authority Board of Directors Appointments (2) (One Full Term and One Un-Expired Term)

Presenters: Reviewing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT KIMBERLY LEWIS AND RICHARD NARCIA

2. Gila River Health Care Board of Directors Appointments (2)

Presenters: Reviewing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MYRON SCHURZ AND WANDA MANUEL

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Gila River Gaming Commission Declaration of Vacancies (2)

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE 2

## VACANCIES

RULES SUSPENDED TO MOVE NEW

BUSINESS ITEM #3 AS ITEM #2

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

2 3. District Three Citizens Advisory Board Representatives (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval to appoint Marlo Schurz as the District Three Representative)

Presenter: Darren Pedro-Martinez

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT MARLO SCHURZ

[LT. GOVERNOR MONICA ANTONE CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 2:01 P.M.]

3 2. Presentation of Community Crime Map (LSC forwards to Council for discussion and possible action)

Presenter: Teresa Villescaz

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO PILOT FOR

6-MONTHS AND BRING ALL DATA BACK

MINUTES

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

>LITIGATION TEAM MEETING FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017, 2PM

>HOLY FAMILY MISSION FEST IN BLACKWATER, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2017, 10AM-10PM

>CARSON MANAHAN, JR. SERVICES, DISTRICT 7, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017 & SATURDAY JANUARY 7, 2017

>SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017, 9AM

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:50PM

\* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)



## GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

*Office of the Community Council*

### WRITTEN REPRIMAND OF ARTHUR L. FELDER, JR.

As a result of the investigation of allegations contained in a Code of Conduct complaint against former Gila River Gaming Commissioner Arthur L. Felder, Jr., and following a hearing on December 29, 2016, the Community Council has found that while in office Mr. Felder violated the Code of Conduct by:

- (1) Disclosing confidential information he acquired during his role as a Gaming Commissioner; and
- (2) Attempting to use confidential information he acquired in his role as a Gaming Commissioner for his personal benefit in a lawsuit against a Community entity's employees.

Mr. Felder's conduct violated the Code of Conduct Sections 1.403(A)(3) and (C)(2).

**Arthur L. Felder, Jr. is hereby publicly reprimanded for his conduct in violation of the Gila River Indian Community Code of Conduct.** The Community Council has voted unanimously to remove Mr. Felder from his role as a Commissioner, effective immediately, and to disqualify Mr. Felder from all future Community Council appointments for a period of five years.

#### Governing Code Sections:

"Community enterprise board members shall abide by the lawful requirements of any Community enterprise policies and procedures pertaining to confidential information, provided they are not contrary to federal or Community law or policy, or this Code" Code of Conduct § 1.403(A)(3).

"Officials shall not utilize information obtained through their office or employment to benefit his or her personal contractual, property, financial, or economic interest." Code of Conduct § 1.403(C)(2).



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Pima cotton in the Gila River Indian Community.



Thomas R. Throssell/GRIN

Pima cotton growing in September 2016.

# Pima Cotton

## from page 1

1960's to the 1980's] and then discontinued production due to costs and commodity prices," said Horne.

Over the next 25 years no Pima cotton was grown at GRF, but was brought back to the farms in 2015 in an effort to diversify the farm's crop mix.

"We brought it back... to try it out to see if we could grow it here again," she said. "And it did really well last year so we decided to put a majority of our cotton acreage into Pima for 2016."

Pima cotton is considered to be a luxury item and is in high demand overseas, where almost all of the harvested fiber will be shipped.

"What we grow here is Supima, which is a combination of the term superior and Pima," said Horne. "The Supima cotton that is grown here in the United States is considered to be the highest quality cotton in the world."

The 2016 crop, which was twice the size of 2015's harvest that produced just under 600,000 pounds of Pima cotton, did well, and according to Horne, was reported to be of a high quality, meaning a premium return on their harvest of just over 1 million pounds of Pima cotton.

Horne said domestic demand for Pima cotton was up in 2016 from last year and markets for the

extra-long staple cotton are typically 50 percent higher than the upland cotton primarily grown in GRF over the past two decades.

From the ground to your t-shirt, how it's made

From planting to picking, the process of growing Pima cotton, harvesting, ginning, milling, and eventual production into apparel, is a long and complicated process that is fraught with the ups and downs of international politics, volatile market prices, and the will of the weather.

