



## COVID-19 Community Update for Summer

**GRIN Staff**  
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community continues to monitor rising positive COVID-19 cases with the omicron subvariant BA.2.12.1 accounting for the majority of cases according to the CDC. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis' COVID-19 Taskforce is now warning Community members that chances of getting reinfected have been climbing among the unvaccinated and those who are not up-to-date on their vaccinations. Between May 9 and June 12, the Tribal Health Department (THD) reported 158 new cases of members residing in GRIC with a high of 47 reported during the week of, June 6-12. If you add the 67 reinfections during that time to the new cases those numbers increase by nearly 30 percent to a total number of 225 cases in a little over a month.

"We still aren't out of the woods yet," said Gov. Lewis in his June 10 video message to the Community. Gov. Lewis addressed the rise in cases and encouraged more GRIC members to get vaccinated. He also said to

take precautions when in public. "It's important to remain vigilant and protect yourself and your family," he said.

Community members continue to spread COVID-19 while attending gatherings, not following COVID-19 protocols and individuals not remaining home while experiencing symptoms. Here's the top three reasons why individuals are contracting COVID-19 according to THD.

1. Families holding small gatherings with other families that do not live in their home. Adults and children eating and sharing meals at the gathering and children playing amongst each other that may be experiencing symptoms. Families not practicing COVID-19 protocols at the gatherings.

2. Individuals attending large gatherings (such as graduations and funerals) where physical distancing was not followed and other COVID-19 protocols, such as not staying home if experiencing any COVID symptoms, and not wearing a mask at large gatherings.

3. Individuals attending gatherings/events when they have

symptoms of COVID-19 because they thought the symptoms were due to their allergies.

The spread of COVID-19 reveals a need for more Community

members to become fully vaccinated and receive their booster.

Current vaccine rates show

*Continued on Page 3*

### 10 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD VACCINATE

1. Protects against serious illness.
2. Protects your family and friends.
3. Mitigates Covid-19.
4. Trust your healthcare provider.
5. Builds immunity.
6. Its free, safe, fast, and easy.
7. It will help end the pandemic.
8. Prevents severe illness, hospitalization, or death.
9. Feel safe when going to public places.
10. Will help keep you healthy.



GRHC.ORG/HUB

## GRIC Cyclists Gather for Bike Tours



Community riders gather at the Sacaton fairgrounds for a morning bike trek Saturday May 28. Photo courtesy of Elisha Bishop

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

Elisha Bishop, District 3, has continued to host weekend bike rides in the Community nearly every Saturday morning. The effort has cultivated a group of Community riders that continue to meet and ride through Sacaton for quality exercise amongst other Community members. And because of the pandemic, these bike rides provide a safe experience, with open-air and space for everyone to social distance.

"To me riding helps us reconnect to our land in a different way by exploring the trails and roadways throughout the Community, it's like we have our own park in our backyard," said Bishop. He hopes that more riders will utilize the areas Community members have access to and explore all GRIC lands.

"In the Community there's plenty of running events but we don't always have events for cycling," said Bishop. Through his weekend bike rides and tours, he hopes to build an interest in cycling as another healthy outdoor activity.

The weekend rides are crafted for casual riders and catered to all ages. Bishop has seen the group grow with riders ranging from eight to 80 years of age that attend often.

Recently, he held the "Gila River Spring Bike Tour" during the Memorial Day weekend, which offered a 4-mile and 8-mile route. 15 riders participated in total, which is an increase from past

*Continued on Page 6*

## Council Members and Associate Judge Sworn Into Office



Newly elected Associate Judge Brianna L. Rhodes takes the oath of office during the first monthly Community Council meeting, June 1. Emma Hughes/GRIN

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

On June 1, newly elected and re-elected Community Council

Representatives were sworn into office at the Community Council Chambers. Also taking their oath of office that morning was the

newly appointed Associate Judge Brianna L. Rhodes.

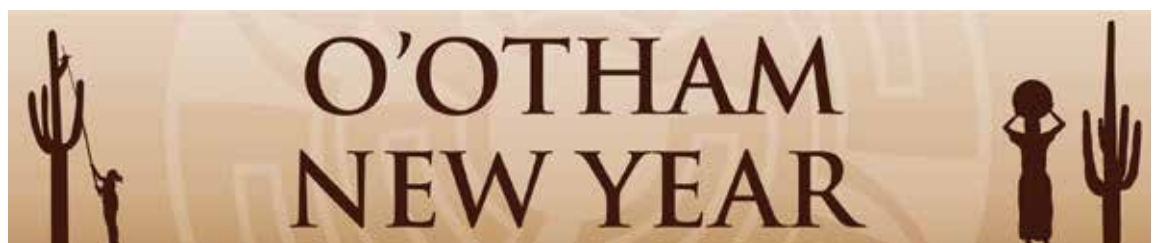
Council Representatives and Judge Rhodes were joined by fam-

ily and loved ones as Chief Judge Anthony Hill swore them in.

*More photos on Page 3*

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GRIC Youth Highlight  
Mental Health  
Page 10





# Healthy Kids & Families



GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE  
(520) 550-6079

## COVID VACCINES LOCATIONS

- 6/18 Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center 10 am - 2 pm
- 6/20 District 1 Service Center 9 am - 3 pm
- 6/21 District 1 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.

### July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday

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

**CLOSED**  
**Monday, July 4, 2022**

### HHKMH Pharmacy Holiday Hours

SATURDAY, JULY 2<sup>nd</sup> ..... 8:30 am - 8:00 pm  
SUNDAY, JULY 3<sup>rd</sup> ..... 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
MONDAY, JULY 4<sup>th</sup> ..... C L O S E D

For any information on services open during the holiday, please call GRHC's main line (520) 562-3321. Normal business hours will resume Tuesday, 7/5/22. If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at HHKMH.

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

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

# GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



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**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,  
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Gila River Indian News

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On June 1, the following were sworn into office (top left) newly elected District 2 Council Representative Ann M. Lucas, (top right) newly elected District 4 Council Representative Nada Celaya, (middle left) re-elected District 3 Council Representative Avery White, (middle right) re-elected District 5 Council Representative Brian E. Davis Sr., (lower left) re-elected District 6 Council Representative Charles W. Goldtooth, and (lower right) re-elected District 7 Council Representative Devin Redbird. Emma Hughes/GRIN

### COVID-19 Update from page 1

that 74 percent of GRIC residents have received their first and second doses, however, there is a large drop off of individuals who have not received the recommended booster when eligible.

Only 27 percent of all GRIC residents are up-to-date with their vaccines meaning they received all recommended COVID vaccines including any booster dose(s). Vaccines decrease in effectiveness over time and a booster will prolong your ability to avoid severe disease, hospitalization, and death.

On June 9, Dr. Anthony Santiago, CEO of Gila River Health Care, reported Omicron accounts for 100 percent of recent sequenced cases and the BA.2.12. subvariant is now 52 percent of Arizona cases.

The CDC reported, as of June 13, that total COVID-19 deaths are at 1,006,451. Total GRIC enrolled member deaths are at 157.

Now that the summer break is here and Fourth of July celebrations are taking place, it is important to follow guidelines for the safety of the entire Community such as getting vaccinated, wearing a mask and getting tested if you're feeling symptoms.

Vaccines for COVID-19 and the flu are readily available at the scheduled COVID-19 vaccine clinics or through the Primary Care Department at all Gila River Health Care locations.

Date	Location	Time
7/7	District 3 Headstart	9 am - 12 pm
7/18	District 5 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
7/19	District 5 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
7/21	District 3 Headstart	9 am - 12 pm
7/23	Hau'pal Health Center	10 am - 2 pm
7/25	District 4 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
7/26	District 4 Service Center	9 am - 3 pm
7/28	District 3 Headstart	9 am - 3 pm
7/30	Hau'pal Health Center	10 am - 2 pm

**COVID VACCINE LOCATIONS**

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

Scan for Vaccine Information

COVID-19 GENERAL INFORMATION | GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE (520) 550-6079 | GRHC.ORG/HUB

Visit the following locations and dates to schedule a vaccination in July. Graphic provided by Gila River Health Care Corp.



