



State Funding Approved to Widen, Expand I-10

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On May 4, Arizona Governor Doug Ducey signed SB 1239 into law, appropriating funding to expand and widen Arizona's Interstate 10 freeway along a 26-mile stretch from Chandler to Casa Grande known as the Wild Horse Pass corridor. This remains the only part of the highway with two lanes remaining between Phoenix and Tucson.

Gov. Ducey attributes its success to the partnership with key leaders, including Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

"With this expansion, we're



Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey holds the signed Senate Bill 1239 at the State Capitol May 4. Kyle Knox/GRIN

clearing up traffic in people's lives to spend time with their family... [T]his segment of the interstate is also critical for Arizona's economy as it connects Phoenix and Tucson," said Gov. Ducey. "The expansion will also ensure that the Gila River Indian Community has quick access to employment, medical services, educational opportunities and other resources within and outside their Community."

The project will widen the interstate from two to three lanes, including an HOV lane. The plan also includes the replacement of bridges over the highway in the Community. The multi-year construction will begin in 2023, with a target of completion in 2026.

Gov. Lewis joined bipartisan leaders at the Arizona State Capitol for the signing ceremony. He addressed the audience, stating, "As the Governor of the Gila River Indian Community, home of the Akimel O'otham and Pee Posh, I am honored to stand with all of you today, and other state and regional leaders." He added that with the passage and signing of SB 1239, "Arizona has shown its commitment to providing the safest, most reliable transportation

system in the nation."

The widening project also will ensure increased safety for drivers on the I-10. And with many Community members commuting to jobs in Phoenix and Chandler,

Gov. Lewis stated the widening project "will expand investment and generate additional economic activities within my Community, the state, and the region."

Other leaders key to the bill's

passage included Casa Grande Mayor Craig McFarland, Chandler Mayor Kevin Hartke and Arizona State Senator Thomas "TJ" Shope. Each also provided brief remarks at the ceremony.



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis addresses the media at the Arizona State Capitol during a press conference announcing the passage of SB 1239 that will benefit the Community and neighboring cities and towns upon completion of the I-10 expansion project. Kyle Knox/GRIN

2022 Chief Azul Awards Held In-Person

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The Gila River Indian Community's Tribal Education Department (TED) honored 40 students at the 2022 Chief Antonio Azul Scholar and Citizenship Awards May 14 at the Gila River Resorts & Casinos-Wild Horse Pass. In all, 27 students in elementary school through college received Chief Azul Scholar awards and 13 high school students received citizenship awards.

The Chief Azul Scholar award recognizes GRIC students who demonstrate consistent performance and the desire and ability to achieve their goals, while the Chief Azul Citizenship award is presented to GRIC high school students who consistently demonstrate a positive attitude, friendly demeanor, and serve as a role model to others.

"We think it's a great first event as we're coming out of the pandemic," said TED Director Isaac Salcido. "It's always a special event when we honor our students who are doing really well academically and in their citizenship."



13 GRIC students were awarded the 2022 Chief Azul Citizenship Award and 27 were awarded the 2022 Chief Azul Scholar Award. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Last year's event was held virtually due to the pandemic, but scholars and families were able to gather in-person this year for the awards banquet.

Recipients of the Chief Azul Citizenship Award also receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C., where they will tour and meet with congressional leaders and GRIC members in the area.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone delivered opening remarks at the event.

"You're the future," she told

students. "One of you in this room will be a next Council member, next Governor, and one of you in this room for sure will be the next lieutenant governor."

Lt. Gov. Antone encouraged the students and thanked TED staff and parents for their hard work and support, especially during the pandemic. She also shared the legacy of Chief Antonio Azul (1817-1909), GRIC's last traditional chief.

The Chief Antonio Azul
Continued on Page 5

ASU Graduates Largest Class of Native Students

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Families and friends of graduates from across the state and country filled the seats at Arizona State University's Grady Gammage Auditorium on May 11 to celebrate the academic accomplishments of everyone at the 2022 American Indian Convocation. This year, the Community had eight out of 553 total graduates, which is the largest graduating class of American

Indian students to date.

Graduates lined the first four rows of the auditorium donning maroon gowns, colored cords, commemorative sashes and decorated caps, all waiting to cross the stage and receive their diploma and one-of-a-kind Pendleton stole.

"It's a great day to be a Sun Devil, isn't it?" said Dr. LuAnn Leonard, executive director for the Hopi Educational Endowment Fund. "During my tenure as a member of the Arizona Board of Regents, Dr. [Michael] Crow was mindful of the importance of ASU's role in educating the future leaders of tribal nations. To this day, he and his staff strive to provide the highest quality of academic services to our students, and I am thankful for their efforts."

She added, "Many of us who received our degrees did so with pressures and challenges, but you, the classes of 2020, 2021, and 2022, proved to be special as little did you know that you would have to deal

Continued on Page 4



Amanda Mitchell, stands with her certificate, having completed her Masters this year. Kyle Knox/GRIN

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MMIP Day of Awareness
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District 7 Singer Awarded
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District 5 Elder Memorial
Page 10



THANK YOU

to everyone that participated in
Missing & Murdered Indigenous
People's Day Walk/Run



Governor
Stephen Roe Lewis

Lt. Governor
Monica Antone

Community Council
Representatives

District 1
Arzie Hogg
Joey Whitman

District 2
Carol Schurz

District 3
Avery White
Rodney Jackson

District 4
Jennifer Allison
Regina Antone-Smith
Delmar Jones
Christopher Mendoza

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

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Hundreds Join Events to Draw Attention for MMIP

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

Hundreds of people participated in events on the Gila River Indian Community and beyond recognizing the first anniversary of May 5 being proclaimed as Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) Awareness Day by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis as well as President Joe Biden. A virtual walk/run, an artistic display, an event at the state capitol and a social media blitz honored and recognized the victims and aimed to bring awareness to this tragic epidemic.

In the Community, over 800 individuals registered for the virtual walk/run and created a two-mile route of their choosing.

“Our hope is that next year we will be able to gather in-person for MMIP Awareness Day in solidarity with those who have been affected within our own Community and across Indian Country,” said Shannon Redbird, Community Relations Specialist who assisted with the MMIP virtual walk/run.

Participants also received a specially designed MMIP Awareness Day T-shirt and supported by wearing red and posting photos on social media using the hashtag #GRICM-MIP22.



Jennifer Jermaine (center left) holds a “Silent No More” banner with participants at the MMIP Awareness memorial walk at the State Capitol. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gila River Royalty also honored Missing and Murdered Indigenous peoples with artistic displays in the Ira H. Hayes – Matthew B. Juan Veterans Memorial Park in Sacaton.

To symbolize the absence of those missing and murdered, 2022-23 Miss Gila River Kelsey Martinez made a white shirt featuring a red

ribbon and a red skirt with a white ribbon to display in the park.

