



Council Directive Approves Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccinations for SRPMIC Employees

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
O'odham Action News
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The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council has approved a directive to make full COVID-19 vaccinations mandatory for government employees as a condition of continued employment.

Government employees included in the directive are regular, temporary, part-time, day labor, interns, youth workers and volunteers.

This plan does not include SRPMIC Enterprises, which can develop their own COVID-19 plans.

As of August 24, 55% of SRPMIC employees were fully vaccinated.

On August 27, in a video released on www.srpmic.tv, SRPMIC President Martin Harvier said that the decision to make the employee vaccinations mandatory was difficult.

“With the thought of membership in mind, and with the government created to provide services to the members of our Community, the Council felt that we as a government needed to be fully vaccinated,” said Harvier.

“The Tribal Council is try-

ing to do our part by setting an example. And hopefully with that example being set, you also will make that decision to get vaccinated. What is being done here at the [SRPMIC government] is also being done outside the Community. Other tribes are [making vaccinations for government employees mandatory]. I know we all have a choice; I just want employees who haven't been vaccinated or who are having to make a decision [to be vaccinated] to get vaccinated.”

The only exemption from the SRPMIC employee vaccine requires a legitimate medical reason signed by the employee's doctor. This exemption must be in written format and come from a medical doctor (M.D. or D.O.). Employees with a medical exemption will take a COVID-19 test every seven days until further notice or until they become vaccinated.

Every employee will also be required to participate in any additional booster shot that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends, if and when the booster is recommended and available.

As of August 24, the vaccine booster is not immediately avail-



COVID-19 Testing & Vaccine Site sign on Osborn Rd.

able to the public. According to the CDC, the goal is for people to start receiving the booster vaccine beginning in the fall, with eligible groups starting to receive the booster eight months after their second dose of a Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine.

The CDC said that people who received a Johnson & Johnson vaccine will most likely need a booster dose. The data expected in the coming weeks from Johnson & Johnson isn't available yet because the vaccine wasn't given

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SRPMIC Shares Redistricting Recommendations with Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission



SRPMIC President Martin Harvier and Vice-President Ricardo Leonard attend the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission meeting on August 9, to give the Community's input on the re-draw of Arizona's congressional and legislative district boundaries. Photo courtesy of the Office of Legislative Affairs

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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Every 10 years, after the U.S. Census is taken and the results are available, a process called redistricting happens in each state. Redistricting is the process of modifying the lines of voting districts in accordance with population changes throughout the United States. Every state has its own body that oversees redistricting, and in Arizona it's the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission. This commission has been holding public meetings to listen to suggestions and comments from Arizona citizens on how the state will re-draw Arizona's congressional

and legislative district boundaries to reflect the recent census results.

As Arizona modifies its congressional and legislative districts, all district lines must be reviewed to meet requirements for population equality and voting rights protections. Other factors taken into account by the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission are the federal Voting Rights Act, district shape, geographical features, respect for communities of interest and potential competitiveness.

A new Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission was appointed in January 2021 to

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Congressman Greg Stanton Visits River People Health Center



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier, Vice-President Ricardo Leonard and staff meet with Congressman Greg Stanton to get his support on getting funding for 11 duplicative positions for the new River People Health Care.

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier, Vice-President Ricardo Leonard and a number of staff from Health and Human Services, Administration, Public Works, Engineering and Construction Services, and more welcomed Congressman Greg Stanton to the Community to discuss support for getting 11 duplicative positions approved and funded by the Indian Health Service (IHS) and creating a funding anomaly to accomplish that. Without that funding

anomaly, River People Health Center will be lacking healthcare capacity in the middle of a pandemic, which is not something the Community wants to happen. “[River People Health Center] is one of three projects that was talked about over 25 years ago to alleviate some of the shortage of space at the Phoenix Medical Indian Center (PMIC). The Gila River Indian Community got their two [healthcare] facilities built, and the River People Health Center is the third one,” President Harvier explained to Congressman Stanton as he

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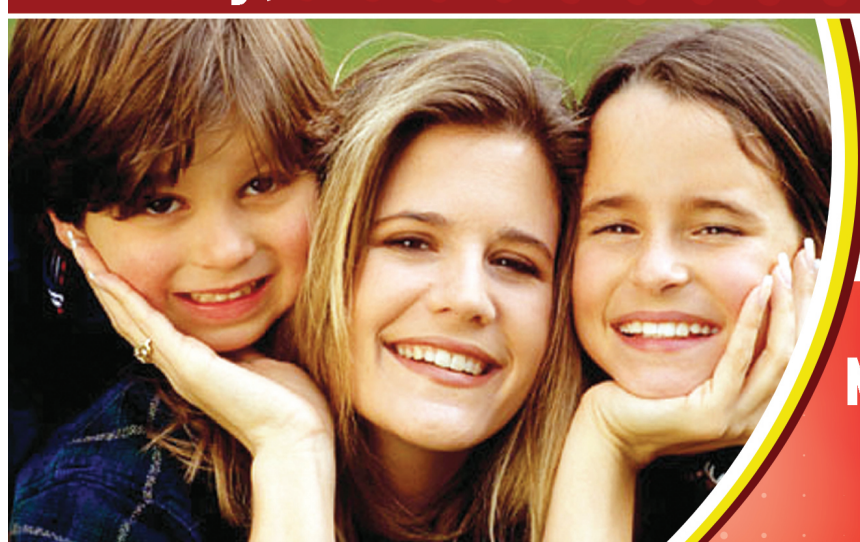
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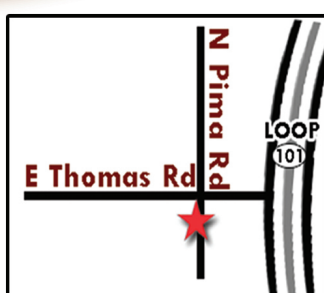
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Congressman Greg Stanton Visits River People Health Center

welcomed him to the Community. “We finally got the funding ..., but I think what’s on the radar with staff is to make sure that the funding is there, the staffing package, and that the appropriations get approved.”

The Community estimates an increase in healthcare services from not only the SRPMIC members but all enrolled Native Americans. The Community is concerned that these 11 duplicative positions will not be filled when the River People Health Center facility opens.

“There are 11 positions that we’re concerned about that go along with the whole staffing. Those positions we believe are important; I know they (the Indian Health Service) are saying they are duplications of services, but we don’t believe that they are. We just wanted to put that on your radar,” said Harvier as he addressed Congressman Stanton.

Following the Community’s request on the funding for 11 positions and developing a funding anomaly, Clinic Administrator Timothy Joyce reviewed the services that will be offered at the new River People Health Center and led a tour of the new facility, which is scheduled to open in January 2022.

“I am really proud to be part of the team here helping the Community. We have had all of our services open during the pandemic,” said Joyce during the tour. “We sat down early on and said, ‘What’s going to be our primary drive and mission?’ That was to help keep those not with COVID-19 from burdening the health systems, so they can take care of our patients. All our preventive services stayed open and still had face-to-face for our walk-ins for clinical and dental emergencies, outside of expanding our testing and vaccinations.”

HHS Director Joseph Remitera explained that the facility will be opening in less than five months and will be offering a number of career opportunities for SRPMIC members.

“We’re going to be hiring over 500 people,” said Remitera. “We recently had a hiring blitz and hired 38 Community members who will be working right here on this site, and we are going to be hiring a lot more.”

In closing, Congressman Stanton agreed that he would support the Community.

“We’re going to keep fighting for the 11 positions, you can count on that,” said Stanton as the group wrapped up the tour.

Remitera was delighted that Congressman Stanton has agreed to support the funding for the 11 duplicative positions.

“He also agrees that there should be language called funding anomaly in case there is a continuing resolution that we get money to run the operations,” said Remitera. “He is fantastic, and we appreciate his support. It was a pleasure getting to spend some time with him today.”



President Harvier, Vice-President Leonard and staff meet with Congressman Greg Stanton before taking him on a tour of the River People Health Center.

“We’re going to keep fighting for the 11 positions, you can count on that,” said Stanton as the group wrapped up the tour.



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Harvier, Vice-President Leonard and a number of staff from Health and Human Services, Administration, Public Works, Engineering and Construction Services, and more took Congressman Greg Stanton on a tour of the River People Health Center.



Engineering and Construction Services Senior Construction Manager Joshua Sciacca shows Stanton the view from the River People Health Care as they tour the entire building.

Council Directive Approves Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccinations for SRPMIC Employees

in the United States until 70 days after the first mRNA vaccine doses.

Non-vaccinated SRPMIC employees must receive their first vaccine no later than September 30 and be fully vaccinated no later than October 30. With vaccines that require two doses, if an employee received the first dose and declines to take the second dose, their last day of employment will be November 1.

Employees who do not comply with the vaccine mandate will be provided verbal counseling and written notification of pending employment termination one week prior to the deadline. Employees failing to comply with the directive as of September 30 will not have appeal rights for this specific cause for termination.

If an employee chooses not to take the COVID-19 vaccination, all annual and sick leave will be paid out according to Policy 2-4, Leave.

The employee vaccination mandate comes on the heels of a Council-approved transition back to a modified Phase 2 of the SRPMIC Return to Work plan, Phase 2.5, with medium mitigation efforts. The change is due to how hard the COVID-19 Delta variant has hit the Community and surrounding communities. The total number of active cases of COVID-19 in the Community rose to 37 as of August 25. Under Phase 2.5, the skate park, pools, ball fields and parks will remain open with proper social distancing required between you and persons that reside outside of your home.

Because the Delta variant of COVID-19 is affecting young children, Harvier said that the Tribal Council decided to approve the 11th Directive, which prohibits

any wakes or any type of funeral services in private homes.

The SRPMIC clinic will continue to provide opportunities for employees to receive vaccinations, and SRPMIC Health and Human Services will adjust the clinic hours to meet demand. However, employees may secure their vaccinations at any facility offering them.

Effective August 27, the COVID-19 vaccine clinic moved to the Salt River Gymnasium. It is open every Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a lunch break for staff from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. Appointments are preferred and walk-ins will be taken up until 3 p.m.

Tribal governments around Indian Country are making similar moves to implement mandatory vaccinations for government employees.

Recently, Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez announced that all Navajo Nation executive branch employees will be required to be fully vaccinated by the end of September. Employees will face disciplinary action and will be tested every two weeks if they don’t show proof of vaccination by September 29.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Nation Governor Reggie Wassana issued an executive order stating that government employees will have until September 6 to get their first vaccination shot. If the employee does not get the vaccination by this date, the employee will be placed on leave without pay until the first shot is received. The order states that employees are not being dismissed or terminated from their employment from the tribes.

SRPMIC vaccination status as of August 24

Community Members:

40% of CM population in AZ aged 12+ received at least one dose

Total Individuals Receiving Partial Dose = 432

Total Individuals Fully Vaccinated = 2466 (31% of eligible CM’s fully vaccinated)

CM’s vaccinated over 65 = 326 (79% of all in this group in AZ)

CM’s vaccinated 12 to 17 = 382 (36% of all in this group in AZ)

One dose = 148

Fully vaccinated = 224

SRPMIC Employees Fully Vaccinated = 55%

How to Respond to An Opioid Overdose Using Narcan

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States in the 12 months ending in May 2020, the highest number of overdose deaths ever recorded in a 12-month period.

