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President Kamala Harris  
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**San Carlos Apache Tribe – Laying the groundwork for tomorrow's future.**

# SCATch UP

**to get caught up  
SUMMER 2022**

*Da'go'teeh*

## **FOR THE 2022 GRADUATES – EDUCATION IS NOW MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER**

Dagotee'. My name is Terry Rambler, and I am the Chairman of the San Carlos Apache Tribe. I am Tugai (white water people) from my mother's side and born for Nadots'osn (slender peaks standing up people) from my father's side. My mom is Tugai and born for Iyah hajin (mesquite extending out people). My dad is Nadots'osn born for Tsee binazt'i'e (surrounded by rocks people). My maternal grandparents were John Rope and Sarah Hadley Rope. John Rope was Biszaha and Sarah Hadley was Tugai. My paternal grandparents were Homer Pechuli Rambler and Olive Talgo Rambler. Olive Talgo was Nadots'osn and Homer Pechuli was Tsee binazt'i'e'.

I am so proud of all our graduates. With your degree in hand, you are a testament to all of what you can be. I am also very proud of two of my staff who graduated – Ina Salter who now has a Master's Degree from Grand Canyon University and Naelyn Pike who has an Associate's Degree from Mesa Community College. Both obtained their degrees while working full-time for me. What an accomplishment!

We cannot ignore the power of education. Education can contribute to reconciliation and nation building. In doing so, education strengthens our economy and ultimately our sovereignty. Education can also help us overcome negative perceptions and stereotypes that others may have of us. Education can help us see and achieve our common goals and appreciate our culture and diversity.

If we are to survive as a tribe, we need economic success. If we are to succeed and flourish as a tribe, we need you, the 2022 graduating class, to succeed. We need accountants, teachers, nurses, doctors, lawyers, hydrologists, engineers, planners, architects, and economists, just as much as we need cooks, hotel and restaurant workers, casino workers, construction workers, shop keepers, electricians, and plumbers. We need you to help us solve the challenges we face – water, climate change, crime, economic development, waste management, infrastructure, health and wellness, and language preservation. And we need you to keep in mind your Apache side, our Tribe, our traditions, our culture.

Ahi'yi'é,

*Terry Rambler*

Terry Rambler, Chairman  
San Carlos Apache Tribe



**MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2022  
GRADUATES WITH CHAIRMAN  
RAMBLER, NAELYN PIKE, NIZHONI  
PIKE AND BJ BURRIES**



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH 2022  
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE INA SALTER**



SPORTS COMPLEX GRAND OPENING



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH BAASE, NAELYN AND NIZHONI AT THE SKATE PARK GRAND OPENING CEREMONY

## AN INVESTMENT IN *Apache Youth*

### TRIBE OPENS SPORTS COMPLEX WITH SKATE PARK AND BASKETBALL COURTS

On April 1, 2022, the San Carlos Council initiated the first phase of the San Carlos Apache Sports Complex – its Skate Park and Basketball Courts. This truly is an historic investment in our youth by our Council. This is an investment on many fronts.



*The Sports Complex will help our youth be more physically active, which will contribute to their healthy well-being to better deal with any future pandemics our Tribe may experience again.*

The Sports Complex will help our youth be more physically active, which will contribute to their healthy well-being to better deal with any future pandemics our Tribe may experience again. The pandemic exposed the unhealthy side of our living style. It will help address, over the long-term, issues that we have with diabetes and other health ailments due to not living a healthy lifestyle. It will help our families and communities address the negative effects of our youth choosing alcohol & drugs rather than healthy

lifestyles. Families can congregate at our Sports Complex for a total healthy family experience. Our Sports Complex will offer many opportunities for our youth and their families.

Basketball is a very popular sport on our Reservation. The five basketball courts can become the start of a training ground for our youth to engage in organized basketball, which will help them in elementary school, junior high school, high school and eventually our San Carlos Apache College.

In the near future, we will have men and women college basketball teams at our San Carlos Apache College. Hopefully, our College stars will follow the paths of those Native Americans that played in the WNBA like Tahnee Robinson Becenti (Navajo) and Shoni Schimmel (Umatilla); or Phil Jordan (Wailaki and Nomlaki), Cherokee Parks (Cherokee) and

Kyrie Irving (Standing Rock Sioux) in the NBA.

*continued on page 4*



TANF VAN REFLECTING SKATE PARK THEME



*We can have an Olympic Skate Board champion from our Reservation. Our Skate Park can become the beginning of that dream. We have a state of the art skate park that is used by skateboarders, scooters, bmx bikers, and roller blades.*



**MENS DIVISION SKATE COMPETITION WINNERS**



**WOMENS DIVISION SKATE COMPETITION WINNERS**



**ONE WILL BE A FUTURE OLYMPIAN**



**SKATE COMPETITION TEE SHIRT**



**SKATE COMPETITION CONTESTANT**

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**YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX**



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH JADE**



**FUTURE ALL STARS**



**BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX**

We can have an Olympic Skate Board champion from our Reservation. Our Skate Park can become the beginning of that dream. We have a state of the art skate park that is used by skateboarders, scooters, bmx bikers, and roller blades.

The next phase of the Sports Complex will be to renovate the modular building that currently sits in the Complex as space for our Boys & Girls Club Program. While there, the Boys & Girls Club will be charged with overseeing a year-round schedule of activities for our youth. This phase will

also include the construction of public restrooms and drinking water fountains, a large Ramada with picnic tables and grilles, trash receptacles, benches, sidewalk, shade for the skate park and basketball courts, sand volleyball court, and a walking path.

Future phases include paving the front portion of the Complex for easier access and parking, an amphitheater, a little league field, playground, solar lighting and security cameras, and a Fitness Center. The grounds will be maintained by the Tribe's Recreation Department.

What will help the Sports Complex survive over the long term is our Health Department's willingness to help operate the Sports Complex with its Boys & Girls Club Program. Not only will the program develop and manage year-round youth activities but it will also generate third-party revenues that will make the Sports Complex a self-sustaining activity center.

Our Recreation Department will also be charged with overseeing the grounds keeping, maintenance and janitorial services of the Complex. Our Human Resources



*Future phases include paving the front portion of the Complex for easier access and parking, an amphitheater, a little league field, playground, solar lighting and security cameras, and a Fitness Center. The grounds will be maintained by the Tribe's Recreation Department.*

Department is announcing three positions for the Sports Complex – Supervisor, Maintenance Tech, and Sports Complex Monitor.

I would like to thank our Health Department's Executive Director David Reede and our Recreation Department's Director Arthur Salter, Sr., for their leadership for the planned expansion of services to our youth. I thank our Sports Complex Committee, San Carlos Council, TANF, and San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation for their partnership.

The next grand opening ceremony will be scheduled for the renovation of the modular building for the Boys & Girls Club Program's relocation to the Sports Complex. The Tribe will make an announcement.



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SHOOTING HOOPS AT SPORTS COMPLEX**



VICE CHAIRMAN ETPISON WITH A HAPPY TRIBAL MEMBER ELDER.



EMERGENCY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE CHECKS PROVIDED TO TRIBAL MEMBERS DURING THE PANDEMIC

## PANDEMIC FEDERAL FUNDING RECEIVED AND ALLOCATED BY THE TRIBE

### COUNCIL ALLOCATES \$172 MILLION IN CARES ACT AND ARPA FUNDS

The San Carlos Council has allocated \$172,662,919.29 millions of federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support vital tribal programs and infrastructure impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The CARES Act was provided to the Tribe by Congress to fund necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency (to prevent, prepare, and respond to COVID-19). Congress also provided ARPA funds to the Tribe, which provides additional COVID relief and can also be used to make necessary improvements in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. The funds were also intended to help our Tribe turn the tide on the pandemic, address the economic fallout, and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.

The San Carlos Council and staff deserve thanks for the incredible effort they put into identifying and addressing needs with these funds. The Council thanks President Biden and Congress for getting these funds distributed quickly and equitably to tribal communities.

Some of the major initiatives and projects approved by our Council utilizing the CARES Act funds are the following. A

more detailed funding allocation to our tribal organizations is provided in an excel spreadsheet.

- \$18 million for Emergency Relief Payments to adult tribal members.
- \$8 million for an E-911 system to provide caller's locations to police dispatch and assist with physical addresses on the Reservation.
- \$5 million to TERC for incident command post and care packages.
- \$5 million to assist our Hospital and Clinic.
- \$8 million to Apache Gold Casino and Hotel for operations and hazard pay.
- \$7 million to tribal employees for administrative leave and hazard pay.

Some of the major initiatives and projects approved by our Council utilizing the ARPA funds are the following. A more detailed funding allocation to our tribal organizations is provided in an excel spreadsheet.

- \$24 million for Emergency Relief Assistance Payments to adult tribal members.
- \$36 million for a COVID-19 Long-Term Skilled Nursing Care Facility. The Council provided the funding to the Healthcare Corporation who are planning, designing and constructing the facility. This facility will bring our Elders Home and better protect them from COVID-19.
- \$10.481 million for renovations of the Apache Gold Casino Hotel, which was used as an alternate care facility during

the pandemic. The Gaming Enterprise has renovated the Hotel.

- \$2.3 million for the Gilson Wash Swimming Pool, which can be used for physical therapy by COVID survivors and others. The swimming pool is under construction and should be ready by this fall.
- \$1.2 million for Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC) operations. Due to COVID-19 and other emergencies, the TERC will help establish a permanent emergency department and is currently advertising for an Emergency Director.
- \$9.8 million in District improvement and repairs. \$1.6 million each allocated to the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Bylas District, Peridot District, Gilson Wash District, and Seven Mile District for community improvements and home repairs.
- \$6.193 million for Gila River and Goodwin Wash Irrigation Projects to expand farming using the tribe's water rights from the Gila River.
- \$5.9 million for Bylas Water System Improvement to preserve and conserve drinking water on the eastern part of the Reservation boundary, which will require constructing a small lake and water treatment facility to make available more water for community use.
- \$2.5 million for Peridot Water Shortage Relief that will enhance the Apache Burger water well and transport the water to the Peridot Siding, Moonbase, and Hallelujah Square areas to help address water shortages.

**CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC  
SECURITY (CARES) ACT  
FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE SAN CARLOS APACHE  
TRIBE  
2020**

<b>Tribal Organization</b>	<b>Budget Allocated</b>
Emergency Relief Payments to Tribal Members	\$11,985,000.00
Care Packages for Tribal Members	\$488,437.08
TERC (Security/Incident Command Post)	\$4,710,018.16
Law Enforcement 911 System	\$7,957,159.81
SCAHC	\$5,201,071.82
SCAPRSA Hotel Alternative Care Center	\$1,265,024.00
SCATUI	\$344,994.55
Water Dept & Wastewater Treatment Pgrm	\$1,311,215.51
Recreation and Wildlife	\$695,949.27
DHHS Sober Living Facility	\$357,730.49
Tribal Court	\$541,732.95
Enrollment	\$158.25
AGCGE Operations and Hazard Pay	\$8,056,600.82
Headstart Staff	\$226,044.00
Administrative Leave and Retro Hazard Pay	\$7,714,688.01
Reimburse TERC for Care Packages	\$120,000.00
Tribal Administration	\$250,084.00
Cattle Office	\$9,999.84
Chairman's Office	\$39,481.99
Language Preservation	\$1,682.11
Tribal Livestock R-100 Ranch	\$3,126.62
Vice Chairman's Office	\$9,500.00
Tribal Gaming Office	\$11,916.04
Bylas Administration Office	\$27,456.65
Bylas Recreation	\$4,476.59
Archaeology	\$2,641.82
KYAY	\$20,915.64
San Carlos Sanitation	\$340,801.68
Elections	\$120,900.95
Emergency Relief Payments	\$6,112,000.00
<b>Total CARES Act Funds Received and Allocated</b>	<b>\$57,930,808.65</b>

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)  
FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THE SAN CARLOS APACHE  
TRIBE  
2021**

<b>Tribal Organization</b>	<b>Budget Allocated</b>
Long Term Skilled Nursing Facility	\$36,000,000.00
San Carlos Housing Authority Security	\$900,000.00
Gaming Enterprise	\$4,481,684.12
Cattle Associations	\$500,000.00
Peridot District Economic Enterprise Loss Revenues	\$750,000.00
Ranch Creek Sand & Gravel Loss Revenues	\$183,461.00
Tribal Farm	\$964,169.50
Tribal Council Community Improvement Projects	\$-
Chairman Sports Complex Project	\$1,300,000.00
Chairman Community Improvement	\$338,811.06
Vice Chairman Youth Activities	\$850,000.00
Vice Chairman Community Improvement	\$788,811.01
7MW Community Improvement	\$1,638,811.01
GWD Community Improvement	\$1,638,811.01
Peridot I Community Improvement	\$384,405.50
Peridot II Community Improvement	\$1,254,405.50
Bylas Council I Community Improvement	\$546,270.33
Bylas Council II Community Improvement	\$546,270.33
Bylas Council III Community Improvement	\$546,270.33
Language Preservation Program	\$295,498.00
Minor Stimulus Payout for Tribal Members	\$2,367,500.00
Peridot Well #2 installation of Tank	\$700,000.00
CAP-LIDAR	\$125,000.00
Cultural Center Museum	\$45,400.00
Election Board	\$103,600.00
Premium Pay for Essential Employees	\$1,500,000.00
Tribal Gaming	\$560,385.00
Peridot Water Shortage Relief Project	\$2,500,000.00
Gila River and Goodwin Wash Irrigation Projects	\$6,193,000.00
Bylas Water System Improvement Project	\$5,900,000.00
Gilson Wash Swimming Pool Project	\$2,332,866.08
Tribal Emergency Response Commission	\$1,218,500.00
General Manager's Office ARPA Strategic Planning	\$200,000.00
WDWTFP	\$375,000.00
Public Defender	\$12,000.00
Cutter Airport	\$41,982.37
San Carlos Sanitation	\$337,060.00
Education Department College and Career Center	\$650,000.00
Traditional Apache Diet Project	\$90,678.00
Apache Natural World Project	\$14,240.00
EMS/Fire Department	\$876,167.00
NEMT	\$595,121.05
Law Enforcement	\$350,000.00
Relending Program	\$150,000.00
Environmental Protection Office	\$65,000.00
KYAY Radio	\$588,522.00
Gaming Enterprise Hotel Renovation	\$6,562,410.44
Economic Relief Payments	\$24,070,000.00
Administrative Indirect Cost Fee	\$2,300,000.00
<b>Total ARPA Funds Received and Allocated</b>	<b>\$114,732,110.64</b>

# COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

## COUNCIL ALLOCATES \$11 MILLION FOR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

The San Carlos Council has allocated \$10.2 million dollars for district and home improvements. The Council will be responsible for implementing the district and home improvement projects. \$9.8 million of the funds came from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) recently allocated by Congress. \$1.2 million of the funds came from the Water Rights Settlement Funds interest income for calendar year 2021.

