



## Gathering Celebrates 75th Anniversary of the Native Right to Vote



Tribal leaders and representatives including Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation President Bernadine Burnette (third left), Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier (center-left), and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis (far right) at the 75th anniversary of the Native Right to Vote luncheon on July 14. Miyana Manus/CPAO

### Emma Hughes

Gila River Indian News

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Native Right to Vote in Arizona with a luncheon on Friday, July 14.

Nearly a hundred Tribal members and leaders gathered at the Gila River Resorts & Casinos Wild Horse Pass to honor the historic occasion and those who helped make it possible.

Established in 1952, ITCA provides a united voice for tribal governments in the state to address common issues of concern and provides an independent capacity to obtain, analyze, and disseminate vital information to tribal communities.

Gila River Indian Community was well represented at the event by members, elders, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, who delivered welcoming remarks, and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Barnaby Lewis, who provided a blessing for the event.

Gov. Lewis echoed the importance of the Native vote, sharing the historical role of two GRIC members, Peter Porter and Rudolph Johnson, who in 1928 attempted to register to vote in Pi-

nal County but were denied by a county recorder. As a result of the denial, both filed a lawsuit, and the Arizona Supreme Court ruled against the case.

Frank Harrison and Harry Austin, both Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation members, filed a lawsuit in 1948 after being denied the right to register to vote in Maricopa County.

After the superior court ruled against the case, it was appealed to the Arizona Supreme court who unanimously overruled the prior decision made by the superior court.

Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation President Bernadine Burnette honored Harrison and Austin. She knew Harrison personally and said, "Because of him and Mr. Austin, we could exercise our opinions. Voting impacts lives in many ways."

At the event, ITCA screened a short film that delved deeper into the legal battles and historical struggle for Native Americans to gain the right to vote in the state.

Asari Taylor, a member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Young River People's Council, joined fellow youth for the event.

"We are very excited to be

here. It was a great experience and opportunity to be here and meet all my people," said Taylor, "I think the most important part for me was the video and watching that and how emotional it was. It was shocking to see, that is definitely something you need to learn."

Bonita "Bonnie" Lyons, a GRIC member from District 5, said, "It was an exciting event. There was a lot of youth here, a lot of tribal leaders that were present and talked about their tribe's involvement in voting in elections and how important it is for our people to vote."

She stressed how important voting is and how it helps to change the voting future for tribal communities, the state, and the nation. "Our vote matters. Our voice matters. And it's a sacred right that we have been granted through many difficult years of fighting for that right to vote."

Lyons has been a life-long participant and volunteers with voter registration and voting events on and off the Community, something she does not take for granted.

"I would just encourage people to exercise their right to vote

*Continued on Page 8*

## 36th Annual AOPPYC Youth Conference returns in person



Youth from across the Community and Sister Tribes gather for a workshop at the 36th Annual AOPPYC Youth Conference. Velia Moncada/GRIN

### Velia Moncada

Gila River Indian News

On Saturday, July 15, the Akimel O'odham/ Pee-Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) held its 36th annual Youth Conference at the Casa Blanca Community School in District 5.

This year's day-long conference began at 9 a.m. It continued into the night, concluding at 10 p.m. This year's conference was the first in-person event in three years. It offered spaces for youth to socialize with one another and learn about themselves and their culture.

This year's theme was "Continuing to Motivate and Encour-

age Through Culture."

"Part of this youth conference is to learn you are stronger than you know, and you never know how strong you are, until you push through," said Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis in his welcoming address to the youth.

The morning began with a blessing from Wahlean Riggs in honor of her late mother and former councilwoman Brenda Robertson, followed by opening remarks from AOPPYC president Ariana Blackwater, Evelyn Enos, 2023-24 UNITY Earth Ambassador, and Sineca Jackson, 2023-24 UNITY Pacific Region Represent-

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## Artist Donates Artwork that recognizes the MMIP Crisis



*Full story on page 9*

Todd "Wayde" Preston presents his "Embracing the Young Prayers" painting to Sunshine Manuel and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis. Velia Moncada/GRIN

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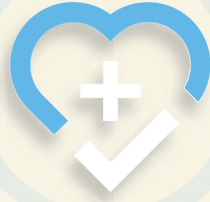
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# Sineca Jackson to serve as UNITY Regional Rep.

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

Former Jr. Miss Gila River 2020-22, Sineca Jackson, District 3, has been appointed the Pacific Regional Representative for the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY), as she continues to represent youth and the Gila River Indian Community well beyond her reign.

Thousands of Native youth and advisors from around the country came together for the annual National UNITY Conference, held June 29 – July 3 in Washington, D.C. This year's theme was "Healing the Spirit of Native Youth."

UNITY is a renowned organization committed to advancing the voices and aspirations of Native and Indigenous youth. It hosts the National Youth Leadership Conference each year, and the UNITY Midyear Conference is typically held each Feb. in Phoenix.

With over 300 youth council affiliates, including the Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council, members of each youth council appoint two individuals to serve as their representatives on the National UNITY Council. In contrast, Indigenous youth throughout the country elect ten individuals to

serve as Area Representatives on the National UNITY Council Executive Committee.

"I just decided to run for the UNITY Pacific Regional for this year, mainly because I'm going back to school at the University of Hawaii at Manoa," said Jackson, where she began attending last Summer, shortly after graduating high school.

Since Jackson will return to school in the Fall and will primarily be in Hawaii for most of her term for UNITY, she decided to run.

As the Pacific Regional Representative, Jackson will represent and work closely with tribes in California and Hawaii, engage with tribal leaders, and collaborate with Indigenous youth organizations throughout the Pacific region.

Expressing her gratitude and excitement, Jackson shared, "I was so honored to have my name called on the night of the banquet. I got to speak to all the tribes that were present from California and Hawaii at the conference."

Jackson's new appointment is a testament to her dedication, leadership, and ability to influence positive change, all of which have earned her recognition and re-

spect from peers and Community members.

Her involvement in this work includes her reign as Jr. Miss Gila River and as a member of the Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council, where she served as president in her last term.

Just days after the UNITY conference, Jackson had the opportunity to welcome United States Vice President Kamala Harris during her historic visit to the Gila River Indian Community on July 6, Harris' first visit to Indian Country.

"Coming home to have her [Harris] present here in the Community, I thought was so awesome," said Jackson, "It's such a privilege to be able to speak, especially on behalf of our Community."

