



## Casa Blanca School Hosts National Congress of American Indians



Members of NCAI stand with Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, including NCAI President Fawn Sharp (Center Left, red top) in front of the welcoming sign at Casa Blanca Community School. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
Gila River Indian News

Members of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) toured the state-of-the-art Casa Blanca Community School (CBCS) on March 18 to learn how it can serve as a template for other tribal nations.

CBCS Assistant Principal Dr. Raetava Godinez led the NCAI visitors throughout the campus, explaining how the school is transforming the way students learn. Godinez said input from the Community was incorporated into the layout of the classrooms during the planning phase.

She also pointed out that Gila River Indian Community artists helped represent the culture on the outside walkways and throughout the campus with a focus on themes of farming and traditional languages of the Community.

Godinez also noted that the creature comforts of the classrooms, student and faculty commons, and outdoor play areas are eco-friendly. And instead of chalk or marker boards, many of the classrooms incorporate interactive boards for lessons.

CBCS Principal Kim Franklin said it was amazing to work with a wide group of people, including parents and staff, to get their input. "Every child is a part of the Community," she said. "They are a part of the school here, and so we all need to work together when it comes to their education."

Franklin said the school worked with the parents to develop an accessible and inclusive environment for those with or without disabilities. "That is really important to us," she stated. "They are all ...our children and we want them to succeed in their education." She added it's powerful to have a place that represents them, their parents and grandparents. "They are surrounded by that the moment they get on the bus and off of the bus," she said.

GRIC Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis also helped lead the tour, and remarked, "The NCAI leadership represents tribes from the West to the East Coast. It is really significant for them to take notice of how the Community projects such as Casa

Blanca Community School and Gila Crossing Community School, how we build these world-class facilities through an innovative approach."

Gov. Lewis noted the build-back lease program is an example of how the Community is holding the federal government accountable to their responsibility to tribes. "This is a success story for other tribal nations to see firsthand how these lease programs can benefit them in 'nation building,'" he said, adding, "You have seen just exactly what it means when a Community wants a school built the way it feels best teaches its children."

Gov. Lewis explained the 105(l) leases used to construct CBCS are funding agreements between a tribal community and federal government. These leases can be a more lucrative option for tribes that need a jump start on building their

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Gov. Lewis and Assistant Principal Godinez (Right) speak with NCAI members at one of the school's outdoor play areas. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN



Lt. Gov. Monica Antone welcomed SWIAA participants at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino on March 21. Emma Hughes/GRIN

## Agricultural Conference Held at Wild Horse Pass

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

The Southwest Indian Agricultural Association, Inc. (SWIAA) hosted its 34th annual conference at Gila River Resorts & Casinos — Wild Horse Pass, March 21-24. Titled "Native American Agriculture Producers Continuing to Build Resiliency for Mother Earth," it featured workshops on coping with climate change, managing rangeland drought, emergency response to invasive and noxious plants and much more.

"I'm grateful for this conference," said Gila River Indian Community Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, who shared welcoming remarks and discussed the importance of agriculture and farming. "That's the most important way that we're going to sustain ourselves and help our people advance and make sure that we take care of them," she said.

Former GRIC Lt. Gov. Robert Stone also attended the conference and provided a welcome blessing and song.

And the Pee Posh O'otham Veterans Association provided color guard duties.

SWIAA began in 1987 as a volunteer nonprofit to bring Native Americans together to promote agriculture and agribusiness on tribal lands, provide scholarships in agriculture and natural resources and advocate on behalf of Indian farmers and ranchers for better services from governments.

SWIAA consists of a 12-member volunteer board that includes three representatives from the Gila River Indian Community: Dorothy Sunna and District 5 council representatives Wahlean Riggs and Brian Davis, Sr.

"A lot of board members are dedicated, so that's how we're able to continue this," said Homer Marks, Sr., (Tohono O'odham Nation) SWIAA board president since 2013. "Our aim is to do educational outreach to all the Native American farmers and ranchers."

SWIAA has partnered with programs and entities like the University of Arizona,

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# EVERY SHOT COUNTS



#MobileVax #CommunityImmunity

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Crafts Center  
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GRHC.ORG/HUB



GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE  
(520) 550-6079

# Healthy Kids & Families

## COVID TESTING, COVID & FLU VACCINES LOCATIONS

4/2	Red Tail Hawk Health Center	10 am - 2 pm
4/4	Sacaton Middle School	9 am - 3 pm
4/5	Sacaton Middle School	9 am - 3 pm
4/11	Gila Crossing School	9 am - 3 pm
4/12	Gila Crossing School	9 am - 3 pm
4/13	St. Peters School	9 am - 3 pm
4/18	District 4 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
4/19	District 4 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
4/20	District 1 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
4/21	District 1 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
4/23	Red Tail Hawk Health Center	10 am - 2 pm
4/25	District 6 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
4/26	District 6 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
4/27	District 5 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
4/28	District 5 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm



Scan for Vaccine Information

You may also visit a GRHC Primary Care Department for vaccines. Walk-in or schedule an appointment by calling (602) 528-1482.

## Post COVID Clinic at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:



Post COVID clinic is currently being offered by appointment at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.



This service is to complement the care you receive from your Primary Care Provider.



If you tested positive for COVID-19 virus and continue to experience shortness of breath, trouble focusing, anxiety or depression, or feel you have not fully recovered, please contact the COVID hotline or your Primary Care Provider for more information on post COVID care.



Please insure that you have completed your COVID-19 quarantine time prior to setting up your appointment.



GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE: (520) 550-6079  
HOTLINE HOURS: 8 am - 8 pm, 7 days a week.

### Reminder!

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

# CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY 4/15/2022

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449



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Lt. Governor  
**Monica Antone**

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APEX, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to reach out to farmers and ranchers in the state and the Southwest.

SWIAA's annual conference is usually held in January, and in past years, has been held in Nevada. SWIAA also hosts the annual livestock field days, and in place of last year's conference, it hosted webinars to keep ranchers and farmers informed and up-to-date.

"We try to get the different programs to help them out and do as much as we can to assist and

also educate them on new technology for ranching and farming," said Marks, who joined SWIAA in 1991.

After Marks' son Mario's passing, in 2002, SWIAA board members began the Mario K. Marks memorial traveling scholarship, offered to middle school and high school students or groups to increase the knowledge and importance of agriculture and natural resources and highlight exceptional students and programs within Indian country.

SWIAA also honors the late Rev. Dr. Roe B. Lewis with a memorial scholarship that began in 1995 for college undergraduate or graduate students as part of its

mission to encourage tribal youth to pursue university agricultural programs.

"For over 50 years, my grandfather served as a teacher [and] Presbyterian minister serving his own people and throughout the Southwest ministry to the different tribal communities," said Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis during the scholarships award banquet on March 23.

"He always taught and preached in his O'odham ñeok [language], and in his later years, he worked tirelessly to help all Native students attain vocational training and higher education. Education was very important to him," said Gov. Lewis, who also

provided a monetary donation to the scholarship on behalf of the Lewis family.

This year's recipients of the Dr. Roe B. Lewis memorial scholarship included GRIC member Jasmine Quiroz, District 1, who is attending the University of Arizona.

During the conference's awards banquet, SWIAA board members Davis and Sunna and her late husband, Gerald Sunna, were recognized for their work and dedication over the years.

"The late Gerald Sunna was very active, helping us along with funding to have the annual conference and livestock field day," said Marks. "I really commend him."



