



Council Representative Tom Largo Holds Final District Meeting

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members gathered at the Way of Life Facility to take part in the last district meeting with Tom Largo on Monday, November 28.

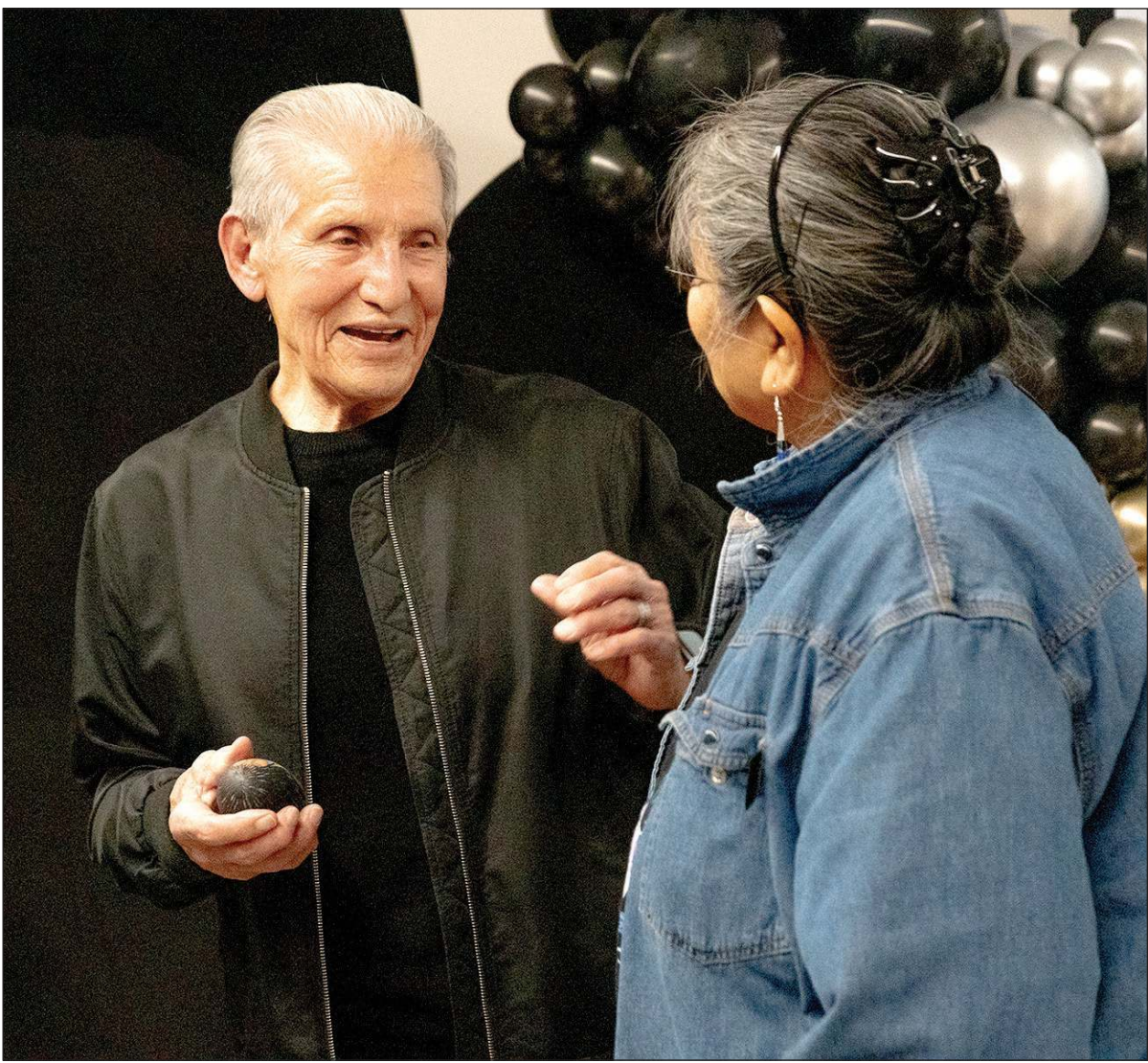
"I want to tell each and every one of you that it's been an honor and pleasure to serve you," said Largo, who has served for 24 years on Council.

The meeting's agenda included a presentation by Health and Human Services Prevention and Intervention Services on financial services that help elders and individuals with rental, utility and food assistance. A comment period was open for Community members to speak.

Following the agenda items, guests stepped up to speak some words of appreciation to Largo. Many shared gifts and recalled instances when he had helped them, led them and encouraged them to become the people they are today.

Salt River Fire Department Chief Daryl Dash presented

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Phoenix Suns Hosts Event to Highlight Arizona's Tribal Nations



BY CHRISTOPHER LOMAHQUAHU
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On November 16, during American Indian Heritage Month, the Phoenix Suns launched a first-of-its-kind Native American recognition initiative to honor the 22 federally recognized Indian tribes of Arizona and celebrate their rich culture. The program, called Originativ, officially launched the team's commitment to Arizona's original citizens.

"For this (2022-23) season, our City Edition uniforms and the 'Originativ' program ... honor the 22 tribal nations of Arizona," said Graham Wincott, Phoenix

Suns senior director of marketing, during a press conference at the Footprint Center in downtown Phoenix, home of the Phoenix Suns. The program's name and logo combine the words "original" and "Native."

At the press conference at Footprint Center, a large wall in the pavilion displaying the flags of the 22 tribal nations was unveiled. Present to showcase the flags and usher in the Phoenix Suns' "Originativ" brand initiative to recognize Indigenous communities was Dean Martinez, the team's senior director for live presentation and a member of the Navajo Nation.

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Flag Breathing Ceremony Honors Fallen Service Members of Pearl Harbor Attacks



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Eighty-one years ago, the United States entered World War II following the attack on U.S. forces at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941. Decades later, on December 7, 2022, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community remembered the lives of those lost during the Pearl Harbor attack at the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River.

"On the 81st anniversary of remembrance, we look back on the attacks on Pearl Harbor on

December 7, 1941," said Troy Truax Jr., veterans representative for the SRPMIC Veterans Services Office. "[That] morning, 353 Imperial Japanese aircraft launched from four aircraft carriers attacked the base. As a result, 169 U.S. aircraft were destroyed and eight Navy battleships in port were damaged."

The total number of U.S. personnel killed in the attack was 2,403, including 68 civilians, while another 1,178 were wounded. Of the eight U.S. Navy battleships attacked at Pearl Harbor, the U.S.S. Ari-

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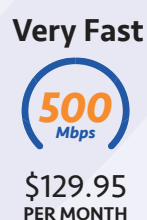
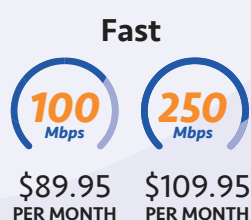
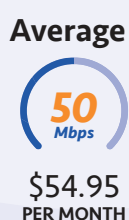
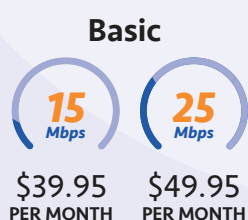
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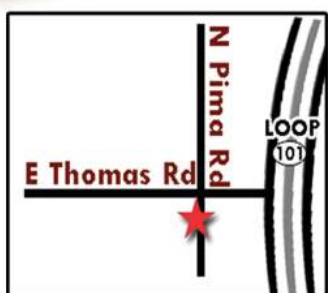
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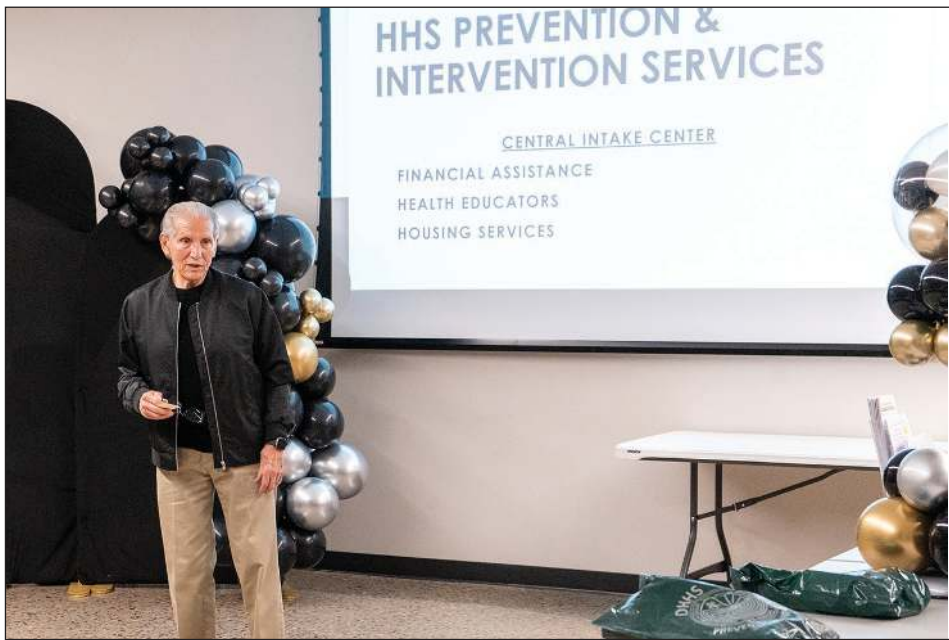
Council Representative Tom Largo Holds Final District Meeting

Largo with a firefighter helmet and reminisced about when he was appointed fire captain.

“I remember when Tom came and congratulated me,” said Dash. “He walked up to me, shook my hand and said, ‘Congratulations. Can you keep to your budget?’” Dash said he tried his best to keep within his budget.

As Largo looks forward to the future, he plans to continue his ministry work for those who are incarcerated to help them toward a better future.

“Back when I was locked up in the Salt River jail, there was just a bunch of us in there that really didn’t have any faith. But Tom would come in and talk to us, sharing his faith and letting us know how men are supposed to be a provider and be there for people. He would come drill it into us,” said Eric

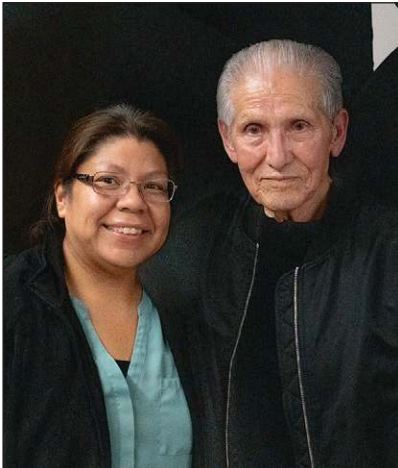


Schurz. “He always did it with kindness in his voice. The tone of his voice [expressed the] sincerity of it, and you know it’s real.”