Jackson thanks her parents for their strong support and encouragement, explaining that they often told her, "If you want to do



**Sineca Jackson with Vice President Kamala Harris during her visit to GRIC on July 6 at Gila Crossing Community School. Photo courtesy of Sineca Jackson**

it, you do it," she said, "You know, you choose your own path and I just had a lot of role models that I would look up to that served on Youth Council or that were Jr. Miss Gila River, and I was like, I want to be like that one day."

She added, "In a way, I just kind of followed in those footsteps and chose my own platforms and what to do. And I feel like it's led me to some very awesome things to do, now representing the whole Pacific region with UNITY."



**During the visit by Vice President Kamala Harris, Sineca Jackson served as a guest speaker and announced her new role with UNITY.**  
Kyle Knox/GRIN

**Submission**  
**Kathleen "Kathy" C. Lewis-Espinoza**  
1/10/61 – 6/28/23

I want to thank everyone who provided words of encouragement, thoughts and prayers during the time of the loss of our Sister, Aunt, Friend, etc. She will be greatly missed and never forgotten and loved so very much. Thank you to JWarran Funeral Home who was entrusted with the arrangements; the District 5 Service Center and Staff; the District 5 Workers who helped with the grave digging and burial, you are so greatly appreciated. Thank you to Veronica Cruz for the memorial ribbons made. Thank you to Darren Morago for the blown up pictures for the service; Thank you to Anna Gonzales for the memorial table cover; and a very special thank you to all the family (grandsons, nieces, nephews, cousins, & friends) who helped the day of the service and during burial. Thank you to all that donated food, water, or anything else. Thank you to her friends who were able to attend the service and to those that couldn't attend who sent kind words. Losing a loved one is never easy but speaking for myself you never know how much it means when people show that they care and spend time out of their busy schedules to sit & talk and are genuinely happy to assist in any way possible. If I've forgotten anyone by no means is it intentional - just know that YOU ALL are appreciated!

Submitted by Terri Lewis-Enos on behalf of the family of Kathleen C. Lewis-Espinoza

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# FITNESS & WELLNESS

## Ballet class promotes healthy movement and confidence

**Kyle Knox**

Gila River Indian News

On Tuesday, June 27, Let's Dance Gila River concluded its 5-week youth ballet dance program in District 5. Through the guidance of Let's Dance Gila River instructors, 52 young ladies gracefully took to the floor to showcase all the movements and dance positions they learned over the five weeks.

The ballet class was a new effort by Let's Dance Gila River's owner Nichole Roderick, District 5. Throughout the past, Let's Dance Gila River offers courses throughout the Community teaching salsa, hip-hop, and other dance

styles.

This summer, Roderick found a new dance style to explore and an instructor close to home to assist. Roderick's niece Anisa Jackson, District 4, is a seasoned dancer with experience in various styles and movements. She has been dancing since the age of four. Both partnered to create a new program for the youth at District 5, utilizing Jackson's experience to provide instruction in the ballet dance style.

"It was a remarkable experience to enable Anisa to assume a leadership role and to help younger participants develop greater self-belief and confidence," said Roderick. "We were

heartened to observe the positive impact that our ballet classes had on the confidence of some of the young girls."

The ballet program was the first time Jackson taught a class, and she found the experience gratifying. She felt that allowing the youth to try something different would open their eyes to new possibilities. Jackson said, "Dance is a fun and engaging activity that promotes physical activity and creativity, and it is important to teach youth as it encourages them to be active and expressive while also developing discipline and focus," said Jackson. "Overall, it was a rewarding experience to teach children, as I was able to connect with them and witness their progress, and the most rewarding was seeing their smiles when they finally understood the dance positions."

Aleshia White, District 3, enrolled her two daughters in the dance class. She appreciated the accessibility and positive impact it had on her daughters. White said it was a great addition to the Community and saw how it instilled confidence in the younger girls that participated.



**Nichole Roderick and Anisa Jackson (right) guide several students through a dance routine at their last ballet class at District 5. Kyle Knox/GRIN**



**Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Anisa Jackson, Nichole Roderick, Lt. Gov. Monica Antone, and Ryan Brown, Tribal Recreation & Wellness at the final ballet class on June 27. Kyle Knox/GRIN**

Similarly, Destiny Jackson's daughter, from District 3, participated this summer. Destiny appreciates Let's Dance Gila River's initiative to offer additional activities for children living in the Community and introduce new activi-

ties.

Recognizing the benefits and interest of the ballet class, Let's Dance Gila River is eager to continue providing dance classes in the future. "Our goal is to create a welcoming environment for participants of

all ages and backgrounds, where they can engage in various forms of dance and find joy in movement," said Roderick.

For more information on Let's Dance Gila River and classes visit [www.letsdancegilariver.com](http://www.letsdancegilariver.com).

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# Adulthood: O 'e oi heg sapokam himthag, "Follow the Good Way" 2023

**Submission by**  
Huhugam Heritage Center

There comes a time in the lives of O'otham when we choose a career path and deal with other life-changing events. As we grew up under the supervision of our parents, grandparents, we learned the life skills that carried us forward into adulthood. Some of our older relatives had enlisted into "Shonthal hi" (Armed Services), after Boot Camp, they were assigned to different military bases around

the world. Before they deployed on assignment, they came home on leave. They were someone to see, as they came home in their military dress uniforms. They left home as teenagers, and returned as "Shonthal" (Soldier). Dependent on the timeframe, a special Sunday service planned, and the entire village attended services for our Shonthal. The Pastor and "Kekel" (Elders) of the village gave encouraging words to our Shonthal. One phrase of-

ten stated was "O 'e oi heg sapokam himthag." (Follow the good way). The speeches directed to all young men and women gathered in the congregation. After Sunday services a large potluck celebrated his/her service to Country and representing our Community.