Recipient of the Dr. Roe B. Lewis Memorial Scholarship, Jasmine Quiroz, alongside Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and a photo of Dr. Roe B. Lewis. Emma Hughes/GRIN



The Family of Gerald Sunna, District 5, accepts a memorial award on his behalf for his many years of dedication to SWIAA. Emma Hughes/GRIN

## GRIC Members Receive Nearly \$2 Million in Federal Rental Aid

**Kyle Knox**

Gila River Indian News

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), which began in March 2021 to provide rental assistance for households directly affected by COVID-19, has dispersed nearly \$2 million in aid to Community members. This allows families to remain in their homes, assists with utility payments, or in some cases, provides short-term housing until a new lease is secure.

"The ultimate goal of the program is to keep families housed," said Trina Fasthorse, deputy director, GRIC Department of Community Housing.

ERAP is a fully-funded program awarded to the Community by the U.S. Treasury. Fasthorse has overseen the program and witnessed families get evicted due to the loss of income from a job loss or the passing of a loved one. But she has also seen ERAP keep families together and prevent them from becoming homeless.

The U.S. Treasury sets eligibility requirements, assistance amounts and time scope depending on household need. Though funding will end in six months on Sept. 30, Fasthorse said applications continue to come in and she welcomes everyone



Trina Fasthorse, deputy director of the Department of Community Housing, stands before their office in District 3, Sacaton. Kyle Knox/GRIN

affected to apply.

A significant component of ERAP is that it provides help to all Community members, even if they do not live within the Community. Fasthorse said they've been able to assist families in California, Oregon and Washington.

"We hope the program can bring some comfort to families

and relieve some of the financial stress they're going through and keeping them housed," said Fasthorse. "Communication is key. Call and stay in contact, ask the questions you have and make sure we have all the information for your application."

Call the Department of Community Housing at (520)

562-3904 or visit their office in Sacaton for an application or for more information.

And applications are also available online at <https://www.mygilariver.com/index.php/departments-of-community-housing-programs>.

### NCAI Cont'd From Front Page

infrastructure while keeping costs to the community down. Additionally, oversight of the new facility throughout the planning, construction and operation remain under tribal ownership.

Fawn Sharp, NCAI President, said the knowledge and wisdom reflected in this school is timeless and provides a better education than students could achieve anywhere. "We plan on taking this and providing a ven-

ue and opportunity to share all across Indian Country for other tribes to follow," she said.

"We want to redefine our own economy and social sovereignty," Sharp added. "Coming out of a global pandemic, we

know the federal government is challenged, so it is up to us to redefine our economic, political and social sovereignty."

# Governor Stephen Roe Lewis Statement on Senate Committee Hearing on Federal Water Marketing Legislation

## Communications & Public Affairs Office Press Release

On March 23, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a hearing on S. 3308, which would allow one Arizona tribe to market its court-decreed water off their Reservation for the first time ever. The Community supports the ability of all tribes to be able to benefit from their water rights through

marketing, more flexible use, conservation and other methods. Unfortunately, S. 3308 falls short in its current form because it favors one Arizona tribe over all other tribes who have also expressed an interest in water marketing and more flexible use.

In meetings in Washington D.C. this week, the Community highlighted the importance of a broader discussion around water

marketing for all tribes and applauded the beginning of that dialogue as part of the legislation hearing. However, given the current mega-drought conditions, which in recent weeks have been termed the worst conditions in 1,200 years, as emphasized by Director Buschatzke in his statement, the Community believes the priority for policymakers at this time should be to encourage aggressive

conservation efforts that tribal, state and federal partners have committed to in an effort to shore up the water in Lake Mead.

While we agree that tribal water marketing is a key element of a comprehensive plan to provide flexible water supplies for our region, the bill ignores the crisis we have on our hands on the Colorado River. If enacted, critical conservation efforts

could be immediately undercut at a time when the supplies are at their lowest ever. Senator Kelly's goal is to be commended, but it is shortsighted in a time when Colorado River supplies are so low that for the first time ever water in Lake Mead is going to be used to shore up the critical supplies in Lake Powell itself.

For now at least, the Community remains committed to trying to foster a more productive dialogue regarding collaborative conservation for our region. However, we must be prudent with our own water supplies as well and if others do not care enough about the necessity for conservation for our common good, preferring instead to focus on marketing for a few, we will need to reassess our own priorities and use of water.

# COVID-19 Vaccine Incentive Program Deadline Extended

## GRIN Staff

Gila River Indian News

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis announced in a recent meeting with the COVID-19 Taskforce that he is aligning the three deadlines of the current vaccine incentive programs until April 29.

The three programs are for Gila River Indian Community members who are minors, adults and tribal government employees who are fully vaccinated.

The incentive was designed to increase vaccination rates in the Community while offering financial assistance as an incentive to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the Community.

As of Mar. 28, the vaccination rates among GRIC members who are eligible are at 43%. And

according to the Feb. 15 Tribal Health Department data report, vaccination rates among employees are at 80%. The previous deadline extension was March 31 but GRIC members and employees now have until April 29 to get fully vaccinated and receive the incentive.

The COVID-19 Vaccine Incentive Program FAQs states that "fully vaccinated" means: Individuals are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after they receive their second dose of the vaccine in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or two weeks after receiving a single-dose vaccine, such as the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine.

"Vaccines are the most effective tool we have in fighting COVID-19. With

vaccination rates as they are, we are still vulnerable to infection and we hope Community members and employees take advantage of this program for the overall safety of our homes and in the workplace," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

For more information on the programs for minors and adults, log on to the Per Capita page on mygilariver.com for the application and FAQs.

For additional inquiries contact the GRIC Per Capita Office at (520) 562-5222, toll free at (866) 416-2618 or by email at gric-minorvaccineincentives@gric.nsn.us.

Once fully vaccinated, employees will be required to show their vaccination card to their department director who will submit their information on their behalf.

**GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY**

# COVID-19 VACCINE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Minor, Adult & GRIC Tribal Employee Incentives

## Deadlines are all April 29, 2022

If you're an eligible enrolled tribal member ages 5 through 17 or an adult or employed by the Gila River Indian Community and are FULLY VACCINATED, you have until **April 29, 2022** to sign up for the programs.

Payments will be made once the application is received and verified by the Per Capita Office.

For additional inquiries contact the GRIC Per Capita Office at (520) 562-5222, toll free at (866) 416-2618 or by email at gricvaccineincentive@gric.nsn.us or percapita@gric.nsn.us.

# GRIC Wellness Center Reopens with Upgrades to Floor and Fitness Equipment

## Kyle Knox

Gila River Indian News

After a five-month closure, the Gila River Indian Community Wellness Center reopened in March with a new look. The center used this time for enhancements to the building and fitness equipment, including the installation of new flooring throughout the center and new fitness machines and

equipment.

"We definitely wanted to try and meet the participants' needs," said Ryan Brown, lead fitness instructor. "[We] heard their input and tried to build a commercial fitness center, and I feel like we've done that." Brown began working at the center just before the pandemic and has remained eager to keep the Community active. Over the last two years, he and the

staff shifted to online fitness instruction and are now excited to see the clientele build on that foundation in person at the center.

The most noticeable addition is the rubberized, padded floor, which replaces the original cement flooring that was chipping and uneven in some areas. This provides a level walking surface and absorbs weight during high-intensity cardio.

Also, the new

equipment puts the wellness center on par with commercial gyms. It includes cable machines, TRX (Total Resistance Exercise) system, power racks, a hack squat machine, Smith machine and cardio machines. New treadmills and a Stairmaster machine—the first for the center—also are popular additions.

