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San Carlos Apache Tribe – Laying the groundwork for tomorrow's future.

SCATch UP

**to get caught up
SUMMER 2023**

Da'go'teeh

Today, the biggest issue we face is climate change and how it affects our homeland security. Humanity has increased the Earth's temperature. A hotter climate has led to an epic drought in Arizona – the worst in over a thousand years.

The Colorado River has shrunk. More water is going out than is coming in. Lake Mead and Lake Powell are at 25% of capacity, and can become “dead pools”, unable to send water downstream and unable to generate electricity, eliminating a low cost, renewable, power supply that will ripple across the economy, pushing prices for all goods higher.

Over the past 10 years ago, various solutions to the water crisis have failed. Some were mere fantasies, such as piping water from the Mississippi, or, more recently, constructing a billion-dollar de-salination plant that will amount to a drop in the bucket of demand.

Now, the federal government is paying Central Arizona Project contractors, including our Tribe, not to use their water rights. But this is only a temporary fix.

Without water, Arizona's future is threatened. Our Tribe's future is threatened. There is no time to delay.

There is only one solution. And it is simple: We must use less water. Arizona, Nevada and California have a proposal for the federal government, cutting 3 million acre-feet of water. But this is a temporary solution. But, there remain special interests that must be addressed.

Farmers alone use 55% of the Colorado River for livestock feed – a little more than what the Basin states seek to cut. Then, there are foreign farming interests, such as Saudi Arabia and Minnesota, that pump additional groundwater with wild abandon because it's free.

Another larger, foreign special interest, the Resolution Copper Mine, will not just destroy Oak Flat, a sacred site, but it will consume 775,000 acre-feet of ground water, enough water for 140,000 people over 40 years. This Mine will leave Superior, Queen Creek and the East Valley without water! When they run out of water, who will they look to? Our Tribe.

As a matter of Apache homeland security, we need to start planning for climate change. We need to protect our water supplies. We are now closer than ever to getting the water promised by the Secretary of Interior 40 years ago, having entered a P.L. 93-638 agreement to start an environmental impact statement, and lobbying for construction funds.

We also need energy independence. We need to take over the electricity infrastructure on our Reservation, including Graham Country Electric, San Carlos Irrigation Project, and Arizona Public Service. As electricity costs go up, we must start generating our own power – we must go solar. We also need to switch from gas guzzling cars to electric vehicles, which operate at a third of the cost.

All this being said, we also need to do our part – each of us. Our Ancestors taught us to do more with less, to leave a small footprint, to be more sustainable.

We need to consume less plastic. We need to recycle. We need to convert our gardens to desert-scapes. We need to use less water.

After all, since we are First Americans; we are the stewards of Mother Earth. And, we need to have our voices heard. Our Reservation lands, our Tribe, our future generations are all depending on us.

Ahi'yi'é,

Terry Rambler, Chairman
San Carlos Apache Tribe



**CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH MISS SAN CARLOS
APACHE SAMANTHA STAUFFER.**



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SIGNING PL 93-638 CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR \$1.5 MILLION DOLLARS TO START THE FEASIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING THE TRIBE'S CAP WATER DELIVERY SYSTEM TO BRING WET WATER FROM BLACK RIVER TO SAN CARLOS. THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN 2030.

TRIBE SIGNS HISTORIC AGREEMENT WITH BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO DELIVER CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT WATER TO RESERVATION

The Tribal Farm continues to make exciting progress in expanding irrigated acreage at four of its farms.

CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT CONTRACT

The Tribe signed a \$1.5 million contract in March 2023 with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to begin planning studies that are required before constructing the Tribe's Central Arizona Project (CAP) water delivery and distribution system. The contract was signed 43 years after the federal government promised to deliver CAP water to the Reservation. The studies, which are expected to take up to three years, will develop plans for facilities that will divert up to 12,700 acre-feet of water from the Black River and deliver it to Talkalai Lake through a six-mile-long diversion tunnel. From Talkalai Lake, the water will be distributed through a network of pipelines, pump stations, and canals to irrigate about 2,100 acres of crops in Tufa Stone, Seven Mile and, possibly, Cutter. The federal share of this project is estimated at more than \$400 million.



"Nearly a century after the federal government destroyed our agriculture economy with construction of the Coolidge Dam followed by more than four decades of delay in signing this contract that will finally return a portion of the water stolen from the Tribe, we are humbled and thankful for this momentous event,"

Chairman Rambler said.



LANDS TO BE IRRIGATED BY CAP WATER IN TUFA STONE.



LANDS TO BE IRRIGATED BY CAP WATER IN SEVEN-MILE.



PICTURED ARE THE CLEARED FARMLANDS IN THE CALVA AREA

GILA RIVER FARM EXPANSION PROJECT

The Gila River Farm is clearing vegetation from about 700 acres in Black Point, Navajo Point, Anderson Flats, and Calva to increase acreage irrigated from the Gila River to 1,000 acres. The farm already irrigates approximately 300 acres for hay and grass, which is sold for stock feed. Tribal members are welcome to collect wood from the vegetation piles for their personal use as firewood. The Tribe holds federal water rights to 6,000 acre-feet of water a year from the Gila River to irrigate 1,000 acres of farmland.



CLEARED FIELD AND PILED VEGETATION AT BLACK POINT.

GOODWIN WASH FARM EXPANSION PROJECT

The groundwater aquifer beneath lands along Goodwin Wash is being developed as a water supply for the Goodwin Wash Farm. Wells have been drilled and will soon be equipped with pumps to draw groundwater from the aquifer for irrigation supply. The Tribal Farm has recently cleared vegetation from about 450 acres along Goodwin Wash. Construction will soon begin on leveling the fields along with the installation of two large center-pivot sprinklers to irrigate alfalfa for stock feed. Congress passed the San Carlos Apache Water Rights Settlement Act in 1992 which granted the Tribe rights to all the groundwater beneath the Reservation.



DRILL RIG CREW DRILLING A NEW IRRIGATION WELL AT GOODWIN WASH.



CLEARED FIELD AND PILED VEGETATION AND A NEW WELL AT GOODWIN WASH.

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HEMP IN THE GREENHOUSE, ADAPTING TO THE LOCAL CLIMATE.



TRANSPLANTING OF THE HEMP.

SIX-MILE FARM

The Tribe has recently made repairs and other upgrades to its 250-acre Six-Mile Farm located near the San Carlos River about two miles south of Peridot. The Six-Mile Farm cultivates alfalfa on two 100-acre fields irrigated by large center-pivot sprinklers. The Six-Mile Farm is cultivating hemp on a 50-acre field for the fourth year in a row. The hemp seeds are sold for use in various food and health products.

PERIDOT FARMS

The groundwater aquifer beneath lands along the San Carlos River has been developed as a water supply for Peridot Farms. Wells have been drilled and equipped with pumps to draw groundwater from the aquifer for irrigation supply. The Peridot Farms cultivates alfalfa and grasses on about 135 acres along the San Carlos River. The farm sells the harvested alfalfa and grasses to the Tribal Herd and other customers for stock feed.



HAY IS GROWN ON FIELDS AT CHINATOWN NEAR PERIDOT.



HAY IS GROWN ON FIELDS NEAR PERIDOT.



SAN CARLOS FARM EMPLOYEES POSE IN FRONT OF FARM EQUIPMENT ON APRIL 27, 2023, PICTURED ARE: AJ BEN, SANDRA BURDETTE, RENANDA BELKNAP, DANIEL BILLY, CASEY ETHELBAH JR., DARRELL PATTEN JR., GREGORY PATTEN, JAMIE COOK JR., KEANAN SISTO, RUEBEN PEREZ, JASON CUTTER, GLENN TSOSIE, BRITTANY BURKE.