“To have been asked to sew a ribbon skirt and shirt to represent our women and men we have lost has been a great honor,” Martinez said. “Through my craftsmanship, I am able to show support and bring awareness to this sensitive topic.”

For the display, 2022-23 Jr. Miss Gila River Eliana Rhodes contributed an original portrait of a woman representing missing and murdered Indigenous women.

“I feel it is important for our Community and others to recognize MMIP Day because it’s something that happens all over Indian Country, even here in our own communities,” Rhodes said.

Lt. Gov. Antone was a featured speaker at the “Silent No More” event recognizing MMIP at the State Capitol on May 5. Hosted by Honwungsi Consulting Services, LLC, the event brought awareness to the issue through educational workshops, guest speakers, informational booths, a memorial walk and cultural performances.

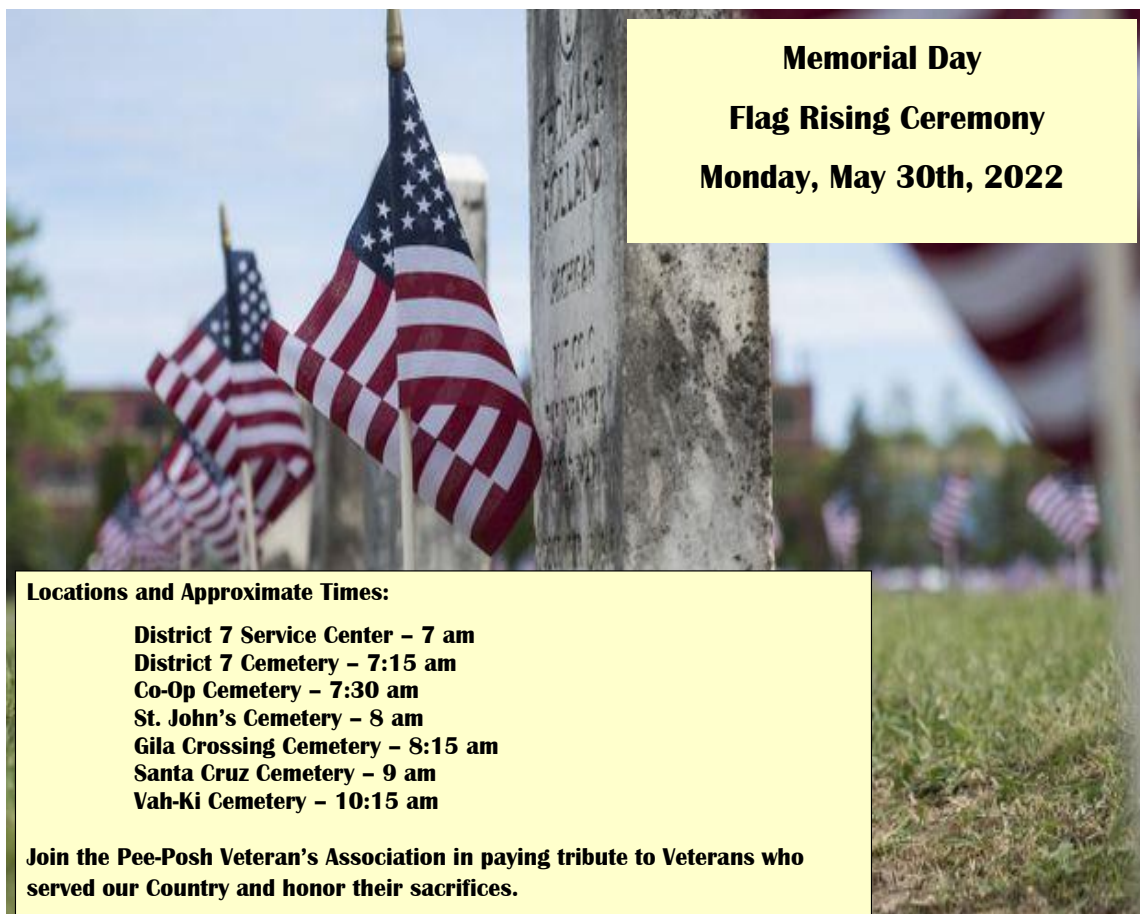
Lt. Gov. Antone provided an update on the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Authorization and discussed tribal leadership advocacy for MMIP. She discussed the Gila River Indian Community’s work in organizing a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples/Persons Response Team, which works with various departments within the Community, and the first-ever tribal cold case unit within the Gila River Police Department, which began as part of the Operation Lady Justice Taskforce.

Through the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples/Persons Response Team, GRIC has assessed and updated response policies and procedures for their departments, including creating a call tree, team training and awareness subcommittees.

“This ensures immediate and coordinated responses when a missing person is reported and if information is provided for reports involving a murdered unsolved crime,” Senior Assistant for General Counsel Sunshine Manuel said.



Lt. Gov. Monica Antone and Sunshine Manuel Senior Assistant for General Counsel served as part of a discussion on Tribal Leaders Advocacy for MMIP at the State Capitol May 5. Emma Hughes/GRIN



Memorial Day
Flag Rising Ceremony
Monday, May 30th, 2022

Locations and Approximate Times:

- District 7 Service Center – 7 am**
- District 7 Cemetery – 7:15 am**
- Co-Op Cemetery – 7:30 am**
- St. John’s Cemetery – 8 am**
- Gila Crossing Cemetery – 8:15 am**
- Santa Cruz Cemetery – 9 am**
- Vah-Ki Cemetery – 10:15 am**

Join the Pee-Posh Veteran’s Association in paying tribute to Veterans who served our Country and honor their sacrifices.



GRIC Royalty listen to a discussion led by Lt. Gov. Monica Antone. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Caring House Receives Five -Star Rating from CMS

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

The Caring House Skilled Nursing Facility, in Sacaton has received the highest rating—five stars—from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) after a three-year survey of its service and quality assurance protocols, putting it in the top 10 percent of skilled nursing facilities in the state. Residents, staff and GRIC leadership gathered on May 3 for a small in-person celebration to honor the highest merit a nursing home can receive.

“The most regulated industry in the United States is the nuclear energy industry. The second most is nursing homes,” said Ross Wilkoff, Caring House administrator.

“What makes this accomplishment even more impressive is that just as COVID was being introduced into the world, tragically in 2019, that’s when all of our survey experience[s] began to improve significantly.”

The CMS rating system covers an array of standards, observes a facility’s staffing levels and staff turnover, and reviews quality measures, including on site surveys by CMS. For example, Wilkoff said, “Surveys happen every nine to 15 months, they’re always unannounced, and it’s a comprehensive survey on everything that a nurse does for a resident. Bathing, dressing, medication administration, all of their medical care is surveyed as well as the food we eat, the clean-



Ross Wilkoff, Caring House Administration addresses gathered residents and staff, celebrating the five-star designation. Kyle Knox/GRIN

liness of the building, and how we help people manage their finances.”

