

O'odham Action News presents

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS FOR UPCOMING SRPMIC ELECTION



2020 GENERAL ELECTION Tuesday, September 1, 2020 Polls Open: 6:00am – 6:00pm

The terms of Council Members Wi-Bwa Grey, Archie Kashoya, and Deanna Scabby are expiring.

The General Election will be held to fill (2) District I (Salt River) Council Member seats and District II (Lehi) will have 1 Council Member seat to fill.

The Election Board has certified the following candidates to be on the District I (Salt River) ballot:
A. David Antone; Wi-bwa Grey, Archie Kashoya, and Jonathan Upshaw.

The Election Board has certified the following candidates to be on the District II (Lehi) ballot:
Whitney Che Grey, Jr. and Deanna Scabby.

You are able to vote in SRPMIC elections if you are: 1) an enrolled member of the Community, 2) 18 years or older on the day of the election, and 3) a resident of the relevant electoral district for at least one (1) year; or if you are a non-resident, declared a home district. Persons who are in jail or prison on the date of election, or have been declared to be mentally incompetent are not eligible to vote. A SRPMIC tribal ID card is required to vote.

POLLING SITES:

District I (Salt River) voters who live West of North Mesa Drive vote at the SALT RIVER COMMUNITY BUILDING.

District II (Lehi) voters who live East of Mesa Drive vote at the LEHI COMMUNITY BUILDING.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

To minimize the risk of contracting Covid-19, it is HIGHLY recommended that you vote via absentee ballot.

To request an absentee ballot please request by phone, email, or fax to Erica Harvier, Ardell Moore, or Dorine Andrews. Phone number (480) 362-7466, 362-7465 or 362-7400. *Email address: Erica.harvier@srpmic-nsn.gov

ABSENTEE REQUESTS (Provide Name, Tribal ID #, Mailing Address)	GENERAL ELECTION DEADLINES
Deadline for Resident <u>AND</u> Non-Resident Voters to request an absentee ballot. (If you live on OR off the Community and would like to mail in your ballot.)	Monday, August 17, 2020
Deadline for Residents who are Elderly, Disabled or in the Hospital. (If you cannot come to the polls and would like to home vote.)	Wednesday, August 26, 2020

PREFERRED VOTING PROCESS FOR PRIMARY ELECTION DAY (DUE TO COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS):

To minimize the risk of contracting Covid-19, it is HIGHLY recommended that you select Option 1 or 2 to cast your vote.

1. **MAIL IN:** Call in to request an absentee ballot. **MAIL IN** your absentee ballot.
2. **DROP OFF:** Call in to request an absentee ballot. **DROP OFF** your absentee ballot on Election Day.
3. **In person voting,** at the polls, utilizing Covid-19 social distancing and safety precautions.

QUESTIONS? Contact SRPMIC Administration at (480)362-7466 or 362-7465 or 362-7400.

A. DAVID ANTONE



Hello, my name is A. David Antone. My parents are the late Myles and Alfretta Antone. I am married and we have five grandchildren in our home. I practice a va-lial lifestyle owning horses and cattle.

My background includes completion of a Council term (2014-2018) and more than 20 years of prior tribal employment. During those years, I earned leadership roles in law enforcement, court advocacy and enterprise board chairmanships. I have a formal education in business management and administration of justice studies. Currently I am a private-practicing advocate licensed in Salt River and other local tribal communities.

During my Council term, I practiced

transparency in government. I've advocated for individual rights in employment and the right for tribal members to voice their opinions in private and open forums. I've aided Community members in their personal issues and complaints regarding government services.

In my opinion, first and foremost are the concerns and issues of tribal members. This government's function is to serve your needs. Next comes the creation of revenue streams to fund our government and to create jobs for us. These two points are critical, and I have the desire and experience to address those matters.

