



## Grand Opening for Gila River Police Department

### GRIN Staff

Gila River Indian News

After over twenty years of sharing a building with the Department of Rehabilitation and Supervision (DRS), the Gila River Police Department (GRPD) officially found a new home. GRPD opened its new department building on June 28 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a program that included remarks from tribal leadership, law enforcement, and dignitaries to celebrate the occasion.

Guests gathered in a tent adjacent to the new building for the remarks and presentations.

Following a traditional blessing and the posting of the colors, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis praised the innovative federal 105(l) leasing program, developed by the Gila River Indian Community, to fund the construction—the Community’s third such tribal construction project under the Indian Self-Determination Education and Assistance Act (ISDEAA).

“This will be our third construction lease with the Department of the Interior,” said Gov. Lewis of the nearly 49,000-square-foot new police station.



L-R: Community Council Rep. Ann Lucas, Treasurer Gary Mix, Council Rep. Frank Pablo, Council Rep. Duane Jackson Jr., Lt. Gov. Regina Antone, Council Rep. Leah Williams, GRPD Chief Jesse Crabtree, Council Rep. Nada Celaya, Council Rep. Brian Davis, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Council Rep. Gordon Santos Jr., Council Rep. Anthony Villareal, Council Rep. Avery White, and Council Rep. Joseph Manuel Jr. Zachary Redbird/CPAO

According to Gov. Lewis, the physical structure of the new building was second to the officers and staff members who will use it to protect the Community.

“As important as this new police department building is to our Community, what gives this

building its heart and soul is the people. So today, we get to be here to honor our Gila River Police Department officers, our police department leadership, and our police department employees—all those who spend countless hours with the sole focus of

keeping our Community safe,” said Gov. Lewis.

Gov. Lewis also said that the Biden-Harris Administration has included funding for the 105(l) program in each of their budget requests, including the next phase of the financing for the program

— mandatory funding. Mandatory funding will ensure the program is accessible for future Community projects and across Indian Country and it will preserve funding for all of the other critical programs at Interior – including social services and public safety.

Gov. Lewis then welcomed Tom Perez, Senior Advisor to President Biden, who admired the Community’s commitment to improving resources for its members such as new schools, innovative water conservation projects and the new police station.

“You have been a spectacular partner,” Perez said of the GRIC’s nation-to-nation approach with the federal government to build infrastructure.

“The police department today is a perfect example of that partnership in action,” said Perez.

Lt. Gov. Regina Antone felt a special connection with the new building as it represents continued progress for GRPD, who recently mourned the loss of fallen Officer Joshua Briese, who was killed in an early morning incident on June 1. Lt. Gov. Antone also thanked the contractor Core Construction,

*Continued on Page 5*

## Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Council hosts 37th Annual Gila River Youth Conference

### Joseph Morales

GRIN Intern

200 youth attended the 37th Annual Youth Conference, hosted by the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC) on July 13-14 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Mesa.

The conference’s agenda for the weekend provided the youth in attendance with many opportunities to attend workshops, informational sessions, and socialize. This year’s theme was “Revitalizing the River.”

Both days began with welcoming blessings and guest speakers to kick off the general assembly. Day one featured Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and former GRIC Gov. Greg Mendoza, now the Youth Program Director for United National Indian Tribal Youth Inc. (UNITY). Both shared their thoughts on the importance of the conference and the theme of being tied to the land and the river.

“You are part of the future for all of us; you are part of the river, the keli akimel,” said Gov. Lewis. “We are the caretakers of what



Former Phoenix Suns player Amar’e Stoudemire, keynote speaker for the 37th annual Youth Conference on July 14. Photo Courtesy of Joseph Morales

our ancestors left us.”

He shared the history of the Community and how it was nearly brought to extinction, “It was our leaders then, our last traditional Chief, Antonio Azul. It was his leadership that fought to keep us where we’re at,” said Gov. Lewis. AOPPYC President Junior Pancott presented Gov. Lewis with a special gift for his continued support for the youth.

Mendoza recognized AOPPYC as the longest-running and tribally-supported youth council.

Day two would follow with guests Lt. Gov. Regina Antone and former Phoenix Suns player Amar’e Stoudemire, keynote speaker, sharing essential messages for the event.

“One of the most important factors of being successful is planning how to pursue your craft or what your goals are and what you want to accomplish,” said Stoudemire.

Stoudemire was drafted by the Phoenix Suns in 2002. During his 14-year NBA career, he was a



AOPPYC members and advisors share traditional songs. Apphia Shirley/CPAO

six-time NBA All-Star and five-time All-NBA team member.

The youths in attendance really got their excitement going when Stoudemire made his way to the stage. During his speech, he mentioned his hobby of farming and his connection to the land, which opened the whole crowd’s perspective. He runs Stoudemire Farms in New York, a family-run business that began in 2015.

“I think it’s important for farming because you’re cultivat-

ing the land, growing your crops, growing your agriculture, and connecting back with the soil,” Stoudemire said. “It’s a beautiful space, a very spiritual space to be in.”

Gov. Lewis jumped in after Stoudemire’s speech to express how connections can be made with Stoudemire’s farming, “We’re traditionally agriculturalists and farmers, and the whole

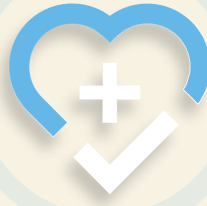
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grhc.org

# TEAM COMMUNITY

*Please Join Us!*

**Tuesday, July 9, 2024**  
4 pm - 7 pm  
Viola L. Johnson  
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**Saturday, July 20, 2024**  
10 am - 2 pm  
Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk)  
Health Center

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(520) 562-3321 Ext. 2803 or email [RUNNER@GRHC.ORG](mailto:RUNNER@GRHC.ORG)

We look forward to seeing you  
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Join us at one of two events to celebrate the Community's triumphs during the pandemic, celebrate our resilience and to envision our bright future ahead.

You and your family will experience a health fair, healthy dinner option, giveaways, and will be entered into a raffle. Attendees 18 and older will receive a beautiful canvas tote bag adorned with the commissioned artwork by Paul Molina.



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Robin Henry, FNP-BC  
520-517-0693

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Lt. Governor  
**Regina Antone**

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# GRIC Attends 2024 National UNITY Conference

**Emma Hughes**  
Gila River Indian News

A delegation from the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) attended the annual 2024 National UNITY (United National Indian Tribal Youth) Conference from June 29 to July 3. Several Native American youth council groups from across the country enthusiastically participated, leaving a significant impact through their presence and contributions.

GRIC's delegation included the Akimel O'odham/Pee Posh Youth Council (AOPPYC), Gila River Royalty, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, and Lt. Gov. Regina Antone, as well as GRIC youth residing off the reservation.

"We had such a strong showing of our youth council, of our youth from schools off the reservations and on the reservation," said Gov. Lewis. "We probably had one of the larger, if not the largest, youth delegations there."

Held in Portland, Oreg., the event brought together thousands of young leaders ages 14-24 from tribes across the country under the theme "Revitalizing Our Roots" to engage in discussions on cultural preservation, leadership development, and community building.

The event also allowed the



**Akimel O'odham Pee Posh Youth Council members and advisors, GRIC Royalty, and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis at the UNITY Conference.** Shannon Redbird/CPAO

youth council to network with leaders and mentors from diverse tribal backgrounds. Through interactive sessions and cultural exchanges, they built relationships that will support their ongoing efforts back home.

During the conference, two Community members, Evelyn Enos, District 4, and Precious Vicente, District 1, were recognized as part of UNITY's annual 25 Under 25 Leadership Award.

"Last year, I represented the GRIC and Native youth as a UNITY Earth Ambassador, and this year, I can once again highlight

our community on a national level," said Enos.

During UNITY's gala, AOPPYC Advisor Victoria Quintero, District 1, was presented with the J.R. Cook Youth Advisor of the Year Award, named after the late Cook, UNITY's first Executive Director. The award honors and recognizes the dedication of individuals who provide adult leadership and nurture and support the development of Native youth.

"I didn't know I won or anything like that," Quintero said. "I just thought this was enough. I said I've already won being nominated, and that means enough to me because somebody thought enough to nominate me, and that feels awesome."

Quintero, a former member, has served on the youth council advisory board since 2019. Her own children are also now members of AOPPYC.

She added, "When I look back on my teachers, it's like a lot of them aren't here now because I'm older, and I really wanted to give back, because I felt like that organization just put so much into me, and helped me make me who I was as a person."

Quintero had the opportunity to join as an advisor in 2003 but only stayed for a few years

before moving off the Community and focusing on her family. Her work has always brought her back to the youth, assisting those who had been placed in group homes, "teaching young people how to take care of themselves, how to cook, how to budget, any and everything, basically being a parent for the time being to a kid you don't know, and it was very rewarding," she said.

"You don't do these things for credit, you don't do these things to get your name out there, you're doing it because that's where your heart lies, and my heart lies with these kids and any kid that comes along. I care about all of them; I love them like they're my nieces and nephews," said Quintero.

UNITY's executive director, Mary Kim Titla, praised the council's contributions, stating, "The theme of our National Conference was 'Revitalizing Our Roots,' and I can confidently say that we really hit the mark by energizing and educating the youth attendees about personal development, advocacy, and wellness," said Titla. "The cultural sharing and connections made at the National Conference are inspiring and instill me with so much hope for the future of our Native communities."



**L-R: Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, UNITY Executive Director Mary Kim Titla, UNITY's 25 under 25 honoree Evelyn Enos, and Lt. Gov. Regina Antone.** Shannon Redbird/CPAO

## **\*\*Public Notice\*\***

Dear Readers,

We are writing to inform you of an important change to our publication schedule. Due to staff shortages and the evolving demand for print media, we will be reducing the frequency of our newspaper from bi-weekly to once a month.