The CDC says synthetic opioids, primarily illicitly manufactured fentanyl, appear to be the primary driver of the increase in overdose deaths.

Narcan® (naloxone) Nasal Spray is the first nasal formulation of naloxone to be FDA-approved for the treatment and reversal of a known or suspected opioid overdose. The nasal spray is needle-free and easy to use.

Narcan is provided for free and distributed to all Community members or residents living within the boundaries of SRPMIC.

There have been two reported reversals of an opioid overdose with the use of Narcan and about 70 overdoses total in the Community, according to Maria Jagles, Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF) Project Coordinator, Youth Services Helping O'dham & Pippaash Excel (H.O.P.E.) Program.

Jagles said that the COVID-19 pandemic was a barrier for continued Narcan and overdose-prevention training classes over the last year, but she is now able to resume teaching the classes. The SRPMIC Youth Services and Recreation department staff have received training.

Through the "Not One More" campaign, which provides Narcan education and training to SRPMIC members with

the platform of "We refuse to lose one more Community member to overdose," about 1,000 kits have been distributed in the Community. The campaign will be more visible in the Community in the coming months.

"Our role is to deliver substance abuse prevention programming for youth. Outreach methods have coupled up with vaccination efforts in the Community," said Jagles about the last tent at drive-up vaccination pods.

"If you got your [COVID-19] shot, while you were waiting for 15 minutes



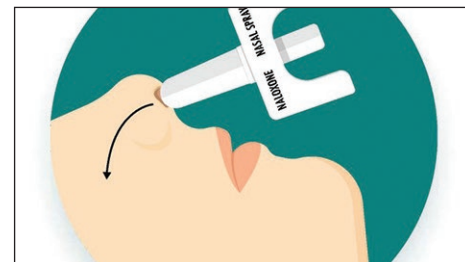
The first step of how to respond to an opioid overdose is to try to wake the person up. Photo courtesy of Maria Jagles

to see if you have a reaction [to the vaccine], we would approach each vehicle to talk to them about Narcan and distribute a flyer that shows step-by-step how to use the nasal spray. The information included the dangers of fentanyl and a QR code which leads to a video link tutorial on how to use Narcan."

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50 to 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a powerful pain reliever prescribed

by physicians for severe pain. The most common fentanyl pills are round, blue or green, with "M30" etched on them. One pill is strong enough to cause multiple overdoses.

Go to www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/hhs/narcan/ to order Narcan or watch the video about how to administer Narcan. For additional resources, you can call the 24/7 SRPMIC Crisis Line, a service that assists in stabilizing individuals and families experiencing urgent stressful, emotional and behavioral events, at (480) 362-6333.



How to administer Narcan by sticking the device all the way up one nostril and pushing the plunger. Photo courtesy of Maria Jagles

- Stay with the person.
- Narcan wears off in 30 to 90 minutes
- When the person awakens, explain to them what happened. Be gentle with them and yourself afterwards!

How to Respond to an Opioid Overdose

Try to wake the person up

If a person is unresponsive or not breathing, stimulate them awake by yelling their name or shaking them. If no response, grind your knuckles in their breast bone and rub for 5 to 10 seconds.

Call 911

Explain that someone is not responding or is not breathing.

Administer Narcan

Stick the device all the way up one nostril and push the plunger, make sure the device is inserted fully (medication will absorb through the sinuses). Repeat after 2 minutes if still not awake.

Rescue breathing

Get the person on their back, tip their head back to straighten the airway, pinch their nose, put your mouth over theirs and form a seal, one breath every five seconds. Continue until the person starts breathing on their own, or until help arrives.

Lay them on their left side

When the person starts to breathe regularly on their own, roll them into a recovery position on their side to prevent choking.

Interested in a New Career? Join the Salt River Fire Recruitment Program

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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The Salt River Fire Department is looking for new recruits, specifically Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members. The SRFD is currently holding training classes to help prepare interested members.

The classes are held every Wednesday and Saturday. Wednesday classes are held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Station 294 (11561 E. Indian School Road); this class is focused on the written exam and oral board interview prep. The Saturday class is held from 8 to 10:30 a.m. at Station 291 (10157 E. Osborn Road) and covers physical training to prepare candidates for the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT).

The hiring process consist of three parts:

- Written exam: General civil service test consisting of reading comprehension, mathematics, mechanical comprehension and general education.
- CPAT: The test the fire department uses to test physical readiness to be a firefighter.
- Oral board interview: A panel interview before four people grading the candidate.

The program is open to all SRPMIC members age 16 and older to help prepare them for the upcoming hiring process in October.

"We're hoping it will be an ongoing program so that Community members can have the opportunity to continue to learn about the Salt River Fire Department and what it takes to be a firefighter," said Firefighter/EMT Jayce

Johnson.

"Right now, we have some Community members in the department, but we don't have a lot, and a lot of them are retiring. To keep our people looking out for our people, I think that's the better way to go," said Deputy Fire Chief Tsosie Wood about why the department is focused on training Community members for these positions. "We have Station 5 approved, and I need to fill it with at least 20 people; who's better to watch over their own Community than Community members?"

The new fire station won't be built for another two years, according to Wood. This will give younger Community members an opportunity to join the recruitment process now so they will be prepared and old enough to apply for a job by the time the new fire station opens.

The new station will be built on the site of the former Road Runner mobile home park.

"I originally came to the class because I wanted my 16-year-old daughter to take the class, but we found it wasn't for her," said a SRPMIC member. "But just sitting in the class and listening, I felt it was something I really wanted to do, so I kept coming back and I am interested in the paramedic side. I have never had a desire or interest in this career field, but with the recent changes I started looking at things differently."

For more information on upcoming classes, call the Salt River Fire Department at (480) 362-7290.



A group of Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members gather on Saturdays for physical training at Salt River Fire Department 291. Photo courtesy of SRFD



Recruitment Program participants do strength training on Saturday mornings and prepare for the written test and oral board interviews on Wednesdays. Photo courtesy of SRFD



Ben Scabby learns new techniques used by fire fighters. Photo courtesy of SRFD

SRPMIC Shares Redistricting Recommendations with Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission

adopt new congressional and legislative districts for Arizona. The Commission started a listening tour in July, holding a number of public meetings throughout Arizona until the end of August. The process looking ahead involves drawing the grid map in September, developing possible draft maps and adopting the official draft map in September and October, a 30-day public comment period on the draft map during October and November, and revising the draft map and adopting the final redistricting plan in December.

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier addressed the Commission on August 9, accompanied by Vice-President Ricardo Leonard and legislative staff.

“Our Community has a long history in the Phoenix Metro area and is a vital partner in the East Valley. We have participated in this process since the Commission was created in 2000,” said Harvier as he greeted the Commission and guests. “I would like to thank you [Commission] for the work that you are doing to hear from the public as you begin to draw the state’s legislative and congressional districts. I know it will be a daunting effort, but I am hopeful you will consider the recommendations of our Community.”

Harvier shared five recommendations with the Commission:

1. The Commission should keep the SRPMIC in a single legislative and congressional district. “As a unique Community of interest, a tribal community is located in only one census tract. I believe this should not be a problem for the commission to consider,” said Harvier.
2. Place the Community in an urban

legislative and congressional district and not in any large rural district.

3. Locate the SRPMIC and the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation in the same congressional district, because they share a common border and support being located in the same district.
4. Because the Community also shares a common border with the City of Scottsdale and has similar transportation, public safety and solid-waste issues, to name a few, locate the Community in the same congressional district with Scottsdale.
5. Locate the Community in the same district as Tempe and Mesa, again because of mutual beneficial activities that we have with each of these cities.

“One example is that a large number of our Community youth attend school in the City of Mesa, and we work closely with the Mesa Public School District on education matters,” said Harvier. “As a result, we support being located in the same legislative district, such as the current legislative district we are in, LD-26.”

Harvier believes that all these recommendations meet the criteria of the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission and asks that they be considered in this process. As Harvier closed his statement, he invited the Commission to host a hearing in the SRPMIC in the future. He also advised the Commission that the Community would be submitting a written statement for the record.

To learn more about Arizona’s redistricting or to view past and future Commission meetings, visit <http://irc.az.gov/public-meetings>. Meetings are held every Tuesday.

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What does full approval of Pfizer’s COVID-19 vaccine mean?

BY MATTHEW PERRONE
 AP Health Writer

What does full approval of Pfizer’s COVID-19 vaccine mean?

It means Pfizer’s shot for people 16 and older has now undergone the same rigorous testing and regulatory review as dozens of other long-established vaccines.

COVID-19 vaccines in the U.S. were initially rolled out under the Food and Drug Administration’s emergency use authorization, which allows the agency to speed the availability of medical products during public health emergencies.

Under the process, the FDA waived some of its normal data requirements and procedures to make the COVID-19 vaccines available months earlier than would have been possible under normal circumstances.

Pfizer’s vaccine — along with those from Moderna and Johnson & Johnson — still underwent testing in tens of thousands of people to establish safety and effectiveness against COVID-19. But the FDA initially required the companies to submit about only two months of safety monitoring data on

study participants, the period when side effects are most likely to occur.

For full approval, the FDA required six months of follow-up data. FDA inspectors also visited the plants where the vaccines are made and reviewed each step of the production process for extra assurance that the shots are made under safe, sterile conditions.

Because vaccines are typically given to otherwise healthy individuals, they are generally subject to more regulatory scrutiny than other medical products, including prescription drugs. Full approval means the Pfizer vaccine now carries the FDA’s strongest endorsement of safety and effectiveness.

Public health experts hope the change will convince more unvaccinated people to get the shot and spur more employers to require vaccinations.

Moderna has also applied for full approval, and Johnson & Johnson has said it hopes to apply later in the year.

Pfizer’s shot still is available for 12- to 15-year-olds under emergency use authorization. The full approval also doesn’t apply to boosters. The agency will decide separately whether an extra shot is necessary for healthy people.

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SRPMIC Coronavirus information (COVID-19) (480) 362-2603

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ASU Will Receive Funds For 140 Indigenous Educators

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
O'dham Action News
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Arizona State University will be receiving funds toward its Preparing Educators for Arizona's Indigenous Community (PEAIC) Project, which is expected to prepare 140 Indigenous educators in their career pursuits.

The U.S. Department of Education has allocated \$1.4 million through its Indian Education Professional Development Grants Program, and the Arizona Department of Education is allocating \$1 million.

A statement on the ASU Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College website read, "The federal funds will support tuition, fees and expenses to prepare 20 early childhood education teachers in the federally recognized Gila River Indian Community and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community."

Dr. Nicole Thompson, professor and vice dean of the division of teacher preparation at Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at ASU, said that these funds will support the school's effort to strengthen education in Arizona's tribal communities by empowering people from those communities to become educators.

"We are doing everything we can to remove the barriers to entry and success for those who dream of becoming teachers and educators," said Thompson.

There are three main groups of educators that the PEAIC Project expects to prepare. The first group will be those who enroll in one of two of ASU's early



Arizona State University's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at the H.B. Farmer Education Building. Photo courtesy of ASU

childhood education programs to earn a bachelor of applied science in early childhood studies degree or a bachelor of arts in early childhood education and early childhood special education degree.

Thompson expects to recruit students for these programs from among those who are already working as paraprofessional educators in learning environments and childcare centers in their tribal communities.

"These students will take their courses remotely. While coursework will be online, these students will conduct professional internships in schools in their communities," she said.