FUTURE FARMERS



The San Carlos Apache Tribe will soon become a major energy stakeholder within Arizona and the Southwest. The Tribe has begun its work to develop key projects to protect the Tribe's sovereignty for generations to come. Using the 2013 Energy Feasibility Study submitted to the Department of Energy, the Tribe defined a mission that stated *"the Apache People will live a balanced life in harmony with spirituality, culture, language, and family unity in an ever-changing world."*

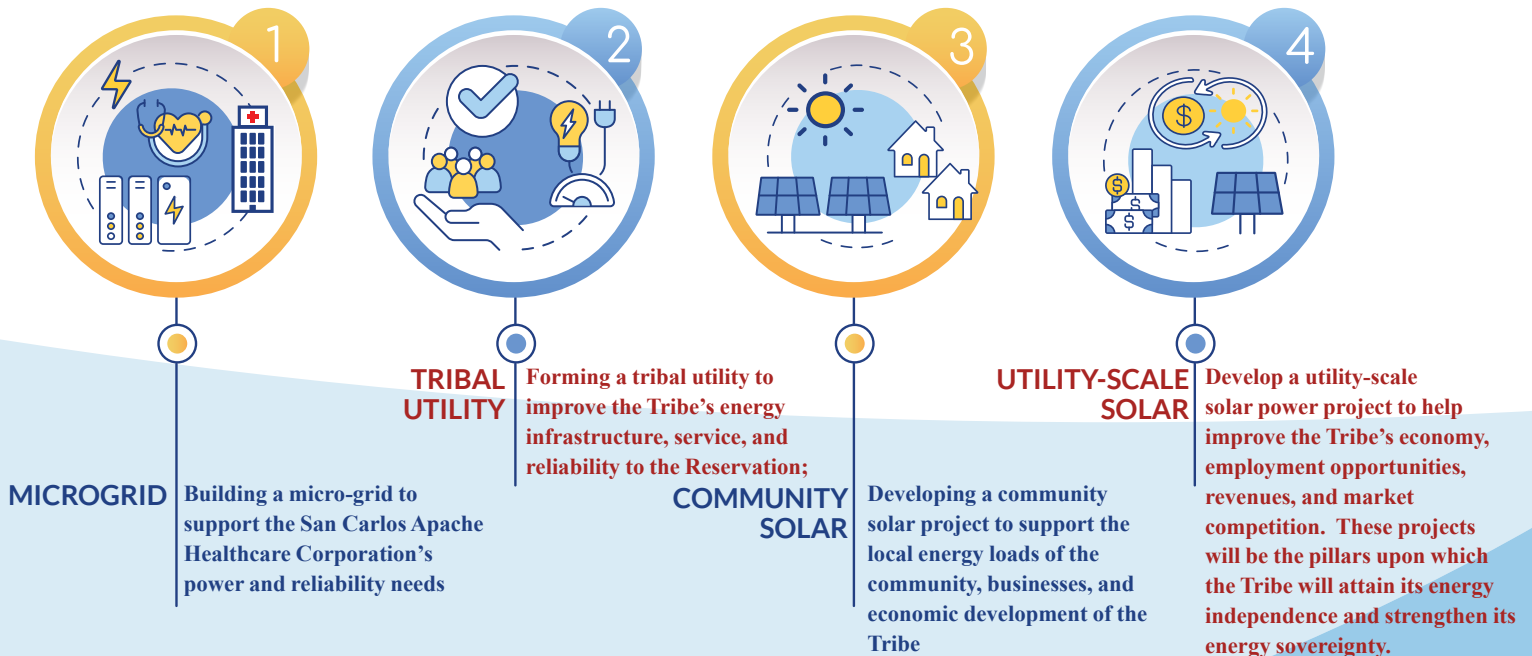
GENERAL MANAGER CHRISTABELLE MULL AT ROUND TABLE WITH US DOE SECRETARY JENNIFER GRANHOLM DISCUSSING THE FUTURE RENEWABLE ENERGY NEEDS OF ARIZONA.

TRIBE PLANNING ITS ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

The San Carlos Apache Tribe will soon become a major energy stakeholder within Arizona and the Southwest. The Tribe has begun its work to develop key projects to protect the Tribe's sovereignty for generations to come. Using the 2013 Energy Feasibility Study submitted to the Department of Energy, the Tribe defined a mission that stated *"the Apache People will live a balanced life in harmony with spirituality, culture, language, and family unity in an ever-changing world."*

Accordingly, under the leadership of Chairman Rambler, the Tribe has formed the San Carlos Apache Tribe's Energy Team to support the Tribe's energy sovereignty, resiliency, security, and economic independence. Recently, under Tribal Resolutions JA-23-002 and JA-23-016, the Council recommended solar power development to establish energy independence to provide additional revenues and jobs for the Tribe.

The Tribe will initiate its energy development with four proposed strategic projects:



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER CHARGING HIS TRIBAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE AT A CHARGING STATION IN MESA. CHAIRMAN RAMBLER IS ENCOURAGING TRIBAL DEPARTMENTS TO START PURCHASING ELECTRIC VEHICLES TO HELP ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE. THE GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE IS APPLYING FOR A GRANT TO INSTALL ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS ON THE RESERVATION.

To help realize this vision, Chairman Rambler and the Tribe's current energy team, Councilman John Antonio, Attorney General Alex Ritchie, General Manager Christabelle Mull, and Energy Consultant, Chris Deschene have begun to work on the four proposed projects described above. All members are experienced professionals and leaders committed to the Tribe's energy future.

The 2013 Feasibility Study's vision stated, *"the Apache People shall create a strategic framework for our tribe to grow and prosper."* Chairman Rambler is leading the Tribe's progression into this next century.



PUBLIC RALLY NEAR THE WHITE HOUSE TO SAVE OAK FLAT.

CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SENDS APPEAL TO PRESIDENT BIDEN TO PROTECT OAK FLAT

The Tribe seeks to block federal approval of Resolution Copper Mine

REQUEST TO PROTECT OAK FLAT

Chairman Rambler sent an April 5, 2023, letter to President Joe Biden in response to reports that the Biden Administration plans to approve the Resolution Copper Mine (Mine). Construction of the Mine will allow foreign mining entities to commit human rights violations against the Tribe by destroying Oak Flat, a sacred site that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property.

The Tribe has fought to protect Oak Flat from Resolution Copper Mining Limited Liability Company (Resolution Copper) for more than 20 years and remains staunchly opposed to the Mine. The Tribe is not alone in opposing the Mine. Nineteen of the 22 tribes in Arizona are on the record opposing it. The Inter-Tribal Association of Arizona, which represents 21 tribes in Arizona, has also passed numerous resolutions, sent many letters, and testified on multiple occasions over the years opposing the Mine. National tribal organizations, including the National Congress of American Indians, and countless other tribes across the country have also done the same in opposition to the Mine and in support of saving Oak Flat from obliteration.

In his letter to Biden, Chairman Rambler wrote that, “The destruction of Oak Flat

would deliver another devastating blow to our Tribe that has suffered unspeakable trauma after more than 170 years of genocide and cultural warfare.” He went on to say, “Destroying Oak Flat would violate our human rights and be met with global condemnation and outrage, leaving a dark stain on your legacy.”

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

The Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act (SEALEC) authorizes the U.S. Forest Service to give Oak Flat to Resolution Copper upon completion of environmental studies. SEALEC failed to pass Congress numerous times through normal order. But in December 2014, SEALEC was attached to a defense spending bill and passed Congress and was later signed into law by President Obama. SEALEC requires the Forest Service give Oak Flat to Resolution Copper within 60 days of publishing a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on the Mine. The Trump Administration published the FEIS five days before leaving office. The Biden Administration withdrew the FEIS on March 1, 2021, citing the need for additional consultation with affected tribes.

A U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) attorney representing the Forest Service stated on



MEETING WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL RAPPOREUR AND TRIBES FROM AUSTRALIA COORDINATING EFFORTS TO SAVE OAK FLAT.

March 21, 2023 that the Forest Service would soon finalize the FEIS even though the Forest Service and the Tribe have yet to engage in government-to-government consultations on Oak Flat as required under Executive Order No. 13175 and additional Administration directives.

The withdrawn FEIS violated SEALEC because it failed to include an analysis of the impacts of one of the largest mining waste dumps in the world that would threaten the Gila River watershed. The FEIS is deeply flawed, riddled with incomplete data, poorly assembled analyses, inaccurate models, false statements, and a clear bias in favor of



Chairman Rambler stated,
“My ancestors came from the Aravaipa, Superior and Oak Flat areas. My great grandmother was forced at gunpoint and herded like cattle to old San Carlos after miners discovered minerals in the area. The miners were supported by the U.S. Calvary to overpower my ancestors. These lands are our ancestral homelands. In our hearts and minds, these lands belong to us.”



PUBLIC RALLY NEAR THE WHITE HOUSE TO SAVE OAK FLAT.



TRIBAL LEADERS, INCLUDING VICE CHAIRMAN ETPISON AND CHAIRMAN RAMBLER, MEETING WITH THE WHITE HOUSE ON OAK FLAT.



MEETING WITH THE WHITE HOUSE ON OAK FLAT.

Resolution Copper. There was no meaningful consideration of the direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of the mine, especially with respect to hydrological, environmental impacts, and mining alternatives.