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis attended the small gathering and said, “This moment, for all of us today, honors the Caring House receiving the highest designation,

now a five-star facility. They did this during a pandemic, and today we’re here in the gathering room that has been empty for so long; we come together because what the residents, the leadership, and staff did was special.”

Gov. Lewis commended

the Caring House staff and leadership, stating, “They raised the bar, providing excellent service and attention to detail during probably one of the most difficult scenarios to endure, but it shows how dedicated all of these employees and health-care professionals are to the Community.”

In 2017, the Caring House was a one-star facility. However, it had thoroughly reevaluated and implemented new approaches in order to reach five-star status.

Lt. Gov. Monica Antone also attended the celebration and attributed the success and safety of residents to the tribal leadership’s swift action to lock down the Caring House during the pandemic.

“Under Dr. Santiago’s

recommendation, we locked down the Caring House to keep them safe from COVID-19,” said Lt. Gov. Antone. “To have a five-star rating come out of the pandemic, that says a lot.”

For three years during the pandemic, the staff kept the virus at bay in the Caring House among its staff and residents, who are the most vulnerable. In-person visitation ceased during the lockdown. However, they used tablet computers for Zoom calls with family.

Today, in-person visits are allowed and everyone looks forward to being among loved ones again. As Lt. Gov. Antone stated, “It’s great to be here with our elders after going through what we did.”



Helana Jackson-Soto with Gov. Lewis on stage at the American Indian Convocation. Kyle Knox/GRIN

ASU From Front Page

with a worldwide pandemic during your time here at ASU.”

This year’s convocation was the first in-person ceremony in two years due to the pandemic, so the

classes of 2020 and 2021 also were invited to attend the ceremony.

Each GRIC student who walked across the stage proudly adorned their 2022 GRIC Graduation Stole, issued by the Tribal Education Department. The gold stoles featured maroon and water designs that complemented ASU’s maroon gowns.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis presented the Heard Museum’s Eagle Spirit Award for two outstanding postgraduate students.

On the same day as the convocation, the U.S. Department of Interior released its “Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative Investigative Report” detailing the tragic history of boarding schools. In



ASU’s American Indian Convocation Pendleton stoles are color coded based on degree level and are marked with the graduating year. Kyle Knox/GRIN

his remarks, Gov. Lewis acknowledged the report and said, “It’s ironic that [report] was released. Yet

here we are today, with the largest class of Native Americans tonight.”

Gov. Lewis contin-

ued, “Each one of you, by graduating, you’re all redeeming this sad, painful and damaging history of boarding schools, and you are the generations that are going to be redeeming that history that’s going to begin this important healing process. Remember that, and thank you.”

As the graduates begin a new path in their journey, they are reminded of what lies ahead. As Dr. Leonard shared, “Remember, for those that much have been given, much is expected.”



GRIC member Dominique Ann Lopez salutes the audience with the ASU pitchfork sign as her name is called at the graduation ceremony May 11. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Alluvion Speeding Growth in Rural Communities

In rural areas lacking modern fiber optics, businesses rely on dial-up technology or satellite service for their telecom needs. As a result, enterprise owners and other professionals typically experience slow internet speeds and reliability issues. The absence of rural broadband is a disadvantage and limits a community’s economic development.

Businesses aren’t the only ones who suffer without the benefits of a fiber optic network. Without the high-speed data transmission rates provided by optical fiber, schools and colleges in rural locales may be restricted in the online education services they can offer students. Multimedia library services, online courses, and access to faculty at partner institutions may be limited or unavailable. However, classrooms, libraries, and school laboratories can benefit from broadband access, enhancing education for all students.

The healthcare industry also acutely feels the lack of fiber optic network. Health professional may be unable to provide telehealth services to patients who live far from the healthcare provider. Traditional telephone twisted pair cabling lacks the bandwidth and speed to provide multiple video communication

sessions, to say nothing of reliable and speedy internet streaming and transfers of large data files.

An optical fiber network also enhances transfer of medical information online between healthcare facilities, easing on-line delivery of MRI and X-ray images, for example, from the radiology center to the hospital or doctor. Patients with pacemakers or other devices can upload data from their homes to their medical team for monitoring. Specialists anywhere in the world can view and evaluate diagnostic imagery in real time with emergency room staff. The benefits of reliable telehealth are endless and invaluable.

Fiber optic infrastructure also has a positive impact on the economic development of rural communities. It offers greater communications reliability and

speed for retail businesses and other enterprises. It can lead to economic growth for a community, as the presence of modern communications technology attracts business and industry. Even today, leading-edge manufacturers are constructing manufacturing facilities in Coolidge and Casa Grande, where Alluvion Communications is building a fiber optic network. Alluvion Communications is installing 34 miles of high-density fiber in Coolidge, Eloy, and Casa Grande. Alluvion Fiber will meet the mission-critical needs of current and future businesses in Pinal County, enhancing the region’s opportunities for economic development and growth. Alluvion Communications is providing a smart, fast, and reliable world-class network connecting enterprises, hospitals, and educational institutions to the world.



Kai Chuk'lig Mashath 2022

Submitted by
Huhugam Heritage Center

This month is called Kai Chuk'lig Mashath (black-seed month), meaning that there was little to be eaten except the black seeds left over from the baithaj (saguaro fruit). In the 1690's Father Eusebio Kino introduced Pilkañ (wheat) to O'otham and since that time, this food crop has played a major role in the history of farming in our Community.

George Webb (1959, pp.64-68), wrote about 'The Great Wheat Harvest' and provides a glimpse of the traditional wheat harvesting methods practiced by O'otham farmers in former times. No one knows exactly when our Tohono O'odham relatives to the south began making annual trips northward to help us with our wheat harvests, but we do know that this tradition had continued into the 1940's. As we entered the large-scale commercial

farming age, mechanized equipment slowly began to replace traditional O'otham labor and horsepower. That adaptation was necessary in order to keep up with the other commercial wheat growers in the surrounding communities. Later on, when the wheat is harvested, a large portion of our wheat will be shipped overseas.

Mr. Robert Stone, a traditional farmer from Sio'ov Shu:thag (Sweetwater) related, "The variety known as Desert Durum was developed for our desert area and most of the farmers in this area grow this variety. Our desert environment is very suitable for Desert Durum, which is known for its good protein content. The country of Italy buys most of our community's wheat, which is processed into

pasta and sold around the world including the United States." This month's crossword will feature items formerly used to harvest, store and process wheat into food items. We encourage you to learn the O'otham words, speak with an Elder or Speaker and learn to say the names. Item names may be slightly different between the villages.