Schurz credits Largo for helping him turn his life around and encouraging him to start his own business.

When asked about what he looks forward to for Council now and in the future, Largo said that he feels confident in those who have been elected.

“Between (SRPMIC President) Martin (Harvier) and (Vice-President) Ricardo (Leonard), the Community has shown that they support their government. With the new Council, you have some new younger people, and it looks to me like they’re going to be able to step right in,” said Largo. “So, I think the Community is going to be in good hands.”



SRPMIC Community Relations Director Celebrates 40 Years of Service

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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Longtime Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community employee Janet Johnson has reached her 40-year milestone working in the Community Relations Office. On Wednesday, November 30, Johnson’s staff held a celebratory reception marking her years of service to the Community. Current and former colleagues came by to reminisce and congratulate Johnson for all her hard work and many accomplishments in developing the Community Relations Department into what it is today.

Johnson started working for the SRPMIC on November 30, 1982, housed with Human Resources. She recalled being transferred to different departments until the office went under Administration and eventually to where she is located now, in Two Waters Building A.

In 1982 the Community received a grant to establish a public relations program. The proposal was developed by the late Earl Pearson and Ivan Makil.

“I had the opportunity to get that program started. I was really fortunate that probably a month later, Janet got hired. We were both really young, inexperienced—neither of us had any real college, and we weren’t trained—but we did the best we could and we learned,” said Makil. “Janet was a very quick learn and she was instrumental at that time, especially because we didn’t have technology—no cell phones, no computers. The one advantage Janet had over me was that she could type. I didn’t know how to type, and everything was done on a typewriter in those days.”

The Community Relations Office was established because in the early



Community Relations Office Director Janet Johnson celebrates 40 years of service, former SRPMIC President Ivan Makil shares their experience as they developed the department to what it is today.

1980s there had been a murder in the Community, explained Makil. Due to that unfortunate event, the Community had been getting a lot of bad press from the surrounding communities. All of these issues got dumped on Johnson and Makil. It was a very trying and strenuous time, but they made it through.

“It was at a time when the Community needed to create better relationships with the surrounding communities,” said Makil. “And that was really important to the Community and to the Council, so that was our job.”

Johnson recalled how she, Ivan Makil and Mary Andrews started the Community newspaper Au-Authm Action News (today it’s the O’odham Action News) and handled other Community Relations duties. Today, the department has nearly 20 positions, with staffers handling the newspaper, multimedia, social media, Community events, and communications and marketing.

Martha Hunter and Pam Hait began working with Johnson more than 30

years ago on strategies for different propositions, proposals and initiatives in the Community.

“We had the pleasure of working with Janet on so many things, but when Janet got us, she got us sort of by default...,” said Hait at the start of the reception. “The idea was that we were supposed to help her expand her reach from the Community Relations Department, but in fact, over 30 years I think she taught us a lot more than we ever got to teach her.”

Other issues arose at the creation of the Community Relations Department, including the development of the Loop 101 freeway and Community policing issues. Johnson was right there as the lead, explained Makil.

“[There were] so many [Community] issues that were coming on at that time, and to understand how someone as young as she was could not only endure, but commit and continue for another 40 years, is just beyond comprehension,” said Makil.

“I’ve always been honored to work with Janet. There’s this sweetness about Janet when you first start talking to her, but then when it comes down to business, all of a sudden there’s this commanding voice that comes across, very confident and sometimes aggressive. It’s all in the name of getting the job done. What kind of person does that? It’s a person who has a foundation of values that are important not only to a family, but to that larger family of people, the Community.”

“The reason I stayed so long is that the Community Relations Office offered me an opportunity where I didn’t have to stay in an office behind a desk. I was handed a 35-millimeter camera and told go out and take some pictures of the Community and of different things that were happening,” said Johnson.

That led her to taking classes at Scottsdale Community College and later on graduating with her master’s degree from Grand Canyon University.

Johnson reflected on what she has learned throughout the years and her experiences helping to lobby for different Community propositions and initiatives, which gave her the opportunity to travel and much more.

“I feel content. I’ve given to my Community, and I can feel happy about that,” said Johnson, who then broke the news that she is going to begin her transition to retirement in 2023.

On behalf of the SRPMIC, Community Assistant Manager Blessing McAnlis-Vasquez presented Johnson with a painting by Community artists Dwayne Manuel and Thomas “Breeze” Marcus to commemorate her 40 years of service.

Happy Holidays

Wishing you all the best from SRPMIC Council

On behalf of your Tribal Council and Vice-President, I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year along with the warmest of wishes for peace and happiness this holiday season.

- Sincerely, President Martin Harvier

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Flag Breathing Ceremony Honors Fallen Service Members of Pearl Harbor Attacks



Members of American Legion Post 114, guests and 2022-2023 Miss Indian Arizona stand in-front of the USS Arizona Remembrance Garden exhibit.

Arizona was one of four that were sunk, losing a majority of her crew in the ensuing torpedo attacks.

Citing the significance of the event, Truax said, "It is in honor of those that pass and remembrance of the events of that day that we conduct this annual ceremony. This includes the ringing of a bell to receive the official party 'on-board,' as is customary on naval vessels to welcome individuals of significance."

The naval customs were performed by retired U.S. Navy veteran Alvin

Velez and U.S. Marine Corps veteran Kevin Riding-In. Following the ringing of the bell, a special moment of silence was held to remember the fallen service members with a ship's whistle.

Afterward, SRPMIC President Martin Harvier gave the blessing, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by current Miss Indian Arizona Sistine Lewis, and the national anthem, sung by former Miss Salt River Isabella Dockerty.

"I want to thank everybody for being here ...

I appreciate all of you," said President Harvier. "When we think back on that day, a lot of people were lost, and today we remember them for their sacrifice. [These] are the reasons that we come together. We can never forget those things that happened so long ago."

Harvier said that although the attacks on Pearl Harbor were sudden, the country's leadership and military quickly pulled together to respond. He said although the nation was resolute in its response to the

acts of war by Japan, the country's own citizens of Japanese descent became the target of the government's forced relocation plan. "Many of them were sent to relocation camps on tribal lands, such as the Gila River Internment Camp," he said.

Harvier added that we also must think of these individuals, who also paid a price for their ethnicity at a time when the country was swirling with all kinds of emotions. "[These] are some of the things that have actually happened here in the U.S. because of the attack on Pearl Harbor ... we need to think about the lives that were affected because of that."

To close out the ceremony, members of American Legion Post 114 "The Bushmasters" and the women's auxiliary post lowered the American flag, which was moved in the four cardinal directions to honor all veterans. Truax said, "The breathing of the flag ceremony traces its origins to 2007 and the first Pearl Harbor Remembrance event after receiving the flag from the Survivors of



Top photo: Council Representative Cheryl Doka and President Martin Harvier place a wreath in symbolic gesture to remember the servicemembers killed in the Pearl Harbor attacks. Above: Former Miss Salt River Isabella Dockerty sings the National Anthem.

Pearl Harbor."

At the end of the ceremony, at the ends of the lake at the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial Gardens, a 21-gun salute took place and Post 114 member David Bonczkiewicz played Taps. From a bird's-eye

view, the memorial is designed to resemble the outline of the U.S.S. Arizona.

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Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples Committee Meets on SRPMIC



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The Arizona House of Representatives' Ad Hoc Committee on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples (MMIP) held its first meeting in the Salt River-Pima Maricopa Indian Community Council Chambers on November 18.

Jennifer Jermaine, state representative for District 18 and a member of the White Earth Nation (Ojibwe) tribe from Minnesota, serves as the chair of the committee. Jermaine, who oversaw the discussion, said, "We launched this Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples committee with an expanded scope to include our men, boys and two-spirit LGBTQ relatives."

The committee was established in 2019 for state lawmakers to collaborate with tribal communities to address the growing epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous people in Arizona. At the SRPMIC meeting on November 18, Jermaine was joined by the committee's vice-chair, Representative Jasmine Blackwater-Nygren (Navajo); Senator Theresa Hataathlie-Delmar (Diné); Gila River Indian Community Lt. Governor Monica Antone; Phoenix Indian Center Interim CEO Jolyana Begay-Kroupa (Diné); community leader and activist Debbie Nez-Manuel (Navajo), and a host of other committee members.

"We are truly honored to be here to hold this hearing today," said SRPMIC Council Representative Wi-Bwa Grey. She talked about the Community's effort to pass a resolution to proclaim May 5 as MMIP

Awareness Day.

Grey's presentation covered SRPMIC efforts to help raise awareness about MMIP through grassroots initiatives, as well as discussions within and outside of the Community on various panels and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act by President Joe Biden in March of this year.

She said the Community has made efforts to improve the way it collects and maintains data on its members who have may have gone missing, and it has increased its interaction with other agencies and tribal communities outside the SRPMIC.

Grey said other measures have been taken to help inform the Community about potential missing persons, such as runaway teens.

"The Salt River Police Department created a new customized report form with new data boxes that include tribal affiliation, enrollment number and a list of the 574 federally recognized tribes [throughout the United States]," said Grey.

She hopes that with this new form, more accurate data can be collected on missing Community members that could be shared with other agencies to help locate these individuals. She said, "The sharing of data is essential for locating missing persons, and we hope this level of data sharing can become the standard practice" to address any gaps in missing information.

Grey added, "The Salt River Police Department and SRPMIC Social Services Department worked in conjunction on coordinating efforts for the Community regarding weekly emails on a list of runaway children so they can be aware through social media."

Other presentations during the committee meeting covered how institutions like Arizona State University's Research on Violent Victimization (ROVV) Lab and the House Bill 2570 Legislative Study Committee (on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls) are compiling information on the Indigenous population on the MMIP issue.

Valaura Imus-Nahsonhoya (Hopi), director of community engagement for the ROVV Lab, presented informational slides on the lab's findings. According to the information collected, 474 Indigenous men and boys in Arizona were victims of homicide over a

40-year span. Also, 48 men and boys were the center of an active missing persons case in Arizona between April and July of this year. For females a total of 160 Indigenous women and girls were murdered in Arizona from 1976 to 2018.

