**Governor Hobbs Addresses Preda**tory Treatment **Centers That Commit Fraud** 

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THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

www.oodhamnews.org

**JUNE 1, 2023** 

## **New Residential Treatment Facility Breaks Ground**

CHRISTOPHER LOMAHOUAHU O'odham Action News Christopher.Lomahquahu@srpmic-nsn.gov

A treatment facility with the mission to help people recover from addiction recently broke ground on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. On May 9, SRPMIC leaders, Health and Human Services (HHS) staff and Community members currently in addiction recovery turned over loose soil to usher in the Journey to Recovery treatment facility on a patch of ground just west of the River People Health Center.

According to information on the project, "The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Journey to Recovery project is designed to provide a welcoming 'home-like' environment where Community members can receive treatment with privacy and dignity.'

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier opened the event with a prayer and remarks. He recognized the Council members, community manager and assistant community managers present at the groundbreaking.

President Harvier started with an analogy to the Man in the Maze symbol and Elder Brother. "Like Elder Brother, who sits



SRPMIC leaders break ground on the new JTR project site, which will build a state-of-the-art 50,000 square foot facility to combat substance abuse addiction.

at the top [the man in the maze] and who goes through life and hits roadblocks, sometimes in people's lives those roadblocks could be substance abuse or things that are making life difficult," said Harvier.

He said the new JTR residential facility is meant to help Community members address those issues and not fall back on old harmful ways of dealing with prises 50,000 square feet and

life's challenges.

President Harvier said, "There are [difficulties] that we are going to have in life, but going forward is how we will deal with them, and that is something we want to have for our Community members ... [something] we will look forward to each day, when it comes to healing."

The treatment facility com-

will house nearly 40 residential beds, 10 detox beds and three crisis stabilization beds for adult men and women. The facility consists of three wings connected by covered walkways.

The construction will be a coordinated effort between the Community; general contractor Au' Authum Ki Inc.; DLR Group, which is providing the architectural design; and Kitchell

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## Talking Stick Resort Amphitheatre **Holds Ribbon Cutting**



SRPMIC and Talking Stick Resort representatives, and Live Nation representatives, cut the ribbon signifying the new partnership between Talking Stick Resort and Live Nation.

#### BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

chris.picciuolo@srpmic-nsn.gov

On May 12, the newly branded Talking Stick Resort Amphitheatre held an official ribbon-cutting ceremony to signify the name-intitle sponsorship and partnership between Talking Stick Resort and Live Nation.

The 20,000-seat outdoor venue in west Phoenix was originally named Desert Sky Pavilion from 1988 to 1996, and it was most recently known as the Ak-Chin Pavilion before Talking Stick Resort, an enterprise of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, secured the naming rights earlier this year.

Ramon Martinez, director of public relations for Casino Arizona and Talking Stick Resort, said that he's excited for the partnership because the two entities are so much alike as entertainment destinations.

"The fact that we can get our name out here, this is the most popular outdoor venue in Phoenix. So, whenever people come here and see our name, they're thinking entertainment, they're thinking music, and they relate to that, so I think it's a great partnership," Martinez said.

Mike Berndt, senior vice president of venue sales at Live Nation Entertainment, shared that excitement, adding that the partnership has been a long time coming.

"We were able to announce [the partnership] right after the

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## **Leaders Who Share Boundar**ies Come Together to Discuss **Projects**



SRPMIC and City of Tempe leadership take a group photo to signify the relationships between the local governments who border each other.

#### CHRISTOPHER LOMAHQUAHU O'odham Action News

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Leaders from the City of Tempe and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community met on May 8 to bolster relations between the two governments. SRPMIC and the City of Tempe hosted a councilto-council joint meeting at the Round House Café.

"It is really good to have everyone here this evening, and I want to welcome everyone here for this important meeting," said SRPMIC President

Martin Harvier. He said the last time time a meeting was held between the two governments was three years ago, before the COVID-19 pandemic.

SRPMIC Council Representative Michael Dallas opened the meeting with a blessing, offering thanks for the opportunity to come together and share updates for each government since 2019. He asked that from this meeting the relationship between both governments would strengthen as they continue to work together.

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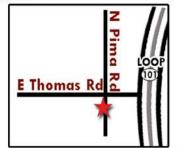
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> **Emergencies and Walk-Ins seen on the** same day!

June 1, 2023 O'odham Action News

## Governor Hobbs Addresses Predatory Treatment Centers That Commit **Fraud**



SRPMIC President Harvier speaks at a press conference held by Governor Hobbs to address predatory behavioral treatment facilities on May 16.

#### CHRISTOPHER LOMAHQUAHU

O'odham Action News Christopher.Lomahquahu@srpmic-nsn.gov

On May 16, Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs, Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes and tribal leaders gathered at the state capitol for a press conference addressing the fraudulent billing practices of certain behavioral health treatment centers across the Valley.

"Today we are announcing actions against over 100 providers of behavioral health, residential and outpatient treatment services that we have credible reason to believe have defrauded the state's Medicaid program of hundreds

ioral health service providers."

She thanked Arizona's tribal leaders for continuing to advocate for changes to "a system that allowed these alleged crimes to occur, harming vulnerable individuals and deceiving taxpayers." Mayes said, "For very nearly three years, special agents and investigators at the Arizona Attorney General's Office, the AHCCCS Office of Inspector General, and our law enforcement partners at the federal level have been investigating [these cases], indicting, pursuing financial remedies and attempting to disrupt these fraudulent bad actors.'



SRPMIC Council Representative Mikah Carlos was in attendance to support the state's efforts to combat fraudulent behavioral health treatment facilities from continuing to operate in Arizona.

of millions of dollars," said Hobbs in her opening address before the local media.

"It's alleged that these providers target the most vulnerable people, offering them the false promise that they will be given food, housing, and access to treatment at a group living home or rehab facility. People are then left in these facilities without proper access to healthcare and treatment services."

Hobbs said many who were recruited to enter these treatment facilities were from rural tribal communities, who were then exploited and cut off from their families and loved ones. "People with nowhere to go and nobody to turn to are isolated by these organizations. People had to escape out of windows and jump over fences in the middle of the night just to access a phone to reach the outside world," said Hobbs.

Following Hobbs' address, Mayes said, "Our new administration is taking aggressive action to stop fraudulent Medicaid billing practices by scam artists masquerading as legitimate behav-

The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, or AHCCCS, is Arizona's Medicaid program.

How do these "bad actors" under the guise of behavioral treatment facilities

Mayes said, "Generally they began with fraudulent treatment facilities recruiting Native Americans, typically those residing on a reservation or part of the urban homeless population. These vulnerable individuals are incentivized to participate in ... 'treatment' at an outpatient clinic with offers of things like free food, cash incentives or free rent."

Once they are recruited into a treatment facility, they are given a simple intake process through which the bad actors obtain personal information and their AHCCCS identification card. Mayes said, "If the potential patient was not yet eligible for benefits under the American Indian Health Plan, the fraudulent behavioral health facilities contacted AHCCCS [and then obtained] eligibility for the patient based on the unchallenged assertion that the patient

was eligible for the plan simply by being Native American."

Mayes added, "These scammers didn't even bill AHCCCS for people they were in contact with; they simply purchased lists of names and dates of birth of people and used those to bill AHCCCS. They also billed for services that were impossible to render. In one case, we discovered that AHCCCS had been billed for more than 13 hours a day for alcohol rehabilitation services to a 4-year-old. This poor child was not in one of the facilities and did not need alcohol rehabilitation."

Stories like these and countless others have been the backdrop for several instances where fraud and mistreatment have been present in these treatment facilities. Mayes said, "The human impact of this fraud is the most heartbreaking of all. While these scammers are using random ID's to bill for millions of dollars worth of services, thousands of Arizonans are in real need" of services that are being wasted.

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, who spoke at the press conference along with other tribal leaders and representatives, said, "This crisis is a direct result of the predatory practices of many behavioral health facilities that have targeted our tribal members who are most in need. I want to thank you personally for the hard work that you and your teams have done over the last couple of months to help tribes resolve this crisis."

He said Governor Hobbs' administration has been steadfast since taking office on January 2, which shows that her office is committed to not only recognizing the problem, but also directing state and federal agencies to act.

"Our community has established a team that includes members from our Department of Health and Human Services, our Community Development Department, our police department and our communication team who are all working to provide services to Community members that may be displaced [by these fraudulent treatment centers]," said Harvier.

He added that it takes a coordinated effort through communicating with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and local law enforcement to place crimes that may include missing and murdered Indigenous people on their watch list.

He also mentioned the Community's own residential treatment facilities as places where Community members can obtain treatment without traveling off of tribal lands.

Carmen Heredia, director of AHCCCS, said, "We are working together in cooperation with our esteemed attorney general, Kris Mayes, as well as multiple agencies and law enforcement represented here today. First and foremost, ... we have to make sure that AHCCCS members can receive the services they need and deserve. To that end, we have instituted a hotline at 211 that will provide guidance for affected members when they have questions about their Medicaid services."