# Arts & Entertainment

## Community Member Exhibits Work at PHX Art Museum

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Indian Community member Laurie Steelink is a multidisciplinary artist. Her work has been exhibited nationally and is currently on display from April 24 through Sept. 19 at the Phoenix Art Museum as part of the “Desert Rider” exhibition.

Desert Rider explores the socio-political realities and imaginative interpretations of automotive and skateboarding subcultures through diverse works by local Arizona and regional artists, focusing almost exclusively on Latinx and Indigenous perspectives that have defined the identity of the Southwest, according to a Phoenix Art Museum press release.

Desert Rider is an exhibition inspired by modes of transportation in the Southwest that invite reflection and introspection



**Portrait of Laurie Steelink, August 2021.** Photograph by Tira Howard

of collective cultural imagination.

“It’s about representation and representation of the people of the Community,” said Steelink, “I think it’s important that people recognize that there’s representation in all sorts of areas outside of the Community.”

Her artwork, “Pony,” is composed of found objects: a metal car hood, plastic hubcap, metal “Mustang” emblem, red wheel spike lug nuts, acrylic paint, cotton, synthetic yarn, adhesive stickers, Masonite, and electric light fixtures.

She shared what the art piece means to her, “It made me think of those moments growing up and wanting to identify with something other than where I was,” she said.

Raised in Tucson, Ariz., Steelink’s birth mother is the late Sandra Cawker, District 4, and her grandparents are Evelyn Porter and Herbert Cawker.

She currently resides in San Pedro, Calif., where she founded “Cornelius Projects,” an exhibition space in 2012 that also serves as her work studio.

It wasn’t until college that she began making artwork. She received a BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute and an MFA from Mason Gross School of Arts, Rutgers University.

Reconnecting with and referencing her ancestors, culture, and community has helped her better define her artwork.

“I think it is more defined than it ever has been



**Laurie Steelink, Pony, 2021-2022.** Acrylic paint, found objects (metal car hood, plastic hubcap, metal “Mustang” running pony emblem, alloy steel red wheel spike lug nuts (five), cotton and synthetic yarn, and adhesive stickers. Collection of the artist. Installation view of Desert Rider, 2022, Phoenix Art Museum. Courtesy of Phoenix Art Museum, Photo by Airi Katsutu

in the course of my art making,” said Steelink, “I really do think that the more creativity that is encouraged in us, all of us, the better we are as a Community and as human beings and the recognition of our connection to the natural materials, the natural world, is really important in being able to pro-

cess that creativity.”

The following is Steelink’s statement for the artwork, “Pony”:

**“Pony”**

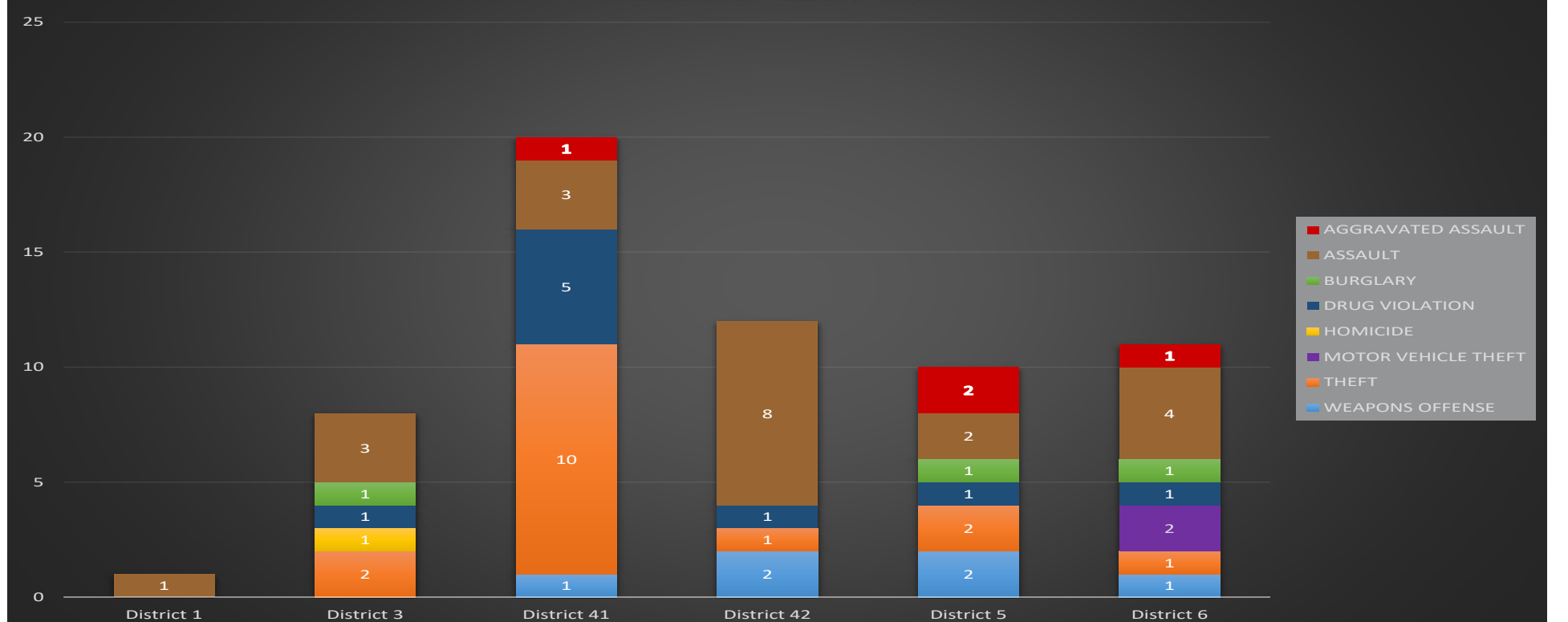
“Pony is a memory  
Pony is an emblem  
Pony is an anthem  
Pony is a launch pad for a voyage  
My child-self believed my

profound love for horses came from my ancestry. I didn’t grow up with my culture or traditions so that’s what I held on to. I desired freedom at birth. I’d save my allowance so I could ride. I stole my parents car when I was 14 years old...well...I

took it without their knowing. I was always rebellious. Still am. I put metal to the pedal in their Chevy sedan and rode around. For a short while, that Chevy sedan was my Pony...”

### Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

#### PART 1 CRIMES JUNE 1- JUNE 12





# District 4 Honors Memorial Day May 30

The District 4 Community Center hosted a small gathering in honor of Memorial Day on Monday May 30. The gathering was a time for everyone to pay tribute to all those service men and women that paid the ultimate sacrifice. Community members joined District 4 as well as Governor Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Governor Monica Antone, GRIC Royalty and members of the Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84,

The Ira H. Hayes Post 84 provided a 21-gun salute that morning before addresses were provided by GRIC Leadership. The day was one of many small gatherings held throughout the Community to honor all those killed in combat. *Photos provided by Communications & Public Affairs Office*



# Annual Employee Health & Fitness Returns

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

Employee Health & Fitness Week has returned to the Community after being postponed due to the pandemic.

Hosted by the Tribal Recreation & Wellness Center, the 2022 Employee Health & Fitness Week was held from June 6-10,

“There’s a lot of activities that you won’t see this year due to the pandemic and the changes we had to implement to ensure the safety and wellbeing of not only our staff, but the patrons as well,” said Angel Orque, Recreation Manager for the Tribal Recreation & Wellness Center.

“We are very short staffed, we are down to a team of eight right now, who are specifically working on this event this week. We normally work with a staff of 17, so we’ve modified it and we’re making due with what we have,” said Orque.

In previous years, the week featured various activities from basketball tournament, dodgeball, chair volleyball, mud volleyball, and a fitness challenge.

One of the more popular and most competitive was dodgeball, “the walls would be lined with em-

ployees and employees who weren’t even participating, but were there to witness the fun,” said Orque.

Another change to this year’s activities was the absence of spectators on-site for each competition. Instead, the events were shared through social media for everyone to watch safely.

“That is definitely a factor that the clients are feeling, you know, you’re normally used to that environment and we really are trying our best to provide

that energy with music and our staff,” said Orque.

This year, employees who signed up participated in a basketball free-throw contest, TRX challenge, horseshoe contest, a firefighter challenge, and a virtual 5k run/walk.

