



## Tribal Leaders Meet with U.S. Sec. of Transportation Pete Buttigieg

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

The city of Phoenix has been awarded \$25 million to develop a bicycle/pedestrian bridge that will connect south-central Phoenix to both sides of the Rio Salado along 3rd street.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis joined City, State, and Tribal dignitaries for a press conference where U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego announced the funding on Aug. 11, at the Rio Salado Audubon



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis with Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg on Aug. 11. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Center.

“These infrastructure projects are much needed and today’s press conference shows how we can all work together to strengthen local communities,” said Gov. Lewis.

Buttigieg thanked tribal leaders in his remarks, and Gov. Lewis also acknowledged the other tribal representatives in attendance. “It was an honor to have such strong representation from my fellow tribal leaders for this historic announcement,” said Gov. Lewis.

The funding is a result of the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

166 local projects throughout the country have been awarded funding to modernize transportation, make it more affordable, increase safety and strengthen supply chains.

“This bridge will do what transportation is all about,” said Buttigieg.

U.S. Reps. Greg Stanton and Ruben Gallego were also present for the press conference.

It will also create more equitable transportation systems, improve safety for all roadway



Tribal leaders welcomed U.S. Sec. of Transportation Pete Buttigieg on Aug. 11. L-R: Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel, Colorado Indian Tribes Chairwoman Ameila Flores, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier, Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, and Navajo Nation Council delegate Nathaniel Brown. Emma Hughes/GRIN

users, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

“It will be important for accessing healthcare, jobs, and education,” said Mayor Gallego. “It’s designed to recognize the great

ecosystem in which we are in and a design that is intended to be reminiscent of Indigenous art.”

Shade structures will also be included throughout the design and project to mitigate heat.

In addition to the construction of the bridge, the project will include solar lighting upgrades along the existing Rio Salado pathway from Central Avenue to 40th Street.

## Construction Completed for 24 New Homes in District 4



Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, Bennett Family, and District 3 Comm. Council Representative Avery White. Kyle Knox/GRIN

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

Tuesday, Aug. 16, marked the first of 24 new home turnovers for the families in District 4 at the George Webb Village Subdivision. Micael Bennett and his family were the first to receive the keys to their new four-bedroom home built with the most up-to-date energy-efficient amenities.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, GRIC Community Council Representatives, and members of the GRIC Home Owner’s Team (HOT) were all present for the occasion.

“Every turnover of a home means another one of our families will have a quality home built in coordination with all of our departments completed and a return

home within the Community,” said Gov. Lewis. He added, “Regardless of the disruptions of COVID and lack of housing materials we persisted and it’s significant to see our first home turned over and something we are proud to see.”

After a ribbon cutting, District 4 Community Council Representative Christopher Mendoza provided congratulatory remarks to Bennett before handing over the keys to the home.

“After waiting 26 years, I’m happy to finally have a home to come home to in the Community, it’s a very nice house and has a lot of nice qualities to it,” said Bennett. Though it took some time to build the home, Bennett advises everyone to apply for a house as soon as possible and to “be patient” as home completion dates vary.

“It’s a long time coming for these homes and turning over this home today is a blessing, having completed the 24 homes in District 4 after two years of construction,” said Howard Reno of GRIC Tribal Projects and member of the HOT. “This shows the Community that we’re moving and making prog-

ress by turning over all the homes.”

Community Housing has faced challenges and delays in the completion of the newest homes in District 4 and elsewhere due to the pandemic and past contractor issues. Most recently, the economy and external factors forced shortages of materials to the complete homes. In one instance, the original contractor for this round of

homes transitioned out of service requiring two new contractors.

“It’s such a relief to know that these families, who have been waiting years, now have a home to come to back, in the Community,” said Lt. Gov. Antone. “Today is a huge milestone for me to see these homes complete, so it’s a long-awaited fulfillment to see this day.”



L-R: Micael Bennett, Home Owner, HOT Chairman Avery White, Councilman Chris Mendoza, HOT Senior Program Manager, Howard Reno, Wayne Allison, Dept. of Housing Development, Sam Surtees, HOT/Abacus, Adrian Holiday, Dept. of Housing Development, Patrick Keller, HOT/Abacus, Javier Ramos, HOT on Aug 16. Kyle Knox/GRIN

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

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

FOLLOW ON INSTAGRAM @GRICNEWS

Community Dance Classes  
Improving Lives  
Page 3

2022 Women’s Prayer Run  
Returns this Fall  
Page 4

Serious About Socks  
Wraps Up  
Page 6



# Healthy Kids & Families



GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE  
(520) 550-6079

## COVID VACCINE LOCATIONS

- 8/23 District 4 Service Center  
9 am - 3 pm
- 8/29 District 5 Service Center  
9 am - 3 pm
- 8/30 District 5 Service Center  
9 am - 3 pm

**\*\* DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE \*\***



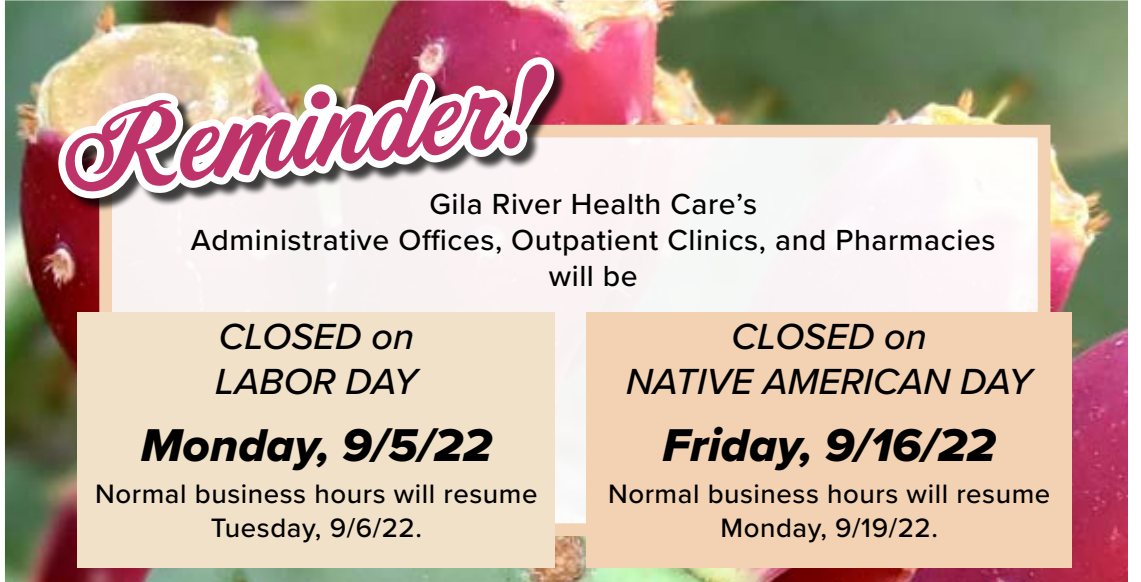
Scan for  
Vaccine  
Information

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



**MONKEYPOX  
KNOW THE FACTS**

Visit  
[GRHC.ORG/HUB](http://GRHC.ORG/HUB)



**Reminder!**

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

**CLOSED on  
LABOR DAY**

**Monday, 9/5/22**

Normal business hours will resume  
Tuesday, 9/6/22.