A new website, www.211Arizona. org/MMIP, has been established to respond to any individual who feels they have been impacted by a fraudulent treatment center. Calling the 211 hotline can provide mobile crisis teams ready to deploy when members need hands-on, immediate behavioral health services, transportation or care coordination. and coordination of immediate housing, transportation and health services related to a provider's closure.

Heredia added that her office is working to equip law enforcement agencies with guidance and materials to help any individual they may come into contact with who's been targeted. In addition, AHCCCS has suspended payment to the 100-plus fraudulent treatment facilities and is developing a recommendation on how to further hold these parties accountable.

With a multifaceted approach, the state of Arizona, tribes and federal partners are addressing this issue to prevent more individuals from falling victim to predatory treatment centers.

> Also, we are urging you to utilize the 2.1.1 Hotline set up by the State of

> Arizona to assist with transportation

CALL 211, PRESS 7

ntial facility or sober living ho

and emergency housing needs

## **Predatory Facilities Funding Cut**

The state of Arizona is suspending payment to 100+ facilities in the Valley that may have been involved with predatory recruitment.

- Predatory Treatment Centers targeted Native Americans for rehabilitation.
- Cut funding may displace roughly 7,000 individuals.
- · These individuals may be seeking housing and
- They may be reporting that they were **the victim** of a crime.

Enrolled SRPMIC members that are displaced and in need of substance abuse services, the HHS Behavioral Health Division at SRPMIC can be contacted below to help determine next steps for continued care.

Dr. Nathan A. Velez, PhD, LPC, LASAC Journey To Recovery Administrator Phone: 602-815-0641

#### **Available Options for Care:**

- 1. Same day walk in services for enrollment and substance use detox needs.
- 2. Outpatient services: Intensive Outpatient (IOP), Partial Hospitalization (PHP), Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT-Suboxone, Naltrexone for Opioid/ Alcohol Use Disorders).









Taking Care of Each Other - Save a Life SRPMIC PUBLIC HEALTH TEAM

## Leaders Who Share Boundaries Come Together to Discuss Projects







At top left, Tempe Vice Mayor Adams talks about the opportunity for the city to be invited to the SRPMIC lands. Bottom left, SRPMIC Community Manager Meyers provides an overview of the Community government organization. At right, Tempe Mayor Woods describes the importance of having the two governments come to the table and discuss future projects.

Tempe Mayor Corey Woods and Vice Mayor Jennifer Adams were present to preside over the meeting, along with staff from the city's various departments. Representing the SRPMIC were President Harvier, Vice-President Ricardo Leonard and Council Representatives Dallas, Jacob Butler, Wi-bwa Grey, Deanna Scabby, Micah Carlos and David Antone. They were accompanied by Community Manager Bryan Meyers and Assistant Community Managers Blessing McAnlis, Carla Banuelos, Doran Dalton and Lena Jackson-

Meyers reviewed the organizational structure of the Community and how each assistant community manager oversees a series of departments under their direction. He stated how the Community is structured into an executive branch, a legislative branch and its own judicial branch with judges appointed by Coun-

The Tempe representatives provided an update on the Hayden Flour Mill redevelopment project at Rio Salado Parkway and Mill Avenue. The city plans to transform the historic mill and five acres of land into a mixed-use area that includes a new hotel, retail and restaurants, and a public park.

In another project for Tempe, the Tempe Historic Preservation Plan has been adopted by the city. The

plan includes provisions for increased review, evaluation and consultation of new developments in areas that are of historical and cultural sensitivity to surrounding tribal communities. The plan allows tribes to weigh in with concerns about indirect effects that may be created by various projects. This includes recommendations from the SRPMIC, the Gila River Indian Community and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe on environmental sensitivity and how to mitigate such instances where remains or archeological sites are discovered.

The meeting concluded with a few closing remarks from Community and Tempe representatives, followed by an exchange of gifts.

## Missing and Murdered Awareness Day Prayer and Walk





Scottsdale Community College hosted a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Walk and Prayer session in remembrance of individuals who have been the victim of a violent crime or are missing from their tribal community. At right, Miss Salt River Nani Reina took part in the MMIP remembrance walk to signify the Community's stance on the epidemic.

CHRISTOPHER LOMAHQUAHU O'odham Action News

Christopher.Lomahquahu@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Scottsdale Community College Indigenous Cultural Center organized and hosted a Missing and Murdered Awareness Day Prayer and Walk on May 5 to remember Indigenous individuals who have been victims of violent

Scottsdale Community College students, faculty and leadership were invited to take part in the morning's events. Since the campus is situated on SRPMIC lands, Miss Salt River Nani Reina, who is a student at SCC, recited SCC's land acknowledgement, which recognizes that the college sits on the ancestral lands of the O'odham and Piipaash and recognizes all those who carry on the traditions of the Community. She also stated that it is important for people to gather and pay their respects

to those who have been injured or killed to grow," said Leshinskie. or gone missing.

SCC President Dr. Eric Leshinskie said the college is honored to have a partnership with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. "We do all that we can to honor that relationship as stewards of the land," he said.

He added that it is important to gather on days such as this one revolving around the MMIP epidemic, "to remember, to show our respects and to show that action can be taken to stand up to these challenges." Leshinskie also said that with more awareness around such an important cause, the future will be more uplifting in knowing that people can stand behind MMIP awareness.

"We continue to want Scottsdale Community College to be a place where we can come together, no matter your beliefs or your faiths, your age or ethnicity ... we come together to learn and

Ana Cuddington, manager of the Indigenous Cultural Center at SCC, said there is a disparity among ethnicities when individuals go missing. She said that all too often individuals of color who go missing do not get the same level of attention as those from nonethnic backgrounds.

She said that it often takes families, tribal communities and grassroots efforts to bring awareness to the case of an Indigenous person who is missing. Cuddington added that it takes everyone's effort to help in the case of a missing Indigenous person to ensure they are not forgotten, and, as with the morning's event, to offer prayers for the missing individuals and their families.

Her remarks were followed by a few words by Michael Little Crow, an assistant professor at Arizona State University who is a member of the Turtle

Mountain Anishinaabe-Cree people. Little Crow shared a story that hit close to home regarding his cousin, who was murdered over a pair of cowboy boots.

Little Crow said it is senseless crimes like these that show the fragility of life. "Life is already short; why do we have to shorten it?" said Little Crow on how life-changing actions can result from incomprehensible decisions.

Before the walk, Little Crow provided an opportunity for attendees to receive a smudging, which is the burning of sage to purify oneself to welcome and bring goodness to one another. He followed his remarks by playing the flute and singing a prayer song, which Little Crow stated is an expression of the heart and of emotion.

The walk commenced along the "Artie Walk," a 1-mile loop around the SCC campus, and it concluded back at the Indigenous Cultural Center.

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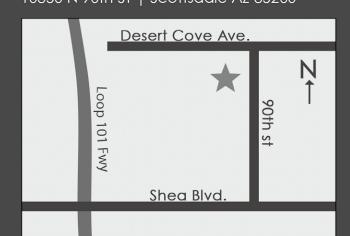
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# Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs Launches Voter Survey



Elders at the Senior Services senior breakfast fill out the voter survey being handed out by the Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs on May 3.

#### CHRISTOPHER LOMAHQUAHU

Christopher.Lomahquahu@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Office of Congressional & Legislative Affairs is launching a survey of Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members to learn about their voting patterns and what gets them to the polls on Election Day.

During the senior breakfast hosted by the SRPMIC Senior Services program on May 3 at the Talking Stick Resort, OCLA Intergovernmental Relations Project Manager Angela Willeford provided a brief presentation on the survey to the seniors.

"Last year was the Arizona election for governor and other positions ... we had a turnout of only 34%," said Willeford. She said there was an increase in promoting voter participation through a coordinated campaign for Community members, but there is room to improve. To help boost voter turnout, one way is to understand how and why SPRMIC members vote.

Last year's "Get out the Vote" campaign implemented a door-to-door voter registration drive, an online portal to access information via a QR scan, and a comprehensive voter guide disseminated to the Community through O'odham Action News. The previous voter campaign also took advantage of current trends in Indigenous communities by using the tagline "SkoVoteDen," which was meant to attract younger voters.

"What better way than to ask our Community members what can we do better to make sure that our [voter] turnout for the next year is higher?" asked Willeford, noting that Americans across the nation will be heading to the polls for the next presidential election in 2024.

## SRPMIC Council Members and Chief Prosecutor Appointed to Governor Hobbs' MMIP Task Force



Left to right: SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos, SRPMIC Council member Wi-Bwa Grey and SRPMIC Chief Prosecutor Alane Breland. Photos courtesy of Community Relations and Alane Breland.

#### BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

O'odham Action News chris.picciuolo@srpmic-nsn.gov

On May 5, Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs announced the members of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Task Force, which she created on March 7 by executive order.