A special thank you to Mr. Robert Stone, Vah-ki District Farmer, whose knowledge of Pilkañ that helped make this article possible. Additional source related from 'A Pima Remembers' George Webb, University of Arizona Press, 1959.

Crossword Key:

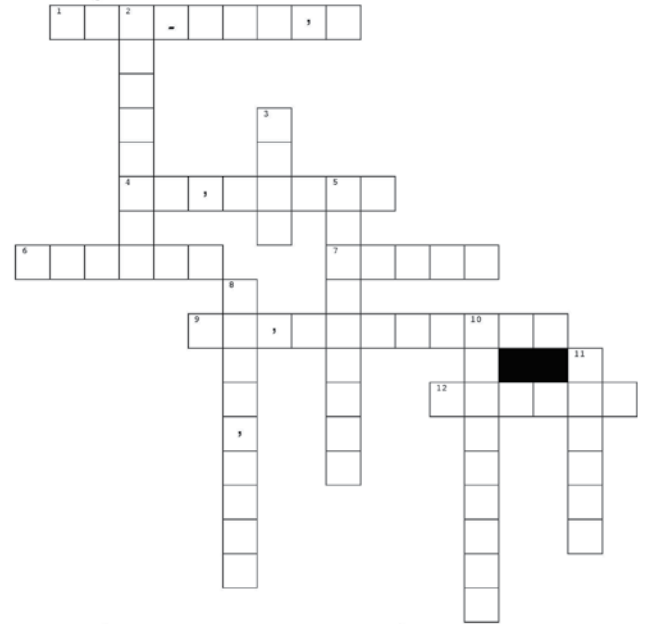
- chemmaith
- eshpo
- ha:k chu'i
- keihivia
- mach'chud

- mo:gach
- poshol
- thaichtha
- va:ga

- vashom
- va'ogach
- wa'amachtha

Solution on Page 7

Kai Chuk'lig Mashath 2022 - Crossword Puzzle



- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roasted Wheat Flour (Pinole) 4. Wheat Stalk 6. Dried crushed wheat straw 7. Wheat tassel 9. Frybread 12. Granary basket made of wheat straw | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. To thresh wheat with horses 3. Wheat dough 5. Tortilla 8. Grinding Stone 10. Winnowing of wheat 11. Wheat and Tepary Bean Stew |
|--|---|



Angel Molina, District 7, was presented with the 2022 Chief Azul Citizen Award and also provided a blessing for the awards banquet on May 14. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Azul From Front Page

Awards were previously named the Governor's Scholar Awards until 2016.

"We found another name for it to honor where we come from and achievements through the generations," said District 1 Council Representative Arzie Hogg.

"Those awards are

rooted in the history of who we are," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who lauded the scholars for their academic excellence while reminding them of their significance.

Gov. Lewis stated that Chief Azul was headman for the Community in 1885 during a crucial time when the water of the Gila River was being contested.

"He understood that

education was going to be our most important resource that we would instill in our youth." Gov. Lewis said, "Please cherish those awards."

K-12 Education Manager Lance Reyna helped organize the event and announced the nights recipients.

"It was great to be back in person since the pandem-

ic," Reyna said. "I just liked seeing the turnout with all the kids that got nominated."

"Congratulations to all the nominees and students," Vika Murphy said. Her daughters Kaia and Azumi Murphy each received honorable mentions that night. "I think it's great what Gila River does," she stated. "They really support students and education."

2022 Chief Azul Scholar Awardees:

- 4th Grade
Addison Rhodes
Amaya Marquez
- 5th Grade
Chaston Tomas
Imry Guerra
Mica Susunkewa
- 6th Grade
Niteyes Preston
Gavin Molina
Steven Hernandez
- 7th Grade
Philbert Jackson
Carissa Kyyitan
Sinai Antone
- 8th Grade
Ava Cachola
Orion Homer



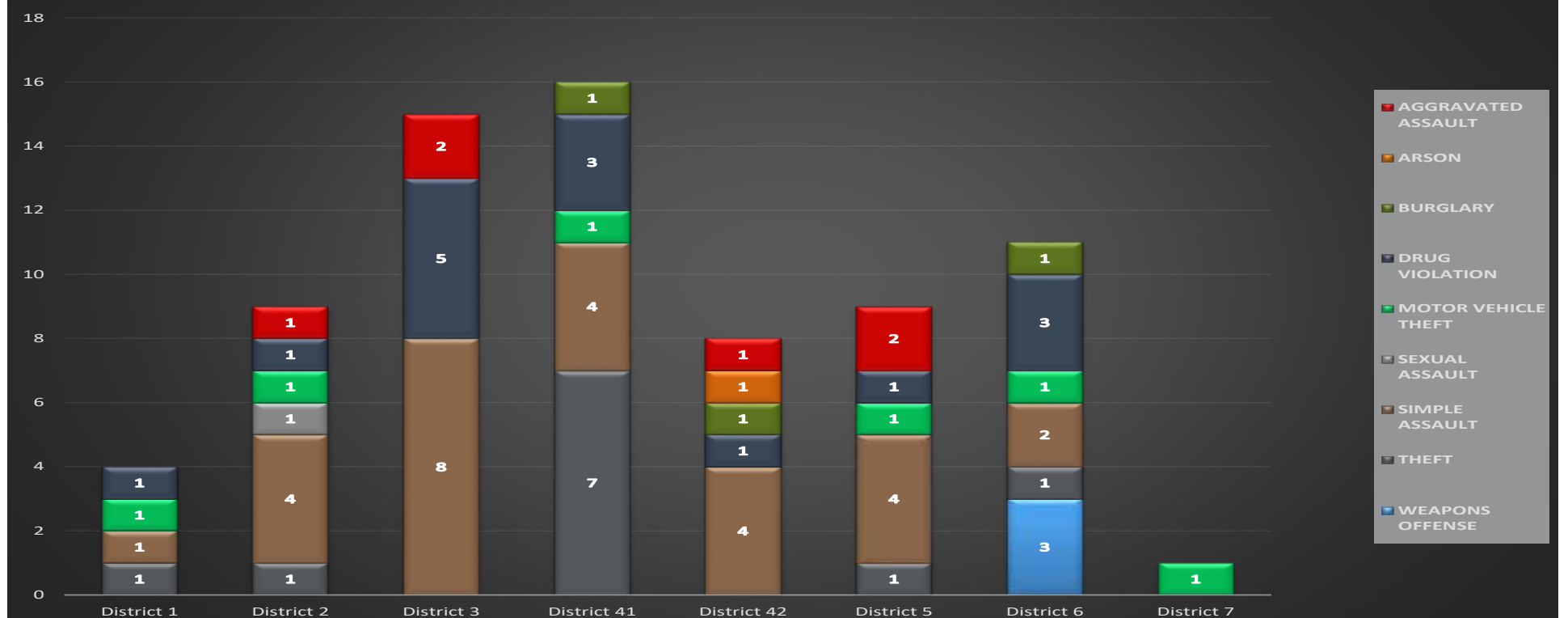
Lt. Gov. Monica Antone delivers opening remarks for the 2022 Chief Azul Scholar and Citizen Awards banquet. Emma Hughes/GRIN