Indigenous women also were categorized as missing two times longer than men and boys and were at higher risk of going missing at the hands of an unknown offender, meaning they had no prior knowledge of their perpetrator.

The overall goal of the ad hoc committee is to familiarize itself with tribal communities in Arizona and strengthen ties by bringing the stories and faces of missing Indigenous persons to the forefront.



Rep. Jenifer Jermaine (center) leads the discussion on the MMIP ad-hoc committee inside the SRPMIC Council chambers.



ASU Research on Violence Victimization Lab, Valaura Imus-Nahsonhoya presents on the MMIP statistics for Arizona.

The Governor's Office issues a proclamation declaring November as Valley Fever Awareness Week

Valley Fever (medical name coccidioidomycosis [kok-sid-e-oy-do-my-co-sis] or "cocci" for short) is an infection in the lungs caused by a fungus (scientific name *Coccidioides immitis* or *Coccidioides posadasii*) that grows in the soil in Arizona, the southern and central parts of California, and portions of New Mexico, Texas, Nevada, Utah and Washington state. Valley Fever is also found in parts of Mexico, Central and South America. These areas where the fungus grows in the soil are called "endemic."

Most people with Valley Fever (60%) have no symptoms or only very mild flu-like symptoms and do not see a doctor. The most common symptoms are fatigue, cough, fever, sweating at night, loss of appetite, chest pain, muscle and joint aches, particularly of the ankles and knees. There may also be a rash that resembles hives, but appears more often as tender red bumps on the shins or forearms.

Valley Fever is acquired by breathing in airborne spores of the fungus *Coccidioides*. The spores are carried in dust particles from the soil by the wind when the desert soil is disturbed. Valley Fever is NOT spread from human to human, or animal to animal, or animal to human, or human to animal. The spores change form in the body and are not contagious.

People with chronic Valley

Fever infections have long lasting symptoms such as low grade fever, weight loss, cough, chest pain and coughing up blood. Symptoms usually appear within 1–4 weeks after breathing in fungal spores. Symptoms are often slow to appear with chronic Valley Fever infections.

Valley Fever can be confused with many other diseases including cancer and tuberculosis. A blood test is the best way to diagnose the disease. The blood test (also called serology) measures antibodies to the fungus. A negative test does not rule out Valley Fever because it can take time for the body to develop antibodies. Repeated tests are often required. Tissue biopsies, body fluid, and sputum can also be tested for the fungus. X-rays are used to follow the progress of the disease

If your doctor determines that you need treatment for Valley Fever, he or she may prescribe antifungal medication. Valley Fever is not treated with antibiotics because it is caused by a fungus, not bacteria. The most commonly used drug to treat Valley Fever is fluconazole, also known as Diflucan®. Other drugs can also be used to treat Valley Fever. These are generally taken by mouth in pill form. In serious cases, Amphotericin B is used. This is either injected into the blood or in the case of brain infections, directly into the fluid around the brain. The length of treatment

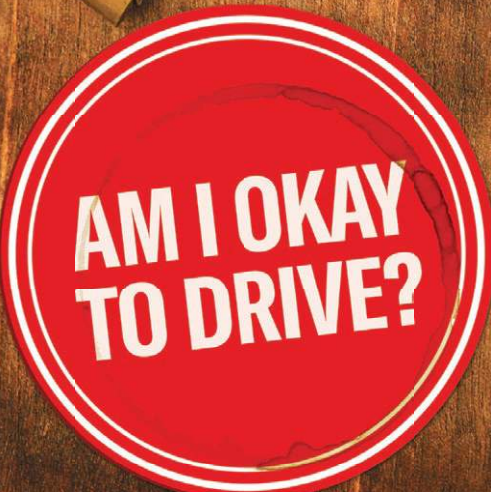
can vary from a few months to life-long therapy for severe cases.

All antifungal medications can cause side effects. Talk to your doctor or pharmacist for more information.

Seniors are not more likely to get Valley Fever. However, the immune system becomes weaker with age and the body's ability to fight infections decreases. Older people are also more likely to have other health issues such as diabetes or heart disease and take medication that weakens the immune system. Talk to your doctor about Valley Fever and ask to be tested if you think you have it. If you have Valley Fever, go to your doctor if your symptoms get worse or if you develop new symptoms.



Children are not more likely to get Valley Fever and do not appear to be at higher risk of developing severe disease than adults. However, they can still become very sick and require treatment, hospitalization, and in rare cases, surgery.

If you would like to get additional information about Valley Fever you can also call Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Public Health. Public Health Information Line (480) 362-2603.



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Transitional Living Homes Take Shape, Look to Open Early Next Year



An exterior view of the transitional housing unit, is made of refurbished Conex boxes that have been modified into fully insulated living spaces.

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The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community transitional housing neighborhood, located along Osborn Road across from the Salt River fire and police departments, is taking shape as the finishing touches are being laid down at the construction site. It should open to Community members early 2023. The transitional housing will be used by individuals working their way through rehabilitation programs offered through the Community's Health & Human Services

Department, Department of Corrections and Social Services. It gives residents a chance to have stable living arrangements as they integrate their way back into the Community. This is not the usual type of home construction, however. The living spaces are being created using Conex box containers, similar to the steel containers normally carried on freight trains or cargo ships, that have been converted into living space. A Phoenix-based company, Adaptive Shelters, specializes in designing these cost-efficient and time-efficient alternative living spaces.

MayDall Construction, a SRPMIC member-operated entity, is constructing the neighborhood. On November 28, a tour of the neighborhood took place, with SRPMIC leadership unveiling the unique way the Community is constructing these homes. "It is getting to where it should be. When the project is completed, it will have that neighborhood feel to it," said Aaron Studebaker, Community Development Division manager for special projects. The neighborhood is located on 4.7 acres of land, with 2.9 acres already built on for the existing homes.

When the neighborhood is completed, there will be plenty of outdoor space, such as a grassy area with amenities. The homes themselves, which are similar to manufactured housing, are roomy inside for their size and fitted with indoor plumbing and electrical connections. All 10 units have the same configuration. Inside, the units come with a conveniently sized refrigerator and space for a washer and dryer unit. Studebaker pointed out, "The restroom is large, and there is a roll-in shower for those who need easier access." There also are wider doorways so wheelchairs can go through. He said the main living space offers a full kitchen, a table and chair for eating or working, as well as comfortable seating. Each unit comes with a covered parking spot. Another benefit is the location: The neighborhood is located near the Two Waters government complex and other essential services of the Community. Most of all, Studebaker said, the tran-



An interior view of the new transitional living homes that have sprouted up on the 4.77 acres of land across from the SRPD and SRFD facilities.

sitional housing creates a sense of home as residents strive to complete the goals set forth in their recovery plan. Because this development is the first of its kind for the Community, modifications certainly will be made to the next set of homes. Studebaker said, "We are learning a lot as we go along. We may learn after six months that some of the configurations don't work, and [as] we start a second phase, [we might] do a different configuration inside or maybe we'll add some of the two-bedroom units." In the works is another site, located near Montecito and Country Club, which will be a little over 9 acres and takes up

5.17 acres for emergency housing intended for Community members. Studebaker said there will be room for a second phase of emergency housing site located at Montecito Road and Country Club Drive. He said, "It's a great starting point, because right now a lot of the individuals who will be living here are fighting with things like homelessness and situations they just end up going back into."



Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a joyous new year.

At the holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who helped make 2022 a wonderful year at Talking Stick Resort and Casino Arizona. The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community would like to thank you and express how pleased we are to continue providing a year-round exceptional entertainment experience.

Happy Holidays! May this good cheer last throughout the upcoming year.

*Casino Arizona and Talking Stick Resort
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Salt River Students Take First Place in Constitution Contest



Tiare Begaye-Smith stands with her presentation on the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote in 1919. Photo courtesy of Arial Begay-Smith

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O'odham Action News
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A student with an interest in voting rights was chosen as the winner of a citywide competition on the U.S. Constitution. Tiare Begaye-Smith, a member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and a seventh-grade student at Mohave Middle School, took first place out of 370 students in the City of Scottsdale's We the People Constitution Day Contest on November 15.

"Initially it was back in September when she was given an assignment on the U.S. Constitution, and from there her teacher submitted it," said her mother, Arial Begaye-Smith.

"I always talk to her about these topics, such as voting rights and other critical discussions today around other subjects, so she is aware of what is going on in the world and our ability, especially as Native Americans, to make our voices heard," said Begaye-Smith.

According to the City of Scottsdale Mayor David Ortega's public webpage, the We the People contest "promotes civic engagement, community reflection and understanding of the principles that guide our participation in this representative form of government."

The contest is open to students in three grade categories: grades 1 to 5, 6 to 8 and 9 to 12. Each category focuses

on a different aspect of the U.S. Constitution. In her grade category, Tiare had to select a constitutional amendment and explain how it benefited the citizens and safeguards our communities. She chose to focus on the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote.

Students had the option of writing an essay, creating an art piece, writing and performing a fun and informative three-minute song or video, or producing a three-minute podcast.

For Tiare's project, she put together an informational backdrop that outlined the various influential figures in the effort to secure voting rights for women and facts about the push for equality. She also gave a verbal presentation to Mayor Ortega, who was present to see each of the contestants' presentations.

"I sketched out what I wanted to do, because I like to draw and it was easier for me to see how I wanted it to look," said Tiare. She said that when it was announced that she had won, it was a happy moment for her, because she put a lot of work into her project.

Tiare said that her interest in voting came from the influence of her mother, who has stressed the importance of voting, and a Netflix comedy/history program called The Who Was? Show, which she happened to see and that generated her interest in voting rights.

"This show came up and it was about historical figures, and the one episode was about Susan B. Anthony," said Tiare. In addition to helping lead the women's suffrage movement from the mid-1800s through the early 20th

century, Anthony was a reformer for women's rights and worked to establish equal rights for women in labor and wages.