The Forest Service failed to engage in meaningful consultation with the Tribe, despite repeated promises to do so. The Tribe has requested the Forest Service to permanently withdraw the FEIS and to protect Oak Flat from destruction.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE MINE

Chairman Rambler laid out the case to oppose the mine based on indisputable facts. Of most importance, Oak Flat is sacred land, as verified by leading anthropologists. Oak Flat is where the Tribe holds sacred coming of age ceremonies for young women and where religious leaders seek inspiration from our Holy Spirits and Creator. It cannot be replaced and must not be destroyed.

Foreign interests also play a large role in this project. Resolution Copper is owned by the two largest foreign mining corporations in the world: BHP Group and Rio Tinto. China has a substantial investment in Rio Tinto operations and stands to reap windfall profits from copper beneath Oak Flat. Resolution Copper has also never formally promised it will process the copper in the United States rather than export it overseas. The facts show that Resolution's copper will be exported overseas, most likely to China.



TRIBAL LEADERS MEETING WITH THE WHITE HOUSE ON OAK FLAT.



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER AND VICE CHAIRMAN ETPISON AT UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK ADVOCATING TO SAVE OAK FLAT



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SPEAKING AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK TO SAVE OAK FLAT.



SCAC DELEGATION OF STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, BOARD VICE CHAIR DURENA THOMPSON

PROGRESS REPORT: SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE CONTINUES TO INNOVATE, EXCEL

From exciting new partnerships to national recognition, SCAC furthers its commitment to educational excellence

2023 AIHEC CONFERENCE

SCAC students made history by being the first to represent the college at the AIHEC Conference, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 4-7, 2023. This national event in Indigenous higher education brings together students, instructors, staff members, and board members from all 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) across the country to engage in a range of academic, cultural, and athletic competitions and to benefit from key presentations from Native leaders and artists.

Seven SCAC students—Markus (Billy) Altaha, Julianna Armstrong, Angellisa Hoffman, Page Mull, Theodore Panousopoulos, Artie Steele, and Vivianna Talgo—all gave performances at the conference. The students returned home with six awards. Markus (Billy) Altaha won Best Creative Nonfiction in the Tribal College Journal Writing Competition; Julianna Armstrong won Outstanding Performance in Informative Speech; the Critical Inquiry Team, comprised of Artie Steele, Angellisa Hoffman, Page Mull, and Theodore Panousopoulos, won third place in Critical Inquiry; Vivianna Talgo won fourth place in Informative Speech; Artie Steele won fifth place in Persuasive Speech; and Theodore Panousopoulos won fifth place in Oral Serious.



MARKUS (BILLY) ALTAHA, WINNER OF THE BEST CREATIVE NONFICTION AWARD.



SCAC INSTRUCTOR JIM YOSTRUM COACHING VIVIANNA TALGO FOR BUSINESS BOWL



SCAC'S CRITICAL INQUIRY TEAM – ANGELLISA HOFFMAN, ARTIE STEELE, PAGE MULL, AND THEODORE PANOUSPOULOS



KATHY KITCHHEYAN, INVOCATION LEADER, AND LUCY TAPAHONSO, NAVAJO NATION POET LAUREATE



SCAC President Dr. Martin M. Ahumada (left) and SCAC Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Vivie Hosteeney (right), receive the \$1 million check from Ms. Tanayia White (center), Freeport-McMoRan's Native American Affairs Manager.

SCAC'S AND THE LEAGUE FOR INNOVATION

SCAC's new purpose of "building a home together for lifelong learning" recently gained special interest from the League for Innovation, an international nonprofit organization that for over 50 years has been promoting innovation in the community college landscape. In 2023, the League invited the college to present its innovative approach to embracing a range of Apache cultural traditions to support student success.



"The partnership between SCAC and the League for Innovation is a benefit to the Tribe and the SCAC community," said Chairman Rambler. "The college's mission statement—Upholding the power of Apache wisdom and knowledge—has inspired a powerful vision for how the college could and should enhance its students' sense of belonging in a postsecondary environment. This is a well-earned recognition and I congratulate everyone involved."

SCAC's vision for building a traditional Apache home structure (called a gowa in Apache) centered on the cultural building components of the structure. Through different Apache-centric teachings, community events, and more, SCAC is motivating its students to take risks and look for special opportunities they may have never before considered or imagined being possible for them. SCAC's inclusion of Apache culture, traditions, and values

in their collegiate journey has enhanced its students' academic performance, their overall well-being, and their sense of family, security, place, and support. SCAC's new partnership with the League for Innovation and other entities will continue to be centered on promoting the success of students and community.

SCAC'S PERSONNEL AND FINANCE SYSTEMS

SCAC continues to implement its own personnel and finance systems, which it has been doing in three separate phases. Phase One involved working closely with the Tribe's Human Resources Department to process the college's employee benefits and to conduct pre-employment drug testing. Two college employees are currently being trained in testing. This phase also involved working with the Intuit Corporation's HR system, which already helped the college fill four positions since its separation from the Tribe's management control. Also in Phase One, the college created its own Personnel Policies and Procedures Handbook.

The next two phases will involve starting an Accounts Payable process in Quickbooks, including setting up all vendors within the system, as well as setting up an independent Payroll System. This will begin when the Tribe's Finance Department turns over all unrestricted funds to the college. Once this is done, the college will then begin doing its own payroll.

SCAC'S MILESTONES IN PURSUING INDEPENDENT ACCREDITATION

SCAC continues working in close partnership with the Tohono O'odham Community College, through which it is able to offer transferable courses under their accreditation umbrella. The college also continues making

progress on taking all the requisite steps to earn stand-alone accreditation on a timely basis. This year, SCAC added two new degree programs—an AA degree and an AAS degree in Computer Information Systems—and it will add additional computer training for community members seeking to earn Google IT certifications and other industry credentials. In May 2023, SCAC will open a joint College Library and a Community Library, which will advertise and host various kinds of computer programming workshops for community members ranging from basic computer literacy to more advanced technical applications.

SCAC RECEIVES SECOND \$1 MILLION GIFT FROM THE FREEPORT-MCMORAN FOUNDATION

On March 29, 2023, SCAC received its second \$1 million gift from the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation—with the commitment of \$1 million per year for the next three years—to help the college with its historic journey of becoming a distinctive, autonomous, and successful Tribal institution of higher learning. The Foundation's support is enabling the college to address its "institutional development" priorities: hiring new essential employees; acquiring critically needed additional facilities; enhancing its IT infrastructure and operational capacities; implementing new instructional, data collection, HR, and financial management systems; and meeting the multiple requirements for pursuing and achieving independent accreditation and long-term sustainability. The college is very grateful for the Foundation's generous support, which is helping to build a stronger, more resilient, and prosperous Apache Nation.

2023 class of

C O N G R A T S !



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH 2023 SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATE KELLY REEDE.



SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATES 2023.



2023 SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATES.



SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE PRESIDENT MARTIN AHUMADA SPEAKING AT 2023 GRADUATION CEREMONY.



READY TO BUILD A BANNER DISPLAYS THE PARK CONCEPT ALONG WITH THE UNIFIED EFFORTS TO CREATE THE SAN CARLOS APACHE SPORTS COMPLEX.



NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT SPORTS COMPLEX.

CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY TO EXPAND SAN CARLOS APACHE SPORTS COMPLEX

What started as a skate park project has turned into a multi-use sports complex for all community members

SAN CARLOS APACHE SPORTS COMPLEX

Members of the San Carlos Apache Sports Complex Committee are working to increase accessibility to amenities that promote a healthy lifestyle. The San Carlos Apache Sports Complex has grown from a single skate park to a multi-use sports facility that includes five basketball courts, the skate park, a t-ball field that can also be used for flag football and soccer, a volleyball court, and a playground.

The committee has also incorporated the San Carlos Apache Wellness Center through Kids Connection, an after-school program located at the Sports Complex. Kids Connection offers life-skill training, tutoring, arts & crafts, and recreation activities. The program aims to assist students in reaching their highest potential through socialization, team sports, and self-expression. The program offers services to students from grades K-12. Kids Connection was implemented in 2022 and will soon partner with the Boys & Girls Club to expand their services.

Construction of the Sports Complex is ongoing. Once completed, it will also feature picnic areas, a larger fitness center, a walking pathway, a bike pathway, solar lighting, security cameras, pavement at the front entrance, and permanent restrooms.

“It became clear during this process that the skate park was a great start but it would not be enough,” said Chairman Rambler. “The initial idea evolved over the years to a comprehensive Sports Complex, giving youth the opportunity to take part in holistic health through their unique interests. We changed the name of our Stake Park Committee to the San Carlos Apache Sports Complex Committee to reflect the growth.”

