



Ak-Chin Masik Tas Chair Volleyball Tournament Features Several SRPMIC Teams
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Kimberly Enos Recognized as Employee of the Year at Annual Employee Holiday Luncheon



Kimberly Enos (middle), case manager in the Journey to Recovery program, receives her award and check presentation for winning Employee of the Year, as Council members join her on stage to celebrate. Left to right: SRPMIC Council members Wi-Bwa Grey, Deanna Scabby, David Antone, Jacob Butler, Vice-President Ricardo Leonard, Kimberly Enos, President Martin Harvier, Council members Mikah Carlos and Cheryl Doka.

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

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community celebrated its employees with the annual Employee Holiday Luncheon at the Ballroom at Talking Stick Resort on December 12.

As employees filed into the ballroom, they were treated to a holiday music prelude by

jazz trio Lucky Devils Band, who provided the musical entertainment for the day.

SRPMIC Public Works Assistant Facilities Manager Len Andrews began the program with the blessing of the meal, followed by a welcome address by Carla Banuelos, SRPMIC Assistant Community Manager.

“As we come together for this beautiful, festive luncheon, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your commitment and

hard work,” said Banuelos.

“Without a doubt, the Community is beyond blessed to have such dedicated staff. Let the festivities begin!”

Employees were treated to a delicious buffet-style meal, which included steak, chicken, pasta, potatoes, desserts and more.

The theme of the event was the experience of being in a cinema, with different kinds of

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SRPMIC Commemorates 82nd Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor



Current Naval Officer Derek Dalton salutes the flag in the foreground as former Miss Salt River Isabella Dockerty performs the National Anthem in O'odham in the background.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'odham Action News
juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

On December 7, the 82nd anniversary of the tragedy at Pearl Harbor, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community held a commemoration ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens in remembrance of all veterans and civilians who suffered and perished on that infamous day.

Amanda White from the SRPMIC Veterans Office served as emcee for the commemoration ceremony. In her speech, she detailed the history of that fateful day. “One hundred eighty-eight U.S. aircraft were destroyed and

all eight Navy battleships in port were damaged, with four of them sunk,” she stated. The California, the West Virginia, the Oklahoma and the Arizona were the battleships sunk on December 7, 1941.

On December 8, 1941, the day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt gave his famous “a day which will live in infamy” speech and declared war on the Empire of Japan.

The ceremony continued with the official naval roll call of all distinguished guests in attendance: SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard; Council mem-

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President Makil Receives Phoenix Indian Center Lifetime Achievement Award



Former SRPMIC President Ivan Makil stands at the podium where he was honored for his achievements.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'odham Action News
juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

For the last 40 years, the Phoenix Indian Center has hosted its annual Arizona American Indian Excellence in Leadership Awards. The event began as a potluck luncheon years ago and has since grown into a gala that welcomes current and former tribal leaders, tribal royalty and many esteemed allies of Indian Country. The awards were first known as the Native American Recognition Days Awards (or NARDs).

The awards celebrate and honor the achievements of American Indians in the state of Arizona. Throughout the years, the awards have been presented to distinguished representatives who showcase proven leadership in their communities, effect positive change in their professions, work to be of long-standing service to their lands, and much more.

Not limited to tribal elected officials, the awards also have recognized and continue to recognize Indigenous high school

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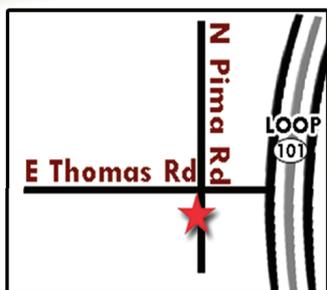
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Skeg Jas,

The last several years have been filled with so many emotions, changes, triumphs and losses and the holiday season often highlights those milestones, good and bad, happy and sad. I pray that this holiday season you experience the light of laughter, the joy of gratitude, and the warmth of love.

While this year has brought challenges to many, it has also given us countless reasons for gratitude and celebration within our Community. We welcomed two new Council members to Tribal Council, broke ground on a new treatment facility, and opened transitional and emergency housing for our members. We welcomed a new Community member as CEO of Salt River Materials Group, congratulated a Community members' art being featured by the Phoenix Suns, saw a Community member dance in the Super Bowl half time show and celebrated a Community member serving as a state ambassador in the role of Miss Indian Arizona, just to name a few.

I am sure 2024 will continue to be a year marked by significant moments and successes for us all and I look forward to continuing to watch and celebrate our membership growing and representing us so strongly across the globe. Your accomplishments enrich us collectively and we are proud of you.

On behalf of the SRPMIC Tribal Council, Vice President, myself, and my family, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and yours. Wishing you all the joy, peace and love that this time of year brings.

President Harvier



Continued from cover page

SRPMIC Commemorates 82nd Anniversary of the Attack on Pearl Harbor

bers Michael Dallas Sr., Cheryl Doka, Wi-Bwa Grey, Deanna Scabby, Jacob Butler, David Antone and Micah Carlos; Community Manager Bryan Meyers and Assistant Community Managers Carla Banelos, Lena Jackson, Doran Dalton and Dawn Sinoqui; former Miss Salt River Isabella Dockerty; former Miss Indian Arizona Sistine Lewis; and U.S. Navy veteran Derek Dalton.

In 2007, the SRPMIC received a U.S. flag from survivors of the Pearl Harbor attack; the flag had been flown over the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor. During the formal presentation to the Community, the survivors made a request to the SRPMIC to open the flag every year (in a flag breathing ceremony) and remember all who gave their lives in service to their country. "That request has been honored by the SRPMIC every year since 2007 and continues today," said White.

Former Miss Salt River Isabella Dockerty then went up to the podium and sang the national anthem in O'odham. Miss Indian Arizona 2022 Sistine Lewis then led everyone in the



The flag breathing ceremony was performed to keep the promise made to the Pearl Harbor survivors.