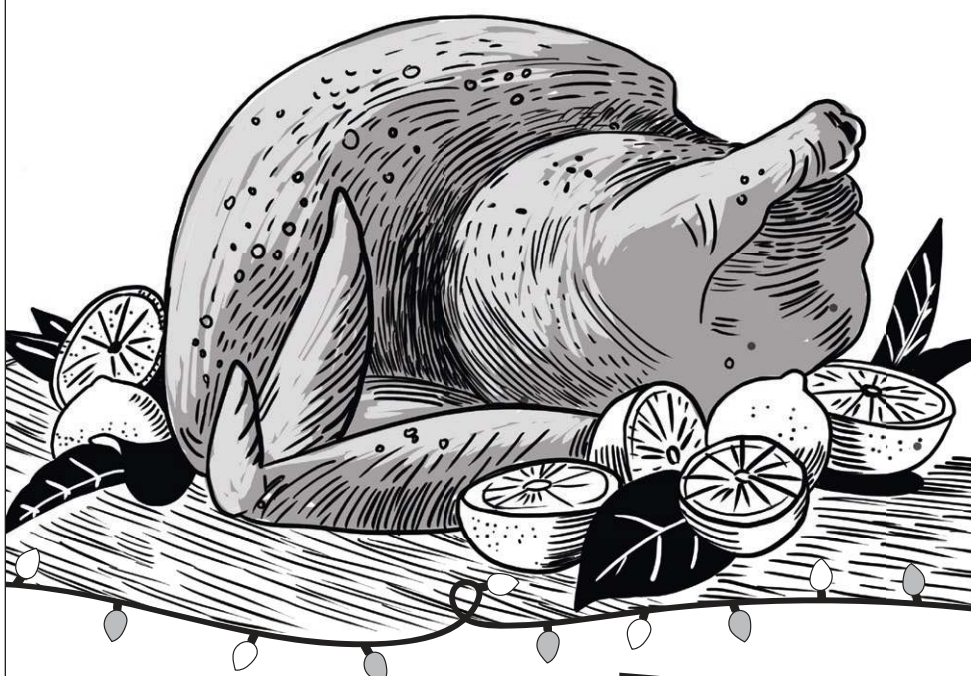
Tiare based much of her art presentation around the work of Anthony, including photos, a copy of the 19th amendment and imagery of women in notable roles throughout history. Her presentation also depicted women overcoming adversity by being able to vote.

After the awards were announced, Mayor Ortega visited with each of the winning contestants and discussed how each of them came to create their presentations. "He was asking me how I came up with my presentation and why I chose that amendment," said Tiare.



Smith stands with City of Scottsdale Mayor David Ortega, who met with each of the contest winners on November 15. Photo courtesy of Arial Begay-Smith

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TALKING STICK
ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

Get To Know Your Neighbor: Axel Diaz, Texas Roadhouse at the Block

Texas Roadhouse is a restaurant chain known for hand-cut steaks, fall-off-the-bone ribs, made-from-scratch sides, fresh-baked bread and inventive margaritas.

Axel Diaz's journey with Texas Roadhouse started nine years ago in New Rochelle, New York, where he worked first as a server assistant and then as a corporate trainer opening new stores throughout the country.

Diaz has now settled in at his 28th and final Texas Roadhouse location, in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. To this location he brings the same energy and passion he has had for years, managing all guest relations, dining room operations, beverage relations and marketing.

Diaz was born and raised in the boroughs of New York City, and he said one of his strongest passions is getting to know the people of the Community.

"Growing up in a rougher environment builds character and foundation," said Diaz. He hopes to be an example for others by having a positive outlook on life.

Diaz attended the University of Miami, and he was a music education major in vocal performance. He said



that he is passionate about fitness, reading and writing.

Diaz is a regular Orange Theory Fitness member and has participated in various 5K runs and marathons. Feel free to stop by to say hello at Texas Roadhouse, located at 9320 E. Via De Ventura in Scottsdale.

Hallmark Channel Presents Enchant, a Christmas Light Spectacular at Salt River Fields

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
O'dham Action News
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A winter wonderland has arrived at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick this December. “Enchant,” presented by the Hallmark Channel, is one of the largest holiday-themed light events in the country, with another eight locations in Washington D.C., Texas, Nevada, California and Florida.

The 10-acre walk-through, which is open until January 1, 2023, features the world’s largest Christmas light maze, with more than 4 million lights; a 100-foot-tall holiday tree; an ice-skating trail; and The Village, a marketplace that features crafts, gifts, winter treats and beverages, as well as a visit from Santa.

“It’s our first year here at Salt River Fields and we hope to be here for many years to come,” said Ryan Harris, company manager for Enchant Scottsdale. “Enchant has been around since 2017, but this is our inaugural season here in Scottsdale. Enchant is an immersive, one-of-a-kind Christmas event like no other, and its fun for the whole family.”

On Wednesday, November 30, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member families were offered free admission. Families came out and enjoyed the Village marketplace, ice skating and more. There was a fun interactive game to find all of Santa’s reindeer in the light maze as well as a number of immersive activities for all ages.

Adult admission starts at \$34, and children’s admission (ages 3-17) is \$20. Special experiences (ice skating, an Elf Guide for your group) are available for an additional charge. For more information on hours, tickets and parking, visit <https://enchantchristmas.com/scottsdale-az-salt-river-fields/>.



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COMMUNITY Christmas PROGRAM



Community Members Receive Thanksgiving Meal ahead of Holiday



Council Representative Diane Enos assists SRPMIC employees, during the Thanksgiving Turkey Drive on November 21.

CHRISTOPHER LOMAHQUAHU
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A small army of Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community employees gathered to help give back to the Community they call their second home. On November 21, SRPMIC employees and staff from St. Mary's Food Bank volunteered their time for the Thanksgiving Turkey Drive at the Community Building.

Among the throng of volunteers were Council Representatives Cheryl Doka, Michael Dallas Sr., Diane Enos, Mikah Carlos and Vice-President Ricardo Leonard, who helped hand out turkeys

and food boxes to Community members.

Community members lined up to receive a frozen turkey, a food box from St. Mary's Food Bank, an emergency food box and another containing traditional foods. Fifty-three volunteers helped out with intake, parking/security, and loading food items into vehicles.

Community members who came out to the drive-thru event were able to receive a turkey, as there were about 1,000 given away. The food boxes provided a combination of perishable items and boxed goods for Community families to make a whole Thanksgiving meal.



Hundreds of Community members line-up to await their turkey and food boxes containing several perishable food items to make their Thanksgiving meal. Below, frozen turkeys sit waiting to be loaded onto vehicles at the drive-thru.



This year was the first time that the Community collaborated with St. Mary's Food Bank to provide turkeys

and other food items. The Salt River Food Distribution Center provided much of the food box items.



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Three Generations of Salt River Firefighters Carry On a Legacy

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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On November 18, at the Mesa Fire and Police training facility, the Legacy Burn was more than just a time during fire academy training when recruits have the opportunity to practice real-world firefighting. For the Miles family, it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for a father, son and grandson to work together as three generations of firefighters in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The Legacy Burn is the last live fire training assignment for firefighter recruits before they begin their assignments at their departments. The training drills involved multiple fire crews from different departments across the East Valley.

There were two fire scenarios: a second-story bedroom fire and a first-floor bedroom fire. The recruits worked together to rescue “victims” and put out the fires.

“Growing up in the fire service, you learn the true meaning of what it takes to help others and the pride we have as Community members serving our fellow Community members,” said Jared Miles, paramedic/firefighter for the Salt River Fire Department (SRFD).

Jared’s son Jeremy Miles, who graduated from the academy on December 9, is the newest member of the Miles family to train. He will be working for the SRFD. Jared’s father and Jeremy’s grandfather is Kervin Miles, who joined the SRFD in 1981 and retired in 2012.

“It’s very honorable to continue the tradition within my family,” said Jeremy Miles. “I plan to learn something new every day until I retire. I hope to be a great employee and a great [first] responder [for] my Community.”

Kervin Miles said that it’s a blessing to see the family’s legacy in the fire service continue.

“I’m so excited and honored to have my son and grandson follow in my footsteps,” he said.

Jared Miles said that it was an honor and an amazing time with his father and son at the event.

“I look forward to seeing my son grow as he begins his (firefighting) career. I teach all my children to



Three generations of firefighters in one photo, taken at the Legacy Burn in Mesa. Left to right: Jared Miles, Kervin Miles, Jeremy Miles.

Right: An undated photo of Kervin Miles with an unnamed firefighter. Photos courtesy of Jared Miles

always help others who need it and to think of others,” said Jared Miles. “I think that’s what led my son towards wanting to help others, and that’s also what got me to enter the fire service.”



Home Safety Tips During the Holidays

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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This holiday season, keep your home and family safe with a few safety tips from Salt River Fire Department’s Office of the Fire Chief, Captain Robert Scabby.

First, the basics: Check your home’s smoke detectors and fire extinguishers to ensure they are in working order. Make sure you have a fully stocked first-aid kit, and work with your family to make an escape plan in case of fire or any sort of disaster. Decide on a spot someplace outside your home for all family members to gather to make sure everyone is out.

The SRFD Fire Prevention Program can assist in providing smoke detectors to the Community. “If you e-mail FirePrevention@srbmic-nsn.gov, they will go out to your home and install the smoke detectors. We don’t have an unlimited supply, but we do have some,” Scabby said.

Christmas Tree Safety

Whether real or artificial, a Christmas tree can be a hazard in itself, explained Scabby. Both live trees and artificial trees can catch fire under the right conditions.

“Live trees and artificial trees are very similar, because they are still a fire load,” said Scabby.

- If you get a live tree, pick out a fresh one. Cut the bottom of the base and water it every day to keep it fresh as long as you can.
- Keep your tree at least 3 feet away from any type of electrical outlet, heat source or something that could potentially cause or feed a fire (space



heater, stacks of newspapers, boxes, etc.).

- Keep the tree out of any major walkway. In the event of an emergency that requires an evacuation, you and your family should have a clear path out of the home.
- When setting up a tree that has been in storage, including the lights, make sure you replace any broken lights or exposed wiring.
- Holiday decorations are rated for indoor or outdoor use, so be sure the ones that you use inside the house are rated for indoor use. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions so you don’t overload a circuit or cause a short circuit.
- Keep lit candles at least 10 feet away from the tree; better yet, don’t use lit candles at all.
- When you leave the home or go to

sleep, turn off the lights and decorations.

- To dispose of a live Christmas tree, drop it off at the Salt River Landfill or leave it outside for the Public Works bulk trash pickup.

Holiday Fireworks

Fireworks are strictly prohibited within the boundaries of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. They cause wildfires and residential fires and can cause burns and/or lacerations to individuals who ignite them.

Anyone caught with fireworks on the Community can be fined up to \$1,000, according to the SRPMIC Code of Ordinances. “There are several fireworks stands in the Valley, but if someone does utilize fireworks this holiday season, keep in mind they can cause not only injury, but a wildland or residential fire.

Please keep fireworks away from children,” said Scabby.