Three representatives from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community are on the task force: Chief Prosecutor Alane Breland, Council member Mikah Carlos and Council member Wi-Bwa Grey.

"I am humbled by my appointment to Governor Hobbs' Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Task Force," said Breland. "In this new role, I commit to increase access to justice for Indigenous people in SRPMIC and Arizona as a whole."

State Senator Theresa Hatathlie (Diné) will serve as the chair of the task force.

The task force met for the first time on May 8, and it will prepare and submit to Hobbs a report of their activities with recommendations for administrative or legislative action on or before December 1 of each year from 2023 to 2026.

"I am proud to have such an incredible group of people coming together to find solutions to a crisis that has been escalating for the last few years," said Jason Chavez, director of Tribal Affairs for the Governor's Office. "We must do all we can to protect our community."

Other members of the task force are:

- Monica Antone, Lieutenant Governor of the Gila River Indian Community
- Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren, First Lady of the Navajo Nation
- Amber Crotty, Council Delegate, 25th
   Navajo Nation Council
   Nick Debus, Arizona Attorney Gen-
- eral's OfficePaul Etnire, Arizona Department of
- Public Safety
   April Ignacio, co-founding member of Indivisible Tohono
- Jerome Kasey III, Vice Chairman of the White Mountain Apache Tribe
- Kim Russell, Director of the Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health
- Care
   Myron Tsosie, Arizona State Repre-
- Alfred Urbina, Attorney General for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe

sentative



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#### **Emergency Management Highlight:**

## **Community Emergency Response Teams** (CERT) Recruitment

BY TERRY NELSON

SRPMIC Emergency Management Coordinator

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is seeking volunteers to join the Salt River Community Emergency Response Team (SR-CERT). The CERT is a nationally supported, locally implemented program that is designed to help citizens prepare themselves and their families for disasters or large-scale emergencies. The program will prepare its volunteer members to assist first responders during large-scale emergencies or when special assistance is needed for an incident or event.

The Salt River Fire Department continues to oversee the CERT program in partnership with SRPMIC Emergency Management. Membership is currently open to anyone age 18 or older. SR-CERT teaches volunteers about disaster preparedness, fire suppression, light medical operations, light search and rescue, disaster psychology and team organization.



Upcoming classes will be held in June and July. Look for class schedules and additional information on the SRP-MIC Facebook and Instagram pages. For more about the SR-CERT and how to get involved, contact SRPMIC Emergency Management at (480) 362-7929 or Emergency.Management@srpmicnsn.gov.

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## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) TRAINING 2023—CLASS 6

CERT Training provides individuals with the basic skills needed to offer immediate assistance to family members and neighbors during an emergency.

Classes will be held at Salt River Police/Fire Department Substation 292 Training Room located at 3230 N. Stapley Dr. Mesa, AZ 85203

#### CERT Basic Course 1: Saturday, June 17th, 2023; 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Safety
- · Disaster Medical Operations 1

#### CERT Basic Course 2: Saturday, June 24th, 2023; 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

- Disaster Medical Operations 2
- Light Search and Rescue Operations
- CERT Organization

#### CERT Basic Course 3: Saturday, July 8th, 2023; 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

- Disaster Psychology
- Terrorism and CERT
- Course Review and Disaster Simulation

To register for our upcoming CERT training, please call

Terry Nelson at 480-362-7929 or email Terry.Nelson@srpmic-nsn.gov



If you have a story idea, please call or email Senior Reporter Chris Lomahquahu at (480) 362-3159 or email christopher.lomahquahu @srpmic-nsn.gov

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## Casino Arizona 9

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10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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## Resolution Copper Files Motion to Intervene on Oak Flat

O'odham Action News chris.picciuolo@srpmic-nsn.gov

As O'odham Action News reported on April 20, the fate of Oak Flat, a site in Arizona's Tonto National Forest that is culturally significant to the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the O'odham and others, rests on the decision of a panel of 11 judges.

Now, foreign-owned mining corporation Resolution Copper, which wants to mine copper at the site, has told a federal court that it must be allowed to join the lawsuit on the side of the federal government, with a motion for limited lift of stay and to intervene.

Resolution Copper said it is entitled to intervene as of right under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure Rule 24(a)(2), which Resolution Copper said states its purpose "is to authorize, direct, facilitate, and expedite the exchange of land between Resolution Copper and the United States."

Apache Stronghold, the group that filed the lawsuit more than two years ago to stop the Forest Service from transferring Oak Flat to Resolution Copper, said in a response that the case has now proceeded extensively through a preliminary-injunction hearing with live witness testimony, repeated briefing on the merits (including 17 amicus briefs), substantive rulings on core legal issues, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals briefing and oral argument, a Ninth Circuit decision, and a Ninth Circuit en banc rehearing, and yet Resolution "never once sought to intervene or file an amicus brief."

In the response, Apache Stronghold also argues that Resolution Copper wait-



Wikiups built by Apache girls in preparation for their Sunrise Ceremonies at Oak Flat. Photo courtesy of Leslie Glass/Apache Stronghold

ed 27 months after this case was filed, has offered no explanation for its delay, and has not rebutted the presumption that the government adequately represents its interests.

"There's a reason Resolution Copper is trying to jump into this case now, after sitting on the sidelines for two years," said Luke Goodrich, vice president and senior counsel at Becket, the law firm that represents Apache Stronghold. "It knows Apache Stronghold has strong legal arguments that could carry the day with the Ninth Circuit or with nine Justices, and it wants to have its say before it's too late."

Becket feels that the sudden intervention signals that the mining company is concerned about what might happen in the case, as the Supreme Court may have the last word on the protection of Oak Flat.

The law group initially said that a decision by the Ninth Circuit is expected later this spring or in early summer, however, on May 18, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) sent a letter to the Ninth Circuit stating that the department has not yet identified a timeframe for completing its review.

"The Department is conducting a thorough review of the consultation record, and environmental and other associated documents, to ensure compliance with the applicable laws, regulations, and policies," the DOJ said in the letter.

## Peace Officer's Memorial Held at Two Waters Courtyard

BY KARI HAAHR
O'odham Action News
Kari.haahr@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Salt River Police
Department held a Peace
Officers Memorial on the
morning of Monday, May
15, to honor law enforcement
officers who lost their lives in
the line of duty. The SRPD's
fallen officers, tribal officers
and officers across the country were paid tribute during
the morning's ceremony. The
names of tribal peace officers
from numerous reservations
across Arizona who made the
ultimate sacrifice were read.

The Salt River Fire Department's Pipes and Drums played "Amazing Grace" for SRPD Officer Clayton Townsend (End of Watch 01/08/2019) and SRPD Officer Jair Cabrera (End of Watch 05/24/2014). A white rose was laid in front of each fallen officer's photograph.

May 15 was Peace Officers Memorial Day, and May 14-20 was Police Week nationwide





White roses were laid before the photographs of fallen officers Clayton Townsend and Jair Cabrera at the Peace Officer's Memorial Ceremony on May 15, 2023.



Above: Salt River Fire Department's Pipes and Drums stand ready after playing "Amazing Grace" at the Peace Officer's Memorial.

Above right: Vice-President Leonard closed the ceremony with traditional song.

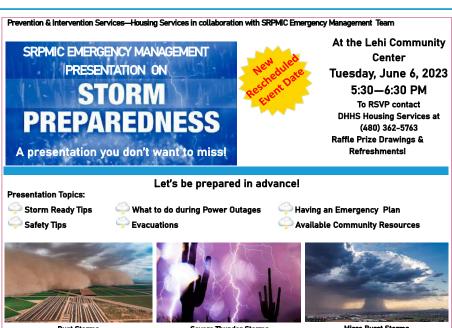
R: Chief Auerbach opened the Peace Officer's Memorial