- 9th Grade
Xavier Villa-Antone
Peyton Duran
- 10th Grade
Azumi Butterfly Murphy
Keira Lefkowitz
Alayna Mark
Hailey Allison
- 11th Grade
Angel Marquez
Kaia Starlight Murphy
Gracie Mark
- 12th Grade
Aaron Foote
Thalia Ayala
Macayla Johanning
- Undergraduate College Students

- Isabella Woods
Rachel Leon
- 2022 Chief Azul Citizenship Awardees:
Ava Tang
Ariana Blackwater
Sineca Sunflower Jackson
Thalia Ayala
Daniel Honyumptewa
Niahlyn Enos
Salynn Ochoa
Adrianna Burrell
Brisa Siquieros
Chole Estes
Daniel Johns
Aaron Foote
Angel Molina

Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

**PART 1 CRIMES
MAY 1 - MAY 15**



Gila River and OEM Prepare for 2022 Monsoon Season

GRIN Staff

Gila River Indian News

After 2021's significant monsoon activity, the Gila River Indian Community is bracing for another season of storms with heavy rain, wind and lightning. This year's preparation is not just about being safe when the moment comes, but planning ahead to avoid serious potential hazards.

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has been conducting Monsoon Prep training with departments and programs ahead of the upcoming storm season to review last year's impacts and how departments can continue to support one another in emergency situations.

With major storms last year and similar expectations for Arizona in 2022, OEM has been busy with trainings and pushing out information across the

Community.

Adam Sainz, Emergency Management Coordinator, said the Monsoon Prep trainings are designed to prepare GRIC departments and personnel for monsoon season. These efforts include: to prepare and maintain equipment and resources; having the ability to open, manage and maintain an emergency shelter within the service centers; and to utilize OEM's storm damage process in a timely manner for repairs and recovery.

During trainings, Sainz uses visuals to illustrate the level of a severe storm's damage with slides showing downed power lines and significant damage in residential areas. One slide showed an AC unit lying in the front yard of a residence after being blown off the roof by high winds. Another slide showed a house

with major roof damage for one displaced Community member.

The preparedness activities have already begun with education and outreach, weather reports and increasing water supplies. Sainz also reported that OEM remains in a state of readiness with equipment for emergencies such as trash pumps, AC units, misters, generators, and other resources such as sand bags.

Monsoon 2021

Massive storms struck the Community last year, first on the evening of July 9 and then again on July 10. High winds, heavy rains downed power lines that left Community members without power for extended periods.

OEM activated the Emergency Operations Center, and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis also issued a Declaration of Emergency to provide support for preparedness, response and recovery efforts.


Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority worked round the clock to get power up for customers. Community Services Department opened emergency shelters at the district service centers for families. And once those filled, the Community provided hotel rooms for others including elders and those with disabilities and health conditions.

A July 10 Press Release from the Communications & Public Affairs Office described the level of damage from the extreme weather: "The storm—which caused



A damaged power line, along the 587 highway, after a catastrophic monsoon storm in July 2021. Photo courtesy of OEM

SAFETY TIPS FOR STORM SEASON



Avoid Severe Weather
Get current weather reports


Plan ahead
Create a plan for your family and check your property for hazards

Power Outages
Purchase portable lights, radios and chargers during outages

Travel Safely
Don't cross flooded roads, pull off roads during dust storms

Take Shelter
Stay indoors during storms

Prepare a Kit
Have enough supplies to last at least 72 hours



For more information log onto gricready.com or call OEM at (520) 796-3755.

damage described as catastrophic in some places—represents an all hands on deck situation for our emergency services teams, utility crews, public safety workers, health care workers and providers and providers of emergency shelter."

The concern level reached the pocket book as well. Those needing assistance applied for the Community Temporary Emergency Relief program, which was set up to reimburse families for out-of-pocket costs.

The damage was widespread across Districts 1-5. Broken power poles, flooded roadways, damaged homes showed the aftermath of one of the most harmful storms to hit the Community in years.

OEM's monsoon training reviewed last year's damages to remind departments of what is possible

when a major storm hits.

- Over 58 power lines down
- Over 130 homes reported damage
- Flooded roadways

Emergency response during COVID

While the Community dealt with storm damage and assisting members with shelter and hardship, COVID-19 was still prevalent. Governor's COVID-19 Taskforce had just issued a Health Alert the day of the storm on July 9 to address the rising number of Delta variant cases spreading among unvaccinated GRIC residents. Addressing power outages and other needs had to be done with the pandemic in mind and the public safety measures in Gov. Lewis' Executive Orders.

The Community canceled a Mobile Vaccine Unit event in District 1 that was scheduled for July 10 while

power was under restoration.

The added element of increasing positive cases in GRIC factored into the emergency response plan from the storm.

"The difficulty to follow COVID protocols in emergency shelters was very challenging. Our district coordinators were able to provide PPE and sanitation supplies to minimize the spread of the virus. The Tribal Health Department also assisted with their recommendation and efforts to also minimize the spread and to keep people safe," said Sainz.

Cases have decreased after the Omicron surge peaked in January 2022, however, cases have started to increase in May. The Community is watching for potential surges on the horizon. The COVID-19 Taskforce is looking cautiously at another possible rise in cases by the fall due to the Omicron subvariant BA.2.

Over 3,600 total GRIC residents have yet to receive a vaccine as of May 9, which makes a large number of people vulnerable to another surge. With widespread availability of vaccines and testing, the Taskforce continues to promote vaccines in the Community to save lives and stop the spread of COVID-19.

Departments working together

Fast forward a year and Arizona is predicted to have another very active monsoon season. The National Weather Service in Phoenix is saying that rainfall will be near or above-average this monsoon season, which starts June 15 and ends Sept.

Continued on page 7

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CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL
2ND ANNUAL PROMOTION PARADE

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE ON
MAY 25TH, 2022
9AM - 11AM

FACE PRESCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN, & 5TH
GRADE PROMOTIONS

The celebration will be a drive thru event, and it will take place on Casa Blanca Community School parking lot on Nelson Road.

Due to regulations, this event will be contactless.

Arts & Entertainment

District 7 Singer “iiwaa” Receives Excellence in Music Award in Flagstaff



Jay “iiwaa” Mercado, takes to the red carpet at the 2022 Viola Awards where he was awarded Excellence in Music for his musical accomplishments in the Flagstaff area. Kyle Knox/GRIN
Kyle Knox
 Gila River Indian News

District 7 Community member Jay Mercado was awarded the Excellence in Music award at this year’s 14th annual Viola Awards in Flagstaff on April 30.