Other Winter Safety Tips

- When the temperatures go down in the winter, check on your older family members and neighbors to make sure they have food and are warm, explained Scabby.
- Beware of space heaters and use them only according to the manufacturer’s directions. Keep them away from Christmas trees, boxes, beds, couches or anything that can catch on fire, and don’t leave them unattended.
- If you’re sick, stay home. The COVID-19 virus is still around, with new cases reported in Arizona every day. It’s also flu season, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is causing issues for children and adolescents. It’s never too late to get vaccinated against the flu and the current COVID-19 variants. Be mindful that both older and younger people, those who are undergoing cancer treatment, and people who take immune-suppressing medication for other reasons have weaker immune systems that may not be able to fight off viruses as easily.
- Finally, when you’re out and about in the Community, if you see something, say something: Alert authorities if you see something out of place, spot a suspicious package or witness suspicious behavior by an individual or group of people.

“The world is a different place now than it was 10 or 20 years ago, and so we’ve really got to be mindful of potential threats in this day and age,” said Scabby.

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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The Christmas Angels Program started accepting donations and sponsors in October, and in December all the donors began dropping off their gifts to the SRPMIC Social Services Department to be distributed to SRPMIC families. Participating donors and sponsors included Medieval Times, the Salvation Army, Casino Arizona, Mavericks, Salt River Materials Group, Scottsdale Community College, SRPMIC government departments and many more, including a number of individuals and anonymous donors.

Salvation Army and then [it] just kind of grew,” said Senior Behavioral Health Counselor (Reunification) Annamari Hogan. “We started out with about 150 kids, [and we reached] up to 550 last year. So, we’ve grown it every year, and it’s only with the help from the sponsorships of the different departments that we can make the program successful.”

BY TASHA SILVERHORN
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Wateuma and Escovedo attended both the youth and tribal leader sessions. They attended a workshop with the National Science Foundation, general assemblies, and regional caucus meetings alongside SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, where they heard other tribes' requests for support of their resolutions. The main topics that were discussed were the Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta case and the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Wateuma and Escovedo also had the opportunity to chat with PaaWee Rivera, who serves as a senior advisor to the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and director of Tribal Affairs for the Biden-Harris administration. Rivera was there to give an update on the White House's activities and relationship with Indian Country.

Wateuma was given the exciting opportunity to run for the NCAI Youth Commission, as it was an election year for the Commission.

“Upon our arrival, we were approached by their advisor there, and she was really pushing our youth to run,” said YRPC advisor Janyse Salinas. “He thought about it overnight and decided the next day that he was going to do it. He had to give a three-minute speech on his policy platform as well as why he would be a good candidate. Then he



Young River People's Council members Isaiah Wateuma and Damian Escovedo attended the NCAI 79th Annual Convention in Sacramento, California in November 2022; where Wateuma was assigned the male co-vic president for the NCAI Youth Commission. *Photo courtesy of YRPC*

was asked a few questions by the panel, which consisted of the outgoing NCAI Youth Commission members and their advisors and a current or former tribal leader. He gave his speech and then he was named the male co-vice president.”

Former YRPC member Caleb Dash was also in attendance and was elected to the co-president position.

Another highlight of the trip for the youth was a tour of an olive factory operated by the Strawberry Valley Rancheria.

"They got to tour the facility and see the process from the harvest to the table, so that was actually pretty cool," said Salinas.

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Labriola Center Students and Staff Tour Tempe Butte

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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On November 19, students and faculty from the Labriola National American Indian Data Center, an Indigenous-centered library within the Arizona State University Library, took a tour of Tempe Butte, also known in O'odham as Oidbaq Do'ag and in Piipaash as Xwe Nyakuuly.

The butte is a culturally significant site for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and the Four Southern Tribes of Arizona.

SRPMIC Council member-elect and Community Garden coordinator Jacob Butler led the tour to share the importance of connectivity and line of sight from place to place from the butte, showing how those connections help relay stories and a feeling of belonging to the area through cultural relationships to the sites and events in O'odham history.

Butler said that he was initially hesitant about sharing information that might not be culturally appropriate to share with non-O'odham, and, to an extent, he avoided delving into cultural religious aspects of the importance of the site, which are reserved for the O'odham people.

Butler explained to the group that one of the biggest ways to advocate for the protection and care of sites like the butte is to let people know why they mean so much to the local tribal communities.

"It's harder to ask someone to care about what we care about if they're excluded," said Butler. "By letting them listen and hear some perspectives on our ties and connections to our land, I think it creates better advocates for our continued connection to and ability to visit and frequent those sites."

On the tour, Butler talked about how the Salt River and ancient trails and trade routes across the river at the Mill Avenue Bridge played a role in creating the city of Tempe. The group also visited the Hayden House, which Butler told them was built on top of an O'odham ancestral site, and walked to Tempe Town Lake, which Butler said was once the river.

"It doesn't look anything like the river once was," said Butler. "For the Akimel O'odham, as a river person, it tells the story of the loss of our river and how



Labriola Center students and staff tour Tempe Butte with Jacob Butler and Stetson Mendoza. Photo courtesy of Eric Hardy

it's being used now for something that it never really was intended for."

Eric Hardy (Diné), Labriola Program Coordinator Sr., said that by providing space for local Indigenous peoples to share their perspectives, the Labriola Center is seeking to disrupt settler narratives that have displaced and removed Indigenous communities from their traditional lands.

Labriola student workers Baylee LaCompte (Standing Rock Sioux) and Nataani Hanley-Moraga (Navajo/Húnkpáha Lakota) were two of the few Indigenous students to take the tour.

"The tour was more significant than the land acknowledgment because I was educated and shown the original landscape and water canals, rather than reading about the significance of the land and the original inhabitants," said LaCompte.

Hanley-Moraga said that one of the most impactful experiences of participating in the tour was hearing

O'odham history intertwined with cultural values and beliefs against the backdrop of contemporary downtown Tempe.

"[Although they] might be beautiful in some eyes, the names of the conglomerates on pseudo-skyscrapers blocked the natural landscape and segregated connectivity between other sites that were meaningful to the O'odham," said Hanley-Moraga. "This unattractive view served as a visual representation of the damaging effects that capitalism and colonialism have had on Indigenous communities, taking place in front of our eyes."

Stay tuned—in a future issue of O'odham Action News, we will check back with Butler to see how SRPMIC youth were impacted by the same tour a week later, comparing and contrasting the experiences of Community members and non-Community members.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

As part of its annual Arizona American Indian Excellence in Leadership Awards, Phoenix Indian Center named Native Art Market as the 2022 Business of the Year. The market, which features artists, performers and demonstrations, also sells authentic Indigenous handmade jewelry and provides a safe cultural space to meet, interact with and support Native American communities. "It's amazing [to be named Business of the Year]. We're really happy that somebody recognized us and everything we're doing for our Native community," said co-founder Denise Rosales (Navajo), who runs the market with daughter Heather Tracy (Navajo). "We're not just here selling stuff, we're a cultural experience. Native Art Market's outdoor market just began its fifth season at the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Pavilions at Talking Stick shopping center. It has operated an open-air brick-and-mortar market at 7215 E. Main



St. in Old Town Scottsdale since 2020. The outdoor market is open on Saturdays from November through March, and the Old Town location is open every day. "We really appreciate the SRPMIC for

allowing us to host our event there. One of our biggest supporters is our Native community," said Tracy. Phoenix Indian Center presented the awards at a ceremony on November 30 at the Heard Museum.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members James Schaaf, Kennise McGertt and Christopher Manuel marched in the 96th Territorial Cup on Friday, November 25, in Tucson. Each year, Arizona State University and the University of Arizona square off in "The Duel in the Desert" in one of America's oldest college football rivalries. Prior to the game, the two bands participated in a "Battle of the Bands." The U of A Wildcats beat the Sun Devils in a close 38-35 victory to claim the Territorial Cup. Submitted by Schaaf Family

NAU Offers Free Tuition to Arizona's Federally Recognized Tribes

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff has announced that tuition will be covered for any student who is a member of one of Arizona's 22 federally recognized tribes, starting in the Fall 2023 semester.

First-time undergraduate students and transfer students who enroll at any NAU campus may qualify for the program.

With the goal of being the leading institution of higher learning serving Indigenous peoples, NAU President José Luis Cruz Rivera said that the university recognized that sending a clear, unambiguous message that Native American students were welcome at NAU, and that they would receive the financial support needed to succeed, should be their first course of action.

"NAU has a long-standing commitment to Indigenous peoples and to the state of Arizona, most recently codified as a major priority in our NAU 2025 – Elevating Excellence strategic roadmap," said Cruz Rivera. "We conducted the requisite consultation process with our Native American stakeholders, evaluated the legal issues that would need to be addressed in the design of the financial aid program, and modeled the financial impacts to the institution."

Cruz Rivera said that the result of the process was a model financial aid program designed to benefit Native American students from the tribes in Arizona without regard to family income, state of residence, or existing tribal scholarships prospective students already may have earned.

"University aid dollars will fill any gaps after university scholarships or Pell Grant funds to fully cover tuition. Students who earn tribal scholarships can use that money for fees, housing, meals or books," said Anika Olsen, NAU vice president for enrollment management.

Ann Marie Chischilly, NAU vice president of Native American initiatives, said that the university has received a tremendous response from many of the tribal nations throughout Arizona, expressing their gratitude for the program.

"This new opportunity will change the tribal nations throughout Arizona by allowing students to pursue their dreams and support not only their lives, but also the lives of their families and communities," said Chischilly. "When you educate one person, you educate a community, and those benefits reverberate over and over."



A photo of a Native student and family at an NAU Commencement ceremony. Photo courtesy of NAU

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SALT RIVER HOSPITALITY

Food service, bar, janitorial equipment and supplies.
J.B. Cortez, (480) 453-9371
srh@srpmic.com

7 STARS OF ARIZONA, LLC

Concrete & Masonry construction, General contraction ROC#26357.
Angela Willeford, (602) 889-7290
angelawilleford@sevenstarscompany.com

STAYSHONS CHEVRON

Community Member owned business since 1994.
Boyd Chiago, (480) 990-2004

THE MAIN INGREDIENT

Kitchen supplies, open to the public.
J.B. Cortez, (480) 453-9371
themainingredientaz@gmail.com

VMK ENTERPRISES, INC

Janitorial supplies.
Sheryl@vmkenterprises.com



Public Works
Holiday Trash Schedule

The Public Works Department will be closed on
Thursday, November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving
and Friday, December 23rd in observance of Christmas.