This decision allows us to maintain the quality of our content while adapting to current circumstances. We remain committed to providing you with informative articles in each edition. We appreciate your understanding and continued support during this transition.

If you have any questions or feedback, please feel free to contact us by phone: (520) 562-9715 or email: [GRIN@gric.nsn.us](mailto:GRIN@gric.nsn.us).

Thank you for your readership!

## **Volunteers Needed!**



**GRIC 4H Club is seeking adult volunteers (21 years old and up)**

As the nation's largest youth development organization, 4H club serves the youth where they are. When you become a 4H volunteer, you will be serving the youth in our Community.

Your participation will help give GRIC youth the resources they need to learn, gain support and receive caring adult mentorship.



Please contact GRIC 4H Coordinator to start volunteer application process today!

Contact Name: Liane Iglesias

Phone: 520-610-7240

Email: [gric4H@gridd.com](mailto:gric4H@gridd.com)



# 2024 First Responder Cadet Program

**Joseph Morales**  
GRIN Intern

This summer, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) continued its First Responder Cadet Program.

The Gila River Police Department (GRPD), Gila River Emergency Management Services (GREMS), and Gila River Fire Department (GRFD) all collaborate to provide their experience for youthful cadets participating in the program.

The WIOA program's goal is to improve quality, productivity, and competitiveness for Gila River Indian Community members in the workforce. The program offers many youthful individuals the opportunity and support services to help them face employment and

education barriers.

GRPD Officer James Milano and GRFD Captain Robert Jackson are both instructors for the First Responders program and oversee the cadets.

They allowed me to attend one of the cadet classroom sessions and provided a small tour of the GRPD's training facility in Chandler.

During the tour, past events and presentations that the cadets have assisted with were shared, including showcasing a vehicle that GRPD acquired.

"The cadets can demonstrate what they learn and become more confident," said Officer Milano. "It even helps them know that in the future, I can do this as my job."

I also had the oppor-

tunity to speak with some cadets and learn about their experiences.

"The program has been great. It allows me to gain work experience from all aspects of this program," said Jazmyn Burnett from District 3.

The cadets have many services for their support, along with their busy schedules. Class sessions begin very early in the morning throughout the week, which Burnett mentioned, "It allows me to have a set schedule during the summer and to be prepared. When we work out, that helps me to stay active and fit for the summer."

Burnett shared many things that she has enjoyed throughout her experience so far, a big highlight for her was when Wildland Fire Fighters had a showcase for them. That showcase sparked her interest to possibly continue down that path of learning more about firefighting. Burnett is currently exploring her options for the next steps in the future.

Cadets Elijah Joe, District 5, and Christian Harvier, District 3, also shared their experiences.

Joe stated, "I have wanted to be a police officer my whole life. I have always been interested in



**Gila River Emergency Management Services staff and the 2024 First Responder Cadets.** Photo Courtesy of Joseph Morales

the police, and seeing what happens day to day is what I have gained from this summer."

Harvier added, "It's important to gain the education and background knowledge of public safety."

Both young gentlemen shared that the program provides so much knowledge and experience that could help them as they look forward to their future. They stated that summer has been fun.

"The police car chase we participated in was a huge adrenaline dump," said Joe.

Harvier shared another highlight: the day they spent with the K9 unit and the police grand opening ceremony.

"I really enjoy being recognized as public safety cadets at events because it showcases the importance of it and the police at the grand opening," said Harvier.

Many of the cadets shared the same insight on how important the program has been for them to learn more and gain work experience.

Any youth interested in the First Responder Program should contact the

WIOA Program at (520) 562-3387 or [grctraining.org](http://grctraining.org) for additional information on the youth program.

**2024 First Responder Program Participants:**

1. Alexander Kyyitan
2. Aiyana Jackson
3. Elijah Soke
4. Vince Cook
5. Hayden Jackson
6. Raiyna Yoyokie
7. Mariya Yucupicio
8. Christian Harvier
9. Jazmyn Norris-Burnett
10. Sylvia Norris-Burnett
11. Elijah Joe



**Cadets prepare for work out drills at the GRPD training facility.** Photo Courtesy of Joseph Morales

## GILA RIVER ROYALTY HOSTS "LET'S GLOW SKATING" AT SKATELAND CHANDLER



*"The purpose of this event is to get our Community members out and get to know one another."*

- Susanna Osife  
Miss Gila River 2024-2025

*"I love when the youth come together and do something for the community."*

- Shayla Davis  
Jr. Miss Gila River 2024-2025



*"Seeing the kids makes me feel good that we're helping the community."*

Landon Martinez  
AOPPYC Member

From the Front Page

project manager Tynan Group and Architekton, the architects, and acknowledged representatives from the offices of Sen. Mark Kelly, Congressman Ruben Gallego, and Congressman Greg Stanton.

Prior to the ribbon cutting, GRPD unveiled a memorial wall in front of the building's main entrance to honor fallen officers. Gov. Lewis then presented GRPD Chief Jesse Crabtree with the U.S. flag offered to the Community at the burial of Officer Briese at his service in Montana.

District 6 Community Council Representative Anthony "Chris" Villareal, Chairman of the Owner's Team, also spoke at the ceremony and recognized his fellow members: Vice Chair Council Rep. Avery White from District 3; Council Rep. Ann Lucas from District 2; Council Rep. Frank Pablo from District 5; Council Rep. James De La Rosa from District 5; Council Rep. Joseph Manuel, Jr. from District 3; Council Rep. Terrance B.



Senior Advisor to President of the United States Tom Perez, shares remarks during the grand opening ceremony. Photo Courtesy of Joseph Morales

Evans from District 6; and GRIC Treasurer Gary Mix.

"I would like to thank all of our Owner's Team members, Governor Lewis and Lieutenant Governor Regina Antone, and all of our Community Departments who were involved in the construction of this building for all of the hours and hard work it took to get to today," said Villareal.

The Owner's Team for the new Police Department guided the project to completion in record time and under budget. On behalf of the Community Council Secretary's Office and Community Council, they

also presented Chief Crabtree with a plaque.

Chief Crabtree addressed the audience as well. Crabtree and his officers dealt with the aftermath of the much-publicized shooting that resulted in two deaths, to opening the doors of a new station all in less than a month.

Tracy Canard Goodluck, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, said she was honored to attend on behalf of Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland.

Guests toured the facil-



GRPD Chief Jesse Crabtree is given a flag by Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, in honor of fallen GRPD officer Joshua Briese. Zachary Redbird/CPAO

ity following the unveiling of the memorial wall and the ribbon cutting.

The new Police Department took approximately 18 months to build. Designed by Indigenous Design Studio + Architecture, the campus-style environment incorporates rooms for Community meetings, GRPD administration, dispatch, evidence and processing, patrol, staff support, records, criminal investigation, training, and public space. It includes a 9,500-square-foot indoor shooting range and a shade structure covering a pedestrian plaza.

Throughout the design process, local cultural stories helped guide the architects. In keeping with



Lt. Gov. Regina Antone takes a moment to view the memorial wall honoring fallen officers. Emma Hughes/GRIN

GRIC culture, it includes a timeline of the Community along the hallway and features artwork from Community artists throughout the building. The station

balances sun and shade, a connection to the sky, the importance of water, and a relationship to the desert landscape.

# Summer Youth Awards Banquet held in District 5

Roberto A. Jackson  
Communications & Public Affairs Office

Nearly 100 youth found a cure for the "summertime blues," this year by gaining valuable workforce experience in the Gila River Indian Community. To acknowledge the 97 youth in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program, the Employment & Training Department held its annual Summer Youth Awards Banquet on July 12 at the District 5 Multipurpose Building.

Employment & Training Director Lana Chanda welcomed the youth and their guests, recapping a successful year for the award recipients. Chanda also recognized the E&T staff who assisted the youth and the programs.

Lt. Gov. Regina Antone attended the banquet with District 1 Council Representative Duane Jackson, Jr., and District 3 Community Council Representative Joseph Manuel Jr.

Lt. Gov. Antone shared her work experience with the youth and her support for WIOA.

"I truly believe in WIOA to open our eyes to anything," she said regarding the career paths available for the youth.

Council Representative Manuel also expressed



Summer Youth Awards Banquet was held on July 12 at the District 5 Multipurpose Building. Roberto A. Jackson/CPAO

his gratitude and encouraged the youth to continue making positive choices in the future.

"Still continue to make those choices day in and day out to be a better person not only for yourself but for your community," said Manuel.

Dr. Darius Jackson, who recently earned a Doctorate in Physical Therapy (PT) from Midwestern University, also gave a motivational speech to the youth.

Jackson emphasized hard work and education in his words of encouragement to the youth. He also gave career advice to each student as they join the workforce.

Youth have several options for summer employment, such as public safety or the medical field, in the WIOA program. The members of the Cadet Pro-

gram and members of the Summer Scrubs Program presented at the banquet. Each highlighted the advantages of gaining early experience in competitive fields and the opportunities they received during the summer at WIOA. GRIC public safety departments coordinated with WIOA to offer fundamental lessons and training to cadets. The cadets learned from members of the Gila River Police Department, Gila River Fire Department, and Gila River EMS during the summer.

The Film 101 program continued teaching filmmaking fundamentals for students interested in media this summer and also premiered their student film at the banquet.

The agenda concluded with awards for youth staff and participants.



The hallway in the new GRPD building features a timeline of the Community with photographs and calendar stick. Emma Hughes/GRIN



**From the Front Page**

theme is ‘revitalizing the river,’ making sure we’re sustainable,” said Gov. Lewis.