Mercado, who performs under the name “iiwaa”—the Pee Posh word for “heart”—has lived in Flagstaff for the past nine years, recording music, performing and attending events to support the growing local live music scene.

Creative Flagstaff, the local arts council, sponsors the Viola Awards recognizing local artists, musicians, storytellers and more. The Excellence in Music category recognizes a locally based musician or organization for the presentation of live, performed or recorded music during the previous year in the greater Flagstaff area.

As part of the award, Mercado performed live at Flagstaff’s landmark Orpheum Theatre after the ceremony. Through his performances, he has built a following in Flagstaff and surrounding areas and can be heard on the local 107.1 FM KJACK radio station

Mercado also was a featured artist on the traveling Native Guitars Tour, which provides performance opportunities for Native American musicians. Founded in 2007, the tour also helps to foster and mentor talent and employ artists within the industry.

“With the success I’ve

experienced, I would like to find ways to reconnect and be present in the Community, both in District 7 and broadly throughout the Community,” said Mercado. Keeping the Community close to his heart, he said, “I would really like to be available and make myself known and be available to the Community, youth and our elders, and serve as an encouragement to everyone.”

Mercado was born and raised in Casa Grande and graduated from Casa Grande Union High School in 2010. After high school, he attended the Institute of American Indian Arts, and then pursued a Bachelor of Music degree at Northern Arizona University.

In 2020, he began to pursue his music career outside of his regular work. In February 2021, he released his Dysphoria EP as a way to tell more of his story. Creating his music helped him understand himself better, he said, allowing him to

gain better perspectives on his gender identity, working through trauma, difficult relationships, letting go and healing.

However, Mercado also cited a few challenges, such as the media’s lack of representation of Indigenous performers. “Growing up and not seeing anyone like myself on TV or hearing Indigenous artists on the radio posed some challenges because I couldn’t see myself in the positions of where I am now or where I aspire to be,” he said. However, he now hopes to be that performer for the future Indigenous artists to follow.

Mercado added that some of the adversity he’s faced in building his success “without having a blueprint” means he’s navigating the music industry on his own with little to no guidance.

As iiwaa, Mercado’s music is rooted in songwriting and weaves stories from his own experiences.

Storytelling is an inherent Native trait that provides teaching and life lessons. This is an area where Mercado shines through his lyrics.

Mercado writes, sings, raps and plays most of the instruments on his records. He said he feels that his music honors everyone and is very inclusive and not profane.

More than the success and fame, Mercado said he wants to do right by GRIC and carries the Community with him in every setting.

“My success makes me really proud to be a representative of the Community,” he said. “This goes past performing on stage and how I sound on a recording. I show up in other communities when I meet other artists and do interviews. I am always trying to be the best representation of the Community and hope I can make the Community proud of me in the future.”

Storm from Page 6

OEM’s training brought several departments together to discuss their support functions and challenges which included GRIC Department of Transportation, GRIC Department of Public Works, GRIC Risk Management/OSH, GRIC Facilities Maintenance, Building

Safety and the Communications & Public Affairs Office. Sainz facilitated the discourse on road closures, emergency services, status reports, damage assessments, and communication management.

Sainz said he’s received good feedback on the trainings and he feels confident regarding the level of preparedness from all attendees.

“The departments and districts understand the importance of preparing the community for the treacherous monsoon storms we potentially encounter. In doing so, this will always reduce the impacts within their districts and the Community,” said Sainz.

OEM will continue to promote monsoon safety with the official start of the monsoon season beginning next month by providing information to Community members.

“We will be at each service center discussing and providing information on how to be prepared at home as well as safety measures to follow in the event of a power outage and/or flooding,” said Sainz.

In addition, OEM has added new members to their Team to assist with emergency response and recovery activities. The Team stands ready and have been working diligently to cover all aspects of preparedness as monsoon season approaches.



The OEM warehouse keeps pallets of water and provisions in the case of an emergency. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Kai Chuk'lig Mashath 2022 – Crossword Puzzle Solution!

1	h	:	a	:	k	-	c	h	u	'	i
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NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NEW LAND LEASE IN DISTRICT 5 FOR ST. PETER'S MEMORIAL HALL

The Natural Resource Standing Committee (“NRSC”) will be considering the Environmental Assessment Form from the Roman Catholic Church Diocese of Phoenix regarding a new land lease on approximately two (2) acres of land in District 5 of the Reservation at their regular meeting on June 28, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., located in Conference Room C of the Community Council Secretary’s Office and via WebEx video conference. A copy of the Environmental Assessment Form its entirety is available for review at all District Service Centers and the Community Council Secretary’s Office. If you are interested in providing comments to the Environmental Assessment Form, please attend the scheduled NRSC meeting. You may also contact your Council representative or the NRSC Chairperson at (520) 562-9720. Written comments may be emailed to the Office of General Counsel at OGC. HelpDesk@gric.nsn.us or mailed to Office of the General Counsel, P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147.

Class of 2022

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2022 GRIC GRADUATES

Congratulations on your achievement in education!

Be on the lookout for a Special Edition recognizing all of the students who have graduated or have been certified or promoted.

If you haven't received a 2022 Graduate Information Form, contact the Tribal Education Department or the GRIN so we can highlight your accomplishment in the June 17 Special Edition!

- Preschool to Kindergarten
- Kindergarten to First Grade
- Eighth Grade to High School
- GED
- College Universities, Trade School or post High School Programs

DEADLINE: Friday May 27, 2022

Contact information: GRIN@gric.nsn.us
 Or, Tribal Education Department at (520) 562-3662 | email: TEDEvents@gric.nsn.us

Skyline Gila River Holds First In-Person Graduation in New Campus



Skyline Gila River's class of 2022 saw 20 students graduate in the new gymnasium inside their new campus. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Skyline Gila River High School held its first in-person graduation ceremony for the class of 2022.

Family, friends, and supporters gathered in honor of the 20 graduates on May 13. This was the first class to complete all four years in their new campus at 255

E. Riggs Road in Chandler. The challenges of on-line school during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic made the occasion more joyous for many who faced several hurdles outside of school, including technological obstacles, the pandemic, and "senioritis" for some.

"The most pride a principal can have is seeing the students enjoy and celebrate their graduation day," said Skyline Gila River principal Vaughn Flannigan. "All the hard work they put in, dealing with everything to get to tonight, is beautiful because they did it all for themselves."

Principal Flannigan said he felt this class represents a strong group of youth that have demonstrated what resiliency truly encompasses. He remarked, "I'm looking

forward to seeing them all find much success in life because they've endured what they have and continued to stick with it [school]. It shows that they have determination, [they] put the effort in, and they will go far in life because they have this [time] to reference."

The ceremony included an address from class of 2022 valedictorian Emma Kyyitan, District 4, who completed her schooling early. She finished school in December 2021 but chose to walk with her peers.