The second group will be those who enroll in ASU's bachelor of arts in special education and elementary education. That is a dual certification program. Students will take their ASU classes using what is called ASU Sync. Instructors and students are not in the same physical space but do meet at the same time over Zoom or a similar service.

The third group will be people in extended kin networks of people rooted in tribal communities and cultures who can complement the work of certified teachers.

Thompson said that ASU is all about combining access with excellence.

"At Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, we are doing everything we can to remove the barriers to entry and success for those who dream of becoming teachers and educators," said Thompson. "We know this is vital for our tribal communities. Through these programs, as well as Arizona Teachers Academy scholarships, we have effectively removed tuition as a barrier to entry. Through the kind of community-based and culturally responsive mentorship and engagement enabled by these grants, we hope to increase the odds of success for the educators these programs prepare and, ultimately, the children and youth they go on to serve."

One of the things that Thompson is really excited about is the extended kin network; she believes it is crucial to the success of educators in tribal communities.

"At our college, we work towards building what we call 'the Next Education Workforce,' and part of that idea is that kids need what we call 'community educators' to thrive," said Thompson.

"This is the first step towards revitalizing the college's close connection with tribal communities to address their teacher-preparation needs. We intend to continue on this path with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and extend our reach to other Indigenous communities as well."

"IF YOU **SEE**
SOMETHING
SAY SOMETHING!"



The Salt River Police Department Officers are the first responders for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, but Officers cannot respond unless they know something is wrong. YOU are the first line of defense for the Community and YOU make the difference! Remember, if you See something, Say something!

In case of EMERGENCY dial 911.
If you are calling to report something out of the ordinary or suspicious dial the SRPD Dispatch non-emergency phone number at 480-850-9230

STREET NAMES

Apache, China Girl, China Town, Dance Fever, Friend, Goodfellas, Great Bear, He-Man, Jackpot, King Ivory, Murder8, Blues, and M30's.

OVERDOSE EFFECTS

Overdose may result in stupor, changes in pupil size, cold and clammy skin, cyanosis, coma, and respiratory failure leading to death. The presence of triad of symptoms such as coma, pinpoint pupils, and respiratory depression are strongly suggestive of opioid poisoning.

**ONE PILL
CAN KILL**

FENTANYL

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid, approved for treating severe pain, typically advanced cancer pain. It is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. It is extremely powerful and just one pill Most recent cases of fentanyl-related harm, overdose, and death in the U.S. are linked to illegally made fentanyl. It is sold through illegal drug markets for its heroin-like effect. It is often mixed with heroin and/or cocaine as a combination product—with or without the user's knowledge—to increase its euphoric effects.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Clandestinely produced fentanyl is commonly encountered either as a powder or in counterfeit tablets (sometimes blue in color or marked M30) and is sold alone or in combination ("cut") with other drugs such as heroin or cocaine.

METHODS OF USE

Fentanyl can be injected, snorted/sniffed, smoked, taken orally by pill or tablets, and spiked onto blotter paper.

Tribe's Lawsuit Challenges Arizona Law On Gambling Expansion

PHOENIX (AP) — An Arizona tribe that didn't sign a revised gambling compact with the state earlier this year, has filed a lawsuit alleging that a new state law is unconstitutional and left some rural tribes in the cold by excluding them from negotiations hamming out the legislation.

The suit filed by the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe on Thursday asks the court to prevent the Department of Gaming from issuing sportsbook licenses and allowing sports betting, the Arizona Republic reported.

The lawsuit said the state presented the tribe with an amended compact "as a non-negotiable, 'take-it-or-leave-it' proposition."

The lawmaker who sponsored the gambling legislation defended it as fair and equitable.

The timing of the lawsuit "at the dawn of selection rather than during the legislative session or upon the bill's enactment, amount to an end-around on that qualifications-based awarding process," state Sen. T.J. Shope, R-Coolidge, said Friday.

The legislation signed by Republican Gov. Doug Ducey last spring expands the types of gambling allowed at tribal casinos, lets tribes and pro sports teams take bets on sport evenings and licenses six operators to sign up players for betting on fantasy virtual games.

A judge scheduled an emergency hearing September 3 on the suit.

100,000 More COVID Deaths Seen Unless US Changes Its Ways

BY CARLA K. JOHNSON AND NICKY FORSTER
Associated Press

The U.S. is projected to see nearly 100,000 more COVID-19 deaths between now and Dec. 1, according to the nation's most closely watched forecasting model. But health experts say that toll could be cut in half if nearly everyone wore a mask in public spaces.

In other words, what the coronavirus has in store this fall depends on human behavior.

"Behavior is really going to determine if, when and how sustainably the current wave subsides," said Lauren Ancel Meyers, director of the University of Texas COVID-19 Modeling Consortium. "We cannot stop delta in its tracks, but we can change our behavior overnight."

That means doubling down again on masks, limiting social gatherings, staying home when sick and getting vaccinated. "Those things are within our control," Meyers said.

The U.S. is in the grip of a fourth wave of infection this summer, powered by the highly contagious delta variant, which has sent cases, hospitalizations and deaths soaring again, swamped medical centers, burned out nurses and erased months of progress against the virus.

Deaths are running at over 1,100 a day on average, turning the clock back to mid-March. One influential model, from the University of Washington, projects an additional 98,000 Americans will die by the start of December, for an overall death toll of nearly 730,000.

The projection says deaths will rise to nearly 1,400 a day by mid-September, then decline slowly.

But the model also says many of those deaths can be averted if Americans change their ways.

"We can save 50,000 lives simply by wearing masks. That's how impor-

tant behaviors are," said Ali Mokdad, a professor of health metrics sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle who is involved in the making of the projections.

Already there are signs that Americans are taking the threat more seriously.

Amid the alarm over the delta variant in the past several weeks, the slump in demand for COVID-19 shots reversed course. The number of vaccinations dispensed per day has climbed around 80% over the past month to an average of about 900,000.

White House COVID-19 coordinator Jeff Zients said Tuesday that in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, "more people got their first shots in the past month than in the prior two months combined."

Also, millions of students are being required to wear masks. A growing number of employers are demanding their workers get the vaccine after the federal government gave Pfizer's shot full approval earlier this week. And cities like New York and New Orleans are insisting people get vaccinated if they want to eat at a restaurant.

Half of American workers are in favor of vaccine requirements at their workplaces, according to a new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Early signs suggest behavior changes may already be flattening the curve in a few places where the virus raged this summer.

An Associated Press analysis shows the rate of new cases is slowing in Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana and Arkansas, some of the same states where first shots are on the rise. In Florida, pleas from hospitals and a furor over masks in schools may have nudged some to take more precautions.

However, the troubling trends persist in Georgia, Kentucky, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wyoming,

where new infections continue to rise steadily.

Mokdad said he is frustrated that Americans "aren't doing what it takes to control this virus."

"I don't get it," he said. "We have a fire and nobody wants to deploy a firetruck."

One explanation: The good news in the spring — vaccinations rising, cases declining — gave people a glimpse of the way things used to be, said Elizabeth Stuart of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and that made it tough for them to resume the precautions they thought they left behind.

"We don't need to fully hunker down," she said, "but we can make some choices that reduce risk."

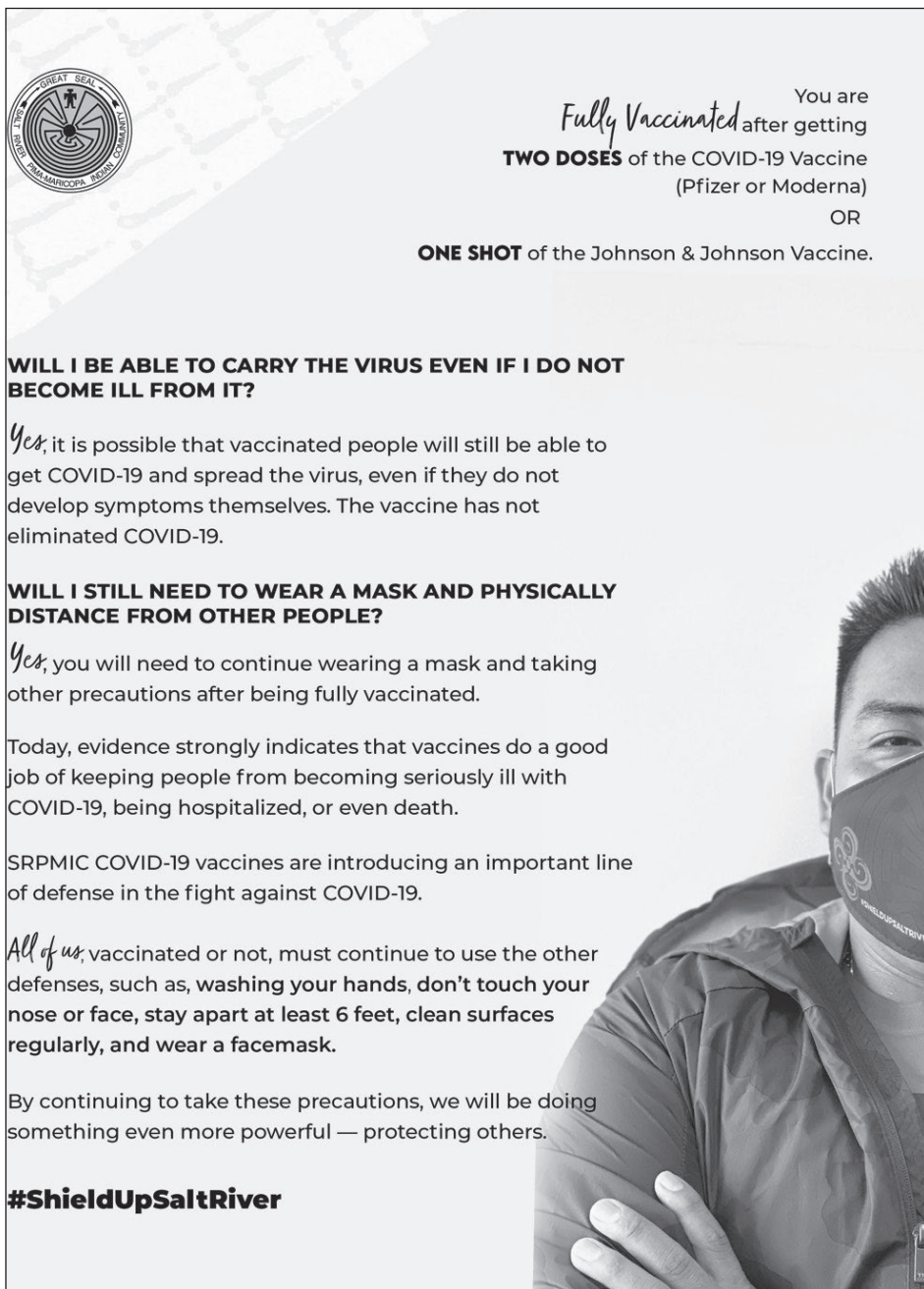
Even vaccinated people should stay vigilant, said Dr. Gaby Sauza, 30, of Seattle, who was inoculated over the winter but tested positive for COVID-19 along with other guests days after an Aug. 14 Vermont wedding, even though the festivities were mostly outdoors and those attending had to submit photos of their vaccination cards.

"In retrospect, absolutely, I do wish I had worn a mask," she said.