Following the speech, the youth in attendance had time to be more engaging and ask any questions for Stoudemire. Questions ranged from what sparked his interest in playing basketball, his most challenging practice and game, to any advice he could give on achieving goals.

The youth conference had many opportunities to listen to speakers and attend workshops of their interest. Multiple sessions allowed everyone to get the chance to participate in traditional sandal making, Pee-Posh bird singing, and playing basketball, which were some of the work-



**Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis joins youth for a traditional dance during the conference.** Apphia Shirley/CPAO

shops held over the weekend. Many informational booths and exhibitors were in attendance, including the Office of Emergency Management, Gila River Health Care, Gila River Telecommunications Inc., and GRIC Employment & Training Department, some of the few in attendance. After workshop sessions ended, the youth council

would have tables distributing some gear for the weekend, such as water bottles, hats, and T-shirts.

The conference concluded each night with dinner and live performances by DJ Loki (Jaime Jackson) and Walia band Group Passion, who would play music and allow the dance floor to open for the youth.

Junior Pancott, President of the youth council, had the pleasure of sharing some words about the conference: “Overall, the conference was a major success. The youth in attendance were all eager to learn in the various workshops. That is the biggest highlight for me as an outgoing AOPPYC member. Speaking and organizing this event for the new generation of youth is important.”



**Former Miss Gila River 2023-2024, Kelsey Martinez hosts a workshop on how to make sandals.** Apphia Shirley/CPAO

**P-MIP Civil Engineer Hong Mai Retires**



**P-MIP Director David DeJong presents a retirement award to Civil Engineer – Irrigation, Hong Mai on Wednesday, June 26. Mai was employed with the Community for 12 years.** Photo Courtesy of Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project

**Submitted by**  
Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project

The Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project (P-MIP) department gathered on Wednesday, June 26, to celebrate the retirement of P-MIP Civil Engineer – Irrigation Hong Mai who retired from the Community after 12 years of service. Hong previously worked for Stantec Consulting and Franzoy Corey Engineers and transitioned into his role at P-MIP in December 2012.

P-MIP Director David

DeJong, presented on behalf of the Community, a retirement award. Community members and P-MIP employees Raphael Pedro and Kristina Morago placed a Pendleton blanket around Hong in appreciation for the immense contribution to the Community and respect for his accomplishments that will benefit generations to come. As a parting gift, he was also given a photo highlighting his final project, MAR 8B, located on the Gila River, adjacent to Interstate 10.

“I am very thankful to your community, I

worked here for 12 years and worked for a wonderful team,” Hong said. “Do the best you can to help your team, together help your projects moving forward,” Hong encouraged to staff present.

Director DeJong offered closing comments and best wishes to Hong. “When you drive down I-10 and you see water going down MAR 8B, you can tell your kids, ‘I designed that.’ Or when you look at the reclaimed water pipeline or any of the projects you have been involved in, you had a hand in it.”

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**ADOT**

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP**

**Gila River Indian Community members and businesses are invited to learn how to work with ADOT on future construction projects. Information will be provided about job training opportunities, procurement processes and partnering with ADOT.**

**Wednesday, August 28, 2024**

8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Whirlwind Golf Club at Wild Horse Pass, Shelde Building

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**For more information about the project, visit [www.i10wildhorsepasscorridor.com](http://www.i10wildhorsepasscorridor.com) or call the project hotline at 602-522-7777**

# ★ VETERANS ★ ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Independence Day & How to file Disability Claims

**Submitted by**  
Veteran & Family Services  
Office



**Independence Day** – July 4th, is a day that all of our military members, both past and present, have fought to achieve and maintain. Our United States flag is a symbol of that independence and freedom. The colors of the flag represent valor, innocence and justice. Long may she wave!

**VA Disability Claims:**

Are you considering filing a VA claim for disability? Disability compensation from the VA is tax free and non-reportable. The amount of monthly financial compensation is determined by the disability percentage awarded. It can range from \$171 to over \$3,700 per month. There are many conditions that qualify for compensation. Veterans from different eras have presumptive conditions specifically related to their era. You may possibly qualify with hearing loss, humming/ringing/buzzing in the ears, diabe-

tes, hypertension, breathing conditions, cancers etc. You don't have to be missing an arm or a leg to qualify. Because you served your country whether you were drafted or volunteered, you may have conditions that qualify you for disability.

Make an appointment or come to our office. The Veteran and Family Service Office (VFSO) will discuss the possibilities of conditions for which you can or should file. We will do most, if not all of your paperwork for filing the claim. Documentation to support filing the claim will be discussed. We are here to make it as easy as possible to file claims and to help you receive what the VA promises to provide for Veterans.

To get started, we will have to do a Power of Attorney (POA). This POA only applies to VA claims. It allows access to you VA claims file: nothing else. We will also discuss establishing your claim date. To get started, bring or email a copy of your DD214. We need a mailing address and a phone number. If you don't have your DD214, the process can be started and your DD214 can be ordered.

You have earned any and all VA benefits for which you qualify and the Veteran and Family Services Office is here to assist

with accessing those benefits. Don't feel that you are taking benefits away from "someone who needs it more." You have EARNED it!

The VFSO is here to support Veterans, Veteran families and GRIC employees/families.

We can assist with Surviving Spouse claims, ordering discharge papers (live and deceased Veterans), ordering headstones or helping to navigate other VA/Veteran benefits.

Disable Native American Veterans with ratings under 50% no longer have to pay copays for office visits or medications at the VA. We can assist with the paperwork for the waiver. Provide a copy of your Tribal enrollment from any federally recognized Tribe and VFSO will assist with the co-pay waiver form.

As a disabled Veteran, you may qualify for some Arizona State entitlements.

**Veteran and Family Services Office** 520-562-9704

Peer Support Specialist Wesley Rhodes -520-610-4383

Peer Support Specialist Darrell Whitman 520-610-2037

Veteran Service Officer Kim Skelton 520-610-7644

Email: [Kimberly.skelton.vfso@gric.nsn.us](mailto:Kimberly.skelton.vfso@gric.nsn.us)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# PURPLE HEART DAY

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**PLACE**

DISTRICT 5  
MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING  
3456 W Casa Blanca Rd, Bapchule, AZ

**DATE**

## August 7, 2024

**TIME**

## 12 - 2 pm

FOR MORE INFO:

**DARRELL WHITMAN**  
(520) 610-0316

**WESLEY RHODES**  
(520) 610-4384

**KIM SKELTON**  
(520) 610-7644

## Community's VFSO hosts Second Roundtable in District 4

**GRIN Staff**  
Gila River Indian News

The Community's Veteran & Family Services Office (VFSO) hosted its second Veterans Benefits Roundtable with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) on June 20 inside the District 4 Multi-Purpose Center. The event aimed to educate veterans about the support and resources available under the Veterans' Administra-

tion Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act. (PACT)

PACT, a federal measure passed in 2022, covers veterans exposed to toxic chemicals – like Agent Orange and burn pits, while serving in the U.S. military.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Regina Antone, and District 4 Community Council Member Joey Whitman – a military veteran – attended the session along with many other GRIC veterans and their

families.

"Every veteran has benefits," said Darrell Whitman, a U.S. vet who served in Iraq and is a VFSO Peer Support Specialist. "This is what they earn while they are in the military."

The group's first roundtable was held in District 5. Whitman said that with additional support services provided by the VA, VFSO was able to increase the number of informational booths for the second event. He said that he and his VFSO colleagues are expanding their knowledge of the available PACT benefits to help the Community's many members who served in the military.

"As we know, veterans sacrificed their lives for this," said Gov. Lewis. "This is one of the most important roles and responsibilities of the Community through our VFS office. We must make certain that our



Various departments provide information and services for veterans at the event on June 20. GRIN Photo



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis shares special remarks at the veteran roundtable event. GRIN Photo

veterans know their rights, privileges and their benefits."

A number of VA experts spoke at the event, including specialists in healthcare enrollment and toxic exposures. The roundtable also featured representatives from the VA PACT Native Ameri-

can Direct (Home) Loan program and nurse practitioners from Gila River Health Care. The professionals offered valuable insights and guidance concerning benefits, housing, and healthcare.

Lancelot Lewis, a Vietnam veteran from District 4, said he heard about

the roundtable online. Lewis attended the event to learn more about services regarding voting, he said. He urged the Community to continue to support U.S. veterans.

The next VFSO and VA roundtable event will be hosted in September.



# HEADLINES

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE



Stephen Roe Lewis  
Governor



Regina Antone  
Lt. Governor

## ITCA honors 76th Anniversary of Native Right to Vote in Arizona

Emma Hughes  
Gila River Indian News

A century after the Native American Citizenship Act granted U.S. citizenship to Native Americans, tribal leaders and Community members gathered at the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass, to celebrate this historic milestone and the enduring right to vote with the 76th anniversary of the Native Right to Vote in Arizona.

Hosted by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA), the event served as a tribute to the resilience and progress of Native communities over the past 100 years. The celebration kicked off with remarks from ITCA Executive Director Maria Dadgar and Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis.

"I was really honored to give the keynote," said



L-R: ITCA Assistant Director Thomas Throssell, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier, Tohono O'odham Nation Vice-Chairwoman Carla Johnson, Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, ITCA Executive Director Maria Dadgar. Emma Hughes/GRIN

Gov. Lewis "Opening up about the history, especially for our Community; Our elders who fought for

our right to vote, Rudolph Johnson and Peter Porter."

Gov. Lewis highlighted the significance of the Native American Citizenship Act, noting that while it granted citizenship, many Native Americans were still denied the right to vote for decades due to discriminatory practices.