Guests in attendance were able to appreciate and honor the portion of the remains of the USS Arizona incorporated into the Memorial Gardens.

Pledge of Allegiance.

"We pray at this time for the families, friends and those who are still impacted, Lord," said Council member Michael-Dallas Sr., during his opening remarks. "We pray for our veterans, those who laid their lives down, and their families. We pray to you and we thank you for today, Lord."

Leonard then said a few words. A recent inductee into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame class of 2023, he welcomed everyone to the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens. He then detailed how the Community received part of the damaged USS Arizona to serve as the centerpiece of the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens.

"We were stunned by what we received: the boathouse. The original

memorial piece. Five feet by 7 feet by 12 feet." This piece of the Arizona is the largest piece that has been awarded to a Native American community and is the largest piece on display in North America. "But it's not ours; it belongs to everyone," said Leonard.

"This kind of special place doesn't happen without leadership that supports it," began Meyers. "I've had the privilege of serving this Community for many, many years. This Council and the one before it made a significant effort in recognizing all the men and women who have served in various capacities," he added. A veteran of the army, Meyers said that,

regardless of military branch, "You're all brothers and sisters to me."

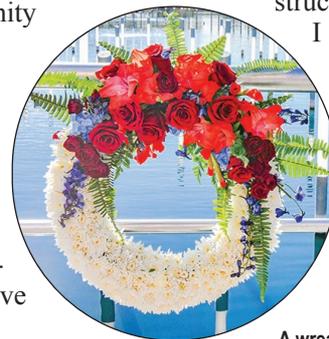
Next came the flag breathing ceremony to keep the promise made to the Pearl Harbor survivors that the flag would be opened once a year. The flag was presented to all four directions and a 21-gun salute was performed by the San Carlos Apache Veterans Association, after which David Bonczkiewicz performed "taps."

Navy veteran Derek Dalton then laid the Presidential wreath. As a gesture of honor and respect, attendees and distinguished guests were asked to remain silent and standing as Dalton hung the wreath.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Leonard thanked all the veterans, their families and loved ones.

"I ask that we never forget the USS Arizona and all those who lost their lives [throughout World War II]. But not just them—World War I, Vietnam, Korea, Afghanistan—all of the places where we lost lives. Creator, war is a destructive thing. Many lost lives.

I ask that you help ease their hearts today. Help them remember their laughter. All my brothers and sisters, rest in peace. Creator, help them sleep peacefully, until it's our turn," he finished.



A wreath was hung during a moment of silence at the ceremony.

YRPC Compete in Masik Tas Tournaments

SUBMITTED BY MELODY BROWN
Young River Peoples Council Member



Melody Brown. Photo Courtesy of the Young River Peoples Council.

The Young River People's Council of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community had the opportunity to play in the Masik Tas Toka and Songivil Tournament in Ak-Chin on December 3. It was the first tournament for most of the girls on our team. We played representing Salt River's team Onk Akimel Sivilki. I hope more girls come and play toka in the Community so we can have more Salt River teams. While we played toka, the boys played the men's sport, songivil. YRPC member Tizoc Lopez won second place in that tournament. It was a cold but fun morning to spend with one another, and I hope we can compete in more tournaments next year.



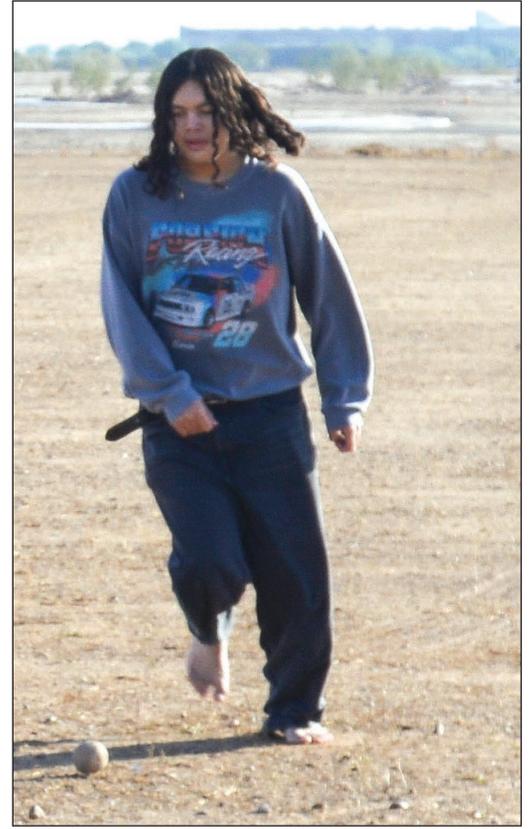
Female members of the YRPC participate in the traditional O'odham women's game, toka.



The usaga stick is made from a mesquite tree.



Male members of the YRPC pose with other participants in the traditional O'odham men's game songivil.



Aiden Miguel kicks the songivil barefoot across the field.



YRPC member Tizoc Lopez won second place in the Masik Tas songivil tournament.



The YRPC members hold their usagas out before playing a game of toka.

Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs Speaks at Salt River Shares 2024



As a token of appreciation, SRPMIC President Martin Harvier gifted Governor of Arizona Katie Hobbs a handpainted O'odham gourd doll.

BY NALANI LOPEZ
O'odham Action News
Nalani.lopez3@srpmic-nsn.gov

Up on the Pepsi Deck at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs congratulated the successful partnership of tribal gaming between the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and the State of Arizona at the annual Salt River Shares 2024 event on November 30. The event recognizes the SRPMIC's grants to various groups in the state through its gaming revenue.

The 2024 grant awardees in attendance and SRPMIC leadership surrounded Hobbs as she spoke highly of the Community's contributions.

"We are fortunate here in Arizona to have the unique opportunity to collaborate through the tribal gaming industry," said Hobbs. "Together we have made significant investments in so many critical services, from education and wildlife conservation to healthcare and tourism."