“Right now, I walk in the afternoon about a mile every day. I had to do something because of the pandemic,” said Joanne Brewer, Deputy Director for the Community Services Department. She participated in the TRX and 5k chal-

lenges. Brewer added, “I really enjoyed the staff. They’ve been really innovative in the way of bringing services, especially during the COVID pandemic. I really congratulate them for doing all of this. It’s really great for us to come and work out.”

The Wellness Center continues to plan additional activities for the entire Community. For example, they plan to bring back in-person classes, which are normally held at the Boys &

Girls Clubs, Sacaton Fairgrounds, and District Service Centers.

“We are planning some elder events to tour the districts and that should be coming in August and planning for other activities that the community is used to seeing us host, we are just trying to modify them,” said Orque.

The annual “Trail of Doom”, a 5k run and 2-mile walk held at the Sacaton Fairgrounds, is something they also plan to return, “We are looking at different

plans as well as contingency plans for that as well.”

Winning teams for this year’s Employee & Fitness week are:

**FIREFIGHTER CHALLENGE**

Champions: District 4 Rebels  
Department: District 4 Service Center

1. Raymond Antone
2. Jay Dedman
3. Coree Whitman

Runner Ups: Nightmare on Pear Rd. Department: Residential Youth Program

1. Mark Miller
2. Devin Jackson
3. Fernanda Maciel-Torres

**FREE THROW CHALLENGE**

Champions: Old Knees

1. Kenyen Thompson - TED
2. Leonora Stone - GRGE
3. Lance Reyna - TED
4. Mark Sanchez - CSD

Runner Ups: Box Kickers  
Department: Procurement

1. Larry Champagne
2. Albert Verdugo
3. Lomakoyva Manuel
4. Terrence Miles

**HORSESHOE CHALLENGE**

Champions: OCM Team  
Department: OCM

1. Elisha Bishop
2. Michael Preston

Runner Ups: Double G  
Department: Various

1. Godfrey Nish - CFDP
2. Garry Jackson - GRDCH



Employees power through the summer heat during the TRX workout challenge Tuesday June 7 at the Sacaton fairgrounds. Emma Hughes/ GRIN

**COURT DATE NOTICE**

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT  
TO: APRIL MAE FRANCISCO

IN THE MATTER OF TRISTAN RAY LOPEZ,  
Petitioner/Plaintiff vs.

APRIL MAE FRANCISCO, Respondent/Defendant  
CASE Number: FM-2022-0013-DV

CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/RESPONSE HEARING regarding this matter on:

Monday, September 19, 2022 at 2:00 PM in Courtroom I,

AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,  
721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.

DATED this 13th day of June, 2022

**COURT DATE NOTICE**

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT  
TO: ALICIA FLORES LUCERO

IN THE MATTER OF MARCOS RICO RODRIGUEZ,  
Petitioner/Plaintiff vs.

ALICIA FLORES LUCERO, Respondent/Defendant  
CASE Number: FM-2022-0012-PT

CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

YOU shall respond at an ANSWER/RESPONSE HEARING regarding this matter on:

Monday, September 12, 2022 at 2:00 PM in Courtroom I,

AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI,  
721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ.

YOU may respond in writing. However, even if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is still required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing, unless the time is extended by order of the Court.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona.

DATED this 5th day of June, 2022



**HUHUGAM HERITAGE CENTER**  
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

# Ha:shañ Baithag

## Mashath 2022

Submitted by  
Huhugam Heritage Center

The name for this month means 'Harvest of the Saguaro cactus fruit' and refers to the annual harvest. This natural event marks the traditional beginning of the O'otham New Year. Our Hekiu O'otham named every productive plant out on the landscape, as they encountered them year-round and observed their growth cycles. O'otham and animals alike looked forward to the nourishment the cactus fruit provided. However, in recent years, fruit production has been sporadic due to climate change and the continuing mega-drought conditions. Rainfall is one of the important factors in cactus fruit development in a normal year.

In early spring, the ha:shañ (saguaro cacti) tops become covered with ku:kug

(buds). These, later develop into hio'hosig (blossoms) and mature into baithag (unripe cactus fruit). In the last stage, the mature fruits ripen, turned red, and ready to harvest. The outer husk of the fruit called the elthag (skin), which covers the juñ (cactus fruit pulp). Juñ contains hundreds of tiny black kai (seeds). The hard stem attached to the top of the fruit is called hiosig gakihtag (dried blossom).

Dead, dried Saguaro cactus ribs called va:pai are cut and cleaned then lashed together with aj vainom (thin wire). The kuipad (harvest-pole) is assembled in several sections. At the top-end of the kuipad, a cross-piece cut from shегоi (Creosote bush), or va:pai, called a mach' kud (pusher) is wired on and finishes the kuipad. The mach' kud is placed below a baithag and nuichkwua, (push off) the baithag. The mach' kud can also be hooked over the baithag and bo i:wa (pull down) from the top. Once off the ha:shañ the baithag is then called baithaj because it's no longer attached to the cactus and is considered a food source.

O'otham families usually go out and harvest together in the early morning. Once removed, the baithag is picked up off the ground and the hiosig gakihtag used as a cutter. In former times, baithaj was collected in a hua (coiled-basket). Nowadays, O'otham collect the baithaj in a va:so (bucket). Baithaj can be eaten raw, slow cooked to make sithol (syrup), or made into ha:shañ vadag (cactus fruit drink).

This month's word match will center on items associated with ha:shañ. We encourage you to learn these words and use them in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or Speaker and learn to say the terms. Terms may be slightly different between the villages.

A special Thank You to community Elders for sharing their knowledge of ha:shañ baithag that made this article possible. Additional source related from At the Desert's Green Edge: An Ethnobotany of the Gila River Pima, Amadeo Rea, University of Arizona Press, 1997.

Ha:shañ Baithag Mashath 2022 Word Match

hio'hosig



baithag



hiosig gakihtag



kuipad



mach' kud



baithaj



sithol



Photographs Courtesy Robert Johnson

Word Match Solution on Page 9



Saturday morning cyclists make a pass through the Sacaton Elementary School parking lot. Photo courtesy of Elisha Bishop

### Bike Ride From Front Page

rides and brought out new first time riders. In the future, he plans to seek funding sources to support the rides and hopes to participate in bike rides throughout the state.

Earlier this year, Bishop organized a Gila River Bike Tour from Feb. 19 to 21. The three-day bike tour challenged riders to bike across the entire Community. The bike tour began with a 14-mile ride from District 1 to District 4, which started with 20 riders. On day two, they traveled from District 4, Upper Santan, to Wild Horse Pass for 24 miles, but only six riders returned. Then on the final day, they traveled from Wild Horse Pass to District 7 for 21 miles, where only two Community members completed the entire 59-mile route, aside from Bishop.

Bishop learned plenty from the experience and will use it to plan another bike tour in 2023. Another future goal is to host bike events that align with GRIC events, such as a Water Rights Day Ride in December.

Weekend rides will continue this year, and Bishop encourages anyone interested to join. Call or text Bishop at (520) 858-

2774 or follow him on Instagram by searching "Elisha\_bishop\_" for more news and updates on bike rides in the Community.

**STAY INFORMED!**

Sign up to receive text messages 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

**TEXT ALERT**

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!!!**

**SUPER DAD!**

**O'OTHAM HUMOR.**

*U. Mancias*  
6/22



# GRPD Chief of Police Retires

Emma Hughes  
Gila River Indian News

Gila River Police Department's Chief of Police Timothy Chavez retired after serving the Gila River Indian Community for 20 years.

Fellow officers, colleagues, friends, and family gathered to celebrate Chavez's career during a retirement ceremony on Tuesday, May 31.

He was presented with an official retirement badge, presented to him by William Morago, former Assistant Chief and now acting Chief for the department.

"I just want to thank everybody that has been with me throughout my career here [Gila River Indian Community]," said Chavez. "I appreciate all the friends that I made here in the Community, got to know many, many people here and I really value their friendship."



From left to right, District 1 Council Representative Arzie Hogg, District 3 Council Representative Avery White, retired GRPD Chief of Police Timothy Chavez, Lt. Governor Monica Antone, former District 2 Council Representative Carol Schurz, and District 5 Council Representative James De La Rosa during Chavez's retirement celebration. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Chavez began his police career with the Ak-Chin Indian Community Police Department. Then

later, he joined the Gila River Police Department in 2001 as a Ranger and School Resource Officer.

