



April 2007

GRTI Mission Statement

To provide quality state-of-the-art service with affordable and profitable pricing to ensure customer & employee satisfaction as we continue to meet the growing needs of the Gila River Indian Community

GRTI Office Address:
Box 5015
7065 W. Allison Rd
Chandler, AZ 85226

Main Number:
(520) 796-3333

Trouble Report Line:
(520) 796-5544 or
611 from your phone

www.gilanet.net

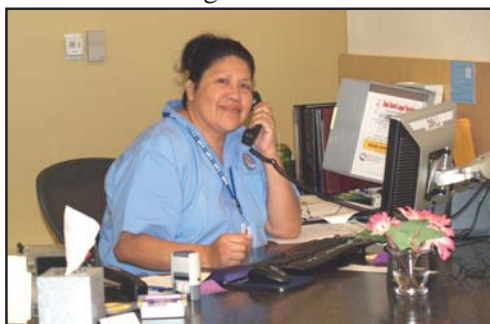
The Main Line

A monthly publication of GRTI

We Have Moved...Next Door



The day has arrived and GRTI has moved into their new building! Yeah! You can see the GRTI logo East and North sides



Pam Thomas, Customer Service Representative, at her new desk in the new GRTI building.

of the new building. It's constructed of brick in a neutral color with the added trim of yellow on the North side. The new GRTI building began construction last summer of 2006 and is located about 50 feet East of the old GRTI building. There is 15,000 square feet for the new building with a very nice front lobby for customers. The four Customer Service ladies each have their divided section for privacy of customers. When customers walk in the all glass front doors, they are greeted by a receptionist. Customers can pick any four of the Customer Service Reps to visit

about their telephone service.

If customers want to drop off their phone payments after hours, they will still need to use the old GRTI building drop off. It's to the left of the doors of the old GRTI building. Eventually a new after hours drop box will be installed. We will keep customers notified.

We appreciate our customers patience while we were under construction. The new building is beautiful and will provide more services for both residential and businesses. Watch for the open house in June during the Shareholders meeting. Set your calendars for June 21 and enjoy a tour of our new building.



Welcome!

Entrance to your new GRTI Headquarters!

GRTI Diabetes Awareness



Two ladies enjoy the day.



Kayla Williams pictured with her mother.



Carol Buckles checks her blood pressure.



Leatrice Celaya and Dale Enos, GRTI BOD



Carlos Moyah at the Gila River Casino booth.



Everyone got to visit each other.

The 2007 theme was "Love Your Feet" but the whole idea behind it was fitness and the importance of keeping your body moving. We all say that we are going to walk or exercise more but if you were there, you know that we were serious. Okay, slightly serious. We realize that everyone requires motivation so what better than a prize for the person who takes the most steps at the event. With that thought in mind we armed everyone with a pedometer and provided a walking course that could be used throughout the event. Even the breaks were used for the fun activity. Some were shy, others had their eye on the prize, a gas grill, just in time for summer. Leatrice Celaya from District 4 won the grill for taking over 5036 steps in the couple of hours she was there! What a great start to fitness, this is why your feet are so important so love them!

All of the activity led to a large number of hungry people, we planned ahead and provided a delicious, healthy meal for everyone. There was grilled chicken and grilled fish, it was cooked on the spot. What better than to have veggies and fruit to indulge in on a warm day.

The participation from the community was great with the help of Public Health Nursing, Diabetes Prevention Program, Health Resouce Center, Emergency Health Services and Public Health Education. GRTI thanks everyone for attending, department participation and GRTI employee involvement.

Board of Directors Corner

Written By: Anika J. Enos, GRTI Board of Director



The most important board activity of 2006 was lobbying for the potential Re-write of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. The second most importance activity was developing our talking points with regards to the following six points:

1. To get tribal sovereignty recognized.
2. To get the Act to define un-served areas as 15% less than the national rural area penetration or 5% below the national rural area penetration or the higher of the two.
3. To get funding and program opportunities for tribes to plan and support their own telecommunications systems.
4. To advocate for the protection and continuation of the Universal Service Fund by illuminating inefficiencies
5. We requested that tribal opportunity be equalized in order for tribes to own and operate wireless telecommunications within their reservation boundaries.
6. Topromoteuniversalaccesspectrum for public use in tribal communities.

We see radio spectrum as the key to future telecommunications and wish to preserve spectrum over tribal lands as "open spectrum." We want the new telecommunications Act to enforce requirements to "fair and affordable rate" and "parity of service." Because the cost return of deploying telecommunications in rural tribal communities is so small compared to the cost return for phone companies who deploy in the cities. We want to make sure that GRIC residences always have affordable services.

The above talking points were developed by the National Tribal Telecommunications Association and adopted by resolution on the floor by the National Congress of American Indians. The Board served as ambassadors to take these points to OPASTCO and NTCA through these organizations were presented to Congressional Representatives, Federal Communications Commission Commissioners, Chief of the FCC - Kevin Martin and the Wireline and Wireless Bureau Chiefs.

Iwo Jima Flag Raising Anniversary Celebration

GRTI attended the anniversary of the Iwo Jima Flag Raising celebration in Sacaton, Arizona. The event celebrated the flag raising that took place on February 23, 1945 on the island of Iwo Jima, Japan. The weather was great after it was reported it was supposed to rain. There were so many entries that the parade could have easily been mistaken for the Mul-Chu-Tha Parade! GRTI gave away miniature United States flags to the spectators as it moved down the parade. Veterans received the Warriors Medal of Honor at a ceremony held after the parade. GRTI was proud to have been part of the celebration and look forward to participating next year!



Warrior Medal of Honor Ceremony.

Check out GRTI at the Annual Five Tribes Peace Treaty Celebration in District 7 on Saturday, April 14th, 2007!

Miane's Thoughts on "Stay Connected"

Marketing Apprentice

Have ever you heard about "Stay Connected?" Neither did I, until I started my apprenticeship at Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. GRTI started offering the Stay Connected Program to their customers so that they could keep basic phone service while making payment arrangements on their phone bill. So who is it for? Stay Connected is for residential customers who think they may not be able to pay their phone bill in full and are at risk of getting their phone service disconnected. Stay Connected is there to help prevent residential customers from being disconnected. I also found out that this is a unique program no other telephone company offers. I suppose that is one of the benefits we get for having a community owned telephone company.

The requirements for Stay Connected are:

- You have current phone service
- You want to keep your phone service but cannot afford to pay your late phone bill.



Sign the "Stay Connected" form

- You make a payment arrangements to pay your outstanding bill
- You will have basic service ONLY, with all features removed
- You apply for Enhanced Lifeline

Note: You will have to pay minimum charges each month for basic phone service, which could be very minimal, usually under \$20.

Contact GRTI Customer Service at (520)-796-3333 to get set up with Stay Connected or for further information.

Switch to Gila River Long Distance...



and let the savings begin!

6.9¢ cents per minute!

Call 796-3333 today and switch for free!





Needing a Fresh Start?

We know its difficult sometimes to be living without a phone. We all need a phone for important calls to friends, family, or in case of an emergency. The Fresh Start program is for disconnected customers who would like a phone service but have an unpaid phone bill with GRTI. With Fresh Start you are able to call anywhere within the community.

If you have a unpaid bill with GRTI we want to help you!

- Come into the GRTI office and fill out a Fresh Start application, or go to our website and print one out.
- Make arrangements with Customer Service for monthly payments on your old phone bill.
- Each case will be given personal attention.

Fresh Start, it's that easy!

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