These additional amenities are expected to be completed by December 2023

The Sports Complex is open during construction and is available for public use between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm. The facility is also available for community and family events. Those interested in using the Sports Complex may contact Kids Connection at (928) 474-2140 to complete a usage form.

As a part of this positive initiative, the Office of the Chairman and the Sports Complex Committee has partnered with the San Carlos Recreation Department to

maintain the grounds. The Sports Complex has 24/7 security.



TANF PROGRAM CLIENTS CONSTRUCTING THE SPORTS COMPLEX PUBLIC BATHROOM.



ALL HANDS-ON DECK AS THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SAN CARLOS SPORTS COMPLEX IS ONGOING. TANF STAFF ARE HARD AT WORK.

Continued on page 12



LOCAL YOUTH ENJOYING A DAY AT THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SAN CARLOS SPORTS COMPLEX.



AN ARIEL VIEW OF THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SAN CARLOS SKATEPARK



CONCEPT LAYOUT OF THE SAN CARLOS SKATEPARK PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

SKATE PARK PROJECT COMMITTEE

The Skate Park Project Committee was created to respond to the need for community improvement projects. In 2019 the San Carlos Council appropriated funding for this purpose; each of the Districts and the Chairman and Vice Chairman were given \$1.5 million each to renovate homes for community members, clean up trash in the community, assist district enterprises, and make other efforts to make the community healthier. The Chairman's Office chose to use its funding to design and construct a skate park.

Chairman Terry Rambler held the first Skate Park Project Committee meeting in March 2019. The project initially focused on local skateboarders with the goal of inspiring the youth to get involved in the community. During this process, the committee

obtained more than 260 community surveys reaffirming the support for a skate park from members of all districts.

The project team worked closely with local youth on this project. Skaters from the San Carlos community traveled to different skate parks throughout Arizona with the Chairman and his staff. Skaters visited skate parks in Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Gila River Indian Community, and the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community.

After meetings between committee members, Departments, and local skaters, a final design of an 8,000 to 10,000-square-foot skate park was chosen. The Committee selected the BIA Building #86 location (the former police, jail, and court facility) as the site for the new skate park. The final design was designed to include obstacle courses such as ledges, ramps, and a bowl.

The Committee hired architects Terry Valles and Spohn Ranch, a skatepark design and construction firm, to help on this project. They worked closely with the Tribe's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program. Anthony Henry, TANF Construction Manager, directly oversaw the TANF customers as they helped build the skate park. The TANF customers are being taught valuable work skills to help them become self-sufficient. In November 2021, a groundbreaking ceremony was held.

The Skate Park Committee was renamed the San Carlos Apache Sports Complex Committee. The Sports Complex Committee celebrated the official grand opening of the new skate park and basketball courts on April 1, 2022. Community members and skaters from across the United States came to see the new facility.



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER WITH SKATERS AT THE SPORTS COMPLEX.



Chairman Rambler stated, “I am so happy to see the use of the Sports Complex by families. I see parents and grandparents with their children and grandchildren using the facilities. That was the intent – to provide a safe environment for our children to enjoy themselves and develop their skills both physical and academically. We plan to build a Sports Complex in all the districts.”

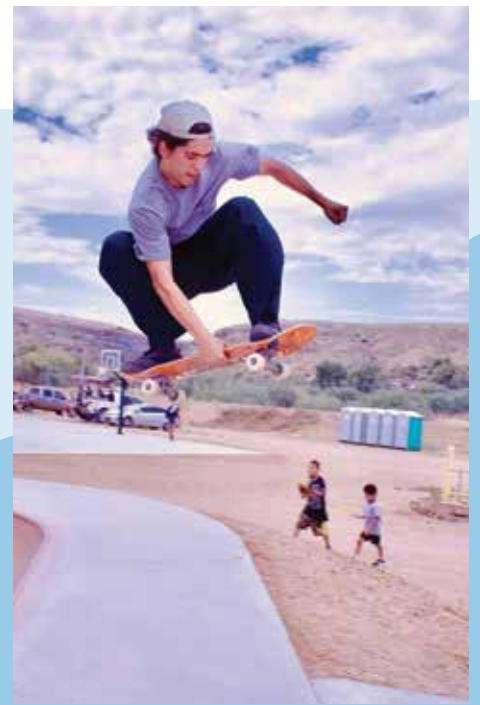
The skate park and other amenities at the Sports Complex continue to provide a safe and positive space for youth and their families in the community. The success of the Sports Complex highlights the importance of investing in our youth.



LOCAL YOUTH PERFORMING A BOARD SLIDE DURING COMMUNITY EVENT.



A LOCAL SAN CARLOS YOUTH PERFORMING A TRANSFER WHILE OTHERS WATCH.



PERFORMING A FRONT-SIDE GRAB AT THE NEW SKATEPARK.



AN ARIEL VIEW OF THE SAN CARLOS APACHE HEALTHCARE CORPORATION DISPLAYS THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE ANNEX SUPPLY CHAIN PROJECT

SAN CARLOS APACHE HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

The San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation (SCAHC) over the last year has embarked on three Capital Project initiatives, with the direct intention to meet their overall strategic plan and to continue to provide the foremost healthcare services available to the San Carlos Apache Tribe and community members. The SCAHC Project Management Team has been facilitating the current ongoing projects: The Annex Supply Chain/ IT Support Building, Covid-19 Long Term Care/ Skilled Nursing Facility/ Memory Care, and the Clarence Wesley Health Center. All three Capital Projects are vital components of the strategic plan of the San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation.



ANNEX SUPPLY CHAIN/ I.T. SUPPORT BUILDING



PROJECT TIMELINE:

Groundbreaking: March 17, 2023

Completion: Projected Completion April 2024



FUNDING AND COSTS:

Funds from the San Carlos Apache Tribe
and San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation
Projected Final Costs - \$20,884,873



DESIGN TEAM/ CONSTRUCTION COMPANY:

Cunningham Design Team
Mortenson Construction Company
GCON 3rd Party Project Management Team





CLARENCE WESLEY HEALTH CENTER



PROJECT TIMELINE:

Groundbreaking: Fall, 2023
Completion Projected: August 2024



FUNDING AND COSTS:

Funds from the San Carlos Apache Tribe
and San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation
Projected Final Costs - \$38,847,835



DESIGN TEAM/ CONSTRUCTION COMPANY:

Cunningham Design Team
Mortenson Construction Company



COVID-19 LONG TERM CARE/SKILLED NURSING FACILITY/ MEMORY CARE



PROJECT TIMELINE:

Groundbreaking: Summer 2023
Completion Projected: December 2025



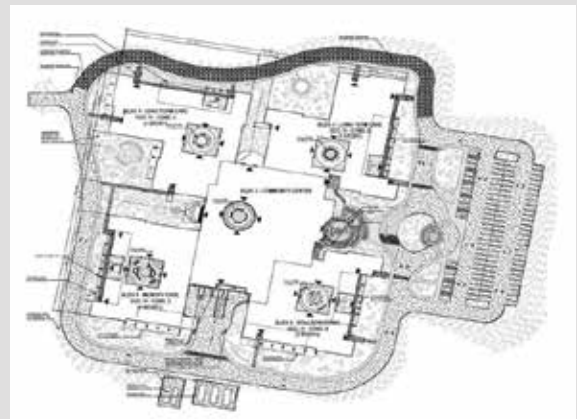
FUNDING AND COSTS:

Funds from the San Carlos Apache Tribe
and San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation
Projected Final Costs - \$125,201,626



DESIGN TEAM/ CONSTRUCTION COMPANY:

Cunningham Design Team
Receiving Letters of Interests



These initiatives will be a decisive bonus, as it will maximize the overall efficiency and performance of the medical providers and staff members of the San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation. In addition, these state-of-the-art facilities will give medical providers of the San Carlos Apache Healthcare Corporation the ability to continue to provide premiere medical healthcare to the people of the San Carlos Apache Tribe and community members.

The SCAHC Project Management Team will continue to work diligently in communicating the progress of these amazing and exciting projects. SCAHC understands the importance of these projects and will work to ensure the community is informed on their progress of their upcoming healthcare facilities.



“Melissa is a great asset for the Wellness Center and Native Connections,” said DHHS Executive Director David Reede. “She embodies what we strive for our youth to have, a positive role model who looks like them and can understand the complexities of growing up in our community. We are very thankful for the hard work she has put into the mentorship program and for having such a joyful impact on the youth of the community.”