As the fitness center reopens, they are considering expanding hours, including continuing noon fitness classes. Brown said, "We're here to help the community to learn and adapt to new activities [and] health and fitness innovations and improve the quality of life for the community members here in a fun way."

To see all of the upgrades, schedule a workout time from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. 90-minute designated workout times are available from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., followed by a 30-minute cleaning period, and this repeats throughout the day. The center allows a maximum of 20 people



The wellness center now features a power rack, rubberized flooring and weights comparable to those found in commercial gyms and fitness clubs. Kyle Knox/GRIN

for every workout time, so safety screening, and face masks are required during the workout.

And the center continues to abide by all GRIC COVID-19 protocols. Before entering, everyone must complete a COVID-19

Call the Wellness Center at (520) 562-2026 to sign up for a 90-minute workout block.



One section of the center features a wall outfitted with a new TRX system for advanced body weight training. Kyle Knox/GRIN

# Community Provides Mobile COVID-19 Tests Required for In-Person Learning

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community hosted testing clinics on March 18 for students returning back to class by the March 21 reopening date for schools to resume in-person learning with mobile COVID-19 test units set up at three school locations. To return to classrooms, all students must be tested for COVID-19 and fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

“Having all the schools put on vaccine and testing

clinics, that’s part of our overall reopening plan,” said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

Part of the reopening plan, he added, is testing the students and developing a baseline of how safe it is to resume in-person classes. “It takes working together with Community departments, Tribal Health Department, the Office of Emergency Management, [and] Gila River Health Care to make this possible,” Gov. Lewis said.

Tribal Education Department Director Isaac Salcido said tribal

leadership, Community Council, the COVID-19 task force, Gila River Healthcare and the schools worked together to come up with a feasible plan. “When Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis issued Executive Order No. 14, it puts some parameters in place, such as all students needing to be vaccinated; all staff working directly with kids having to be fully vaccinated,” he explained. “And then we added the testing piece as a precaution.”

COVID-19 testing adds a layer of protection to the students and staff

as they start returning to class, Salcido noted. Per the guideline, students must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test no more than five days prior to starting school in person. Parents could get their child tested for COVID-19 at mobile clinics at Blackwater Community School, Gila Crossing Community School, Maricopa Village Christian School and Casa Blanca Community School.

Regarding the mobile testing sites, Salcido said, “We did both Blackwater Community School and Casa Blanca Community School in the same day, which would not have been possible without the coordination and participation of the Tribal Health Department and OEM.”

The tests were administered with the guidance of THD and Steward Health Care/Prorenata Team, which notified parents and guardians of their child’s result by email.

In all, 287 students were tested: 87 at BWCS, 51 at CBCS, 144 at GCCS and 5 from MVCS. Schools are reopening as the average rate of positive COVID-19 cases for the past three weeks has been down to 8 percent.

For some parents, testing means students are able to have a sense of

normalcy in their lives. “My son has been tested before... the first time he did it, he was a little nervous, but this time he was fine,” said parent Karen Ann Evans of District 4.

She said she approves of the requirement for students to be vaccinated and tested because she knows the hands-on environment will help her son learn. “He wants to go school and be around his friends, but I want him to get the in-person instruction for his well-being,” she remarked.

Robert Antone, Sr. took his grandchildren to get tested for COVID-19 at the CBCS campus. “They have been tested before for COVID-19, so we are familiar [with] this process,” he said, adding that the testing sites provided at the school sites bring peace of mind to families wanting to see their children return to in-class instruction.

BWCS Principal Jagdish Sharma said both the students and employees will be tested together every two weeks, thanks to the Community’s assistance. The Community’s partnership with the schools also provides personal protective equipment and other sanitizing gear to maintain a safe environment.

Sharma said 131 students have returned to class at BWCS and he

expects to see a steady stream return as the weeks go on. “At this point we are in a hybrid mode,” he said. “Teachers have to teach both audiences in class and virtual students at the same time.”

When all students return to the classroom, he added, it will be easier for them to teach and for the students to have more opportunities to improve their achievement scores.

Sharma said parents are waiting to see how the COVID-19 numbers look in the first couple of weeks of class before deciding on whether to send their student to in-person learning.

“We have around 500 kids [in the Community] going to school right now, which is a big difference from what it was a month ago,” Salcido said. “[Schools] are all following the protocols and guidance.”

He added that the Education Standing Committee and Health & Social Standing Committee are participating in the re-opening of the schools by reviewing and approving the school reopening plans.

“It has been a real community-wide effort, involving the parents, schools, Executive Office, council, committees, and departments in the reintroduction of in-person learning for schools,” said Salcido.



A Mobile Vaccination Unit was set up on site at Casa Blanca Community School for students to receive their COVID-19 test on March 18. Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

## Wild Horse Pass Development Authority Celebrates the Final NHRA Race in 2023

**Submitted by**  
Wild Horse Pass  
Development Authority

Chandler, Arizona  
– Wild Horse Pass  
Development Authority

(WHPDA) has announced the final National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) race in 2023. This final race will celebrate the 40th year of NHRA racing at the Wild

Horse Pass Motorsports Park. For nearly 40 years, the NHRA, in conjunction with the Wild Horse Pass Development Authority, has wowed Arizona spectators

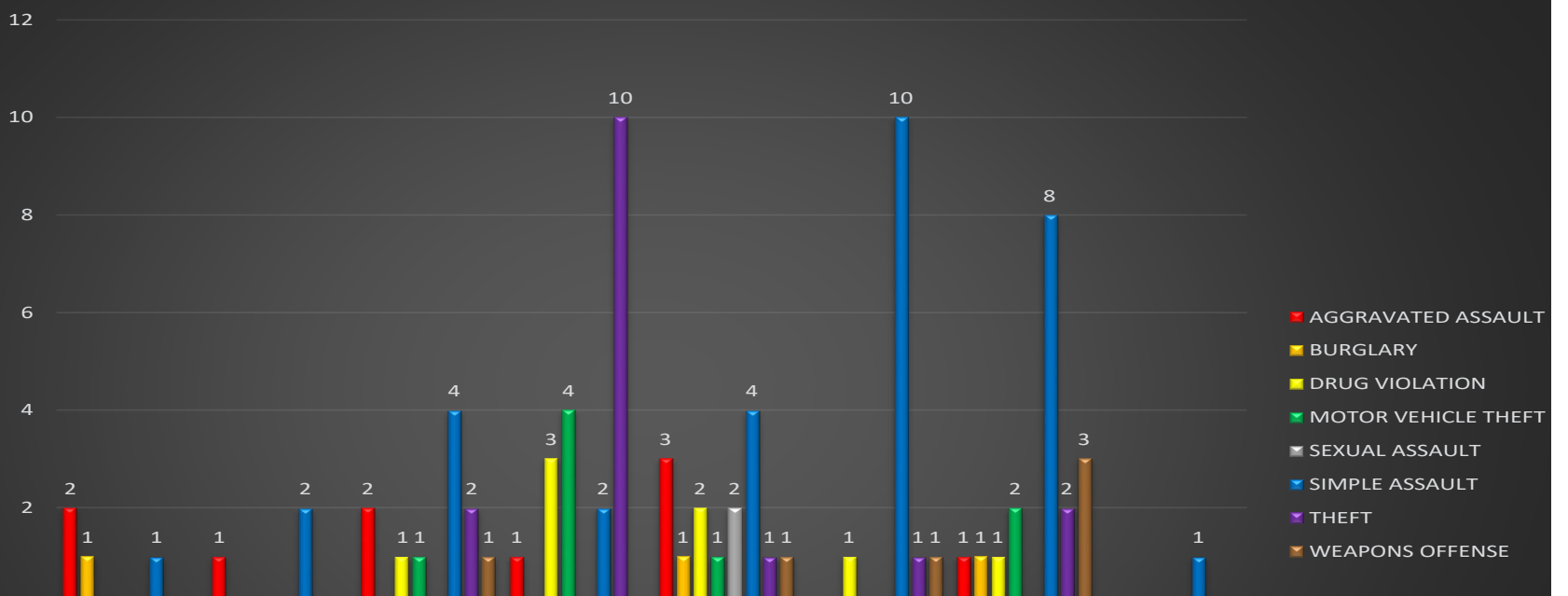
and fans at the fastest quarter-mile in Arizona. Wild Horse Pass Development Authority is excited to celebrate the final race of this storied racetrack, February 2023.