**CLOSED on  
NATIVE AMERICAN DAY**

**Friday, 9/16/22**

Normal business hours will resume  
Monday, 9/19/22.

**NATIONAL SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988**

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



## Alluvion Communications

An enterprise of the Gila River Indian Community



## Alluvion Awarded \$5 Million to Expand Broadband Access in Ajo, AZ

The Arizona Commerce Authority recently announced 20 awardees of the Arizona Broadband Development Grant Program (ABDG) which included Alluvion's proposal to install fiber optic infrastructure in Ajo, AZ. Governor Ducey launched the program in November 2021, investing \$100 million to expand high-speed broadband to Arizona's unserved or underserved areas.

Alluvion's project is one of six that were awarded funding to improve service in urban Arizona counties. The goal of the funding is increase connections for homes, businesses, public safety agencies, medical facilities, schools, libraries and more while catalyzing new economic development and enhancing opportunities for sectors such as tourism, trade, and agriculture.

"This award represents a generational investment toward connecting rural and underserved parts of the state and demonstrates our commitment to ensure all Arizonans have access to high-speed internet," said Governor Doug Ducey. "Whether it's public safety, education, telemedicine or more, reliable internet access is more important than ever. We're grateful to be partnering with communities across our state to ensure we connect all of Arizona."

"We are proud to announce the Arizona Broadband Development Grant Program awardees," said Sandra Watson, President & CEO of the Arizona Commerce Authority. "These collaborative projects will enhance how Arizonans live, work and learn regardless of where they live. We are grateful to Governor Ducey

and all our state and federal partners for their commitment to expand broadband statewide."

Here at Alluvion, we pride ourselves on our ability to build and support robust networks that create opportunity and economic growth in our community by meeting the mission-critical needs of business and their customers. We remain committed to becoming Arizona's premier provider of data and communications.



Governor  
**Stephen Roe Lewis**

Lt. Governor  
**Monica Antone**

Community Council  
Representatives

**District 1**  
Arzie Hogg  
Joey Whitman

**District 2**  
Ann M. Lucas

**District 3**  
Avery White  
Rodney Jackson

**District 4**  
Jennifer Allison  
Regina Antone-Smith  
Christopher Mendoza  
Nada Celaya

**District 5**  
Marlin Dixon  
Brian E. Davis, Sr.  
James De La Rosa  
Wahlean J. Riggs

**District 6**  
Anthony Villareal, Sr.  
Terrance B. Evans  
Charles Goldtooth

**District 7**  
Devin Redbird

Gary Mix, Tribal Treasurer  
Shannon White,  
Community Council Secretary

Gila River Indian News

**Roberto A. Jackson**  
roberto.jackson@gric.nsn.us  
CPAO Director  
(520) 562-9851

**Kyle Knox**  
Kyle.Knox@gric.nsn.us  
Managing Editor  
(520) 562-9719

**Emma Hughes**  
Emma.Hughes-Juan@gric.nsn.us  
Community Newsperson  
(520) 562-9852

**For more information**  
grin@gric.nsn.us  
(520) 562-9715

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

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

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

Material published in the Gila River Indian News may not be reproduced in any form without consent from the Gila River Indian Community



# Community-Based Dance Classes Provide Physical, Mental Benefits for Students

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

Community members aiming to improve their physical and mental health and find social interaction might want to try dance classes through "Let's Dance Gila River."

In partnership with the Gila River Tribal Wellness Center, they are currently offering salsa, merengue and bachata classes until Sept. 30, from 6 to 7 p.m. Fridays, at the District 7 Service Center, located at 8035 S. 83rd Ave, Laveen, Ariz.

Nichole Roderick, District 5, who co-owns Let's Dance Gila River, has been teaching on-and-off for over 17 years. She began dancing in 1998 with the Arthur Murray dance studio in Seattle.

She then moved to Germany, where she taught family members of those left behind during military deployments. She also taught in Tennessee and Washington before returning to the Community and starting Let's Dance Gila River in 2018.

"My passion has always been dancing, even though it has been kind of a struggle here and there,"

Roderick said, "We teach beginners, we teach veterans, anybody that has a breath in their lungs, even with two left feet, we're here to help you. The largest class we taught was over 200 youth at UNITY in 2019 and the youngest class was five- to eight-year olds."

Gary Rodriguez, District 1, started teaching classes with Roderick this year. The two met during their youth council days and took different paths in life but reunited through dancing.

Rodriguez's father is Venezuelan, and he was born there; His mother is a GRIC member from Blackwater, where he was raised. He joined the United States Marine Corps for three-and-a-half years and he fought in Iraq, where he was wounded by an improvised explosive device (IED).

Rodriguez retired from the Marines, but began to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

"I was in the infantry, so I saw a lot over there—a lot of friends getting hurt, myself included," said Rodriguez. "It's helped me healing with my PTSD," he added. "Having these classes and



Nichole Roderick and Gary Rodriguez enjoy the cool outdoor weather during dance practice in District 4. Emma Hughes/GRIN



Gary Rodriguez leads a student during a dance class in District 4. Emma Hughes/GRIN

dancing with Nichole has helped me with my self-esteem and better outlook at life, and I hope I can do that for others."

Rodriguez said dancing has helped him feel comfortable, allowed him to meet more people, and fostered better and more open communication skills.

"I feel free, stress-free, happy. And when I meet new people, they help me see different angles of how I can tackle problems that I currently have in my life," he said.

To commemorate Let's Dance Gila River's initial Lead Teacher Stephen R. Susunkewa,

who passed away in 2021, Let's Dance Gila River offers two free beginner lessons to all veterans with PTSD to help them prepare for special events such as weddings, first dances, and for general well-being.