For over 20 years, the State of Arizona and its 22 federally recognized tribes have regulated tribal gaming revenue through the Arizona Tribal-State Gaming Compact. Within this agreement, tribes with casinos contribute 12% of their gaming revenue back to the state, cities and nonprofit organizations in the form of grants.

The SRPMIC has been a leader in this program, and in this 2024 calendar year it will award grants to more than 70 nonprofits and local governments.

The Community's committee carefully selects the organizations and nonprofits they contribute to. Some of these organizations include St. Mary's Food Bank, A New Leaf and Dignity Health. The Community hopes the funds will improve healthcare, education, native land preservation and local economies within the state.

Hobbs continued to thank the Community for its contributions while also mentioning how the gaming compact has directly benefited Arizonans.

"The impact of tribal gaming also trickles down to our workforce, with over 20,000 jobs created by the industry since 2004. That is real income for real people who are now able to provide for their families because of tribal gaming," she said.

Hobbs thanked the Community for its contributions to the well-being of the state and its commitment to creating a better Arizona for everybody.

As she closed, SRPMIC President Martin Harvier thanked Hobbs for the partnership and gifted her a hand-painted gourd doll created by the Young River People's Council.

Hobbs said, "Together, we will continue to ensure that everyone benefits from tribal gaming. I'm looking forward to our continued partnership through this program and many more to come. Congratulations, and thank you so much."



SRPMIC Tribal Council with Governor Katie Hobbs at the Salt River Shares 2024 event. Photo courtesy of Josh Tso and Cheyenne Weston.

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Ten SRFD Recruits Graduate from Mesa Regional Training Academy



The 10 Salt River Fire Department graduates. From Left to Right: Damian Castro, Michael Diaz, Daniel Garcia, Alejandro Jimenez-Hill, Luis A. Lopez, Elizabeth Otano, Nathaniel Saldivar, Adrienne Scabby, Jayden Waterman, and Kalib Zaso.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'odham Action News
Juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Salt River Fire Department recently welcomed new graduates from the 2023-2 "Heat Seekers" recruit class. With 39 recruits total in the graduation class, SRPMIC had a massive presence at the graduation ceremony, as 10 of the recruits will join the SRFD.

Joining the ranks of the SRFD are firefighters Damian Castro, Michael Diaz, Daniel Garcia, Alejandro Jimenez-Hill, Luis A. Lopez, Elizabeth Otano, Nathaniel Saldivar, Adrienne Scabby, Jayden Waterman, and Kalib Zaso.

During the graduation ceremony, the Salt River Fire Department Pipes and Drums marching band and the Superstition Fire Pipes and Drums presented the colors. The bands are composed of volunteers who dedicate many hours of their free time practicing the bagpipes and bass drum and performing their marches at many public events.

Mesa Assistant Fire Chief Cori Hayes served as the emcee of the event. In her welcoming speech, she expressed her appreciation to all of the families, spouses and loved ones of the graduates. "This is not an easy career; our recruits relied heavily on your support," she said.

Hayes then detailed how the career of a firefighter is "not a job," but a lifelong profession filled with dedication and purpose. "We want to see how successful you will be in your careers five, 10, 20 years from now," she said.

Mesa Mayor John Giles was also in attendance and was invited to the stage to help celebrate the graduates and their accomplishments. "I may be the mayor of Mesa, but believe me, I am here for you all," he said. Giles then revealed that many fire stations across Arizona work together quite often. "We all work together. I can't wait to see you all again," he said.

Following Giles' speech was Mesa Fire Chief Mary Cameli. Rather than standing at the podium, Chief Cameli opted to stand in the middle of the stage to look at all of the graduates sitting in the front row. "Out of the hundreds of applicants we received, you [graduates] here tonight were all chosen for a reason," she said.

A video training montage of all of the graduates was then played on the Mesa Arts Center auditorium screen. During the video, the graduates were shown completing the obstacle course at the Mesa training facility. The video also showed the recruits dressed in their full uniforms as they walked up flights of stairs inside of downtown Phoenix skyscraper.

"I am so proud of this group," said Recruit Training Officer Captain Troy Walter during his speech follow-

begin working in the Salt River Fire Department.

"The dedication and commitment you give to your communities are invaluable," said Chief Hayes. "Congratulations to you and your families on this wonderful achievement."



SRFD graduate Luis A. Lopez is congratulated on stage at the Mesa Arts Center by Mesa Fire Chief Mary Cameli.

ing the training video. Walter continued to give the graduates praise as he detailed the many challenges they experienced as a group. Beyond the early mornings and long nights, he said he was pleased to see the close-knit camaraderie within the graduating class.

As the graduation ceremony was nearing its conclusion, invited guests were then instructed to find their graduate in the front of the auditorium for the firefighter badge pinning. It was during the badge-pinning ceremony that many attendees and graduates were overcome with emotion and began shedding joyous tears.

"There are heroes in this room," said the Honorable Judge David Allen during his introduction speech. Allen was also in attendance to facilitate the official public safety oath as the graduates raised their right hand and swore to protect and serve their communities.

The 10 graduates will now transition from firefighter recruits to probationary firefighters as the group will



In his speech to the graduates, Mesa Mayor John Giles detailed how many fire stations in Arizona work closely with each other.



Jayden Waterman and Adrienne Scabby beam with pride moments after their loved ones pinned their fire station badge onto their uniforms.



Mesa Fire Chief Mary Cameli spoke a few words about how proud she is of all of the graduates in the 2023-2 "Heat Seekers" class.



Luis A. Lopez, Alejandro Jimenez-Hill, Daniel Garcia, Michael Diaz, and Damian Castro smile from ear to ear moments before their families and loved ones congratulated them.