Elizabeth Antone, General Manager-Interim said, “Arizona has been an incredible supporter of the NHRA and Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park for the past

four decades, and we are very grateful for this tremendous fan support. We know this final race will be a celebration that NHRA fans are famous for.”

### Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

MARCH 15- MARCH 28



	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 41	District 42	District 5	District 6	District 7
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	2	1	2	1	3	1	1	
BURGLARY	1				1			
DRUG VIOLATION			1	3	2	1	1	
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT			1	4	1		2	
SEXUAL ASSAULT					2			
SIMPLE ASSAULT	1	2	4	2	4	10	8	1
THEFT			2	10	1	1	2	
WEAPONS OFFENSE			1		1	1	3	

# Arts & Entertainment New Immersive “Artopia” Display in Phoenix Features GRIC Artists

**Christopher Lomahquahu**  
Gila River Indian News

Community artists have their work on display in a newly opened downtown Phoenix immersive art display. Artopia, which opened in late March in the Valley after a successful run in Chicago, features work by GRIC members Zachary Justin, Tiffany Enos and several other Indigenous artists.

Artopia is an artist collective that draws from surrounding communities and includes sound mapping and interactive lighting to create an immersive environment for gallery

visitors. The exhibit opened to the public March 24 in collaboration with Cahokia Socialtech+Artspace, an Indigenous-led space also located downtown.

“We wanted to have a creative aspect on what land and water means to Indigenous people,” said Eunique Yazzie, co-founder of Cahokia. Yazzie said Artopia reached out to Cahokia to include a section of Indigenous artists from around the Valley to contribute to a portion of the overall art experience.

Yazzie said the artists each sketched out their own vision, with the

various works unified by themes like water, light and darkness. Other themes include the Indigenous will to resist outside influences, the beauty of the desert, and the importance of agriculture in Indigenous communities.

Zachary Justin of District 6 and Tiffany Enos of District 4, both frequent collaborators with Cahokia, were invited to create pieces for Artopia. Jesse Yazzie, Jeanette Rocha and Richelle Key were also invited to contribute work.

“If we could have a room, we could divide it up between six Indigenous



**GRIC artist Zachary Justin from District 6 stands next to the mural he created for the Phoenix Artopia experience.** Photo courtesy of Zachary Justin

artists and really bring representation to what it means to be a creative person living on the ancestral lands of the people that came before,” said Yazzie, who added that the artists were selected based on their reputation and willingness to contribute to such a special project. “We have such talent among our Indigenous people and they were for it.”

Justin said his mural, “Untitled,” which utilizes a black light, took him a day and a half to complete. It features traditional Huhugam symbols, figures, clouds and a water symbol on a quail and desert

landscape.

To acknowledge the historical ties the Akimel O’otham have to the land, Justin said, “I added different pottery designs, such as the burden basket carrier, quail and a water pottery design.”

Enos’ piece features a desert landscape with water flowing through it, which ties into what Yazzie created with water going around the room. Despite some last-minute changes and fast turnaround times, Enos said the work turned out the way she had envisioned.

“This was my second time working with spray paint, but the desert theme part was done more with

acrylic paint,” said Enos. “It has definitely opened my eyes to a new experience, materials to use, so it was an experience working in that way.”

For anyone interested in visiting Artopia, tickets can be purchased online at [artopiaexperience.com](http://artopiaexperience.com).

The gallery, located at 313 W. Apache Street in Phoenix, is open Thursday and Friday from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. and weekends from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tours typically take 45 to 60 minutes, with time slots available every half hour. Tickets start at \$29 for adults. And at this time, there is no set ending date for Artopia.



**An artwork panel created by Tiffany Enos from District 4 on display at the Artopia experience in Phoenix.** Christopher Lomahquahu/GRIN

## ASU Lecture Series Highlights GRIC History and Culture

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

At the closing presentation of Arizona State University’s American Indian Student Support Services (AISSS) “O’otham Lecture Series,” attendees received a valuable lesson on the history of Phoenix as staff from the Gila River Indian Community’s Tribal

Education Department’s (TED) Culture and Language program explained that modern-day Phoenix was built on the ancient Huhugam canal system.

“Remember now, when you’re out enjoying a hike on South Mountain or jogging near the Salt River, this is where we’ve always been since the creation of our people,” said

Anthony Gray, program manager for TED’s Culture and Language program. “Phoenix, as we know, can be harsh to live in—especially in the summer—but what made it so hospitable was the water from the Gila and Salt Rivers.”

Gray noted that Phoenix’s earliest pioneer, Jack Swilling, was the first to use the existing

canals for agriculture and development. The ancient channels served as arteries from the Gila and Salt Rivers, and their construction used ancient engineering to carry the water over hundreds of miles.

“Archaeologists observed that for every mile, the canal path dropped one foot,” Gray said. “This method ensured

the Huhugam could guide the water using gravity to keep a steady stream.” Along the rivers and canals, particular plants were also harvested, allowing many cultural practices to continue.

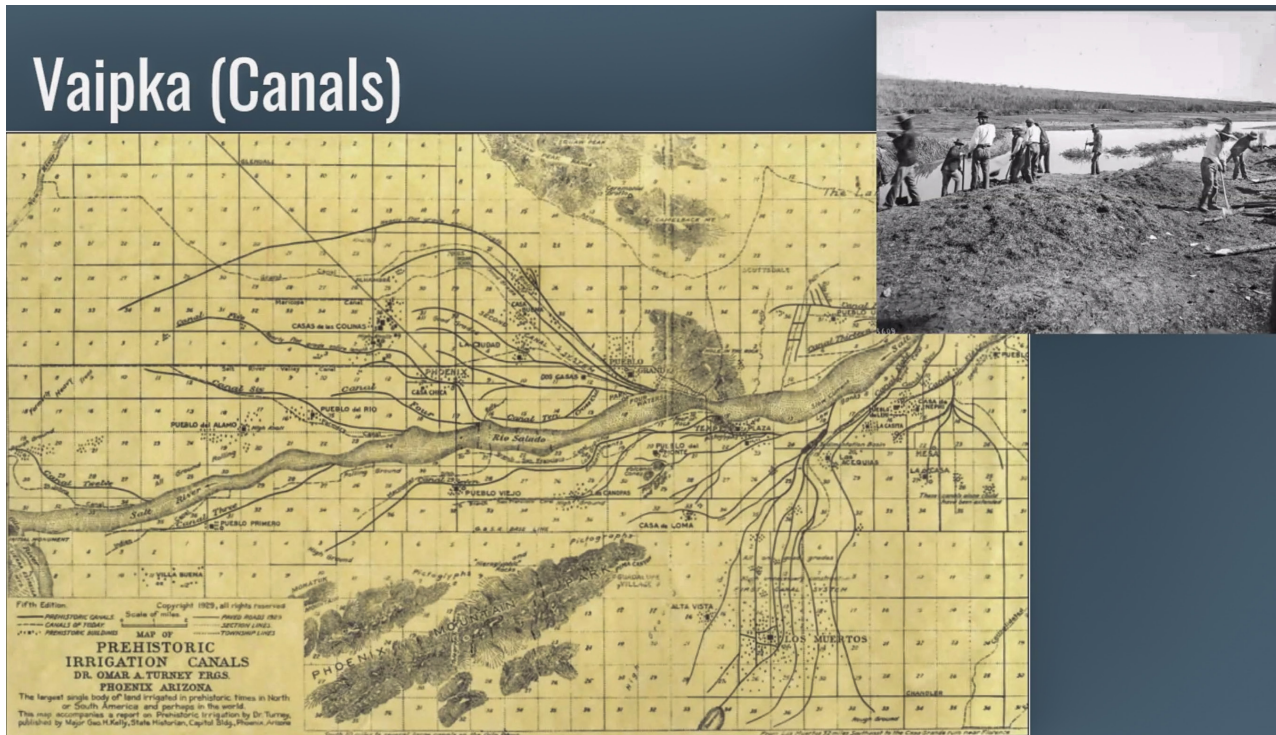
As part of the lecture, Gray and Carolyn Escalante, also from the Culture and Language program, discussed the numerous place names for the waterways and mountains around Arizona and their origins, which are rooted in the O’otham language.