From the \$9.8 million ARPA funds, \$1.6 million each was allocated to the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Bylas District, Peridot District, Gilson Wash District, and Seven Mile District. These funds can be used for tribal members and communities impacted by COVID-19 and its variants for such purposes as public health, negative economic impact, services to disproportionately impacted communities, premium pay, infrastructure,

revenue replacement, and for administrative purposes. Each of these categories also have sub-categories of allowable activities.

From the \$1.2 million Water Rights Settlement Funds interest income, \$200,000 each was allocated to the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Bylas District, Peridot District, Gilson Wash District, and Seven Mile District. The funds were budgeted for District and Home improvements. Pursuant to the Tribe's District Home Improvement Funds Policy and Procedures, these funds can be used for: 1) improvements for or provide working capital to an existing or new subsidiary enterprise of the Tribe that operates in a given district; 2) home repair projects with a maximum cap per home expense of \$20,000; 3) improvements to community amenities, which are for the public good (sidewalks, parks, community centers, etc.), and 4) youth activities.

The Chairman budgeted \$1.3 million for the Sports Complex project and \$300,000 for community improvement projects. The Vice Chairman budgeted \$850,000 for youth activities and \$750,000 for community transfer stations and community improvement projects. Peridot District Council budgeted \$1.6 million for community improvement projects. Bylas District Council budgeted \$1.6 million for community improvement projects. Gilson Wash District Council budgeted \$1.6 million for community improvement projects, which includes

a convenience store with laundromat at the old Boys & Girls Club building. Seven Mile District Council budgeted \$1.6 million for community improvement projects.

The Council has invested much for community improvement. Each of the Council are assisting with home renovation and some are investing in the youth. There is much need for housing and for the youth. The \$9.8 million allocated by the Council for district and home improvement projects were made possible by Congress' recent allocation of ARPA funds.

The Chairman has formed a committee to work on the planning, design, and construction of the Sports Complex from his \$1.3 million allocation. Anthony Henry of TANF is the project foreman and is working with other TANF employees and teaching TANF clients in constructing the Sports Complex. With TANF's participation, the project will save a lot on labor costs. General Manager Christabelle Mull is providing the project oversight.

The \$2,134,905 allocated for district and home improvement projects were made possible by the Tribe's investments. For this past calendar year 2021, our investments earned \$2,134,905 in interest income. The Council allocated this interest income for community improvement projects, Tribal Farm, Sawmill, Law Enforcement, Recreation & Wildlife, Education, and Water & Wastewater Treatment Program.

*The Council has invested much for community improvement. Each of the Council are assisting with home renovation and some are investing in the youth. There is much need for housing and for the youth. The \$9.8 million allocated by the Council for district and home improvement projects were made possible by Congress' recent allocation of ARPA funds.*



HOME RENOVATION PROJECT  
BEFORE PICTURE



HOME RENOVATION PROJECT  
AFTER PICTURE

# COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

## GILA RIVER AND GOODWIN WASH IRRIGATION PROJECT

There is a need to turn the Tribe's water rights into "wet water" and put it to beneficial use by expanding irrigation along the Gila River and initiating irrigation in Goodwin Wash in Bylas. The Tribe's water rights to use the Gila River come from the Globe Equity 59 Decree which grants to the Tribe the right to divert 6,000 acre-feet of water to irrigate up to 1,000 acres of decreed lands along the Gila River. Water rights to use Goodwin Wash groundwater come from the San Carlos Apache Water Settlement Act of 1992, which grants the Tribe the right to use all groundwater underlying the Reservation, including but not limited to groundwater beneath Goodwin Wash.

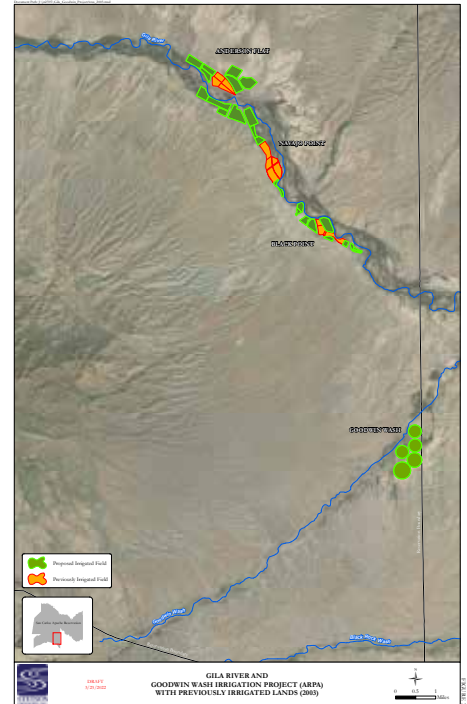
Currently, the Tribe does not use all of its decreed water flowing in the Gila River because irrigation is limited to only 73 acres. Also, the Tribe does not use all of the groundwater that is available and accessible beneath Goodwin Wash. Water in the Gila River and groundwater beneath Goodwin Wash that the Tribe does not use flows off the Reservation and then is used by others.

The San Carlos Council allocated \$6,200,000 from its American Rescue Plan Act funds

to fund this project for the Tribal Farm. The project complies with ARPA because the Farm, as a small business and industry, experienced negative economic impacts because of COVID-19 health crisis. The Farm, as a government service, and the Tribe itself, experienced a sharp decline in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency.

The project covers final design and construction of the irrigation project, including land clearing and preparation and water delivery and irrigation system installation at Anderson Flat (167 acres) and Navajo Point (175 acres) and Goodwin Wash (468 acres). The map shows the proposed field layouts.

Approximately 12 months will be needed to bring the project on-line. Final design, contract bidding and services, supplies, and equipment procurements in accordance with Tribal purchasing procedures, and construction will be carried out separately for project components that will be purchased from or built by specialty contractors, such as the wells, pipelines, pump stations and electrical installations.



The estimated cost to carry out all phases of Project implementation, including final design, equipment procurement, and construction, is approximately \$6,200,000. Construction will be carried out by contractors. Design will be carried out by consultants and construction management will be carried out by Tribal Farm staff with some technical assistance from consultants.

## HEADSTART BUILDING PROJECT

The San Carlos Apache Tribe approved funds to design and construct two new Head Start buildings: one in San Carlos and one in Bylas.

The San Carlos Head Start building will be located at the southern end of the old San Carlos IHS site. The building has been designed to encompass 14,450 sq. ft. and will include classrooms, a kitchen, administration offices and teacher spaces. It is intended to provide Head Start services to children from the Gilson Wash, Seven Mile Wash and Peridot Districts. The central location will render a savings to the Head Start program with regards to transportation, providing meals, and allowing for access to tribal government services locally. Most importantly, our children will thrive in a brand-new facility with state-of-the-art technology at their fingertips.

The Bylas Head Start building will be located adjacent to the Boys & Girls Club building in the Bylas District. This building will encompass 7,980 sq. ft. and will also include classrooms, a kitchen, office and teacher spaces.

Both facilities have future expansion opportunities included in the design layout of their respective sites.

Initial design of these buildings began early in 2020 at the onset of the covid-19 pandemic. This caused a significant delay in the overall project schedule. During this time, a project team of local tribal staff was established to assist with project design and programming. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was procured in order to secure a professional architectural firm on a competitive basis. Subsequently, the Tribe selected and contracted with Indigenous Studio Design + Architects to design the buildings. With shelter in place orders and surges in the community,

it became impossible to meet in person. Initially, meetings were held via ZOOM and conference calls only. As we progressed and persevered through this challenging time, the project team became familiar with an ever-changing platform of communication. The ability to adapt and innovate technology as a result of the pandemic became crucial and played a key role in designing this project. Currently, the project is in the final stage of design and will be going to construction soon.

The Office of the General Manager has been delegated the responsibility of overseeing this project to completion. The project also has an Owner's Representative, Kenew, LLC who assists with project management for both sites. We look forward to successful construction of these buildings and providing the best possible education for our Head Start students.

# COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SPEAKING AT PERIDOT COMMUNITY BUILDING GRAND OPENING CEREMONY**

## PERIDOT COMMUNITY CENTER

In July 2020, the Tribe hired Mills Design Group to begin constructing the Peridot Community Center in the Peridot District. Located at the Bob Key Rodeo Arena in Peridot, AZ, the facility encompasses 10,000 square feet and houses a half-sized basketball court, two offices, and a full kitchen.

Originally, this facility was intended as a venue to gather and use for events such as birthday parties, community events, district meetings, etc.

The Peridot District Council members made the decision to add a half-court sized basketball court to the building in order to

provide additional opportunities for youth sporting events and to encourage healthy lifestyles. This opens up opportunities for the community to use the center for youth sporting events, sports clinics, etc.

Overall, this project was long overdue and faced many challenges as it went to construction during the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. As with many construction projects throughout the nation and world, the pandemic caused staggering fluctuations in the market industry along with delays in delivery of materials as supply and demand were greatly affected. Despite this huge challenge, the project was completed and stands today as a testament to persistence and success.

On April 21, 2022, the Peridot District held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Peridot Community Center and opened its doors to the public.

On Saturday, May 14, 2022, the Peridot Community Center held a dedication ceremony and named the building in honor of the late PFC Michael Angelo Noline. The facility is now known as the PFC Michael Angelo Noline Community Center. Special thanks go out to all past leaders who were involved in supporting this project as well as the current Tribal Council. The Office of the General Manager was delegated to oversee and administer this project to completion.



**PERIDOT COMMUNITY BUILDING GRAND OPENING CEREMONY**



**NOLINE FAMILY WITH WOLFPACK ASSOCIATION**



**WOLFPACK ASSOC. SOLDIERS VISIT PFC MICHAEL NOLINE'S GRAVE**



**RET. SGT. GARCIA GETS EMOTIONAL REMEMBERING HIS COMRADE PFC. MICHAEL A. NOLINE**

## PERIDOT WATER SHORTAGE RELIEF PROJECT

Currently, the Peridot community suffers from poor water quality because of high levels of arsenic and iron and manganese. These levels have resulted in the shutdown of several wells and a significant loss of groundwater supply. Further, the water distribution system lacks the capacity to deliver groundwater pumped from the remaining serviceable wells. Finally, low quality and quantity of water adversely affects the operations of the San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation's hospital and its patients.

The project will improve drinking water and enhance water supply reliability. Lost groundwater supply will be replaced. The transmission capacity of the water distribution system will be increased. In doing so, the Project will alleviate water shortages and water delivery curtailments to the Peridot community.

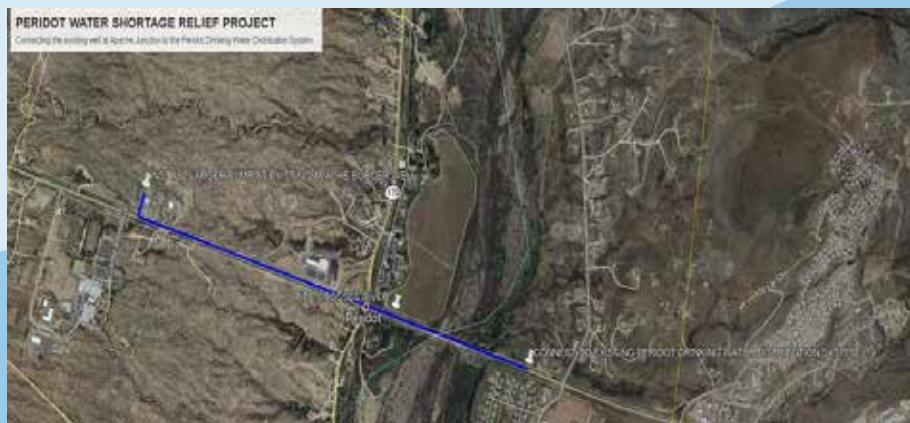
The project has two parts. Phase 1 connects an existing well to the Regional Water System. This well is currently owned and operated by the Peridot Development Economic Enterprise ("PDEE") to serve its Apache Burger restaurant. Groundwater pumped from this well will replace some of the lost groundwater supply from the well that was shut down. Phase 2 extends the Regional Water System pipeline to connect to the Peridot water distribution system. This will increase the transmission capacity of the water distribution system that serves the Peridot area. Together, these two phases

will help to alleviate water shortages and water delivery curtailments to the Peridot community.