A photograph showing three people looking at a smartphone together. On the left is a man with glasses and a goatee, wearing a red and white plaid shirt and a black bandana. In the center is a young woman with braces, wearing a white t-shirt. On the right is another woman with glasses, wearing a blue top. They are outdoors, with a wooden fence and trees in the background. The lighting suggests it's late afternoon or early morning.

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Ak-Chin Masik Tas Chair Volleyball Tournament Features Several SRPMIC Teams

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'odham Action News
 juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.us

Every December, the Ak-Chin Indian Community hosts their Masik Tas, or "birthday" celebration, which commemorates the Ak-Chin Indian Community's formal recognition by the U.S. government.

This year's Ak-Chin Masik Tas included several special events that were free to the public, including an adult and junior rodeo, a basketball tournament, a light parade and a carnival. However, the most anticipated event of Masik Tas for years has been the All-Indian Elder Chair Volleyball Tournament.

On December 6, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community had six teams make the trip to Ak-Chin to participate in this year's Masik Tas chair volleyball tournament: the Salt River Elite, Serv-Ivers, Nyaa Thosh, Salt River S'gevk, Lightning & Thunder and the Salt River Steppers.

Games began promptly at 8 a.m. inside the Ak-Chin gymnasium, with the matches lasting about 15 to 30 minutes each. Staff from the Ak-Chin Health and Human Services Department handed out healthy and nutritious snacks and drinks to the athletes and those in attendance to cheer them on. Though there was a crisp breeze throughout the day, hydration was still important, especially for the athletes playing into the afternoon.

Many other teams from across Arizona's Indian Country also made the trip to play in the chair volleyball games. Teams from San Lucy, Gila River, Fort Yuma, Fort McDowell, Tohono O'odham and many other tribal communities filled up the roster of teams. In all, 30+ teams vied for the top spot in the chair volleyball tournament.

As the games continued throughout the morning, the Salt River teams found themselves battling one another on the gym court. The 8:30 a.m. game featured Salt River S'gevk going head-to-head against Lightning & Thunder. Though each team battled hard, there always has to be a winner, and it was Lightning & Thunder that advanced to the quarterfinals. The 11 a.m. playoff games featured the Salt River Elite going up against the Serv-Ivers and Lightning & Thunder playing the Salt River Steppers.

Out of all the Salt River teams that participated in this year's games, it was Nyaa Thosh that advanced



Team Lightning & Thunder.

the furthest. Though the chair volleyball games are competitive, having fun and staying active is the main focus.

"We came to play and enjoy ourselves," said Russell Ray, team member on Nyaa Thosh. Ray added, "We go through our drills to develop a real good healthy relationship. We pray a lot. We also are able to share each other's ideas. We all listen to each other and encourage each other. It makes for a good, strong, and healthy team," he finished.

In the winner take all tournament, it was Team Jackrabbits that would go on to win the championship game against Once Wild. Rounding out the top 3 were the Firebirds from Fort McDowell.

Many years ago, chair volleyball took place at a

small potluck gathering with decorated gourds for trophies. Today, chair volleyball tournaments are played across state lines with countless teams competing for first-place prizes, which range from hardware to T-shirts.

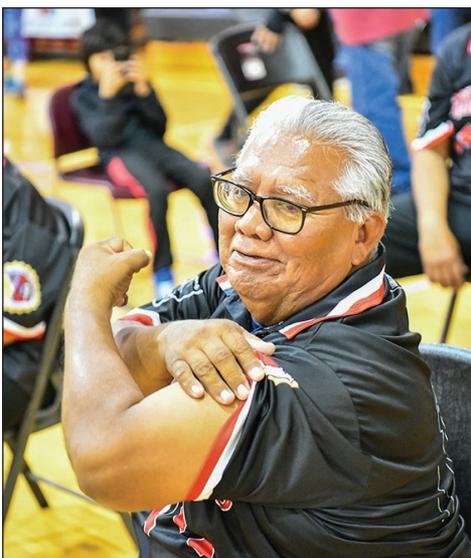
Though their Masik Tas championship dreams came up short, the Salt River teams have already begun focusing on the new year, as many 2024 chair volleyball tournaments across Indian Country await.



The Salt River Steppers.



The Salt River Serv-ivors.



"Hey, you! Take a photo of THIS!" said one of the Tribal Roots players during the match during the playoffs.



The Serv-ivors played against Team Independents, the Fort McDowell Firebirds, Salt River Elite and more.



Salt River S'gevk.

President Makil Receives Phoenix Indian Center Lifetime Achievement Award

and college students who are assets to their tribal communities back home.

The 2023 Arizona American Indian Excellence in Leadership Awards ceremony was held on November 30 at the Steele Auditorium at the Heard Museum in Phoenix. This year, Ivan Makil, former Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community leader and founder of Generation Seven Strategic Partners, received the Kent C. Ware Lifetime Achievement Award.

Makil was elected president of the SRPMIC for three consecutive terms beginning in 1990. Under his administration, the Community introduced major new enterprises such as Saddleback Communications, Casino Arizona, the Talking Stick Golf Course and Chaparral Business Park. In addition to his many successes, Makil also chaired the effort to pass Proposition 202 during the year 2000, a ballot proposition that allowed for Indian gaming to continue in the state of Arizona.

"Thank you. I am deeply honored," Makil said during his acceptance speech. He shared a story about how his grandfather taught Makil as a youngster to ask someone else first how they feel, and then speak. "The word is sap kaij (What's up/What did you say/think?). It has served me well. Listening gave me an opportunity to understand, appreciate, and sometimes disagree with who I was speaking with—or, more importantly, who was speaking to me," he said.

The packed auditorium listened to Makil talk about those who have helped him the most. "This recognition goes to my family, my parents, my grandparents, my children, my brothers, my sisters, the people of Salt River, the Elders, and



Former President of SRPMIC Ivan Makil was awarded the Kent C. Ware award as well as a blanket from members of the Phoenix Indian Center.

the people of Salt River who raised me, for giving me a foundation upon which to live my life and [teaching me] how to use that foundation of values to make decisions about what was important to our people," he said.