THANKSGIVING 2022

All domestic trash will be serviced as
regularly scheduled on Tuesday, November
22nd and Friday, November 25th.

All recycle containers will be serviced
on Friday, November 25th.

CHRISTMAS 2022

All domestic containers will be serviced as
regularly scheduled on
Tuesday, December 20th.

All domestic and recycle containers will be
serviced on Thursday, December 22nd.

Please have your containers out in your designated
pick up area by 6:00AM for servicing.

Thank you & have a wonderful & joyous holiday season!

Any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at
(480) 362-5600 or email PWCustomerService@srpmic-nsn.gov



MEMORIAL SERVICES

Wake and Funeral Services

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

CONTACTING MEMORIAL SERVICES

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

FULL WAKE AND FUNERAL ARE PROVIDED AT FACILITIES

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

CEMETERY SERVICES PROVIDED DURING

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

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

CHURCH LISTING

LEHI CHURCH OF THE NAZA-RENE

1452 E. Oak St.
Mesa, AZ 85203
Mailing Address:
PO Box 4628
Mesa, AZ 85211
Pastor Merrill Jones
(480) 234-6091
SERVICES
-Visit us on Facebook Live and in person. Search for Lehi Church of the Nazarene.
-Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
-Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.
-Sunday Night Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
-Wed. Devotion Night at church, 6:30 p.m.
-SOAR Group 2nd & 4th Friday every month at the church 7 p.m.
-Monday night Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.
-Singspiration, last Sunday of the month at 6 p.m.

FERGUSON MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

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

LEHI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1342 E. Oak
Mesa, AZ 85203
Pastor Annette Lewis
annette.f.lewis@gmail.com
(480) 404-3284

Services

-Sunday Services 10 a.m.
-Communion First Sunday of every month 10 a.m.
Birthday Sunday Potluck- Last Sunday of the Month, after services.
-Youth Devotion/Music (bring your instruments!) last 2 Saturdays of the month at 4 p.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST PAPAGO WARD

2056 N. Extension Rd. Scottsdale AZ, 85256
(480) 947-1084
SERVICES
-Sunday service begins at 10 a.m.

PIMA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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

SALT RIVER ASSEMBLY OF GOD

10657 E. Virginia Ave.
Scottsdale, AZ 85256
(480) 947-5278
Rev. Jim Lopez
Services
- Sunday Morning Prayer 10 a.m.
- Worship 11 a.m.
- No Evening Service till further notice.
- Thursday Bible Study 6pm

SALT RIVER CHURCH OF CHRIST

430 N. Dobson Rd.
Mesa, AZ 85201
(720) 626-2171
SaltRiverChurchofChrist.com
SERVICES
- Bible Class 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m.
- Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- Sunday Bible Class 6 p.m.
- Bible Study Wednesdays 7 p.m.
- Provides transportation services for Community members call phone number

SALT RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 10125
Scottsdale, AZ 85271
E: SaltRiverPresbyterian@gmail.com
Visit us on Facebook
Pastor Charlotte Fafard
SERVICES
-Sunday Service, 1 p.m.
-Communion first Sunday of the month

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC MISSION

3090 N. Longmore, Scottsdale, AZ85256
(602) 292-4466 (cell)
Administrator: Deacon Jim Trant
Parish President: Cindy Thomas
Father Peter McConnell and Father Antony Tinker
SERVICES
-Sunday Mass 12 p.m.
-Holy Hours 1 p.m.

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

PUBLIC WORKS NOTICE

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

The Salt River and Lehi Cemeteries will be closed from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.
If you have any questions, please contact
Memorial Services at (480) 278-7050

Realty Office Looking For Heirs of Rowena Enos

The Realty office of Community Development is attempting to locate the heirs of Rowena Enos, please contact CDD/Realty at (480) 362-7600.

JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION

JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256

CONTACT: (480) 362-6315

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

FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

Baptisto, Nathaniel Allen – Review/ Permanency Hearings Case: J-13-0087 Court Date: January 11, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Becerra, Oscar Garcia - Review Hearing Case: J-15-0043 Court Date: January 9, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Bejarano, Pauline Blaine - Child Support Status Case: CFCS-21-0013 Court Date: January 4, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Creighton Jr., William - ICWA Transfer Hearing Case: J-22-0110 Court Date: December 19, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Hayes Jr., Kelly William - Review Hearing Case: J-22-0091/0092/0093 Court Date: January 31, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Kavoka, Jessica Ann - Evidentiary Termination of Parental Rights Hearing Case: J-22-0128/0129 Court Date: January 11, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

Kill, Cedella Summer - Review Hearing Case: J-22-0091/0092/0093 Court Date:

January 31, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Salazar Jr., Jose - Evidentiary Termination of Parental Rights Hearing Case: J-22-0128/0129 Court Date: January 11, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

Sampson, Colletta Richenda - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: C-22-0147 Court Date: January 23, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Santo Sr., Blaine Gail – Review/ Permanency Hearings Case: J-14-0016/0017 Court Date: January 3, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Santo, Carmelita - Review Hearing Case: J-15-0043 Court Date: January 9, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Smith, Patricia Mildred - Evidentiary Child Support Hearing/Review/ Permanency Hearings Case: J-14-0016/0017 Court Date: January 3, 2023 at 11 a.m.

Unknown Father - Disposition Hearing Case: J-22-0150 Minor D.M (8/29/2022) Mother Sabrina Merina Sampson (11/07/1989) Court Date: January 12, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Unknown Father - ICWA Transfer Hearing Case: J-22-0110 Minor U.S.A. (04/28/2010) Mother Melissa Anna Arthur (02/22/1996) Court Date: December 19, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Valencia Sr., Victor Patrick – Review/Permanency Hearings Case: J-13-0086 Court Date: January 11, 2023 at 11 a.m.

CIVIL COURT JURISDICTION

JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256

CONTACT: (480) 362-6315

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

FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

Burns, Lacey Jene - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CF-19-0115 Court Date: January 4, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Correa, Tevin Brandon - Initial Child Support Hearing Case: CFCS-22-0027 Court Date: January 10, 2023 at 10 a.m.

2023 at 10 a.m.

Lewis, Kaylene Littledove - Child Support Hearing Case: CFCS-22-0046 Court Date: January 17, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Scott, Ryan T - Modification Hearing Case: CF-18-0160/CFCS-18-0064 Court Date: January 9, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Scott, Ryan Timothy - Paternity Hearing Case: CF-22-0134 Court Date: January 5, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Custody Hearing Case: CF-22-0135 Court Date: January 5, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Child Support Hearing Case: CFCS-22-0044 Court Date: January 5, 2023 at 9 a.m.

Smith Sr., Daniel David - Child Support Hearing Case: CFCS-22-0048 Court Date: January 10, 2023 at 10:30 a.m

DEFAULT NOTICES

BURNS, LACEY JENE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE NOTICE CF-19-0115 I.T.M.O.: I.B.B. (D.O.B.: 10-25-2012)

TO: Lacey Jene Burns,

1355 N. 92nd St. Scottsdale, AZ 85256

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 4th day of January, 2023 at 9:30 AM, in Court Room #1, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for FTA for Status Hearing on 7/20/22 @ 10:30 a.m..

FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt of Court from (\$6-41) of the Code or Ordinances. You are entitled to Subpoena any witnesses in your behalf and to be represented by counsel.

ORDERED this 27th day of October, 2022.

RAYMOND L. DEER, JUDGE OF THE SRPMIC TRIBAL COURT

responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.

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

DATED this 10th of November, 2022

CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

you should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for Civil Complaint Hearing on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt of Court from (\$6-41) of the Code or Ordinances.

ORDERED this 15th day of November, 2022.

RAYMOND L. DEER, JUDGE OF THE SRPMIC TRIBAL COURT

SARMIENTO, MARISSA

Notice of Default Judgment:

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number C-22-0022

NOTICE OF DEFAULT JUDGMENT IS HEREBY GIVEN ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT DEFAULT JUDGMENT AGAINST RESPONDENT, MARISSA SARMIENTO, IS HEREBY ENTERED. IT IS FURTHER, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED THAT RESPONDENT, MARISSA SARMIENTO, SHALL PAY \$1151.23 TO PETITIONER, COUNTRY CLUB CARS. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE TO PETITIONER WITHIN SIXTY (30) DAYS OF THIS ORDER. THIS ORDER IS FINAL AND SHALL BE SERVED ON RESPONDENT IN ACCORDANCE TO RULE 5-20(C).

VALENZUELA, FRANK HARVIER DEFAULT NOTICE C-22-0105 ATWOOD RENTALS, INC V.

FRANK HARVIER VALENZUELA, To: Frank Harvier Valenzuela, RESPONDENT

1. A Complaint / Petition has been filed against you in

this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.

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

DATED this 10th of September, 2022.

CLERK OF SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT



Animal Health Clinic for Dogs and Cats

In partnership with the Arizona Humane Society and the Dept of Environmental Health

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17th Doors open at 8:00 AM

SUNDAY DECEMBER 18th Doors open at 1:00 PM

First come, first served Space is limited

Baptisto Teen Center (next to Salt River Ballfields) 1837 N Longmore Rd Scottsdale, AZ 85256

Bringing the sacredness back to the community, one child, one family and one animal at a time.

Available Services

Animal Health Clinics offer free medical services and pet supplies to all Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members, including:

- Wellness Exams
- Vaccines
- Flea/Tick Prevention
- Heartworm prevention for dogs
- Microchipping &
- Health Screening (for diseases such as Heartworm, Lyme, FIV and FeLV)

Spay/Neuter surgery will not be available at this event but we will have vouchers for FREE surgery to be scheduled by appointment.

Please Note

Pets must be brought by legal owner (age 18 and over). Cats must be in carriers. (One cat per carrier.) Dogs must be on leash. No limit as to how many animals you bring.

Connect With Us

NAGI Foundation offers a variety of animal services, behavioral health support, and family resources that coincide with traditional values of First Nations communities.

info@nagifoundation.org (602) 730-2092

facebook.com/nagifoundation @nagifoundation

HEALTHY MOM HEALTHY KIDS!

Scan the QR code or visit the website below to see if you're eligible for food and nutrition benefits through WIC.