"If the weather is great, we like to start planting at the end of March," said Horne. "We have to wait until the soil temperature reaches a certain level before we can put the seeds in so it will germinate properly."

In 2015 and 2016, the weather was hotter and lasted longer than on aver-

age, said Horne, meaning that the date of the harvest for the past two years was a little later than usual. She added that they were able to estimate the harvest date and future yield of both crops by measuring accumulated thermal unit data gathered by weather stations in the area.

"We try and use some more scientific data," she said. "Agriculture is becoming more [data driven]. You really have to use that data in order to be... somewhat profitable or successful because there is just no margin for error."

After the cotton is planted the crop begins a long 9-month growing season, which is more expensive than upland cotton due to higher water usage, pesticide and herbicide costs, and growth regulators to inhibit the plant from growing too tall.

Once the cotton is ready to be picked, an agricultural aircraft sprays a defoliant, essentially a sodium mixture, that removes the plant's leaves making it easier for cotton harvester machines to pick the cotton bolls.

The harvester machines drive through the cotton crops separating the lint from the plant and then take their loads to a nearby module builder, a machine that mashes the cotton down forming compacted blocks of cotton, which will then be picked up by trucks and taken to River Co-Op Gin in Coolidge, AZ.

The gin separates the cotton from the seed and is packaged into bales. From there, most of the cotton is sent to cotton buyers who then sell the product overseas.

"Ninety-five percent of it will be shipped over-

seas to Japan, Korea," said Horne. "They will take most of this into their spinning mills and then turn it in to yarn. [They will] either send that yarn back to the United States to be put into textiles or ...produce the textiles and ship them back here and we rebuy them."

For the past two years GRF has grown some of the highest quality cotton in the world. So the next time you go shopping and pick up a Supima cotton t-shirt or pair of socks, there is chance that it was grown in the fields of Gila River Farms, right here, in the Gila River Indian Community.

*\*Interviews for this article were conducted at different times, from September through December 2016, as the Community's Pima cotton was growing and harvested.*

### SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Sacaton Elementary School District Governing Board has a vacancy. The vacancy will be filled by appointment made by Pinal County School Superintendent, Jill Broussard.

The successful candidate will be seated until December 31, 2018.

Any eligible resident within the Sacaton Elementary School District who is interested in being appointed can apply online at <http://www.ecrsc.org/pinalesa/elections/board-member-vacancies>. The application can be completed online, but it must be printed out, signed, notarized and the original mailed or hand delivered by the deadline. The deadline for applying is no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 3, 2017.

You may also submit a request for an application by calling or writing to:  
Brenda Katterman  
Pinal County School Superintendent's Office  
P. O. Box 769  
Florence, AZ 85132  
Email: [bkatterman@pinalcso.org](mailto:bkatterman@pinalcso.org)  
(520) 866-6565

*Tho:q hegai? Word Match: Match the person or animal with its picture!*

Hegai keli 'o vud ma:kai	
Hegai u:v 'o vud ha-mashchamtham.	
Hegai cheoj 'o vud bo:l-chichvitham.	
Hegai chehia 'o vud e-vailatham.	
Hegai haichu thoakam 'o vud mi:thol.	
Hegai uvig 'o vud kakaichu.	

### Legislative Day from page 6

kit provided by the department, "Indigenous farmers operate on 11,190 farms with almost \$67 million in sales of agricultural product."

The press kit also stated that Native communities account for over 56 percent of farms in Arizona and have a large number of women who are farmers.

During the presentation session a list of topics

were covered from food safety and distribution practices to addressing the issue of food deserts, which dot urban and rural areas of the state.

Food deserts are defined as locations where there is a lack of access to fruits, vegetables and other types of healthy foods.

At the Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza, Native youth gathered for a workshop provided by the Northern Arizona University Center for American Indian Economic Develop-

ment. The workshop on small business and entrepreneurship used a financial literacy game called "Seven Generation Money Management."

The game used different financial scenarios from traveling, taxes, rent, utilities and automobile purchases and repair.

One of the workshops primary goals is to help Native youth learn how to manage their finances through simulated transactions that occur everyday.

**O'ODHAM TASH**  
**CASA GRANDE**

**O'Odham Tash is back in Casa Grande Feb. 18 & 19**

**PARADE • RODEO • CARNIVAL**  
**SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**  
**POW WOW • COWBOY CHURCH**

**All participation forms are on our website**  
**[www.casagrandecowboydays.com](http://www.casagrandecowboydays.com)**

Preference will be given to rodeo entries in the order they are received.  
The City of Casa Grande is proud to be a major sponsor.