Sauza, a resident in pediatrics, will miss two weeks of hospital work and has wrestled with guilt over burdening her colleagues. She credits the vaccine with keeping her infection manageable, though she suffered several days of body aches, fevers, night sweats, fatigue, coughing and chest pain.

"If we behave, we can contain this virus. If we don't behave, this virus is waiting for us," Mokdad said. "It's going to find the weak among us."

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.



Great Seal of the State of Arizona

You are **Fully Vaccinated** after getting **TWO DOSES** of the COVID-19 Vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) OR **ONE SHOT** of the Johnson & Johnson Vaccine.

WILL I BE ABLE TO CARRY THE VIRUS EVEN IF I DO NOT BECOME ILL FROM IT?
Yes, it is possible that vaccinated people will still be able to get COVID-19 and spread the virus, even if they do not develop symptoms themselves. The vaccine has not eliminated COVID-19.

WILL I STILL NEED TO WEAR A MASK AND PHYSICALLY DISTANCE FROM OTHER PEOPLE?
Yes, you will need to continue wearing a mask and taking other precautions after being fully vaccinated.

Today, evidence strongly indicates that vaccines do a good job of keeping people from becoming seriously ill with COVID-19, being hospitalized, or even death.

SRPMIC COVID-19 vaccines are introducing an important line of defense in the fight against COVID-19.

All of us, vaccinated or not, must continue to use the other defenses, such as, **washing your hands, don't touch your nose or face, stay apart at least 6 feet, clean surfaces regularly, and wear a facemask.**

By continuing to take these precautions, we will be doing something even more powerful — protecting others.

#ShieldUpSaltRiver



Journey to Wellness
 PRESENTED BY SRPMIC DIABETES PREVENTION SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 27 - 30, 2021 @ YOUR HOME!

Attention Community Youth: Are you ready for an incredible Journey to Wellness Week with special guests, games, cooking, and prizes?! Ages 4-12 and Ages 13 and Older are invited to participate in this year's annual event. Parents are also invited to attend with their child/children.

When: September 27 - 30, 2021 nightly @ 5:30 and 6:30pm (a whole week of sessions created JUST FOR YOU!)

What: Native Speakers with FUN topics like 'Healthy Cooking at Home', 'Healthy Snacks', 'Yoga for Kids', 'How to Meditate', 'Family Games & Contests', and more age-appropriate workouts and workshops for learning and growth!

Email Tara.John@srpmic-nsn.gov to get on the pre-registration list today! Registration will guarantee your kids a spot and reserve goody bags with cooking ingredients, workout equipment, yoga mats, games, etc. More event info to follow!





Salt River Public Safety Communications Division Emergency Health Profile

BY OFF. CHRISTOPHER DAVIS
Salt River Police Department

Many people believe that when they call 911 on their cell phone, the 911 operators have their location, just as if they were using a landline to make the call. This is a big misconception.

Not only does it take longer to locate a 911 caller on a cell phone, but the 911 operators also have no personal health information on the caller. That's why the Salt River Public Safety Communications Division (SRPSCD) is bringing to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community a free and secure way for individuals to share critical health and medical information when dialing 911 during an emergency. This program is through RapidSOS, which is in partnership with the American Heart Association and American Red Cross. The Emergency Health Profile is designed to deliver personal medical information, the caller's home address and emergency contact information from cellular callers at the time a 911 call originates.

Community members utilizing this program will empower a faster and smarter response through intelligent data for first responders. You can register for this program through a simple three-step sign-up process that will create a profile for you and your loved ones.

Here's how to create a free Emergency Health Profile, which can also be seen on your Salt River Police Department Facebook page.

1. Go to www.emergencyprofile.org
2. Click "Sign Up"
3. Enter your contact and health information, and save

Please remember that getting data to SRPSCD is critical to a rapid emergency response. When SRPSCD has immediate access to important caller health and location data, it can assist with response times and ensure the safety of both first responders and those calling for help.

Steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick

If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you might have COVID-19, follow the steps below to care for yourself and to help protect other people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care

- * Stay home. Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and can recover at home without medical care. Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.
- * Take care of yourself. Get rest and stay hydrated. Take over-the-counter medicines, such as acetaminophen, to help you feel better.
- * Stay in touch with your doctor. Call before you get medical care. Be sure to get care if you have trouble breathing, or have any other emergency warning signs, or if you think it is an emergency.
- * Avoid public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people

- * As much as possible, stay in a specific room and away from other people and pets in your home. If possible, you should use a separate bathroom. If you need to be around other people or animals in or outside of the home, wear a mask.
- * Tell your close contacts that they may have been exposed to COVID-19. An infected person can spread COVID-19 starting 48 hours (or 2 days) before the person has any symptoms or tests positive. By letting your close contacts know they may have been exposed to COVID-19, you are helping to protect everyone.

Watch for Symptoms

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

BE PREPARED!
EMERGENCY HEALTH PROFILE

SHARE CRITICAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL INFORMATION WITH 911 DURING AN EMERGENCY.

RAPIDSOS IS NOW OFFERED THROUGH SALT RIVER DISPATCH!

A FREE SECURE WAY FOR INDIVIDUALS TO SHARE CRITICAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL INFORMATION WITH 911 AND FIRST RESPONDERS IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.

CREATE A FREE EMERGENCY HEALTH PROFILE TODAY!

1. GO TO WWW.EMERGENCYPROFILE.ORG
2. CLICK "SIGN UP"
3. ENTER YOUR CONTACT AND HEALTH INFORMATION AND SAVE

SRPD

Simple Sign-Up
QUICK 3-STEP PROCESS TO CREATE YOUR PROFILE

Free for All
SERVICE PROVIDED AT NO COST

Real-time Data
PROFILE INFORMATION AUTOMATICALLY SHARED WITH THE 911 CENTER MANAGING YOUR EMERGENCY.

Secure
INFORMATION ONLY SHARED WITH PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL DURING AN ACTIVE 911 CALL.

RapidSOS

EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2021

COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC MOVES

TO THE **SALT RIVER GYMNASIUM**
1880 North Longmore Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256

EVERY FRIDAY | 7:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
LUNCH BREAK FROM 12:00 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

THIS IS A INDOOR CLINIC

AGE 12 – 17 YOUTH
AGE 18 + ADULTS

WHO CAN GET A COVID-19 VACCINE?

- SRPMIC Members and families of community members
- Non-Community Member Residents who live in the boundaries of SRPMIC
- Tribal government employees & families
- SRPMIC Tribal member businesses employees & families
- SRPMIC Enterprise employees & families
- SRPMIC Contractors

Enrolled SRPMIC members who would like to receive their vaccination incentive must bring their SRPMIC tribal ID to their vaccination appointment

APPOINTMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED BUT NOT REQUIRED

FACE MASK REQUIRED
FOR YOUR SAFETY AND OTHERS
THANK YOU

WALK-INS TAKEN UP UNTIL 3 P.M.
APPOINTMENTS WILL BE SEEN FIRST

480-362-2603

I TOOK THE WINNING SHOT

SRPMIC Vaccination Incentive

TVS • IPADS GIFT CARDS LAPTOPS

drawings every Friday

CRITERIA:

- Enrolled SRPMIC members who have been fully vaccinated
- One entry per individual
- One prize per winner
- Three winners each week
- Two (2) draws 12-54, one draw 55+
- Drawings held each Friday
- Three month drawing (Sept-Nov)
- First drawing: Friday, September 3, 2021

INDIVIDUALS ARE AUTOMATICALLY ENTERED THROUGH THE HHS DATABASE.

TO SCHEDULE A VACCINATION APPOINTMENT CALL THE COVID-19 HOTLINE: 480-362-2603

SEPTEMBER PRIZES (3 EACH WEEK)

WEEK 1: LG 55" SMART TVS

WEEK 2: IPADS, 10.9", 64 GB, WIFI, CELLULAR

WEEK 3: \$500 VISA GIFT CARDS

WEEK 4: LAPTOPS

INFO? EMAIL: DRAWING@SRPMIC-NSN.GOV OR CALL: 480-362-7467



The Arizona Diamondbacks have announced their 2022 spring training schedule, which will be the club's 25th spring training of all time and their 12th season on tribal land at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick. Spring training 2022 begins the first of 30 games on February 26 with a home game vs. the Colorado Rockies. The Diamondbacks will play the newly renamed Cleveland Guardians for the first time on March 3 during a night game at Goodyear Field. Ticket sales for Salt River Fields at Talking Stick will be announced at a later date. For more information, the full schedule and updates, visit www.dbacks.com/spring. *By Chris Picciuolo.*

LIVE ONLINE TUTORING

Homework Help, Math, Reading, Writing & More!

ENROLL TODAY!

MONDAY-THURSDAY 3-6PM via MS TEAMS

Our FREE live online tutoring is available to all enrolled SRPMIC students in K-12 and college. Space is limited. Participants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

LEA LEE, PROJECT ASSISTANT
(480) 362-2063
LEA.LEE@SALTRIVERSCHOOLS.ORG

KATHY TUCKER
LITERACY & TUTORING PROGRAM COORDINATOR
(480) 362-2530



USS Arizona Memorial Gardens Wins ENR Southwest Best Project Award

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
O'odham Action News
tasha.silverhorn2@srpmic-nsn.gov

The USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River has received a Best Project award in the Landscape/Urban Development category from Engineering News-Record (ENR) Southwest.

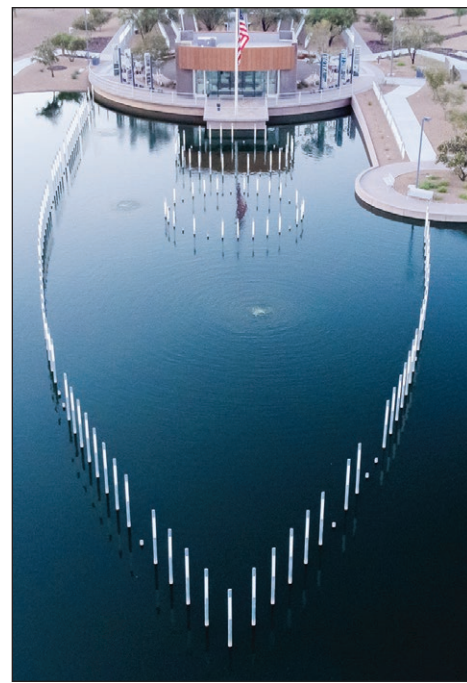
J2 Engineering and Environmental Design submitted their application and competed against 83 other projects. The award submissions were evaluated by experts in the architecture, engineering and construction industry. The USS Arizona Memorial Gardens project and 16 others received Best Project awards.

Other awards announced included the Excellence in Safety and Excellence in Sustainability awards, Owner of the Year, Design Firm of the Year and Contractor of the Year. Award recipients will be recognized at the ENR Southwest Awards Celebration in November at the Renaissance Phoenix Downtown Hotel.

Congratulations to J2 Engineering and Environmental Design, Valley Rain, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Engineering and Construction Services, and the SRPMIC for this award recognition.

This is the second award that J2 Engineering and Environmental Design has won related to their work in developing the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens. Last year, J2 and the Memorial Gardens won the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association (APRA) Outstanding Facility Award for Populations Under 10,000.

For more information on the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt



Above: An aerial view of the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River.

Below: Makers list names and columns that illuminate at night representing those who were lost in the Pearl Harbor Attack.