One other phrase often heard was, "Shelma 'o chikpannath." (To work straight all the time.) The remark directed to family members whom went directly into the workforce, or enrolled in college. Some of our relatives enrolled into agriculture business courses at the nearby colleges. They still worked the fields during the weekends, as they took over the family farms. At some point in our lives we become the talk of the village as we "Ha honth" (A man takes a wife), and "Ha kuñth" (A woman takes a husband). The entire village attended many marriage ceremonies and witnessed the joining of sweethearts as husband and wife. The receptions were for invited guests, the younger kids went home

after the ceremony, eager to get out of their Sunday clothes. At some point later, we welcomed new members into the family. There are two phrases reserved for the mothers and fathers of the newborn child. "Mađ'aj." (She has a child), and "Alithag'aj." (He has a child). The terms of relationship for the mother and father are very specific and personal. As the new families increased in numbers, so did the responsibilities of both parents. Now, the cycle of family life had begun over again, with the "vechich hemachkam" (Next Generations).

Times have certainly changed from the times of our parents and grandparents. However, many life-ways remain the same. We as parents, strive to encourage our children to continue their higher education and remain firmly rooted in their O'otham Himthag (Way of Life). We encourage you to learn these phrases and use them with your family members. Speak with a Kekel or speaker in your family and

**'O 'e oi heg Sapokam Himthag 2023: Match the phrase with its picture!**

Ha kuñth. 

Shelma 'o chikpannath. 

Ha honth. 

'E oi heg sapokam himthag. 

Hema ve:mth/ha maish'pa. 

Ge'e haichu s-amchuth. 

'Toigk'chuk heg chañig. 

Clip-Art Courtesy Robert Johnson

learn how to pronounce the phrases, as they might be slightly different between villages. This month's word match will test your knowledge of phrases used to address the next stages of life as adults, fathers, mothers, and providers of families. A special Thank You to community Elders for

sharing their knowledge about 'o 'e oi heg sapokam himthag (Follow the Good Way), that made this article possible. Additional source related from A Pima Past, Anna Moore Shaw, 1974, University of Arizona Press.

**Word Match Solution on Page 10**

## Gardening helps green thumb cultivate healthy habits

**Velia Moncada**  
Gila River Indian News

"She is a prime example of someone who has returned to her roots to care for and love plants," said David Van Druff, Garden Services Manager at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital, recognizing Gina Enos from District 3 as a skilled gardener. He explains that Community members have fruitfully utilized the garden tubs he distributes through the Garden Services program. Which Enos has placed in her garden at home, truly embracing the gardening lifestyle.

"I wanted to do from the garden to the table," said Enos on Friday July 14. During the interview, she was found outside her home watering her very luscious garden. The discussion began with a tour of garden where she is growing chili, squash, gourds, broccoli, eggplant, zucchini, snap peas, and table herbs. It also included a viewing of her corn plot. Enos's garden had a wide range of species of fruits and vegetables.

Six years ago, Enos began her gardening jour-

ney as a lifestyle change. This was a way to become healthier and take control of what she was consuming. She also stressed the fact that she wanted to ensure the food she ate was free from harmful pesticides. "David's program is very supportive, they get you started and you don't have to go this big, you can start off small at first. They put time and energy to help you, then you're on your own," said Enos.

However, the Garden Services program is available to answer questions and make home visits for gardeners that require assistance.

Through her continued gardening, she began yielding bountiful produce and has really enjoyed sharing what she produces with the Community. "It makes me feel good when people come and get my food and eat," she added.

For new and first-time gardeners, Enos shares the following advice. "A big key is to understand your soil, use some type of fertilizer, and also learn what you're good at growing."



Gina Enos utilizes the gardening tubs available by the Gila River Health Care's Life Center for growing various plants, herbs, and trees. Velia Moncada/GRIN

**GRIN Correction**  
In the July 7, 2023 issue of the GRIN within the article "WIOA First Responder Program instills career training for youth" Emergency Medical Services was labeled incorrectly for GREMS and the correct title for the department is "Emergency Medical Services." We apologize for this mistake.



Gina Enos harvests chili peppers from her garden. Velia Moncada/GRIN



Gina Enos stands in front of her plot of corn plants growing in her garden. Velia Moncada/GRIN



# GRPD showcases the nature of Community First Responders

**Velia Moncada**

Gila River Indian News

It was a bright and sunny morning on July 12 as team members of the GRIN arrived at the Gila River police department (GRPD) at 7:00 a.m. for an eight-hour ride-along to experience a day in the life of a Gila River Police officer.

Officer Ward and Officer Ortiz arrived to greet the two Community newsmen, myself and Emma Hughes, on this new experience. The two officers were ready to demonstrate the patrols and the duties that police officers actively perform to enforce the protection of the Community. Activities range from traffic safety and monitoring to reporting highly dangerous and time-sensitive situations.

Officer Ward and Officer Ortiz have worked as police officers for the Community for five years. Officer Ward expressed that his interest in law enforcement was always his goal. He was inspired by his father, a former police officer of 30 years, "You've got to want to help people... that's the basis of our job," he shared.

Officer Ortiz shared that the profession of law enforcement has been a lifelong dream of his since he was a child. He said, "Being a part of this line of work, it's expected to have extraordinary customer service when it comes to dealing with the public, and being empathetic to all problems."

The ride-along experience allowed us to see what occurs at any given notice when an incident occurs in the Community. The moment dispatch reports an incident, officers receive an incident report on their

designated laptop devices, informing the officer of the situation. Dispatch relays information via computer and radio to assist the officers with details so they can adequately assess the situation. Officers patrol around the Community, actively listening to the radio dispatch for any incidents to arise. When incidents do happen, police officers make themselves readily available at the scene.

On this day, Officer Ward reported to a traffic jam at the corner of Gilbert Road and State Route 87. A non-Community member was stranded in the heat due to their vehicle stalling, causing a traffic backup on the 87. Thankfully the Cedar Mountain Fire Department could assist traffic and prevent any closures until Officer Ward arrived on the scene. Officer Ward was able to release the firefighters upon arrival and helped the pedestrian arrange a quick tow with a Gila River Ranger.

Although the civilian was nervous about their vehicle on the road and traffic, Officer Ward did his best to accommodate them and their situation. He offered the civilian a seat in his air-conditioned patrol vehicle, as they waited for the GRPD ranger to arrive. He made sure that traffic would not interfere with their safety as well as the safety of the other drivers. Officer Ward was prepared with a paper-printer to assist his colleague, who also needed a waiver to allow permission to tow their vehicle, which saved the day for all of them. Ultimately, the civilian was very grateful for their assistance, and a family member picked them up.