DHHS EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR MELISSA COSEN

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS)

MELISSA COSEN RECOGNIZED AS DHHS EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR.

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Administration team was pleased to have honored Melissa Cosen as the DHHS Employee of the Year. Melissa works under the Wellness Center as a Native Connection girl’s mentorship coordinator, a position she transferred to in April 2022.

In this role, Melissa can enrich the lives of young ladies within our community. She started with 12 girls and quickly became a mentorship program with six groups of over 60 participants working with Melissa weekly.

Melissa teaches these young girls about the role of womanhood, peer support, life skills, community services, and core values with various activities.

Through activities like camp dressmaking, craft making, beading, bread making, food harvesting, and field trips, Melissa makes a positive, long-lasting impact on the girls in her program.

The girls began to make new friendships and gain the support, respect, and empowerment that carries back to school, friends/family, and the community.



MELISSA COSEN TEACHES A YOUNG GIRL HOW TO CONSTRUCT A CAMP DRESS

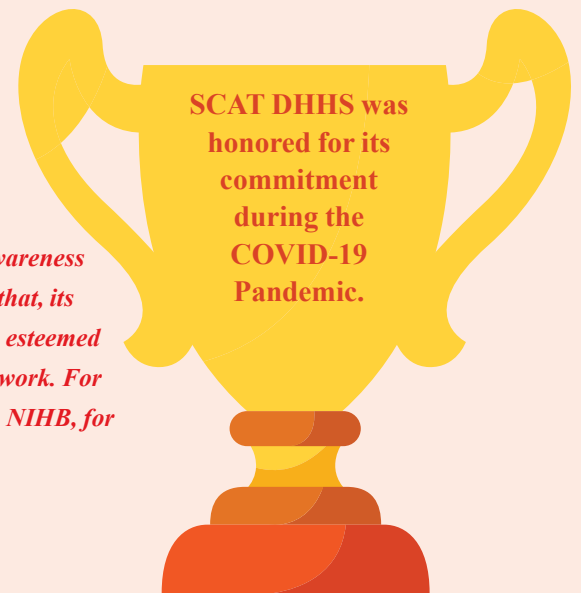
The girls in the mentorship program supported our local veterans by walking through the 2022 Veterans Parade. They won 2nd place in the respective category.

“Melissa is a great asset for the Wellness Center and Native Connections,” said DHHS Executive Director David Reede. “She

embodies what we strive for our youth to have, a positive role model who looks like them and can understand the complexities of growing up in our community. We are very thankful for the hard work she has put into the mentorship program and for having such a joyful impact on the youth of the community.”



“The San Carlos Apache Tribe is committed to increasing the overall health and awareness for its community and beyond,” said DHHS Executive Director David Reede. “In that, its Department of Health always strives to be innovative. Awards, especially from highly esteemed institutions like the NIHB, matter because they show appreciation and value for our work. For us, this award is a testament to all the SCAT DHHS programs’ dedication. Thank you, NIHB, for recognizing the San Carlos Apache Tribe’s DHHS efforts.”



SCAT DHHS AWARDED THE PHOENIX AREA LOCAL IMPACT AWARD

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) recognized the San Carlos Apache Tribe’s Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) with the Phoenix Area Local Impact Award. The Local Impact Award acknowledges an individual or organization whose work has affected change or impacted health care on the local and tribal levels.

SCAT DHHS was honored for its commitment during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Many of our programs like Public Health Nursing (PHN), Community Health Representatives (CHR), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT), ATLCS, Older Adult Center (OAC), WIC, the Wellness Center all worked through the pandemic to ensure that services to the community were not lost, especially at a critical time of uncertainty.

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THE CDC TEAM CHECKS A TICK TRAP

SCAT DHHS AND CDC PARTNER FOR RMSF PREVENTION

The San Carlos Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Animal Control Program worked directly with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for over two weeks throughout the San Carlos Apache Reservation communities.

The community work focused on a grant between DHHS and the CDC regarding Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF) prevention efforts. SCAT DHHS is in the second year of the grant.

During the first week, the CDC deployed two field teams into the four districts of the community. One team canvassed local neighborhoods and conducted a survey on ticks and RMSF education.

A second team worked directly with Animal Control Officers who placed tick traps around households in different neighborhoods. They returned a few hours later to see if any ticks were present.

If ticks were present, the CDC team collected them and tested the ticks to see if they carried the virus that causes RMSF. Further testing will reveal if the ticks in our community are

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PHOTO CREDIT AZGOVERNOR.GOV

becoming immune to pesticides. The team also inspected any animals present before and after setting up the tick traps.

RMSF is a severe tick-borne illness that can be deadly if not treated early. Household pets like dogs are prone to ticks and can bring ticks into your house and yard. With many stray dogs in the community, treating dogs with preventative measures like tick collars is essential.

“We are truly grateful for the funding received from CDC towards RMSF prevention,” said DHHS Executive Director David Reede. “It has made it possible to reach more people in our community and assisted in expanding our preventative measures. CDC is a trusted common household name, and we appreciate the vital role they play in collaborating with us in making our community safe.”

REHABILITATION FACILITIES

In the fall of 2021, during COVID-19, we noticed an influx of non-native rehabilitation companies on the reservations recruiting tribal members. This influx was witnessed here on the San Carlos Apache Reservation and with other Arizona reservations. At that time, the rate of Native members that

were reported missing also increased. Tribes began discussions to determine if there was a connection between tribal members’ disappearance and the rehabilitation facility’s recruitment. Some community members reported their family members being paid to reside in rehabilitation facilities in the Phoenix area.

On May 1, 2023, AHCCCS made changes to Fee-For-Services (FFS) rate for H0015-Alcohol and/or drug services, an intensive outpatient treatment program that operates at least 3 hours/day and at least three days/week, based on an individual treatment plan. There was no FFS set rate for billing these services, and reimbursement was at 58.66% until AHCCCS dropped the rate to \$157.86.

Governor Hobbs, alongside Attorney General Mayes, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier, AHCCCS Director Carmen Heredia, representatives from 13 tribal nations, and law enforcement, announced actions against over 100 Medicaid behavioral health residential and outpatient treatment service for providers believed to be engaging in fraud. Arizona states that these providers took advantage of vulnerable individuals,



“For years, these providers have allegedly defrauded the state of millions of dollars, while creating a large-scale humanitarian crisis that disproportionately affects Arizona’s tribal communities,”

Hobbs said.

“Many of these predatorial behavioral health facilities have and continue to take advantage of populations that are most at risk, only to enrich themselves,” said Martin Harvier, president of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

particularly in tribal communities, and profited from their pain and suffering rather than providing genuine care.

Governor Hobbs also expressed: “Prior to my administration, AHCCCS had taken a piecemeal approach to targeting these fraudulent providers. Under my administration, this will change. Thank you to our law enforcement officials and AHCCCS for taking action and to our MMIP Task Force for helping bring to light these fraudulent providers and the stories of those who have been affected by them. Together, we are going to bring about the systemic reforms we need to root out this problem and deliver true accountability.”

These changes came with challenges, including tribal members being released from the rehabilitation facilities due to reduced revenues. AHCCCS is assisting by having anyone released from and needing help to call 211 and select option 7. The San Carlos Apache Tribe is participating in state discussions to find solutions to fill this gap. With our own Sober Living, we are looking at how to increase our services locally. Our future goal is to develop our own rehabilitation center on the reservation.



SAN CARLOS COUNCIL MEETING WITH USDA ON OAK FLAT, SAWMILL, AND CO-MANAGEMENT GRANT.

TRIBE USING SAWMILL AS A MANAGEMENT TOOL

The tribe's 1.8 million forested acres are a working forest.

We receive ecosystem services in many ways, revenue from stumpage timber and firewood, hunting and camping permits, and cattle sales. We promote wildlife habitat and preserve habitat for the threatened and endangered species. Culturally, we harvest traditional food, medicinal plants and protect sacred sites. Water is our primary spiritual source of life. We manage with sustainability and resiliency of the land and our people.

In general, our goal is to manage ancestral Apache forested lands on and off the reservation to resemble as closely as possible their pre-preservation conditions for the health and benefit of the people.

Our Forest Management Plan, Integrated Resources Management Plan, Strategic Plan, and the Elder's Four Guiding Principles have stated these goals and direction.