WIC INTER TRIBAL COUNCIL OF ARIZONA, INC. River People Health Center

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community WIC Program 10901 E. McDowell Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85256 itcaonline.com/WIC • rphc.org 480.278. RPHC (7742)

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY OR VISIT ITCAWIC.ITCASTARS.NET/APPLY

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Cultural Resources Department Unveils Living Languages Video Series

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

The O'odham Piipaash Language Program's (OPLP) new "Living Languages" series is now live on its social media channels. The series is produced by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Cultural Resources Department (CRD).

The series features the animated character likenesses of CRD Director Kelly Washington and OPLP Manager Luis Barragan, and their actual voices, as they explain complex topics related to the evolution of the O'odham and Piipaash languages.

"Some of these topics seem to be avoided, or at least not resolved, so we encounter them year after year," said

Washington. "I noticed a lot of these controversial language issues seem to stem from the fact that language naturally changes over time."

Washington said that when Native people talk about saving their languages, there often seem to be struggles with getting past dialects and the differences in even a single word's pronunciation. With the new series, the OPLP hopes to address these issues specifically for the Community's languages, which Washington said can't be addressed effectively in a single conversation or on a poster.

"Changes in meaning over time can be a way of creating new words in a language," Barragan said in the first episode of the series, "Days of the Week."

"I wanted to create a series where we present some of these complex topics in

small chunks and in a way that holds attention," said Washington. "My goal is that some of the information we present becomes common knowledge, so when it comes up, people can say, 'Oh yeah, we already know all about that. No need to beat a dead horse. Let's put our energy and focus on teaching, learning and using the languages.'"

Washington said that Barragan, who is a strong proponent of using technology and multimedia, is one of the few people in the world who possesses both linguistic knowledge and a working knowledge of O'odham and Piipaash.

With many of the Community's departments having social media accounts that Community members follow, CRD wanted to stand out somehow. That's why they decided to use animation.

"Animation is different," said Washing-

ton. The animation aspect of the project was the idea of CRD Multimedia Supervisor Helema Andrews and CRD Multimedia Specialist Chandra Narcia.

"They have a breadth and depth of knowledge about graphic design and multimedia. They figured out how to make it all work," said Washington. "Our job as manager/director was to empower, support and provide them the opportunity to bring their idea to fruition."

The series can be viewed on CRD's YouTube channel at youtube.com/@saltrivercrd and on their Facebook and Instagram pages.

See the ad below for ways to view the series, along with CRD social media pages.

LIVING LANGUAGES SERIES

NEW WORDS

with Kelly & Luis

Welcome to the launch of our new video series: Living Languages - New Words!

All living languages evolve over time. One way they evolve is with the development of new words. There was once a time when the O'odham and Piipaash languages did not have words for items such as horse, cow, car, money, etc. These words previously didn't exist in our languages because these items hadn't yet been introduced to us or had not yet been invented. As our ancestors experienced new things, they created new words so they could talk about them. We must continue to do the same if we want our languages to survive and thrive in the future. **This video series will explain some of the processes our ancestors used to update their vocabularies. We continue to use the same processes today to create new words.**

Scan the QR code to watch episode one now. Or, visit:
youtube.com/@saltrivercrd to see this as well as all our other videos!

Visit: <https://linktr.ee/saltrivercrd> or scan the QR code to access all our social media pages, visit our website and to see our upcoming events!

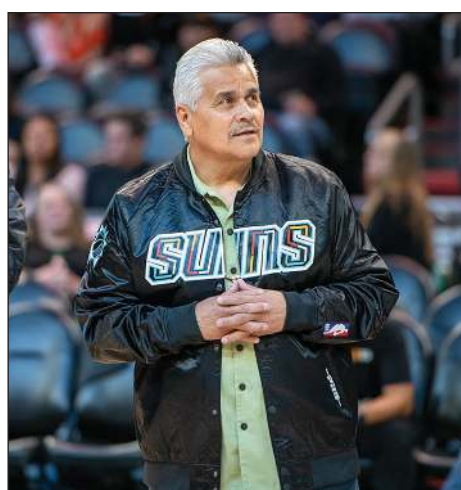
A new episode will be released every month.
Our current series, New Words, will run for approximately one year.

STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEXT EPISODE!

Phoenix Suns Hosts Event to Highlight Arizona's Tribal Nations



Tribal leaders from across the state of Arizona were recognized during the halftime portion of the Phoenix Suns game against the Golden State Warriors on November 16. Basketball fans came out to the game wearing the newly unveiled jerseys, that were specially designed for the Phoenix Suns city collection that highlight indigenous people.



Other guests and partners who helped make the initiative possible were GinaMarie Scarpa, president of the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI), and Gila River Indian Community Governor Stephen Roe Lewis, both of whom have worked to support the game of basketball and the NABI tournament, which is held in Phoenix each July. The Originativ series is sponsored by Gila River Resorts and Casinos.

Wincott said the Phoenix Suns aspire to see the partnership grow with tribal communities and to use avenues like NABI to further foster the sport of basketball among Native peoples.

"This is such an amazing day, seeing 22 tribal nations of Arizona represented permanently on this wall. Thanks to all of our partners, both tribal and locally," said Martinez. He said the fact that tribal communities are being represented at the Phoenix Suns games means a lot to him and all tribes of Arizona.

Lewis said, "This is a game changer. Nowhere will you see this kind of representation but here with the Phoe-

nix Suns." He said all of the O'odham tribes' ties go back to their ancestors, the Huhugam, on whose ancestral lands the arena and all of the Phoenix metropolitan area were built.

"We are taking on this exciting chapter, a journey if you will, by telling our own stories by being here tonight and [representing] all tribal nations," said Lewis. He said GRIC's partnership with the Phoenix Suns opens the door to countless opportunities that will benefit all of Arizona's tribal communities on the "main stage," in terms of representation and opportunities for Native youth in basketball.

"It has been quite a journey, and we are ready to take an exciting first chapter with this partnership," Scarpa said. "We put on one of the largest Native basketball tournaments, highlighting the best Native men and women. This is an amazing campaign that we look forward to see moving forward."

November 16 was the first in a series of 10 Originativ game nights this season. It was followed by games

on November 20, November 22 and December 2, with the next Originativ game night slated for January 8, featuring the Suns vs. the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Arizona's tribal communities are well represented throughout Footprint Center, from the digital signage, which features a mix of traditional O'odham basketry designs and the word "sun" in each of the 22 tribal languages, to the scores of fans wearing new merchandise from the Suns' City Edition collection.

Originativ will celebrate Indigenous communities off the court as well. For example, it will showcase and promote Native American-owned small businesses. Native Ground Coffee, a Native-owned coffee company from the SRPMIC, was the first such business to be showcased.


During the November 16 halftime show, Arizona tribal leaders in attendance each received a special gift. Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier received



a commemorative Suns jacket.

From the 2015 season to November 2020, Footprint Center was called Talking Stick Resort Arena, as SRPMIC gaming property Talking Stick Resort secured the naming rights to the arena. In July 2021, Gilbert-based company Footprint purchased naming rights.

More information on the Suns' Originativ initiative is available at www.suns.com/ORIGINATIV.



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

NOTICE
2023 Agricultural Lease Payment

The 2023 Agricultural Lease payment to landowners will be made by mail, direct deposit, or SRPMIC Pay Card only. There will be no in person payout.

On Friday, January 20, 2023, Agricultural Lease Payment checks will be mailed to your address on file or, if you have elected to use direct deposit, disbursement will occur to the financial institution on file with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community ("SRPMIC") Finance Department. Incorrect information will cause a delay in receiving your payment. To update your address or direct deposit information, or to sign up for direct deposit, please contact:

SRPMIC Vendor Maintenance, ph: (480) 362-7729
(staff is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Arizona time).
The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 12, 2022. Please call as soon as possible.

Pay Card disbursement will be placed onto your SRPMIC Pay Card on Friday, January 20, 2023. To sign up for a SRPMIC Pay Card for your lease payment or to add your lease payment to an already issued SRPMIC Pay Card, please contact the SRPMIC Finance Department at (480) 362-7620. The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 12, 2022.

Payments less than \$15.00. All direct deposit and Pay Card payments will be disbursed regardless of the amount. For checks less than \$15.00, landowners will need to contact the SRPMIC Finance Department and request that a check be mailed. Such checks will be processed 7-10 business days following the request after January 20, 2023.

Questions? Contact the SRPMIC Finance Leasing Payment Office (480) 362-7730.

*Agricultural lease payments will be made based upon farmer payments received by January 3, 2023.

SRPMIC's Air Quality Program would like to remind you to do your part in keeping our air clean during this winter.


Please try to not burn wood in the recommended restricted days. SRPMIC does not restrict Community members from burning wood, but we would appreciate the voluntary cooperation.

Please take a look at the website below for the current Maricopa County Air Quality conditions before considering to burn wood during the Christmas and New Year's holidays.


<https://cleanairmakemore.com/home>

Any Questions?
Call CDD-EPNR
480-362-7500


Look for this images about Air Quality



Wood burning OK

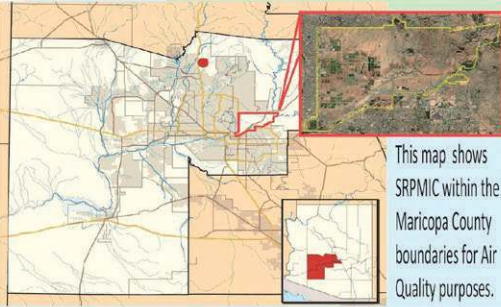


off-highway vehicles OK



leaf-blowing OK

TODAY
Clear
64° High 39° Low
Winds blowing N at 3 MPH



This map shows SRPMIC within the Maricopa County boundaries for Air Quality purposes.

THE MOST
Wonderful
TIME OF
the year!

Heard Museum Presents New Exhibition, Substance of Stars

This multi-sensory journey features digital storytelling with historic works and contemporary art commissioned by leading Indigenous artists.

The Heard Museum proudly announced a new exhibition, Substance of Stars, that opened in November. = This multi-sensory experience takes visitors on a storytelling journey with four distinct communities; the Haudenosaunee, Yup'ik, Diné, and Akimel O'odham as they share their unique perspectives, stories and experiences. The exhibition incorporates Indigenous languages, spiritual and foundational knowledge, and value systems which figure prominently in the identities of Indigenous peoples.

The exhibition features a multi-level excursion of historic and contemporary works centered around an impressive 360-degree theatrical experience titled the Sky-Dome. The Sky-Dome has edge-blend technology that offers dynamic changing landscapes by the four seasons on 20-foot-high walls. Simultaneously, the ceiling is a fiber optic map of the cosmos centered on the North Star that rotates four times to replicate the change of seasons as seen from the Arizona night sky.