River, visit www.discoveraltriver.com/uss-arizona-memorial-gardens-at-salt-river. Or, visit in person to reflect on and pay respects to those who bravely gave their lives at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The memorial garden is located at 7455 N. Pima Road in Scottsdale and is open dawn to dusk.

We love to see you SMILE!

\$1,000 OFF

FULL BRACES OR INVISALIGN

Offer good for SRPMIC Community Members and SRPMIC Employees



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Specialist in Orthodontics

Most Insurance Accepted
Financing Available

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36413 N. Gantzel Rd.
SE of Banner Ironwood Hospital
480-284-8824

MESA
453 W. 5th St.
Country Club & University
480-835-0567

EAST MESA
1118 N. Val Vista Rd.
SW Corner of Brown & Val Vista
480-969-1514

CHANDLER
4055 W. Chandler Blvd., Suite 1
Just west of Chandler Fashion Mall
480-753-6300

* One coupon per person after usual and customary fees. Some restrictions apply, see office for complete details. New patients only. Must present coupon at initial consultation.

Bam Kazam Creates New Memories With Real-Life Arcade



Bam Kazam opening ceremony.



One of the puzzle rooms at Bam Kazam.

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

Bam! And just like that, Bam Kazam appeared in the Talking Stick Entertainment District of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Bam Kazam is a cross between an escape room and a life-size human arcade game with dozens of rooms full of physical and mental puzzles and skill games.

After a year of solitude, isolation and loss, Victor Blake, the founder of Bam Kazam, wanted to create new memories in the Community.

“Instead of silly little games or something, think back to when we were kids making pillow forts, the floor was lava, and we were pirates. We were dreamers, using our imagination to make memo-

ries. And that’s kind of what we’re doing now, I just made a much nicer pillow fort,” said Blake.

Like an arcade game, all Bam Kazam games have levels and can be replayed.

An all-access pass costs \$32, which allows you to explore all of the games for up to two hours. Admission is for ages 14 and up without an adult, and ages 10 and up require a participating adult.

Bam Kazam is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and is located near Top Golf, Octane Raceway and Mavericks at 8999 Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale, 85250. You can find more information about Bam Kazam on their website at www.bamkazam.com.



A hallway that leads to some puzzle escape rooms toward the back of Bam Kazam.

ESSENTIAL leadership

CAP’s popularly-elected board of directors establishes policies to support the reliable management and delivery of Colorado River water to Maricopa, Pinal, and Pima counties, ultimately affecting the quality of life for many Arizonans.

YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

www.KnowYourWaterNews.com

Connect to the Earth With Native Seeds

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

As the summer months begin a transition to fall, local gardeners are able to plant fall and winter crops from seed. With the Native Seeds/SEARCH (NS/S) Native American Seed Request Program, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members and all Indigenous peoples in the Southwest region can receive up to 10 free seed packets per household per year.

Some seeds at NS/S are available to the general public; however, certain seed varieties are available to members of Native American communities only.

O'odham seed varieties are abundant and include the Salt River Pima pea, Sacaton Aboriginal cotton, Gila Pima Ha:l squash and Baufl, a Pima beige and brown tepary bean collected in the mid-1970s from Santan, on the Gila River Indian Community.

You can even choose a domesticated devil's claw or a gourd like the O'odham Small Biloba or Wapko, an O'odham dipper gourd.

Through the organization's Native American Seed Request Program, Indigenous gardeners can access seeds that originate from the many Native American communities throughout the Southwest. This access is intentional, according to SRPMIC Community Garden Coordinator and NS/S Chair Jacob Butler.

"Historically, with the archeological footprints we have, there is evidence to show that there are major trade routes, and these routes extend all the way to Mesoamerica and into the Midwest [from the Southwest region]," said Butler.

"For the Native peoples from Arizona, in order to survive in an arid environment like this, it made more sense to get along with people than it did to fight with



Salt River Pima Peas, which are available to SRPMIC members through the Native American Seed Request.

them. So, there was a lot of trading going on. Although a seed may be attributed to the O'odham, that doesn't diminish the relationship that seed may have had in another community. Linguistically, the Hopi and the O'odham are related, and there is evidence

that there was a lot of trade going on between these two communities in the pueblo area and on the mesas. Some of the seeds that we have here may have been seeds that they once had, and vice versa. Understanding that seeds were commonly traded among tribes, and keeping the traditional values that these seeds are alive, a lot of tribes, including ours, say that the seeds are their relatives. As a non-Native entity, NS/S doesn't want to make the statement that this seed belongs to one tribe over another."

According to the Native Seeds/SEARCH 2020 annual report, the organization donated 7,300 seed packets to the Native American Seed Request Program, which is up 16% from 2019. Additional assistance to COVID-19 relief projects in Native communities were 1,730 packets not included in the Native American Seed Request count. An additional 45.7 pounds of seeds were given to Native communities to supplement community seed stocks.

Butler said that Indigenous gardeners and growers can take advantage of the NS/S Partner Gardener Program, which has some of the rarer seeds at risk of being lost.

"[With the Partner Gardener Program] we will not only help ourselves, but future generations of gardeners here at SRPMIC and all across Indian Country and the general public as well," said Butler. "If at any time those seeds are at risk of being depleted to the point where NS/S couldn't offer them anymore, the first tier that would be put on hold would be the general public access."

For more information about these programs and which seeds you would like to grow, visit www.native-seeds.org.

Prosecutor's Office and Community Presented Patriot Award

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

The National Guard presented the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Office of the Prosecutor and the Community government with the Patriot Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program.

SRPMIC Chief Prosecutor Alane Breland and President Martin Harvier (via Vice-President Ricardo Leonard) were presented with the award after criminal investigator Benny Morel, a retired sergeant with the Salt River Police Department and retired U.S. Army veteran, and his wife Jessica nominated them for offering flexibility to Morel while he worked remotely.

Jessica Morel is a second lieutenant and active member of the U.S. Army National Guard, where she is a chaplain candidate for the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps. Earlier this year, she attended the three month-long Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course in South Carolina.

The flexibility offered by the prosecutor's office allowed Benny Morel to have a better work/life balance with their four children while Jessica was away.

"The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community has always been supportive of our veterans and our military community," said Jessica Morel. "This has always been something that Benny and I have deeply appreciated."

Accepting the award, Breland



Left to right: Bienvenido (Benny) Morel, Jessica Morel, Alane Breland, SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard, ESGR Representative Bill Adams. Photo courtesy of Alane Breland

said that they are profoundly grateful to those who answer their country's call to serve.

"Our office is very proud to support our employees in every way we can. It is the Community's generosity and emphasis on family that allows us to show flexibility and compassion when employees face different challenges," said Breland.

"Benny is an integral member of our team, and we are proud that he, Jessica and their children are members of our extended office family."

The award is something special to Breland on a personal level, as her great-uncle Wilbern Manley

was held as a prisoner of war by Germany during World War II.

"My grandfather served in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific Theatre of Operations, and my father served in the U.S. Navy. My maternal great-uncles served in the Army, the Marines and the Coast Guard," said Breland.

"I was raised to treat our service members with reverence, respect and admiration, so to receive an award from members of our military means more than I have words to say."

POWER OUTAGE PREPAREDNESS

Sign up to receive SRP outage notifications through:
<https://www.srpnet.com/safety/outage/outagealerts.aspx>

To see SRP outage maps and estimated restoration times visit:
<https://myaccount.srpnet.com/power/myaccount/outages>

Cooling stations can be set up if requested for long-term outages at following locations:

- Lehi Police/Fire Substation
- Indian School Police/Fire Substation

Individual preparedness actions to take:

- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.
- Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.
- Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.

- Use alternate plans for refrigerating medicines.
- If safe, go to an alternate location for heat or cooling.
- Check in on neighbors and elders.

For long-term power outages, if you need non-emergency assistance call the SRPMIC Police / Fire Dispatch Center at (480) 850-9230

FOR EMERGENCIES ALWAYS CALL 911.



Talking Stick Entertainment District: Get To Know Your Neighbor!

Chef Julio Ramos, Chef at Tash, Talking Stick Resort

As the grandson of a baker, Chef Ramos first developed his culinary passion as a child in Culiacán, Sinaloa, Mexico, where his talents were nurtured and took root in family tradition. He has been with Talking Stick Resort for a decade, previously holding positions at Wandering Horse Buffet and the award-winning restaurant Orange Sky. He will continue to create new recipes for Tash, a memorable dining experience where guests can be immersed in flavorful bites and intoxicating aromas.



Julio Ramos, changed his profession as a computer systems designer to his true calling as a chef.

Why did you want to become a chef and how did you get into this role?

I started my professional life as a computer systems designer and as a teacher of the same, but cooking was always my hobby. I worked in restaurants while I was in school, but when I moved to the United States, that feeling for the city was intensified. When I started working in larger and more organized kitchens, learning different cuisines and cultures, it awakened in me, the desire to change my profession and put all my effort into learning more until I became the chef that I am now.

How long have you been a chef?

I have been a chef for more than seven years, but worked in kitchens for more than fifteen years.

What does a typical work day look like for you?

The first thing I do when I arrive is to check my emails, food orders and

inventory. I roll up my sleeves, greet the kitchen team, check reservations, check the freshness of the product in the coolers and the hot line. I then start a preparation list for the day, cook and taste, ensuring that every dish comes out perfect throughout the service.

Do you have a favorite entrée or appetizer, why?

For me personally, my favorite is paella, it is quite versatile, it requires a lot of care and dedication when cooking it.

Do you get anxious in anticipating a guests' reaction to eating their entrée?

At Tash, having that open kitchen window where I can see all the diners and see their reactions when they receive their dishes and even more, when they taste them, it is satisfactory not only for me as a chef but also for the cooks. The anxiety and anticipation I always keep even though we serve the same dish a hundred times a day, that's my human connection with the diner.

NATIVE AMERICAN Recognition Days

SAVE THE DATE
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021 **7AM - 9PM**

- ROUND HOUSE
- SPECIAL BREAKFAST & LUNCH
- FASHION SHOW
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- FEAST
- PROMO GIVEAWAY
- LIVE MUSIC

COMMUNITY RELATIONS - EVENTS | 480.362.7740 | SRPMIC | SALTRIVERPIMAMARICOPA

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CASINO
ARIZONA



School Is Cool' Walk-Thru

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
O'odham Action News
tasha.silverhorn2@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Community Recreational Services Department held a back-to-school event for all of the SRPMIC youth on Thursday, August 12, at the Pi-Copa Gymnasium. The event was originally designed as a drive-thru, but due to unpredictable weather CRS set up booths in the gym, creating a "walk-through" event.

The different divisions of Community Recreational Services—Social Programs, Athletics, the Salt River Tribal Library and Aquatics—decorated their booths in a tropical theme. Each division gave out school supplies, promotional items and a whole pizza that went to the first 100 families.

"We thought that would be fun for the kids and let the staff have fun with

decorating their booths. It was to make it a fun theme for the kids and get them excited about school as they come pick up their supplies," said Assistant Community Recreational Services Director Teresa Masayesva. "We have everything from backpacks to school supplies, water bottles, lunch bags and all kinds of good stuff."

Due to COVID-19, the department required participants to wear face covering and maintain social distancing. To make sure the guidelines were followed, staff only let in five families at a time.

This event replaced the usual registration night event that the department holds at the beginning of each school year. The Social Programs division is providing a limited number of services for the Community youth; it held summer day camp for children and teens, and the after-school program has met its limited capacity of students.