Historically fire occurred naturally on the land, but society prevented these natural fires from occurring. These fires disrupted the biological processes of the forest ecosystems of America and our forest. The ecological



CHAIRMAN RAMBLER SPEAKING AT PUBLIC CEREMONY AWARDING THE TRIBE \$31 MILLION DOLLARS TO CO-MANAGE FORESTS TO HELP FIGHT WILDFIRES.

consequences are enormous, resulting in dense forests, outbreaks of insects and diseases, reduction of favorable habitat for wildlife, erosion, reduction of water, and increased landscape wildfires.

But reducing our tree density is a way of restoring the land.

Timber Harvest is a way of selecting the "bad" trees to cut by reducing the number of trees. In the southwest, these trees naturally grow in open areas. Still, if too many trees exist, they compete for resources (water, nutrients, and sunlight). Trees with the least

water, nutrients, or sunlight will suffer from reduced growth or die. This effect could result in more devastating large wildfires. The trees cut will be utilized at the sawmill. The sawmill will help the forest ecosystem and is considered a tool. Historically, the U.S. Army built the initial sawmill in Clover of the Hilltop Management Unit. They first utilized the wood on the reservation using enslaved Apache people to operate their sawmill; later, it went through several sawmill companies renting the facility, including our Tribe. Currently, it will be named San Carlos Apache Timber Products.

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SAWMILL OPERATION FROM 1970'S

THE HISTORY OF THE SAWMILL INDUSTRY

- 1890-1893**
Clover Sawmill
- 1899- 1909**
Hilltop Sawmill and firewood operation
- 1910 – 1925**
San Carlos Agency Sawmill in Hilltop
- 1953**
Southwest Sash & Door – Hilltop portable mill
- 1957**
Peterson Sawmill – Peridot. Bought by Nagel Lumber -1959-1962
- 1963**
Western Lumber and Molding – Cutter, AZ, Western Pines Sales in 1964-1979
- 1980 -1981**
Evergreen Lumber, Cutter
- 1989 – 2001**
San Carlos Apache Timber Products – Cutter
- 2002-2007**
SCATPC/Precision Pine & Timber
- 2008-2011**
SCATPC/Cooley Forest Product
- 2011**
San Carlos Apache Timber Products

Continued from page 19

SAWMILL

Phase 1, building the sawmill structure with the following segments, is nearly completed.

- Log infeed deck feeding a 72” cutoff saw to buck the logs to length.
- 27-inch Nicholson A5 debarker to debark the logs
- Cleereman Lumber Pro carriage and 54-inch McDonough band mill system, with scanning and optimization (entire system almost new)
- 54-inch Salem horizontal resaw
- Combination edger (6-inch maximum depth of cut)
- Trimmer line, capable of a 6-inch depth of cut
- Manual green chain with timber deck at the end for 6x6 and wider timbers
- New sawmill building equipped with a 5-ton crane
- Facilities for a crew break room, maintenance, and saw-filing in the sawmill building
- Separate office building for sawmill management and support staff
- Total funding by San Carlos Apache Tribe

Phase II will be starting soon. Consisting of the following structures:

- Planer Mill Purchased
- Boiler System
- Dry Kiln

The economy of manufactured lumber has changed tremendously, and the price of lumber has increased threefold. Climate change has altered the current economy by increasing the demand for lumber.

The Tribe will be selling different dimensions of lumber, sawdust, and chips and exploring the sales of biochar as another by-product of the mill, the sawmill will be utilizing every bit of cut tree logs to maximize the value and the tree's respect.

CO-MANAGEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

The Forest Resources Program continues to work with other Tribal programs and the US Forest Service to establish co-management of traditional Apache forested lands on neighboring National Forest lands and support for management projects on the reservation. We are utilizing new legislation President Biden's administration incorporated to seek funding and stewardship projects with adjacent USFS districts. In 2004, the Tribal Forest Protection Act (TFPA) came to pass. The TFPA aims to protect tribal trust lands at risk and restore lands administrated by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management regarding catastrophic fires, insects, and disease. The Act allows us to assist in managing surrounding lands to reduce wildfire risks.



SAWMILL PROJECT IN PROGRESS.



TRIBE MEETING WITH USFS ON THE NEED FOR SAWMILL TO BETTER MANAGE TRIBAL FOREST.



SAWMILL CONSTRUCTION

For the first time, the passage of the 2018 Farm Bill provided us authority and the Forest Service to execute “638” agreements to undertake TFPA work under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93-638). Forest Service 638 authority is an initiative of a demonstration effort. We are working to expand the use and availability of this and other authorities.

The Tribe and USFS were awarded \$32 million to co-steward lands on and off the reservation.

When conditions are similar to the stories Apache elders have told and traditional plants and animals reappear with healthy and vigorous populations, we will know that we are on the path to managing the land correctly.



PORTABLE SAWMILL CURRENTLY BEING USED



TOUR OF SAWMILL PROJECT.



SAWMILL PROJECT IN PROGRESS.

TURNING WATER RIGHTS INTO A MORE RELIABLE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY FOR THE BYLAS COMMUNITY

The Tribe is moving forward with plans to drill new wells due to water quality concerns and equipment failure



TRIBE'S BYLAS NORTH WELL HAS BEEN SHUT DOWN



WELL WORKERS CLEANING AND DISINFECTING THE NORTH WELL TO ADDRESS WATER QUALITY CONCERNS

WATER SERVICE ISSUES IN BYLAS

In recent years, Bylas has experienced water shortages and disruptions in water service. This has happened because some of the source water wells have been shut down due to water quality concerns expressed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This has left only a couple of wells for primary water supply and backup supply. The pipeline that delivers the water from the wells to Bylas has also become worn and deteriorated over time. As a result, it has become susceptible to frequent pipeline breaks. When wells are shut down and when pipelines break, disruptions to water service can happen. The Tribe is working toward fixing these problems and restoring a reliable water supply to the Bylas community.



GEOPHYSICIST PLANNING THE AQUIFER MAPPING SURVEY.



GEOPHYSICISTS PERFORMING THE AQUIFER MAPPING SURVEY.

THE BYLAS WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

In 1992, Congress passed the San Carlos Apache Water Rights Settlement Act. This Act of Congress acknowledged the Tribe's right to all groundwater beneath the Reservation lands. This project will use groundwater that will be pumped by new wells from the aquifers beneath lands along Goodwin Wash and Black Rock Wash.

The Tribe recently completed geophysical surveys in both washes. Geophysicists use high-tech electronic emitters and receptors to map the location, extent, and depth of this hidden, underground aquifer. The map will give the Tribe's hydrogeologist a good idea of where the aquifer lies, how deep it is, and where the most promising new wells are located.

Tribal hydrogeologists have located existing wells in Black Rock Wash. These wells were drilled many years ago for stock watering and irrigating nearby pastures for grazing. Hydrogeologists have tested these wells and found that some of these wells that draw from the aquifer can supply at least 300 gallons per minute. The water quality of these wells is very good, with low salinity levels.

Once the best locations have been pin-pointed in coming months, the Tribe will begin the project by drilling new wells in Goodwin Wash and Black Rock Wash. Tribal construction crews have already been building a new road leading to Goodwin Wash to enable large drill rigs to reach the well sites.

Alternative plans for locating the new pipelines to deliver the water to Bylas are being developed. When ready, these plans for the alternative locations will be presented to the Bylas and Tribal Council for their selection of the preferred alternative for construction, which is being planned for 2024.



CLEAN, CLEAR WATER PUMPED FROM BLACK ROCK WELL TESTING.



WELL WORKERS INSTALLING A TEMPORARY PUMP FOR WASH WELL DURING TESTING.

SAVE THE DATE



SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE

Veterans Fair & Rodeo

NOVEMBER 9-13, 2023

"Eyes Right! For Valor and Discipline"

All-Indian Rodeo
VALERIE KEY CHENEY 928 200 5803

Baseball/Coed Softball Tournament
CHRIS DUNCAN 928 961 0092

Car & Bike Show
CINDY NOLINE 480 489 1193

Carnival
WILLARD DOSELA 928 475 1600

Golf Tournament
CALI STANDS 928 961 2334

Skate Competition
WAEELYN PIKE 928 961 0041

Horse Shoe Tournament
TOM ANTONIO 928 475 5644

Vender Registration
DANIEL BONI 928 961 6391

Grand Marshall
BERNARD RANDALL, SR.
UNITED STATES MARINE CORP VIETNAM
WAR COMBAT ACTION VETERAN

Miss San Carlos Youth Pageant
JONELL ROBERTSON 928 200 8492

Music Festival
SANTANA DUANE 928 961 1849

Run to the Res
DR. JOHN BUSH 928 961 6002

Run & Walk
BERLINDA GILBERT 928 812 3891

Veterans Banquet
ANTHONY BUSH JR. 928 228 9362

Veterans Parade
WILFRED STEELE 928 961 0515

Veterans Powwow
DALE GILBERT 928 215 1639

Rodeo Queen Pageant
LANEA BURDETTE 928 228 1595

SAVE THE DATE

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!!