In 1928, just years after Native Americans were granted U.S. citizenship, GRIC members Rudolph Johnson and Peter Porter were denied the right to vote and filed a lawsuit but were unsuccessful as the Arizona Supreme court considered them persons under guardianship and deemed them ineligible to

vote.

The fight continued for decades later in 1948, when Frank Harrison and Harry Austin, members of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, challenged the case after they were denied the right to vote and lawsuit was overturned.

History of the Native Right to Vote was shared at the event and Chi Chino Spirit provided traditional songs and dances. The event also featured the history of Native American voting rights, voter registration drives, and opportunities for attendees to engage with local advocacy organizations.

A central feature of

the event was a panel discussion with current tribal leaders, who shared their insights on the past, present, and future of Native American civic engagement. Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel, Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Tohono O'odham Nation Vice-Chairwoman Carla Johnson, and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier were part of that panel.

"Talking about what we can do to not only get our vote out in our respective communities, but also how important it is, the stakes about tribal sover-

eignty of water rights and how important elections matter," said Gov. Lewis.

Gov. Lewis said the recognition is a way to keep on fighting and to tell our story, the 22 tribes in Arizona all have their own stories on how they've dealt these issues. Choosing who's going to be president, what administration is going to be running and in power in the next four years proves to be a critical point, especially for tribes.

"It could take decades to undo if the wrong administration got in," said Gov. Lewis.

These anniversaries serve as a reminder of the progress made and the work still needed to achieve true equality.

"I'm glad that they have Pinal County, Maricopa, and the Clean Elections Commission," said Zuzette Kisto, Community Elections Coordinator for GRIC's Tribal Election Program. "They have the resources that us voters need in case we're needing to update our registration, and if we have additional questions."

She added, "I was very grateful for ITCA doing this outreach for the Native tribes to be able to share the history and motivate people to want to honor our past in coming out to vote and making their voices be heard."



Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, keynote speaker for the 76th Anniversary of the Native Right to Vote event hosted by ITCA on July 12. Photo Courtesy of Susan Anderson

## GRIC Funds Unique New Musical Playground in Casa Grande

Roberto A. Jackson  
Communications & Public Affairs Office

Children will now have some musical options to explore at the Eastland Park Musical Playground in Casa Grande thanks to funding by the Gila River Indian Community.

The City of Casa Grande and the City's Arts & Culture Commission hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by Lt. Governor Regina Antone, along with a delegation of GRIC Community Council Representatives and the Office of Special Funding to commemorate the opening of a musical playground on Wednesday, July 10 at Eastland Park. The playground renovation was funded by the Community via a State Shared Gaming Grant awarded in July 2023.

"The children were eager to run to the playground



L-R: Lt. Gov. Regina Antone, Council Rep. Joey Whitman, Council Rep. Joseph Manuel Jr., Council Rep. Avery White, Council Rep. Duane Jackson Jr., Arts & Culture Commission Chairwoman Jo Hanken, Casa Grande Mayor Craig McFarland, and Arts & Culture Commission Vice-Chair Amanda Stueland, during the park's ribbon cutting ceremony on July 10. Roberto A. Jackson/CPAO

and try out all the instrumental stations. To see the partnership with the two Communities was a sign of great teamwork and an invested interest in the fu-

ture," said Lt. Gov. Antone.

The park features musical playground equipment designed to stimulate a child's sense of hearing. The children can choose from percussive or melodic

options while enjoying the park.

Casa Grande Mayor Craig H. McFarland recognized the Community and Lt. Gov. Antone in his welcome address.

"Thanks for making this happen," McFarland said of the Community's role in funding the project.

McFarland said that Casa Grande has revamped many public parks in the city and the new equipment will be a welcome addition for children with unique sensory skills.

The Mayor also called the project a "win-win" for the impact that it will have on the local community.

"This is a perfect example of getting together, and putting together a project that is good for the community," he told the attendees.

Jo Hanken, Chair of the Arts & Culture Commission, said that children will develop musical skills with the new equipment. She said the new area, "allows adaptive and inclusive play."

Lt. Gov. Regina An-

tone thanked the City of Casa Grande for the invitation and introduced the GRIC delegation: District 1 Council Representatives Duane Jackson and Joey Whitman; District 3 Council Representatives Avery White and Joseph Manuel Jr.; and Cheryl Pablo, Program Administrator with the Office of Special Funding.

With the ribbon-cutting complete, the children quickly tested all the equipment for the first time.

"I thank Cheryl Pablo, the Program Administrator for the Gila River Office of Special Funding, the Committee and the Tribal Council, who work to support the funding of this program by going through hundreds of applications every year," said Lt. Gov. Antone. "Then to see the finished project is simply amazing."



# GILA RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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# TECHNOLOGY FOR THE FUTURE

FIBER WITHIN THE COMMUNITY ALLOWS GRTI TO MAKE SURE OUR NETWORK IS FUTURE PROOF!



FOR MORE INFO OR CONCERNS CONTACT US!

 @GilaRiverTelco  @NativeTechAZ  @AlluvionCom  @GilaRiverTV  @DigitalConnectInitiative

# THE Tribal Education NEWS

Get Ready To Soar!

## Tribal Education Dept. Student Spotlight

As any other child adjusting to a new school environment, Dalilah began the early head start program here, feeling nervous, afraid and reserved. She was quiet, didn't say much, and kept to herself while she adjusted to a new schedule and routines. Eventually, thankfully, we gained her trust, and she started to feel at ease with the change.

Dalilah has broken out of her shell and impressed us with her progress in school and at home, thanks to the support of her mother, grandmother, and other family members. She has made significant progress in communicating and has a large vocabulary for her age. She knows her colors, recognizes her own name, understands how to utilize objects, recognizes animals and their sounds, compares and measures, counts, and is an excellent play doctor during free play.

She has performed well on every Brigance Test administered this school year, and she is a great asset to her teachers and the other students in the classroom. Dalilah is deserving of recognition as an outstanding student. At just two years old, soon to be three, we are incredibly proud of everything she has accomplished thus far.

**Way to go Dalilah!**

**DALILAH SOLIZ**



## 2024 Chief Antonio Azul Citizenship Awardees Journey To Washington, D.C.

This Summer, 15 Chief Azul Citizenship award recipients embarked on an exciting and new week-long adventure on June 9-14 in Washington, D.C. Students and chaperones began hitting the ground running with tourist activities beginning with the first stop being Iwo Jima, Vietnam, World War II, Lincoln, Korean War, MLK, and Jefferson Memorials before the first Capital Tour of the week. The students had the opportunity to meet with the Community's federal legal and policy team to discuss how federal advocacy and legal work impacts Community priorities such as water, education, and infrastructure. Jason Hauter, a member of the Community from District 7 led the discussion. Students met with tribal staffers working in the White House on tribal issues such as White House Intergovernmental Affairs and

Council at the Eisenhower Executive office building. The students were taken to a second tour at the Capital which was a specific Indigenous tour and ended their evenings with a Marine Sunset parade at the Iwo Jima Memorial lawn. Students visited several memorial sites throughout the week and had adventurous meal breaks at the Potomac River Waterfront Park and National Harbor. Many students tried foods that they have never had before, including oysters. As students faced the last two days of the week-long adventure, they began Thursday morning with a tour of the Arlington National Cemetery. The main interest of that visit was to pay respect to one of our Gila River heroes, Cpl. Ira Hamilton Hayes. Students and chaperones adorned his grave site with gifts from home and prayed together

at the grave site. The students were also able to view the "Changing of the Guards" at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They visited the Natural History Museum and the American Indian Museum. This was one remarkable adventure for our future leaders. As the chaperones, heard ideas of the students future endeavors and how being able to go on this trip possibly solidified those dreams made the vision of what this award is truly about. Opening their minds and spirits to endless possibilities and removing the barriers created in their minds of their limitations was the award anyone would love to experience in real time. They created bonds with each other and the three chaperones that guided them. They came home ready to hit the ground running to make themselves and their Community proud.



Top: Students during the Indigenous Specific Tour of the Capital. Bottom: Iwo Jima Memorial, L-R: Alayna Mark, Amethyst Jones, Bianca Cardona, Caiden Lewis, Cailinn Allen, Damyen Alapizco, Elizabeth Rose Pablo, Gabriel Coppedge, Gilberto, Gisele Flore, Josiah Ochoa, Malia Harvier, Nevaeh Quiroz, Rosita Gomez, and Trenton Pedro. Photos Courtesy of Nadia Huff

## Student Services Hold New Student Orientation

There were two sessions held on July 9 at the District 3 Head Start multipurpose room. We had over 60 students attend and are attending in state and out of state institutions. Students learned about the policy manual, responsibilities as a student, funding process, and listened to a student panel. For the student panel it consisted of previous students discussing their experiences and shared tips with new students.



GRIC Tribal Education, Student Services Announce

# Skilled Trades Education



Contract: 520-562-3316 • TedEvents2021@gmail.com

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY  
TRIBAL EDUCATION

P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, AZ 85147  
P: 520-562-3662 F: 520-562-2924  
www.GRICTED.com

Director of Education  
Sherilyn Aualla  
Assistant Director of Education  
Lance Reyna

# Congratulations CLASS OF 2024



## KINDERGARTEN



**Hunter "Juk" Lopez**  
*McCartney Ranch Elementary School*

Hunter Juk, you have been the little ray of sunshine our family needed since the day you were born. We are all so very proud of you in all you do, both academically and athletically. This is only the beginning of many great memories we will make with you. We know you will excel in 1st grade and your entourage will be there every step of the way. Let's go Juk!