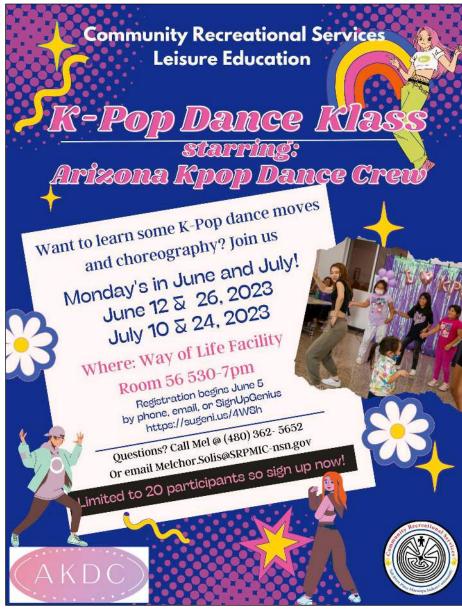






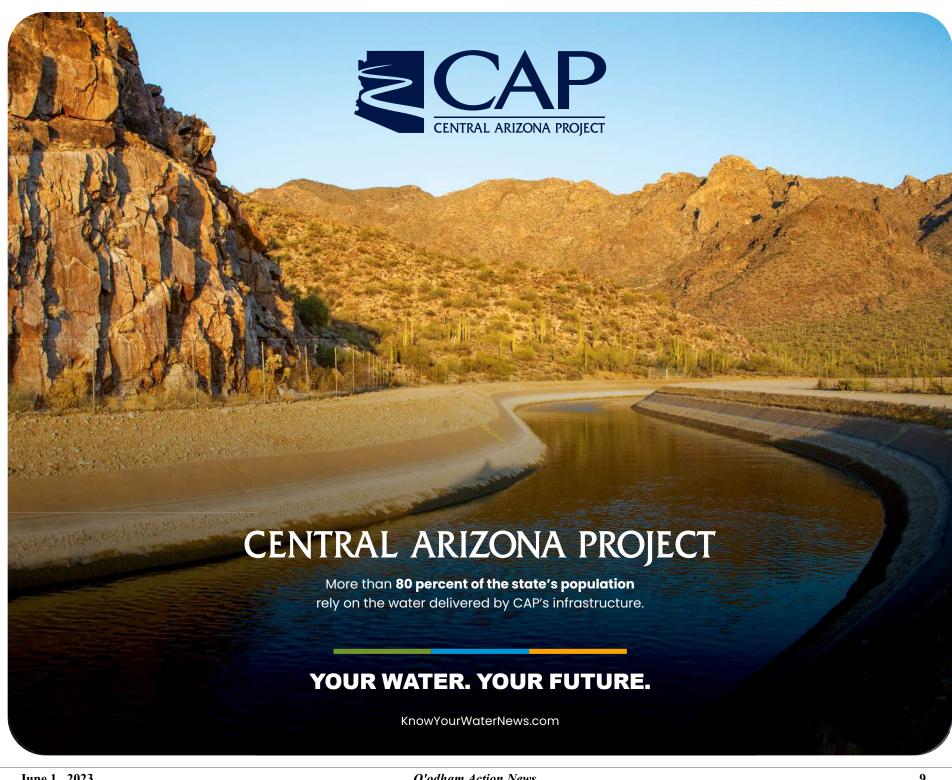
On May 11, more than 150 people attended the DHHS Prevention & Intervention Services Open House event at the Central Intake Center. All attendees received a free meal and participated in a guided tour of the building. "Current and new clients toured the facility and were pleased to meet the staff and see the upgrades," said Susan Nayatewa, MSW, DHHS Prevention & Intervention Services manager. "Most complimented the aquarium in the waiting room, and they all enjoyed the door prizes and promo items." Attendees learned information about the services provided to Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members, which include financial assistance, health education, housing services, burial assistance and more. By Chris Picciuolo, O'odham Action News Reporter





#### O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS SUBSCRIPTION

**Enrolled SRPMIC MEMBERS sign up for your FREE O'odham Action Newspaper** subscription. Call Kari Haahr at (480) 362-2698 and provide your SRID number, DOB and address. Once information is verified, it may take up to 2 - 3 issues to process.



## New Residential Treatment Facility Breaks Ground



JTR program staff, patients and graduates help break ground on new JTR project site on May 9.

Construction.

The three structures will share a central courtyard that includes a recreational yard for residents and staff. The new facility and surrounding area will be designed with environmental sustainability and the residents' comfort in mind.

Paying homage to traditional structures, some areas will be covered to resemble vatos, which are traditional ramadas made of earthen materials like arrow weed, mesquite and saguaro cactus ribs. The project design is a balance of functionality and cultural heritage that will help Community members feel welcome.

Once in operation, the project will transition into a full-fledged treatment facility offering withdrawal management, residential management, crisis stabilization and a partial-hospitalization program. This includes individual and group counseling and services for non-residents who may receive follow-up treatment in an outpatient building.

Dr. Nate Velez, HHS practice administrator, talked about the work that went into making the JTR project possible. "I want to thank my team, everyone from the front of the office to our peers and our new on-boarding peers, techs and

our therapists ... without our therapists, we couldn't do this work," said Velez.

Velez thanked the leadership team, supervisors and the staff that handle the day-to-day operations of assisting Community members with their treatment. He said the ability to carry out a plan that was conceptualized before his tenure with JTR is a blessing for the Community.

"We've come a long way, and when we talk about purpose, I think about the intention and meaning. We consider the purpose in the name of recovery, we think about what that means to many of our loved ones ... for the people of the Community, we have an opportunity to restore health and promote recovery."

Later in the lineup of speakers, SRPMIC member and past JTR patient Timothy Largo offered his thoughts on the new project, adding that the JTR program helped give him the ability and courage to make the change to live a sober life.

"My silver day is May 13, 2022 ... another year coming in a few days. I couldn't have done it without the grace of God," said Largo. He talked about his recovery from detox to moving onto the JTR recovery program to get his life back on track.

"I am here today to celebrate the new Journey to Recovery," said Largo. "This is the day we have been waiting for. Without this program, I would not be alive and standing here today to celebrate with you," said Largo.

To conclude the morning's events, SRPMIC leadership took up positions behind traditional O'odham digging sticks and turned over the loose dirt to officially break ground on the project. Then, staff and past patients of the JTR program took the sticks and turned the ground.

The new logo for the facility was chosen through an art contest that called for submissions from Community members. SRPMIC member Levi Johnson Sr. created the chosen design. It depicts two individuals on Red Mountain helping one another get to the top. It is a gesture symbolic of the Journey to Recovery mission.

Continued from front page

## Talking Stick Resort Amphitheatre Holds Ribbon Cutting

first of the year, but we haven't been able to do a proper welcome," he said. "We were so excited ... to find [a partner] like Talking Stick Resort and Casino Arizona, and the SRPMIC, that shares our passion for entertainment."

The ceremony included a prayer by SRPMIC Council member Deanna Scabby. Also attending were SRPMIC Council member Cheryl Doka, Miss Salt River 2022-2023 Nani Reina, and Junior Miss Salt River 2022-2023 Tirsa Reina. Also speaking at the event was Casino Arizona and Talking Stick Resort Chief Marketing Officer Douglas Lima and SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard.

"The outdoor setting [of the venue] pays homage to our people, who also entertained socially in what we call a vato (in O'odham), a ramada-style structure. Families would gather and sing, dance and share food, just as it will be done here," said Leonard before singing a traditional song from the O'odham oriole bird series.

Guests at the venue will notice a variety of major new improvements to the concert experience, such as free-flowing new entry gates, curated food and beverage experiences, brand-new high-definition screens and a reimagined Casino Arizona VIP Lounge.





at the Talking Stick Resort Amphitheatre.

Right: New Talking Stick Resort Amphitheatre signage at the venue's East Box Office.

2022-2023 Junior Miss Salt River Tirsa Reina and 2022-2023 Miss Salt River Nani Reina look on as SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard begins his song at the ribbon cutting event.

WELCOME
TO

TALKING STICK
REPORT
AMPHITHEATRE

LIVE NATION

# SRFSI Celebrates Financial Literacy Month, Offers Series of Financial Education Workshops

SUBMITTED BY GRACIE BRIONES
Financial Education Training Coordinator

SRFSI observed Financial Literacy Month in April by hosting a series of financial education workshops for all ages. Financial literacy is the ability to understand and effectively manage money. Although April is behind us, SRFSI is continuing the momentum by offering more in-demand classes, including homeownership readiness workshops and individual credit counseling. Any time is the perfect time to learn lifetime financial skills or brush up on existing ones.

Fundamental Components of Financial Literacy include:

- Budgeting
- Debt Management
- Credit
- Savings
- Financial Goal Setting

Financial education provides lifetime skills that are important and lead to financial wellness, stability and success.

#### SRFSI Upcoming Workshops:

- 6/13 Pathway to Homeownership Two Waters B-106
- 6/15 Investing Basics for Youth Part One Two Waters B-106
- 6/22 Investing Basics for Youth Part Two Two Waters B-106
- 7/20 Personal Budgeting and Money Management (Virtual)
- 7/27 Understanding Credit and Credit Reporting (Virtual)

Contact SRFSI today to register for one of our classes and learn or develop skills in a meaningful and memorable way.



Participants having a great time while learning Financial Skills. Photo courtesy of SRFSI.





SALT RIVER COMMUNITY TRIBAL HOUSING PROGRAM

#### PATHWAY TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

**CLASS PRESENTATION** 

DATE: JUNE 13, 2023—5:30 PM LOCATION: TWO WATERS BLDG. B—ROOM B-106

#### Inviting

Salt River Community Tribal Housing (SRCTHP) residents and interested enrolled SRPMIC members to attend this presentation to receive beneficial information on the homeownership process and prepare for future homeownership.



PERSONAL

READINESS

STEP 3 FINANCIAL PLANNING

To register contact:
Gracie Briones @ (480) 362-7833
Email: gracie.briones@srpmic-nsn.gov

Lori Calderon @ (480) 362-5763 Email: lori.calderon@srpmic-nsn.gov



Instructors provide direction during activities. Photo courtesy of SRFSI.