The Keli Akimel (Gila River), translated as “Old Man River,” was one example. They suggested this name might refer to the slow flow of the river water when it ran

continuously in the past.

Another example was the origin of the name Tucson, which came from the O’otham language. It is loosely translated from the O’otham term “Cuk Son,” or “Black Base,” which refers to the dark base seen in many hills and mountains throughout the Tucson region.

At the conclusion, Danya Hinton (White Mountain Apache Tribe), AISSS Student Success and Retention Coordinator, applauded Gray and his speakers for the month. She is excited about the future lecture series and said it was an “honor” to have such support from GRIC and TED’s Culture and Language program.



**Presentation slide featuring a historic 1929 map of the Huhugam Canals found throughout the Phoenix Region.** Photo courtesy of Anthony Gray/ TED Culture and Language Program.

### COURT DATE NOTICE

Sundust, Tamera Tilda  
Evidentiary Termination of Parental-Child Relationship  
Case: J-22-0043  
Court Date: May 19, 2022 at 10 a.m. COURTROOM #3, 1ST FLOOR  
FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS  
JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

ADDRESS: 10040 E. OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256  
CONTACT: (480)362-6315  
Please contact me at the above e-mail address in regards to payment.  
Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.  
Andrew Johnson – Court Clerk  
(480)362-6811  
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Tribal Court  
10,005 E. Osborn Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

# COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

## Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • March 16, 2022

### ACTION SHEET

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

### CALL TO ORDER

The Second Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, March 16, 2022, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:02 a.m.

### INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Wahlean Riggs

### ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

### Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

### Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone, Christopher Mendoza; D5-James De La Rosa, Marlin Dixon, Brian Davis, Sr., Wahlean Riggs; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

### Council Members Absent:

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORT #1 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL; FORWARD UNFINISHED BUSINESS #2 TO THE MARCH 17, 2022 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING; ADD NEW BUSINESS #3 CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY 2022 COMMUNITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES AND #4 CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS – CANDIDATES FOR THE SPECIAL 2022 ASSOCIATE JUDGE ELECTION, #5 RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL TERM SHEET TO GRICUA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #3 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS REPORTS

>1. Gila River Sand & Gravel Quarterly Report FY22 Q1 Presenters: Michael Morago, Donna Stowell, GRSG Board of Directors

TABLED AT APPROVAL AGENDA

### RESOLUTIONS

\*1. A Resolution Approving A Tower And Land Sublease Agreement Between Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. And Gila River Cellular General Partnership D/B/A Verizon Wireless For Access, Improvements And Equipment On And Near The 600 W. Seed Farm Road Tower Site Pursuant To The Gila River Indian Community Leasing Regulations And Approving The Bill Of Sale Transferring The Tower, Shelter And Site Improvements To The Gila

River Indian Community (EDSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Teresa Mandelin, John M. Martin, Jim Meyers, Joan Burke

### APPROVED

2. A Resolution Approving An Agreement To Amend The 2021 Amended And Restated Gaming Compact Between The Gila River Indian Community And The State Of Arizona (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Thomas Murphy

### APPROVED

>3. A Resolution Approving An Intergovernmental Agreement For The Cooperative Law Enforcement Training Operations Between The Town Of Gilbert And The Gila River Indian Community (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; LSC concurs)

Presenters: Tamantha Villar, Rebecca Hall, Timothy Chavez

### APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. A Resolution Designating Eight Parcels Containing 101.9228 Acres More Or Less Of Reservation Land In District Six For The Purpose Of Establishing Temporary Construction Easements And Temporary Construction Access To The Gila River Indian Community Department Of Land Use Planning And Zoning For The Purpose Of Design And Construction Of Drainage Systems And Applicable Appurtenances (NRSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Corinna Ortiz, Kimberly Antone, Seaver Fields III

### APPROVED

### ORDINANCES

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Assignment of the Casa Blanca Middle School Master Lease and Sublease to the Gila River Indian Community(G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval and directs Governor Lewis to execute the assignment on behalf of the Community, and directs Office of the General Counsel to begin the process of purchasing the allotted land; NRSC and ESC concur)

Presenter: Casaundra Wallace

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE AND DIRECT GOVERNOR LEWIS TO EXECUTE THE ASSIGNMENT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL TO BEGIN THE PROCESS TO PURCHASE THE ALLOTTED LAND

2. GRICUA Service to Santan Mountain Casino Update (EDSC forwards to Council under Unfinished Business)

Presenters: Ken Stock, GRICUA Board of Directors, Arnold Mejia, Kathy Galloway, Erica Dawahoya

FORWARDED TO THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2022

### NEW BUSINESS

\*1. Home Owner's Team (HOT) 2015 R.H.I.P Home Progress Report to GRIC Council (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business to set a date for a Council Work Session and to include the Department of Housing Development as presenters)

Presenters: Avery White, Howard Reno, Kenny Harris, Pete Hemmingway, Wayne Allison

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO HOLD A COUNCIL WORK SESSION ON THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022 AT 9:00 A.M.

2. Gila River Sand & Gravel Board of Directors Declaration of One (1) Vacancy (EDSC forwards to Council to declare the vacancy and advertise for 60 days subject to the Code of Conduct)

Presenter: Shannon White

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE POSITION VACANT AND ADVERTISE FOR 60 DAYS SUBJECT TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT [ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA]

3. Certification of Qualifications For the Gila River Indian Community 2022 Community Council Candidates (LSC forwards to Council with recommendation to Certify District 2 Candidates Ann M. Lucas, Alison Anderson, Jewel Whitman; District 3 Candidates Avery White, Gwendolyn P. Morago, Carolyn Williams, Wanda J. Manuel, Johanna Morago; District 4 Candidates Delmar Jones, Nada Celaya, Merold Porter; District 5 Candidates Brian E. Davis, Sr., and Anthony R. Stevens; District 6 Candidate Charles Goldtooth; District 7 Candidates David Molina, Devin Redbird)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATES: ANN M. LUCAS, ALISON ANDERSON, AND JEWEL WHITMAN

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATES: AVERY WHITE, GWENDOLYN P. MORAGO, CAROLYN WILLIAMS, WANDA J. MANUEL, AND JOHANNA MORAGO

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 4 CANDIDATES: DELMAR JONES, NADA CELAYA, AND MEROLD PORTER

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATES: BRIAN E. DAVIS, SR., ANTHONY R. STEVENS

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATE: CHARLES W. GOLDTOOTH

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY DISTRICT 7 CANDIDATES: DAVID MOLINA AND DEVIN REDBIRD [ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA]

4. Certification of Qualifications Candidates For The

**Continued on Page 9**

### Announcement on behalf of Michael D. Barry, Interventional Cardiologist

In March of 2019, Aloha Cardiology was offered an opportunity to collaborate with Southwest Cardiovascular Associates. It is with sincere appreciation, I notify both my patients, their families, and professional colleagues of my departure from SWCVA. Over this pandemic, we have collectively faced and overcome various challenges but these challenges have created opportunities to adapt and grow.