"I really enjoyed my time as a school resource officer, mentoring the kids at Sacaton Middle School, developing relationships with the teachers, staff and school board. I learned a lot there on how to give good customer service to the Community," he shared.

In 2019, Chavez was named Chief of Police and was appointed to serve on the state's study committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

and Girls, along with Lt. Gov. Monica Antone.

During her remarks, Lt. Gov. Antone emphasized the establishment of the first tribal cold case unit housed within the Gila River Police Department during Chavez's tenure. This unit is part of Operation Lady Justice, a federal task force on Missing and Murdered American Indians.

Lt. Gov. Antone and Robert Miguel, Chairman of the Ak-Chin Indian Community and friend to Chavez, presented him with parting gifts, including a Pendleton blanket

and commemorative crystal trophy.

"I want to thank Gov. Lewis, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, and Community Council Members, they've always been supportive to public safety, the police department, and to myself and my career," said Chavez.

Many spoke highly of Chavez and shared stories of his kind and generous nature, including former Lt. Gov. Robert Stone.

"He's a man with a big heart and anything he does for the Community, he was always there," said Stone.

A final "sign-off" message from the Gila River Police Department was sent out over airwaves for Chavez, stating: "You have made a difference in the lives of many, your legacy here will be long lasting and its ripple effect infinite. We thank you for your service and dedication," said the dispatcher.

A "memory booklet" featuring highlights from Chavez's career was available for his fellow officers, friends, and family to sign.

"I'm very happy and proud that he gets to go and spend time with family," said K9 Unit Sgt. Brown. Chavez and Brown attended the police academy together.

"Thank you, everyone. I really appreciate everybody, I'm going to miss you all," said Chavez.



Newly appointed GRPD Acting Chief of Police William Morago presents Officer Chavez with his official retirement badge. Emma Hughes/GRIN

### NOTICE of PUBLIC SCOPING

#### Environmental Assessment for the Project Scannell Development District 4 of the Gila River Indian Community

The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Pima Agency (BIA) and the Gila River Indian Community (Community) are releasing this public notice of an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Project Scannell (Project) in District 4 of the Community. The Project would be a new warehouse and distribution park that would provide a major regional hub for the storage and movement of goods and services. This notice is intended to provide details about the proposed project, and to request your input.

#### Proposed Action

The project proponent, Revel-Scannell LLC, has submitted a commercial master lease application to the BIA for the development of a new warehouse and distribution park on approximately 203 acres (16 Tribal; 187 allotted) of Community land. The Project would be located near the southeast corner of 40th Street and Willis Road. The warehouse and distribution park would include multistory buildings for light industrial and commercial businesses. Final site design would be dependent on prevailing business needs; however, key project components would include:

- A total of 11 new buildings providing approximately 3.6 million square feet of space.
- Buildings would range between 24 to 48 feet in height.
- Employee and visitor parking lots and interior roadways.
- A new plaza and park area.
- A potential turn lane would be constructed from Willis Road into the Project.

The Project would connect all required utilities associated with the warehouse and distribution park, including electrical service, water, sewer, communications, etc. through coordination with the Community and local service providers. Stormwater would be detained in basins or swales and allowed to percolate onsite, instead of being discharged. Early site development would begin in early 2023, with build-out expected to occur over a 10-year period. Vehicle access along 40th Street and Willis Road would be maintained throughout construction periods; however, vehicle traffic along these roadways could experience occasional short-term temporary delays. No transportation detours or changes in transportation access are anticipated.

Development of the proposed warehouse and distribution park on allotted land requires approval of the commercial master lease by the BIA, which is considered a federal action subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EA will include analysis of allotted and Tribal land, should the Community decide to have Tribal land and allotted land in the same lease.

#### Purpose and Need

The purpose of the Project is to build an approximately 203-acre business park on Community land to support new light-industrial and commercial uses. The project would create business opportunities within the Community that would facilitate and diversify economic growth, provide needed goods and services and employment opportunities, and provide lease payments to the Community and allotted landowners.

#### Scoping Period

As part of NEPA, federal agencies are required to consider the potential social and environmental impacts of proposed actions. This letter serves as the BIA's invitation to you or your agency to submit comments, concerns, or suggestions regarding the proposed action. All comments received become part of the public record associated with this EA. Accordingly, your comments (including your name and address) will be available for review by any person that wishes to view the record. At your request we will withhold your contact information to the extent allowed by the Freedom of Information Act. Please submit your comments within 30 days of posting of this notice.

Cecilia Baker, Superintendent  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pima Agency  
P.O. Box 8  
Sacaton, Arizona 85147  
Telephone: (520) 562-3326  
Email: Cecilia.Baker@bia.gov

Gila River Indian Community

# Go Skateboarding Day 4

JUNE 21

Sacaton, Arizona

## D4 Santan Skatepark

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Sign up with D4 Recreation

**FREE EVENT FOR GRIC MEMBERS**

Sponsored By:

CALL D4 FOR MORE INFO: 520-418-3661  
OR EMAIL: KELLY.WHITMAN.D4@GRIC.NSN.US  
INSTAGRAM.COM/SEVENLAYERARMY



# GRIC Member Holds Annual Sock Donation Drive



**Danielle Mercado collected over 5,000 pairs of new socks last year for Andre House in Phoenix, Ariz.** Photo courtesy of Danielle Mercado

**Kyle Knox**

Gila River Indian News

This Summer, Danielle Mercado, District 6, launched her inaugural donation sock drive. With a new year comes a new goal and many other changes, all for the better. Recent changes to her donation drive now include a rebrand, now called Serious About Socks, an extended donation timeline, and more items to donate this year.

“Serious About Socks provides someone a basic necessity that we sometimes take for granted, and it will help someone’s everyday life with these donations,” said Mercado. Through her volunteer service she has seen firsthand how socks benefit the less fortunate, at The Andre House in downtown Phoenix.

After riding the success of two donation drives, Mercado was eager to start June 1. “I know times are hard for everyone, it seems right now, but I still think it’s important for us to do what we can for those in need no matter through these donations,” said Mercado. “So this year I increased my goal from 5,000 to 10,000 pairs and in the end, if we get 5 or 500 pairs it will still be a success.”

The Andre House, where many Native Americans seek out services, will receive all the items collected again this year.

Mercado said, “There

are so many Native Americans that go through there [Andre House] so your donations will go a long way to help a lot of people from every walk of life.”

While the new goal of 10,000 pairs is ambitious, she knows it will be challenging. Regardless she remains undeterred and said the number serves as a motivating factor.

An additional change to the donation drive is that shoes are now an acceptable item. She is accepting slightly used or gently worn adult shoes to donate to the Andre House this year. “I feel like we all have that old pair of shoes that we don’t wear anymore, I know I do, so I thought why not ask for those as donations too,” said Mercado.

She feels that the addition of shoes to this years drive may help for more people to contribute.

Mercado also indicated that purchasing new pairs of socks and arranging pickup times wasn’t always convenient for many. So, she felt like providing a way for people to get rid of older items in the closet was an easier option.

This year she also extended the collection time to include the entire month of June and July. The extra donation time will allow for more items to be collected and reach her goal.

The Serious About Socks conception came

from Mercado’s time volunteering and her love of running. When she lived in Phoenix, she often passed homeless individuals that opened her eyes to the need for socks.

Last year she stated, “During my summer runs, I realized that my socks matter because my feet would get hot,” said Mercado. “I would get blisters, but I am fortunate enough to go home to an A/C and a shower, rest my feet and mend. But the people I pass do not have that luxury. Instead, they have to live on that hot street and sleep on the pavement year-round.” This realization led to Mercado’s creation of the Serious About Socks donation drive.

Today, everyone has a chance to help Mercado with her effort and make an impact for those in need.

Anyone interested has until now and July 31 to donate any gently used shoes or new, packaged adult socks for men and women. To learn more about Serious About Socks email 1dollar1pair@gmail.com or follow her on Instagram by searching “Serious About Socks.”

Monetary donations are also being accepted this year via digital money transfers. All donated funds will go towards the purchase of socks. To donate virtually, you can do so by using Venmo or Cash App by searching “seriousaboutssocks.”

## Gila River Tribal Health Department—Animal Control Program

433 W. Seed Farm Rd., Sacaton, Az. 85147

520-562-5177 / 520-562-5100

The Tribal Health Department is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all our employees, customers and visitors. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID—19 in our work place while conducting services.