For more information, contact Nichole Roderick on Facebook or visit Tribal Recreation Wellness page for any changes or updates. And when attending, dress comfortably and bring plenty of water.

"We encourage you to come and give it a try and see what you like about it," said Roderick, adding, "It's an honor to come back home and teach here."

## STAY INFORMED!

Sign up to receive text message alerts from the Gila River Indian Community. When you sign up you will receive notices and announcements including important information regarding COVID-19.

For New Subscribers, follow these steps:

1. Text Keyword GRIC to 855-202-9116
2. You will receive a text message confirming your subscription. You can opt out at any time. \*Data rate usage may apply.
3. You will start receiving important updates from GRIC.

For more information, call the Communications & Public Affairs Office at (520) 562-9715



# Women's Prayer Run Offers Prayers for Gratitude

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

The annual Women's Prayer Run will take place this fall, bringing women together to trek the 65-mile journey across the Community. As in past years, the relay-style run will run with purpose and prayers focused on "gratitude" from Nov. 5-6.

"The purpose of this run is more about prayer and not pace, it's about bringing people together and running for those prayers knowing that it's not a competition and we'll get to where we're going safely and together," said Renee Jackson, District 5. She is one of the coordinators and co-founders of the Women's Prayer Run.

This year's run will be the ninth year and will return to a complete in-person gathering. In the last two years, the coordinators adjusted due to the pandemic and was smaller with limited participation. However, everyone became excited once the Community learned it would return, similar to previous iterations.

The two-day run starts in District 7 near the wetlands and proceeds throughout the day until they rest near the halfway point of the entire route. Typically, a camp is set up for everyone

to stay together overnight before proceeding the following day and finishing in District 1. The goal is to host a camp again this year, with considerations of the Community's COVID-19 guidelines.

"This run builds Community among everyone involved and it helps to be around one another the entire time as we go on this journey," said Jackson. She emphasized how powerful it is to be around so many people who believe in the mission, support one another, and build a network of women who may have never met.

While it's a run, a person's time, agility, or athletic ability is not a factor in this event. Instead, the coordinators want to create a safe and welcoming event for all ages and abilities.

"When we plan this event, we want to make it accessible and inclusive to everyone because it's not a race it's a run filled with purpose and good intentions," said Pamela Thompson, District 4. Thompson is also a coordinator and co-founder of the run.

Runners can expect to run or walk quarter miles throughout the route. In doing so, the coordinators plan a safe and suitable course for everyone so they can

complete their "legs" with minimal stress on themselves.

Keeping this in mind, this year, the coordinators are planning to host a running camp on Sept. 17 (see flyer below). The camp will provide some background about the run and share the expectations of the route before the Nov. run. The camp will also help prepare participants for the terrain and other considerations before the run.

Also new for this year is a route that will return through District 5. In the past few years, the route didn't go through District 5 entirely, like before, but they're working to find a path that includes District 5.

The run is a collective journey that draws on one's physical, mental, and spiritual abilities. However, both Jackson and Thompson encourage everyone to participate if they can.

"We hope everyone can join us, whether you decide to run or watch, it's such a beautiful thing to witness all of our powerful women run and lay these prayers for our Community," said Jackson. "Ultimately, what this run is about is unification of our women and offers a space for us to rebuild our relationships with one another as women."



A group of women stand ready as they begin the Prayer Run in District 7 near the wetlands in 2021. Photo courtesy of Pamela Thompson

If you're interested in participating this year, you can find more information on Facebook by searching "Women's Prayer Run." Or you can also contact Renee Jackson at (480) 404-2543 or Pamela Thompson at (480) 721-0939.

## SAVE THE DATE

### DAY OF THE DEADLIFT

## OCT. 14, 2022 | 6PM

## SACATON FAIRGROUNDS

Day of the Deadlift is a community based event designed NOT to compete against others, but to set the stage for lifters to hit their maxes with the support of other lifters.

All activities are TENTATIVE and are subject to change as deemed necessary. COVID-19 Safety Measures will be enforced for each activity. Details will be released as event date approaches.

For more information call (520) 562-2026 or email [wellness.center@gric.nsn.us](mailto:wellness.center@gric.nsn.us)

## Women's Prayer Run Day Camp

Date: September 17, 2022  
Place: Aji Campsite- D4  
Time: Sunrise (approx. 6 a.m)

Morning Routes available for:  
Walkers - 1/2 mile to 1 mile route  
Runners - relay - 5 mile approximately

Emphasis on Spiritual Running - entry level runners and walkers  
Healthy Nutritious Meals will be provided for all participants  
Information sharing for upcoming Women's Prayer Run - November 2022  
This is not a race, we will help and support each other!

What to bring:

- walking/running gear
- water bottles
- your beautiful spirit

\*Limited to 30 people  
Subject to change as deemed necessary. Covid-19 safety measures will be followed

To register: email  
[Pthompson1118@gmail.com](mailto:Pthompson1118@gmail.com)

Contact:  
Renee Jackson 480-404-2543  
Pamela Thompson 480-721-0939  
Alie Walking Badger 520-610-3754



## Hasa'elith heg eth Kekel 'To Respect our Elders'

Submitted by  
Huhugam Heritage Center

There comes a time in the lives of O'otham when we enter our Golden Years at the age of fifty. Some communities recognize an individual as a senior citizen at the age of fifty-five and are entitled to certain services offered by their communities. This group of O'otham are called Kekel as a group, Keli for an elder male (some prefer Ba:b or Vosk) and Hu'ul or Ka:k for an elder female. There are certain conditions and phrases that are associated with this age group. One phrase often heard concerning our elders, is "Ge'e haichu s-amchuth" (To have thorough knowledge of a subject, or multiple subjects). Many elders retain over 80-years of knowledge and life

experiences. They are willing to share their life experiences through "Haichu a'aga:" (To tell about things, stories of life). In her book, A Pima Past, Anna Moore Shaw relates the retirement of her and Ross in the chapter titled 'A Return to Nature' [pp. 199-215].

One phrase often spoken to younger generations was "Haichu 'o 'e ju: s-pehegim 'o s-hasigam." (You can do things the easy way, or the hard way). This phrase often repeated in learning how to perform certain tasks that required physical strength and mental coordination such as chopping down multiple mesquite trees. Of course, this phrase applied to all other learning situations in our lives. This was especially important when we learned to use power-tools such as electric saws and drills during home construction. We were taught not to waste an expensive piece of lumber, or to drill a hole where it was not required.