This event and others



GRPD Officer Ward works alongside a GRPD investigator to assist on a call on July 12. Velia Moncada/GRIN

showcased the true patience and compassion our first responders have in the Community when dealing with any civilian in crisis, no matter how serious. Officers Ward and Ortiz demonstrated exemplary skills and professionalism while remaining humble when problems arose.

Thank you, GRPD, for the ride-along opportunity.

Ride-alongs are open to Community members and the public with an application found at the GRPD office or by email at GRPD.PIO@gric.nsn.us. All who apply must pass a background check and understand that ride-alongs are subject to officer staffing.

Individuals who are curious and want to learn more about law enforcement in

the Community can apply for the Gila River Citizens Police Academy (CPA). Participants are granted access to the world of law enforcement by participating in a 9-week program, experiencing civilian-adapted versions of the Police Academy within GRPD. Graduates of the program will gain a unique insight into the life of a law enforce-

ment officer.

As for individuals who are looking to apply to become a part of the GRPD staff, they can apply through the police academy program online at gilariver.org. They are currently seeking police officers, detectives, records specialists, dispatchers, and more.



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GRPD Officers Ward and Ortiz meet outside the GRPD police station with the GRIN staff for an interview. Velia Moncada/GRIN



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# HEADLINES EXECUTIVE OFFICE



Stephen Roe Lewis  
Governor



Monica Antone  
LL Governor

## Community Sponsors “Gila River” Basketball Teams Before NABI



The Gila River boys basketball team gather wearing their new shoes and jerseys donated by the Community on July 11. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Kyle Knox

Gila River Indian News

This summer, two basketball teams training for the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) attended a donation ceremony on July 11 in District 3. The boys and girls “Gila River” youth basketball teams received a pizza party, new basketball shoes, and jerseys sponsored by the Community, where Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis was present to distribute the donations.

Initially, the teams sought sponsorships for the entry fees for this year’s NABI tournament. However, as the date drew closer, the GRIC Executive Office felt additional support would greatly assist the team through this additional donation.

“I offer my support and admiration for these teams for their tenacity and perseverance on the court. You all have demonstrated remarkable resilience and determination, so it is an honor to provide a token of appreciation for your efforts and witness the continued growth and success,” said Gov. Lewis at the distribution.

As he distributed the

items, Governor Lewis acknowledged the valuable life lessons that come with being on a team, such as being a supportive teammate and showing respect towards others. He further emphasized that matching uniforms and shoes would significantly enhance their confidence and pride in representing GRIC.

The two teams were delighted to receive the donations. And they were excited to represent the Community at this year’s NABI tournament. Players that received the gifts quickly opened and tried on their shoes, breaking them in before the NABI gameplay, beginning Tuesday, July 18, in Phoenix.

Kierah Pablo, District 6, expressed her heartfelt appreciation to the Governor and Community for the teams’ support. She eagerly anticipates showcasing her skills on the basketball court with these shoes and making an impact in the tournament. She believes that NABI will be a tremendous opportunity to showcase the talents of Gila River youth to the teams participating from around the country.

The parents and coach-

es also expressed excitement and gratitude for the generous contributions to the teams.



Bria Hutchinson laces up her new shoes. Kyle Knox/GRIN

Brent Escalante, District 3, serves a coach for the boys Gila River team. He expressed gratitude and acknowledged the positive impact on the team’s morale and progress. Taking a day off from basketball to enjoy a party-like atmosphere while receiving new shoes meant a lot to the players.

And Elliot Kisto, District 3, is one of the coaches for the girl’s team said, “I’m grateful for the Community’s support for the kids, it’s an amazing feeling to see the younger generation come together, and I feel proud when I see the smiles on their faces as they put on their jerseys. I want to thank Governor Lewis for his support during this year’s tournament season.”

“As a Community, we aim to show our young men and women that we support them in their endeavors, and we are proud to have the team represent our Community and their families in this year’s NABI tournament,” said Gov. Lewis.

### From the Front Page

because this is our future. It shows a stronger voice for our Community because we decide what happens within our country.”

While everyone acknowledged the numerous achievements of the Native vote, it remained clear that much work still needs to be done.

“Voting matters, representation matters, and the fight is not over. Despite our recent gains, Native people and Tribal governments are still fighting,” said Gov. Lewis, who referred to the recent threat to overturn the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) in the Supreme Court.

On June 15, ICWA was upheld by the Supreme Court.

“Our Community members show up on election day, we show up because we know that it matters who sits in those state offices, federal offices, on our state and federal courts, and especially on Supreme courts,” said Gov. Lewis.



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis shares the history and importance of the Native Right to vote. Miyana Manus/CPAO

**Gila River Indian Community Members**  
**GET READY!**  
**Gila River Primary Election**  
**&**  
**General Election is coming...**  
**Voter Registration is OPEN**  
**Come out and register or update your information at one of these locations:**

**July 15, 2023, 8 am - 12 pm**  
**District #3, Sacaton Post Office & District #7 Multipurpose Bldg., Gymnasium**

**August 5, 2023, 8 am - 12 pm**  
**District #5, Casa Blanca Market**

**Last day to register: August 7, 2023**  
*You can also stop by the Tribal Elections office or contact your District Judge to register/update your information, today, tomorrow, before the deadline.*

**For more information, call our office at (520) 562-9735 or 562-9758**



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis distributes a pair of brand new basketball shoes to Kierah Pablo in preparation for the NABI tournament. Kyle Knox/GRIN



# Donated painting honors MMIP victims and families

**Velia Moncada**

Gila River Indian News

On June 29, Community artist Todd “Wayde” Preston from District 5, donated his acrylic art piece, named “Embracing the Young Prayers” to Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Sr. Assistant of General Counsel, Sunshine Manuel. The painting honors the recovery efforts that the GRIC Missing and Murdered Indigenous People’s (MMIP) task force have done to locate and return two lost relatives of his family friends back home.

The gifting of the art piece occurred at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital campus. Preston has donated several art pieces to healthcare employees during his visits throughout the years. Preston shared how his friends and family members were affected by the MMIP crisis. However, thankfully, the MMIP task force aided in bringing the two women home safely.

“When I did it [painted the art piece], I was thinking of all the other ones that couldn’t comeback, in symbolization of MMIW (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women),” said Preston

as he described the artwork to Gov. Lewis and Manuel.