The Animal Control/Spay and Neuter Programs are continuing to provide services to the community. These services include:

- Vaccinations
- Spaying and Neutering
- Tick control medication
- Basic Examinations
- Licensing
- Animal related questions and concerns
- Adoptions



**Hours of Operations:** Sundays thru Saturdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. For questions or concerns pertaining to dogs or cats, call Animal Control at 520-562-5177. When leaving a message, please speak clearly and detailed with your name, number and your concern. A staff member will return your call within a 24 hour time frame.

**Emergencies:** If you have an emergency between the hours of 5:00pm to 8:00am, please contact the Gila River Police Department at 520-562-4511 and give your name, number and type of emergency.

**D5 Animal Shelter:** The Shelter is open to the public Monday thru Friday between the hours of 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Please be mindful the Shelter is closed on both Federal and GRIC recognized Holidays.

**Spay and Neuter Program:** Basic pet examinations, treatments, and sterilizations are provided by appointment only.

**Vaccinations:** Accepting walk-ins Monday thru Friday from 12:30pm to 4:00pm at the District 5 Animal Shelter.



Please contact the Animal Control Program at 520-562-5177 for questions and to schedule an appointment.

# Heat Safety



### What to do

- Move to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing
- Sip cool water
- Seek medical help

Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given.

### What to do

- Call 911
- Move person to a cooler area
- Loosen clothing and remove extra layers
- Cool with water or ice



# Hydration

Drinking enough fluids is one of the most important things you can do to prevent heat illness. Water is sufficient for hydration.

# Water Safety

Never leave a child unattended in or near water. Always watch children when they’re in or near water. Designate an adult tasked with supervising children in the water.



sources  
<https://www.poolsafely.gov/parents/safety-tips/>  
<https://www.weather.gov/safety/heat>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/UserFiles/works/pdfs/2017-126.pdf>  
 for educational purposes only

Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated, Stay Informed!

Tribal Health Department  
 520-562-5100





# COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • June 1, 2022

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

**CALL TO ORDER**  
 The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, June 1, 2022, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:12 a.m.

**INVOCATION**  
 Provided by Councilwoman Carol Schurz

**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-Ann Lucas (10:09); D3- Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Jennifer Allison, Regina Antone, Christopher Mendoza, Nada Celaya (10:09); D5- James De La Rosa, Marlin Dixon, Wahlean Riggs, Brian Davis, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird








**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORT #6 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #1 THROUGH #4 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED  
 SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR THE NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS  
 District 2 – Ann M. Lucas  
 District 3 – Avery White  
 District 4 – Nada Celaya  
 District 5 – Brian E. Davis, Sr.  
 District 6 – Charles W. Goldtooth  
 District 7 – Devin Redbird  
 Associate Judge – Brianna L. Rhodes  
 CHIEF JUDGE HILL PROVIDED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO EACH OF THE NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS, AS WELL AS, NEWLY ELECTED ASSOCIATE JUDGE  
 [GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS CALLED FOR A 15-MINUTE BREAK. THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:09 A.M.]  
**PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS**  
**REPORTS**

\*1. Great Call Report Quarter 2  
 Presenters: Jim Meyers, GRTI Board of Directors, Miane Men  
 ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
 >2. Haskell Osife-Antone American Legion Auxiliary Unit 51 FY22 1st and 2nd Quarter Grant Financial Report and Summaries  
 Presenters: Pamela Thompson, Alison Anderson  
 ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
 >3. BGCGRIC 2021-22 (Q1 and Q2) Reporting  
 Presenters: Jason Jones, Mark Clavell, Jocelyn Young, Anita Leon, Soyte Antone, Tamara Peters  
 ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
 >4. Department of Community Housing FY2022 Semi-Annual Report (October 1, 2021-March 31, 2022)  
 Presenter: Derwin Cooper  
 ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
 5. COVID-19 Update  
 Presenters: COVID-19 Task Force  
 REPORT HEARD  
 >6. WHPDA Monthly Report for April 2022  
 Presenter: Elizabeth Antone  
 TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
 7. Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council April 2022 (Executive Session)  
 Presenters: Gaming Commission Board, M. Scott Sanderson, Lydia Acosta  
 ACCEPTED  
 8. Gila River Gaming Enterprises Monthly Report for April 2022 (Executive Session)  
 Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Richard Strafella, Tony DeMark, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee  
 ACCEPTED  
**RESOLUTIONS**  
 1. A Resolution Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The Arizona Department Of Transportation For The Purpose Of Providing A Mechanism For ADOT To Reimburse The Community For Services Provided By Community Employees, Its Agents And/Or Contractors, Supporting All The Activities Required Or The Right Of Way Development, Acquisition, And Related Services For Various ADOT Projects Within The Tribal Jurisdiction And Providing For A Limited Waiver Of Sovereign Immunity And Approving The Scope Of Work For Services To Be Performed For The I-10 Wild Horse Pass Corridor Project (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for

approval; NRSC and CRSC concur)  
 Presenters: Javier Ramos  
 APPROVED  
 2. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Operating Budget Modification No. 2 For Fiscal Year 2022 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with amendments)  
 Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix  
 APPROVED  
**ORDINANCES**  
**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**  
 1. Gila River Gaming Commission Appointment of One (1) Gaming Commissioner  
 Presenter: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT PENNY HAYES  
 2. Gila River Health Care Board of Director's Appointment of One (1) Board of Director  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT VICTORIA ALLISON  
 3. Community Council Secretary Appointment  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT SHANNON WHITE  
 4. Government & Management Standing Committee Appointment Two (2) Council Seats  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT ANN LUCAS AND ARZIE HOGG  
 5. Natural Resources Standing Committee Appointment Three (3) Council Seats  
 Presenter: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT ANN LUCAS, BRIAN DAVIS, SR. AND CHARLES GOLDTOOTH  
 6. Health & Social Standing Committee Appointment Two (2) Council Seats  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT DEVIN REDIRD AND NADA CELAYA  
 7. Legislative Standing Committee Appointment One (1) Council Seat  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT AVERY WHITE  
 8. Education Standing Committee Appointment One (1) Council Seat  
 Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT CHARLES GOLDTOOTH  
 9. Cultural Resource Standing Committee Appointment Two (2) Council Seats  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT NADA CELAYA AND ANN LUCAS  
 10. Economic Development Standing Committee Appointment Three (3) Council Seats  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT CHRISTOPHER MENDOZA, CHARLES GOLDTOOTH, AND BRIAN DAVIS, SR.  
 11. Gila River Farms Board of Directors (2) Appointments  
 Presenters: Community Council  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT BRIAN DAVIS, SR. AND JOEY WHITMAN  
**NEW BUSINESS**  
 \*1. BGCGRIC Reopening Plan for 2022 (G&MSC forwards to H&SSC for their review and approval prior to being forwarded to Council; H&SSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)  
 Presenters: Jason Jones, Mark Clavell, Anita Leon  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REOPENING PLAN  
 2. 7th Annual Native American Cannabis and Hemp Conference Resort & Casino in Temecula, CA June 14-15, 2022 at Pechanga (H&SSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)  
 Presenters: Health & Social Standing Committee  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ALLOW INTERESTED COUNCIL TO ATTEND  
**MINUTES**  
 1. May 18, 2022 (Regular)  
 MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE ANNOUNCEMENTS  
 •GILA RIVER FARMS BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022 AT 8:00 A.M.  
 ADJOURNMENT  
 •WHPDA MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2022 AT 9:00 A.M.  
 ADJOURNMENT  
 MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:23 A.M.  
 \* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)  
 > Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

**Ha:shañ Baithag Mashath 2022 Word Match – Solution!**

hio'hosig →   
 baithag →   
 hiosig gakithag →   
 kuipad →   
 mach' kud →   
 baithaj →   
 sithol → 

Photographs Courtesy Robert Johnson

## THE GRIN IS HIRING FOR A COMMUNITY NEWSPERSON

Looking for a career opportunity in media? Then the Gila River Indian News is right for you. The GRIN is looking for a Community Newsperson to join our newspaper and digital media team.