Substance of Stars is a culmination of a three-year collaboration with advisors from four Indigenous Nations. New works by contemporary Indigenous



artists have been commissioned for the exhibition and will be featured prominently alongside historic works and site-specific immersive media. These include works by Marie Watt (Seneca), Peter Lind (Alutiiq), Steven Yazzie (Diné/Laguna Pueblo/Anglo), and Jacob Butler (Akimel O'odham) as well as a range of contemporary and cultural

arts drawn from the Heard's permanent collection. Partner institutions have also lent key works to the Heard to be featured in the new signature exhibition such as the Fenimore Museum, the Honolulu Museum of Art, and the Rochester Museum of Science and Culture to name a few.

This exhibition is guest curated by

Sean Mooney and Chuna McIntyre (Central Yup'ik), with advisory support from Josephine Aloralrea (Cup'ik, Nunivak Island), Vernon Chimegalrea (Central Yup'ik), Jamie Jacobs (Seneca), Michael Galban (Mono Lake / Paiute), Thomas Porter (Mohawk), Ansley Jemison (Seneca), Marie Watt (Seneca), Velma Kee Craig (Diné), Manuelito Wheeler (Diné), Steven Yazzie (Diné / Laguna Pueblo / Anglo), Orlando White (Diné), Barnaby Lewis (Akimel O'otham), David Martinez (Akimel O'odham / Hia Ced O'odham / Mexican), and Jacob Butler (Akimel O'otham). Substance of Stars is made possible thanks to the generosity of [Lilly Endowment Inc.](#)

Exhibition Title: Substance of Stars
Featured Artists: Marie Watt (Seneca), Peter Lind (Alutiiq), Steven Yazzie (Diné), and Jacob Butler (Akimel O'odham)
Heard Museum Address: 2301 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004

General gallery hours: Monday - Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm

PROPOSED RESIDENCY ORDINANCE

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council is currently considering the enactment of a Residency Ordinance. The purpose of the Residency Ordinance is to determine which non-members may be permitted to reside within the Community, track/monitor these non-members residing within the Community, and place requirements upon these non-members with respect to certain tribal programs like jury service (in limited cases). The following is a structural breakdown of the proposed ordinance:

- Section 17-16 states the purpose(s) of the ordinance and defines certain terms.
- Section 17-17 specifies the various non-members who may reside within the Community.
- Section 17-18 lists the requirements for registration by non-member residents.
- Section 17-19 includes civil violations for not complying with the proposed ordinance.
- Section 17-20 includes the obligations of non-member residents.
- Section 17-21 re-affirms the Community's ability to utilize and enforce the exclusion process.

The proposed ordinance is open for public comment until January 19, 2022, and will be discussed at meetings and venues throughout November and December in 2022 and January 2023. The Community Council is hoping to receive additional Community member feedback on this proposed ordinance. You can also locate the full text of the proposed ordinance at: <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/ogc/proposed-ordinances/>

Please submit any questions or comments to Jeff Harmon at jeff.harmon@srpmic-nsn.gov or (480) 362-5409. All comments will be presented to Council at the end of the public comment period.

4th Quarter 2022 ELIGIBILITY DEADLINE December 31, 2022

Must be eighteen (18) years old, enrolled, and living to be eligible for the January 2023 Per Capita Payment.

DEADLINES FOR CHANGES

Direct Deposit Start-Ups and Changes: Tuesday, January 10 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 January 2023 payout. Forms received after this date will not be effective until the April 2023 payout.

Discontinue Direct Deposits: Tuesday, January 10 at 5 p.m. This deadline is to discontinue an existing direct deposit. *****Failing to notify the Per Capita department when an account is closed may delay your Per Capita payment.**

Per Capita Eligibility: Tuesday, January 17 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 January 2023 payout. Forms received after this date will not be processed until the first week of February 2023.

Tax Withholding Changes: Tuesday, January 17 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 finpercap1@srpmic-nsn.gov.

If you have any questions regarding: Tribal ID, Per Capita Eligibility & Change Forms call Membership Services @ (480) 362-7600

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



**If you have a story idea, please contact
OAN at (480) 362-7750**
Leave your name, number and brief message and we will return your call.

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

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

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SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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--	--

DISTRICT C COUNCIL MEMBER Cheryl Doka	LEHI DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER Michael Dallas, Sr.
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DISTRICT D COUNCIL MEMBER Wi-Bwa Grey



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ISSUE	DEADLINE AT NOON
January 5	December 16
SEND INFORMATION TO DODIE MANUEL at dodie.manuel@srpmic-nsn.gov	
For more information please call (480) 362-7750.	



SRMG WISHES YOU A HAPPY AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY SEASON!



Salt River Materials Group helped sponsor SRPMIC's Christmas Angels Program for 2022 in hopes to make Christmas a little merrier for participating families.

Check us out at . .
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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

ON-GOING

PHOENIX ZOOLIGHTS - 5:30 p.m. - 10:30, now through Jan. 15 2023. You will find adventure everywhere at the Valley's favorite holiday tradition. All new animal lanterns and light displays, an enhanced Santa experience and our brand new music and light show. Guest entry includes admission to Dinosaurs in the desert. **SENSORY FRIENDLY ZOOLIGHTS:** On January 9 you can expect the same great ZooLights with some modifications to make it more sensory friendly, including smaller crowds, quieter music and reduced flashing lights and more!

ENCHANT AT SALT RIVER FIELDS AT TALKING STICK SCOTTSDALE Now through January 1, 2022 The worlds largest Christmas Light Maze & Village. Experience Animated Light Sculptures, Ice-skating Village, Live Entertainment, Interactive Games, Dining, Holiday Shopping, Santa & Mrs. Clause! And so much more!

WINTER WATERLAND AT ODYSSEA AQUARIUM - 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Now through December 31, Odyssea Aquarium 9500 E Via De Ventura Scottsdale AZ. Visit Arizona's only SeaTREK Santa who takes center stage, interacting with guests as he appears underwater in the Deep Ocean exhibit. Pose for pictures with family and friends, participate in a SeaTREK scavenger hunt and

send Santa a letter from the OdySea Aquarium Discovery Desk (and he'll write back!)

DECEMBER

15 SODA WITH SECURITY: HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS & PREVENTION - 5:30 p.m. Thursday, December 15th, 2022 ALA Lecture Hall 4827 N. Country Club Dr. Scottsdale, AZ. Join the Salt River Schools Safe Schools & Security team for an important discussion about Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention. Presented by the Office of the Arizona Attorney General and Community Outreach and Education.

16 SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY INAUGURATION CEREMONY - 6:30 - p.m., 2022 Salt River Grand Ballroom - Talking Stick Resort 9800 E Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale, AZ Program, Dinner & Dance: Music by Gertie and the T.O. Boys. OATH OF OFFICE: Martin Harvier, President; Ricardo Leonard, Vice-President; Jacob Butler, Council Member; Mikah Carlos, Council Member; Cheryl Doka, Council Member; Michael Dallas, Sr., Council Member. The phase of the Community will be in, on this date, will dictate the COVID-19 Precautions that will be followed.

17 ANIMAL HEALTH CLINIC FOR DOGS AND CATS - 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, December 17, 2022 & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 18, 2022 1839 N. Longmore Rd Scottsdale, AZ Baptisto Teen Center behind the Salt River Ball Field. First come, first served. Limited space. Available Services: Wellness Exams, Vaccines, Flea/Tick Prevention, Heartworm Prevention for dogs, Microchipping, Health Screening for diseases such as Heartworm, Lyme, FIV and FeLV. Spay/Neuter surgery will not be available at this event but is coming soon in future clinics. Animal Health Clinics offer free medical services and pet supplies to all SRPMIC members. In partnership with the Arizona Humane Society and the Department of Environmental Health. Questions, call: (602) 730-2092. Visit: [@nagifoundation](https://facebook.com/nagifoundation)

17 HUHUGAM KI: MUSEUM HOLIDAY POP-UP SHOP, 10 a.m. -3 p.m. at the Huhugam Ki: Museum grounds. Come out and join us for some artistic cheer! Shop local arts & crafts vendors in time for the holidays. For more information call (480) 362-6320.

19 SALT RIVER EDUCATION BOARD MEETING- 5:15 p.m., Education Board Room, 4836 N. Center St, Scottsdale, AZ, Meetings will be held in person and virtually during the 2022-2023 school year. The

Education Board welcomes your attendance and appreciates your interest in our students. Questions can be directed to Education Secretary, LaRue Jackson at (480) 362-2500.

23 DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS, TRIBAL OFFICE CLOSED - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SRPMIC Tribal Office will be closed for the Christmas Holiday. Business will resume on Tuesday, December 27, 2022.

26 CHRISTMAS DAY (observed), TRIBAL OFFICES CLOSED - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SRPMIC Tribal Office will be closed for the Christmas Holiday. Business will resume on Tuesday, December 27, 2022

31 SALT RIVER COMMUNITY NEW YEARS EVE DANCE AND MIDWAY - begins 4 p.m., SR Community Building 1880 N Longmore Rd Scottsdale, AZ. Food/Game Trucks & Midway Rides open at 4 p.m., Dance will start at 8 p.m. in the Community Building with music by Ramoncito & Company. Join us for a Midnight Balloon Drop and Spectacular Fireworks Show! For more information about NYE and wristband sales, see *ad on page 13*.

Years Day. Business will resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

09 PHOENIX ZOOLIGHTS SENSORY FRIENDLY ZOOLIGHTS NIGHT: 5:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Monday, January 9, 2023 you can expect the same great ZooLights with some modifications to make it more sensory friendly, including smaller crowds, quieter music and reduced flashing lights and more!

16 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SRPMIC Tribal Office will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Business will resume on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

20 2023 AGRICULTURE LEASE PAYMENT - The 2023 Agricultural Lease payment to landowners will be made by mail to your address on file, direct deposit to the financial institution on file, or SRPMIC Pay Card which will be placed onto your SRPMIC Pay Card on Friday, January 20, 2022. There will be no in person payout.

31 COMMUNITY MEMBER ONLY MEETING - 6 p.m. SR Community Building 1880 N Longmore Rd Scottsdale, AZ More info in next issue.

JANUARY

02 NEW YEARS DAY OBSERVED - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. SRPMIC Tribal Office will be closed in observance of New