One phrase often spoken, as kekels talked amongst themselves is "Pi gevkathad." (To not be as strong as they used to be). There comes a time when we take into consideration and

plan our retirement from our long careers. The life-changing phrase is "Ha'as chipk." (To quit work/retire). Over the years, we have witnessed the retirement of many fine O'otham and Pee-Posh whom have contributed a great amount of time and knowledge to their professions.

After retirement, some O'otham enjoy what is termed "Ahoubad" (To finally get some rest, take a break). When asked what they would do after retirement, a few kekels responded with the phrases: "Mañ s-so:hith mantho ñeithath jiaवल wi:" (I like to watch TV). In other words, they will be binge watching their favorite programs. Another kekel stated that, "Mañ so:hith hasko me:k eñ pasim'anth." (I like to travel far; I will be going on trips). Indeed, they will certainly have the time for it. We encourage you to speak with a kekel or speaker and learn to say the phrases. Phrases may be slightly different between the villages. This month's word match will test your knowledge of retirement and elder phrases.

A Special Thank You to community retirees whose

*Hasa'elith heg Kekel 2022: Match the Elder phrase with its picture!*

*Pi gevkathad*

*S-ba'bag oimed*

*Ñeithath jiaवल wi:*

*Ahoubed*

*Pi chekith*

*Hasko me:k eñ pasim.*

Clipart Courtesy Robert Johnson

knowledge about retirement from A Pima Past, Anna Moore Shaw, University of Arizona Press, 1974.

*Word Match Solution on Page 7*

# Tribal Education Department Hosts Sewing Classes

Emma Hughes  
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Education Department recently began hosting a six-session sewing course for begin-

ners. Held at the new District 3 Multipurpose building, the classes offer basic skills such as hand stitches and how to read patterns. Sewing machines are provided during the classes so that

students can become familiar with them.

The class is offered to anyone who is looking for a new hobby or who wants to brush up on the basics. Assistant Culture Coordinator Tammy Histia leads

the class and makes sewing easy to understand. This approach made it easy for everyone from all experience levels to enjoy.

Participants are given simple projects from a hand-sewn pin cushion then

advancing to create a tote bag. The classes also supply students informational packets that provide basic sewing terms in both English and O'otham.

The classes will continue throughout the month

of Aug. from 5:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays.

For more information, contact Tammy Histia or TED Culture Coordinator Anthony Gray at (520) 562-3662.



Sewing machines are provided by the Tribal Education Dept. for hands-on experience. Emma Hughes/GRIN



Sewing supplies are also provided for additional projects after the classes end. Emma Hughes/GRIN

## CURRENT JOB OPENINGS

### PATHWAYS COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Must be an enrolled Gila River Indian Community member to apply.

Now accepting online applications for the following apprenticeship/internship position:

#### Position

Assistant Director – Mentee

#### Recruitment Date

08/01/2022 – 08/31/2022

Visit [jobs.playatgila.com](https://jobs.playatgila.com) or scan the QR code below to submit your online application by the closing date. Please contact Norma Perez, Talent Acquisition Manager at 1-800-946-4452 ext. 8369 if you have any questions.



@PlayAtGila | PlayAtGila.com | 800-WIN-GILA  
Owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community

**GILA RIVER**  
RESORTS & CASINOS



# Serious About Socks Completes Annual Sock and Shoe Drive

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

Danielle Mercado, District 6, once again concluded her annual sock drive in July. Her “Serious About Socks” campaign collected socks and monetary donations that helped her to purchase socks during June and July. In total, Mercado was able to donate 2,850 new pairs of socks to The Andre House in Phoenix on Saturday, Aug 13.

“I’m so happy and thankful for everyone that donated this year, it’s never been about the amount because I’m happy if I’m able to donate 20 or 200 pairs of socks for those that need it,” said Mercado.

Utilizing her personal and social media networks, Mercado worked hard to secure monetary donations and physical socks throughout the Valley over two months.

“This year has been interesting, there’s so much going on in the world and I think the economy and other factors out of my control may have affected donations this year, which is fine, it was still a success,” said Mercado. Initially, Mercado aimed to collect 10,000 pairs of socks but fell short of that goal this year.

In addition to socks, the two-month donation drive also included gently used shoes as a donation. And this year, she collected and

donated 70 pairs of shoes in addition to the socks.

Socks are the most requested item at homeless shelters and among the transient population. Because of this, Mercado is passionate about providing the amenity. The Andre House offers many services for the less fortunate and transient community, where the socks and shoes are available.

The morning of her donation drop-off, Mercado and a group of people waited for The Andre House to open together. When they learned about the sock donations, they immediately became excited and looked forward to getting a pair. This moment was special for Mercado and reassured her that the contributions would be of great benefit. In the past, she worked only with The Andre Staff. As a result, she never had the opportunity to see the reactions of the beneficiaries.

Aside from collecting socks and shoes in person, she received the most significant support from monetary donations to purchase socks. Each year Mercado builds on her past supporters but also strives to create new donors and saw donations pour in from across the country, including one from Europe this year.

Despite not meeting her goal, Mercado is determined to continue her “Serious



**Danielle Mercado with boxes of new socks for everyone at The Andre House in Phoenix on Aug. 13.** Photo courtesy of Danielle Mercado



**Volunteers from The Andre House assist unloading the boxes of 2,850 pairs of sock donations on Aug. 13.** Photo courtesy of Danielle Mercado

ous About Socks” campaign and has developmental plans for the future. In more than one instance, she discovered that more people

and organizations were willing to donate more if she was securing donations as a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Undeterred, she’s now

considering establishing her campaign as a non-profit in the future to substantially maximize her donations going forward.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY  
SACATON BRANCH

## AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

**begins August 8, 2022**

Hours: Youth 3-6pm  
Teens 3-7pm

**Snack & dinner will be provided!**


**Requirements:**

- **MUST be fully vaccinated**
- **MUST be a Community Member or if Non-Community Member, member MUST reside within Gila River (CDIB required for Community Member or utility bill in place of CDIB for Non-Community Member)**
- **MUST wear a face mask at all times**

**Child(ren) must be fully registered before attending the club**

**To register please go to [www.bgcgric.org](http://www.bgcgric.org)**

**For more information or questions please call (520) 562-3890**

**\*\*NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION\*\***

**REVISIONS TO TITLE 5, CRIMINAL CODE, TO DECRIMINALIZE MARIJUANA AND TO ALLOW MEDICAL MARIJUANA ON THE GILA RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION**

Due to cancellation of the Legislative Standing Committee (“LSC”) meeting on August 9, 2022, the LSC will be considering proposed revisions to Title 5 of the GRIC Code to decriminalize marijuana and allow medical marijuana on the Reservation at their regular meeting on **August 30, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.** A copy of the proposed revisions to Title 5 of the GRIC Code in their entirety is available for review at each District Service Center, the Community Council Secretary’s Office.