The art piece named “Embracing the Young Prayers” features the silhouette of a woman standing on the desert land with the colors black, yellow, red, and white representing all tribal nations. The piece depicts the woman standing in the middle of a medicine wheel for healing. However, Preston also described it as the woman being a target. Sadly, this represents the Indigenous women targeted as part of this crisis.

Also featured are two sets of water birds surrounding her, representing angels protecting her. A group of birds are seen flying into the sky above, signifying her prayers and the families missing their relatives. And the second set of water birds are depicted coming down, representing the return of answered prayers.

Sunshine Manuel describes her appreciation for the art piece to Preston, as she is a part of the coordination efforts behind the MMIP task force for GRIC. Manuel expresses deep gratitude to Preston, as her team of investigators and

officers typically handle the recovery process of victims, and she doesn’t receive feedback from families after recovering lost relatives to their families.

“When our workers see this, they’re never going to forget what they are there for and this piece of artwork is going to keep on reminding them of how important it is to protect our most vulnerable, especially in the MMIWP issue and the resources the Community is putting towards this issue,” said Gov. Lewis when he received the artwork from Preston.

Preston donated the “Embracing the Young Prayers” piece to the GRIC Family Advocacy Center. It will demonstrate the hope many families would like to receive and the awareness that the MMIP crisis is not just a month-long awareness but to recognize daily.

Preston is the owner of Vah-Ki N.D.N A.R.T (Native Dreams Never Ending Always Righteously Taught) and has put his artwork up for display at the Casa Blanca Assembly of God and various locations throughout the Community.



Photo of Todd “Wayde” Preston’s “Embracing the Young Prayers” painting that will be donated to the GRIC Family Advocacy Center. Velia Moncada/GRIN

# Biden-Harris Administration Investing \$120 Million to Support Tribes Dealing with the Impacts of the Climate Crisis

Tribal Climate Resilience Program announces largest annual funding opportunity to date as part of President Biden’s Investing in America agenda

**Press Release**

U.S. Department of the Interior

WASHINGTON — The Department of the Interior today announced the

availability of \$120 million in funding through President Biden’s Investing in America agenda to help Tribal communities plan for the most severe climate-re-

lated environmental threats to their homelands. Tribal communities can use this funding to proactively plan to adapt to these threats and safely relocate critical com-

munity infrastructure. This is one of the largest amounts of annual funding made available to Tribes and Tribal organizations in the history of the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Tribal Climate Annual Awards Program.

President Biden’s Investing in America agenda and “Bidenomics” strategy is deploying record investments to provide affordable high-speed internet, safer roads and bridges, modern wastewater and sanitation systems, clean drinking water, reliable and affordable electricity, and good paying jobs in every Tribal community. Today’s funding announcement is part of a nearly \$440 million investment for Tribal climate resilience programs achieved through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act, and annual appropriations. The Department’s Voluntary Community-Driven Relocation Program launched at the 2022 White House Tribal Nations Summit with an initial \$135 million commitment to advance relocation and planning efforts for Tribal communities severely impacted by climate-related environmental threats.

“Devastating storms, increased drought and rapid sea-level rise disproportionately impact Indigenous communities. Helping

these communities remain on their homelands in the midst of these challenges is one of the most important climate related investments we could make in Indian Country,” said Secretary Deb Haaland. “Through President Biden’s Investing in America agenda, we are making transformational commitments to assist Tribal communities to plan for and implement climate resilience measures, upholding our trust and treaty responsibilities, and safeguarding these places for generations to come.”

“This investment is historic and reflects the Administration’s commitment to fulfilling the trust responsibility to protect the ability of Tribes to exist in their homelands in the face of a changing climate,” said Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland. “This funding provides Tribes with the resources they need to develop and implement proactive strategies for their communities to become more resilient and effective at things like protecting homes and infrastructure, and if necessary, to relocate to safer ground.”

Today’s announcement includes \$23 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, \$72 million from the Inflation Reduction Act, and \$25 million from fiscal year

2023 annual appropriations. With this transformational funding, Tribes and Tribal organizations will be eligible to apply for grants to help safeguard communities. Grants will be available in planning and adaptation categories. These categories encompass a range of activities affecting every Tribe, such as climate adaptation planning, drought measures, wildland fire mitigation, community-driven relocation, managed retreat, protect-in-place efforts, and ocean and coastal management. This historic funding also advances the Biden-Harris Administration’s Justice40 Initiative, which sets the goal that 40% of the overall benefits flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution and environmental hazards.

The BIA will host a grant writing workshop on July 26 at 12:30 pm EDT and an educational webinar on August 2 at 1 pm EDT to discuss the funding opportunity and explain how to apply for the grants. To register online for the webinars, or find more information about the opportunity visit the Climate Resilience Annual Awards Program website.

## NOTICE REGARDING AIR CONDITIONERS

**If you are experiencing issues with your Air Conditioner, please contact your local service center.**

District Service Centers: 8:00am - 5:00pm	On-Call District Numbers All times (hours) outside of business hours
District 1 (520) 215-2110	District 1 (520) 610-0656
District 2 (520) 562-3450	District 2 (520) 610-7426
District 3 (520) 562-3334	District 3 (520) 610-2965
District 4 (520) 418-3661	District 4 (520) 610-8456
District 5 (520) 315-3441	District 5 (520) 610-0815
District 6 (520) 550-3805	District 6 (520) 610-1270
District 7 (520) 430-4780	District 7 (520) 610-9748

Each District Provides Cooling Stations

<p style="margin: 0;"><b>District Primary Cooling Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District One Service Center</li> <li>District Two Events Center</li> <li>District Three Service Center (Old Center)</li> <li>District Four Service Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>District Five Service Center</li> <li>District Six Learning Center</li> <li>District Seven Service Center</li> </ul>
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The Head of Household is responsible for submitting service request. The official process for submitting a service request is with your local district service center and not on social media. Thank you for your time and understanding.

**From the Front Page**

tative.

Then rounding out the morning speakers was a memorable keynote address from former GRIC Governor and AOPPYC founder Gregory Mendoza.

“Through the pandemic, we as youth have been isolated from our culture, so this year, we choose the theme to continue to motivate and encourage our culture,” said Conference Co-Chair Tizoc Ayala. Ayala and Conference Co-chair Eliana Rhodes guided students into their Caucus elections, where the youth voted upon who would best represent their district in the AOPPYC.