TRIBAL MEMBERS OF THE GILSON WASH DISTRICT ATTEND ONE OF THE FOUR MEETINGS HOSTED BY THE TRIBAL ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT

SAN CARLOS COUNCIL CONSIDERS AMENDING ENROLLMENT CODE

At its Special Session of March 23, 2023, by Motion Nos. 093- and 094-2023, the San Carlos Council approved certain amendments to the Tribe's Enrollment Code, and the Council sought public comment on a proposed change to the qualifications for enrollment under Section 200 – namely, whether to enroll all children descending from a member of the Tribe.

Under the current system, only those children born to resident members of the Tribe, and all children of one-fourth or more San Carlos Apache blood born to non-resident members, may enroll into the Tribe. Thus, one-quarter blood quantum has been the deciding factor for enrollment eligibility.



Upon request by the council, in September 2022, the Enrollment Committee (Louis Sprengeler Wesley, Marthalene Polk, Josette May, William Belvado, Josephine Williams, Bonnie Rustin, and Elliott Talgo) reviewed 5 enrollment options to consider. These were in addition to the base roll established in 1954 and included:

1. Lowering the blood degree requirement to 1/8;
2. Keep the current $\frac{1}{4}$ or more San Carlos Apache blood degree;
3. No blood degree requirement – descendency only;
4. Reset all members blood degree to $\frac{4}{4}$; or
5. $\frac{1}{4}$ total Indian blood degree.



A CROWD OF TRIBAL MEMBERS AT THE SEVEN MILE MEETING HOSTED BY THE ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT



BYLAS COMMUNITY MEMBERS ATTENDED A MEETING HOSTED BY THE OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT

Elana May, Acting Director of the Tribe's Enrollment Office, said, "The third option of descendency, as chosen by the Council, by motion Nos 093- and 094-2023 will increase the Tribe's population. Out of the 5,157 applications, some 307 or 6 percent, were denied due to insufficient San Carlos Apache blood quantum."

Chairman Terry Rambler said, "An increase in population will lead to increased revenues from P.L. 93-638 program funding, and additional gaming device rights. Correlatively, some costs will increase, such as education, social services, and public safety, but these would largely be offset by increased revenues."

Chairman Terry Rambler continued, "Descendency changes the nature of membership. Historically, "Indian blood" affects identity, relationships and whether or not members – or our children – may become a citizen of the Tribe."

"Blood quantum was a system that the federal government placed onto tribes in an effort to limit citizenship," Chairman Rambler continued. "In doing so, the federal government hoped that over time, less and less qualify, the population ultimately decreases, and the federal government rids itself of its legal duties to uphold treaty obligations and trust responsibilities."

Elana May said, "The hallmark of enrollment has been the "Certified Degree of Indian Blood" issued by the U.S. Department of Interior. Every member's quantum gets documented by both the tribe and Interior."

"The quantum really is a mathematical equation," Elena May continued. "The quantum is a fraction of blood degree that derives back to the original enrollees of a tribe who were counted on Census rolls, known as the Base Roll. Original enrollees have a "full blood" quantum of 4/4."

Chairman Terry Rambler said, "With descendency, the nature of tribal affiliation changes to ancestral relations. It becomes a means for survival. With descendency, a tribes' numbers and capacity increase in order to survive and perpetuate the tribe. Ultimately, the choice of how to define membership in the Tribe is based on sovereignty – the choice of blood quantum or descendency is the Tribe's sovereign right to determine."

Under the Article III, Section 1(c) of the Tribe's Constitution, the Council has "the power to pass ordinances, subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative, governing future membership, loss of membership, and the adoption of members" by the Tribe.



CHIEF OF POLICE ALEJANDRO BENALLY SR. - A DISTINGUISHED CAREER DEDICATED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Alejandro “Ali” Benally, Sr., will retire from the position of Chief of the San Carlos Apache Police Department (“SCAPD”) after 31 years of distinguished service, providing public safety.

Chief Benally started work as a Game Ranger at the Tribe’s Recreation & Wildlife (formerly Game & Fish) Department (“RWD”) in November 1992 and worked there until May 1995. While a Ranger, Chief Benally attended Tribal Conservation Code Enforcement training in Southern Ute, Colorado; Swift water rescue, watercraft operator training. He was assigned as the boating officer covering San Carlos Lake and Talkalai Lake during peak fishing seasons.

Soon after he became a Ranger, Chief Benally obtained State of Arizona certification in June 1993 from CARLOTA (Central AZ Regional Law Officers Training Academy) in Coolidge, Arizona, and then followed that with Bureau of Indian Affairs certification in February 1995.

On May 6, 1995, Chief Benally was hired by SCAPD as patrol officer under then Chief Arthur Jackson, Jr. Chief Benally became an Arizona Peace Officers Standards & Training Board (“AZPOST”) general instructor with a specialty in firearms instruction (handgun, shotgun & patrol rifle); Active Shooter Patrol Response Instructor; Qualified Assurance Specialist (Intoxilyzer); Radar Instructor; Talking Hands Instructor for Law Enforcement; Hostage Negotiator; Pepperball Instructor (Less than Lethal); and, Instructor in Law Enforcement response to Domestic Violence. He also became an Advisor and Instructor at the Eastern Arizona Basic Police Officers Academy.

In 1998, Chief Benally was promoted to Lead Officer and he was assigned a squad of officers, and to monitor a political uprising in 1998 with the Call-to-Action Movement of the American Indian Movement.

Then on October 30, 1999, Chief Benally was promoted to Patrol Sergeant; October 31, 2002, he was promoted to Detective; July 1, 2003 – September 2003, temporarily assigned acting Chief of Police to fill in for Chief of Police while on leave. Then, on April 19, 2004, he was promoted to Police Captain; after which in July 2004, he was placed as Active Chief of Police, and then he was appointed Chief of Police on January 8, 2009.

Chief Benally has seen it all – horrendous traffic accidents, drug dealers, addicts, killers, victims, grieving families, gang members, gruesome crime scenes. He has even been wounded in the line of duty. Yet, no matter the circumstance, Chief Benally has always maintained a deliberately calm, compassionate, steady professionalism.

Certainly, crime, violence and drug addiction on our Reservation has been overwhelming. SCAPD simply does not have enough resources – not enough boots on the ground, not enough equipment, not enough funds. Nevertheless, SCAPD has grown during his tenure and has

**Alejandro “Ali” Benally, Sr., will retire
from the position of Chief of the San Carlos
Apache Police Department (“SCAPD”) after
31 years of distinguished service,
providing public safety.**



*Thank you for your years of service and
dedication to our Tribe and our people.
Congratulations on a job well done. May you
always be safe today, tomorrow and forever.*

ALEJANDRO BENALLY SR. ACHIEVEMENTS

As Chief, Ali brought a new level of professionalism to SCAPD.

ARIZONA PUBLIC SAFETY PENSION & RETIREMENT SYSTEM,
Proposed and implemented participation in Arizona Public Safety Pension & Retirement System, which became official in 2006



SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY AND TRACKING

Instituted a statute for Sex Offender Registry and Tracking (SORT), utilizing start-up funds from the USDOJ SMART Office in Washington DC. This program is now funded under the PL-638 program and recurring.



CREATED A CENTRALIZED DISPATCH CENTER

Created a centralized dispatch center, merging SCAPD, Fire NS EMS dispatchers under one roof to expedite response times and sharing of information



CREATING THE MOTOR VEHICLE INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM

Instrumental in developing partnership with Indian Health Services and the Center of Disease Control & Prevention creating the Motor Vehicle Injury Prevention program, targeting impaired drivers in Tribal and rural roads. This was a grant funded from the CDC that spanned over 5 years. Efforts from this project revealed a great reduction in impaired drivers, nighttime vehicle collisions and increase in usage of seat belts. Received the 2010 IHS Director's Award in Washington DC. This program saved millions of dollars in post vehicle collision medical costs/expenses as direct result of the enforcement success on the Reservation.



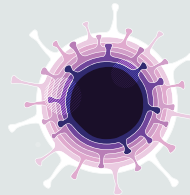
IMPROVED RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Improved records management system internally at the SCAPD by purchasing the Spillman technologies software that also created a computer aided dispatch system for its dispatcher center. This system is intended to merge sharing of information between the Police Department and the Tribe's Detention Center.



DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PROCEDURES FOR THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC

Assigned to develop and maintain procedures for the global pandemic that affected the SCAT reservation and its members. This included 24-hour checkpoints and regular patrol shifts while facing the covid virus.



HELPED CREATE THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE CONTROL ACT (SACA).



LED VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION INITIATIVE

Led the 24-month violent crime reduction initiative funded by President Barack Obama and the White House, also known as the High Priority Performance Goal (HPPG) initiative. Created patrol tactics that included a daily task order for SCPD officers. Resulted in 11% reduction in violent crime, 25% reduction in property crimes.



IMPROVED COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Improved communication technology by purchasing Motorola radio equipment, revamping the entire Dispatch Center for Law Enforcement, and installing new radios in all Police & Tribal Security vehicles, and distributing P25 handheld radios.



become a far more professional organization with a capacity that rivals many other law enforcement jurisdictions.

Chief Benally's mission has been that of community policing. As Chief, he has come to know nearly everyone living on the Reservation, even their relatives who live off the Reservation. He will talk to anyone, creating crime prevention partnerships and a system of informants that SCAPD could rely upon. Chief would even visit and talk to those who have committed crimes and done their time, offering wise counsel and alternatives to committing future crimes. However, Chief has also been a steely, determined,

methodical detective, making sure that if you do the crime, you will get caught and do the time.

Chief Benally is also a man of his community. Known as Ali (pronounced Ollee), he is a family man, a religious man, a doting father, a great baseball coach, someone to look up to, and one who is deeply respectful of his Apache culture and traditions.

Join with me in thanking Chief Benally for his long, dedicated and distinguished service.

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT

In our history, the federal government has dominated our way of life, from the challenges of retaining our Apache identity, to how we govern ourselves through our Tribe's Constitution, and how services are delivered to our people. This has hurt the progress of our people and this has deprived our people of the full opportunity to develop our leadership skills so we can better prepare our children's future.

Our people must never surrender our desire and rights to control our destiny, to live in harmony amongst ourselves and with our neighbors.

If we want to be sovereign and exercise our self-determination, we have to create an educational process that will develop the leadership and management skills of our children so that they may lead our people and manage the government and economy of our Tribe. And we have to do this with parental involvement and community control of our educational process.

And what are these key leadership and management skills we need from, those of you who we are honoring today, our future leaders?

- 1. We need more Educators.** We need more college staff, superintendents, principals and teachers. Our students are attending the Fort Thomas Unified School District, the San Carlos Unified School District, the Globe Unified School District, the Miami Unified School District and other schools. We have created our very own San Carlos Apache College. You don't have to go far to obtain your college degree. Some of you here will someday be playing for our College's men and women basketball teams. We need you to help educate our children.
- 2. We need more doctors, nurses and other medical professionals.** Our hospital and clinics have 800 employees. We will need an additional 200 employees with our soon to be new long-term care nursing facility. Someday soon, our Healthcare will be the number one employer on our Reservation. Healthcare is the number one employer in Arizona.
- 3. We need more attorneys.** Our world is becoming more sophisticated and we need you to obtain your juris doctorate degrees and become members of the local bar associations and help defend our Tribe and people. We need you to help protect our lands, waters, natural resources and our identity as Apaches.
- 4. We need more judges, prosecutors and police officers.** We need your help to fight the rise in criminal activities on our Reservation.
- 5. We need more business minded people.** Even though we are the number one employer in both Gila and Graham Counties, we lack small businesses on our Reservation. We need more entrepreneurs. We need more small businesses like Apache Burger, Noline's Country Store, Beaded Edge, Native Twist, Randall Enterprises, Mabel's Florist, Nosie's Gift Shop, and Boni's Tree Cutting Services. We need Apache owned restaurants. We need office supply stores, coffee & juice centers, a theater. You can help us create a small business environment owned by you and your families on our Reservation.



Our Tribe needs you. We need you to compete and excel in the careers you choose. We need you to help our people become a more self-determined people. We need you to help improve our social and economic well-being. Through your education, achieving your degree, you can help us to strengthen our sovereignty and self-determination.

I congratulate all of you. I am very proud of all of you. Please continue to reach for the stars. Please be thankful for your parents. Please continue praying and strengthen your faith. May our Creator God continue to watch over all of you.

class of 2023

CONGRATS!



CAMRYN LONGSTREET WHO GRADUATED FROM SAN CARLOS HIGH SCHOOL



ALLEENNA GILBERT WHO GRADUATED FROM FORT THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL



CHLOE WILEY WHO GRADUATED FROM SAN CARLOS HIGH SCHOOL



CHELSEA RUSSELL WHO GRADUATED FROM CACTUS HIGH SCHOOL



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALEXIS ISAAC FOR EARNING HER BACHELOR DEGREE FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



CONGRATULATIONS TO ANGELLISA HOFFMAN SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATE



CONGRATULATIONS TO JOSEPHINE NALIN KLINDT, VALEDICTORIAN OF MIAMI HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 2023. JOSEPHINE IS THE DAUGHTER OF KRIS & ANYCIA (CASE) KLINDT AND WILL ATTEND ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



CONGRATULATIONS TO DESIREE RAMBLER WHO GRADUATED FROM FORT LEWIS COLLEGE IN DURANGO, CO WITH A BACHELOR OF ARTS IN NATIVE AMERICAN & INDIGENOUS STUDIES



CONGRATULATIONS TO ANNA RANDALL 2023 GRADUATE OF MIAMI HIGH SCHOOL

2023 class of

CONGRATS!



CONGRATULATIONS TO KAELENE ANALLA WHO GRADUATED FROM GLOBE HIGH SCHOOL



CONGRATULATIONS TO LESLIE BURNETTE FOR EARNING A BACHELOR DEGREE FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



CONGRATULATIONS TO MELIA MOSLEY WHO GRADUATED FROM CHANDLER HIGH SCHOOL WHERE SHE PLAYED BASKETBALL AND FLAG FOOTBALL. SHE HAS RECEIVED A FULL RIDE TO ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY AS AN OBAMA SCHOLAR.



CONGRATULATIONS TO TYLER BELKNAP FOR CROSSING THE STAGE AND EARNING A BACHELOR DEGREE FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



DANIELLA JAMES DELIVERED A COMMENCEMENT SPEECH AT THE SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATION CEREMONY



JADE RAMBLER WAS PROMOTED FROM GILSON WASH HEAD START.



FORT THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES CELEBRATING AT STANLEY HALL AFTER GRADUATION CEREMONY



JAYSHAWN RAMBLER WHO GRADUATED FROM FORT THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL.



JASMINE MAYA HERNANDEZ GRADUATED FROM NAU WITH A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND MINOR IN NUTRITION



JOHN CLARK GRADUATED WITH A MASTERS DEGREE FROM ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY



JULIAN PECHULI WHO GRADUATED FROM SAN CARLOS HIGH SCHOOL



SAN CARLOS APACHE COLLEGE GRADUATES PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT MARISSA FARLEY, ANGELLISA HOFFMAN AND JULIANNA SANDOVAL



MICHAEL FERREIRA GRADUATED FROM GLOBE HIGH SCHOOL. CONGRATULATIONS!



MYA WAY FROM GILSON WASH DISTRICT GRADUATED FROM MESQUITE HIGH SCHOOL AND ACCEPTED AN OFFER TO PLAY COLLEGE BASKETBALL AT CHANDLER GILBERT COMMUNITY COLLEGE. SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF FRANCESCA STEVENS AND MICHAEL WAY.



KYLE WHITE WHO GRADUATED FROM NAU WITH HIS MASTERS DEGREE.



TYSON REEDE WAS PROMOTED FROM HIGH DESERT MIDDLE SCHOOL



MCKEENA ROGERS WHO GRADUATED FROM FORT THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL.





TAYLEN PECHULI WAS PROMOTED FROM HIGH DESERT MIDDLE SCHOOL.










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

**VERY IMPORTANT
INFORMATION FROM
THE CHAIRMAN**





Help us Save Water!

 <p>Repair any toilet leaks</p>	 <p>Repair any plumbing issues</p>	 <p>Take shorter showers</p>
 <p>Turn off the water while shaving</p>	 <p>Wash clothes only when you have a full load of laundry</p>	 <p>Turn water off while brushing your teeth</p>
 <p>Do not constantly refill swimming pools!</p>	 <p>Water grass and trees during cool hours</p>	

Report Water Main leaks to the Water Distribution Department at (928) 475-2307 or (928) 475-2308