Makil's words remind all of us about our own talents and potential legacies. "The Creator has given us a unique opportunity to fulfill that purpose that we were born here for. Sometimes that purpose is difficult to find and understand, but it's important to how we live our lives and continue to give to our families and community," he said.

Makil finished his speech by acknowledging how Native and non-Native individuals have an innate understanding of commitment to our families, communities, tribes and the country.

"Whenever I have the opportunity, I always say, 'The greatest measure of a successful community is the health of its people,'" he said. "I'm not just talking about physical and mental health. I'm talking about the economic, social, cultural and spiritual health. All of those things that we as Native people have grown up with and known innately since we were children. Thank you to all of you who support Native communities," he said.

At the conclusion of his speech, Makil received a standing ovation that lasted quite a few minutes. He was presented with the Kent C. Ware Lifetime Achievement Award plaque as well as a commemorative blanket while he posed for photos with members of the Phoenix Indian Center.

2023 Arizona American Indian Excellence in Leadership Awards

KENT C. WARE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
– Ivan Makil (Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community)

PHYLLIS J. BIGPOND LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
– Joy Hanley (Navajo)

SPIRIT OF THE HEARD AWARD
– Ofelia Zepeda (Tohono O'odham)

MAN OF THE YEAR
– Shawn Martinez (Navajo)

WOMAN OF THE YEAR
– Dr. Michelle Huyser (Navajo)

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
– Urias Communications

FRIEND OF THE COMMUNITY
– Katreena Hayes-Wood

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
– Reva Stewart (Navajo)

COLLEGE STUDENTS OF THE YEAR
– Jalen Harvey (Navajo) and Artie Steele (San Carlos Apache)

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE YEAR
– Elise Lamas (Tohono O'odham) and Michael Tupponce Jr. (Chickahominy Indian Tribe Eastern Division)

Ak-Chin Masik Tas Chair Volleyball Tournament Features Several SRPMIC Teams



Salt River Elite.



Nyaa Thosh played against Quails, Fort McDowell Baja, Fort McDowell Firebirds, and the Jackrabbits.



All participants had to maintain the "one cheek rule" which requires athletes to remain seated.



Team Salt River Elite played against Quails, Coopah Classics, and the Schuk Toak Bears.



Team Nyaa Thosh.

Christmas Program and Light Parade Spread Cheer Throughout Community

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

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community celebrated the holiday season with its Community Christmas Program and Holiday Light Parade tradition on December 9.

Community members enjoyed participating in and listening to Elite Karaoke with DJ Brandy on the main stage to kick off the event. The karaoke contest winner was Lori Lewis and Santa's Little Helpers, with Jeremiah Carmona in second place.

After karaoke was finished, the band Mariachi Avanzados Sones del Desierto joined the stage as seniors began to pack the Round House Café to play bingo. The third act on the stage was the Fushicho Daiko drum group.

The Huhugam Ki: Museum parking lot was filled with vendors selling all kinds of crafts, food and artwork. There also was plenty of fun for kids throughout the day, with different activities such as making Christmas ornaments, decorating cookies, a holiday goodie walk, and a chance to visit with a very special guest.

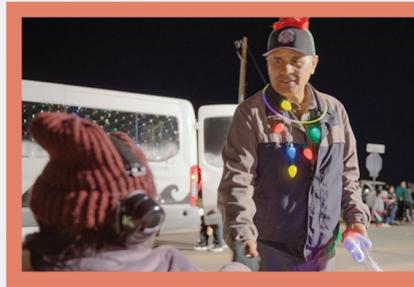
"We have Santa Claus on stage where kids can come and take a picture with him," said SRPMIC Events Coordinator Kym Tyler. "We also have an open firepit for making s'mores with your family!"

At the end of the program, attendees could enjoy hot drinks and holiday treats to warm up for the evening's Holiday Lights Parade. The parade began at 5:30 p.m. just as the sun was beginning to set. Floats lined up at the Salt River Baseball Field and were escorted slowly by emergency vehicles up Longmore Road, ending the parade route at Osborn Road at Two Waters.

The grand marshal of the parade was 7-year-old Community member Carlos Mendivil Jr. (Pima/Cheyenne), who recently performed a traditional fancy dance at a Boys & Girls Club event and won Judge's Choice.

In total, there were 24 entries for the parade from different families and SRPMIC government divisions and departments.

Here is a list of the winners of the parade contest:
Best Originality - #22 Miles & Moore Family, Olaf
Most Use of Lights - #24 Lopez Family
Best Theme - #21 ECS, Christmas Village
Best Walking - #1 Miss Salt River Committee
Most Festive - #23 FAC, Charlie Brown
Best Overall Department - #3 DOT
Best Overall Community Group/Family - #15 Scabby Family, Toy Story



Photos by Nalani Lopez

Strength/Endurance Challenge and Bench Press Competition Return Tops Off 2023

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

There was a sharp inhale, then a beat as Joseph Garza completed his bench press with a loud *clang* as the bar dropped back into place. The surrounding group hollered *whoop!* and *there you go!* punctuated with a final *sheesh!* from Garza as he sat up on the bench. What's going on? The group here is among those who answered the call put forth by Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Diabetes Prevention Services to participate in the Strength/Endurance Challenge and Bench Press Competition, held at the Way of Life Facility on December 1 and Strength/Endurance Challenge held November 27th through December 1.

Since the first event in 2012, the Bench Press Competition has been a popular opportunity for Community members and employees to challenge themselves and test their strength. It started to raise the question of how some of the folks participating would fare in a cardiovascular endurance challenge, so the following year they expanded the event to include both challenges. This continued until 2019, after which they were only able to hold the Endurance Challenge in 2021 due to challenges from COVID-19.