"Because we couldn't have our usual registration night, this is in lieu of that. We want to make sure we can provide something for the Community children," said Masayesva.

The allotted time was two hours, but after the first hour all the school supplies, promotional items and pizzas had run out, so the successful event ended early.

For more information on any of the divisions at the Community Recreational Services Department, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SRPMIC.WOLF or give them a call at (480) 362-6800.



Ethan Allen and Denzel Lewis happy to get a whole pizza as they walked through the School Is Cool Walk Thru hosted by Community Recreational Services Department.



CRS Community Liaison Joseph Romero and Recreation Coordinator I Kimberly Whitelock hand out backpacks to students.



CRS Recreation Coordinator I Danitra Betita hands out school supplies and promotional items to Community youth and answers parent's questions about the department.



September WIC Updates

For the health and wellness of our clients and staff, SRPMIC WIC will be providing Telehealth services for the entire month of September, by appointment only.

*For appointments please call: 480-362-7300

Already a WIC client? Please don't forget to check your food benefits for the month.

Contact Information:

Phone: 480-362-7300

Text: 1-888-365-1338

Email: WIC@srpmic-nsn.gov



WIC is an equal opportunity employer and provider

Emergency Management Highlight:

National Preparedness Month 2021

BY TERRY NELSON
SRPMIC Emergency Management Coordinator

Each year, the Office of Emergency Management recognizes National Preparedness Month within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. This year's theme, "Prepare to Protect," seeks to promote protecting everyone you love by preparing for disasters, where the focus is on different aspects of preparedness for individuals, families and communities.

Themes included in this year's message include the following:

- **Make a Plan**—Discuss how you will communicate with your friends and family before, during and after a disaster. In your plan include any recommendations by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention related to the COVID-19 virus.
- **Build a Kit**—Gather supplies to aid in evacuation and remain self-sufficient for a period of up to 72 hours. Don't forget unique needs each person may have, such as medications, and plan for your pets. Update your kits based on recommendations by the CDC.



Disasters Don't Wait.
Make Your Plan Today.

- **Prepare for Disasters**—Use mitigation efforts to limit the impact disasters have on you and your family. Know the risks of disasters that may occur in your particular area of the Community, such as flooding. Learn ways to make your home stronger during storms and identify what

Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps

actions you can take prior to storms and other common hazards. Act fast if you receive a local warning or alert.

- **Teach Youth About Preparedness**—Educating today's youth about preparing for emergencies, such as how to communicate if you are separated, should be a priority. Providing them with information on how they can get involved can greatly improve response efforts within the home.

By taking these actionable measures in individual and family preparedness, you will be in a better state of readiness and the impacts of disasters will be significantly reduced.

For more information about National Preparedness Month or to obtain additional resources related to the themes, visit www.ready.gov. You also may contact SRPMIC Emergency Management at (480) 362-7929 or Terry.Nelson@srpmic-nsn.gov.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
O'odham Action News
tasha.silverhorn2@srpmic-nsn.gov

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 47,500 people died by suicide in the U.S. in 2019.

Suicide is a tragic event with devastating emotional effects for the survivors and families of its victims. After the past year and half of living with the COVID-19 pandemic, people have been experiencing increased anxiety, depression and substance abuse, adding to other struggles that had individuals seriously considering suicide, according to the CDC.

NATIONAL

SUICIDE PREVENTION

LIFELINE™

I-800-273-TALK
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Anyone may contemplate suicide; it's not limited to a particular social or economic group. Suicide has affected many, especially after such a devastating year and a half of losing loved ones to an unpredictable sickness, isolation and economic struggles. According to the CDC, 12 million people seriously thought about suicide, 3.5 million made a plan for suicide, and 1.4 million have attempted suicide. Sometimes there aren't any warning signs. Victims of suicide in-

clude those who are outgoing with many friends, people who may seem happy with no worries at all, as well as those who are obviously disturbed and talk about taking their own life.

Many factors can increase the risk of suicide. It is connected to forms of injury and violence; for example, those who have experienced child abuse, bullying or sexual violence are at higher risk of suicide. Suicide affects children and adults, and people of all ages and races. Native Americans/Alaska Natives have the highest rate of suicide compared with other races. The impacts of suicide and suicide attempts can affect both the victims and their families emotionally, physically and economically, including failed suicide attempts that result in serious injuries that have long-term effects.

Suicide can be prevented through a number of strategies, such as strengthening economic supports, providing access to and delivery of suicide prevention care, creating protective environments, promoting connectedness, learning coping and problem-solving skills, identifying and supporting people at risk, and lessening harms and preventing future risks (see sidebar for more details).

Salt River Behavioral Health Services offers a number of outpatient services that can help those who are struggling. Services include individual and family counseling, group counseling/therapy, crisis intervention, and Community education seminars to help cope with grief, suicide and loss. To read more on these services, visit <https://oan.srpmic-nsn.gov> and read the article titled "How to Cope with Grief and Loss."

If you or someone you know struggles with thoughts of suicide and needs someone to talk to, contact Behavioral Health Services at (480) 362-5707, the SRPMIC Crisis Line at (480) 362-6333 or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. Find more information online at <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>.

If you need to speak to a Behavioral Health Services counselor, call (480) 362-5707 to talk it out in a safe place.

Strategies to Prevent Suicide

Strengthen economic supports

- Strengthen household financial security
- Housing stabilization policies

Strengthen access to and delivery of suicide care

- Coverage of mental health conditions in health insurance policies
- Reduce provider shortages in underserved areas
- Safer suicide care through system change

Create protective environments

- Reduce access to lethal means among persons at risk for suicide
- Organizational policies and culture
- Community-based policies to reduce excessive alcohol use

Promote connectedness

- Peer norm programs
- Community engagement activities

Teach coping and problem-solving skills

- Social-emotional learning programs
- Parenting skill and family relationship programs

Identify and support people at risk

- Gatekeeper training
- Crisis intervention
- Treatment for people at risk of suicide
- Treatment to prevent re-attempts

Lessen harms and prevent future risk

- Postvention
- Safe reporting and messaging about suicide

Source: CDC.gov

SRPMIC DHHS PREVENTION & INTERVENTION SERVICES



- September 10th: Show your support "Wear Yellow Day"
- September 13th: Suicide Warning Signs, Myths, Facts & Ways to Get Help Presentation: (zoom)
- September 14th: Tuesday Trivia- Test Your Knowledge
- September 22nd: Suicide Awareness Virtual Conference
- September 27th: Incentives for Suicide Awareness Conference Participants 11 am-1pm CIC parking lot



"Creating Hope Through Action" Suicide Awareness Conference September 22, 2021 8:30am-12:00pm

PLANNED EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- Guest Speakers
- Informative Sessions
- Resources
- Door Prizes
- Drive thru lunch & incentives on 9/27/2021 from 11 am-1 pm
DHHS Central Intake Bldg.
Parking Lot

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION :

- Virtual
 - No Registration Fee
 - Must Pre-Register on Survey Monkey
- REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED**

SAVE THE DATE!



Test your knowledge by entering our Tuesday Trivia Contest on Suicide Awareness
Tuesday, September 14th

Submit your answers to:
vurlene.notsinneh-bowekaty@srpmic-nsn.gov



World Suicide Prevention Day

Wear Yellow Friday September 10th
To Support HOPE

Join DHHS Prevention & Intervention Services by wearing yellow on September 10th to show your support of HOPE...
Take a selfie and send it to
vurlene.notsinneh-bowekaty@srpmic-nsn.gov

SRPMIC DHHS Prevention & Intervention Services

For more information on any of the events contact Health Educators:

Vurlene Notsinneh-Bowekaty at (480) 362-2607

Melanie Nosie at (480) 362-6678

Elma Dawahoya at (480) 362-5447

Little Know Social Security Program Helps Seniors Manage Their Money

Dear Savvy Senior,

Does Social Security offer any special help to beneficiaries who struggle managing their benefits? My aunt, who has no children, has dementia and struggles keeping up with her bills and other financial duties.

Inquiring Niece

Dear Inquiring,

Yes, Social Security actually has a little-known program known as the “representative payee program” that helps beneficiaries who need help managing their Social Security benefit payments. Here’s what you should know.

Representative Payee Program

Authorized by congress back in 1939, the Social Security representative payee program provides money management help to beneficiaries who are incapable of managing their Social Security income. Beneficiaries in need of this help are often seniors suffering from dementia, or minor children who are collecting Social Security survivors’ benefits.

Currently more than 5 million Social Security beneficiaries have representative payees.

Representative payees also handle benefits for nearly 3 million recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a Social Security administered benefit program for low-income people who are over 65, blind or disabled.

Who Are Payees?

A representative payee is typically a relative or close friend of the beneficiary needing assistance, but Social Security can also name an organization or institution for the role – like a nursing homes or social-service agency.

Some of duties of a representative payee include:

- Using the beneficiary’s Social Security or SSI payments to meet their essential needs, such as food, shelter, household bills and medical care. The money can also be used for personal needs like clothing and recreation.
- Keeping any remaining money from benefit payments in an interest-bearing bank account or savings bonds for the beneficiary’s future needs.
- Keeping records of benefit payments received and how the money was spent or saved.
- Reporting to Social Security any

changes or events that could affect the beneficiary’s payments (for example, a move, marriage, divorce or death).

- Reporting any circumstances that affect the payee’s ability to serve in the role.

As a representative payee, you cannot combine the beneficiary’s Social Security payments with your own money or use them for your own needs. The bank account into which benefits are deposited should be fully owned by the beneficiary, with the payee listed as financial agent.

Some payees, generally those who do not live with the beneficiary, are required to submit annual reports to Social Security accounting for how benefits are used. For more information on the responsibilities and restrictions that come with the role, see the Social Security publication “A Guide for Representative Payees” at SSA.gov/pubs/EN-05-10076.pdf.

How to Get Help

If you believe your aunt may need a representative payee, call Social Security at 800-772-1213 and make an appointment to discuss the matter at her local office. Applying to serve as a payee usually requires a face-to-face interview.

Social Security may consider other evidence in deciding if a beneficiary needs a payee and selecting the person to fill the role, including doctors’ assessments and statements from relatives, friends and others in a position to give an informed opinion about the beneficiary’s situation.

You should also know that if you become your aunt’s representative payee you cannot collect a fee for doing it. However, some organizations that serve in the role do receive fees, paid out of the beneficiary’s Social Security or SSI payments.

For more information on the program visit SSA.gov/payee.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of “The Savvy Senior” book.

Do I Need to Get Tested For COVID-19 If I’m Vaccinated?

BY MATTHEW PERRONE A
P Health Writer

Do I need to get tested for COVID-19 if I’m vaccinated?

Yes, if you’ve been around someone who has COVID-19.

The latest guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says people who are fully vaccinated should get tested three to five days after a potential exposure, even if they don’t have symptoms.

That change comes two months after the agency eased its initial testing guidance. In May, the CDC said vaccinated people face very little risk of serious illness and don’t need to be tested in most cases, even if exposed to someone who was sick. The thinking was that vaccinated people also weren’t likely to spread it to others.

But the agency says it’s reversing that guidance because of the more conta-

rious delta variant, which now accounts for most COVID-19 infections.

The COVID-19 vaccines are still very good at protecting people from getting seriously ill, but the CDC says new data shows vaccinated people infected with the delta variant could spread it to others.