## HIGH SCHOOL



**Mireya "Momo" Hernandez**  
*Casa Grande Union High School*

Princess Momo, chasing a dream requires effort, passion and hard work. You have conquered every obstacle and goal you set for yourself. We have enjoyed watching you shine in school, on comp floors and under the Friday Night lights. It has been nothing less than amazing watching you blossom into the beautiful, amazingly talented, smart young woman you are. Remember, "With God, all things are possible..." Matthew 19:26 Congratulations! U of A is lucky to have you.... Bear Down Baby Girl! We love you always...Your Family.

## HIGHER EDUCATION



**Anaiya Jackson**  
*Central Arizona College*

Anaiya has worked very hard to complete her first steps to her main goal. She will continue to attend college into the nursing program. Anaiya does also have a full time job while attending school. She has always set goals for herself and we know she will be successful. We, her family and friends are very proud of her.

## Off-Reservation Boarding Schools

### Applications Available

Riverside Indian School  
Jones Academy  
Sequoyah Indian School  
Circle of Nations  
Flandreau Indian School

Sherman Indian School  
Chemawa Indian School  
Ft. Wingate High School  
Theodore Roosevelt  
Flandreau Indian School

“

Please call to schedule an appointment.

”

CONTACT

COMPLETE APPLICATION DEADLINE JULY 29TH, 2024

Ivy Namingha  
C: (520)610-0623  
Wrk: (520) 562-3662  
Work Hours:  
8am-5:00Pm  
Location: Tribal Education Department  
555 B St. Sacaton, AZ 85147




Gila River Indian Community Tribal Social Services

## FOSTER CARE Program



Share your home...  
Foster a child

**General Requirements:**

- Be 18 years of age or older
- All adults in the home must pass a criminal background check and fingerprinting
- Be able to provide a safe living environment
- Maintain the child's connection with the Akimel O'Otham and Pee Posh culture, language and lifestyle.

100% FREE Certification

24 Hour Support

Daily Reimbursement

4 week training session starting soon!

**For More Information:**  
[TSS.Fostercare@gric.nsn.us](mailto:TSS.Fostercare@gric.nsn.us)  
 520.562.3396

# MISSING PERSONS

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

**CLAYTON WAHPETA   PETER THOMAS   JOSEPH UGALDE   ANTHONY PORTER   KERMIT BREAD   CYNTHIA ACEVEDO   TONY GUTIERREZ**



Last seen: 06/03/2005  
Age: 37  
Sex: M  
Hair: Black(shaved)  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'5"  
Weight: 190



Last seen: 08/03/2007  
Age: 47  
Sex: M  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'5"  
Weight: 190



Last seen: 05/14/2009  
Age: 43  
Sex: M  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'9"  
Weight: 200



Last seen: 10/15/2011  
Age: 48  
Sex: M  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'6"  
Weight: 210



Last seen: 04/11/2014  
Age: 39  
Sex: M  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'9"  
Weight: 150



Last seen: 08/31/2019  
Age: 39  
Sex: F  
Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'4"  
Weight: 230



Last seen: 09/16/2022  
Age: 37  
Sex: M  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'11"  
Weight: 350

**ANNISSA ENOS**



Last seen: 03/16/2024  
Age: 18  
Sex: F  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'5"  
Weight: 145

**TRANT JACKSON, JR**



Last seen: 06/29/2024  
Age: 15  
Sex: M  
Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'7"  
Weight: 150

**MARIA ACEDO**



Last seen: 07/05/2024  
Age: 16  
Sex: F  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'7"  
Weight: 230

**JAYDIS DOKA**



Last seen: 07/05/2024  
Age: 15  
Sex: F  
Hair: Brown  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'3"  
Weight: 128

**CELESTINA ARVISO**



Last seen: 07/24/2024  
Age: 16  
Sex: F  
Hair: Black  
Eyes: Brown  
Height: 5'5"  
Weight: Unknown

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE GILA RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT: (520) 562-4511

## Gila River Indian Community

# FRAUD HOTLINE

# (520) 562-9570

REPORT MISUSE OF GRIC PROPERTY/EQUIPMENT, THEFT OR FRAUD. ALL CALLS ARE ANONYMOUS.

NAMES OR PHONE NUMBERS WILL NOT BE USED WHEN DISCUSSING CONCERNS.

Gila River Indian Community  
Internal Audit Department



# Jukbig Mashath 2024 – S-thoñi’ab kam Haichu, Summertime Items



**Submitted by**  
Huhugam Heritage Center

The name for this month translates to ‘the rainy moon’ and refers to the arrival of the summer rains. Our Hekiu O’otham refer to the summertime as “S-thoni’ab kam” (the hot season). As our O’otham adapted to new Western items, new words had been developed by our Elders for those items. For example: O’otham knew that the root word “e:kth” means (shade) and “e:kth’chut” means to be (in the shade). When umbrellas were introduced, O’otham observed that they produced shade from the direct sunlight. They added the suffix kuḍ to the root word and came up with “e:kthakuḍ” for umbrella. This includes all types and sizes of umbrellas.

When bath tubs were introduced O’otham observed that they were used to bathe. They had taken the root word “vachvi” (to swim) and applied it ac-

cordingly. Nowadays, a “vachvikud” still refers to a bath tub, kiddie pool and swimming pool of any size.

In the early days, cold icy treats were developed by adaptive individuals. One early treat developed was the snow-cone. Here again, O’otham observed how they were put together and came up with the name of “sio’ov vadag gev” A literal translation means (sweet juice ice). Today, the name still refers to the snow-cone and includes any form of Popsicle.

As time went onward, new developments invented to protect the human eyes from bright sunlight. That was especially important for individuals whom worked outdoors in the bright sunlight. Inventive O’otham came up with the name of “s-chuchkom vu:poi” for sunglasses. The literal translation means (darkened eyes) due to the tinting of the lenses.

When the first cooling fans were introduced,

they were the hand-held types, used to cool one’s face by waving motion. In this case, O’otham had utilized the root word “hevel” (wind) and added the suffix kuḍ. “Hevelthakuḍ” still refers to a hand-held cooling fan. Those are still in production with modern materials. Over the years, as things developed, electric fans were invented. O’otham had to rethink the name for an electric fan. They had taken the root word, “hevelho” (breeze, draft) added the suffix kuḍ to the root word. Today, we know that a “hevhogith’thakuḍ” is an electric powered fan that constantly blows cooling wind.

As things developed over time, leisure foot ware were invented and flip-flops became common in most households. We must keep in mind, that when O’otham name items, sometimes they are descriptive. In this case, flip-flops had been given the name of “kapshim shu:shk”

## S-thoni’ab kam Haichu – Summertime Items 2024

e:kthakuḍ



hevhogith’thakuḍ



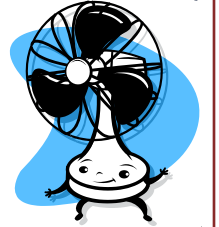
kapshim shu:shk



s-chuchkom vu:poi



sio’ov vadag gev



vachvikud



ClipArt Courtesy Robert Johnson

due to the sound they make when walking in them. This month’s word match will test your knowledge of summer items. We encourage you to learn these words and use them in your everyday lives. Speak with an Elder or Speaker and

learn to say the words. The names and spellings may be slightly different between the villages.

A special Thank You to community Elders, whose knowledge of s-thoñi’ab kam haichu, that made this article possible. Additional

### SOLUTION on Pg. 17

source related from *At the Desert’s Green Edge: An Ethnobotany of the Gila River Pima, Amadeo Rea, 1997, University of Arizona Press.*



## YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

Central Arizona Project delivers Colorado River water to **more than 80 percent of the state’s population** in central and southern Arizona. The team at CAP is dedicated to maintaining this critical water infrastructure for reliability now and into the future.

Learn more about the CAP system at [KnowYourWaterNews.com](http://KnowYourWaterNews.com)

Announcements & Notices

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA OAKLAND DIVISION

In re Franciscan Friars of California, Inc. Case No. 23-41723 WJL

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, on December 31, 2023, Franciscan Friars of California, Inc. (the "Debtor") filed for bankruptcy protection under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code.

The Bankruptcy Court has established August 30, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Pacific Time) as the extended deadline to file proofs of claim against the Debtor (the "Extended Bar Date").

If you have a claim against the Debtor, including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Debtor, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date.

If you have any questions regarding the claims process and/or you wish to obtain a copy of the proof of claim form, you may do so by: (i) calling Donlin Recano & Company, Inc. at (888) 444-4055; (ii) visiting the Debtor's restructuring website at https://www.donlinrecano.com/ffc; and/or (iii) emailing inquiries to ffcinfo@drc.equiniti.com.

IF YOU DO NOT TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM, YOU MAY FORFEIT YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION AND TO SHARE IN ANY DISTRIBUTIONS TO CREDITORS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEBTOR'S CHAPTER 11 CASE.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY EXTENDED BAR DATE ORDER

FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF CALIFORNIA, INC., CASE NUMBER 23-41723 EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR ALL CLAIMS - AUGUST 30, 2024 by 5 PM

On December 31, 2023, the Franciscan Friars of California, Inc. filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of California. This filing addresses child sexual abuse claims filed as the result of laws allowing abuse survivors to file decades-old complaints that were otherwise time-barred or expired under the statute of limitations.

The child sex abuse alleged in these cases occurred at least 27 years ago, with claims dating back to the 1940s. Most of the friars named in the claims are dead. Of the six living friars, all have been permanently removed from public ministry and all are living under strict third-party supervision.

According to public records, five of the accused friars served within the Community.