Phase 1 also includes installing a high capacity well pump, electrical controls, and a new 250,000-gallon water tank site. The water tank will provide storage to meet peak water demands of the Peridot area. PDEE's approval of the tank installation will be needed as part of the overall well ownership transfer agreement. Phase 2 also includes installation of other minor water system improvements to continue water service to the restaurant as well as serve PDEE's other needs. Phase 2 involves extending the Regional Water System water transmission pipeline to connect to the Peridot water distribution system. The Indian Health Service already has a project planned which includes this connection, referred to as PH 15-U75 San Carlos Regional Water System. The connection will require crossing the San Carlos River.

The project covers all phases of implementation, including planning, permitting, and final design and construction. Approximately 18 months will be needed to bring the Project on-line. The estimated cost to carry out all phases of project implementation, including planning, permitting, and final design and construction, is approximately \$2,450,000.

The San Carlos Council allocated \$2,450,000 from its American Rescue Plan Act funds to fund this project. The project complies with the American Rescue Plan Act as a necessary water infrastructure investment for the purpose of remediation of contaminants in drinking water and to support population growth, will be sustainable over its estimated useful life, unlikely to be made using private sources of funds, especially since drinking water is a resource on the Reservation that is subject to depletion, and will be responsive to the need for a sufficient, sustainable, quality water supply.



# COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER AND VICE CHAIRMAN ETPISON TOURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BYLAS COMMUNITY BUILDING**



**CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BYLAS COMMUNITY BUILDING**



**NEW BYLAS COMMUNITY BUILDING**



**BASKETBALL COURT BY THE BYLAS BOYS & GIRLS BUILDING**

## **BYLAS BOYS & GIRLS CLUB AND MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING**

The construction of the Bylas Boys & Girls Club and Multi-Purpose building began in 2019 with funds received from New Market Tax Credit allocations awarded to the San Carlos Apache Tribe Community Facility QALICB, which is a non-profit corporation established by the San Carlos Apache Council. The building is approximately 12,600 sq. ft. constructed by Rock Gap Construction. The interior of the building is climate controlled, has a receptionist area, three offices, a conference room, two storage closets, kitchen/concession stand area and the gym. The gym has two portable goal systems, bleachers, and a scoreboard.

A Grand Opening Ceremony was held March 2020 that was very well attended by community members. The Boys & Girls Club was eager to move into the new building and have a place to call home. Shortly after the grand opening ceremony, the coronavirus emerged on the reservation and restrictions were in place that prevented the program from operating for the safety and well-being of Tribal Members. Operations are ramping back up for the Program and the building can be rented by Community Members for a fee. The Boys & Girls Club is responsible for the rental arrangements.

The estimated total cost for the Boys & Girls Club is \$2,069,251.00, which includes construction, furniture and fixture investments.

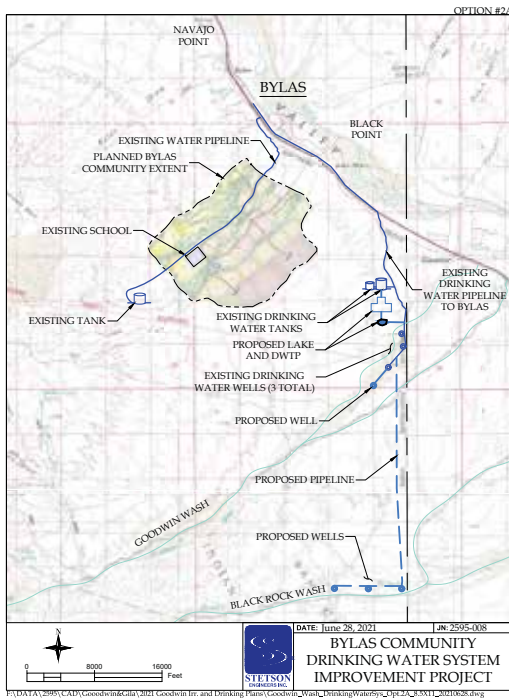
## **BYLAS COMMUNITY DRINKING WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

The Tribe will construct new wells along the Reservation boundary in Goodwin Wash and Black Rock Wash to intercept groundwater before it leaves the Reservation using the Tribe's groundwater right under the 1992 San Carlos Apache Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act.

Pumps will intercept the groundwater into pipelines to deliver the water to a storage lake that can also be used for swimming and recreation. Our Water & Wastewater Program will draw water from the lake and run it through a drinking water treatment plant and deliver the treated water to the existing Bylas community and new Bylas master-planned community for drinking water supply.

There is a need to improve the community drinking water system serving the Bylas area to enhance water supply reliability and increase capacity to serve the planned relocation and expansion of Bylas. The need to enhance water supply reliability arises from the current dependence on untreated groundwater (except for disinfection) as the sole source of water supply to Bylas.

Bylas is served by a separate and distinct drinking water system that is supplied by three wells that pump groundwater from the nearby Goodwin Wash aquifer; Windmill Well, South Well, and North Well. Windmill Well and South Well are active. North Well is currently inactive due to the



detection of microbiological contamination in the well. EPA has expressed concerns that the source of the contamination could be surface water in Goodwin Wash which could eventually affect the Windmill Well and South Well too.

During the last six years that the North Well has been closed the system has been operating without adequate back-up, making the Bylas community vulnerable to curtailments in water service. This vulnerability brings risks to the health, welfare, and safety of the community, particularly during the summer when heat exhaustion and wildfire threats are most severe.

The Project covers all phases of implementation, including planning, permitting, and final design and

construction. Approximately 24 months will be needed to bring the Project on-line. The estimated cost to carry out all phases of Project implementation, including planning, permitting, and final design and construction, is approximately \$8,600,000.

***The need to enhance water supply reliability arises from the current dependence on untreated groundwater (except for disinfection) as the sole source of water supply to Bylas.***



**GILSON WASH SWIMMING POOL CONSTRUCTION MEETING**



**GILSON WASH SWIMMING POOL PROGRESS AS OF JUNE 30, 2022**

## GILSON WASH SWIMMING POOL

The Gilson Wash Swimming Pool construction originally started in April 2019. The initial project was funded with a New Market Tax Credit loan awarded to the San Carlos Apache Tribe QALICB, a non-profit organization established by the San Carlos Council. The enclosed swimming pool building footprint is 14,000 sq. ft. that will include a lap/exercise pool, diving pool, spa, kid's pool, receptionist area, office, breakroom, female locker room, male locker room and equipment storage room. During the pandemic, a contractor was awarded the job, and experienced issues that prevented them from returning to complete the project. The pool was 70% completed at the time of abandonment. As a result, the project has sat

idle from March 2020 to May 2022. When the coronavirus was slowing down, a pool contractor search began with the hopes of finding one that will be willing to complete the project. In October 2021, a request for funding to complete the swimming pool project was presented to the Council. They approved the request to use ARPA funds to complete the project. Notice to Proceed was issued to Mills Design Group, LLC. effective April 20, 2022. The swimming pool project estimated completion date is September 2022.

This ended up being a pandemic project where everything that could happen occurred with the project, but we did not give up. We look forward to the grand opening of the swimming pool.

## GILSON WASH WEST WATER WELL

In August 2018, the San Carlos Council approved an allocation of \$1,500,000.00 from Indian Health Services 3rd party funds to support the engineering and construction of 3-4 additional wells due to projected droughts. A portion of the funds was utilized for the Beverly Hills secondary well and the remainder will be utilized on the Gilson Wash West Well.

Stetson Engineers, the Water Distribution & Waste Water Treatment Facilities Program, and Office of the General Manager worked on well drilling and testing of an area within the vicinity of the San Carlos Apache Sports Complex in Gilson Wash. The drilling and testing provided favorable results. Thereafter, Stetson Engineers Inc. designed the well and tie into the main line with review by the Office of Environmental

Health-Indian Health Services and the Regional EPA Office prior to soliciting proposals. During this time the pandemic prevented the proposals needed to be sent out due to the national increase in cost for material and supplies.

Jonovich Companies Inc. was awarded the bid and the Notice to Proceed was issued on February 07, 2022. The project completion timeline is December 2022. In the interim, due to water shortages throughout the Gilson Wash lower district and the Moonbase areas in Peridot, we have requested for the connection to the main water line from the new Gilson Wash Well be completed immediately. Therefore, an emergency project was approved by EPA and has started to provide a temporary water line from the well to the water main to provide the additional water source that is needed to supplement the districts affected by the shortage. The temporary connection will take 2 weeks to complete in June 2022.



**WDWFT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR JEFF PORTER EXPLAINING TO CHAIRMAN RAMBLER HOW THIS NEW WELL WILL HELP WATER SUPPLY TO THE GILSON WASH & PERIDOT COMMUNITIES**

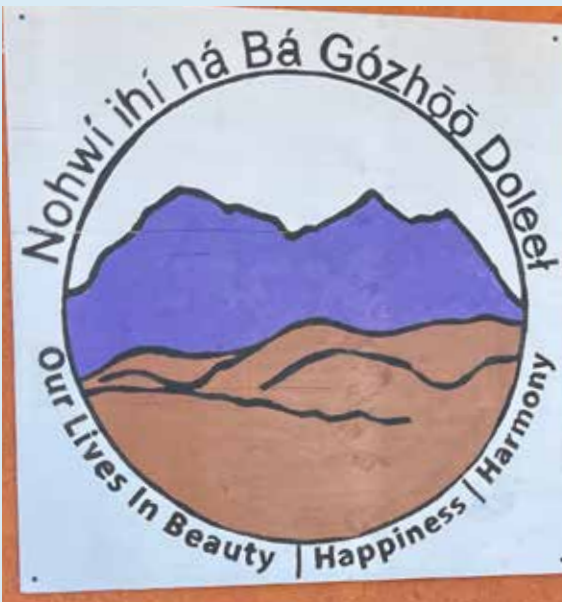


RIBBON CUTTING AT THE WELLNESS CENTER SOBER LIVING HOME



SOBER LIVING HOME

## WELLNESS CENTER SOBER LIVING HOME



The Wellness Center Sober Living home is now open. Our mission is to create a sober living environment that goes beyond abstinence and results in full sustained wellness and recovery. All services offered within the home are focused toward assisting our people to rebuild a life that is spiritually, socially satisfying, culturally strong, and conducive to growth and excellence in all areas. They have come to know healing

from behavioral health issues cannot be separated from culture and spiritual practice. Based on this knowledge, the purpose of the Sober Living home is to offer healing approaches that perpetuate the traditional values of the Apache people.

In April 2022, the sober living program accepted its first resident, a second resident joined a few days later. They offer intensive outpatient groups in the morning and evenings at the Wellness Center in Peridot. On site, the residents are working on self-improvement and personal recovery through structured modules that address clinical and daily life skills development. Residents participate in weekend activities including worship and outdoor recreation. Residents also receive individual and group counseling.

Wellness Center is proud to announce that all the staff at sober living have been trained in a peer recovery support model and have

behavioral health technician certification (BHT). They also have fluent speaking Apache staff members and most importantly, the staff are enrolled members of the San Carlos Apache Tribe; a few of whom are committed to their own sobriety. These lived experiences will prove to be a resource of support and strength in developing a recovery community. Sober Living is phase one of three phases that will bring a full continuum of substance use treatment to the San Carlos Apache Tribe within the boundaries of Apache land.



*Wellness Center is proud to announce that all the staff at sober living have been trained in a peer recovery support model and have behavioral health technician certification (BHT). They also have fluent speaking Apache staff members and most importantly, the staff are enrolled members of the San Carlos Apache Tribe.*



BERNADINE ANDRADE UPDATING CHAIRMAN RAMBLER ON THE SOBER LIVING HOME



LOUNGE AREA OF THE SOBER LIVING PROGRAM FACILITY



SLEEPING QUARTERS IN THE SOBER LIVING FACILITY

## HOW DO I GET INTO THE SOBER LIVING PROGRAM?

1.

Please contact the Wellness Center main office in Peridot at 928-475-1500 to schedule an assessment.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be at least 18 years old (not enrolled in high school)
- Enrolled as SCAT Member
- Sober for minimum 30 days prior to admission
- Committed to 90 days of treatment with the program



2.

You will be required to visit the health clinic for the following items prior to admission:

- TB Clearance
- COVID testing
- Basic Medical Clearance

3.

A clinical team member will complete a comprehensive behavioral health assessment. Upon completion of assessment, the clinical team will contact Sober Living Program with appropriate information.



4.

The Sober Living team will reach out to schedule Admission.

**PHASE TWO: Transitional Housing** – 3 homes (total 8-10 beds)  
Projected Development 3 years after Sober Living is fully functioning.  
Eligibility Criteria:

- 6 months – 1yr of sobriety and actively engaged in recovery maintenance
- Gainfully employed or verifiable income to pay for food and room fees
- No legal issues

Purpose: Ease transition back into the Community. Continue sobriety and build a healthy supportive environment. Residents will begin to take ownership and responsibility of their daily living needs and expenses.