To my patients; you have allowed me to grow as a physician and it has been my honor to serve as one of the medical stewards for the diverse communities in the East Valley. I am genuinely humbled by the trust and confidence you have placed in me over the years. As I continue to challenge myself to learn, grow, and expand my therapeutic skill set, I have incorporated valuable insights and experiences from patients and colleagues.

It has been my privilege to practice medicine over 20 years. My staff and I look forward to continuing our journey in encouraging cardiovascular health at 'Ohana, where we believe in practicing complimentary, guideline driven, yet compassionate cardiovascular care in a supportive, culturally sensitive way.

Yours faithfully,

Michael D. Barry, DO, FACC  
Interventional Cardiologist Principal 'Ohana Cardiology



Physician Referral Information  
please visit [OhanaCardiology.com](http://OhanaCardiology.com)



Michael D. Barry, DO, FACC



Michelle Gentsch, AG-ACNP

### NOW ACCEPTING PATIENTS

[OhanaCardiology.com](http://OhanaCardiology.com) • Se Habla Español  
3420 S. Mercy Road, Ste. 300,  
Gilbert, AZ 85297

Medical Records Fax 480-955-0800  
480-955-0900 eFax 480-452-1486



We encourage you to contact our intake department for confirmation of your next appointment, expediting your medical records request, and new patient forms requirements. You can also download the forms on our website.

KINDLY NOTE: All patients transferring to 'Ohana from Southwest Cardiovascular Associates must complete the medical records release form. Patient charts will remain at SWCVA for all patients without completed forms.



SCAN FOR  
MEDICAL  
RECORDS  
RELEASE  
FORM

OR VISIT [OHANACARDIOLOGY.COM](http://OHANACARDIOLOGY.COM)  
Medical Records Fax: 480-955-0800

# Community Members Reflect on now demolished Arts and Crafts Center

**Emma Hughes**

Gila River Indian News

In January, the Gila River Indian Community began tearing down the vacant Arts & Crafts Center, located just off the I-10 and Casa Blanca Road in District 5, to make way for new development.

The former Arts & Crafts Center housed a museum, gift shop and a restaurant that offered traditional dishes, a first for the Gila River Indian Community before its closure in 2007.

“Arts & Crafts was a place to converse but also have a meal that you can enjoy and get the culture of it, where it’s from and how it’s made,” said Franklin Pablo Sr., former council representative for District 5. When the Arts & Crafts Center was built, he was about nine-years-old.

Pablo shared that during his time as a council representative, it became an issue among the elders in the Community who

enjoyed time at the center. “They can only go so many places, so for the elders, that was a place for them to go and enjoy the food but also to see relatives.” He said, “It was the center place for everything.”

ProFab Construction LLC completed the demolition and clean-up phases of the historic structure built in 1970.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Fuels and Restoration crew and District 5 residents, assisted in the clean-up. They provided controlled burns of the remaining wood from an “Olas Ki” (traditional O’otham home) recovered at the site.

“When O’otham move on, it’s proper to burn the remaining structures,” said Robert Johnson, Huhugam Heritage Center. He has experience with structure and wildland fire training and assisted with cultural and traditional oversight.

“It’s kind of sad

that it’s going because it’s been here since I can remember,” said Eugene Peters Jr., Habitat Specialist, DEQ Fuels and Restoration Crew. He grew up in District 5, and his family lives across from the Arts & Crafts center.

The demolition and clearing process involved the Cultural Resource Management Program (CRMP) to expand the area for future development.

Wesley Miles, District 6, Field Supervisor for CRMP. He has worked in the field for the past twenty years.

Miles and his crew were on-site at the Arts & Crafts Center “testing” for the future development area.

CRMP uses a “testing plan” from previous records over the years, including surveys from Arizona State University, Arizona State Museum, and Pima Maricopa Irrigation Project (PMIP).

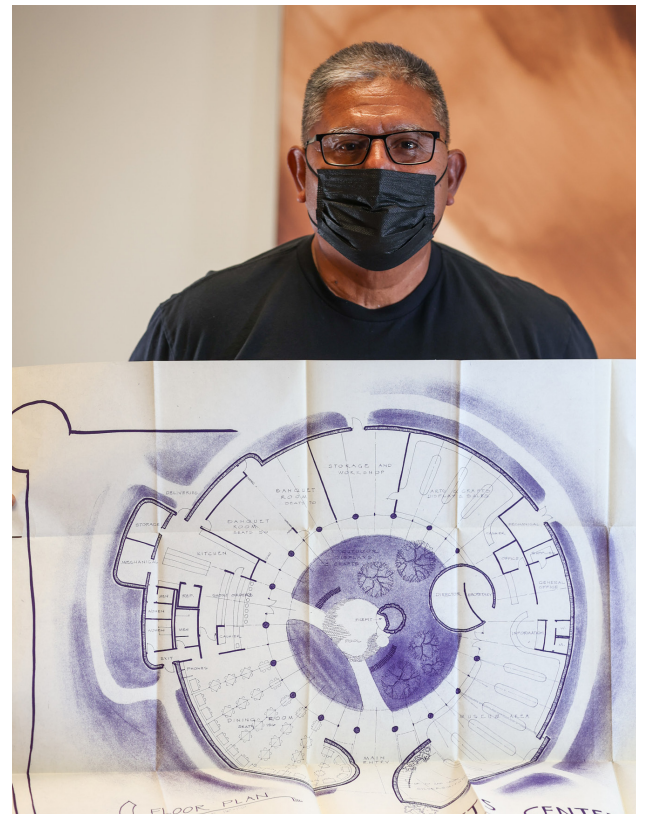
“When we do

surveys, we only walk on the ground surface, and we identify artifacts,” Miles explained. Additional testing may be necessary to determine if there are any additional subsurface features if enough artifacts are present.

Testing includes trenching sections of the area for findings of any cultural resources, archaeological features, and artifacts. According to Miles, anything from pre-historic and historic houses, burial grounds and pits, and water canals are typical findings they may identify.

“So far, we’ve identified one buried canal and one possible structure, and that’s not a lot,” he said. When sites don’t have a lot of archaeological material or cultural resources present, a recommendation is usually made for a project to proceed.

Brenda Kyyitan, District 5 resident and former school teacher of 38 years, recalls many



Franklin Pablo Sr. shares the original blueprint for the Arts & Crafts building. Emma Hughes/GRIN

gatherings at the old arts and crafts center, including a Scholastic book giveaway for school students.