- Edward Henriques - St. Johns, Komatke - 1946 to 1956
Sylvester Mancuso - St. Peters, Bapchule - 1958 to 1964
Remy Rudin - St. Johns, Komatke - 1980 to 1982
Charles "Jude" Ruetten - St. Johns, Komatke - 1960 to 1963
Sylvester Mancuso - St. Peters, Bapchule - 1958 to 1964

If you or a family member has a claim related to sexual abuse committed by the above-mentioned Franciscan friars, you must file the claim by August 30, 2024.

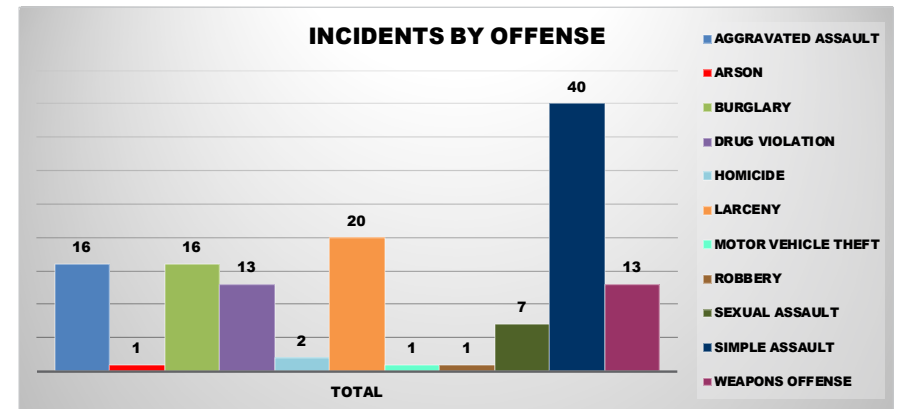
If you have questions regarding the claims process, the Community urges you to contact an attorney. If you need information or you wish to obtain a copy of the Proof of Claim form, you may do so by (1) calling Donlin Recano & Company, Inc. at (888) 444-4055; (2) visiting https://www.donlinrecano.com/ffc; (3) and/or emailing inquiries to ffcinfo@drc.equiniti.com.

For more information on how to file a claim, visit https://www.donlinrecano.com/Clients/ffc/Static/SurvivorClaims today.

Gila River Police Department Incident Logs

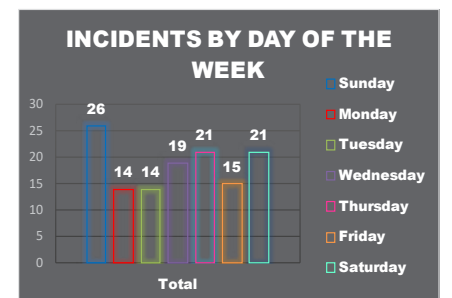
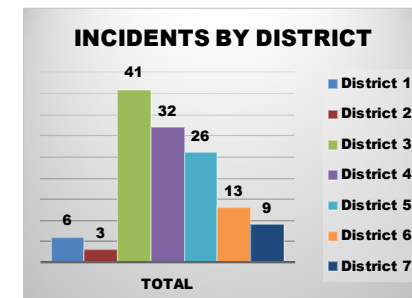
Gila River Police Department Blotter Report CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

FOR: GILA RIVER INDIAN NEWS REPORTING DATE: 06/01 - 06/30/2024



TOP Community Wide Crimes

From June 1 to June 30, 2024, the crimes most frequently committed were Simple Assault (40), Larceny (20), Aggravated Assault (16), and Burglary (16).



Incidents by District and Day of the Week

From June 1- 30, 2024, the district(s) with the highest reported crimes was District 4 (47), and District 3 (47). Between June 1- 30, 2024, the day of the week with the highest reported crimes occurred on Sunday's. Most crimes were reported to have occurred between the hours of 3 P.M to 6 P.M.

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE CHILDREN'S COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of: Boss Docket Number: JC-2024-0083-CA,

This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time, and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR a warrant

may be issued for your arrest or judgment entered in favor of the other party or if you fail to appear as an interested party you may be found in contempt of Court.

Answer/Response Hearing: DATE: July 16, 2024 TIME: 10:00 AM LOCATION: AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI 721 West Seed Farm Road Sacaton, AZ 85147

GRIC COURT DATE NOTICE

IN THE CHILDREN'S COURT OF THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of: Lopez Docket Number: JC-2024-0122/123-NC

This case has been scheduled and YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR on the date, time, and place designated below. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR a warrant

may be issued for your arrest or judgment entered in favor of the other party or if you fail to appear as an interested party you may be found in contempt of Court.

Answer/Response Hearing: DATE: July 30, 2024 TIME: 9:00 AM LOCATION: AKIMEL O'OTHAM LODITHA KUD KI 721 West Seed Farm Road Sacaton, AZ 85147

COURT NOTICE

IN THE COMANCHE NATION TRIBAL COURT DISTRICT COURT

COMANCHE NATION CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM, EX REL., TAMYRA GALLEGOS, PETITIONER, VS. HANSON JOSE, RESPONDENT

Case No: CNCSP-15-66 FGN: 61222001

HANSON JOSE: OBLIGOR

TAMYRA GALLEGOS: CUSTODIAN

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: HANSON JOSE

TAKE NOTICE that you are a named party in an Application for Indirect Contempt Citation filed in the Court listed above by Comanche Nation Child Support Program, asking that you be ordered to pay child support. You must appear in the Comanche Nation Tribal Court (584 NW Bingo Rd., Lawton, OK) on the 21st day of August, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Your failure to appear may result in the Application for Indirect Contempt Citation being taken as true and the requested relief sought being granted.

Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of June, 2024. By DEPUTY COURT CLERK, The Comanche Nation Tribal Court.

Prepared by: Comanche Nation Child Support Program P.O. Box 1647 Lawton, OK 73502 Telephone: (580) 280-4641 Facsimile: (580) 280-4628

# COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary's Office • June 5, 2024

## ACTION SHEET

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

## CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday, June 5, 2024, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:03 a.m.

## INVOCATION

Provided by Councilwoman Nada Celaya

## ROLL CALL

Council Secretary Shannon White called the roll

Executive Officers Present:

Governor Stephen R. Lewis

Lt. Governor Regina Antone

Council Members Present:

D1- Joey Whitman, Duane Jackson, Jr.(10:17); D2- Ann

Lucas; D3- Avery White, Joseph Manuel, Jr.; D4- Leah

Williams(10:17), Jennifer Allison, Nada Celaya, Lale-

na Jackson; D5- James De La Rosa, Brian Davis, Sr.,

Gordon Santos, Jr.; D6- Anthony Villareal, Sr., Charles

Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7- Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:

D5- Franklin Pablo, Sr. (Travel)

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE RESOLUTION #1 AND NEW BUSINESS #5 FOR NON-SUBMITTAL OF MATERIAL

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT REPORT #1, #2, AND #5, ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTION #2, #3, #8, #9, AND #10, AND ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #2 ON THE CONSENT AGENDA MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED

## SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED & RE-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

District 1 – Duane Jackson, Jr.

District 4 – Leah A. Williams

District 5 – Gordon Santos, Jr.

District 6 – Anthony "Chris" Villareal, Sr.

CHIEF JUDGE ANTHONY HILL DELIVERED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO EACH OF NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

[GOVERNOR LEWIS CALLS FOR A 15 MINUTE BREAK; THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 10:17 AM]

COUNCILMAN DUANE JACKSON, JR. AND COUNCILWOMAN LEAH WILLIAMS ARE SEATED AT THE DAIS.

## PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS

1. Introduction – Mark Graham, Finance Director

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Mark Graham  
TREASURER GARY T. MIX INTRODUCED MR. MARK GRAHAM AS THE NEWLY HIRED FINANCE DIRECTOR. MR. GRAHAM PROVIDED AN OVERVIEW OF HIS WORK HISTORY WITH VARIOUS TRIBES AND GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY. MR. GRAHAM HAS AN EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND WITHIN THE AREAS OF FINANCE AND TAXATION, AND IS EXCITED TO BE WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY. THE COUNCIL CONGRATULATED MR. GRAHAM ON HIS POSITION AND LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH HIM.

## REPORTS

>1. Four Rivers Indian Legal Services 2nd Quarter Report FY2024

Presenter: Sarah Youngblood

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. Gila River Health Care Tobacco Tax Grant FY24 Second Quarter Report (January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024)

Presenters: GRHC Board of Directors, Deborah Tinsley, Judith Roth, Max Haake, Owen Ayers, Dr. Viji Murugavel, Susan Kelley, Carolyn Thompson, Kerry Van Volkinburgh, Dr. Anthony Santiago

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. CASA GAL PP

Presenters: Sharon Banda

REPORT HEARD

4. Update to Head Start Underenrollment Plan

Presenters: Michelle Tohtsoni, Sherilyn Analla

REPORT HEARD

>5. GRSG Q2 FY2024 Report

Presenters: Michael H. Morago, Donna Stowell

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

6. Gila River Gaming Commission Department Report to the Community Council April 2024 (Executive Session)

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

HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

7. Gila River Gaming Enterprises, Inc. Monthly Report April 2024 (Executive Session)

Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Dominic Orozco, Richard Strafella, Blake Katsnelson, Tony DeMark, IOPC

HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

8. Investment Schedule – April 30, 2024 (Executive Session)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

## RESOLUTIONS

\*1. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Ombudsman Policies And Procedures (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Suzanne Jones, Michael Preston, Kenneth Young

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>2. A Resolution Approving The Assignment Of Lone Butte Solar LLC'S Interests In A Ground Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And Lone Butte Solar LLC For The Operation Of A Solar Power Generating Facility And Ancillary Activities To The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (NRSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: John Martin, Ken Stock, Denten Robinson, Bartley Harris