**PHASE THREE: Residential Treatment Center** (Total 12-16 beds)

Projected Development 5 years after the Sober Living program is fully functioning (two years after transitional housing is established)

Purpose: Provide the early, critical substance use treatment, intervention, and stabilization for community members seeking detox and treatment in a controlled setting.

**FOR ADMISSION  
CRITERIA, PLEASE  
CONTACT THE WELLNESS  
CENTER AT 928-475-1500  
COUNSELING  
SERVICES.**



# REVITALIZING *our Apache Language*

As tribal people, our education is tied to the Earth, our Ancestors, our language and our prayers. However, we have seen the Western system of education differently. For us, Western education was once a system of oppression.

As you know, many of our ancestors were taken away from our tribe as children to receive an education at boarding schools. This was a practice throughout the United States.

In BIA boarding schools, children were given English names, forced to attend church and convert to Christianity, forced to speak and learn English, forced to cut their hair and

wear uniforms. Children were punished for speaking their native language. This was a government program to assimilate us into Western culture so that we lose our identity and connection to our tribes.

When Apaches came home to the reservation, they struggled to relate to their families after being taught that it was wrong to speak their language or practice their ceremonies. Many were marked by trauma.

Thankfully, the boarding schools have all but disappeared. Through the efforts of many, many tribal leaders, tribes have taken over the system of education. We have done so out of necessity – for self-determination and

self-governance.

We now run our schools. Teachers are tribal members. Superintendents are tribal members. Apache language is taught in our schools. Even our college right here – the San Carlos Apache College, the 33rd tribal college in the United States. Western Education no longer oppresses us, it has become our tool, our means to an end.

The previous boarding school system was devastating. However, instead of assimilating, we have strengthened our ties to our language, our Reservation, our tribal identity, our culture, our history, and our traditions.



**KATHY KITCHEYAN APACHE LANGUAGE TEACHER**

## APACHE LANGUAGE AND HISTORY SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE

The vision of San Carlos Apache College is Nnee bi'at'e'ihí nldzilgo adantzih, translates to "Upholding the Power of Apache Wisdom and Knowledge". The College's Mission statement is "To provide the Nnee an excellent higher education experience rooted in Nnee bi'at'e". One of the College's four major goals is, "Rekindle the language, traditions, and culture of the Apache people".

For hundreds of years the Apache people have resisted efforts at assimilation and attempted to maintain their Apache language, culture, and traditions.



**APACHE LANGUAGE CLASS**

Although the Apache people have already lost so much, they are striving like never before to revive and keep what little is left. They are strengthening their efforts to teach the young the Apache language and expose them to the Apache way-of-life. The interest of students in learning their language, as well as learning about the traditions and practice the culture, is phenomenal. To provide more than classroom learning, they have invited speakers from the community to present on language, plants, hunting, storytelling, arts & crafts, ceremonies, and tribal government. They hosted a Language Summit at the Apache Gold Casino which was well-attended by community members. It is imperative to include community members, as they also hold the key to teaching Apache Wisdom and Knowledge.

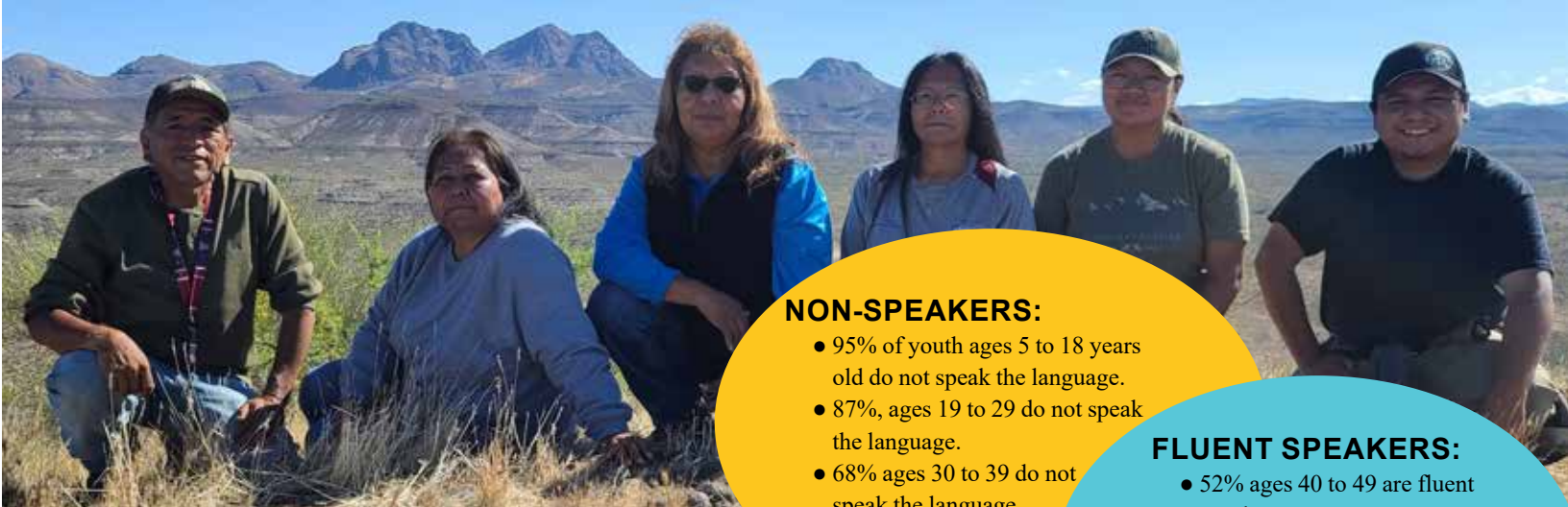
The college offers day and night classes in the Apache language, and San Carlos High School offers dual enrollment classes in the Apache language. High school students earn college credits. It works in their favor as an Apache Language class is required for graduation. Currently, the College has four Apache Language Teachers.

Since 2017, the College has served approximately 550 students in the Apache Language and Apache History classes. All the Teachers are fluent Apache speakers and have extensive experience in teaching. The College has three semesters in a year and high school students are also included in the final count.

Sometimes, the College Apache Language Teachers are called upon to do presentations and translations for other governmental agencies. Occasionally, they meet with the Education Department and the Language Preservation Department on mutual concerns and interests. They enjoy doing what they know best, and what is truly fulfilling to them, which is to teach the young people to speak Apache and retain their God given identity.



**KENNETH CHAN & KATHY KITCHEYAN**



**LANGUAGE PRESERVATION STAFF**

### NON-SPEAKERS:

- 95% of youth ages 5 to 18 years old do not speak the language.
- 87%, ages 19 to 29 do not speak the language.
- 68% ages 30 to 39 do not speak the language.

### FLUENT SPEAKERS:

- 52% ages 40 to 49 are fluent speakers.
- 82% ages 50 to 59 are fluent speakers.
- 94% of our tribal members ages 60 years old and older are fluent Apache speakers.



**FTF APACHE LANGUAGE TEACHER  
BERNADETTE TALKALAI**

### SAN CARLOS APACHE LANGUAGE PRESERVATION PROGRAM

The goal of the San Carlos Apache Tribe Language Preservation Department is to revitalize the use of the Apache language in everyday conversation as well as more poetically heightened express contexts.

In a continuing effort to realize their goal, they have developed an activity curriculum/resource booklet on the four (4) seasons (Hai, Ak'ee, Daa & Shii) that provides a meaningful structure/setting to learn the Apache language and the culture. The books were distributed to local Apache teachers and Early Childhood teachers to participate in language revitalization efforts in learning and practicing Apache language conversation and expression. In addition, they have developed several books for early childhood programs and each student received these Apache books. Through these developments, they hope to achieve an increase of Apache speakers.

The Language Preservation Department provides several programs working with community groups to teach, serve and preserve the Apache language. Community Elders are very helpful, they are mentors,

teachers and guide the Department in all areas such as identity (clan), culture/ceremonies and language.

The department continues to save and archive all activities regarding Apache language. Overall, they have over 200 files of interviews and audio recordings of elders, over 500 files of field work on plants, medicine, name of places and stories. Over 100 files of photos and videos, numerous files of class materials of posters, videos and over 6,000 files of elders and youth activities. These files will become available once the resource room is open for community use specifically to learn the Apache language and culture. Therefore, archiving all recordings, videos and documents will come in handy for future generations and for non-speakers.

A door-to-door language demographic survey assessed in June 2019 showed:

#### Non-Speakers:

- 95% of youth ages 5 to 18 years old do not speak the language.
- 87%, ages 19 to 29 do not speak the language.
- 68% ages 30 to 39 do not speak the language.

#### Fluent speakers:

- 52% ages 40 to 49 are fluent speakers.
- 82% ages 50 to 59 are fluent speakers.
- 94% of our tribal members ages 60 years old and older are fluent Apache speakers.

The survey showed tribal members in their mid-forties (45) and older are the last fluent Apache speakers. The survey revealed that the tribe risks losing the Apache language. It is vital that those who are fluent begin to

share and teach the children and young adults the Apache language.

Language Preservation continues to engage with the elders to preserve what remains by recording, transcribing, and archiving the ancestral knowledge. This will become a tremendous resource for the youth, future language and help break cultural bearers. By applying the traditional ways and passing on the language to help others understand language is a vital part of Apache identity. The Tribe is fortunate to have Elders of the community who can still speak fluent Apache. The tribe suffers a devastating loss every time an Elder or any fluent Apache speaker passes on.

The Language Preservation Department receives federal funding through Administration for Native American (ANA) – Language Preservation; Arts Foundation for Tucson & Southern Arizona, state funding from First Things First, and general funds from the Tribal Council.



**YOUTH PRAYER**



APACHE LANGUAGE IN THE CLASSROOM



MS. RHONDA'S CLASS

## THE *One People – One Nation* PROJECT

We, the “Apache” Ndeh (The People), are a culturally rich society with heritage tied to Mother Earth which is evident to this day. Our existence is steeped with thousands of years of clanship, lineage, and knowledge passed down for centuries. We have a responsibility to our future generations that this history, culture, and language be preserved so they identify with and feel a sense of pride in being a San Carlos Apache. The One Nation - One People Project strives to accomplish this.

One Nation - One People was funded by the US Department of Education, Office of Indian Education as an innovative project. Our goal is for our children and youth to understand and value their past while they prepare for their future. The San Carlos Apache Tribe Education Department is accomplishing this by enlisting our Elders and working with the schools, early childhood programs, Language Preservation, and the Cultural Center to



APACHE LANGUAGE TEACHER TRAINING

develop a curriculum and learning tools that teach our language and culture. In fact, over twenty Apache elders and educators as well as leading Apache-language linguists were involved in developing the books and materials the teachers are using in their classrooms. Importantly, much effort was put into making the books reflective of community perspectives.

Teachers and teacher assistants have been trained in the curriculum which focuses on our children and youth using Apache both in the classroom and in everyday life. They also participated in Apache Language classes so they too would improve their own proficiency in our language

The Early Childhood programs have incorporated the curriculum into everyday instruction and teachers schedule weekly activities to teach our language and honor our culture.

Our College and Career readiness program, Pathway to College, includes One People – One Nation activities in their camps.

Our high school youth have participated in workshops to learn our language and culture.

A unique feature of the curriculum is an interactive application that learners can use on their cell phone, tablets, or computers. It allows our learners to study and practice our language regardless of where they are.

Importantly, One People – One Nation is committed to maintaining the sacredness and integrity of our language and culture. At the same time, we are utilizing the learning tools that best engage our children and youth. That is the uniqueness of One People – One Nation.

To learn more about One People – One Nation, obtain its learning materials, or to learn more about other Education Department programs such as our college and career readiness program, Pathway to College, contact: Flora Talas, Executive Director (928) 475-2336; email address: [flora.talas@ed.scatsn.gov](mailto:flora.talas@ed.scatsn.gov).



APACHE LANGUAGE BOOKLETS



VIRTUAL APACHE LANGUAGE CLASS



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN AND VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS**



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER PRESENTING GIFTS TO FIRST LADY JILL BIDEN AND SECOND GENTLEMAN DOUG EMHOFF**

## CHAIRMAN RAMBLER MEETS WITH PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN AND VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS

On Wednesday October 8, 2020, Chairman Terry Rambler met with Presidential candidate Joe Biden and Vice-Presidential candidate Kamala Harris in Phoenix, AZ. At the time, both were candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States. They eventually won in the November 2020 elections.

Chairman Rambler had received notification two weeks earlier from the Biden/Harris campaign office that he was invited to meet with Biden/Harris on this day. There were only five tribes/nations invited. The Gila River Indian Community, the Navajo Nation, the Tohono O'odham Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the San Carlos Apache Tribe.

Before Biden/Harris arrived, the five tribal leaders were gathered at the Heard Museum conference center in Phoenix, AZ and briefed on Biden/Harris Indian Country policy positions and how the meeting would take place. The policy positions the tribal leaders were briefed on were tribal sovereignty, health care, restoring tribal lands, global warming, protecting tribal culture, violence against women, expanding economic opportunity, investing in education and youth, and supporting Veterans.