“My grandma always told me to get in touch with my Native culture, and ever

since COVID happened, I’ve been wanting to reach out and learn more about it,” said Morgan Javier from District 4. Javier encouraged other youth in the Community to attend future youth conferences and AOPPYC events, since he gained valuable knowledge he missed out on learning during the pandemic.

Youth then broke out into workshops they found most interesting. Some workshops featured skill-based training, informational sessions, and cultural history teachings. Many Community programs and departments hosted various sessions for the youth, which included topics like First Aid for the Community, the history of GRIC Water Rights hosted by Gov. Lewis, and Stress Management with Tribal Health, to

name a few.

“It’s been really fun. I liked how we were able to collaborate on what we wanted to do, we had a game plan and we stuck to what we could. I’m just really glad how it’s been turning out,” said AOPPYC associate member Evelyn Enos, District 4. She explained that the conference felt great to have again since the pandemic prevented the youth from socializing, and it was great to reunite again.

The AOPPYC conference concluded in the evening with a dinner and a presentation of awards followed by closing remarks from Lt. Gov. Monica Antone before the dance floor opened to the youth to dance and enjoy the sounds of D. Faktion Nyne to complete the event.



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis shares a presentation on the Community’s Water Management and history of GRIC water rights. Velia Moncada/GRIN





Gila River EMS staff provided a first aid training workshop focused on how to manage an emergency situation. Velia Moncada/GRIN





Youth conference participants learn about the cultural game of “Toka” during a cultural workshop on July 15. Velia Moncada/GRIN


**‘O ‘e oi heg Sapokam Himthag 2023: Solution!**


Ha kuñth. 


Shelma ‘o chikpanath. 

Ha honth. 

‘E oi heg sapokam himthag. 

Hema ve:mth/ha maish’pa. 

Ge’e haichu s-amchuth. 

‘I oigk’chuk heg chañig. 

Clip-Art Courtesy Robert Johnson

**FREE WORKSHOP EVENT**

Miles.Design & Beads & Blings by Debe

**Beading Workshop**  
Class Size Limit: 8 / Must be in Grade 7-12  
• July 28, 2023 from 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
• July 29, 2023 from 9:00-11:30 a.m.

**Shell Necklace Workshop**  
Class Size Limit: 8/Must be in Grade 7-12  
• August 25, 2023 from 6:00-8:30 p.m.  
• August 26, 2023 from 9:00-11:30 a.m.

**Paint Session Workshop**  
Class Size Limit: 8/Must be in Grade 7-12  
• September 9, 2023 from 8:00-1:00 p.m.

This is a FREE event, open to the first 8, enrolled, GRIC youth Grades 7-12. For more information contact Ace.Grant.Staff@gric.nsn.us or call 520-562-3662.  
Note: If you received services through ACE in 2023, you are ineligible to participate in any services until 2024. Transportation will not be provided.

**LOCATION: Tribal Education Department - 555 B. Street - Sacaton - AZ 85147**  
(Bluebird Rd. & B. St., Across from Fairgrounds)

Announcements & Notices



\*\*NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION\*\*
REVISIONS TO TITLE 11, EDUCATION

The Legislative Standing Committee ("LSC") will be considering proposed revisions to the GRIC Code, Title 11, Education, at their regular meeting on August 29, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

If you are interested in providing comments on the proposed revision of the GRIC Code, Title 11, Education, you may contact your Council representative, the LSC Chairperson at (520) 562-9720, or provide written comments by August 23, 2023, by email to the Office of General Counsel at OGC.HelpDesk@gric.nsn.us

ANNOUNCEMENT



PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR PROPOSED ORDINANCE TITLE 11, EDUCATION CODE

- DISTRICT 1 BLACKWATER COMMUNITY SCHOOL -Gym SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023 AT 10:00 A.M.
DISTRICT 5 CASA BLANCA COMMUNITY SCHOOL- Gym SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M.
DISTRICT 6 GILA CROSSING COMMUNITY SCHOOL-Cafeteria SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2023 AT 10:00 A.M.

Contact Isaac Salcido, Director, Tribal Education Department at 520-562-3662 with any questions. Legislative Standing Committee will consider the proposed ordinance on August 29, 2023 at 1pm.

Title 11 EDUCATION

Chapter 1. General Provisions

- 11.101. Title.
11.102. Authority.
11.103. Intent and Purpose.
11.104. Definitions.
11.105. Rules, Regulations, and Procedures.
11.106. Severability.
11.107. Sovereign Immunity.

Chapter 2. Authority, Duties, and Responsibilities of the Community Council, the Education Standing Committee, and the Tribal Education Department

- 11.201. Community Council.
11.202. Education Standing Committee.
11.203. Tribal Education Department.
11.204. Tribal Education Department Director.

Chapter 3. Tribal Education Objectives, Standards, Programs, and Services

- 11.301. Education Objectives.
11.302. Education Standards for Tribally Controlled Schools, Other Educational Institutions and Those Schools Receiving TAP Funds.
11.303. Educational and Prevention Programs to Address Domestic Violence, Drugs, Alcohol, Bullying, and Suicide Prevention.
11.304. Parental Involvement.
11.305. Truancy Report.

Chapter 4. Student Information

- 11.401. Biometric Information.
11.402. Student Data.

A copy of this proposed ordinance in its entirety is on file and available for review at all District Service Centers and the Community Council Secretary's Office.

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of Philbert Leon Howard Jr. CASE Number: PB-2021-0012-DE This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR your hearing may be held in held in absentia and a warrant may be issued for your

arrest, forfeiture of your bond, judgment in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered. Motion Hearing 3rd day of August, 2023 at 2:00 PM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Sheri L Cassa AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147 DATED Wednesday, June 7, 2023

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE MATTER OF: Dawn Williams vs. Kristin Notah CASE Number: CV-2023-0128-RO This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR your hearing may be held in held in absentia and a warrant may be issued for your arrest, forfeiture of your bond, judgment

in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered. Restraining Order Hearing 28th day of July, 2023 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Sheri L Cassa AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147 DATED Friday, June 23, 2023

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE MATTER OF: AUTO NOW FINANCIAL, Petitioner/Plaintiff vs. JOSEPHINE FAYE ESCALANTE ET AL., Respondent/Defendant CASE Number: CV-2023-0050-MO CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING Please take notice that a(n) Review Hearing has been

scheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court. Review Hearing Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 11:00 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ. DATED this 12th day of June, 2023