Vying for academic success during the pandemic in her senior year wasn't easy, Kyyitan said. She stated, "It was very stressful, and I was nervous, but I am proud of



Graduating seniors stand ready for their chance to walk the stage and receive their diplomas. Kyle Knox/GRIN

myself."

Kyyitan found the best remedy to her woes was when in-person school returned, saying it was a turning point for her. This fall, she will begin college at Grand Canyon University to pursue pre-medicine, and she plans a career in pediatric medicine.

Aaron Enos, District 4, 2022 salutatorian, also provided an address, saying, "It was hard at first, but we never lost focus, always stayed positive, and kept a good mindset." Enos will attend Universal Technical College to pursue an automotive career.



Crystal Lomayestewa, District 3, displays her diploma on graduation day at Skyline Gila River on May 14. Kyle Knox/GRIN

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

Physical Activity in . . .

the office

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in four adults sits more than 8 hours a day, and half of Americans do not meet weekly physical activity guidelines. Many jobs are considered sedentary, and employees frequently work from home, so it can be challenging to sit less and move more.

Here are two examples of worksite physical activity in the workplace

Seated Marches

Sit on the chair with your back straight. Bend your legs at the knee and "run" on the spot with short, quick steps as fast as you can for 15-20 seconds.

Chair Sit and Stand

Stand in front of the chair with your legs shoulder-width apart. Squat down like you are sitting on the chair but without touching it. Maintain proper position. Repeat the movement 10-15 times.

for further information please visit or scan QR code below:
https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/hq_deskfit_booklet_6.10.2020.pdf

Disclaimer. The exercise provided is a low intensity exercise. It should not be used in place of the advice of a physician, physiotherapist, or other health professional. Exercises are done at your own risk and the Community Health Education Program will not be responsible for any adverse effects. Check with your healthcare provider before beginning any exercise.

Community Health Education
Tribal Health Department
520-562-5100

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT - GILA RIVER ROYALTY COMMITTEE

Number of Vacancies	Term of Service	Deadline
Five (5)	3 years	OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Community members interested in serving on the Gila River Royalty Committee (GRRC) must submit a Letter of Interest to the Executive Office, (include your address and phone number). Provided below is the GRRC Purpose and Terms of Membership outlining the qualifications, duties & responsibilities of the positions.

The purpose of the Gila River Royalty Committee shall be to coordinate the annual Gila River Royalty Pageant as well as oversee the travel itinerary and coordinating activities within the Gila River Indian Community, State of Arizona agencies, and organizations throughout the United States.

Membership to the Gila River Royalty Committee shall be open to any enrolled members of the Gila River Indian Committee, of which, two seats will be specifically filled by former Miss Gila River title holders

Members of the Gila River Royalty Committee are expected to maintain a positive attitude and influence to the Gila River Royalty.

Letters of interest can be submitted:

Executive Office
PO Box 97
Sacaton, AZ 85147

By Mail to: Executive Office
Attn: Royalty Committee
P.O. Box 97
Sacaton, AZ 85147

By E-mail to:
missgilariver@gnc.nsn.us

For more information please contact: 520-562-9840

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • May 4, 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, May 4, 2022, by WebEx Platform was called to order by Lt. Governor Monica Antone at 9:02 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Wahlean Riggs

ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

Executive Officers Present:

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman (9:14), Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Jennifer Allison, Delmar Jones, Regina Antone, Christopher Mendoza; D5-James De La Rosa, Marlin Dixon, Brian Davis, Sr., Wahlean Riggs; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORTS #5 AND #6 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA, ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1 AND #2, AND ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #1 AND #9 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS PRESENTED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. 2022-2023 Miss Gila River and Jr. Miss Gila River Court Introduction Presenters: Roberto A. Jackson, Kelsey Martinez, Gabrielle Garcia, Cheyenne Johns, Eliana Rhodes, Caiden Lewis

MR. ROBERTO JACKSON PRESENTED THE 2022-2023 GILA RIVER ROYALTY COURT.

MISS GILA RIVER – KELSEY ANN MARIE MARTINEZ, 25 YEARS OLD FROM DISTRICT 3; MISS GILA RIVER 1ST ATTENDANT – GABRIELLA GARCIA, 21 YEARS OLD FROM DISTRICT 3; MISS GILA RIVER 2ND ATTENDANT – CHEYENNE JOHNS, 22 YEARS OLD FROM DISTRICT 3

JR. MISS GILA RIVER – ELIANA ELYSE MORNINGSTARANTONE, 17 YEARS OLD FROM DISTRICT 3; JR. MISS GILA RIVER 1ST ATTENDANT – CAIDEN LEWIS, 16 YEARS OLD FROM DISTRICT

4 VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS CONGRATULATED THE YOUNG LADIES ON WINNING THEIR TITLES AND EXPRESSED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.

REPORTS

1. GRIC Major Power Outage July 9-10 After Action Report

Presenters: Bruce Harvey, Adam Sainz, Laurie Thomas

REPORT HEARD

2. GRHC Opioid and Stimulant Initiative

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, Jaime Lee, Priscilla Foote, Dr. Anthony Santiago

REPORT HEARD

3. GRHC Behavioral Health Services Report

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, Priscilla Foote, Dr. Anthony Santiago

REPORT HEARD

4. COVID-19 Update

Presenters: COVID-19 Task Force

REPORT HEARD

>5. March 2022 WHPDA Monthly Report

Presenters: Elizabeth Antone, Michelle Bowman

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>6. Head Start Program Monthly Report March 2022

Presenter: Carolina B. Kelley

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council March 2022 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Gaming Commission Board, Scott Sanderson, Lydia R. Acosta

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORT #7 AND #8

8. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report for March 2022 (Executive Session) Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Richard Strafella, Tony DeMark, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

ACCEPTED AT REPORT #7

RESOLUTIONS

>1. A Resolution Approving The Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And The State Of Arizona For The Protection Of Two Historic Properties Within The Arizona Department Of Transportation Right Of Way In The South Mountain Freeway Limiting Access To The Historic Properties And Providing For A Limited Waiver Of Sovereign Immunity (G&MSC forwards to Council

with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda, NRSC and CRSC concur)

Presenters: Javier Ramos, Ian Shavitz

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing Amendment #1 To The Agreement (C7013) Between The Gila River Indian Community And DR Law PLLC For Fiscal Year 2022 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Casaundra Wallace

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ORDINANCES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

>1. Gilbert Road and Right of Way Utility Corridor – Easement and Land Purchase Program Regarding Allotment 4520 (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to approve and placement on the consent agenda, NRSC, CRSC and EDSC concur)

Presenter: Casaundra Wallace

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. Government & Management Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council – (2) Council Seats (G&MSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council seat vacancies)

Presenters: Government & Management Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE TWO (2) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCIES

3. Natural Resources Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council – (3) Council Seats

(NRSC forwards to Council to declare (3) Council seat vacancies)

Presenters: Natural Resources Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THREE (3) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCIES

4. Health & Social Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council – (2) Council Seats (H&SSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council seat vacancies)

Presenters: Health & Social Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE TWO (2) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCIES

5. Legislative Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy (1) Council Seat (LSC forwards to Council to declare (1) Council seat vacancy)

Presenters: Legislative Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE ONE (1) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY

6. Education Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy (1) Council Seat (ESC forwards to Council to declare (1) Council Seat Vacancy)

Presenters: Education Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE ONE (1) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY

7. Cultural Resource Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council - (2) Council Seats (CRSC forwards to Council to declare (2) Council seat vacancies)

Presenters: Cultural Resource Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE TWO (2) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCIES

8. Economic Development Standing Committee Declaration of Vacancy to the Community Council – (3) Council Seats (EDSC forwards to Council to declare (3) Council seat vacancies)

Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THREE (3) COUNCIL SEAT VACANCIES

>9. 2022 Graduation Schedule (ESC forwards to Council as FYI under New Business on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Isaac Salcido

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

10. Reservation Economic Summit (EDSC forwards to Council for any interested Council Member to attend Utilizing Dues & Delegations)

Presenters: Economic Development Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR ANY

Continued on Page 10



In recognition of Memorial Day, Gila River Health Care's Administrative Offices and Outpatient Clinics will be

CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY

For any information on services open during the holiday, please call GRHC's main line (520) 562-3321. Normal business hours will resume Tuesday, May 31, 2021.

If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

Gila River Indian Community Crisis Line
1-800-259-3449
Call 24 hours a day for immediate help

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-800-273-8255

Memorial Event in District 5 Honors Elders with Balloon Release

Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

The elders of District 5 honored their fellow elders who passed on during the COVID-19 pandemic with a balloon release at the Vah-Ki baseball field on April 29.

“We knew that the group here would never be the same,” said Brenda Kyyitan, chairperson for the District 5 Elders Group. “We wanted to do something for the people that we lost during the two years.”

“This is truly the beginning of a healing process for our Community,” Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis said. “I want to thank the District 5 Elders Committee and Elders Group for doing this. This is really going to be a movement among our Community—to heal; to remember all our loved ones.”

Other notable guests in

attendance that day included Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, District 5 Council Representatives Brian Davis Sr. and Wahlean Riggs, former Lt. Gov. Robert Stone and District 5 service center staff.

Many expressed that the Elders Center would not be the same without those they’ve lost, especially in everyday activities such as arts and crafts, bingo and chair volleyball.

“You get to see everyone on a different level than just being outside in the Community,” said D5 Elder Group Treasurer Jacqueline Zillioux. “We seem to be closer.”

She’s been most active in the group’s volleyball team, The Eagles, which is one of three teams in District 5. The teams often got together for fundraisers to travel for volleyball tournaments.

“That camaraderie just got stronger and everyone seemed to have a lot of energy and joy to be out here and active with other elders, districts and tribes,” Zillioux said.

“You’re pillars in our Community,” said Lt. Gov. Antone, who empathized with the elders and commended them on their strength throughout the pandemic. “It’s healing when we do these things and have these events.”

Words, songs and prayers were shared during the memorial event, and elders scattered across the ball field with balloons in hand to be released.

“We will never forget those individuals, but it was a symbol of letting them go and be[ing] at peace,” Kyyitan said.

“It’s a big impact. It’s a



Elders of District 5 and guests scatter across the Vah-Ki baseball field for the memorial balloon release on April 29. Emma Hughes/GRIN

loss for all of our Community,” said Bonita “Bonnie” Lyons, vice-chairperson for the D5 Elders Group. “All the elders that we lost, we’ve lost a part of our history.”

She stressed that stories and culture need to be preserved.

Last May, the Elders

Concerns Group collaborated with the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council and the Community’s Council of Elders for “Bridging the Gap,” a virtual meeting of elders and youth to share knowledge and experiences—something Lyons would like to see more of.

The District 5 Elders Center is now open by appointment and elders who reside in the area are encouraged to join. The center offers a computer lab, exercise room and cafeteria, and it plans to resume in-person activities in June.

Action Sheet Continued

INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND
11. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. 2021 Final Audit Report (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business in Executive Session with a recommendation to accept)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Tony DeMark, Tony Gerlach

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT MINUTES

*1. March 17, 2022 (Special)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

2. April 20, 2022 (Regular)

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
- THANK YOU RANGER MARIANO CONLEY FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY, HAPPY RETIREMENT
- IN HONOR OF MMIP AWARENESS DAY, WEAR RED ON THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022
- CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:53 A.M.

* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

The following list contains names of individuals and other entities with outstanding checks issued by Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. (GRGE) and recorded as of September 30, 2021. In accordance with Escheat Ordinance GR-10-09, public notice of unclaimed checks will be published in the Gila River Indian Newspaper and GRIC's official web site. If the last known owner is known to be a Community member, the department, program, or entity shall also post notice at all District Service Centers. In order to claim the check, the owner must claim it in person within 30 days of publication or posting. In addition, to make claim, the person must provide the department, program, or entity with positive identification, including photo identification showing the person claiming the check is the last known owner. If the check is unclaimed for 60 days after publication, it shall escheat and title thereof shall vest in the Community. If you are the recipient of the Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. (GRGE) unclaimed property, please contact the GRGE Corporate Finance Department by sending an email to Accounting@gila.casino or call (520) 796-7198 for further instructions.

Contreras, Regina R	Contreras, Ana G	Marrietta, Jeanette R	McBride, Richard P	Ochoa, Mary T
Manzi, Ronald M	Molinar, Manuel E	Matthews, Sylvia M	Alvarez, Reinaldo A	McQuaid, Russell J



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Section 184: Native American home loans.

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Low Payment**
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2018 Ford Explorer



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2020 Toyota Corolla LE



Spring Closeout \$35,999
2018 Toyota Tacoma



Save \$1,000's
2019 Chevy Colorado LT



The Perfect Rock Crawler
2015 Jeep Wrangler Sahara



**3rd Row
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2021 Chrysler Voyager



4x4 • 14,000 Miles
2020 Ram Hemi Powered



14,000 Miles
2021 Nissan Altima SV



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THE CLASSICS YOU LOVE



SAT, JUL 30 | 7:30PM

NATIVE AMERICAN COMEDY JAM



FRI, AUG 5 | 8PM

RODNEY CARRINGTON



SAT, SEP 10 | 8PM

KANSAS



THU, SEP 22 | 8PM

BOYZ II MEN



Wild Horse Pass
Lone Butte
Vee Quiva

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE **WILD HORSE PASS BOX OFFICE** AND **PLAYATGILA.COM**



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