Participants listen attentively as they prepare for their next activity. Photo courtesy of SRFSI.



## Traditional O'odham Plants: Desert Ephedra

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO O'odham Action News chris.picciuolo@srpmic-nsn.gov

As more O'odham and Piipaash members of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community are going back to their roots and getting to know more about the traditional uses of the plants on the land, *O'odham Action News* spoke with community garden technician Amson Collins to help educate the Community about these plants.

In January 2022 we talked with Collins about reconnecting with desert plants, and we featured creosote ('iivse in Piipaash and Segoi in O'odham), which grows naturally all over the Sonoran Desert.

This time we're talking about the ephedra plant, which can be found in coarse soils near washes in O'odham communities and elsewhere throughout Arizona and the Southwest.

#### Ephedra Plant

Ephedra is a woody shrub with tall, green, leafless stems that contain varying amounts of caffeine and ephedrine, both of which act as stimulants on the central nervous system. The plant is mainly used for making a tea by steeping the stems.

According to the National Park Service, ephedra may have been commonly used by Mormon pioneers and Native Americans alike, resulting in its nicknames "Mormon tea" and "Indian tea," among others.

The University of Arizona Campus Arboretum said that the harvest season for the plant is early spring.

According to the arboretum, ephedra traditionally has been used medicinally to treat a variety of illnesses and symptoms, including diabetes, pneumonia, kidney problems, venereal diseases and stomach issues. The stems have also been boiled and applied topically to wounds and sores.

About a half-dozen species of ephedra grow in the Sonoran Desert region, including *Ephedra trifurca*, *Ephedra aspera* and *Ephedra viridis*.

Harriett Reid, lead pharmacy technician and 2024 PharmD candidate at the River People Health Center, said that there are risks associated with plants used as traditional remedies.



SRPMIC garden technician Amson Collins holds a mason jar of tea made from desert ephedra found within the boundaries of the Community.

"Herbal medicines are not regulated by the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration], so there is a risk of numerous side effects and/or toxicities, including cardiovascular events and renal (kidney) or hepatic (liver) toxicities," said Reid.

According to the National Institutes of Health National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, you should not consume the plant if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

A study published in *Annals of Internal Medicine* showed that ephedra products in general make up only 1% of herbal supplement sales in the U.S., but they are responsible for 62% of herb-related reports to poison control centers.

In February 2004, the FDA issued a final rule prohibiting the sale of dietary supplements containing ephedrine alkaloids (ephedra) because the supplements present an unreasonable risk of illness or injury.

#### Traditional O'odham Use of Ephedra

The most commonly known name for the plant in the Community is *ku:pag* in O'odham. Kelly Washington, director of the SRPMIC Cultural Resources Department, said that he doesn't know many Piipaash who remember the name of the plant, but it's something like 'iishiu or 'iishu in Piipaash.

Collins said that this particular plant is often mistaken for Chinese ephedra (Ephedra sinica), which is also known as "ma huang," and while he said the local species is not nearly as harmful as Chinese ephedra, he agrees that people need to use precautions when taking any desert plant for medicinal use.

"Drying the plant weakens [the plant's effects]," said Collins. "A lot of medicinal plants in the desert are too strong off the bat, and having too much of that can have the opposite effect. You want to [consume the ephedra plant] in moderation."

Collins said that he learned to dry the fresh green ephedra sticks in a cool, dry place indoors for a week or two.

After boiling the stems, he pours the stems and tea into a jar, and he sweetens the tea with wild honey. He said the tea makes him feel good and wakes him up.

"The plant has collected all the water from the winter, and they have this nice, new green growth. I also use [ephedra] for [treating] hay fever, asthma and respiratory issues. It will dry you up," said Collins.

Editor's Note: This material is provided for informational purposes only and is not medical advice. Consumption of any ephedra plant or product is done at your own risk.

## 2023 BULK TRASH SCHEDULE

Please begin placing items at the roadside the week before your scheduled zone pick up date.

If unable to place items by the roadside due to ditch, please call (480) 362-5600.

#### **COLLECTION DAYS**

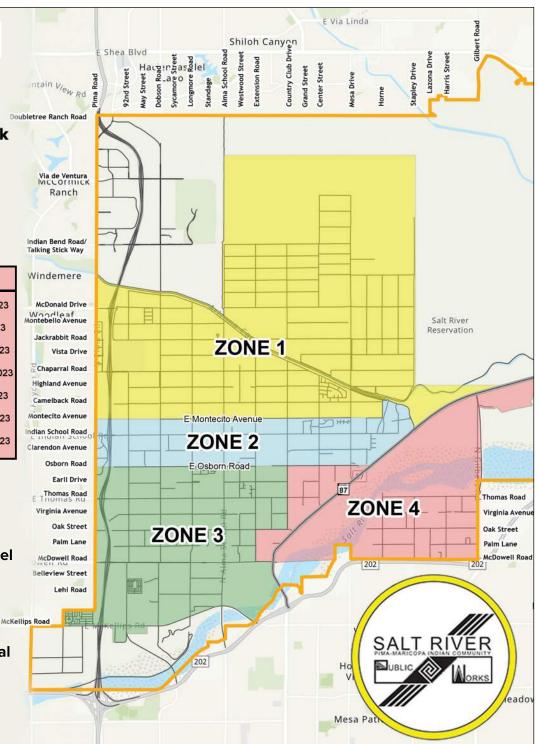
ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3	ZONE 4	
Monday, Jun 5, 2023	Monday, Jun 12, 2023	Monday, Jun 19, 2023	Monday, Jun 26, 2023	
Monday, Jul 3, 2023	Monday, Jul 10, 2023	Monday, Jul 17, 2023	Monday, Jul 24, 2023	ij.
Monday, Aug 7, 2023	Monday, Aug 14, 2023	Monday, Aug 21, 2023	Monday, Aug 28, 2023	
Monday, Sept 4, 2023	Monday, Sept 11, 2023	Monday, Sept 18, 2023	Monday, Sept 25, 2023	
Monday, Oct 2, 2023	Monday, Oct 9, 2023	Monday, Oct 16, 2023	Monday, Oct 23, 2023	
Monday, Nov 6, 2023	Monday, Nov 13, 2023	Monday, Nov 20, 2023	Monday, Nov 27, 2023	
Monday, Dec 4, 2023	Monday, Dec 11, 2023	Monday, Dec 18, 2023	Monday, Dec 25, 2023	

#### **REMEMBER TO:**

- Remove or secure appliance doors as a safety precaution.
- Cut tree limbs into 3-4 feet sections and stack parallel to roadside.
- Bag and tie all leaves/grass.

#### DO NOT:

- Place bulk items over cable boxes or near ornamental borders.
- Place items within five feet of parked cars, fences, utility boxes, mailboxes, or other fixed objects.



## Senior Services Hosts Mother's Day Dinner and Dance

On Friday, May 12, SRPMIC Senior Services Recreation hosted a dinner and dance at the Salt River Community Building to celebrate Mother's Day. Senior Services coordinated a delicious dinner and drinks to be enjoyed throughout the evening. The event also included a photo booth, chickenscratch music, and a raffle for a variety of prizes. The night closed out with live music, dancing and immense gratitude in celebration of the many people called "Mom" throughout the community. Thank you to Senior Services, and thank you to all the Moms!

## Happy Mother's Day, SRPMIC!













evening magical for the community.

#### 2nd Quarter 2023 ELIGIBILITY **DEADLINE** June 30, 2023

Must be eighteen (18) years old, enrolled, and living to be eligible for the

July 2023 Per Capita Payment.

**DEADLINES FOR CHANGES** 

Direct Deposit Start-Ups and Changes: Tuesday, July 11th at 5:00 PM. This deadline is for

new start-ups for direct deposit or changes to existing information. All forms MUST be

submitted with a "VOIDED" check or statement from the bank with the Routing and

Account Numbers. Forms received by this date will be effective for the July 2023 payout.

Forms received after this date will not be effective until the October 2023 payout.

Discontinue Direct Deposits: Tuesday, July 18th at 5 p.m. This deadline is to discontinue an existing direct deposit.

\*\*\*Failing to notify the Per Capita department when an account is closed may delay your Per Capita payment.

Per Capita Eligibility: Tuesday, July 18th at 5:00PM. This deadline is for submitting the

Adult SRP-MIC Member's Per Capita Information Certificate. Forms received by this date will

be effective for the July 2023 payout. Forms received after this date will not be processed until the first week of August 2023.

Tax Withholding Changes: Tuesday, July 18th at 5:00 PM. This deadline is for making

changes to "Additional" tax withholding percentage or amount.

Tax forms are available on the Finance Per Capita Intranet Site and can also be requested by e-mailing finpercap1@srpmic-nsn.gov.