- Gather information for newsworthy stories
- Take pictures and video at Community events
- Create content for the web and social media

If you have a background in writing, journalism and media such as photography and video along with great communication skills, then apply today. Work with the latest design and publishing software to gain valuable experience in an exciting field.

*Must possess experience in newspaper publication journalism, communications, media and article/feature writing or any combination of education, training, or experience which demonstrates the ability to perform the duties of this position.*





Scan the QR Code for more information and to apply



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



# Gila Healers Innovate New Outlet for Mental Health

**Kyle Knox**  
Gila River Indian News

Several members of the Akimel O’odham/ Pee-Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) formed an online mental health initiative called Gila Healers. The effort is part of HealthCorps’ Inc., a national non-profit supported by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona and the Teens Make Health

Happen (TMHH) club. The newly formed Gila Healers club encourages youth grades six to 12 to consider joining.

The Gila Healers club consists of AOPPYC members who serve in various roles. For example, AOPPYC President Sineca Jackson serves as the Marketing Director, Jada Young, an At-Large member, is the Supply

Manager, and Caiden Lewis, District 3, works as the Team Leader.

Taneesha Watson, Regional Program Manager for HealthCorps Inc, said, “Teens Make Health Happen clubs provide educational leadership programming and service learning for teens around physical activity, nutrition, mental resilience, and

community engagement.” Watson provided support and guidance for the Gila Healers when creating and prototyping their ideas. She also placed an ASU student intern to work with the youth to facilitate their planning.

The Gila Healers’ goal for the TMHH project was to create a healthy outlet for teens from GRIC to learn more

about mental health utilizing Instagram. In addition, the group wanted to create a safe space for discussions among teens and provide awareness videos on the subject created by the group or from existing content.

Recently, the Gila Healers submitted a proposal to the HealthCorps national Project Health Showcase on May 7. The showcase brought students from across the nation together to present ideas and projects to combat health inequities in their communities. The showcase also had a competition component where projects vied for a chance to win funding for their project.

During the showcase competition, Gila Healers won an honorable mention prize which provided \$100 for their project’s funding. This prize will supplement an additional \$250 for the budget allotted to them from the HealthCorps regional project health funding.

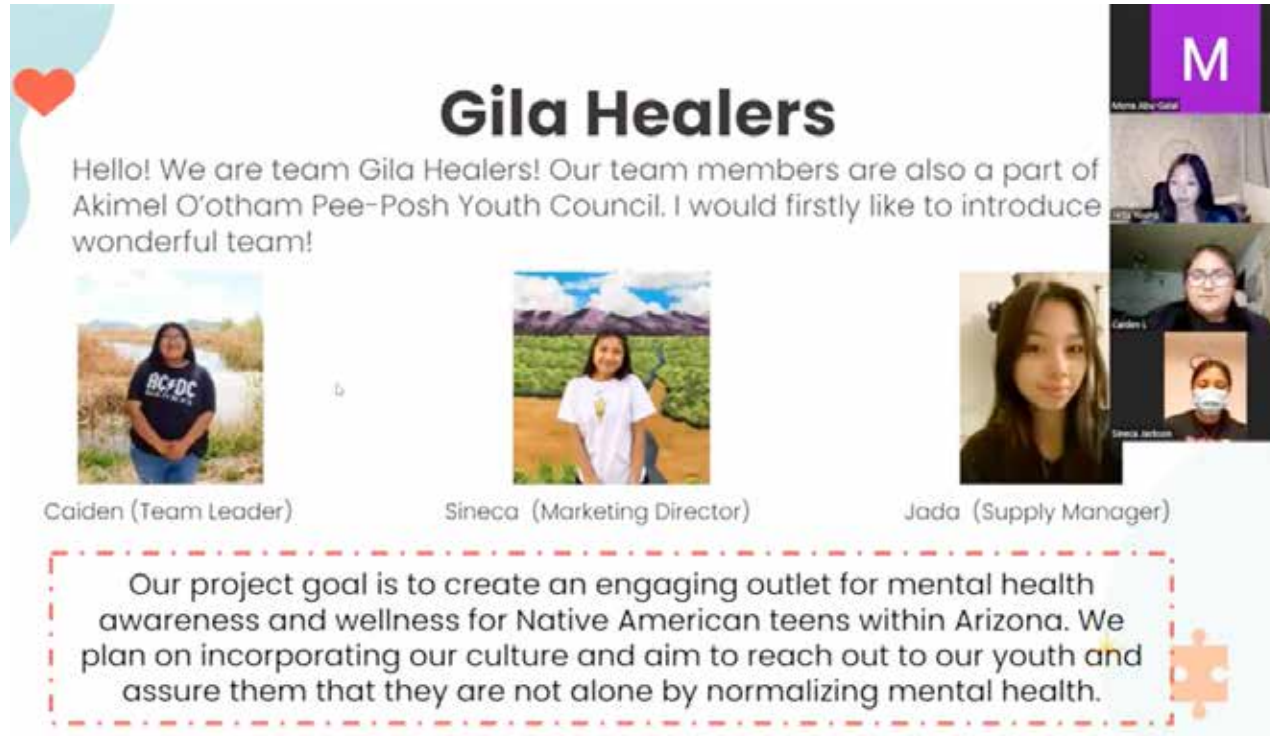
Using the funding, Gila

Healers plans to provide workshops and activities this Fall. Part of the goal is to design a mental health fair focusing on cultural activities, engaging mental health activities, and presentations by Native American leaders and artists. They hope to incorporate culture and reach out to youth to assure them they are not alone and help normalize understanding of mental health issues.

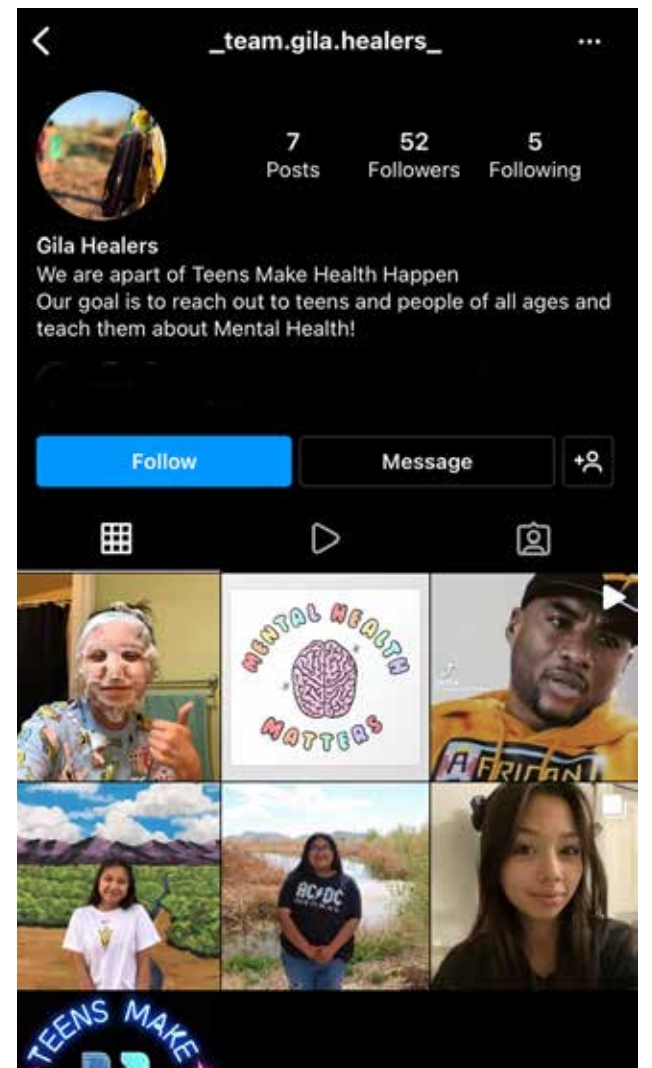
Watson is proud of what Gila Healers have accomplished to date and looks forward to implementing their plans this fall.

“I encourage all GRIC youth to get involved with Gila Healers. There’s so much potential to build on this movement, improve the Community, and make an impact,” said Watson.

To connect with the Gila Healers on Instagram, search “\_team.gila.healers\_” or email Taneesha Watson at Taneesha.Watson@HealthCorps.org.



Screenshot of the Gila Healers during their virtual presentation May 7 as part of the “Teens Make Health Happen” event. Photo courtesy of HealthCorps.