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE MATTER OF: SOUTHWEST MOBILE STORAGE, INC., Petitioner/Plaintiff vs. JESSY MACCARI, Respondent/Defendant CASE Number: CV-2023-0054-MO CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING Please take notice that a(n) Answer/Response

Hearing has been rescheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court. Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 11:30 AM in Courtroom I, AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ. DATED this 21st day of June, 2023

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE MATTER OF: Jeannette Lewis CASE Number: CV-2020-0188-AIC This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR your hearing may be held in held in absentia and a warrant may be issued for your arrest, forfeiture of your bond,

judgment in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered. Review Hearing 15th day of August, 2023 at 3:30 PM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Sheri L Cassa AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147 DATED: Thursday, June 22, 2023

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT TO: LORETTA FELIX, IN THE MATTER OF, GERALD HAYES CASE Number: CY -2022-027 8-ZG A CIVIL NOTICE OF HEARING Please take notice that a Review Hearing has been scheduled in the Gila River Indian Community Court. This matter has been scheduled at the place and time

set forth below: Monday, October 16, 2023 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom VII, Westend Judicial Center, 4751 West Pecos Road, Sacaton, AZ. Given under my hand and the seal of the Gila River Indian Community in the State of Arizona. DATED this 10th day of July, 2023

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE MATTER OF: Delora Griffith vs. Edgar Mercado CASE Number: FM-2023-0030-PT This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR your hearing may be held in held in absentia and a warrant may be issued for your arrest,

forfeiture of your bond, judgment in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered. Answer/Response Hearing 7th day of August, 2023 at 9:00 AM in Courtroom VII before the Honorable Charles Aragon Westend Judicial Center, 4751 West Pecos Road, Laveen, AZ 85339 DATED Monday, May 15, 2023

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT IN THE MATTER OF: Michaelene Jones vs. CW Sunbird Jones Sr. CASE Number: FM-2023-0031-DV This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR your hearing may be held in held in absentia and a warrant may be

issued for your arrest, forfeiture of your bond, judgment in favor of the other party, or jail time may be ordered. Answer/Response Hearing 15th day of August, 2023 at 11:30 AM in Courtroom I before the Honorable Sheri L Cassa AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI, 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147 DATED Monday, June 19, 2023

# TECH SKILLS WORKSHOP

Brought to you by:



## AUGUST

District	Tuesday	Thursday
D1	1	3
D2	8	10
D1	15	17
D2	22	24

All workshops are  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
at the District  
Service Center

### WHAT IS IT?

A FREE program to help YOU with your technology questions.

### WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Set your own goals and we will help you reach them.

We can help with:

- computers, tablets, and smartphones
- internet and Wi-Fi questions
- work and school documents
- online safety
- e-mail
- video calls
- music and video apps
- AND MORE!

### WHO IS IT FOR?

OPEN TO ALL! ... Elders, youth, your boss, your cousin, YOU!

### REGISTRATION OPTIONS

🌐 [bit.ly/DCI-registration](https://bit.ly/DCI-registration)

☎ (520) 610-0990



Home loans  
that get the  
Native American  
community home.



We go above. So you can go beyond.



# COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

## Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • July 5, 2023

### 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, July 5, 2023, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Lt. Governor Monica Antone at 9:04 a.m.

### INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Joey Whitman

### ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis (11:20)

Lt. Governor Monica Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2- Ann Lucas; D3- Avery White, Joseph Manuel, Jr.; D4- Christopher Mendoza, Jennifer Allison, Nada Celaya, Lalena Jackson; D5- James De La Rosa, Franklin Pablo, Sr., Brian Davis, Sr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr. (10:39), Charles Goldtooth (9:07), Terrance Evans; D7- Devin Redbird (9:14)

Council Members Absent:

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE NEW BUSINESS #1 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL AND ADD NEW BUSINESS #6 STATUS OF THE SURVEY PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR H.B. 4032 ACT AND ACCEPT THE MATERIAL; ADD BLAKE KATZNELSON AND MAJDI KAYYALI AS PRESENTERS FOR REPORT #3

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORT #1; ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #2; AND ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #2 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

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

#### \*1. First Things First Introduction

Presenters: Isaac Salcido, Ember Tahy

MR. ISAAC SALCIDO INTRODUCED MS. EMBER TAHY WHO IS THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR THE GILA RIVER REGIONAL COUNCIL OF THE FIRST THINGS FIRST. MS. TAHY IS EXCITED TO BE HERE AND THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR HAVING HER.

#### 2. Introduction – Human Resources Department Director, Ms. TeriLynne Kisto

Presenters: Suzanne Jones, TeriLynne Kisto

MS. SUZANNE JONES INTRODUCED MS. TERILYNNE KISTO AS THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR. MS. KISTO BEGAN EMPLOYMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY ON JUNE 5, 2023; HOWEVER SHE IS NOT NEW TO THE COMMUNITY. MS. KISTO HAS 13 YEARS IN VARIOUS ROLES IN HUMAN RESOURCES AND PAYROLL POSITIONS. MS. KISTO HAS A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND SPECIALIZING IN HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT. MS. KISTO STATED SHE IS GLAD TO BE BACK AND HAS EXPANDED HER HUMAN RESOURCES CAREER. SHE HAS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH VARIOUS MUNICIPALITIES AND OTHER TRIBES. MS. KISTO LOOKS FORWARD TO SERVING THE COMMUNITY AND WORKING WITH THE DIRECTORS AND LEADERSHIP. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND LT. GOVERNOR ANTONE WELCOMED MS. KISTO BACK TO THE COMMUNITY AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH HER.

#### 3. Salt River Project Representative Introduction - Executive Principal of Intergovernmental Affairs

Presenter: Gwen E. Salt

MS. GWEN SALT WHO IS THE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL FOR SALT RIVER PROJECT AND HANDLES TRIBAL AFFAIRS FOR SRP. MS. SALT HAS BEEN WORKING FOR NCAI IN WASHINGTON, DC AND THE NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HOUSING COUNCIL. SHE HAS A VAST EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH OTHER TRIBES AND NOW IS WORKING WITH SRP. SHE LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY WITH FUTURE PROJECTS. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS WELCOMED MS. SALT AND LOOK FORWARD TO A POSITIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP.