Doctors, nurses and other health care workers should consult with their employers, some of whom may require routine testing for their staff. People working in prisons and homeless shelters are also generally subject to stepped-up testing requirements.

U.S. citizens returning from abroad still have to present a negative COVID-19 test before boarding their flights home, regardless of their vaccination status. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 should still isolate for 10 days, the CDC says.

According to the United States Veterans Affairs Department in 2018, Veterans accounted for 13.8% of all deaths by suicide among adults in the U.S.

SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

If you or someone you know is experiencing thoughts of suicide please
Contact the Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1(800)273-TALK
 Press option 1
 or
Contact SRPMIC's Behavioral Health Department at (480)946-9066
 Press option 1 and then option 3



HAVE A DISABILITY OR DIAGNOSIS? WANT TO WORK?



NEED SOME HELP?

Vocational Rehabilitation can help you! We provide services and support for employment.

NOW

SCHEDULING 1-ON-1 ORIENTATIONS

CONTACT US TODAY!

+ Georgia Goodwin-Acosta • 480-362-2650 • Georgia.Goodwin2@SRPMIC-NSN.GOV



LOST COVID-19 VACCINE CARD?

NEW MOBILE APP

1 AZ STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Get a copy from the AZ State Department of Health Services. A fillable Immunization Record Request form is available to request a copy via email or US post mail.

Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/2btbjd5d>

REGISTRATION IS EASY

REGISTER WITH MyIR ARIZONA TODAY.

•••

Choose one of the two options to recover your lost vaccine card.

2 MOBILE APP MyIR

For those that are tech savvy you can register at “MyIR” and get a copy of all immunizations including your COVID-19 vaccine! Its readily available and convenient!

Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/ypjh24f2>

WE GOT VACCINATED

TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19



COVID-19 VACCINES ARE EFFECTIVE

- COVID-19 vaccines can keep you from getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines also help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19.
- Getting vaccinated yourself may also protect people around you, particularly people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

COVID-19 VACCINES ARE SAFE

- COVID-19 vaccines were developed using science that has been around for decades.
- COVID-19 vaccines are not experimental. They went through all the required stages of clinical trials.
- Extensive testing and monitoring have shown that these vaccines are safe and effective.

ONCE YOU ARE FULLY VACCINATED, YOU CAN START DOING MORE

- After you are fully vaccinated for COVID-19, you can resume many activities that you did before the pandemic. You can resume activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.
- People are not considered fully vaccinated until 2 weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, or 2 weeks after a single-dose of Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 VACCINATION IS A SAFER WAY TO HELP BUILD PROTECTION

- Get vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19. Studies have shown that vaccination provides a strong boost in protection in people who have recovered from COVID-19.
- COVID-19 is still a threat to people who are unvaccinated. Some people who get COVID-19 can become severely ill, which could result in hospitalization, and some people have ongoing health problems several weeks or even longer after getting infected.

CALL

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO GET YOUR VACCINATION!

(480) 362-2603



US Boarding School Review Prompts Calls For Trauma Support

BY SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Some members of Congress want to ensure that protections are put in place to address ongoing trauma as more information comes to light about the troubled history of Indigenous boarding schools in the United States.

A group of 21 Democratic lawmakers representing states stretching from the Southwest to the East Coast sent a letter last week to the Indian Health Service. They are asking that the federal agency make available culturally appropriate support services such as a hotline and other mental and spiritual programs as the federal government embarks on its investigation into the schools.

Agency officials said in a statement Monday they are reviewing the request and discussing what steps to take next.

Advocacy groups say additional trauma resources for Indigenous communities are more urgent than ever.

“The first step we need to take is caring for our boarding school survivors,” said Deborah Parker, a citizen of the Tulalip Tribes and director of policy and advocacy at the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland has acknowledged the process will be painful. She and many others have talked about the federal government’s attempt to wipe out tribal identity, language and culture through its boarding school policies and how that past has continued to manifest itself through long-standing trauma, cycles of violence and abuse, premature deaths, mental health issues and substance abuse.

Part of the Interior Department’s work includes identifying potential burial sites at former schools and documenting the names and tribal affiliations of the students buried there. The agency has promised to work with tribes on how best to protect the sites and respect families and communities.

The lawmakers in their letter described the boarding school era as a “stain in America’s history.” They wrote that revisiting that history undoubtedly will be traumatic for survivors and their communities.

“We are confident that IHS is equipped to consider ways to prevent

inflicting or worsening existing inter-generational trauma,” the letter reads.

The Indian Health Service noted Monday that Native American youth are 2.5 times more likely to experience trauma compared to their non-Native peers and that the agency aims to provide a “safe, supportive, welcoming, non-punitive, respectful, healthy and healing environment for all patients and staff.”

Still, it will take work to ensure services are widely available, as criticism of the Indian Health Service and chronic funding inadequacies have spanned decades and numerous presidential administrations. The pandemic exacerbated health care disparities seen in many Indigenous communities.

Under the Biden administration’s latest spending proposal, the agency would see a 36% increase in its annual budget for the next fiscal year. That would mark the largest single-year funding increase for the agency in decades, officials have said. About \$420 million in pandemic relief funds also will be aimed at expanding mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services at IHS and tribal health programs.

Beginning in the early 1800s, the effort to assimilate Indigenous youth into white society by removing them from their homes and shipping them off to boarding schools spanned more than a century. According to the boarding school healing coalition, hundreds of thousands of Native American children passed through boarding schools in the U.S. between 1869 and the 1960s.

While research and family accounts confirm there were children who never made it home, a full accounting of deaths at the schools has never been done.

Some tribes and others have embarked on their own investigations.

In the coming months, researchers are planning to use ground-penetrating radar at the site of a former boarding school in Utah where tribal leaders say there may be unmarked graves. Corrina Bow, chairwoman for the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, said boarding school officials would take children as young as 6 years old and force them to work at a farm on the property.



Salt River
PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY
10005 E. OSBORN RD. / SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85256-9722 / PHONE (480) 362-7400

LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION

****COVID-19****

ELEVENTH DIRECTIVE - August 25, 2021 PROHIBITION ON WAKES IN PRIVATE HOMES

TO PROTECT AND DEFEND THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE ONK AKIMEL O’ODHAM AND XALYCHIDOM PIIPAASH, RESIDENTS, COMMUNITY EMPLOYEES, BUSINESSES AND VISITORS OF THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY BY PROHIBITING WAKES OR ANY TYPE OF FUNERAL SERVICES IN PRIVATE HOMES.

The Tenth Directive Clarification of Directives – *Maintain Face Coverings and Rescind Exemptions for Schools operating in the Commercial Corridor and Businesses within the Community from the SRPMIC Directives for COVID-19 Practices*—issued on August 13, 2021 remains in effect.

The COVID-19 continues to be a serious public health threat to the Community and now all COVID-19 positive cases within the Community are of the Delta variant which spreads from person-to-person more easily, especially if a person is not vaccinated. Incidents of the virus are increasing within the state and the Community and as of August 23, 2021 the Arizona Department of Health Services and local public health departments have identified 988,714 cases of COVID-19 with 18,600 deaths in the state and within the Community 1,289 cases of COVID-19 have been identified and 41 deaths.

NOW THEREFORE the SRPMIC Local Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 of March 18, 2020 remains in effect, and I, along with the Council, hereby issue the following:

In addition to the requirements of the Tenth Directive, and to protect and defend the health and welfare of the SRPMIC, its members, families, residents, Community employees, businesses and visitors, effective immediately, throughout the Community, wakes services or any type of funeral services at private homes are prohibited.

August 25, 2021

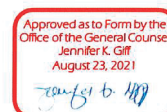
Date

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA
INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Martin Harvier
Martin Harvier, President

Attest:

Erica Harvier
Erica Harvier, Secretary



1



If you have a story idea, please OAN at
(480) 362-7750

Leave your name, number and brief message and we will return your call

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community COVID-19 TESTING AVAILABLE

NASAL SWAB / SALIVA TEST

*SALIVA TESTING REQUIRES NO FOOD OR DRINK 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO TESTING

MONDAY-FRIDAY | 7:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Lunch Break from 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.



Who can be tested at the SRPMIC COVID-19 SITE?

- No age restriction, testing is available for all ages.
- Tribal Enrollee and Family Members (immediate family and/or living in household) of any age.
- Non-Tribal Enrollee living within the Community Boundary in a SRPMIC Enrolled Member’s Home.
- SRPMIC Government Employee only.
- Enterprise Employees only.

IN ADDITION:

- Clients with an established Salt River Clinic chart
- Individuals providing a Certificate of Indian Blood (CDIB)
- Anyone referred by Salt River contact tracing team.

LOCATION

SRPMIC COVID-19 SITE
10237 E. Osborn, Scottsdale, AZ 85256

An appointment is recommended. Those with an appointment will be seen first. WALK-INS ARE WELCOME.

CALL THE COVID-19 HOTLINE (480) 362-2603 FOR AN APPOINTMENT

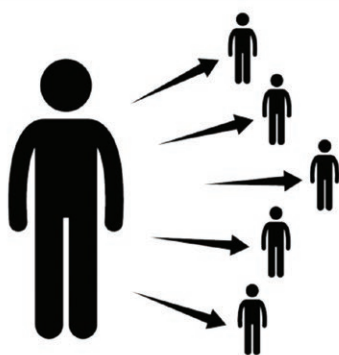
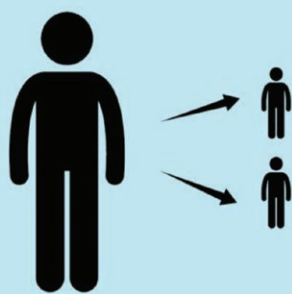
- COMMUNITY MEMBER / HOME BOUND, press option 4
- ALL OTHERS press option 2
- Leave your name and phone number
- Salt River Clinic staff will call you back to schedule an appointment



The Delta variant spreads more easily than previous variants—it may cause more than 2x as many infections

ORIGINAL COVID-19 STRAIN

DELTA VARIANT



Vaccines protect you from hospitalization, severe infections, and death



cdc.gov/coronavirus

CS 322041-AA 08/25/21

September 2021

-Council DISTRICT MEETINGS-

All District Meetings are held via Microsoft Teams

MEETING DATE/TIME	AGENDA	MEETING ENTRY INFO:
CM Enos DISTRICT A Mon, Sept. 13, 2021 5 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID-19 and Delta Variant Measures Community Comments ... other items to be added 	Website: https://tinyurl.com/rtnkrp6c Phone: 412-664-5196 Conference ID: 603369221
CM Antone DISTRICT B Sat, Sept. 18, 2021 9 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Comments ... other items to be added 	Website: https://tinyurl.com/pbncht6u Phone: 412-664-5196 Conference ID: 859521782
CM Doka DISTRICT C Sat., Sept. 11, 2021 9 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Update Water Rights Presentation NARCAN Overview 	Website: https://tinyurl.com/y5jmzajp Phone: 412-664-5196 Conference ID: 153229043
CM Grey DISTRICT D Fri., Sept. 2, 2021 6 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SR Schools Interim Superintendent Introduction NARCAN Presentation (tent.) Homesite Compliance Community Member Comments 	Website: https://tinyurl.com/yap69x9r Phone: 412-664-5196 Conference ID: 470548998
CM Largo DISTRICT E Mon, Sept. 27, 2021 5 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda TBD 	Website: https://tinyurl.com/yp3u5xr6 Phone: 412-664-5196 Conference ID: 831123709
CM Scabby / CM Dallas LEHI DISTRICT Tues., Sept. 21, 2021 5 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda TBD 	Website: https://tinyurl.com/bx4drc5y Phone: 412-664-5196 Conference ID: 363682658

Questions can be directed to the Council Secretaries Office at (480) 362-7466

TO CONTACT THE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

TO CONTACT PRESIDENT HARVIER OR VICE PRESIDENT LEONARD:

-Erica Harvier at (480) 362-7466 -Ardell Moore at (480) 362-7465
 -Elyse Lewis at (480) 362-7464 -Pat Rush at (480) 362-7438
 -Tamar Gonzalez (480) 362-7973

Community Members can view the public Council Meetings at:

www.srpmicnsn.gov/government/council/councilmeetings/ Community Members can also provide public comments, concerns and/or input by emailing: membercomments@srpmic-nsn.gov

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 8:00 PM to 5:00 AM.