Gila Healers host a page on Instagram for GRIC youth to connect and learn about mental health. Photo courtesy of Gila Healers

## HOT WEATHER TIPS FOR YOUR DOGS!!

ALWAYS PROVIDE OPEN ACCESS TO:

- CLEAN & FRESH WATER
- SHADE (TREES, DOG HOUSE, PORCH)

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- EXERCISE YOUR DOG IN THE EARLY MORNING OR LATE EVENINGS
- WET YOU'RE DOG PAWS AS THIS A WAY TO COOL OFF

SIGNS OF HEAT EXPOSURE

- EXCESSIVE PANTING
- DIFFICULTY BREATHING
- DROOLING
- MILD WEAKNESS
- INCREASE HEART RATE
- COLLAPSE & SEIZURE
- VOMITING

WHAT SHOULD YOU NOT DO?

- NEVER WALK DURING THE MID-DAY ESPECIALLY IN OPEN SUN
- NEVER LEAVE YOUR PETS IN A PARKED CAR (NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE)
- AVOID SIDEWALKS AND PAVEMENT EVEN DURING THE EVENING BECAUSE IT CAN STILL BE HOT
- CAN TRIM LONGER HAIR DOGS, BUT NEVER SHAVE THEIR COATS
- DO NOT RELY ON A FAN, BECAUSE THEY DON'T COOL OFF PETS AS EFFECTIVELY AS THEY DO PEOPLE

TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTION FOR:

- OLDER, OBESE & SHORT-NOSED DOGS ARE LESS TOLERANT OF HEAT (PUGS, BULLDOGS, BOXERS, AND BOSTON TERRIERS)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE ANIMAL CONTROL PROGRAM AT (520) 562-5177**

**Submission**  
Things are not going well. Gas is at an all-time high, food prices are the highest they have been in 40 years, and GRIC urban members are seeing some of the highest rent increases in America. GRIC is not alone in dealing with inflation and economic uncertainty. America is teetering on the edge of a recession with inflation at its highest since 1981. We need to do more to uplift and support Community members and their families. General Assistance payments help and need to continue, but GRIC families need targeted assistance. Programs that don't require in-person trips to short-staffed offices, notarized paper forms, or means testing. I've sent a letter to my council people to suggest possible solutions, and I'd be happy to share with anyone interested. I'd love to hear feedback on my ideas, as well as any ideas you have. Some suggestions include:

- Raise Wages
- Offer Childcare/Tutoring Subsidies
- Increase Funding for Public Transit
- Increase Rental Assistance for Urban Members
- Increase Support for Small Business

Don't hesitate to reach out to your councilperson to share your story and your concerns. Let them know how inflation is affecting you and recommendations to help!  
Leonard Bruce, D4 Community Member – Lfnbrucie@gmail.com





# Alluvion Communications

An enterprise of the Gila River Indian Community



## Alluvion Enabling Critical Broadband Connectivity for Businesses and Emergency Services Departments at the Coolidge Municipal Airport

The Coolidge Municipal Airport in Coolidge, AZ has undergone significant improvements in recent years. In 2019, the City of Coolidge was awarded funding to construct a new runway in hopes of generating more traffic at the site and making the airport a hub for economic development.

The latest improvement to the airport comes in the form of broadband infrastructure from Alluvion. High-speed, reliable broadband connectivity is critical to the seamless operation of many airport functions. Our team broke ground on the project in early June which means soon, the airport as well as it's current and future tenants will enjoy improved telecommunications services. We are proud to contribute to the enhancement of the Coolidge Municipal Airport.



[www.alluvion.net](http://www.alluvion.net) | (480) 639-1990 | [info@alluvion.net](mailto:info@alluvion.net) | 7065 W. Allison Rd. Chandler, AZ 85226 | Follow us @alluvioncom



# Homeownership can happen. We can help.

Section 184: Native American home loans.

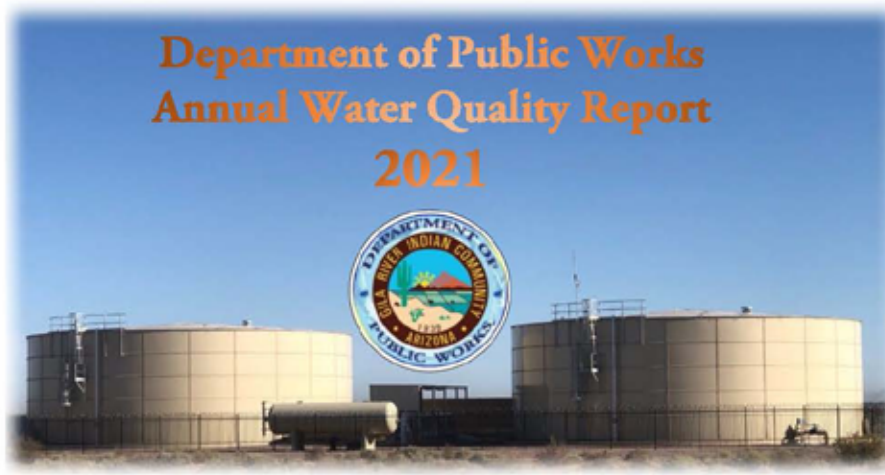


Matt Rosbrook  
Mortgage Banker  
NMLS# 428761  
Phone 602-695-1079  
[mrosbrook@bokf.com](mailto:mrosbrook@bokf.com)

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# Department of Public Works Annual Water Quality Report 2021



This report is a snapshot of your water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

### Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Water Quality Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Public Water System #09940047 Sacaton – 2021 Water Quality Table									
Your water comes from 3 ground water sources. Community Districts served are Districts 1, 2 & 3.									
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source	
				Low	High				
<b>Disinfectants:</b>									
Chlorine Units: ppm	4	4	0.6033	0.16	1.05	2021	No	Drinking water additive used for disinfection	
<b>Disinfection By-Product:</b>									
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Units: ppb	N/A	60	2.2	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) Units: ppb	N/A	80	16	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>									
Arsenic Units: ppb	0	10	6.1	5.3	6.1	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronic production wastes	
Barium Units: ppm	2	2	0.079	0.04	0.079	2020	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Chromium Units: ppb	100	100	3.3	2.3	3.3	2020	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride Units: ppm	4	4	0.66	0.57	0.66	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Nitrate [reported as Nitrogen] Units: ppm	10	10	9.0	3.6	9.0	2021	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Selenium Units: ppb	50	50	3.2	1.9	3.2	2019	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff	
Sodium Units: ppm			170	130	170	2020	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion	
<b>Radiological Contaminants:</b>									
Uranium (combined) Units: ppb	0	30	26.5	22	27	2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
<b>Lead and Copper Rule:</b>									
Copper Units: ppm-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	1.3	1.3	0.22			2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leach from wood preservatives	
Lead Units: ppb-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0	15	0.65			2020	No	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits	

### Microbiological Testing:

We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations called assessments and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could lead to required corrective actions. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

Calendar Year	Sampling Requirements	Sampling Conducted (months)	Total E. coli Positive	Assessment Triggers	Assessments Conducted
2021	7 Sample due monthly	12 out of 12	0	0	0

### Definitions:

Term	Definition
positives samples	the number of positive samples taken that year
% positive samples/month	% of samples taken monthly that were positive
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
ND	Not Detected
90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Statistical value used to determine if Active Level is exceeded. Determined by calculating the value at which 90% of the samples tested were below that value.