If you have any questions regarding:

Tribal ID, Per Capita Eligibility & Change Forms call Membership Services

@ (480) 362-7600

Tax Withholding & Direct Deposits call Finance-Per Capita @ (480) 362-7710



"Becoming Empowered O'odham and Piipaash Women for our Community"

31st Annual Jr. Miss Salt River Pageant

35th Annual Miss Salt River Pageant

Saturday, June 17th, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

Salt River Pi-Copa Gym



#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

## JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION

JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

COMMUNITY COURT
ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN

RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256 CONTACT: (480) 362-6315

ALL JUVENILE COURT CASES REPORT TO COURTROOM #3 ON THE 1ST FLOOR.

#### FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

Andrews, Dracy Devon Adjudication Hearing/Initial
Paternity Hearings Case: J-230040/0041/0042Court Date: July
11, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Baptisto, Nathaniel Allen - Review Hearing Case: J-13-0087 Court Date: July 17, 2023 at 10 a.m.

**Burke**, Brandee Lyn - Review Hearing Case: J-19-0007 Court Date: July 27, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Burke, Nathan - Motion Hearing Case: J-99-0441 Court Date: July 6, 2023 at 11 a.m.

**Doe,** Manuel – Review/QRTP Hearing Case: J-18-0044 Court Date: July 10, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Enos, Yvette Marie - Review & Permanency Hearing Case: J-19-0169/J-21-0060 Court Date: July 6, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Gutierrez, Nicholas Valentine
- Adjudication Hearing/Initial
Paternity Hearings Case: J-230040/0041/0042Court Date: July
11, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Gutierrez, Vanessa Lynn -Relinquishment of Guardianship Hearing Case: J-11-0140 Court Date: June 12, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

Hayes Jr., Kelly William - Evidentiary Guardianship Hearing Case: J-22-0091/0092/0093 Court Date: June 13, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Kavoka, Jessica Ann - Status Hearing for Termination of Parental-Child Relationship Case: J-22-0128 / J-22-0129 Court Date: June 5, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Lawrence-Felton, Galyce – Review/ Permanency Hearings Case: J-22-0064 Court Date: July 10, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Manuel, Ashlee Noreen -

Permanency Hearing Case: J-22-0118/0119/0120 Court Date: June 7, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Paul, Derek Lloyd - Permanency

Review Case: J-18-0117 Court Date: May 24, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Pavatea, Sherica Marie - Review Hearing Case: J-23-0023 Court Date: June 7, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Salazar Jr., Jose - Mother: Jessica Kavoka (DOB: 10/11/1990) Children: M.A.S. (DOB: 05/12/2007) and J.B.S. III (DOB: 08/05/2008). Status Hearing for Termination of Parental-Child Relationship Case: J-22-0128 / J-22-0129 Court Date: June 5, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Santo Sr., Blaine Gail - Mother: Patricia Smith (11/23/1981) Children: B.G.S. (DOB: 06/12/2012) & N.M.S. (DOB: 01/31/2011) Review Hearing Case: J-14-0016/J-14-0017 Court Date: July 13, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Silversmith IV, James – Mother: Yvette Marie Enos (DOB: 03/09/1989) MINORS: J.E. (DOB: 06/06/2019) and J.E. (DOB: 04/01/2021) Adjudication Hearing Case: J-19-0169/J-21-0060 Court Date: July 6, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Stacey, Jeffery Arthur - Child Support Status/Review Hearings Cases: J-20-0091/J-20-0092 Court Date: June 29, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Swan, Dajuan Anthony - Mother:

Anaya Ticer 02/22/1996 Child: N.L.T 06/05/2018 Review Hearing Case: J-22-0127 Court Date: June 12, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Unknown Father – Evidentiary Guardianship Hearing Case: J-22-0091/0092/0093 Minor:

3-22-009 h/d09/2/0093 Million.
A.A.H.: 08/24/2012, Minor: E.A.A.: 08/15/2013, Minor: E.A.H.: 11/09/2016, Mother: Cedella Summer Kill Court Date: June 13, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Valencia, Jazmin Manuela – Status/ Order to Show Cause Case: C-19-0023 Court Date: June 27, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Valencia Sr., Victor Patrick - Review Hearing Case: J-13-0086 Court Date: July 17, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Wahpeta, April Francine - Disposition Hearing Case: J-23-0027/J-23-0028/J-23-0029 Court Date: June 5, 2023 at 9 a.m.

## CIVIL COURT JURISDICTION

SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256 CONTACT: (480) 362-6315

CIVIL COURT CASES REPORT TO COURTROOM #1/#2 ON THE 1st FLOOR.

#### FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

Andrews, Edison Roy - Evidentiary Hearing Case: CF-23-0063 Court Date: June 13, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Clapp, Monica - Probate Hearing Case: P-23-0009 Court Date: June 27, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Cly, Aundrey Michael - Evidentiary Paternity Hearing Case: CF-23-0042 Court Date: July 17, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Freeland-Billy, Melissa - Entry of Default Judgement Case: CFCS-10-0092 Court Date: June 28, 2023 at 9 a.m.

23-0068 Court Date: July 6, 2023 at 10 a.m. **Lewis,** Kaylene Littledove - Evidentiary Child Support Hearing

Case: CFCS-22-0046 Court Date:

June 13. 2023 at 9 a.m.

Hearing Case: CF-23-0067/CF-

Lewis, Erica Renee - Custody

Little, Christa Dawn - Initial Paternity Hearing Case: CF-23-0070 Court Date: July 27, 2023 at 9 a.m. Loring, Jonathan Delbert -Evidentiary Guardianship Hearing Case: CF-23-0048 Court Date: June 22, 2023 at 10 a.m.

June 22, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Manuelito Vest, Laree - Probate
Hearing Case: P-23-0001 Court

Date: June 5, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Martinez, Ambria Jean - Probate

Hearing Case: P-23-0009 Court Date: June 27, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. Martinez, Xavier - Annual Guardianship Review Case: CF-

22-0076 Court Date: June 15, 2023

at 10:30 a.m.

Masawistewa, Moriah W. Evidentiary Paternity/Custody
Hearings Case: CF-23-0040 Court

Romero, Clarence T. - Annual Guardianship Review Case: CF-19-0177 Court Date: June 8, 2023

Date: June 15, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Ruiz, Jose Perpetuo - Initial Paternity Hearing Case: CF-23-0070 Court Date: July 27, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Torres, Susan Jean - Probate Hearing Case: P-23-0033 Court Date: July 11, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Vest, Jason Duane - Entry of Default Judgement Case: CFCS-10-0092 Court Date: June 28, 2023 at 9 a.m.

#### FREELAND-BILLY, MELISSA DEFAULT NOTICE CFCS-19-0092 JASMINE LILLIAN ACEVEDO, V

#### ALEXIS AUDEL ACEVEDO JR,

To: Melissa Freeland-Billy, RESPONDENT

- A Complaint / Petition has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.
- 2. The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.
- 3. If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.
- A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.
- 5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted
- If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)

DATED this 27th of March, 2023

CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

#### LEWIS, ERICA RENEE DEFAULT NOTICE CF-23-0067/0068 I.R.M.O.: E.J.JH.J.T. (D.O.B.: 8/2/2010)

To: Erica Renee Lewis, RESPONDENT

- A Complaint / Petition has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.
- The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.
- 3. If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.
- A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.
- 5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted
- If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)

DATED this 12th of May, 2023

CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

#### MASAWISTEWA, MORIAH W. DEFAULT NOTICE CF-23-0040

**DEFAULT NOTICES** 

## CECILH. ENOS-GONZALES V. MORIAH W. MASAWISTEWA

To: Moriah W. Masawistewa,
RESPONDENT

1. A Complaint / Potition has been

- A Complaint / Petition has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.
- The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.
- If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.
- A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.
- 5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted
- If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)

DATED this 12th of May, 2023 CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-

MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

## SCHURZ, RYAN LEE Notice of DECREE of Dissolution of

Marriage (Divorce): Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian

Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number D-23-0003, Angela Schurz, Petitioner v Ryan Schurz, Respondent.

Marriage (Divorce) is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the grounds for divorce are either spouse has willfully deserted the other for a period of three months. no minor children, no property acquired during the marriage and each party is assigned his/ her separate property and debt that is in their name and no spousal maintenance. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the marriage of the parties is dissolved and the parties are restored to the legal status of single person. Wife's name is restored to CRUZ. This order is final for purposes of appeal and shall be served on Respondent Ryan Schurz in accordance to Rule 5-20(c)

SRPMIC TRIBAL COURT

#### TONEY, ZAKIRAH SUMMONS J-21-0089-0090 I.T.M.O.: C.O.A. (DOB: 6/29/2018)/S.A.A. (DOB: 11/14/2019)

TO: Zakirah Toney

A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed on May 4, 2023 in this Court against you, which alleges grounds for the termination of your parental rights of the above captioned child(ren). You may obtain a copy of the Petition by calling (480) 362-6315. A hearing has been set to determine whether

the petitioner has proven that allegation(s) support a legal basis for termination of parental rights. THEREFORE YOU ARE ORDERED

to APPEAR for an Initial Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights before the Honorable Judge LeBeau, the Salt River Juvenile Court on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 11:00 am, in Court Room #3.