If you are interested in providing comments on the proposed revision of Title 5 of the GRIC Code, you may contact your Council representative or the LSC Chairperson at (520) 562-9720. Any comments emailed to the OGC email after July 28 were not received or are not accessible, and you will need to contact your Council representative or LSC Chairperson with your comments.

# 2022 Mustering In Day Returns With Smaller Celebration

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

On Saturday, Sept. 10, District 7 will host the 157 Annual Mustering In Day Celebration in person. The celebration will once again honor the historic O’otham and Pee Posh men who were mustered in to service as what’s become known as “the First National Guard” of Arizona in 1865. This year’s theme for the event is “Together We Stand Strong, Honoring Our Past Warriors.”

Mustering In Day recognizes the 88 O’otham men that formed Company C led by Akimel O’otham Chief Antonio Azule and

the 94 Pee Posh men that made up Company B led by Pee Posh Chief Juan Charvaria. Their service protected the Arizona Territory in the 1860s, while most of the U.S. military was focused on the Civil War at the time.

This year, District 7 is working to ensure the event will follow all Community COVID-19 guidelines for a safe celebration. This includes holding all activities outdoors and requiring masks during the event.

Although it will be in-person, this year’s program will be scaled back. But rest assured that you can expect to see tradition-

al dancing featuring both O’otham singers and dancers and Pee Posh Bird singers and dancers. District 7 and GRIC leadership will also attend, and a reading of the history will also take place.

2019 was the last time the Mustering In Day Celebration occurred in person. COVID-19 halted the celebration in 2020 and saw a virtual return in 2021. Gila River Broadcasting Corp. prerecorded a special program recognizing the celebration that features bands, traditional dancing, and singing, addresses by GRIC leadership, and a retelling of Mustering In Day histo-

ry. The 2021 Mustering In Day Celebration segment is available on Gila River Broadcasting Corp.’s Face-

book page.

This year’s Mustering In Day Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 10, beginning at 4:30 p.m. at

the District 7 Service Center on 8035 S. 83 Avenue, Laveen, Ariz. And activities and programming are subject to possible change.



2019 Mustering In Day Celebration parade in District 7. Kyle Knox/GRIN

## 157TH ANNUAL MUSTERING IN DAY CELEBRATION

**"TOGETHER WE STAND STRONG, HONORING OUR PAST WARRIORS."**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022**

**4:30 P.M. - 12:00 A.M.**

**GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY DISTRICT 7 PEE POSH PARK**

**8035 S. 83RD AVENUE, LAVEEN AZ 85339**

**(83RD AVENUE SOUTH OF BASELINE)**

**MASKS REQUIRED & MADE AVAILABLE.**

**DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE EVENT**

**08. Hasa'elith heg Kekel 2022: SOLUTION!**

*Pi gevkataq* → → → → →

*S-ba'bag oimed* → → →

*Ñeithath jival wi:* → → →

*Ahoubed* → → →

*Pi chekith* → → →

*Hasko me:k eñ pasim.* → → →

Clipart Courtesy Robert Johnson

## MOSQUITO PREVENTION TIPS

- Eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.
- Keep mosquitoes outside by having well-fitting screens on both windows and doors.
- Change water in flower vases, birdbaths, planters, troughs, and animal watering pans at least twice a week. Be sure to scrub them out when changing water.
- Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets, and move air conditioner drain hoses frequently to prevent standing water.
- Check for items outside the home that collect water, such as cans, bottles, jars, buckets, old tires, drums, and other containers, and get rid of them.
- Spending a short time outdoors can be long enough to be bitten by a mosquito. Take extra care to use insect repellent and protective clothing. When outdoors, use an EPA-registered and CDC-approved insect repellent.

**REPELLENT IS AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT SERVICE CENTERS AND THE TRIBAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

For more information, please contact the Tribal Health Department Environmental Health Services @ 520-562-5100

ARIZONA MIDTERM ELECTION 2022

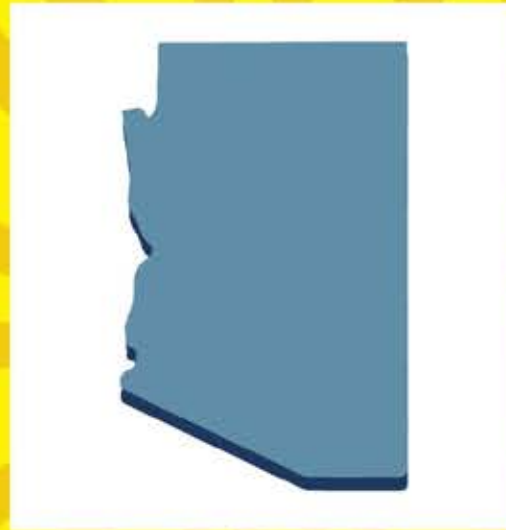
# Cast Your VOTE

**State General Election - Nov. 8**

U.S. Senate

U.S. House

State  
Supreme Court



Governor of  
Arizona

State Senate

State House

and more...



## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Oct. 11** - Voter Registration Deadline for the November General Election

**Oct. 12** - Ballots mailed out; Voting Locations & Drop Boxes Available

**Oct. 28** - Last Day to request a Ballot in the Mail

**Nov. 8** - Last Day to mail back your ballot

**Nov. 8** - Election Day



**NATIVE VOTE HOTLINE**  
**(888) 777-3831**



Register to  
Vote Here





# I-10 | LOOP 202 TO SR-387 WILD HORSE PASS CORRIDOR

## YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

### Interstate 10 Study: Loop 202 to State Route 387 Public Hearings

In collaboration with the Gila River Indian Community, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Maricopa Association of Governments, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Design Concept Report (DCR) for the Interstate 10 (I-10) Study: Loop 202 to State Route 387 (SR 387). Proposed improvements include widening I-10 between Loop 202 and SR 387, adding High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes between Loop 202 and Riggs Road, and modifying interchanges and crossroads over I-10.