#### 4. Gila River Health Care Announcement of Cam-

pus Administrator Mario Torres, Jr.

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, Dr. Anthony Santiago, Mario Torres, Jr.

MR. MYRON SCHURZ, BOARD CHAIRMAN GREETED THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND INTRODUCED DR. ANTHONY SANTIAGO TO PROVIDE THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION. DR. SANTIAGO ANNOUNCED THAT THERE WAS SEVEN (7) SENIOR LEADERS OF THE ORGANIZATION ONE (1) WAS A COMMUNITY MEMBER. BY THE END OF THIS YEAR, THEY WILL EXPAND TO NINE (9) TEAM MEMBERS AT THE SENIOR LEVEL AND FIVE (5) OF THE NINE (9) COMMUNITY MEMBERS ON THE LEADERSHIP TEAMS.

MR. TORRES STATED HE IS EXCITED FOR THIS POSITION AND HAS BEEN EMPLOYED WITH THE ORGANIZATION FOR FIVE YEARS, THREE BEING IN THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM AND WAS MENTORED BY THE SENIOR LEADERS. MR. TORRES IS APPRECIATIVE FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY AS THE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR. VARIOUS COUNCIL MEMBERS CONGRATULATED MR. TORRES AND PROVIDED WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT. [LT. GOVERNOR ANTONE CALLED FOR A 15 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:32 A.M.]

### REPORTS

#### >1. Tribal Education Department K12 Program-Quarter 2 Report for School Year 2022-2023

Presenters: Isaac Salcido, Lance Reyna

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### 2. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council May 2023 (Executive Session)

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

HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### 3. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report May 2023 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Richard Strafella, Tony DeMark, Blake Katznelson, Majdi Kayyali, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

### RESOLUTIONS

#### 1. A Resolution Authorizing The Purchase Of Allotted Trust Land Within The Exterior Boundaries Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (Allotment 4520) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; NRSC and EDSC concur)

Presenters: Javier G. Ramos, Bartley Harris

APPROVED

#### >2. A Resolution Approving A Right-Of-Entry To The Gila River Indian Reservation And Authorizing Personnel From The United States Census Bureau To Collect Data For The American Housing Survey (AHS) Within The Gila River Indian Community For The 2023 Enumeration Period (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda; NRSC concurs)

Presenter: Sheila Valenzuela

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

### ORDINANCES

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

#### >1. Pima Leasing and Financing Corporation Audit FY2022 (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation to accept and placement on the consent agenda; EDSC concurs)

Presenters: Albert Cheung, Anthony Gerlach, Teresa Mandelin

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### >2. FY2021 and FY2022 Agreed-Upon Procedures Report (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Wesley Benally, Albert Cheung, Neomi Martinez

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### 3. FY2022 Department of Tribal Programs and Administration Audit Report (Executive Session) (G&MSC approves and forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for approval with corrections and authorizes the Treasurer to submit the report to the Federal Audit Clearing House before the June 30, 2023 deadline)

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Wesley Benally, Albert Cheung, Elizabeth Bohnee, Michael Jacobs

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REPORT WITH CORRECTIONS AND AUTHORIZES THE TREASURER TO SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE FEDERAL AUDIT CLEARING HOUSE ON JUNE 30, 2023

#### 4. Gila River Health Care Letter of Request for GRIC Community Council Orientation (H&SSC forwards to Council with recommendation to hold the orientation on August 1, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SCHEDULE THE ORIENTAITON ON AUGUST 1, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.,

#### 5. Court of Appeals Community Judge Resignation (LSC forwards to the Community Council with accepting the letter of resignation for Court

of Appeals Community Judge Morgan Jaecks and to declare the vacancy and advertise through the Human Resources Department with all applicants forwarded to the Council Secretary's Office to the Reviewing Committee)

Presenter: Shannon White

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION FOR COURT OF APPEALS COMMUNITY JUDGE MORGAN JAECKS AND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY, ADVERTISE THROUGH THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT WITH ALL APPLICANTS FORWARDED TO THE COUNCIL SECRETARY'S OFFICE TO THE REVIEWING COMMITTEE

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

#### 6. Status of the Survey Project Implementation and Appropriations for H.R. 4032 Act

Presenters: Office of General Counsel, Treasurer Gary T. Mix, LUPZ, GRICDOT

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DIRECT AKIN TO WORK WITH OGC TO LOBBY FOR FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE UNFUNDED AMOUNT OF SURVEYS FOR ROW WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND ADDITION HAVE GRICDOT AND LUPZ WORK TOGETHER AND ENCUMBER AND SPEND THE AMOUNTS ALLOCATED TO THE COMMUNITY FOR SURVEYS AND AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENTS TO USE THE MOST EXPEDIENT CONTRACTING METHOD

### MINUTES

1. June 21, 2023 (Regular)

APPROVED

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

• WILD HORSE PASS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M.

• GILA RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. WILL BE HOLDING THEIR 35TH ANNUAL EVENT ON THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M. AT GRTI

• GOVERNMENT & MANAGEMENT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023 AT SANTAN MOUNTAIN CASINO AT 1:00 P.M.

• HOUSING OWNERS TEAM MEETING FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023 AT 1:00 P.M. AND WILL BE HELD WEBEX

• LITIGATION TEAM MEETING FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023 IN THE LAW LIBRARY FROM 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. WITH AN ORIENTATION FOR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS FOLLOWING THE MEETING

### ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:31 P.M.

\* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)

> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

## Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

Community Wide Crimes (June 13th - 30th)





# PREGNANT? GET CARE EARLY.

Your baby is the future of your Tribal community.  
Take care of yourself and your baby during pregnancy.

**GET EARLY PRENATAL CARE.**

Prenatal care visits help reduce problems during birth and give you a way to learn more about what to expect during pregnancy.

**GO TO APPOINTMENTS REGULARLY.**

You will have many check-ups during your pregnancy. Try not to miss any — they are all important.

Make an appointment with your healthcare provider if you are or think you may be pregnant.

For more information about the ITCA Maternal Health Innovation Program, scan the QR code or go to [bit.ly/ITCAMHI](https://bit.ly/ITCAMHI).



This project was produced by Inter Tribal Council of Arizona. Support for this project was provided through a cooperative agreement (Grant No. 6 U7AMC33714-02-01 ) from the Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau.



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