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 14-0004, effective August 4,

2014, legal counsel, parties, and their respective witnesses shall be present in the courthouse at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to any proceeding.

NOTICE: Violation of this Order is Subject to Proceedings for Contempt of Court Pursuant to Salt River Community Code Section 6-42. If Good Cause is Not Shown, the Court May Find

Contempt of Court Pursuant to Salt River Community Code Section 6-42. If Good Cause is Not Shown, the Court May Find the Parent, Guardian or Custodian in Contempt for Failure to Appear at a Court Hearing or for Failure to Follow Court Orders. Further, the Parties Should be Advised that the Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights May Proceed Without the Parent or Necessary Respondent Present. Failure to Appear May Result in the Hearing Being Held Without the Parent and the Parental Rights of the Parent may be Terminated

CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

#### UNKNOWN FATHER SUMMONS J-23-0067

#### I.T.M.O.: T.L.M. (DOB: 1/14/2018) MOTHER'S NAME: EFFIE LUDLOW-MARTINEZ TO: A Person to Whom It May

Concern/Unknown Father

A Petition for Adoption has been filed on April 28, 2023 in this Court, which may affect the parent-child relationship upon entry of a decree of adoption. You may obtain a copy of the Petition by calling (480) 362-6315. A hearing has been set to determine whether to grant the adoption.

THEREFORE YOU ARE ORDERED to APPEAR for an Adoption Hearing before the Honorable Judge Darmody at the Salt River Juvenile Court located at 10040 E. Osborn Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85256 on June 21, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. in court room #3.

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 14-0004, effective August 4, 2014, legal counsel, parties, and their respective witnesses shall be present in the courthouse at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to any proceeding.

NOTICE: Violation of this Order is Subject to Proceedings for Contempt of Court Pursuant to Salt River Community Code Section 6-42. If Good Cause is Not Shown, the Court May Find

the Parent, Guardian or Custodian in Contempt for Failure to Appear at a Court Hearing or for Failure to Follow Court Orders. Further, the Parties Should be Advised that the Hearing May Proceed Without the Parent or Necessary Respondent Present. Failure to Appear May Result in the Hearing Being Held Without the Parent or the Respondent and the Parent-Child Relationship May be Severed Upon Entry of the Decree

CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

#### DEFAULT NOTICE CFCS-19-0092 JASMINE LILLIAN ACEVEDO, V. ALEXIS AUDEL ACEVEDO JR, To: Jason Duane Vest,

**VEST, JASON DUANE** 

RESPONDENT

1. A Complaint / Petition has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want

judgment entered against you.

- The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.
- 3. If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you
- A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.
- 5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted
- If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)
   DATED this 27th of March, 2023

CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT



RENE 1452 F. Oak St. Mesa, AZ 85203 Mailing Address: PO Box 4628 Mesa, AZ 85211 Pastor Merrill Jones (480) 234-6091 **SERVICES** 

LEHI CHURCH OF THE NAZA-

-Visit us on Facebook Live and in person. Search for Lehi Church of the Nazarene

-Sun. School, 9:30 a.m. -Worship Service, 10:45 a.m. -Sun. Night Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. -Wed. Devotion Night at church, 6:30 p.m.

-SOAR Group 2nd & 4th Friday every month at the church 7 p.m. -Mon. night Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m. -Singspiration, last Sunday of the month at 6 p.m.

#### FERGUSON MEMORIAL BAP-TIST CHURCH

1512 E. McDowell Rd. (Lehi) Mesa, AZ 85203 Pastor Neil Price (480) 278-0750 SERVICES -Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m. Now available through the Zoom

#### **LEHI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

app. Call church for Zoom ID.

1342 E. Oak Mesa, AZ 85203 Pastor Annette Lewis annette.f.lewis@gmail.com (480) 404-3284 **SERVICES** -Sunday Services 10 a.m.

-Communion First Sunday of every month 10 a.m. Birthday Sunday Potluck- Last

**CHURCH LISTING** 

Sunday of the Month, after services. -Youth Devotion/Music (bring your

instruments!) last 2 Saturdays of the month at 4 p.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS **CHRIST PAPAGO WARD** 

2056 N. Extension Rd. Scottsdale AZ, 85256 (480) 947-1084 SERVICES

-Sunday service begins at 10 a.m.

#### PIMA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

12207 E. Indian School Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85256 Pastor Marty Thomas (480) 874-3016/ Home: (480) 990-7450 **SERVICES** -Sunday service 11 a.m. -Lord's Supper very first Sunday of the month (potluck after)

#### SALT RIVER ASSEMBLY OF GOD

10657 E. Virginia Ave. Scottsdale, AZ 85256 (480) 947-5278 Rev. Winter Elk Valencia Services -Sunday Morning Prayer 10 a.m. -Worship 11 a.m.

-No Evening Service till further notice -Thursday Bible Study 6pm

#### SALT RIVER CHURCH OF **CHRIST**

430 N. Dobson Rd. Mesa, AZ 85201 (720) 626-2171 SaltRiverChurchofChrist.com **SERVICES** 

-Bible Class 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. -Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

-Sunday Bible Class 6 p.m.

-Bible Study Wednesdays 7 p.m. -Provides transportation services for Community members call

#### SALT RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

phone number

P.O. Box 10125 Scottsdale, AZ 85271 E: SaltRiverPresbyterian@gmail. com

Visit us on Facebook Pastor Charlotte Fafard SERVICES

-Sunday Service, 1 p.m. -Communion first Sunday of the

#### ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC MIS-SION

3090 N. Longmore, Scottsdale, AZ85256 (602) 292-4466 (cell) Administrator: Deacon Jim Trant Parish President: Cindy Thomas Father Peter McConnell and Father Antony Tinker **SERVICES** 

-Sunday Mass 12 p.m. -Holy Hours 1 p.m.

Please call the Church ahead of time to confirm information. Information was correct at the time of print, however, services may have changed since then.

#### **MEMORIAL SERVICES**

#### Wake and Funeral Services



 $As \ part \ of \ our \ continuing \ efforts \ to \ help \ prevent \ the \ spread \ of \ Coronavirus$ (COVID-19) throughout the Community, the following restrictions are in place for all funeral services and planning

#### CONTACTING MEMORIAL SERVICES

- Memorial Services and Cemeteries office open regular hours: 8:00AM-5:00PM Monday—Friday
- · Family may meet staff in office or cemetery

#### FULL WAKE AND FUNERAL ARE PROVIDED AT FACILITIES

- One (1) wake or funeral service per day at each facility: Memorial Hall and Xalychidom Piipaash
- If a family chooses to keep loved one at the facility overnight, family allowed to stay with loved one
- Overnights in the facilities will be allowed
- Families will be responsible for overseeing and running the kitchen during services to include the serving of food and removing personal items and leftover food after services. Day labor may not be
- Nursery and family room will be open
- Memorial Services will create and post funeral announcements, if requested by family
- Wakes and/or overnight services are allowed at the homes
- Facilities will be available to hold family meetings
- Masks will be required, and if you are sick please stay home
- Families can have services at churches, if they receive permission from churches

#### CEMETERY SERVICES PROVIDED DURING

- Tent, tables, and chairs provided If family wishes to dig grave, tools available
- Staff will assist with burial
- Handwashing station, hand sanitizer, and port-a-john available
- Casket cart or table for urn
- · No requirement for mask or social distancing at cemetery

Please call Memorial Services at 480-278-7050 for any questions

#### SALT RIVER

#### PIMA~MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

10005 East Osborn Road / Scottsdale, Arizona 85256-9722 / Phone (480) 362-7400 / Fax (480) 362-7593





12/9/2022

12/9/2022

#### NOTICE OF PERMANENT EXCLUSION VINCENT EDWARD RODRIGUEZ (DOB XX/XX/1969)

May 4, 2023

This serves as notice that the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community ("SRPMIC") Council pursuant to Article VII, §1(g) of the SRPMIC Constitution and Sections 7-72 through 7-75 of the SRPMIC Code of Ordinances decided on May 3, 2023 at a regularly scheduled Council Meeting to permanently exclude Mr. Rodriguez from the boundaries of the SRPMIC. On April 11, 2023, the Exclusion Committee held a hearing and determined that Mr. Rodriguez was a non-member whose presence is detrimental to the peace, health or morals of the SRPMIC due to allegations of sexual assault, physical assault, domestic violence, drug and alcohol offenses, and fleeing the police.

Mr. Rodriguez's permanent exclusion was effective immediately. Therefore, he is not allowed to be within the territorial boundaries of the Community, including driving or passing through, visiting others, residing or coming within the Community boundaries at any time for any reason. Any violation of this Exclusion Order will be enforced by the Salt River Police Department (SRPD) pursuant to the aws of the Community, the State of Arizona and the United States of America

If you see Mr. Rodriguez in the Community, please immediately call the SRPD.