### DRAFT EA AND DCR AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

The draft EA and DCR will be published and **available for public review and comment from Aug. 19, 2022 through Oct. 9, 2022.** The draft EA and DCR evaluate the Recommended Build Alternative as compared to the No-Build Alternative. Select technical reports associated with the draft EA will be available upon request. Please email [i10wildhorsepasscorridor@hdrinc.com](mailto:i10wildhorsepasscorridor@hdrinc.com) or call **602-522-7777** to make a request. The draft EA and DCR can be reviewed at the following repository locations and on the study website at [i10wildhorsepasscorridor.com](http://i10wildhorsepasscorridor.com):

- **Casa Grande Public Library**  
449 N Drylake St., Casa Grande, AZ 85122 | 520-421-8710
- **Ironwood Library**  
4333 E Chandler Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85048 | 602-262-4636
- **Gila River Indian Community Governance Center**  
525 W Gu U Ki Rd, Sacaton, AZ 85147 | 520-562-9500
- **Gila River Indian Community District 1**  
15747 N Shegoi Rd., Coolidge, AZ 85128 | 520-215-2110
- **District 2 Service Center**  
8070 Park St., Sacaton, AZ 85147 | 520-562-3450
- **District 3 Service Center**  
18 E Pima St., Sacaton, AZ 85147 | 520-562-3334
- **Gila River District 4 Service Center/Multipurpose Bldg.**  
2230 N Home Run Dr., Sacaton, AZ 85147 | 520-418-3661
- **District 5 Multi Service Center**  
3456 W Casa Blanca Rd., Bapchule, AZ 85121 | 520-315-3441
- **Gila River Indian Community District 6 Komatke Center**  
5230 St Johns Rd., Laveen Village, AZ 85339 | 520-550-3805
- **Gila River Indian Community District 7 Service Center**  
8035 S 83rd Ave., Laveen Village, AZ 85339 | 520-430-4780

### COMMENT ON THE DRAFT EA AND DCR:

Submit your comments on the I-10 Study draft EA and DCR **now through Oct. 9, 2022.** All comments received during the public comment period will be documented and responded to in the I-10 Study Final EA and Final DCR. All comment methods are considered equal.

- **Attend a public hearing:** Provide written/verbal comments at the virtual and in-person public hearings
- **Online through our comment form or comment map:** [i10wildhorsepasscorridor.com](http://i10wildhorsepasscorridor.com)

- **Email:** [i10wildhorsepasscorridor@hdrinc.com](mailto:i10wildhorsepasscorridor@hdrinc.com)
- **Call:** 602-522-7777
- **Mail:** I-10 Wild Horse Pass Corridor Study Team  
c/o HDR, Inc. 20 E. Thomas Rd., Suite 2500 Phoenix, AZ 85012

### PUBLIC HEARINGS | OPEN HOUSES

In-person and virtual public hearings will be held to provide an overview of the draft EA and DCR, share ADOT's preliminary recommendation and accept public comment. The same information will be presented at each meeting. The public hearing presentation and materials can also be viewed on the study website.

### In-Person Public Hearing Dates and Locations



- 1. In-Person Public Hearing #1**  
Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2022  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Valley Christian High School  
6900 W Galveston St.,  
Chandler, AZ 85226
- 2. In-Person Public Hearing #2**  
Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Vista Grande High School  
1556 N Arizola Rd.,  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122
- 3. In-Person Public Hearing #3**  
Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022  
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
District 4  
Multipurpose Building  
2230 N Home Run Dr.,  
Sacaton, AZ 85147  
This venue will comply with current COVID-19 Executive Orders for public facilities and requires masks. Masks will be available.

### Virtual Public Hearing (Call-in/Online through Webex)

Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2022 | 5:30 – 9 p.m.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| English   | Spanish  |
| Online: <a href="https://bit.ly/WHP-EN">bit.ly/WHP-EN</a> | Enlace (Inglés): <a href="https://bit.ly/WHP-EN">bit.ly/WHP-EN</a> |
| Phone: +1-408-418-9388                                    | Teléfono: +1-408-418-9388  |
| Meeting number (access code): 2484 471 6549               | Número de Reunión (Código de acceso): 2490 170 8079                |
| Webinar password: WHP2022                                 | Clave: WHP2022   |
| (9472022 from phones)                                     | (9472022 from phones)  |

### IN-PERSON PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA \*

5:30 – 6 p.m.	Open House
6 – 6:30 p.m.	Formal Presentation
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Formal Public Comments/Open House

\*At the Sept. 15 hearing at District 4, the presentation will be continuously repeated and the open house and formal comment period will be available throughout the hearing.

### VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA \*\*

5:30 p.m.	Formal Presentation
6 – 6:15 p.m.	Q&A
6:15 – 7:15 p.m.	Formal Public Comments
7:30 – 8 p.m.	Formal Presentation
8 – 8:15 p.m.	Q&A
8:15 – 9 p.m.	Formal Public Comments

\*\*As a part of the virtual public hearing, we are allowing two opportunities to hear the presentation, provide formal comment and ask questions.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being or have been carried out by ADOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated Apr. 16, 2019 and executed by FHWA and ADOT.

Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other nondiscrimination laws and authorities, ADOT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Persons that require a reasonable accommodation based on language or disability should contact Kim Larson at 855.712.8530 or [klarson@azdot.gov](mailto:klarson@azdot.gov). Requests should be made as early as possible to ensure the State has an opportunity to address the accommodation.

Las consultas, la revisión ambiental y otras acciones requeridas según las leyes ambientales federales correspondientes para este proyecto se están llevando a cabo o se han llevado a cabo por ADOT de acuerdo con 23 U.S.C 327 y un Memorandum de Acuerdo con fecha del 16 de abril de 2019 y se han realizado por FHWA y ADOT.

De acuerdo al Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, la Ley para Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA por sus siglas en inglés) y otras leyes y autoridades contra la discriminación, ADOT no discrimina por raza, color, origen nacional, edad, género o discapacidad. Las personas que requieran una adaptación razonable basada en el idioma o la discapacidad deben comunicarse con Kim Larson al [KLarson@azdot.gov](mailto:KLarson@azdot.gov) o al 855.712.8530. Las solicitudes deben hacerse lo más pronto posible para asegurar que ADOT tenga oportunidad de hacer los arreglos necesarios.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
602-522-7777 | [i10wildhorsepasscorridor@hdrinc.com](mailto:i10wildhorsepasscorridor@hdrinc.com)  
ADOT TRACS No. F0252 01L and 02L | Federal Aid No. 010-C(222)S



# 5

# THINGS TO KNOW & SHARE ABOUT MONKEYPOX



August 4, 2022

## 1 What is monkey pox and how does it spread?

Monkey pox is a viral disease that infects animals like rodents and monkeys and can spread to humans. Although monkey pox occurs predominantly in Central and West African countries, majority of the cases in recent global outbreak are reported in U.S and Europe. As of 8/3/22, over 6,600 cases in U.S and 85 cases in Arizona have been reported.