The doors to the conference room suddenly opened and in came Vice President Joe Biden and Senator Kamala Harris. Vice President Biden said "Hello, how are you today?" After a brief introduction, the tribal leaders each discussed with Biden/Harris their tribal priorities. First off was Governor Lewis followed by Chairman Rambler.

Before Chairman Rambler spoke with Biden/Harris, he delivered an Apache burden

basket with four masks with tribal seals and placed them on a table before proceeding to the meeting area. Due to COVID-19, Vice President Biden, Senator Harris, and Chairman Rambler stood in a triangle facing each other and six feet apart and wearing masks.

Chairman Rambler informed Joe Biden and Kamala Harris on why the United States needed a change in leadership and outlined three priorities for the Tribe. First, was that COVID-19 exposed the health disparities in our communities and the dire need to improve health care infrastructure, delivery, and quality of care. Second, was to make infrastructure a top priority especially to implement our CAP water delivery system.

Third, was for the federal government to stop looking at nature as a resource for exploitation, but instead as a resource to protect our future so that our children may live without fear of losing our planet. Because we are the first stewards of Mother Earth, we know that what destroys any one part of our environment anywhere, is a threat that affects us all everywhere. Chairman Rambler reminded Biden and Harris about the need to protect Oak Flat.

Chairman Rambler also met with the First Lady and Second Gentleman. On Sunday June 27, 2021, as Chairman Rambler was studying and researching in his Bylas office, he received a phone call from the White House asking the Chairman to join First Lady Jill Biden (wife of Joe Biden) and Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff (husband of Vice



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER EXPLAINING TO PRESIDENT BIDEN ISSUES FACING THE PEOPLE.**

**“**  
*Chairman Rambler informed Joe Biden and Kamala Harris on why the United States needed a change in leadership and outlined three priorities for the Tribe.*  
**”**

President Kamala Harris) for a meet and greet in Phoenix, AZ. Chairman Rambler, on behalf of his people, gladly accepted the invitation.

On Wednesday June 30, 2021, Chairman Rambler met with First Lady Biden and Second Gentleman Emhoff at the Isaac Middle School in Phoenix, AZ. At the meet and greet, Chairman Rambler provided a letter to the First Lady on the Oak Flat issue and requested her to read the letter and support tribes on the issue. Chairman Rambler also presented an Apache Cradleboard to the First Lady and an Apache Burden Basket to the Second Gentleman. Both the Cradleboard and Burden Basket were made by San Carlos Apache tribal members. The First Lady and Second Gentleman appreciated the gifts and thanked Chairman Rambler.



**1ST PLACE FREEPORT**



**CHAIRMAN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE  
DONATING GOLF TOURNAMENT PROCEEDS TO THE  
SAN CARLOS APACHE VETERANS ASSOCIATION**



**SAN CARLOS APACHE VETERANS COLOR  
GUARDS**



**SAN CARLOS APACHE VETERANS ASSOCIATION POSTING  
COLORS AT GOLF TOURNAMENT CEREMONY**



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER GIVES OPENING REMARKS AT THE ANNUAL GOLF  
TOURNAMENT**

## CHAIRMAN'S VETERANS GOLF TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS

### TOURNAMENT HAS RAISED OVER \$350,000 IN ITS HISTORY

On a cold Friday morning, November 12, 2021, at the Apache Stronghold Golf Course, forty teams comprising of 120 golf players lined up as Mistress of Ceremony Cheryl Haozous began the opening ceremony for the annual 2021 Chairman's Veterans Golf Tournament by introducing the San Carlos Apache Veterans Association (SCAVA) who promptly posted the colors.

Around 8:00 am, forty golf carts transported 120 players to the golf course starting the day's tournament. After a day of golfing, Team Freeport McMoRan came in first place. Congratulations to Marc Lopeman, Jake Ruiz, and Frank Pompa. Team Remos came in second place. Congratulations to Ramon Remos, Craig Remos, and Ernie Valdez. Team Madrid came in third place. Congratulations to Cecil Monterde, Tom Chavez, and Frank Merino.

The Chairman's Veterans Golf Tournament Committee raised \$143,635.00 in revenues and expended \$43,933.50 on the tournament leaving a net income of \$104,703.50, which the Committee donated to the San Carlos Apache Veterans Association.

The Committee thanks the Medal of Honor Sponsors – San Carlos Council, Apache Gold Casino, SCATUI, CKP Insurance,

Dan Agnew, and Freeport McMoRan. The Committee thanks the Silver Star Sponsors – White Mountain Apache Tribe, San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation, Tohono O'odham Nation, Town of Gilbert, and Vice Chairman Tao Etpison. The Committee thanks the Purple Heart Sponsors – Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Titla & Parsi, and Pimmex-Chase. The Committee thanks the Breakfast Sponsors – Sovereign Finance, Peridot District Economic Enterprise, and Arizona Indian Gaming Association. The Committee thanks the Banquet Sponsors – Blue Stone Strategy Group and Mapetsi Policy Group. The Committee thanks all the other sponsors and teams.

The Chairman thanks the San Carlos Council for their support of the Chairman's Veterans Golf Tournament by allocating \$25,000 for the tournament benefitting our Apache Veterans. The Chairman thanks the Chairman's Veterans Golf Tournament Committee members Cali Stands, Patricia Bowyer, Cheryl Haozous, Melanie Chapman, Christina Kaska, and Steve Wolf. They worked tirelessly planning for this event as they understood the importance of respecting our Veterans.

Today, and every day, let us be thankful to all our Apache Warriors and Veterans of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their time, and sometimes their lives, to defend what we have today. The freedom to speak

the Apache language, to vote, to voice our opinions, to protest, to have a family, to enjoy the bounty our Creator God provided us, and the freedom to pray. These are important rights we have and we should be thankful to our Veterans for helping us to have these rights.

The same revolutionary beliefs for which our ancestors fought are still at issue around the globe – the belief that the rights of man come not from the generosity of Government but from the hand of God.

Today and everyday let us remember our Apache Veterans. Let us continue to respect them and give them a helping hand when they are in need. God bless our San Carlos Apache Veterans.

The Chairman's Golf Tournament Committee, in its history, has raised over \$350,000 for the San Carlos Apache Veterans Association. The funds have been used by the Veterans to purchase vans, rifles, uniforms, boots, travel for in-state and out of state for official purposes, and stipends for funeral services, meetings, and community events.



**START OF THE CHAIRMAN'S GOLF  
TOURNAMENT**

# SAVE OAK FLAT ACT – PROTECTS AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS RESOURCES



**FORMER CHAIRMAN WENDSLER NOSIE SR., CONGRESSMAN RAUL GRIJALVA, AND CHAIRMAN RAMBLER AT OAK FLAT**

In the Apache way, so that our Elders know who we are and to educate our youth, we introduce ourselves by naming our parents and our people. My name is Terry Rambler and I am the Chairman of the San Carlos Apache Tribe. I am Tugai (white water people) from my mother's side and born for Nadots'osn (slender peaks standing up people) from my father's side.

My mom is Tugai and born for Iyah hajin (mesquite extending out people). My dad was Nadots'osn born for Tsee binazt'i'e (surrounded by rocks people). My maternal grandparents were John Rope and Sarah Hadley Rope. John Rope was Biszaha (edge of cliff dwelling people) and came from the Cedar Creek area. Sarah was Tugai and originally from an area just southeast of Show Low but moved to East Fork after Fort Apache was established. After they met, they eventually moved to Bylas where many of their relatives still reside.

My paternal grandparents were Homer Pechuli Rambler and Olive Talgo Rambler. Olive was Nadots'osn from her mom Nona Zaye Talgo. Homer was Tsee binazt'i'e from his mom, Lide Pechuli, my great paternal grandmother. Homer was born Homer Pechuli but added the name Rambler after he went on the relocation program in California. My great paternal grandmother, Lide Pechuli, came from the Aravaipa, Superior and Oak Flat areas, places that stand as monuments to where we came from, what was taken from us, places where our Ancestors took a stand for us, and spilled their blood for us, for our Tribe.

Sometime in the late 1800's, non-Apache miners discovered minerals in these areas. With the miners came United States soldiers. Apaches came into conflict with the soldiers and were eventually overpowered by the soldiers with their rifles. The surviving Apaches were rounded up and herded at gunpoint to old San Carlos on the current San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation. Eventually, Lide Pechuli's family moved to present day San Carlos with many settling in the Gilson Wash area.

The area surrounding Chi'chil Bildagoteel (Oak Flat) was at one time the traditional territory of the T'iis Tseban (cottonwood trees gray among rocks people), also known as the Pinal Band of Apaches, and is closely associated with the related Tse Binesti'e (the surrounded by rocks people), also known as the Aravaipa Band.

At least eight Apache clans have direct ties to this location, and that Apaches continue to visit and invoke Chi'chil Bildagoteel through prayer and song for a wide range of traditional needs, practices and ceremonies, such as the Sunrise Ceremony, an Apache ceremony where a young girl dances her way into womanhood over a period of four days.

Congress now has a historic opportunity to protect American Indian cultural and religious resources and prevent destructive economic development by enacting the Save Oak Flat Act.

The Save Oak Flat Act (SOFA) would protect a 2,422-acre site known as Chi'chil Bildagoteel, also called Oak Flat, the foundation of traditional Western Apache culture and religion. The sacred land is in a rare grove of Emory Oaks nestled within a riparian niche surrounded by spiraling rock formations on the Tonto National Forest about 60 miles east of Phoenix.

The site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property because of its central role in Western Apache spiritual practices and numerous archeological artifacts. Chi'chil Bildagoteel is where Western Apaches have performed traditional religious ceremonies for eons. It is irreplaceable.

And it is about to be destroyed by the proposed Resolution Copper Mine unless SOFA is enacted.

Two of the world's largest mining companies, Rio Tinto and BHP, both based in Australia and Britain, are poised to construct one of the largest copper mines in North America through their Resolution Copper subsidiary. The mining technique Resolution intends to use to extract copper ore would cause Chi'chil Bildagoteel to collapse into a 1.8 mile wide, 1,000-foot-deep crater.

According to its website, Resolution falsely claims that the mine will provide a quarter of America's copper demand and that Resolution's "steady home-grown copper supply will be a competitive advantage for US manufacturing companies."

While there is no question that copper is an important material in a rapidly expanding renewable energy economy, it is unlikely

Resolution's raw copper will remain in the United States.

The truth is, according to an Arizona Department of Transportation report, most, if not all of the copper concentrate produced from the mine would be exported. The most likely destination is China, where the state-controlled mining company Chinalco is the single largest shareholder in Rio Tinto, which is Resolution's controlling partner. And China is by far the leading importer of raw copper globally and the world's largest consumer of refined copper.

Right now the United States only has three domestic copper smelters, two in Arizona and one in Utah. All three are dedicated to processing copper from existing mines. Resolution has stated it has no plans to build a new copper smelter, and any such effort would be met with fierce opposition.

Resolution's proponents have also promoted the false assertion that copper is a critical mineral for America's national security. But the United States does not include copper on its list of critical minerals. That's because there are abundant copper supplies in many different countries, including the United States.

Passage of SOFA would also reverse the sneaky legislative action in 2014 that circumvented the will of Congress when a rider was attached without debate to a must-pass defense spending bill that mandates trading Oak Flat to Resolution, regardless of the massive damage the mine would inflict on cultural, environmental and water resources.

The Inter-Tribal Association of Arizona, the National Congress of American Indians, and many Arizona tribes have passed resolutions in support of SOFA. An Arizona statewide poll shows overwhelming support from likely voters across the political spectrum for protecting Oak Flat.

We urge our Congressional Delegation, particularly Senators Kyrsten Sinema and Mark Kelly and Representative Tom O'Halleran, whose 1st Congressional District includes Oak Flat, to seize this moment and take historic action to protect Chi'chil Bildagoteel for future generations.



**SAVE OAK FLAT SUPPORTERS**



SDPI STAFF



OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT

# SAN CARLOS APACHE HEALTHCARE CORPORATION (SCAHC)

San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation is the San Carlos Apache peoples' hospital. It is known as Izee' Baa Gowah. The Mission of Izee' Baa Gowah is to heal, serve and empower the Ndee (Apache people) while honoring the traditions through a compassionate and respectful patient-family centered team. SCAHC has grown over the past seven years from seeing 436 patients per day in FY16 to over 859 patients per day in FY22 (YTD as of March 2022). SCAHC employees are our most valued resources in the work the hospital does to make a difference for every patient and their family who walk through the doors. SCAHC continues to build the operational capacity to meet the needs of patients. We have expanded many of our service lines and because of our rapid growth, our employee count continues to grow as well. SCAHC is proud to say that 61.7% of our employees are tribal members who are now developing careers in the healthcare industry. At the end of FY 2015, SCAHC had total of 277

Employees – today, we currently have over 773; a 180 percent growth of employees. SCAHC has grown exponentially since its opening. (As shown in the chart #3).