**Call for Volunteers "EVENT MONITORS"**  
**1st Annual Indigenous Sacaton School District STEM ROBOTIC COMPETITION**  
**March 25th 2017**

**EVENTS**

<b>MS/HS division (5th/12th)</b>	<b>ELEMENTARY division (2nd/4th)</b>
Mazing	Mazing
Jousting	Jousting
EV3/NXT/Sumo	EV3/NXT/ Sumo
Alpine Spheroids	Lego We Do's
Ping Pong (line following)	Spheroids
Drones	Ozobots

**TRAINING DAY FOR EVENT MONITORS**  
Feb.25th 2017 from 9:30 - 12:30  
Lunch will be served  
Contact Email: [jkinnamon@sacatonschools.org](mailto:jkinnamon@sacatonschools.org)  
Phone: 520-280-6656 ext. 2048

**Ozobots** **We Do's** **NXT's** **Spheroids** **VEX's**



# Gila River Police Department

## Citizen's Police Academy

**February 27, 2017 – May 3, 2017**



Please join the Gila River Police Department for our upcoming Citizen's Police Academy starting February 27, 2017. This Academy is a 40-hour program which includes both classroom and "hands-on" instruction presented by members of the Gila River Police Department.

Classes will meet on various days from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm at the Gila River Police Department in Sacaton.

To register, please complete the application and return it to the Gila River Police Department by February 24, 2017.

**No applications will be accepted after that date.**

**For those interested in a career in Law Enforcement this is a good way to learn more about the department!!**

To participate in the Citizen's Police Academy you must:

- ✓ Be a minimum of 18 years old
- ✓ Enrolled member or reside within the community
- ✓ Employees of the community or any of its enterprises
- ✓ No Misdemeanor or Felony convictions
- ✓ Must have a valid Arizona Driver's License
- ✓ Successfully pass a Criminal background investigation

**\*\* Class size is limited so get your application in early! \*\***



For more information about the Citizen's Police Academy please contact:

Officer Caroline Brown  
Gila River Police Department  
(520) 562-7105  
[caroline.brown@gric.nsn.us](mailto:caroline.brown@gric.nsn.us)

**\*\*PICK UP APPLICATIONS AT ANY DISTRICT SERVICE CENTER OR AT THE GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT\*\***

**Gila River Indian Community  
CRISIS LINE  
1-800-259-3449**



**Gila River**  
HEALTH CARE

Follow GRHC on social media:



### Fire Drills and Fire Alarm Testing

All hospitals nationwide are required to periodically conduct fire drills and fire alarm testing. It is mandated by the National Fire Protection Association (Life Safety Code NFPA101) and affects both patients and hospital staff. Gila River Health Care is prepared to respond to any fire incident with plans that ensure patient and employee safety. We respectfully request your patience and understanding while Gila River Health Care conducts required fire drills and fire alarm testing.

#### HOW DOES THIS AFFECT PATIENTS?

- When the fire alarm goes off, staff and patients must evacuate the building to a pre-determined meeting location which is different for each department.
- We ask that patients and their families stay with the department in which they are receiving service until the drill or alarm is cleared.
- **IMPORTANT - Patients within the Inpatient / IMS Department and the Emergency Department are exempt from this requirement.**

Thanks again for your understanding. If you have a question about fire drills or alarms, please contact:

Lantz Biles, Security Director x1146  
Kathie Dumais, Safety Officer x1207  
Keleto Sili, Facilities Management Director x1057

### GRHC's Behavioral Health Services Prevention Program is offering classes for

- Active Parenting - giving you empowering tools to parent your teens
- Mental Health First Aid Training (MHFA) - assisting you to identify mental health issues and crises in others and how to identify mental health resources
- safeTALK - helping to identify those who may be considering suicide and how to take the first steps toward prevention
- Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) - showing how to recognize suicide warning signs and give helpful information on intervention

For updated training dates, look for registration form postings. You may also contact the GRHC BHS-Prevention Program at (520) 562-3321 ext. 7157 or email [BHSPrevention@grhc.org](mailto:BHSPrevention@grhc.org) to request a registration form.

Visit [GRHC.ORG/COMMUNITYINFORMATION](http://GRHC.ORG/COMMUNITYINFORMATION) for more information on each class.