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



COVID-19 HOTLINE PROMPTS HAVE CHANGED

When calling the COVID-19 Hotline be aware that the prompts have changed!

COVID-19 HOTLINE (480) 362-2603

- #1 COVID-19 VACCINE INCENTIVE
- #2 TESTING APPOINTMENT
- #3 VACCINE APPOINTMENT
- #4 HOME BOUND ASSISTANCE



PATHWAY TO HOMEOWNERSHIP VIRTUAL PRESENTATION OCTOBER 19, 2021— 5:30 PM

Inviting

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



**STEP 1
PERSONAL
READINESS**

**STEP 2
EVALUATING
CREDIT**

**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

3RD QUARTER 2021 ELIGIBILITY DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Must be eighteen (18) years old, enrolled, and living to be eligible for the **October 2021 Per Capita Payment.**

Deadlines for CHANGES

Direct Deposit Start-Ups and Changes: Tuesday, October 12th at 5 p.m.. 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 **October 2021** payout. Forms received after this date will not be effective until the **January 2022** payout.

Per Capita Eligibility: Tuesday, October 19th , at 5 p.m.. 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 **October 2021** payout. Forms received after this date

will not be processed until the first week of **November 2021.**

Discontinue Direct Deposits: Tuesday, October 12th , 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.**

Tax Withholding Changes: Tuesday, October 19th , at 5 p.m.. 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 finpercip1@srpmic-nsn.gov.

If you have any questions regarding:
Tribal ID, Per Capita Eligibility & Change Forms call Membership Services at (480) 362-7600; **Tax Withholding & Direct Deposits** call Finance-Per Capita at (480) 362-7710.

SALT RIVER LANDFILL



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Salt River Landfill is seeking your comments and input about the future of the Salt River Landfill. To watch a video presentation about several different options and provide your input, please visit the SRPMIC's Public Comments and Public Hearing webpage at:

<https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/1879-phc/>
or the Community Development Department Planning Services webpage:
<https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/cdd/planning/>

The video will be available for viewing on these webpages from **July 15th - September 30, 2021.** The video also will be presented at Council District Meetings



100% AMERICAN™

harvesting fly ash supply

SRMG Harvested Fly Ash is Being Distributed to the Southwestern U.S. Fly Ash Market

Previously landfilled fly ash at the Coronado Generating Station in St. Johns, Arizona is being excavated, dried, screened & classified, and distributed to the southwestern U.S. fly ash market. A significant portion of the fly ash used in the Phoenix market now consists of harvested fly ash.

At a time when coal-burning power plant units are being retired, reducing fly ash availability, SRMG is focused on innovation. With another stable source of quality ASTM C618 Class F fly ash added to its extensive supply network, SRMG's initiative to harvest fly ash from landfill storage will allow SRMG to maintain its reputation as a dependable and major fly ash marketer in the southwestern U.S. that can be trusted to deliver for years to come.

Consider this a land"un"fill.



Excavating Landfilled Fly Ash



Coronado Harvesting Facility



Harvested Fly Ash Storage

Check us out at . . .
www.srmaterials.com



Exceptional People...Exceptional Benefits...Exceptional Company
Phoenix Cement Company and Salt River Sand & Rock,
dba Salt River Materials Group,
both divisions of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

ONGOING - Have a disability or diagnosis? Want to work? Need some help? Vocational Rehabilitation can help you! We provide services and support for employment. NOW scheduling 1-on-1 orientations. Contact us today! Georgia Goodwin-Acosta - (480) 362-2650 or email Georgia.Goodwin2@srpmic-nsn.gov.

ONGOING- Behavioral Health Services Teen Girl DBT Group Therapy group for one hour once a week for Grades 9-12 on Thursdays 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. via Skype. The goal of the group is to increase healthy coping, social skills, and peer interactions. We can help assist teens in learning new practice therapeutic skills, such as distress tolerance and emotional regulation. Join group safely through Skype in the comfort in your home. For questions or information please call BHS at (480) 362-5707.

ONGOING- Salt River Tribal Library, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Tuesday - Friday. Ways to make an appointment By phone: (480) 362-6600, By Email: TribalLibrary@srpmic-nsn.gov, Online at: www.srpmic-nsn.gov/reservations. When requesting an appointment, please provide: Full name, requested time/ date, contact (Phone/Email). Appointments are 1 hour, all a--ppointments must be scheduled, no same day scheduling; appointments are based in the order which they are reserved, minors must be accompanied by a parent/ guardian during phase 2, reservations

are open to SRPMIC enrolled community members and SRPMIC residents.

ONGOING- Senior Services Food Distribution for Seniors, times vary. The Senior Services Department will be returning to hot lunch meals delivery and served meals for drive thru Monday through Friday. The meals giving out will include: (1) hot lunch meal served daily. Scheduled times are: Home Delivery Meals- 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and Drive thru Meal pickup- Salt River and Lehi locations at 11 a.m.- 12 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Senior Services (480) 362-6350.

ONGOING- Live Online Tutoring, Tutoring will be held Monday-Thursday (except holidays) from 3 p.m.- 6 p.m. via MS Teams. This is the image for the news article titled Live Online Tutoring with school back in session, our S.T.E.P. Up Tutoring program, homework, test prep, projects, and more! Open to all SRPMIC students in grades K-12 and college! Space is limited. Once you enroll, we'll send you the MS Teams link. CONTACT Lea Lee, Project Assistant (480) 362-2063 Lea.Lee@saltriverschools.org

3 FIRST FRIDAYS W/ HIGHER ED, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. Join Higher Education staff, as well as featured guest speakers the first Friday of every month to learn important information about all kinds of college-related topics, including applications, funding, scholarships, counseling, and more! Ask

questions, get advice, learn from the experts, and feel confident about your higher education goals. Email HigherEd@saltriverschools.org to register for the meeting link or to ask questions!

6 BASEBALL ACADEMY SRF – LABOR DAY CLINIC, 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick. Campers will enjoy three full hours of hitting, fielding, pitching, catching, base running and more! Get ready for plenty of instruction and swings as your camper will learn and understand the fundamentals of the game. Ages: 5 -12 YRS OLD Price: \$70 Once registered, more information will be provided Please see above information for what to expect. For Questions, email srfbaseballacademy@saltriverfields.com

11 9/11 MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB- 5TH ANNUAL SALT RIVER FIREFIGHTERS, The Salt River Fire Department will be hosting the 5th Annual Memorial Stair Climb at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick on September 11, 2021, to honor and remember the fallen firefighters on the 20th anniversary of 9/11. Register today! Register at: <https://nff.akaraisin.com/ui/saltriver>

11 CM DOKA - DISTRICT C, 9 a.m., Agenda not scheduled at time of print. Community members can also provide public comments, concerns and/or input by emailing: membercomments@srpmic-nsn.gov. For more information contact the Council Secretary Office at (480) 362-7469.

13 COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST, 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 a.m. Salt River Assembly of God Church 10657 E. Virginia Ave Scottsdale, AZ 85256. Reminder: For those who wish to submit unspoken prayer requests can do so by emailing: srpmicprayerbreakfast@gmail.com. Please be sure to wear your mask and practice social distancing. Light breakfast served Elyse (480) 362-7464 or email elyse.lewis@srpmic-nsn.gov

13 CM ENOS - DISTRICT A, 5 p.m., Agenda not scheduled at time of print. Community members can also provide public comments, concerns and/or input by emailing: membercomments@srpmic-nsn.gov. For more information contact the Council Secretary Office at (480) 362-7469.

18 CM ANTONE - DISTRICT B, 9 a.m. Agenda not scheduled at time of print. Community members can also provide public comments, concerns and/or input by emailing: membercomments@srpmic-nsn.gov. For more information contact the Council Secretary Office at (480) 362-7469.

20 EDUCATION BOARD MEETING, 5:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. via Virtual. SRPMIC mandated safety measures are in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. As such, the Salt River Schools Education Board will hold its meetings via conference call, which will be accessible to the public by calling 412-664-5196 (use Conference ID 261 823 808 followed by the # sign). Or, click here to join the conversation via Microsoft Teams

(9/20/21). For more information, please contact LaRue Jackson at LaRue.Jackson@saltriverschools.org or call 480-362-2500.

21 NATIVE AMERICAN RECOGNITION DAYS, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. located at Two Waters building.

21 CM SCABBY/ CM DAL-LAS – LEHI DISTRICT , 5 p.m. Agenda not scheduled at time of print. Community members can also provide public comments, concerns and/or input by emailing: membercomments@srpmic-nsn.gov. For more information contact the Council Secretary Office at (480) 362-7469.

22 SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH , 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. located at Talking Stick Resort. We hope you can join us. DHHS Prevention & Intervention Services will be hosting a half day conference at Talking Stick Resort on September 22nd, 2021. Please pre-register on Survey Monkey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LMLH2S8> for more information Melanie at (480) 362-6678 or Vurlene (480) 362-2706 .

27 CM LARGO - DISTRICT E, 5 p.m., Agenda not scheduled at time of print. Community members can also provide public comments, concerns and/or input by emailing: membercomments@srpmic-nsn.gov. For more information contact the Council Secretary Office at (480) 362-7469.

23 ZOOM WITH A COUNSELOR - GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT

GROUP, 5 p.m. via Zoom. Join BHS counselors Paulina Smith, LAC NCC and Micki Begay, MS in a safe space to talk, share stories, support each other, and learn ways to cope. For each group will be running on forth Thursday each month through December of 2021. Join Zoom Meeting ID: <http://zoom.us/j/81776569929> for more information on this group support call BHS (480) 362-5707 or to submit anonymous questions prior to the Zoom: email Jessica. Hunter@srpmic-nsn.gov

30 SEPTEMBER WIC UPDATES
For the health and wellness of our clients and staff, SRPMIC WIC will be providing Telehealth services for the entire month of September, by appointment only. *For appointments please call: (480) 362-7300 Already a WIC client? Please don't forget to check your food benefits for the month. For more information, please contact the WIC (480) 362-7300 . 1-888-365-1338 Email: WIC@srpmic-nsn.gov

COMMUNITY RELATIONS IS KEEPING YOU UPDATED AND INFORMED

Stay Connected!
Through the SRPMIC Web Page, Facebook, Announcements and Text Alerts.

For SRPMIC updates, please visit the following sites:
[Facebook.com/SRPMIC](https://www.facebook.com/SRPMIC)
[Text SRPMIC to 474747](https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/)
[OAN.srpmic-nsn.gov/](https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/)