I can't stress enough the following: In our history, the ultimate goal was to have members lead this Community and serve as directors and managers in every government department. Realistically that hasn't happened, not now and not in the past. We're lacking the true nature

of self-governance in that we allow implementation of foreign or individual personal standards and practices in government. In my opinion, in the end these standards and practices benefit someone else. From an employee answering a phone call for services to providing that service in an expedient and respectful manner, there needs to be true accountability from our own government through the Tribal Council to you, the true leaders of the Community. I ask you for that responsibility!

We as the O'odham and Piipaash have the ability to govern ourselves and to make the best decisions, relying on our own wisdom, experience, education and history.

My past employment experience, education and personal knowledge of our Council function prepare me for this candidacy. I ask for your vote in the 2020 general election.

WI-BWA GREY



Skeg Tas!

My name is Wi-bwa Grey, and I would like to share with you a little about myself and the reason I would like to be re-elected to serve you as your Council representa-

tive.

I am the mother of two children who keep me running in all directions, and I also have a companion who supports me in all I do. I graduated from Westwood High School and attended Scottsdale Community College. I am presently a student with Grand Canyon University, where I have met some of the most intelligent fellow Community members who have shared with me their vision for this Community. Their example has left an impression on me, and I too am committed to overcome any obstacles and "GET THINGS DONE".

In January 2019, I was elected to represent District I and fill the empty Coun-

cil seat of now SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard. At my first Council meeting, I made a commitment to myself to learn as much as I can, and I have to admit I am still learning. In learning I also saw that some SRPMIC ordinances have surpassed their uses and need to be brought up to date. I have also taken the opportunity to listen to the wisdom and advice given by our former leaders. Through this political education, the most important thing I have learned is that CHANGE can't be DONE ALONE, that CHANGE can ONLY happen if we all do it TOGETHER.

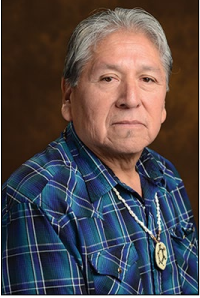
It is evident that we still have a lot to accomplish as a Community. We hear, we see your needs for more housing and the need for repairing what homes we do have. The need for a rehabilitation center for both children and adults and the need to get control of our drug problem and stop the deaths that occur from overdoses. The need for hiring our own people and the need for improving services for our elders. The need for accountability, and most important, the

need to preserve our culture and history. We have and see many needs, but we must remember CHANGE only happens if we ALL do it TOGETHER.

If I'm re-elected, I will ask that we all work together to make the changes that are necessary. I encourage you to voice your opinions and solutions and let your voice be heard through voting both locally and nationally.

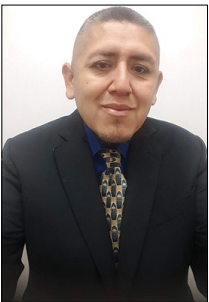
Re-elect WI-BWA GREY District I Council Representative.

ARCHIE KASHOYA



Candidate information unavailable at time of print.

JONATHAN UPSHAW, SR.



My name is Jonathan Upshaw Sr., and I am part Pima (SRPMIC) and San Carlos Apache. I am the son of the late Marcelline (Kyyitan) Upshaw and the late Rev. Lawrence Upshaw Sr. My maternal

grandparents are the late Beatrice Mae (Waters) Kyyitan and the late Marcus Kyyitan. My paternal grandparents are the late Irene (Harvey) Upshaw and the late Talbot Upshaw Sr. I am married to Denise (Gregg) Upshaw; we have eight children and one grandchild.

I am a graduate of Westwood High School and attended American Indian College of the Assemblies of God for a degree in theology. I have been a youth pastor in three different churches. I have also served as a sectional youth director with the Arizona Assemblies of God district in two different sections here in Arizona. I worked with our Community from 2005 to 2011 as a truancy officer. I have also worked with the White Mountain Apache Tribe Behavioral

Health Services as a BHT life coach. I am currently working with the SRPMIC Department of Transportation here in the Community.