Looking beyond the interruptions due to the pandemic, SRPMIC Senior Physical Fitness Specialist Dion Begay said he is thrilled with the competition's return. "We've had a drop-off in participation over the last couple of years ... [Previously we would] get like 20 to 25 people signed up, but [participation] tailed off and now we're building back up."



Natasha Osif completes a bench press as part of the competition with Senior Physical Fitness Specialist Dion Begay spotting at the machine.

EXERCISE	WEIGHT OR DISTANCE	REPS	TIME
Squats	Body weight (75% for women)	As many as possible	1 minute
Pushups	Body weight	As many as possible	1 minute
Pullups	Body weight	As many as possible	No time
Sprints	300 yards	-	As fast as possible
Plank	-	1	Until failure
Run	1 mile	1	As fast as possible
Broad Jump	-	3 attempts	-
Deadlift	-	1 rep at max	-

The Bench Press Competition is straightforward: three attempts to press one rep at your max lift. It's the Endurance Challenge that really encompasses the entire physical fitness and mental toughness of the participants. Participants are given one minute for each ex-

ercise to complete as many reps as they are able: squats at their body weight for men or 75% of their body weight for women, complete pushups, complete pullups or 50% of their body weight for women, and running 300-yard sprints. Then, the participant holds a plank for

as long as they are able, completes a broad jump, runs 1 mile, and completes one deadlift at their maximum weight. All of this must be done, start to finish, while maintaining proper form.

Despite turnout being smaller than previous years, Begay isn't dismayed. "You feel that energy," he says, nodding to the group of men and women who are all smiling through the strain. "We want to be something people look forward to."

If you're among those looking forward to next year's challenge after the holidays wreak their havoc, the table shown here can help you gauge your current fitness level so you can set a goal for where you want to be by the time 2024's challenge is announced.



Wayne Sekaquaptewa maintains proper form in the midst of a deadlift.

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

NEW YEARS EVE

2024

CELEBRATION

EXTENDED HOURS

SUNDAY DEC. 31ST | 12PM-12AM | SR GYM/COMM BLDG. PARKING LOTS

FEATURING

ONE WAY SKY | SOUTHERN SCRATCH | DJ JERMATIK

10AM • WRISTBAND SALES UNTIL SOLD OUT - RAIN OR SHINE; ALL RIDERS MUST HAVE WRISTBAND

12PM • MIDWAY & GROUNDS OPEN

ALL SALES FINAL NO REFUNDS

8PM • FIREWORK SHOW

ENTERTAINMENT & CARNIVAL RIDES UNTIL 12AM!

\$5
CASH & DEBIT
ACCEPTED

COMMUNITY RELATIONS - EVENTS • 480.362.7740 • SRPMIC • SALTRIVERINDIANCOMMUNITY

SRPMIC Artist Dwayne Manuel Celebrates O'odham Resilience With New Design

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

Inspired and motivated by the history of the O'odham, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member artist Dwayne Manuel's latest T-shirt design celebrates the O'odham's resilience and continued success in navigating the modern world.



Discover Salt River hosted the T-shirt giveaway in The Round House Cafe

The design is titled "Walk With Heart." Manuel said the name is derived from the O'odham word Himdag, which is commonly used to describe "culture."

"But in actuality, when you break down the word Himdag into its root words, you have him, which means walk, and dag, which comes from our word for heart, ibdag," said Manuel. "So, this translates to 'walking with heart' or 'heartfelt walk.'"

Manuel said that the artwork also represents how the O'odham helped establish the Valley and the city of Phoenix.

"If it wasn't for the O'odham, the city of Phoenix never would have flapped her wings," said Manuel.

The T-shirts were given out at the Round House Café at Two Waters on November 8 in a collaboration with the Discover Salt River tourism team.

Manuel said that he was approached by Discover Salt River during the summer about the idea for the T-shirt. After some discussion, it was decided that the shirt would be given out during November, which is National Native American Heritage Month.

According to Manuel, Two Waters is the "downtown" of Salt River, and he felt that the tourism team chose the best place.

"Celebrating SRPMIC artists is what our tourism team loves to do!" said Discover Salt River Tourism Supervisor Jessica Sepulveda.

Discover Salt River has worked with Manuel on past projects, including featured art installations at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, the Discover Salt River Visitor Center and other locations throughout the Talking Stick Entertainment District.

"Dwayne is an amazing artist, and we wanted to share his artwork with everyone. So as our team was planning our new fiscal year, we knew we wanted to partner with him on a design that shares the story of the Community and our people," said Sepulveda.

The collaboration with Manuel also brings awareness to the upcoming anticipated launch of the revamped Salt River Art Trail.

For those who were unable to receive a T-shirt, when the Salt River Art Trail officially launches as a



"gamified pass," you can show support and sign up to access the pass. Guests can visit a variety of SRPMIC artwork throughout the Community and check in at each artwork location to collect points. Those points can be redeemed for prizes, including the exclusive T-shirt.

For more information regarding the Salt River Art Trail, visit www.discoveralriver.com/art-trail/.

The design on the t-shirt is titled "Walk With Heart."



The line of employees and Community members stretched through the Round House and back.

THE VALLEY'S NEWEST AND BEST



**THANK YOU
VETERANS &
ACTIVE MILITARY**



**IT PAYS TO BE
AN ICON, 55+**
OFFERS, SPECIALS AND MORE



**TIER MATCHING &
TIER JUMPS**
MAXIMUM FUN ON THE 101



**STACK UP TRIPLED
REWARDS**
FOR 3X THE FUN ON THE 101



**EARN TOPS ON
OUR TABLES**
DEALING FUN
ON THE 101



CASINO ARIZONA  TALKING STICK RESORT

SaltRiverRewards.com



Enchant Brings Holiday Magic to Community

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

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members, employees and their families enjoyed two special nights at Enchant, the holiday-themed live entertainment concept being held at the main ballpark at Salt River Fields this holiday season.