“People came from other states just to be part of the gatherings

there. “I’m hoping that the future will be brighter for Arts & Crafts [Center] and the district here,” said Kyyitan.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is announcing the 30-day public comment period for the renewal of the air quality operating permits for the following facilities:

Facility Name	Facility Type	District
CEMEX Maricopa	Concrete Batch Plant	4
Arizona Materials	Concrete Batch Plant	4

Air Contaminants Emitted: Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)  
 Particulate Matter (PM)  
 Particulate Matter <10 Microns (PM10)  
 Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)

Public Notice Start Date: **April 1, 2022**  
 Public Notice End Date: **April 30, 2022**

Public comments will be accepted in writing until the public notice end date, after which staff will review and respond to all the comments received.

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 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 will be available for review on the AQP website at:

<http://www.gricdeq.org/index.php/education--outreach/public-notices>

Requests and written comments may be delivered or mailed to:

Gila River Indian Community  
 Department of Environmental Quality  
 Attn: Ryan Eberle  
 Physical Address: 168 Skill Center Rd, Sacaton, AZ 85147  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147

For further information or to schedule an in-person review, please contact Ryan Eberle at (520) 796-3781 / [ryan.eberle@gric.nsn.us](mailto:ryan.eberle@gric.nsn.us)

March 23, 2022

It is with Grateful Hearts that we sent a Thank You, to all who helped during the loss and grief of our sister, Donna Kisto-Jones. We would like to Thank everyone who sent Cards, Flowers, Food, Monetary Donations, Words of Encouragement, and Prayers. We also want to Thank the following:

District 3 Service Center  
 Gila River Police Department  
 Gila River Judicial Department  
 Gila River Telecommunications  
 Gila River Emergency Medical Services  
 Gila River Executive Office  
 Roberta Francisco Catering  
 Santan Baptist Church

Chandler Regional Hospital  
 Jay Warren Funeral Services  
 Pastor Jay Juan  
 Pastor Lee Miguel, Jr.  
 Reuben Minkus  
 Leland Madril  
 Candice Kisto  
 Grave Diggers

Our Sincerest Apologies if we forgot to mention anyone.  
 From the Family of Donna Kisto-Jones

Edward Floyd Johnson  
 03/29/1944 - 02/02/2022

Edward "Floyd" Johnson went home to rest in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ, February 2, 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona.

He was born March 29, 1944. He was the son of Otis Sr. and Hazel Hicks Johnson (both deceased) of the Gila River Indian Community, Sacaton, Arizona.

Floyd began his elementary education at Pima Central School in Sacaton, Arizona. He continued in the Tempe Elementary schools. He attended Phoenix College, and earned an associate's degree in Medical Technology.

Floyd was employed by the Amsterdam Restaurant when he was a very young man. He completed his employment career at the Arizona State Hospital, after 24 years, then he retired.

He enjoyed volunteering for different organizations for the betterment of humanity. Floyd was a avid reader of Native American history, and was a very talented artist. He enjoyed listening to all types of music from symphony orchestra to Native American tribal music, to old time rock and roll.

He was a very kind and loving brother, uncle, mentor and friend to

many. He will be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and all those who dearly loved him.

He is survived by a sister, Barbara Anderson, a sister, Betty Johnson, a sister, Imogene (Leo) Thomas, a brother, Roger Johnson, a brother, Otis Johnson Jr., and a brother, David Johnson Sr. "Floyd" was preceded in death by a brother, Robert (Evelyn) Johnson, a brother in law, Roy Anderson Sr, a sister in law, Clarice Johnson, and sister in law, Noreen Johnson.

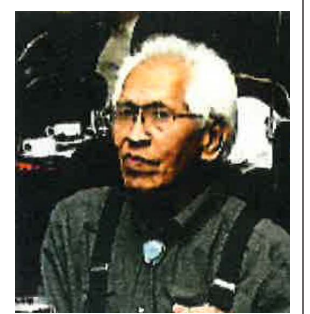
Floyd's wishes were to be cremated and his ashes be scattered at his childhood home, on the Gila River Indian Community.

Due to the Covid virus, a tribute to Floyd's life will be at a later date.

Rest in peace Floyd 1944 - 2022.

Arrangements by Bunker's Garden Chapel, [www.bunkerfuneral.com](http://www.bunkerfuneral.com) (<http://www.bunkerfuneral.com>). Should this obituary appear anywhere but [bunkerfuneral.com](http://www.gilbertmemorialpark.com) (<http://www.gilbertmemorialpark.com>), please check our website for accurate details and service information.

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blog/)

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## How To Read Healthy Labels on Food

March is National Nutrition Month and the Gila River Tribal Health Department would like our members to be mindful of the healthy choices they make when purchasing food. With all the health concern and focus on the COVID-19 Pandemic, we would also like you to focus on the food you eat. Part of our decision to be more health conscious is paying attention to what food companies put on the labels of food. The Nutrition Facts label on packaged foods are based on updated science and dietary recommendations for Americans from the Food and Drug Administration. Below are some tips on how to read food labels.

Below is a list of misleading claims<sup>1</sup>:

Light. Refers to reduced calories or fat. Other ingredients may be added like sugar.

Multigrain. Refers to one or more grains. Unless identified as whole grains, the grains are refined.

Natural. Refers to a natural

source was used at some during making of the product.

Organic. Is the product healthy? The amount of organic sugar may be unhealthy.

No added sugar. A product may already be high in sugar content without adding any additional ingredients.

Low-calorie. Is required to have one-third the calories of the original product.

Low-fat. Fat reduced at the price of adding sugar.

Low-carb. Refers to low-carb but may be processed junk and low-fat foods.

Made with whole grains. Must be named as one of the first three ingredients.

Fortified or enriched. Refers to something being added but may not always be healthy.

Gluten-free. Although the product doesn't contain wheat, spelt, rye, or barley. These foods are often highly processed.

Fruit-flavored. Many products may only contain designer flavors of the original fruit.

Zero trans-fat. Refers having less than 0.5 grams of trans-fat per serving. May still have small amounts.

As demonstrated, there is a pretty lengthy list of food catch phrases that attract the eye. Remember educate yourself on what ingredients you are looking for and what is healthy. We have started this conversation on nutrition and we always encourage our members to empower themselves and do further research on what we have presented. If you would like further information on Nutrition, please call the GRIC Community Health Nutrition Program at 520-562-5100.

Reference

1. Bjarnadottir, A. (2020, August 19). How to read food labels without being tricked. Healthline. Retrieved March 8, 2022, from <https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/how-to-read-food-labels>



# What's New at GRICUA?

**Submitted by**  
Gila River Indian  
Community  
Utility Authority

### GRICUA Awarded the NRECA President's Award

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) presented GRICUA with their most prestigious award, the President's Award, at the 2022 PowerXchange Conference in Nashville, TN on March 9th. Youth Program Coordinator, Landrea Larney, accepted the award on behalf of GRICUA. GRICUA was recognized for its ongoing efforts and commitment to the Community through its various Youth Programs.

GRICUA reinvests in the future of the Community with the following

#### Youth Programs:

- Washington Youth Tour
- STEAAAM Program
- High School Internship
- College Internship
- Youth Board Member Internship

#### High School and College Summer Internship Programs

GRICUA is now accepting applications for its High School and College Summer Internship Programs. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 6, 2022 by 4:00 PM. Please stop by our office or visit our website at [www.gricua.net](http://www.gricua.net) for more information and to download the application. Interviews will be held the week of May 9th and start dates will depend on the student's last day of school.