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>3. A Resolution Authorizing Tribal Officials To Initiate Financial Transactions With The United States Department Of Interior Bureau Of Trust Funds Administration (Formerly The Office Of The Special Trustee For American Indians) And Rescinding Resolution GR-004-22 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Javier G. Ramos, Zachary Picciotti  
ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. A Resolution Establishing The Multi-Family Housing Construction , Owner's Team For The Purpose Of Overseeing The Planning, Financing, And Construction Of Multi-Family Housing Units In District 3 And District 6 Of The Gila River Indian Community (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenters: Treasurer Gary T. Mix, Teresa Mandelin, John Martin

APPROVED

5. A Resolution Of Consent To Grant A Temporary Special Event Liquor License To Chaos Elite Booster Club, Inc. For Use At The Sonoran Lawn At The Rawhide Western Town & Event Center On June 29, 2024 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval; EDSC concurs)

Presenter: Casaundra Wallace

APPROVED

6. A Resolution Approving Modification No. 4 To The Gila River Indian Community Operating Budget For Fiscal Year 2024 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Treasurer Gary T. Mix

APPROVED

7. A Resolution Approving And Authorizing The Agreement Between The Gila River Indian Community And Moss Adams, LLP (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with corrections)

Presenter: Chris Cabanillas

APPROVED

>8. A Resolution Approving The Attached Attorney Contract For A Deputy General Counsel (Executive Session)

(G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with corrections and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Javier G. Ramos

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. A Resolution Approving The Attached Attorney Contract For A Assistant General Counsel (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda) Presenter: Javier G. Ramos

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>10. A Resolution Approving The Attached Attorney Contract For A Senior Assistant General Counsel (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenter: Javier G. Ramos

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

## ORDINANCES

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Community Council Secretary Appointment

Presenter: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT SHANNON WHITE AS THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY

2. Government & Management Standing Committee Appointment Three (3) Council Seats Presenter: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCILMAN ANTHONY VILLAREAL, SR., JOSEPH MANUEL JR., AND COUNCILWOMAN LALENA JACKSON TO THE GOVERNMENT & MANAGEMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

3. Legislative Standing Committee Appointment Two (2) Council Seats

Presenter: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCILMAN TERRANCE EVANS AND COUNCILWOMAN LALENA JACKSON TO THE LEGISLATIVE STANDING COMMITTEE

4. Education Standing Committee Appointment Two (2) Council Seats

Presenter: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCILMAN DUANE JACKSON, JR. AND COUNCILWOMAN LEAH WILLIAMS TO THE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE

5. Economic Development Standing Committee Appointment One (1) Council Seat

Presenter: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCILMAN DEVIN REDBIRD TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Gila River Farms Board Member Vacancy Declaration (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business to declare the vacancy and to appoint at the June 5, 2024 Council Meeting)

Presenter: Gila River Farms Board

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT DUANE JACKSON, JR. TO THE GILA RIVER FARMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

>2. 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey – USDA (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with a recommendation for outside counsel to complete the 2023 Irrigation and Water Management Survey with GRIIDD and an appropriate response to the USDA and placement on the consent agenda)

Presenters: Benito Alvarez, Jr., Jennifer Allison, Bartley Harris

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Housing Owner's Team Declaration of Vacancies (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business to declare (2) vacancies and to appoint at the June 5, 2024

*Continued on Next Page*

Action Sheets Cont.

Council Meeting)
Presenters: Avery White, Ann Lucas
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT JOEY WHITMAN AND LALENA JACKSON TO THE HOUSING OWNER'S TEAM
4. Invitation to the Community Council for G&MSC Budget Work Session July 18-20, 2024 (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for any interested Council member to attend utilizing Dues & Delegations)
Presenter: Government & Management Standing Committee
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ALLOW ANY INTERESTED COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND THE G&MSC BUDGET WORK SESSION JULY 18-20, 2024 UTILIZING DUES & DELEGATIONS
5. Children's Court Judge Vacancy (LSC forwards to Council to declare the vacancy for (60) days)
Presenter: Anthony J. Hill
TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. Notice of Vacancy (1) (EDSC forwards to Council with recommendation to appoint Councilman Avery White)
Presenters: GRTI Board of Directors
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT GORDON SANTOS, JR. TO THE GILA RIVER TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
7. Resignation Letter of Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (CRSC motioned to accept the resignation letter for the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Barnaby Lewis and declare the position vacant. CRSC forwards to Council with recommendation to appoint Reyllynne Williams as Interim Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and advertise the

position through the Human Resources Department for 60 days subject to the Code of Conduct, all applications forwarded to the Community Council Secretary's Office for processing through the Reviewing Committee)
Presenter: Michael Preston
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION LETTER FOR THE TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER BARNABY LEWIS AND DECLARE THE POSITION VACANT, APPOINT REYLYNNE WILLIAMS AS INTERIM TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER, AND ADVERTISE THE TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER POSITION THROUGH THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT FOR 60 DAYS SUBJECT TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT, ALL APPLICATIONS FORWARDED TO THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY'S OFFICE FOR PROCESSING THROUGH THE REVIEWING COMMITTEE
GOVERNOR LEWIS EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO MR. BARNABY LEWIS FOR SERVING IN THIS CAPACITY FOR MANY YEARS, IT IS APPRECIATED.
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION
8. Offer to Sell 145 Acres of Fee Land (Executive Session) (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business for discussion and possible action; NRSC concurs)
Presenter: Javier G. Ramos
HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DIRECT THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL TO DEVELOP A TERM SHEET TO BEGIN THE NEGOTIATIONS IN THE PURCHASE OF THE LAND IN QUESTION, FURTHER AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNMENT & MANAGEMENT STANDING COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE DEVELOP-

MENT OF THE LAND SALE AND TO BRING BACK TO THE COUNCIL FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION
MINUTES
1. May 1, 2024 (Regular)
APPROVED
2. May 15, 2024 (Regular)
APPROVED
ANNOUNCEMENTS
• COLORADO RIVER WATER CONFERENCE IS HELD IN BOULDER COLORADO, MEMBERS OF LITIGATION TEAM WILL BE ATTENDING
• COUNCILMAN JOSEPH MANUEL, JR. WILL BE ATTENDING THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE EVENT IN SAN DIEGO, CA JUNE 7-9, 2024
• COUNCILWOMAN ANN LUCAS THANKED THE COUNCIL FOR THEIR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR HER GRANDSON
• A WILD HORSE PASS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.
• TREASURER GARY MIX WILL BE ON TRAVEL JUNE 7 - 12, 2024 ATTENDING THE GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE
• HOUSING OWNER'S TEAM MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024 AT 1:00 P.M.
• GRICUA STEAM Q&A LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024 AT 10:30 A.M.
• THE GRADUATION BANQUET WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M. AT WILD HORSE PASS
ADJOURNMENT
MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:33 P.M.
\* Denotes TABLED from previous meeting(s)
> Denotes a CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Public Notice

GRIC Department of Environmental Quality

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AMBIENT AIR MONITORING NETWORK REVIEW

Pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §58.10 Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Air Quality Program (AQP) will make its annual monitoring network plan available for public inspection prior to submission to the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The Annual Ambient Monitoring Network Review and Data Summary present changes to and data collected from the air quality monitoring network during calendar year 2023. This document will be available for review at the GRIC DEQ office located at 168 Skill Center Dr., Sacaton, AZ 85147, and on the AQP website at www.gricdeq.org under Public Notices.

Public comments may be submitted in writing to GRIC DEQ Air Quality, P.O. Box 97, Sacaton, Arizona, 85147. Additional information is available from GRIC DEQ Air Quality, 168 Skill Center Dr., Sacaton, AZ 85147, the AQP website (www.gricdeq.org under Air), or by calling 520-562-2234.

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
FERAL HORSE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC MEETING
\*\*\*Community Members Only\*\*\*
Representatives from: Executive Office
DEQ
LUPZ
GRPD
DOT
\*Agenda Includes\*
Food Provided
Presentation
Q/A Session
8/3/24 - District 3 Service Center
8/17/24 - Komatke Boys & Girls Club
Time: 10:00am - 11:30am
Contact Tison Gill for more info:
Tison.Gill.DEQ@gric.nsn.us or
(520) 610-9950

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
Notice to those 65 years and older.
You do not need to report to jury duty.
The Community Council passed Ordinance GR-05-23, setting a maximum jury duty age of 65 years. If you are 65 years of age and older, you are automatically excused from future jury duty. You do not need to do anything. The maximum jury date age is effective October 4, 2023. If you are 65 years of age or older and you receive a jury summons, you do not need to report for jury duty.
If you would like to continue to be eligible for jury duty, you may complete a Request to Remain on Jury Duty Roll Form. Please submit the form to the Court.
If you have any questions, please contact us at:
• Sacaton Court: (520) 562-9860
• Westend Court: (520) 562-9862
• Email or text to: court.questions@gric.nsn.us



# BEAT THE HEAT

## COOLING STATIONS AVAILABLE FOR GRIC MEMBERS

The District Service Centers have designated Cooling Stations / Shelters as part of the Community's Extreme Heat Plan. Each location will have extended hours of operation if the temperature is 110 degrees or above.