A few of SCAHC's key services are a 16 Room Emergency Department, which operates a Level IV trauma center; a 12 bed Inpatient Medical Unit with Telemetry monitoring, with plans to begin offering inpatient dialysis services; a comprehensive state of the art dental department, an expansive Outpatient Department including: Primary Care, Specialty Care, Wound/Podiatry, Pharmacy, Rehabilitative Therapy, and Optometry; and a Sleep Center; as well as, a state of the art Laboratory and Imaging Departments. Also, key to the Bylas Community is the Clarence Wesley Health Center, which offers Outpatient Primary Care, Specialty Care, Pharmacy, Rehabilitative and Dental services. SCAHC opened the outpatient surgery unit in January of 2021 and has slowly grown the program over the past year. There are six highly experienced surgeons that are available to provide cancer screening (colonoscopy and endoscopy), interventional pain, cataract surgery, minor orthopedics, podiatry (foot surgery), gynecological (women's surgery) and general surgery. In addition, SCAHC is actively working towards cinching a critical access hospital designation.

CHART 1

Average Patient Visits Growth Per Day



AVERAGE DAILY PATIENT SERVICE ENCOUNTERS FROM FY2016 TO FY2022

## HOSPITAL SERVICES:

- Addiction Psychiatry
- Artisan Prosthetics
- Audiology (Hearing Aids)
- Bariatrics
- Behavioral Medicine
- Benefits Coordinator
- Cardiology
  - Pacemaker
  - Vascular/ECHO
  - Stress/ECHO
- Case Management & Social Services
- Child Rehabilitative Services
  - Cardiology
  - Genetics
  - Orthopedics
- Comprehensive Dental Services including Pediatric Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Diabetes Management Program (Special Diabetes for Indians - SDPI)
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Environmental Services 24/7
- Emergency Department 24/7
- Endocrinology
- ENT (Ear, Nose, Throat)
- Hand Surgery Clinic
- Infections Disease
- Inpatient 24/7
- Intervention Pain Management
- Naturopathic Medicine
- Nephrology (Renal)
- Neurology
- Nursing Case Management/Social Services
- Nursing Services
- Nutrition Services
- Obstetrics/Gynecology/Women's Health
- Oncology/Hematology
- Optometry
- Ophthalmology – Cataract Surgery
- Orthopedics
- Pathology
- Patient Experience Services
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacy and Laboratory Services
- Primary Care
- Pulmonary (Lung) Medicine
- Purchased Referred Care (PRC)
- Radiology and Imaging Services
- Rehabilitation Therapy – PT, OT and Fitness
- Respiratory Therapy
- Rheumatology
- Security 24/7
- Sleep Center
- Surgery Services - General
- Urology
- Wound Care and Podiatry Services



CHART 2



SCAHC INPATIENT GROWTH FEBRUARY 2021 TO FEBRUARY 2022.  
HELPING OUR OWN AT HOME!



FUTURE LONG TERM FACILITY

### 1. COVID19 LONG TERM CARE/ SKILLED NURSING FACILITY

SCAHC is proud to lead the pathway in developing the future COVID19 Long Term Care/Skilled Nursing Facility. This facility will be located east of SCAHC in Peridot off of Highway 70 and West of "Cactus Mountain". Currently, the facility is in the Programming and Design Phase with a projected 120,000 square foot/ 100 bed facility to be built for the community of the San Carlos Apache Tribe. As the project advances into the Pre-Construction/ Infrastructure Phase, SCAHC will be working with Stetson Engineering for exploration of a dedicated well that will support a large facility the size of the COVID19 Long Term Care/ Skilled Nursing Facility. Currently there is a promising existing well known as the Wash Well that is being tested by Stetson Engineering. Should that well be viable, the construction of water lines will follow; this will connect to SCAHC and/or the new COVID19 LTC/SNF building.



FUTURE FITNESS CENTER

## 2. FITNESS CENTER

The Special Diabetes Project for Indians (SDPI) program has always needed a new Fitness Center for the San Carlos community. In collaboration with Chairman Rambler's sport's complex initiative, SCAHC has revisited their capital projects strategic plan that already included a fitness center. This falls right in line with the sports and fitness park project. Currently, the Fitness Center project is in the programming phase and discussions have been made with contractors. SCAHC is currently working to schedule a site visit to tour other tribal fitness centers with key stakeholders.

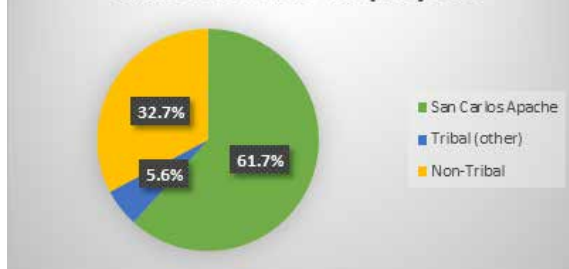
## 3. DREAM MANOR INN

On July 30, 2021, SCAHC purchased the Dream Manor Inn in Globe, Arizona. In the Press Release put out by the San Carlos Apache Tribe, Steve Titla, Chairman of the SCAHC Board of Directors, said, "The footprint of Izee' Baa Gowah has exponentially grown over the past six years since we opened. We have grown to almost 770 employees, including over 150 doctors and 90 nurses, many of whom travel from Tucson, Phoenix, and all over the country to work at our hospital in Peridot and the Clarence Wesley Health Center in Bylas. The growth of our programs has forced us to think outside the box and be innovative in securing our future. The purchase of Dream Manor was a business decision, one that will greatly assist the Corporation with recruitment and retention of top healthcare providers and staff – in offering premier housing."

In addition, Chairman Terry Rambler said, "This is a truly historic investment – the first time the Tribe has ever purchased property and a major business outside our Reservation. For quite some time, the Tribe

CHART 3

### Current SCAHC Employees



SCAHC CURRENT EMPLOYEES-DIRECT HIRES – MARCH 2022

**477 - SAN CARLOS APACHE – 61.7%**

**43 - TRIBAL OTHER – 5.6%**

**253 - NON-TRIBAL – 32.7%**

**773 - TOTAL SCAHC CURRENT EMPLOYEES**

has been the largest employer in the region, now with over 2,500 employees, purchasing over \$130 million in goods and services, a combined payroll of over \$100 million, and annual revenues of nearly \$300 million. From Apache Casino & Resort to world class fishing and hunting, from our sawmill, sand and gravel operation, and convenience stores, from our telephone and Internet services to our hospital, we have become integral to the region's economy. We now join the City of Globe as a proud member of its business community, and we look forward to our growing partnership over the years to come."

The purchase of the Dream Manor Inn is making a difference for recruitment and retention of our professional team members. The facility has 31 rooms, 3 kitchens, a banquet facility, gym and several conference rooms. In addition, it affords us much needed conference and training facility space. Dream Manor sits on a 25-acre overlooking the junction of U.S. Highway 60 and Arizona State Route 77. It will remain a premier commercial hotel, permitted by the City of Globe. The guest rooms, conference and banquet facilities will all be subject to availability.



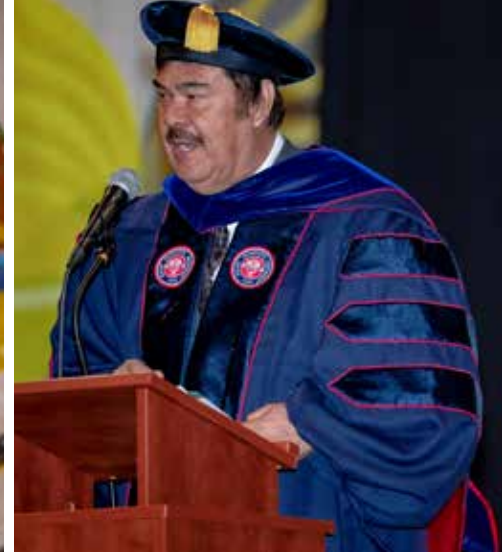
DREAM MANOR INN



2022 APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATES



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SPEAKING AT APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATION



DR. AHUMADA, APACHE COLLEGE PRESIDENT GIVES SPEECH AT THE 2022 GRADUATION

## APACHE COLLEGE'S QUEST FOR INDEPENDENT ACCREDITATION AS THE PATHWAY TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Our young tribal institution of higher learning, San Carlos Apache College, has been operating rather well for the past 4.5 years, currently has over 200 students, and expects to graduate 20 students this spring 2022. It is now focused on “doing all things right” to become a “candidate for accreditation” with its regional accreditor—and ultimately become a successful, independently accredited college. To this end, the College is currently working to assemble by July 2022 the required “evidence” to initiate the application process. The standard timeframe for serving as a “candidate for accreditation” is four (4) years. And we are ready and eager to get it started soon!

In the U.S., accreditation is the primary process for assuring and improving the quality of the services, operations, and programs of higher education institutions. This process is overseen by various accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. All colleges and universities engage in this process to demonstrate they are in compliance with specific regulations and performance standards and to receive federal financial aid funds. Over the past two decades, the process for achieving and maintaining independent accreditation has become much more rigorous and expensive. The process involves a number of sequential steps, including the College’s submission of “preliminary evidence”—just to pursue eligibility as a candidate for accreditation—to

submitting a formal “institutional eligibility filing.” Other steps involve the conduct of eligibility reviews, interviews, and visits from the accreditation agency.

San Carlos Apache College has been required to operate for a temporary period under the accreditation auspices of another fully established and accredited U.S. college or university. All new colleges and universities in the U.S. are required to operate initially in this manner, generally for a period of about five to ten years or until they acquire independent accreditation. The College opened its doors in 2017, after receiving official approval to operate under the accreditation auspices of the Tohono O’odham Community College (TOCC)—as an “additional location” of that College.” Yet, the College has strong economic incentives for earning independent accreditation as soon as possible. For example, only tribal colleges and universities with independent accreditation are eligible to receive direct funding and other support from the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)—or to achieve 1994 Institutional Land-Grant status and thereby benefit from the mandatory funding authorized through the federal Farm Bill.

This April 2022, the College’s Provost and the Director of Student Services, along with the Chair of the College’s Board of Regents, attended a week-long national conference in Chicago which focused on the different aspects of the accreditation process. The College’s President himself

participated in the conference’s workshop targeting institutions seeking candidacy for accreditation, and has been receiving outstanding guidance from key presenters of the workshop in preparing the College’s application for “candidacy for accreditation.” Next steps in the process will involve interviews by and visits from representatives of the College’s accreditation agency.

The San Carlos Apache Tribe envisions the College as an unmatched catalyst to forge a brighter future for the Apache People by empowering them through education and fostering in them a renewed spirit of entrepreneurship, self-reliance, and the determination to succeed in transforming their own lives and community. The College anticipates to more than double its enrollment in the next two to three years!



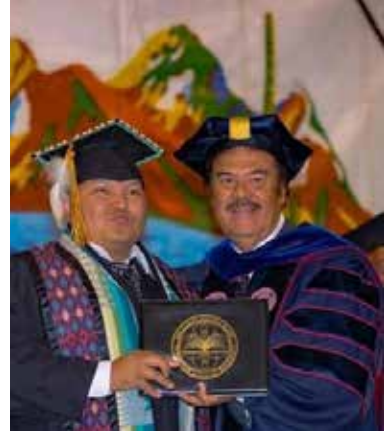
SAN CARLOS APACHE VETERANS POST COLORS AT THE 2022 APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATION.



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH CONGRESSMAN TOM O'HALLERAN AND AZ STATE SENATOR THERESA HATATHLIE.**



**APACHE COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS MEMBERS**



**APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATE ARTIE STEELE**

## NEW COMMUNITY LIBRARY

San Carlos Apache College has partnered with San Carlos Public Library to plan and develop a new library space in Building 20, which was the old Finance building.

The space has been remodeled to serve college students and the community with study space, reading space and library programming in mind. New evening hours will be available for college students and community members and their families. Library tutors will be on duty to help those with homework assignments or research projects.

If you have a Gila County Library Card, that is all you will need in the new library space to check out books or use a computer in the library. If you do not have one, please drop by the Public library to update your card or to get a new one so that you may be able to utilize computers in the library as well as check out books.

New paint and carpeting have been installed as of Feb. 2022. New lighting is being installed now, a few safety features still need to be installed as well as better access to the main door. Then a grand opening of the library will be planned. Additional library

and classroom space will be available in the new Modular that has been purchased by the College to provide more study, teaching, and gathering space. That Modular will be set up between Building 20 and the TERO office. This is going to be a great place to read, study, attend classes, and attend some library events.



**LIBRARY BEFORE**



**LIBRARY AFTER**

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT

The San Carlos Apache College Admission and Records office strives to provide professional customer service to both students and faculty. Most of our students are first generation college students from different tribal affiliations across the county. Apache College has been providing educational opportunities to residents of San Carlos since 2017. The first classes were held in August of 2017 in the old San Carlos Apache Tribal Council Administration building in the old council chambers. The enrollment number for the academic school year Fall 2017-2018 was 58 students registered and taking classes. Apache College is growing rapidly, in Spring 2022 there were 232 registered and enrolled students. Tohono O'odham Community College & San Carlos Apache College admits students by an "open-door policy", which means that anyone can be accepted. Apache College encourages all students to further their education.



**SAWMILL GROUND CLEAN UP**

and completion is dependent on receiving the additional funds to install the equipment.