Monkeypox can spread to ANYONE

- Through close skin to skin contact with monkeypox rash, sores, or scabs.
- Through respiratory droplets or body fluids during intimate physical contact .
- Contact with fabrics, objects, or surfaces contaminated with the monkeypox virus (such as clothing, bedding, or towels)

## 2 What are the signs and symptoms?

- Fever
- Rash with firm bumps on face, hands, feet, body, or genitals
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Chills
- Low energy



## 3 What Should You Do If...

You've been in contact with someone who received a diagnosis of monkeypox or has a similar rash?

- See your health care provider for further evaluation, monitor for symptoms
- Avoid physical contact, including sex or intimate contact, with anyone until you have been checked out

You have a new or unexplained rash or sores?

- See your health care provider for further evaluation
- Avoid physical contact, including sex or intimate contact, with anyone until you have been checked out

You have been diagnosed with monkeypox?

- Isolate from others and follow treatment recommendations from your provider.
- Avoid physical contact, including sex or intimate contact, with anyone until all sores have healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed

## 4 Treatment

There are no treatments specifically for monkeypox virus infections. Antiviral drugs and vaccines developed to protect against smallpox can be used to prevent and treat monkeypox. Vaccines and medicines are prioritized for those people who have had known exposure and are at risk for severe disease from monkeypox (such as people with underlying chronic health conditions or weakened immunity)



## 5 Prevention

- Avoid close physical contact with people who have symptoms, including sores or rashes
- Talk to your sexual partner/s about any recent illness and be aware of new or unexplained sores or rashes
- Avoid contact with, contaminated materials
- Wear PPE (mask, gloves, gown) if you can't avoid close contact with someone who has symptoms
- Practice good hand hygiene

COVID-19 GENERAL  
INFORMATION



GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE: (520) 550-6079  
HOTLINE HOURS: 8 am - 6 pm, 7 days a week.



2022 ARIZONA STATE FAIR      ALL-INDIAN RODEO FACT SHEET      OCTOBER 14-15, 2022

**AWARDS:** Awards will be given to the All-Around Champion and the winner of each event.

**PERFORMANCES:** Performances are scheduled:

- Friday, October 14 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 15 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**SLACK TIMES:** Friday, October 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. and Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**ADDED MONEY:** The Arizona State Fair adds \$16,000 in total prize money. Added money is divided evenly among all events, with Team Roping receiving double the other events. (Header/Heeler even money.)

Entries	Max Number of Entries	Entry Fees	Contestants Per Performance	Contestants in Short Go
Bareback Riding	21	\$100	7	10
Saddle Bronc Riding	21	\$100	7	10
Bull Riding	60	\$100	15	15
Tie Down Roping	45	\$100	10	10
Steer Wrestling	45	\$100	10	10
Team Roping*	100 teams	\$200/team	10	15
Ladies Barrel Race	45	\$100	10	10
Ladies Breakaway	45	\$100	10	10

**\*TEAM ROPING.** At the time of entry, the partner must be declared on both team roping entries. Both ropers' names must be shown on all team roping entries. If partner is not listed, the entry fees will be returned and neither contestant will be entered for the event. Contestants will only be allowed to enter the Team Roping event one (1) time.

**RULES:** PRCA/WPRA rules will apply to all contestants. All contestants must be 18 or older.

**ENTRIES:** All entries must be made through **ENTRYTOOL.com**. **THERE WILL BE NO MAIL-IN ENTRIES.** No telephone entries will be accepted. Late re-entries will only be *accepted if original entries do not fill* the performances. **\*\*Late entries may be made online with ENTRYTOOL.com.**

EntryTool.com technical support line for contestants is 833-368-3787.

Entries Open: Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:00 a.m.

Entries Close: Friday, October 7, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

**\*\*Late Entries Open:** Monday, October 10 at 8:00 a.m.

Late Entries Close: Monday, October 10, at 5:00 p.m.

Callbacks Texted to Contestant: Tuesday, October 11 at 10:00 a.m. –please make sure to enter correct/best cell phone number.

- **1<sup>st</sup> to ENTER/LAST TO COMPETE** – No TRADES or SETUPS will be honored. Honeycutt Rodeo Inc. reserves the right to feature contestants in certain performances in the riding events. Girls Barrel Race (GBR) competition order will be randomized after performances are set.
- Please be prepared to show identification to collect any payoff checks from the Rodeo Secretary.
- **All Prize Money Winnings over \$600 will require a completed W-9.**
- Contestant Rodeo Schedule will be placed online on the Honeycutt Rodeo Inc. Facebook page by Tuesday, October 11, 2022.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all Native Americans with proof of tribal identification. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** All contestants in all events must be 18 or older. Contestants must present verification of age or tribal affiliation upon request by the Rodeo Secretary.

**INFORMATION:** For more information, visit our website at [www.azstatefair.com](http://www.azstatefair.com). Rodeo Secretary - Cell Phone (602) 672-8660.



# #Culture**IS**Prevention

**Connecting to culture is  
the foundation for healthier  
generations to come.**



1947 ♦ CELEBRATING 75 YEARS ♦ 2022



[www.phxindcenter.org](http://www.phxindcenter.org)



# Homeownership can happen. We can help.

Section 184: Native American home loans.