#### New Employee – Peter Eberhardt

GRICUA is happy to introduce our new Warehouse Supervisor – Peter Eberhardt. Peter was born and raised in Southern California, the Los Angeles area. He came to Arizona in December 2007 and worked for the same company for over 14 years as a Purchasing and Logistics Manager. Peter figured it was time for a change and accepted the Warehouse Supervisor position with GRICUA. Peter has 5 children and 5 grandchildren. He has many hobbies which most always include being outdoors. Peter enjoys live music, sporting events and riding motorcycles on and off road.

#### 2022 In-Person STEAAAM Summer Program – Register Today!

GRICUA is now accepting applications for the 2022 In-Person STEAAAM Summer Program. The In-Person STEAAAM Program is open to GRIC enrolled members in 5th – 8th grade, regardless of where they reside. GRICUA's In-Person STEAAAM (Science Technology, Engineering, Architecture, Agriculture, Art and Math) Summer Program offers students interested in science, technology, engineering, art, agriculture, architecture and math an environment to explore these diverse subjects. The STEAAAM program will be held from June 13-17, 2022 and is designed to engage and sustain a STEAAAM student-centered learning culture where passion, self-discipline, technology-enhanced collaborative teamwork and STEAAAM career awareness are part of the learning settings. Please visit [www.gricua.net](http://www.gricua.net) for application. Deadline to apply is Friday, May 13, 2022.

#### New Employee – Mike Miguel

GRICUA is happy to introduce our new Lineman – Mike Miguel. Mike previously worked for Wilson Construction and most recently, Gila River Sand & Gravel as a Front-End Load Operator. Mike's wife, Camille, just recently graduated from Arizona State University and his son, Gianni, is in 7th grade at Akimel Middle School. Gianni also plays football with the Irish Football Club team. His youngest, Alexa, is a kindergartner at Estrella Elementary School in Ahwatukee. Mike enjoys being outdoors hiking with his family or watching Gianni play. Mike is participating in the Gila River Fit Run Series. His goal is to run a half marathon.

#### Pre-Paid Metering

GRICUA's Pre-Paid Metering Program (PPMP) is a new way of paying for your electricity. The PPMP offers GRICUA customers an opportunity to pay in advance for electricity, manage energy use and conserve energy. Studies have shown that pre-pay accounts help customers use less electricity, saving them money. Customers will pre-pay for their electricity and receive daily text or email notifications of the amount used and balance remaining on their account. Be IN CONTROL with a GRICUA Pre-Pay Account.

#### GRICUA Will Alert You When Your Account:

- Has fallen below your requested threshold balance and when you successfully make a payment.
  - Is eligible for disconnection, has been disconnected, or has been reconnected.
- GRICUA customers can enroll in our PPMP by calling our

Customer Service Department at (520)796-0600. You will need to settle your account balance and make a minimum \$10 payment. See Terms and Conditions on our website at [www.gricua.net](http://www.gricua.net). Forms can be downloaded from GRICUA's website, emailed to our customers or obtained at our office.

#### Budget Billing Program

GRICUA's Budget Billing Program is a no cost program that averages out your seasonal highs and lows based on a rolling twelve-month average of your bills. Customer bills will vary from month to month, however they should stay at a consistent average based on your rolling usage. Budget billing amounts will be able to be submitted to your District Service Center for Community assistance based on your eligibility. Please call (520) 796-0600 for more information.

#### Bill Payment Options for GRICUA Residential Customers:

- GRICUA Drop Payment Box
- Online (VISA and Mastercard Credit/Debit Cards and E-check)
- GRICUA Mobile App
- By phone (520-796-0600, 24 hours a day)
- By mail (6636 W. Sundust Rd., Box 5091, Chandler, AZ 85226)

#### Reminders

GRICUA District Days 2022 – CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

#### CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

GRICUA is a member of Arizona Blue Stake. Please call 1-800-782-5348 to request an underground line

locate of both GRICUA and SCIP on reservation facilities.

GRICUA welcomes your comments. You can email comments to [gricuacomment@gricua.net](mailto:gricuacomment@gricua.net). You can also go to our website at [www.gricua.net](http://www.gricua.net).

#### GRICUA's Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Payments are accepted on-line and by phone both during our normal operating hours as well as afterhours. If you have any questions regarding your statement or payment options please call during normal business hours.



**New GRICUA Employees Peter Eberhardt (top) and Mike Miguel (below)**  
GRICUA Photo



**Youth Program Coordinator Landrea Larney, accepts President's Award in Nashville, Tenn.**  
GRICUA Photo

## Action Sheets from Page 7

Special 2022 Associate Judge Election (LSC forwards to Community Council with a recommendation to certify Brianna Lynn Rhodes; LSC forwards to Community Council with a recommendation to certify Christina D. Rodriguez, Lucinda M. Nez, Danielle Allen, Brianna L. Rhodes, La Quinta Allison)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CERTIFY QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL 2022 ASSOCIATE JUDGE ELECTION CANDIDATES: CHRISTINA D. RODRIGUEZ, LUCINDA M. NEZ, DANIELLE ALLEN,

BRIANNA L. RHODES, AND LAQUINTA ALLISON [ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA]

5. Release SRP Term Sheet to GRICUA  
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO AUTHORIZE CEOT TO RELEASE THE CONFIDENTIAL SRP TERM SHEET TO GRICUA  
MINUTES

1. September 1, 2021 (Regular) APPROVED
2. March 2, 2022 (Regular)

APPROVED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022 AT 9:00 A.M.
  - 2ND QUARTER INVESTMENT MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022 AT 11:30 A.M.
- ADJOURNMENT  
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:06 A.M.  
\* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)  
> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

# 2022 Virtual Gila River Royalty Pageant Contestants

## Jr Miss Gila River Contestants



**Eliana Rhodes**  
District 3 Sacaton

Parents:  
Vincent Blackwater and Antonia Sanchez



**Caiden Lewis**  
District 4 Stotonic

Parents:  
Derek Lewis and Malorie Miguel

## Miss Gila River Contestants



**Cheyenne Johns**  
District 3 Sacaton

Parents:  
Christopher Johns and Gwendolyn Morago



**Shaye White**  
District 4 Santan

Parents:  
Derek White and Kris White



**Kelsey Martinez**  
District 3 Sacaton

Parents:  
Lionel Anthony Martinez and Melanya Sue Pasqual



**Gabrielle Garcia**  
District 3 Sacaton

Parents:  
Gabriel Garcia Jr. and Amber Kisto



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<p>2019 Chevy Impala</p> <p>Hard to Find</p>	<p>2015 Ford F150</p> <p>Ford Power!</p>	<p>2016 Cadillac ATS</p> <p>\$350/mo.</p>	<p>2015 Ford Expedition EL</p> <p>Limited</p>	<p>2019 Ford EcoSport</p> <p>Spring Closeout \$17,999!</p>
<p>2019 Ford Flex</p> <p>Limited</p>	<p>2017 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited</p> <p>Hard Top V6</p>	<p>2020 Kia Soul</p> <p>All the Interior Room</p>	<p>2015 Chevy Silverado</p> <p>Trucks Are Going Quick</p>	<p>2018 Chevy Sonic</p> <p>\$255/mo.</p>



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\*adjustments in addition to factory parts are extra cost

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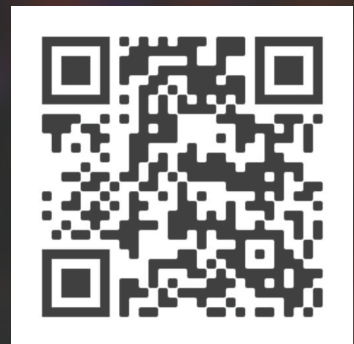
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