## SAWMILL PROJECT

Recently, the San Carlos Council approved equipment purchases for the Cutter Sawmill. One may ask, “why the sawmill?” The sawmill operation is crucial to the health and positive condition of our forest on the Reservation. In addition, the Sawmill is estimated to provide an additional 68 jobs and have a positive return on investment. Approval for a purchase agreement with West Coast Industrial Services, Inc. was completed in January 2022 for \$6,043,904.72. In addition, clean up and removal of old sawmill assets were disposed of or sold to companies interested in the equipment that was no longer needed. The Beck Group and Dee Randall, both consultants, are assisting the Tribe with the design and construction of the Sawmill. The Project Team is seeking funding to install the equipment purchased by applying for grants and reaching out to other sources to allow for the completion of Phase I of the project. This Phase will produce rough, green products, primarily destined for Mexico and/or local markets. The additional need to complete Phase 1 is \$3.5 million

Phase II of the project has a need of \$7.9 million to install the Planner Mill purchased approximately 5 years ago. The primary focus is to complete Phase I and then continue with Phase II. An updated financial Plan completed by the Beck Group was presented to the Finance Core Committee in June 2022.



**SCATUI MAIN OFFICE**



## SAN CARLOS APACHE TELECOMMUNICATIONS UTILITY, INC. (SCATUI)

San Carlos Apache Telecommunications Utility, Inc. (SCATUI) has been building and upgrading its infrastructure in the past few years. They have continued to bring fiber to many homes in our community, partnered with cellular carriers to increase coverage, and enhance our network to provide higher bandwidth to meet the needs of our customers.

The past few years have been challenging in terms of how the pandemic has affected the way business is conducted daily. SCATUI has led the way by offering online options for customers to be able to make on time payments for their services, as well as request for changes or service upgrades. SCATUI overcame some setbacks, but despite these hurdles, their business kept operating. Team members quickly adjusted to working from home and our technicians continued to work in the field and handle all trouble reports so that there were minimal or no downtime of services. We commend our SCATUI employees on their dedication and appreciate each and every one.

Here are just a few of our projects that they are working on and have completed:

- The FirstNet/AT&T service agreement will include new SCATUI towers which will provide for more cell coverage and provide AT&T services in the community. FirstNet will also enhance the national emergency service by providing communication connections for all first responders.
- In partnership with San Carlos Police Department, the Emergency Service Network is near completion. The emergency service network aids in the protection and safety of the community by providing broadband and communication services to the police department.

SCATUI continues to strive to increase revenue for the company through partnering with other telecommunication providers on and off the reservation, as well as ensuring they continue to adhere to the rules and regulations from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Looking ahead, SCATUI will continue the fiber to the home project. It is important for SCATUI that broadband service is available to all residential homes in our community, if the pandemic has taught us anything, it is that

broadband is an invaluable service for not only business but for students of all ages.

Triplet Mountain Communications, Inc. (TMCI), a subsidiary of SCATUI, provides broadband services within the state of Arizona. Today TMCI continues to build out fixed wireless internet services, anchor tenant inter-connectivity, and backhaul communications for the towns of Superior and Globe. A recent venture for TMCI has been to provide these services to the town of Fort Thomas. We’ve added 3 new customers in the area and will be working on building out our fixed wireless services by this summer.

TMCI has applied for the NTIA grant, if awarded, the grant will fund middle mile bandwidth enhancements as well as taking broadband connectivity to the White Mountain Apache Tribe. This project will also offer a great opportunity for telecommunication carriers in the eastern part of our state by providing diverse connectivity. TMCI’s grant application is in the review stage and we hope by the time this article is published, we will have been awarded and should be well into the first phase of our project.



## PDEE

The reinvestment in the community comes at the hands of consumers, believe it or not. When people from every walk of life across the Tribe combine and focus their buying power, it has a tremendous effect on the economic outlook of the community. The “buy locally” motto of the Peridot District Economic Enterprise (PDEE) is a commonly heard echo across many business platforms for the brief purpose of stopping economic leakage to the outside.

Economic development and investment within the community includes every man, woman, child, director, purchasing agent, department, enterprise, government, school, and casino. Everyone can play a part in the greater good. The PDEE was brought into its current operational form under a companywide restructuring in August of 2012. The original ideas of the PDEE project date back to December 2002, when the Tribal Council supported a resolution presented by the Peridot Council to pursue economic development in a convenience store/gas station project, which later evolved into the modern-day Apache Burger Travel Center. The current Board President of the company, Mr. Harding Burdette, who was at the time a member of the Tribal Council, had the vision to create jobs by starting small businesses and motivate tribal youth to consider entrepreneurship. He envisioned tribal entrepreneurship as a means to jump-start and sustain a local economy driven by the concept of “capturing every dollar from leaving the reservation.” The PDEE consists of seven tribally chartered businesses falling under the umbrella and ownership of a parent holding company commonly referred to as PDE. The enterprises include PDEE, San Carlos True Value, San Carlos Equipment Rental, Soda Canyon Complex, Peridot Shopping Center, Apache Burger Travel Center, and

Apache Security Services. While these seven enterprises serve as the skeletal composition of the organization itself, many sub-companies exist within each to incubate, and some have the potential to develop into separate entities. It is said that PDEE is “hands-on” in numerous business activities across the reservation and even in some off-reservation ventures. Those statements are indeed on the right track. The PDEE seeks to develop niche-type businesses across the reservation to bring goods and services generally found off the reservation within reach. Services include ATMs, lumber for a shed, a tasty burger, Stihl chainsaw repair, and a popsicle from the Ice cream truck.

PDEE businesses are here to save customers a trip while investing real dollars in your community. To accomplish this niche type business concept, the PDEE has several secondary companies it has developed in recent years: Stihl Professional Chainsaw Shop, San Carlos Tire and Lube, equipment and automotive repairs, equipment transport services, Soda Canyon Trailer Park, ATM services, Apache Burger Mobile, Micro Cash short-term lending solutions, Peridot Tastee, Treats Ice Cream Truck. PDEE is responsive and adaptive and recognizes the need to keep growing alongside the community as the need for goods and services rises and evolves. The corporate office of PDEE lies in the heart of Peridot next to the San Carlos True Value. A centralized approach to all matters of operations is undertaken, including Human Resource functions, Payroll processing, Finance and Administration, advertising and promotion, etc. The PDEE employs approximately 100 people annually, ranging from part-time to full-time employees and contractors, averaging nearly a 2-million-dollar payroll yearly. All the finance functions in-house for seven enterprises.

Annual gross sales generally reach 10 million dollars across various goods and services.

PDEE employs a virtual CPA firm out of Albuquerque, New Mexico, that helps with all the monthly financial functions and audit preparations in business. The PDEE’s existence and mission are based on the greater good of the community; business development ventures, job training, employment, scholarships, and helping the community grow economically. They have engaged in numerous public events across the years. The help extends to our collegiate students via a popular scholarship program. A solid collegiate internship program working with the local pathway to college summer program exists to help students get hands-on experience and learn about the intricacies of building and maintaining a business in a real-world setting. PDEE’s success lies in employees’ commitment, who drive the many facets of the business each day.

Without their dedication and hard work, the company would not have achieved this level of success. PDEE seeks to build and motivate the employees by providing job training and educational opportunities, including assistance with college tuition and expenses, for those interested and motivated to achieve more. The future of PDEE looks bright as we begin to venture off looking for new ideas to bring to the community. By doing so, we continue our quest for a better life for all Apache People across all districts and socioeconomic statuses. PDEE is helping to lead the way. Tj Noline is the Chief Executive Officer of PDEE. Harding Burdette, Natalie Stevens, Christabelle Mull, Charles Hill and Steve Duane serve as PDEE’s Board of Directors with Mr. Burdette serving as the President of the Board.



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SPEAKS  
AT APACHE GOLD HOTEL GRAND  
OPENING CEREMONY**



**COUNCIL MEMBERS TOURING  
HOTEL RENOVATIONS**



**APACHE GOLD HOTEL GRAND OPENING**

## APACHE GOLD IN REVIEW

The Apache Gold has undergone substantial changes in the past couple months that is very noticeable across the property. They plan to provide SCATch UP new content on the San Carlos Apache Gold Casino. Some of our major achievements include the remodeling of Apache Gold Hotel, updating of slot gaming floor with state-of-the-art and a variety of new machines, and the unprecedented partnership with WynnBet online sports betting. Finally, we would like to mention our exciting entertainment coming next month and career opportunities offered at AGCR.

Upon reopening the Apache Gold Casino, the Hotel remained closed for renovations that took place at the latter end of 2021. The hotel then re-opened fully renovated early 2022. We had a soft opening that allowed a small peek into the re-designed with updated furniture, upholstery, beds, and decor. The interior hallways with new paint, and carpeting, and a spacious hotel management office area that has been needed for some time.

After the soft opening, they celebrated with a Grand Opening ribbon cutting ceremony that took place on March 2nd, 2022. They welcomed the public with delicious food and tours of the new hotel and the beautiful rooms that are filled with some of the newest amenities. All thanks to the partnership with Pimmex Construction Corp assisting in introducing a new era for Apache Gold Casino Resort.

Their next huge project was the announcement of 252 new slot machines to their gaming floor. The introduction of these many new machines installed at one time is the first time in Apache Gold Casino history. The new machines were set to be installed over the course of the beginning of 2022. They include a lot of new themes but keeping many of the classics. The allotment of new machines has renewed life and appeal from gamers near and far.

Also, in late August of 2021, the San Carlos Apache Gaming Enterprise solidified its online sports betting license, and a partnership was executed with WynnBet. A premier sports betting app from the global leader in luxury hospitality. As noted by Chairman Terry Rambler, the partnership brings gaming to a new most exciting level, and into the 21st century.

Finally, the San Carlos Apache Gaming Enterprise remains to be one of the largest employers for local, and tribal members. They are always excited to bring new talent and nurture growth towards future casino leaders that represents the exemplary San Carlos Apache community. They welcome new members to join their team, and with no shortage of openings the enterprise is looking for you!

The Apache Gold Casino Resort works endlessly every day to make a great impact with excellence customer service, top tier amenities all from the comfort of a small town. To learn more about their achievements, and to stay up to date on promotions please check out the Apache Gold Casino website. [www.apache-gold-casino.com](http://www.apache-gold-casino.com) and please stay connected with us on social media.

## BYLAS DISTRICT ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE

The Bylas District Economic Enterprise (BDEE) Inc., is a government owned Corporation that operates in multiple sectors, which gives the Tribe's Bylas District the ability to operate in commercial affairs while maintaining public policy objectives. BDEE operates in the following sectors: property management, convenient stores, food service, and real estate development.

When Nate Nash and his team took over the operations of BDEE in January of 2019, they had a goal in mind: to make BDEE customers' lives easier by offering them the products they need when they need them. From a single convenience store to the addition of the Wickiup Grill, Fuel Services, and five tenants in the Wickiup Village, they have made great strides in a positive direction.

Nate is happy to report since his management team and Board of Directors was put in place, they have become profitable. Their revenue has continued to grow month over month and the expanded services has created higher foot traffic which has translated into increased customers and revenue. They continue to take great pride in reducing BDEE's debt and further strengthening their balance sheet. With the increased cash flow generated in the twenty-four months and the faster-than-anticipated expansion plan, they have created an impressive return on equity and positioned BDEE to create more value for the community.

According to BDEE's P&L's, they have had great year over year increase in sales. BDEE had gross revenues of \$4.1 million in 2021. They employ 12 people. BDEE needs to keep this momentum going and push into new markets as well as expanding their current serviceable area market. Twenty-four months later, after exciting transformations and changes, their customers and employees remain the driving force guiding their decisions and actions. To be honest, it has not been easy, they've had to adjust their business model and make hard employment decisions. In the end, the results of all that effort are undeniable.

Nate Nash, Economic Development Manager from the General Manager's Office, and his team were assigned to assist the BDEE with improving its businesses and they have delivered along with BDEE's Board of Directors.

# SCAPD BEGINS ACTION PLAN FOR 2022 AND BEYOND

## PATROLS, STAFFING AND MODERNIZATION

Alejandro Benally Sr., Chief of Police, San Carlos Apache Police Department ("SCAPD") released the Department's Action Plan for FY2022 and Beyond.

The Police Department's mission is to keep our communities safe and enforce the rule of law through professional, timely and effective law enforcement. Through new federal funding and their Action Plan for 2022, SCAPD will implement 911 coverage and strategic patrolling, while providing more effective community policing and heightened intelligence gathering on gangs and drugs. They will continue to seek more federal prosecutions.

In 2020, the San Carlos Council commissioned an independent and objective review of SCAPD by Matrix Consulting Group. Matrix has conducted over 350 studies for law enforcement agencies across the United States and Canada. In its report to the Council, Matrix made numerous recommendations, ranging from staffing needs to operations, examining current services to "best police practices" to identify areas of improvement to achieve certain efficiencies. The report recommended increased staffing, an early evening shift, tracking performance measures for the K9 unit, strategies for accident data and neighborhood complaints, and a dedicated investigator position.

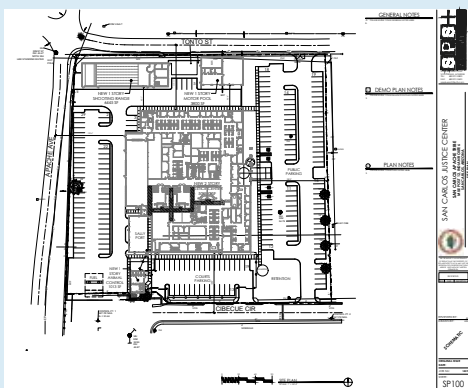
Annually, the SCAPD has 29 officers who serve the Reservation's population of 13,500 residents, responding to about 30,000 calls for service, or 1,050 calls per officer who cover 58 miles of State highways and 108 miles of BIA roads. This volume exceeds that of other surrounding jurisdictions – the crime rate on the Reservation is 15,770 per 100,000, as compared to 3,423 per 100,000 for Arizona. Despite this volume, SCAPD made 2,129 arrests. In the past 4 years, there were 18 federal indictments for illegal narcotic trafficking and 11 for violent crimes.