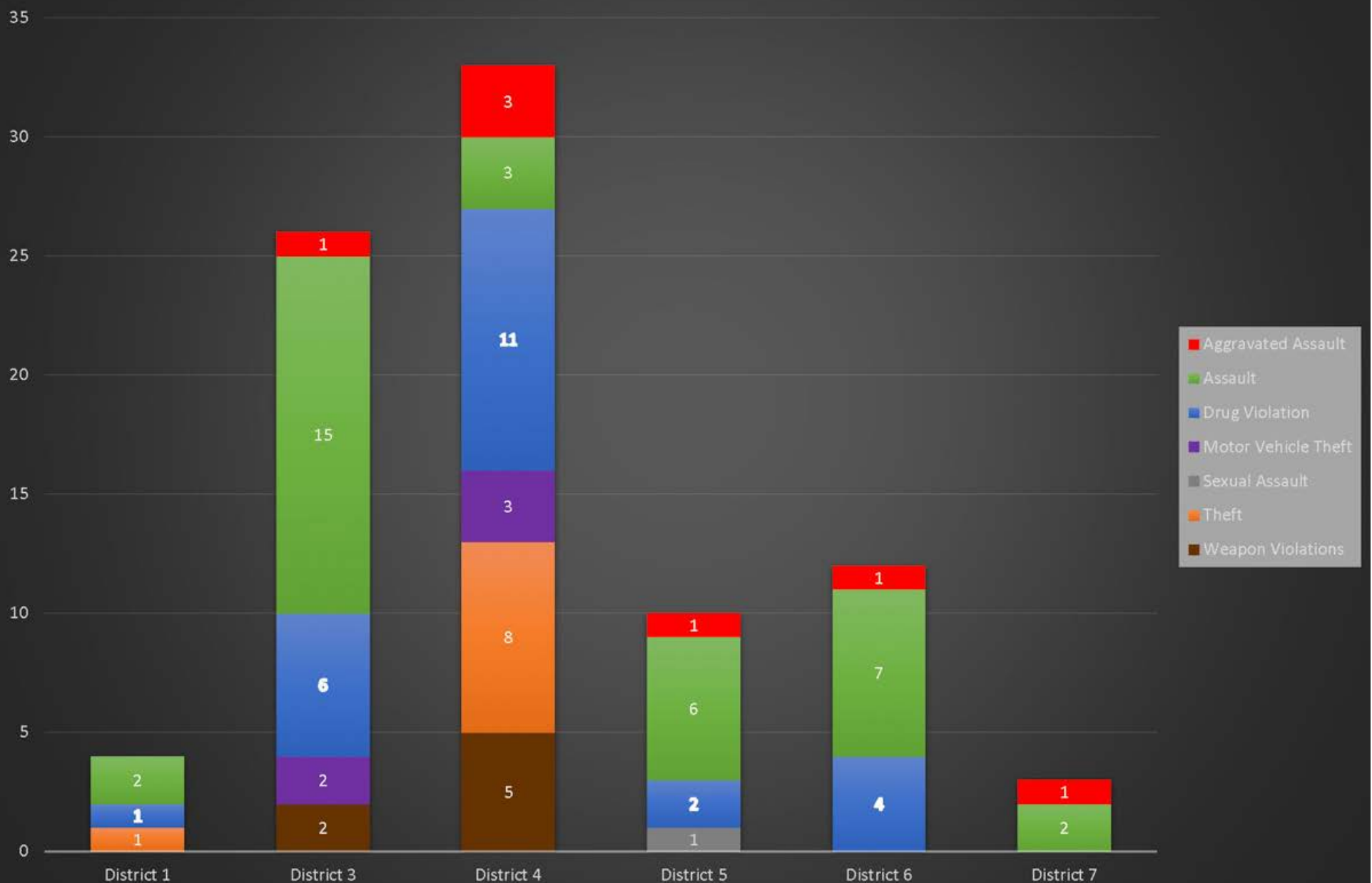


Matt Rosbrook  
Mortgage Banker  
NMLS# 428761  
Phone 602-695-1079  
mrosbrook@bokf.com

Services provided by BOKF, NA. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender .  
BOK Financial is a trademark of BOKF, NA. ©2022 BOKF, NA.

## Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

### Part 1 Crimes (August 1- 14)



**GILA RIVER**

"PROUDLY SERVING THE  
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY SINCE 1988"

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

Box 5015, 7065 West Allison Road, Chandler, Arizona 85226-5135  
(520) 796-3333 • www.gilarivertel.com • Fax (520) 796-7534

**FREE**

**&**

**NO PASSWORD REQUIRED**

**Free Wi-Fi Hotspots  
are available at all  
District Service Centers  
and the GRTI  
Headquarters.**



**COMMUNITY  
HOTSPOTS**

**Username:  
GilaRiverTelFree Wifi**

**Questions?  
Contact our Customer  
Service Team at  
520-796-3333**

**QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT OUR CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM  
AT (520) 796-3333**



@GilaRiverTelco



@NativeTechAZ



@AlluvionCom



@GilaRiverTV



@DigitalConnectInitiative



# CROSSROADS AUTO CENTER

Where Everyone IS a Rockstar!

Do You Want to  
Rock and Roll



Kickstart  
Your Credit!



Welcome to the \$2,000  
Minimum Trade Jungle!



Clean Cars Sold  
Dirt Cheap!



Until November  
With No Payment? \*\*



You'll Love Our  
Rock and Roll  
0 Down Payment! \*\*\*

2019 DODGE  
DURANGO SXT

Room and Style

2021 HONDA  
CIVIC

Like NEW

2020 KIA  
OPTIMA

Only Low Low Miles

2019 RAM  
WARLOCK

Hard to Find

2018 TOYOTA  
TACOMA

\$33,999

2018 CHEVY  
MALIBU LT

\$350/mo.

2019 NISSAN  
TITAN SL

Fully Loaded!

2017 TOYOTA  
TUNDRA SR5

4x4

2019 FORD  
F150

Save \$1,000's

2019 DODGE  
CHALLENGER

Hot Car!

2021 NISSAN  
ALTIMA

Quality and Performance

2017 JEEP  
WRANGLER

Summer Closeout  
\$31,999

2019 JEEP  
RENEGADE

10,000 Miles

2020 HONDA  
CRU

Like NEW

2017 ACURA  
MDX

Fully Loaded!



**CROSSROADS  
AUTO CENTER**

1026 N. PINAL AVE., CASA GRANDE  
**520-836-2112**  
INSTANT CREDIT APPROVAL  
[www.crossroadsauto.org](http://www.crossroadsauto.org)

\*Not valid with any other offer, \*\* subject to credit approval, \*\*\*\$0 down after tax, title, license and doc fees down. \*Payment based on 700 credit score, 3.87% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit. Must present ad at time of purchase. Not all vehicles qualify. Ask manager for details.

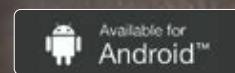
# DOWNLOAD THE BETGILA APP TODAY

**MOBILE SPORTS BETTING IS LIVE**

Place sports bets from your phone at all Gila River Resorts & Casinos locations and anywhere in the Gila River Indian Community

Get started today! Visit the BetMGM Sportsbook to register and add funds to your account

**IN-GAME WAGERING COMING SOON**



Funds may be added and cashed out in person only at any Gila River Resorts & Casinos BetMGM Sportsbook. Registration is required. See BetMGM for details