**COOLING STATIONS ARE LOCATED AT ALL DISTRICT SERVICE CENTERS  
MONDAY - SATURDAY 8AM - 7PM**

District 1 (520) 215-2110	District 3 (520) 562-3334	District 5 (520) 315-3441
District 2 (520) 562-3450	District 4 (520) 418-3661	District 6 (520) 550-3805
		District 7: (520) 430-4780

**EACH COOLING STATION WILL PROVIDE:**



HYDRATION



SNACKS




COOL PLACE TO REST

## Community Services Department

EMERGENCY CONTACT LIST

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT		DISTRICT FIVE MULTI PURPOSE BUILDING	
Laurie A. Thomas	520-610-0770	Erika Hernandez	520-610-0372
Joanne Brewer	520-610-4486	Starleen Somegustava	520-610-0508
Elizabeth Duran	520-610-5305	Security/On Call	520-610-0815
DISTRICT ONE MULTI PURPOSE CENTER		DISTRICT SIX SERVICE CENTER	
Maria Ramirez	520-610-3820	Rebecca Carpio	520-610-4110
Joni Notah	520-610-4528	Rhonda Whempner	520-610-0593
On Call	520-610-0656	Security	520-610-1274
DISTRICT TWO MULTI PURPOSE BUILDING		DISTRICT SEVEN MULTI PURPOSE BUILDING	
Ralph Grajiola	520-610-9605	Pamela Valdez	520-610-6180
Alison Anderson	520-610-2644	On Call	520-610-9748
On Call	520-610-7426		
DISTRICT THREE MULTI PURPOSE BUILDING		ELDERLY NUTRITION WIC/COMMODITY PROGRAM	
Erma Antone	520-610-2985	Mary Dixon	520-610-6009
Valerie Antone-Johnson	520-610-1331		
Security	520-610-0522	ELDERLY SERVICES PROGRAM	
On Call	520-610-2965	Lindsay Antone	520-562-5232
DISTRICT FOUR MULTI PURPOSE BUILDING		TRIBAL RECREATION & WELLNESS	
Sandra Thayer	520-610-7205	Sonia Luevano	520-610-4963
Security	520-610-8456		



### United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Pima Agency  
104 North Main Street  
Post Office Box 8  
Sacaton, Arizona 85147

In Reply Refer to:  
Superintendent's Office

**Public Notice Change of Phone Number  
June 21, 2024**

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pima Agency, Sacaton, Arizona has a new official phone number: **520- 815-0287**.

Effective July 1, 2024, **520-562-3326 will no longer work**.

Our phone system will no longer be monitored by our staff. The public will be able to select from an automated system and reach a specific department and/or person.

Please update your contacts accordingly and save this number for future questions, comments, or concerns.

For inquiries concerning lease checks or IIM, please call BTFA at 520-562-3608 or 1-888-678-6836.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Rachel Larson  
Superintendent  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pima Agency  
Email: [Rachel.Larson@bia.gov](mailto:Rachel.Larson@bia.gov)  
Phone: 520-815-0287

Cheryl Sam  
Administrative Officer  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pima Agency  
Email: [Cheryl.Sam@bia.gov](mailto:Cheryl.Sam@bia.gov)  
Phone: 520-815-0287

**S-thoni'ab kam Haichu – Summertime Items 2024 Solution!**

*e:kthakuḍ*





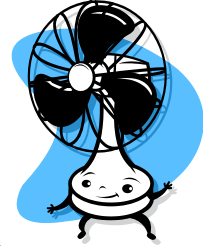

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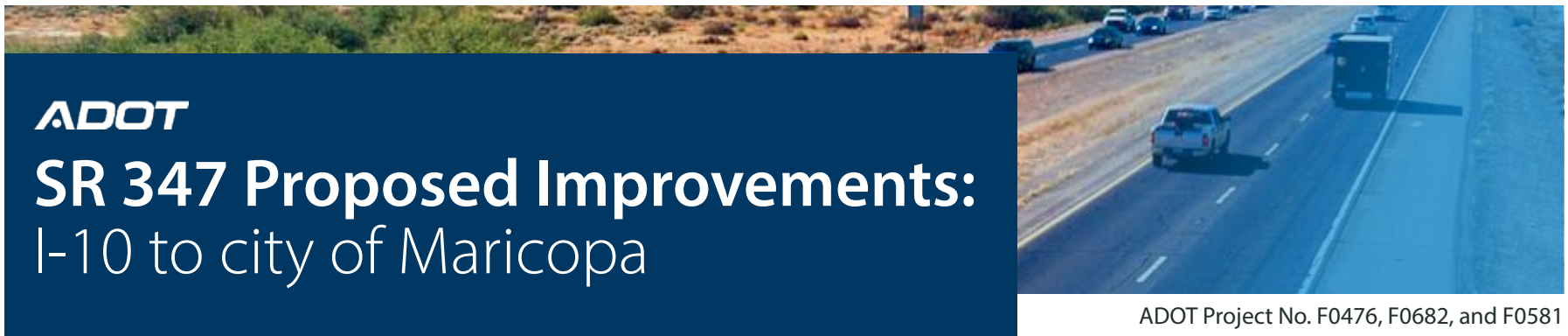
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*sio'ov vadag gev*

*vachvikud*

ClipArt Courtesy Robert Johnson



### YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in partnership with the Gila River Indian Community, Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), and in coordination with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), is holding an in-person public meeting on Aug. 13, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. to present the proposed traffic interchange alternative at Riggs Road and State Route 347 (SR 347), as well as proposed widening and intersection improvements along SR 347 between I-10 and the northern limits of the city of Maricopa.

Proposed improvements include:

- A traffic interchange to separate SR 347 traffic from Riggs Road traffic using a new bridge.
- Widening SR 347 by one lane in each direction from I-10 to the city of Maricopa.
- Intersection improvements at Casa Blanca Road, Borgia Road (Sacate Road), Mammoth Way (Cement Plant Access Road) and Maricopa Road.
- Widening existing bridges at Santa Rosa Wash, Santa Cruz Wash and Gila River.



### GET INVOLVED!

Join us at our upcoming public meeting to learn more about the project, ask questions and provide your feedback on the proposed improvements.

#### In-Person Public Meeting

Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.  
District 4 Multipurpose Building  
2230 N Home Run Dr.  
Sacaton, AZ 85147

#### Public Meeting Agenda

- 5:30-6 p.m. Doors Open/Open House
- 6-6:30 p.m. Formal Presentation
- 6:30-7 p.m. Question & Answer Session/Open House

If you are unable to attend this meeting, an additional meeting will be held on Thursday, Aug. 15, 2024, at the Maricopa Library and Cultural Center located at 18160 N. Maya Angelou Dr., Maricopa, AZ 85138 in Redwood Rooms A/B at 5:30 p.m.



### HOW TO COMMENT:

Comments are being accepted through **Aug. 29, 2024**, in the following ways:

- Attend one of the in-person public meetings
- Provide comments online: [azdot.gov/SR347comment](https://azdot.gov/SR347comment)
- Email: Kimberly Larson at [KLarson@azdot.gov](mailto:KLarson@azdot.gov)
- Phone: 855.712.8530
- Mail: ADOT Community Relations, 1655 W. Jackson, MD 126F, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Can't make either meeting? Visit our website at [azdot.gov/SR347](https://azdot.gov/SR347) to learn more and provide comments.

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

De acuerdo con el Título VI de la Ley de Derechos Civiles de 1964, la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA por sus siglas en inglés) y otras normas y leyes antidiscriminatorias, el Departamento de Transporte de Arizona (ADOT) no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, edad o discapacidad. Las personas que requieran asistencia (dentro de lo razonable) ya sea por el idioma o discapacidad deben ponerse en contacto con Kimberly Larson al 855.712.8530 o por correo electrónico al [KLarson@azdot.gov](mailto:KLarson@azdot.gov). Las solicitudes deben hacerse lo más antes posible para asegurar que el Estado tenga la oportunidad de hacer los arreglos necesarios.



# NO SWIMMING IN CANALS

When the weather gets warm, you may want to swim in a canal or an agricultural “ditch.” However, many different germs can live in canal water. These include: bacteria, viruses, and plants that can make you sick. You can also get skin rashes, develop ear or eye pain, and cough or congestion after swimming in canal water.

Today’s canals within the Gila River Indian Community are concrete, not like the old dirt agricultural ditches our parents and grandparents remember. Modern concrete canals have fast moving underwater currents that can quickly sweep you away. Concrete canals have steep, slippery sides that are almost impossible to climb out of. Some canals have culverts and grating that can trap a person swimming. Canals can be dangerous.

Please enjoy a break from the heat this summer by swimming at your nearest District Service Center pool. Swimming pools are treated with chlorine to kill germs and are inspected regularly to ensure you and your family are safe. Please contact GRIC DEQ for any questions (520) 562-2234.





VEE QUIVA

## A KENNY ROGERS & DOLLY PARTON TRIBUTE

SATURDAY, JULY 13 | 8PM



WILD HORSE PASS

## MARTIN LAWRENCE

FRIDAY, JULY 19 | 8PM

SATURDAY, JULY 20 | 8PM



WILD HORSE PASS

## ZIGGY MARLEY

THURSDAY, JULY 25 | 8PM



WILD HORSE PASS

## TWO FRIENDS

SATURDAY, JULY 27 | 6PM



WILD HORSE PASS

## KC AND THE SUNSHINE BAND

SUNDAY, JULY 28 | 8PM

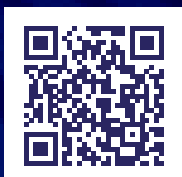
### MORE UPCOMING SHOWS

AUGUST 2 | AIR SUPPLY AT WILD HORSE PASS

AUGUST 3 | UB40 AT WILD HORSE PASS

AUGUST 9 | RODNEY CARRINGTON AT WILD HORSE PASS

AUGUST 11 | THE GIPSY KINGS AT WILD HORSE PASS



## TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE!

BUY TICKETS AT [PLAYATGILA.COM](https://playatgila.com)



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