## **PUBLIC WORKS NOTICE**

SRPMIC Council has approved the nightly closures of the Salt River and Lehi Cemeteries due to continued vandalism.

The Salt River and Lehi Cemeteries will be closed from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Memorial Services at (480) 278-7050

O'odham Action News is published bi-weekly by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Editorials and articles are the sole responsibility of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion, attitude or philosophy of O'odham Action News or the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

O'odham Action News encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. However, letters must be typed or printed clearly, and should include the writer's name, address and phone number. This information is for verification only. Other submission of articles, artwork and photos are encouraged. O'odham Action News does not assume responsibility for unsolicited materials and does not guarantee publication upon submission.

O'odham Action News reserves the right to reject any advertising, material or letter submitted for publication.

Advertising rates are available on request. O'odham Action News does not endorse any product or services accepted as advertising on these pages. All contributions or information may be sent to:

O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS 10,005 E. Osborn Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256



#### SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

PRESIDENT Martin Harvier

VICE-PRESIDENT Ricardo Leonard

COUNCIL MEMBER COUNCIL MEMBER

Jacob Butler

DISTRICT C

Mikah Carlos **LEHI DISTRICT** 

DISTRICT B COUNCIL MEMBER David Antone

Deanna Scabby **LEHI DISTRICT** COUNCIL MEMBER COUNCIL MEMBER Michael Dallas, Sr.

**COUNCIL MEMBER** 

Cheryl Doka DISTRICT D **COUNCIL MEMBER** 

Wi-Bwa Grey



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**NEWSPAPER ASSISTANT** KARI HAAHR (480) 362-2698 kari.haahr@srpmic-nsn.gov

#### O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS MAIN LINE (480) 362-7750

(Leave a message with your name and number and we will return your call)

#### **ADVERTISING** Call Dodie Manuel for advertising info.

(480) 362-7731 www.oodhamnews.org

#### O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS DEADLINES

**DEADLINE AT NOON** June 2

June 15 July 6

June 16

SEND INFORMATION TO DODIE MANUEL at dodie.manuel@srpmic-nsn.gov For more information please call (480) 362-7750.



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Congratulations, Graduates! We hope that this is just the beginning of many new titles you will acquire throughout your life. What a wonderful feeling to know all the time and hard work you put in has paid off in such a big way. SRMG wishes you all the best in your new adventures!

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dba Salt River Materials Group,
both divisions of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

## **Calendar of Events**

#### **ONGOING**

JUNE IS MEN'S HEALTH MONTH
Join SRPMIC Diabetes Prevention
Services Men's Health Month weekly
Seminars! Each week, one seminar
will be held at the Way of Life Facility on topics related to Men's health.
For more information, contact dion.
begay@srpmic-nsn.gov or call 480362-7320

#### **JUNE**

- 2 FIRST FRIDAYS WITH NUTRITION SERVICES, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at River People Health Center Teaching Kitchen. Please call (480) 362-3355 for more information.
- 2-3 32ND ANNUAL REBURIAL
  CEREMONY, SRPMIC Cultural
  Resources Department and the
  Cultural Prservation Program invite
  SRPMIC community members and
  other Native Americans to respectfully attend. Procession will begin at
  Sundown at Center Street & Thomas
  Road. Traditional dinner following
  the Ceremony at the Memorial Hall.
  Please contact Martha Martinez with
  questions at 480-362-7954.
- 3 INTER-TRIBAL YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT, PRE-GAME RECOGNITION CEREMONY
- 4-7 INTER-TRIBAL YOUTH BASE-BALL AND SOFTBALL TOUR-NAMENT PLAY. Games will take place at Salt River Fields, Salt River Recreation Baseball Fields and Salt

- River High School. For more information go to https://www.mlb.com/ dbacks/community/youth-sports/ inter-tribal-youth-tournament
- 6 SRPMIC EMERGENCY MANAGE-MENT PRESENTATION: STORM PREPAREDNESS \*RESCHED-ULED FROM MAY 9\*, 5:30 p.m. -6:30 p.m. at Lehi Community Center. This presentation will cover ways to plan ahead and be prepared for all manner of emergency weather situations. Evening will include a raffle prize and refreshments for attendees. Interested residents may RSVP at 480-362-5763. See page 7.
- 12 K-POP DANCE KLASS, Way of Life Facility, Room 56. 5:30 p.m. 7 p.m. Join Community Recreational Services Leisure Education program every other Monday through June and July to learn K-Pop dance moves and choreography. To register, contact Mel at 480-362-5652 or melchor.solis@srpmic-nsn.gov. See page 9.
- 13 PATHWAY TO HOMEOWNERSHIP, 5:30 p.m. at the Two Waters Bldg. B-Room B-106. This workshop is an orientation to the SRFSI homeownership program and covers the following topics: Homeownership process, Program requirements, Assessing your personal financial situation and Becoming "Home Loan Ready." To register contact Gracie Briones at 480-362-7833 or email gracie.briones@srpmic-nsn.gov OR Lori Calderon at 480-362-5763 or email lori.calderon@srpmic-nsn.gov See ad on page 11.

- 14 SRPMIC DAY, Tribal offices closed. Please plan accordingly.
- 15 INVESTING FOR YOUTH, PART 1. 5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Two Waters, Building B-Room 106. SRFSI is offering education workshops for community members. Investing for Youth is a two-part series and both workshops must be attended. Email gracie.briones@srpmic-nsn.gov for questions and to reserve your spot.
- **19 JUNETEENTH**, Tribal offices closed. Please plan accordingly.
- 17 JR. MISS SALT RIVER AND MISS SALT RIVER PAGEANTS, 2 p.m. at Salt River Pi-Copa Gym
- 18 FATHER'S DAY
- 21 SRPMIC PUBLIC WORKS DE-PARTMENT JOB FAIR, 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Salt River Community Building, 1880 N. Longmore Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85256.
- 21 NAGI FOUNDATION SPAY AND NEUTER CLINIC by appointment at the Salt River Ball Fields, 1837 N. Longmore Rd., Scottsdale, AZ. SRPMIC members, residents and employees are eligible. Pets must be brought in by legal owner, age 18+. Cats must be in their own carrier and dogs on a leash. Limited spaces. Request an appointment at nagi.foundation.org/spayneuter. If there is no space left, you will be added to a waiting list. For questions call 602-730-2092.

22 INVESTING FOR YOUTH, PART 2. 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Two Waters, Building B-Room 106. SRFSI is offering education workshops for community members. Investing for Youth is a two-part series and both workshops must be attended. Email

gracie.briones@srpmic-nsn.gov for

questions and to reserve your spot.

- 22 2023 GRADUATION RECOGNITION EVENT, 6 p.m. at Talking Stick Resort. This event is to recognize all SRPMIC high school and postsecondary graduates from the class of 2023. This includes any graduation from high school, GED, trade school, or college/university occurring from July 2022 through June 2023. Registration must be completed by June 9, contact the Higher Education Program at 480-362-2547 or GradRecognition@
- 23 JAMES JUNES COMEDY AND HEALTH ADVOCACY, 6:30 8 p.m. at Salt River Community Building. Receive humorous inspiration to start your health and wellness journey with an evening of laughter, frozen treats and fun. Register by June 16 with Celinda Joe at 480-876-7180

saltriverschools.org

23-24 NAGI FOUNDATION WELL-NESS CLINIC, Doors open 8 a.m. at the Salt River Ball Fields, 1837 N. Longmore Rd., Scottsdale, AZ. First come, first served. SRPMIC members, residents and employees are eligible. Pets must be brought in by legal owner, age 18+. Cats must be in their own carrier and

- dogs on a leash. Services include exams, vaccines, flea/tick treatment, microchipping and health screening (for diseases like heartworm, lyme, FIV & FeLV). For questions call 602-730-2092.
- 23-24 NATIVE AMERICAN JUNIOR NATIONALS BASKETBALL TOUR-NAMENT 9 a.m. Tip-off at Bell Bank Park (Legacy Park), 1 Legacy Dr. Mesa, AZ 85212.
- 26 K-POP DANCE KLASS, Way of Life Facility, Room 56 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Join Community Recreational Services Leisure Education program every other Monday through June and July to learn K-Pop dance moves and choreography. To register, contact Mel at 480-362-5652 or melchor.solis@srpmic-nsn.gov

#### **JULY**

- 1 COMMUNITY FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION, 6:30 p.m. at ALA Football Field. See ad on page 6.
- **4 INDEPENDENCE DAY**, Tribal offices closed. Please plan accordingly.
- 9 AZ D-BACKS NATIVE AMERICAN RECOGNITION DAY, 1:10 p.m. at Chase Field the Diamondbacks take on the Pittsburgh Pirates for Native American Recognition Day.