The San Carlos Council and SCAPD, through federal COVID funding, invested \$9 million in a 911 and communications systems to distribute patrols and response more effectively. As part of its plan, SCAPD will:

- (1) Communicate accurate, timely intelligence on criminal activity throughout the Department;
- (2) Rapidly deploy synchronized and focused personnel where crime occurs;
- (3) Implement effective tactical policing based upon analysis of crimes; and
- (4) Engage in relentless follow-up and assessment, while providing heightened presence through community policing.

Most important, SCAPD seeks to restructure its organization, providing supervision based on data and analytics, focus on recruitment and retention, increase patrol officers from 29 to about 60, of which at least 10 will form a gang and drug interdiction unit and at least 5 will be dedicated to criminal investigation, as well as advanced equipment, such as patrol unit tracking, community mapping, body cams and drones. The total cost of staffing will be about \$9 million, of which \$1 million will come from contracting the BIA's Criminal Investigation Unit. SCAPD currently receives \$5.5 annually from P.L. 93-638 funding. In order to finance the \$8 million increase in the SCAPD budget, the Tribe will have to consider developing new revenues from tax and land lease increases.

We need to invest more in our Police Department as we need more officers. We also need help from our tribal members through community policing working together with our police officers to help deter crime. The investment by our Council in our Sports Complex is a step in the right direction for our youth – providing activities and events with families in a safe environment. I hope and pray that this safe environment will help our youth make positive choices rather than choosing alcohol, drugs, and gang activities.



## JUSTICE CENTER FACILITY

The Tribe plans to construct a two story 83,584 square foot Justice Center Facility which will house the Tribal Courts and Law Enforcement Department. This includes 72,227 square foot building and 3 auxiliary buildings.

This project is considered a long-range project and will be completed in several phases. The programming and schematic design is 60% complete and accommodates the numerous programs that fall under the courts and police administration umbrella. SPS Consultants has been working with the Tribe in designing the facility and developing construction documents for bidding and construction.

The Justice Center Facility will be located within the footprint of the previous IHS building in downtown San Carlos. It will provide centralized justice services to the residents of San Carlos and interface with the community in a more visible manner. Combining the various justice related functions into a singular facility allows

for efficiency in delivery of services to tribal members. The programming that has occurred for this project thus far allows for sharing of support functions such as training, conference, storage and site elements such as parking. Additionally, the health, safety and welfare of staff will be greatly improved due to extensive consideration of supervision and surveillance in the facility.

Funding for this project has been one of the main challenges moving forward. Working with the Department of Justice and Bureau of Indian Affairs, it is the Tribe's goal to secure funds to successfully complete this project. The Office of the General Manager has been delegated to administer this project to completion.



**SECRET SANTA WITH HIS ELVES AND POLICE OFFICERS**



**SECRET SANTA VISITING COMMUNITY MEMBERS**



**SECRET SANTA WITH CHAIRMAN RAMBLER**

## SECRET SANTA'S *Sleigh Ride of Kindness*



On Monday morning, December 6, 2021, at 7:30 am, Secret Santa with his Elves showed up at the San Carlos Police Department to kick-off his "Sleigh Ride of Kindness" on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation.

The event began with a prayer by local medicine man Manuel Cooley. Secret Santa then gave an inspirational message to those in attendance. Chief of Police Alejandro Benally, Sr., with his officers gave instructions on the day's events. Secret Santa had requested that he work with our Police Department for his Sleigh Ride of Kindness. The Police Department selected the families that we would visit that day and provided escort throughout the day.

The Police Officers first escorted Secret Santa to Bylas to visit with the Fort Thomas High School seniors and the Mt. Turnbull Academy students at the Mt. Turnbull Academy at the Robert Olivar Sr. Learning Center. About 22 students showed up. Along the way, Secret Santa stopped to visit Vonda Cassadore, Paul Buck, Evan Rope, Jr., and Sandra Goseyun. Secret Santa provided an inspirational message to the high school students reminding them that they are Apaches and the future leaders of the Tribe. Secret Santa then visited with Emma Stanley, Duane Moses, Anthony Wright, Velma Wilson, Marina Bullis, and TANF employees.

After a busy morning, Secret Santa and his Elves had lunch at the Apache Burger in Peridot. At Apache Burger, Secret Santa bestowed upon Chairman Rambler, Vice Chairman Etpison, and Chief of Police Benally the titles of Elf and provided them a red beret. Elf stands for Ever Lasting Friend. The police officers then escorted Secret Santa to the San Carlos High School where he once again inspired the students with a positive message of retaining and respecting their identity as Apaches and to become future leaders of the Tribe. About 23 students showed up.

Secret Santa then stopped at Bashas to visit with customers inside the store. Secret Santa also stopped at Noline's Country Store, Seven Mile Market, and Mt. Turnbull Apache Market to visit with customers. He then visited with

Nalvena Cobb, Sharon Edwards, Rose Phillips, Julie Bahe, Anthony Bush, Viola Brewer, and Debra Davis. Secret Santa ended his Sleigh Ride of Kindness around 4:30 pm with a debriefing at the San Carlos Police Department.

The story of Secret Santa started in 1971 in the small town of Houston, Mississippi. It was from here that one simple random act of kindness of one person that was poor helping another person that was poorer and more in need ripple across the world. He has visited with people every Christmas since then at places such as Kansas City, Kansas; Ferguson, Missouri; Kansas City, Missouri; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Albany, New York; Beaumont, Texas; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Independence, Missouri; Glendale, Arizona; Los Angeles, California; Bonner Springs, Kansas; Albany, Georgia; Reading, Pennsylvania; and Charlotte, North Carolina.

Every Christmas, Secret Santa has been giving himself the best Christmas present he could ever receive – the joy of kindness freely given with no expectation in return. Secret Santa gave out \$30,000 in cash when visiting the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation. He uses only his own money. He has never claimed a tax deduction because he wants to remain anonymous. He has never accepted money from anyone else. He is a former law enforcement officer and retired businessman. He understands what police officers go through and has always made it a point to involve local law enforcement officers. He wants people to remember that police officers have families too, that they also have a heart, and that they have a job to do to help protect the community.

Secret Santa said, "Kindness has no boundaries. Kindness is the common language of all people and the bridge between all people regardless of race, ethnicity, or culture. The reason is that genuine kindness emits from the heart, and when freely given without any condition or expectation, is unconditional love, and that is the spiritual energy that binds all people.

The more you use your key of kindness, the greater your sense of well-being and the greater

your joy and happiness. Kindness can become addicting, but unlike drugs or alcohol that can harm you, kindness can only help you", concluded Secret Santa.

Chief of Police Benally stated, "During the debriefing, one of my officers reported that he selected an elderly woman who was at the register and was unfolding dollar bills to pay for her groceries. The officer paid for the groceries and gave the woman some Secret Santa funds. The officer pointed out what he saw took him back to when he was growing up. He remembered his mother doing the same thing, trying to unfold dollar bills to provide food for her family. The officer got emotional and once he was done at Bashas, he called his mother in California to check on her and tell her that he loves her. The operation Secret Santa touched so many lives and homes on our Reservation, including my staff. Each officer stated December 6, 2021 will forever be etched in their minds and hearts."

Chairman Rambler stated, "Wherever we went and whoever Secret Santa talked to he reminded them that they were great grandparents, parents, and students. He uplifted them. He told our people he was offering them the gift of joy and happiness every day for the rest of their lives. But he said, it takes a key, a magical key called kindness. He encouraged everyone to be kind to each other and help those in need. It is a day that I will always remember.

This was the first visit by Secret Santa to an American Indian Reservation. Back in November, I received a call from Secret Santa asking if he could visit our Reservation and wanted to meet with me. So, I met him and his elves in Phoenix and accepted his offer. We had another meeting in my office with Vice Chairman Etpison and Chief of Police Benally to plan the day's event. I thank Chief of Police Benally and his officers for planning a well-coordinated schedule for the day. I am so happy Secret Santa chose to visit our people.

Thank you, Secret Santa, for your acts of kindness to our people. May we in turn multiply your acts of kindness. God bless you."



ROUTE 6 PAVE TURNOUTS



NEW ASPHALT PAVEMENT



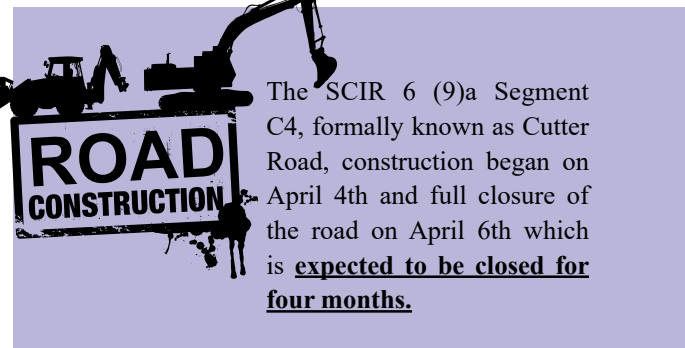
ROUTE 6 EARTHWORK



ROUTE 6 CONSTRUCTION ROAD CLOSURE



ROUTE 6 PIPE CULVERTS



## COUNCIL ADDRESSING LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT NEEDS

The Council has approved the most recent Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan (TTIP), which are priority road projects recommended to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for planning, design, and construction of road improvements on our Reservation. The TTIP are listed as follows:

1. **BIA Route 6** – Cutter Road reconstruction for widening and realignment for safety purposes in Gilson Wash.
2. **BIA Route 170** – Road improvement to lay and overlay asphalt and install guardrails from San Carlos Agency to Highway 70 in Peridot.
3. **Guardrail Install** – Tribal Safety and Maintenance project to install guardrails throughout the Reservation.
4. **BIA Route 107** – Two-mile construction of No.7 Bituminous Overlay 2" thick on Old Winkelman Road in Gilson Wash.
5. **BIA Route 105** – Engineering Design & Construction of two miles of new road on Rosco Boni Road in Bylas.
6. **BIA Route 3** – Reconstruction of Coolidge Dam Road from US Highway 70 to Old Calva Road.
7. **BIA Route 8** – Reconstruction of Geronimo Trail Point of Pines Road from US Highway 70 to Nan-Tac Rim.
8. **Transportation Planning** – Reservation wide Transportation Planning and Road Inventory activities.

The SCIR 6 (9)a Segment C4, formally known as Cutter Road, construction began on April 4th and full closure of the road on April 6th which is expected to be closed for four months. The project timeline is 14 months. The project is between Skill Center Road and Dripping Springs Road, a two-mile stretch located five miles west of San Carlos Tribal Administration. Construction activities include earthwork, rock excavation, new asphalt pavement, new box culverts, pipe culverts, paved turnouts, fencing and gates, pavement markings, signing, and seeding. The road will be raised to improve drainage and will be straightened out to eliminate curves and make a safer road for the public.

FOR FISCAL YEARS (FY) 2022/2023, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WILL IMPLEMENT VARIOUS TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING. THESE PROJECTS ARE:



### 1. LIGHTING PROJECT

7-MILE STREET LIGHTING PROJECT, BIA 10 & 300 – THE TRIBE OBTAINED A SAFETY GRANT FROM ADOT FOR STREETLIGHTS ALONG WHITE MOUNTAIN AVENUE AND AIRPORT 79 IN SEVEN MILE. DESIGN OF THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED IN FY 2022 AND CONSTRUCTION IN FY 2023.

### 2.

#### ROAD PAVEMENT OVERLAY

PERIDOT SIDING ROAD PAVEMENT OVERLAY, BIA 103 – THE TRIBE RECEIVED A SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT AND DESIGN IS SCHEDULED IN FY 2023 WITH CONSTRUCTION IN FY 2024.

### 3.

#### ROAD CHIP SEAL

SCIR SUBDIVISION ROADS CHIP SEAL – THE TRIBE WAS AWARDED MAINTENANCE FUNDS TO CHIP SEAL A MAJORITY OF SUBDIVISION ROADS FOR FY 2022 AND FY 2023.







San Carlos Apache Tribe  
PO BOX 0  
San Carlos, AZ 85550

**VERY IMPORTANT  
INFORMATION FROM  
THE CHAIRMAN**

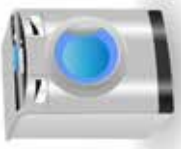
**Attention San Carlos Apache Tribal Members**  
**Help us Save Water by doing the following:**




Turn the Water Off when Washing Hands & Brushing your Teeth




Take shorter showers




Wash Clothes only when you have a full load of laundry to do




Do not fill pools when you know your area or other districts have no water





If you must water your plants and yard, do so when there are no water issues throughout the community and during hours when it is cool, only early morning or late in the evening when there are no water problems



Report water leaks on the main line to the Water Distribution Department at (928) 475-2307.  
Repair any water leaks in your home. Such as water that is constantly running, water leaks in your lines inside or outside your home, leaking toilets, etc.



**This request is due to the water shortages and low water pressure that is occurring in the Peridot, Gilson Wash and Seven Mile Wash District.**