### Why Are There Contaminants in My Drinking Water?

Drinking water, include bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of Contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity including:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Public Water System #090406652 Wild Horse Pass – 2021 Water Quality Table									
Your water comes from 4 ground water sources. Community Districts served are Wild Horse Pass, Dist. 6 & 7.									
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source	
				Low	High				
<b>Disinfectants:</b>									
Chlorine Units: ppm	4	4	0.733	0.1	1.75	2021	No	Drinking water additive used for disinfection	
<b>Disinfection By-Product:</b>									
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Units: ppb	N/A	60	2.2	ND	2.2	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) Units: ppb	N/A	80	8.8	2.6	15	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>									
Arsenic Units: ppb	0	10	8.3	0.0049	9.3	2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronic production wastes	
Barium Units: ppm	2	2	0.14	N/A	N/A	2021	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Chromium Units: ppb	100	100	12	N/A	N/A	2021	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride Units: ppm	4	4	0.58	N/A	N/A	2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Nitrate [reported as Nitrogen] Units: ppm	10	10	2.6	0.91	2.6	2021	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Selenium Units: ppb	50	50	1.4	N/A	N/A	2021	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff	
Sodium Units: ppm			190	N/A	N/A	2021	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion	
<b>Lead and Copper Rule:</b>									
Copper Units: ppm-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	1.3	1.3	0.051			2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leach from wood preservatives	
Lead Units: ppb-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0	15	0.5			2020	No	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits	

### Microbiological Testing:

We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations called assessments and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could lead to required corrective actions. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

Calendar Year	Sampling Requirements	Sampling Conducted (months)	Total E. coli Positive	Assessment Triggers	Assessments Conducted
2021	25 Sample due monthly	12 out of 12	0	1	1

During the year 2021 we were required to conduct One Level 1 Assessment. One Level 1 Assessment was completed.

### Definitions

A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

### Definitions:

Term	Definition
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion, or microgram per liter (ug/L)
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
N/A	Not Applicable
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, Triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

### How Can I Get Involved?

Please feel free to contact the number provided below for more information or for a translated copy of the report if you need it in another language.

\* Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. \*

### For more information please contact:

Department of Public Works, Chris Huang, Water/Wastewater Operations Manager  
PO Box G, 186 S. Skill Center Road, Sacaton, Arizona, 85147 Phone: (520) 796-4532 Fax: (520) 796-4539



# Public Works Annual Water Quality Report 2021, Cont.'d

**Public Water System #090400691 Aerodyne – 2021 Water Quality Table**  
Your water comes from 1 ground water source which served the Aerodyne Subdivision.  
The ground water source is from Public Water System #090400345 (Lone Butte Industrial Park).

Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants:</b>								
Chlorine Units: ppm	4	4	0.57	0.32	0.82	2021	No	Drinking water additive used for disinfection
Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfection By-Product:</b>								
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Units: ppb	N/A	60	ND	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) Units: ppb	N/A	80	5.5	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>								
Arsenic Units: ppb	0	10	5.9	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronic production wastes
Barium Units: ppm	2	2	0.11	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Units: ppb	100	100	9	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [reported as Nitrogen] Units: ppm	10	10	1.1	N/A	N/A	2021	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium Units: ppb	50	50	3.1	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff
Sodium Units: ppm			190	N/A	N/A	2019	190	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion
<b>Radiological Contaminants:</b>								
Combined Radium 226/228 Units: pCi/L	0	5	0.7	N/A	N/A	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	Action Level	Your Water	Number of Sites Over A.L.		Sample Date	A.L. Exceeded	Typical Source
<b>Lead and Copper Rule:</b>								
Copper Units: ppm-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	1.3	1.3	0.0965	0 site over action level		2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leach from wood preservatives
Lead Units: ppb-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0	15	0.825	0 site over action level		2020	No	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

**Microbiological Testing:**  
We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations called assessments and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could lead to required corrective actions. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

Calendar Year	Sampling Requirements	Sampling Conducted (months)	Total E. coli Positive	Assessment Triggers	Assessments Conducted
2021	1 Sample due monthly	12 out of 12	0	0	0

**Public Water System #09040092 Casa Blanca – 2021 Water Quality Table**  
Your water comes from 2 ground water sources. Community Districts served are Districts 5.

Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants:</b>								
Chlorine Units: ppm	4	4	0.7872	0.21	1.12	2021	No	Drinking water additive used for disinfection
Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfection By-Product:</b>								
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Units: ppb	N/A	60	ND	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) Units: ppb	N/A	80	13	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>								
Arsenic Units: ppb	0	10	6.8	6.6	6.8	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronic production wastes
Barium Units: ppm	2	2	0.071	0.064	0.071	2020	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Units: ppb	100	100	2.8	ND	2.8	2020	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Units: ppm	4	4	0.89	ND	0.89	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [reported as Nitrogen] Units: ppm	10	10	8.3	0.85	8.3	2021	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium Units: ppb	50	50	2.3	ND	2.3	2020	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff
Sodium Units: ppm			190	150	190	2020	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion
<b>Radiological Contaminants:</b>								
Uranium (combined) Units: ppb	0	30	11.9	7.897	11.92	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	Action Level	Your Water	Number of Sites Over A.L.		Sample Date	A.L. Exceeded	Typical Source
<b>Lead and Copper Rule:</b>								
Copper Units: ppm-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	1.3	1.3	0.147	0 site over action level		2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leach from wood preservatives

**Microbiological Testing:**  
We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations called assessments and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could lead to required corrective actions. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

Calendar Year	Sampling Requirements	Sampling Conducted (months)	Total E. coli Positive	Assessment Triggers	Assessments Conducted
2021	3 Sample due monthly	12 out of 12	0	0	0

**Public Water System #090400996 Stotonic – 2021 Water Quality Table**  
Your water comes from 2 ground water sources. Community District served is District 4.  
The two ground water sources are from Public Water System #090400047 & #090400092.

Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants:</b>								
Chlorine Units: ppm	4	4	0.6331	0.2	1.26	2021	No	Drinking water additive used for disinfection
Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfection By-Product:</b>								
Five Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Units: ppb	N/A	60	2.1	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) Units: ppb	N/A	80	5.5	N/A	N/A	2021	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants:</b>								
Arsenic Units: ppb	0	10	6.8	5.3	6.8	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronic production wastes
Barium Units: ppm	2	2	0.079	0.04	0.079	2020	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Units: ppb	100	100	3.3	ND	3.3	2020	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride Units: ppm	4	4	0.89	ND	0.89	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [reported as Nitrogen] Units: ppm	10	10	9	0.85	8.3	2021	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium Units: ppb	50	50	3.2	ND	3.2	2020	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff
Sodium Units: ppm			190	130	190	2020	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion
<b>Radiological Contaminants:</b>								
Uranium (combined) Units: ppb	0	30	26.5	7.897	27	2017-2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	Action Level	Your Water	Number of Sites Over A.L.		Sample Date	A.L. Exceeded	Typical Source
<b>Lead and Copper Rule:</b>								
Copper Units: ppm-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	1.3	1.3	0.34	0 site over action level		2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leach from wood preservatives
Lead Units: ppb-90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0	15	0.57	0 site over action level		2020	No	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

**Microbiological Testing:**  
We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations called assessments and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could lead to required corrective actions. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

Calendar Year	Sampling Requirements	Sampling Conducted (months)	Total E. coli Positive	Assessment Triggers	Assessments Conducted
2021	3 Sample due monthly	12 out of 12	0	0	0

**Special Education Statements:**

**Additional Information for Arsenic**  
While your drinking water meets the EPA standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The EPA standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**Additional Information for Nitrate**  
Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

**Additional Information for Lead**  
If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. PWS system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

**Significant Deficiencies:**

Sanitary deficiencies are defects in a water system's infrastructure, design, operation, maintenance, or management that cause, or may cause interruptions to the "multiple barrier" protection system and adversely affect the system's ability to produce safe and reliable drinking water in adequate quantities.

The following is a listing of significant deficiencies that have yet to be corrected. Your public water system is still working to correct these deficiencies and interim milestones are shown, as applicable.

**Deficiency Title: Cross-Connection Control Program (CCCP)**  
Date Identified: 3/6/2019 Overall Due Date: 12/31/2022

Deficiency Description: When drinking water piping connects to various plumbing fixtures, contamination may occur if the connections are improperly protected. For example, when a backflow event occurs, it may allow contaminants to reverse flow from the fixture/equipment back into the drinking water piping. Your water system has several service connections that could be considered high risk in terms of backflow. These connections are separated from the water system by backflow prevention assemblies. However, the assemblies are not reliable unless tested annually and, when necessary, repaired. To provide an additional level of sanitary protection for your water system, a formal written program should be developed and implemented.

Corrective Action Plan: Cross-connections and backflow into the distribution system present a significant threat to the public's health. We are in the process of developing and implementing the cross-connection control program to protect public water systems from the hazards originating on the premises of our customers & temporary connections that may impair or alter the water in the public water system. The program will include annual inspection and testing of all backflow prevention assemblies by facilities owner.



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