I am running for Tribal Council because I feel that I could do a great job in helping my Community to continue to progress even further as a tribe. I am not here to make any promises, but to help my Community in any way possible. I know that we have had several great tribal leaders who have sat in this seat, and it would be a great honor to be able to follow and continue their great leadership.

I have worked in different Native communities, doing my best to help their people in every way possible, but I felt it was my time to come home and give back to my Community. Our Community gave me an education to help out our people. I've always heard from my grandma, "Go get your education and come back to your Community and help further your Community and people!" This is what I feel I could do for our Community/tribe.

I look forward to showing you what I can do for this great Community of

ours. If I get voted in for Council, I would consider it an honor and privilege and put my best foot forward for our people. If I don't, then I would consider it a great learning experience! I do hope and pray that you all will make a wise decision when you go in and vote. Remember that leadership is not about advancing yourself, leadership is about advancing the people! Thank you and may God bless you!

WHITNEY CHE GREY



Skek tosh ani un ne cegig Whitney Che Grey Jr., the son of Hermena and the late Whitney Grey bot. I was born and raised in our beautiful Community and have been residing in the Lehi District going on six

years now, with my wife Leah Andrews and five beautiful children.

I have chosen to run for Lehi District representative on the SRPMIC Tribal Council because being involved with our Community has been a passion of mine since serving on the Young River People's Council (2006-2009). I would serve our Community in the most up-right and respectful manner.

My priorities for running for Council are bridging the gap between our youth and elderly, finding alternative enterprises other than gaming to bring revenue,

and building an economic surplus to sustain our tribe in case of a local or global emergency, such as the ones we are facing today.

By bridging the gap between our youth and elders, we can preserve our culture and educate our people on language, life skills and family values. This bridge will ultimately preserve our sovereignty.

Finding alternative enterprises will help us economically and will allow us to put more funding towards education, senior services, cultural resources and social services, along with providing job opportunities for OUR people.

An economic surplus is vital for our Community in case of local and global emergency, such as the ones we are facing in today's world. By having this surplus, we would be able to provide for our whole Community, offering supplies and economic support for the families in need.

If chosen for Lehi District representative, I will make it my duty to be in the field checking on the day-to-day operations and lend a helping hand when needed. I will be a voice for our people and fight to preserve and protect a better future for our O'odham people.

DEANNA SCABBY



The year 2020 has been a year in which a worldwide pandemic has infiltrated the United States. Even our own Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community has been hit! Our Community is vul-

nerable to what the world has subjected us to.

During this time as your elected representative, I am committed to:

- Taking care of the membership during these times of turmoil by supporting relief funds to help our members.
- Making decisions to take care of the membership by providing medical resources for the people during this pandemic.
- Supporting the need for tribal government to bring issues to the members.
 - Protecting our Community from the further spread of this COVID-19 virus.

During my terms in office, almost 14 years, I have committed my time and energy to the Community, and this is a duty and responsibility I do

not take lightly. Over the years, major economic impacts have hit our Community, and I have been part of the major decision-making that has kept our Community strong. I have listened to and worked with the Elders in District II to continue the cultural Piipaash Matasheevm for the past six years. Our Elders do not want the younger generations to forget who they are; Elders want the youth to be proud of their heritage. I have assisted many members from districts I and II during their time of need and will continue to do so. I will work with the education of our children to provide the resources needed to keep our students safe, healthy and educated, academically and culturally. I strive to uphold the dignity and respect of the members, and I appreciate the vote of confidence in representing you. This is why I would like your continued support to represent District II and the Community.

I want to dedicate this special acknowledgement to my late husband, Robert "Bob" L. Scabby Jr., who was instrumental in supporting me and encouraging me to represent the people

of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. His support will continue through our 10 children and 15 grandchildren. To my parents, brothers and sisters who are my strength and constant support, thank you.

Tuesday, September 1, 2020, is General Election day. Your vote for me will allow me to continue to be vigilant, hardworking and dedicated in representing District II and the Community in a manner worthy of such an office.