### GERMS! They're everywhere! Door knobs, faucets, towels, your desk.

**"In fact - a cell phone carries 18 times more bacteria than most public toilet seats!"**

Watch where you put your personal items - purses put on bathroom floors can pick up a slew of germs such as strep, staph, E-coli, MRSA, and much more!

Here are some interesting facts:

- When co-workers come to work sick, within 4 hours, 50% of surfaces and employees were contaminated with the virus!
  - Many people become ill from hospital or clinic-related infections NOT because these places are dirty but because there is a high concentration of vulnerable people and germs from people that are ill together in the same place.
- Many times sicknesses can be contagious before symptoms appear.

#### So what can you do to actively fight germs that are everywhere?

- **Wash your hands (or use hand sanitizer IF antibacterial soap and water are not available)!**
- **Use common sense: There IS such a thing as "too clean." Don't obsessively clean everything and everyone who crosses your path. Killing all germs prevents our bodies from building up resistance.**



# CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER

# 2017




## Celebration Sale

ALL VEHICLES \$17 DOWN

<b>2010 Jeep Rubicon</b> 25K miles, V6 Automatic <b>HUGE SAVINGS!</b> 	<b>2013 Ford Explorer</b> Leather Loaded <b>SAVE \$1,000's!</b> 	<b>2010 GMC Sierra 2500</b> LIKE NEW ONLY <b>\$25,999</b> 	<b>2013 Cadillac XTS</b> ONLY <b>\$19,999</b> 
<b>2012 Kia Optima</b> ONLY <b>\$15,999</b> 	<b>2012 Nissan Titan</b> ONLY <b>\$325/mo.</b> 	<b>2012 Ford Edge</b> ONLY <b>\$15,999</b> 	<b>2012 Dodge Challenger</b> ONLY <b>\$15,999</b> 
<b>2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee</b> ONLY <b>\$18,999</b> 	<b>YOU WILL NOT FIND A BETTER DEAL</b>		<b>2007 GMC Yukon XL</b> Leather Loaded <b>\$299/mo.</b> 
<b>2011 Infiniti G37</b> ONLY <b>\$13,999</b> 	<b>2014 Mazda CX5</b> ONLY <b>\$15,999</b> 	<b>2016 Ford Fusion</b> 3 to Choose From Starting At <b>\$255/mo.</b> 	<b>2014 Chrysler Town &amp; Country</b> <b>\$275/mo.</b> 
<b>2011 GMC Terrain</b> Fully Loaded <b>\$265/mo.</b> 			

## OH BABY LOOK AT THESE BEAUTIES

EVERY VEHICLE BELOW \$217 A MONTH

<b>2014 Toyota Camry</b> 	<b>2015 Jeep Patriot</b> 		<b>2015 Nissan Altima</b> 
<b>2014 Toyota Corolla</b> 	<b>2015 Ford Focus</b> 		<b>2009 Toyota Tacoma</b> 
<b>Interest Rate as low as 1.99% APR</b>	<b>2010 Buick LaCrosse</b> 		<b>2013 Chrysler 200</b> 
<b>2012 Honda Civic</b> 	<b>2014 Kia Soul</b> 		<b>2015 Dodge Dart</b> 



**CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER**

**INSTANT CREDIT APPROVAL • [www.crossroadsauto.org](http://www.crossroadsauto.org)**

# CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER

## 1026 N. PINAL AVE., CASA GRANDE

## 520-836-2112

\*Payment based on 700 credit score, 4.5% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit.

# 72<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising

**Military parade and flyover  
begin at 8:30AM.**

**Ceremonies follow at the  
Matthew B. Juan, Ira H. Hayes  
Veterans Memorial Park in Sacaton, AZ.**

*All public and veterans groups are welcome.*

*Luncheon hosted by American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 84 with  
St. Peter Church and School. Event sponsored by American Legion  
Ira H. Hayes Post No. 84 and Auxiliary Unit No. 84.*

**Saturday,  
Feb. 25, 2017**



## GILARIVER

GAMING ENTERPRISES, INC.

WinGilaRiver.com • 800-WIN-GILA • Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc.  
Owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community

American Legion Ira H. Hayes Post No. 84

P.O. Box 186, Sacaton, AZ 85147 | Phone 520.562.8484 | Fax 520.562.3297 | ihopst84@gilanet.net | www.irahayespost84.org