The SRPMIC hosted Community Night there on November 30 and SRPMIC Employee Appreciation Night on December 5. Guests were able to shop at The Village, a marketplace around the concourse, before heading down to the field for ice skating and entering the Light Maze.

The Light Maze is a long and winding pathway that tells the story of a mischievous elf named Eddie and his pal Sparky the Reindeer. They have misplaced eight toys meant for children on Santa's list.

At the entrance of the maze were "snow" machines that filled the Christmas tree-lit air with excitement and brought smiles to children's faces.

"I really like the quests and finding the toys," said 11-year-old guest Robin Lewis. "The lights are so pretty, especially the big tree."

Seven-year-old attendee Brinleigh Byrne said she found all eight toys.

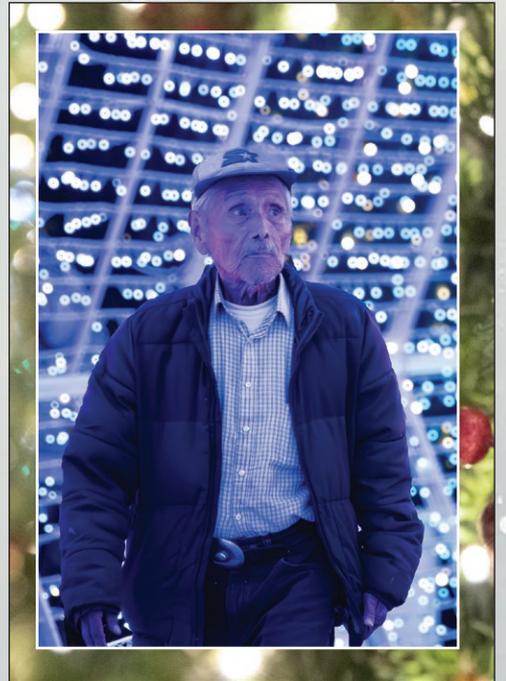
"We checked off each toy as we found them," said Byrne. "I really liked the ballerina, airplane and the teddy bear."

At every corner of the maze was a new surprise and an opportunity to take a family photo. Hired actors dressed up as elves, dancers and guardians of the different segments of the maze.



Children were also able to meet Santa Claus at Santa's Landing and take a photo with him.

Enchant, The Mischievous Elf is open at Salt River Fields through December 31. For more information and ticket prices, visit <https://enchantchristmas.com/scottsdale-az-salt-river-fields/>.



Photos by OAN staff

The Power of the Native Vote In Arizona

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

In the 2020 general election, Joe Biden defeated Donald Trump by about 10,500 popular votes in the state of Arizona. The Native vote arguably made the difference in that election.

With 22 federally recognized tribes in the state, an estimated 5.2% of Arizona's population identifies as American Indian or Alaska Native—leaving open the possibility for the Native population to make a difference once again in the 2024 elections.

What can voters in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community accomplish? Arizona is now considered a swing state. With the presidential election and control of the U.S. House and Senate coming up in 2024, tribal communities in Arizona are looking to show that they are more than “something else,” as CNN erroneously labeled American Indian and Alaska Native voters on a television graphic in 2020.

During the 2022 state elections, only 35% of eligible enrolled Community member voters in the SRPMIC submitted a ballot, meaning 65% of potential voters did not vote.

Additionally, 33% of enrolled Community members who are registered to vote are over age 50, with 67% of them under age 50.

With the goal of increasing tribal voter turnout, three focus groups were held at the Way of Life Facility and the results were provided to the 2023 report by the Institute for Civil Dialogue (ICD), in collaboration with the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication at Arizona State University. The focus groups highlighted common themes as to why participants do or don't register to vote.

Of the reasons why participants register to vote and do vote, the influence of the Community, family and school top the list, along with how much of an impact their vote has, and “just because.”

As far as the reasons why participants don't register or don't vote, some don't because it's too overwhelming, or there are personal constraints or government trust issues. Others simply don't know which party to vote for, don't understand the implications of issues, or simply have no desire to engage in politics.

According to the focus groups, things that would get more participants to register and vote include voting incentives; better access to voter information and voter registration; more trust in the voting process; educational initiatives, such as mock voting and public messaging; and adults in the Community at large demonstrating a habit of political engagement and voting.

Why Should You Vote?

According to the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona in Phoenix (<https://itcaonline.com>), the four biggest reasons why American Indians should vote are:

1. **HONOR.** Honor your right to vote. Indians in Arizona fought to have their right to vote recognized. American Indians became citizens of the United States in 1924, but they were not granted the right to vote until 1948.
2. **TRUST.** The federal government has what is termed a trust obligation to provide funding and services to tribes. Too often, this trust has been broken. By taking political action and casting votes, we continue the struggle to make sure the federal government fulfills its trust obligation to American Indians.
3. **DISPARITY/ACCESS.** Tribes in Arizona experience some of the greatest needs for jobs, housing, healthcare, education and other human services. If Indian citizens do not vote, then it is significantly more difficult to address these issues.
4. **CHANGE.** Indians across the United States have shown that change is possible through their votes and political action. There are more Indians in Arizona than almost any other state. Let's make sure politicians know that we are here and we vote.

HELP KEEP THE COMMUNITY'S AIR CLEAN

December 23-26 and December 31 through January 3 are voluntary NO BURN DAYS



Please Don't Burn Wood on a No Burn Day!



Tiny particles from wood burning emitted during High Pollution Advisory days can add to the air pollutants in the air and pose serious health risks. People that suffer from asthma, like children and elders are most at risk during those days. Please help us keep them safe and our air clean during the Voluntary No Burn Days.

A message from CDD/EPNR 480-362-7500. Visit us at www.saltriverenvironmental.org

O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS

Enrolled SRPMIC MEMBERS sign up for your FREE O'odham Action Newspaper subscription.

DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR NEWSPAPER-SUBSCRIPTION?

Please call or email Newspaper Assistant Kari Haahr at (480) 362-2698 or email kari.haahr@srpmic-nsn.gov. Leave your name, number and brief message and she will get back to you

SRPMIC Hosts 20th Annual Community Children's Golf Classic

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'odham Action News
juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

The picturesque blue sky dotted with white clouds made for a wonderful morning of golf at the Talking Stick Golf Resort on December 4 as the Salt River Community Children's Foundation celebrated its 20th annual golf tournament.

DJ Reflekshin provided the tunes from his DJ booth as golfers registered their teams and collected prizes and giveaways from various Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community vendor booths.

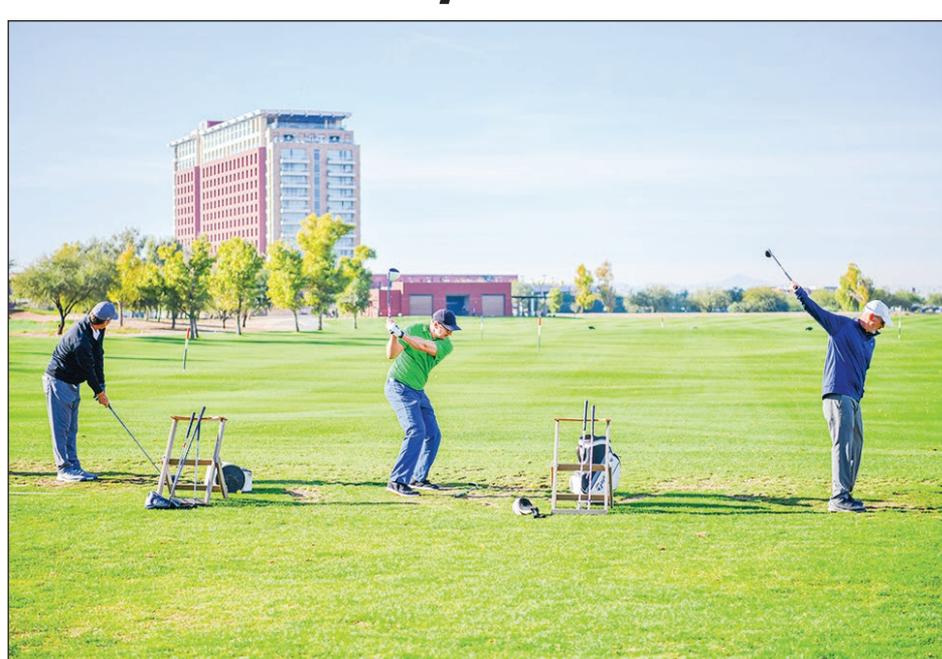
Before the tournament began, SRPMIC Council member Deanna Scabby welcomed golfers and attendees to the Talking Stick Resort Golf Course. In her speech, she mentioned her late husband Bob Scabby and his impact on the origins of the Foundation.

“My late husband Bob is the founder of the Children's Foundation, and he had a dream that started when [one of our] Community members told him he wanted to run in the Olympics,” she began. “That's what conjured up the idea of a foundation for the children in the Community to get them experience, opportunities and exposure.”

Following Scabby's welcome, Jr. Miss Salt River Jizelle Juan provided the blessing. She also provided blessings for those currently sick and in mourning and wished for all attendees to have safe travels home.

Pila Mendoza, chair of the Salt River Community Foundation, said a few words and thanked those in attendance. She invited SRPMIC President Martin Harvier to say a few words prior to tee-off.

“I want to thank the board for the work they do all year,” Harvier began.



In the morning leading up to tee-off, golfers practiced their swings on the Talking Stick Golf Resort.

“Everyone has been born with a talent; sometimes they don't have that opportunity. By you being here, you're providing an opportunity for our children. God bless you, thank you,” he said.

Mendoza then invited Providence First Trust staff members and all SRPMIC Council members up front for a special gift presentation. “For being our 20th main sponsor, we would like to provide you this special gift so you can hang it in your office,” said Mendoza. SRPMIC Community member Michelle Long hand-painted a mural that features a woman wearing a ribbon skirt walking alongside the mountains as roadrunners follow her on the path.

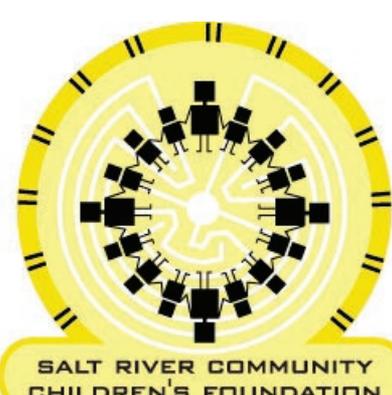
As it has been for two decades now, the Salt River Children's Foundation annual golf tournament provided an opportunity to witness the positive impact the Foundation has had on the Community's children. “Thank you everybody; we



Pila Mendoza (left) shared her appreciation to those who continually support the Salt River Community Children's Foundation as Jr. Miss Salt River Jizelle Juan (right) looks on moments before providing a blessing.

sincerely appreciate every one of you,” stated Mendoza.

About the Salt River Children's Foundation



On February 19, 2003, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community created the Salt River Community Children's Foundation as a nonprofit, charitable division of the Community. The Foundation is devoted to assisting children of the Community with reaching their fullest potential and finding personal success in life. In keeping with this desire, the Foundation provides voluntary, discretionary donations to provide children of the Community with opportunities and experiences to benefit their education, health and general welfare.

For more information about the Salt River Community Children's Foundation, email SRCF@srpmic-nsn.gov.



SALT RIVER

PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

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

**NOTICE OF EXCLUSION DECISION
Fernando Jesus Muniz**



PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community ("SRPMIC") Council pursuant to Article VII, §1(g) of the SRPMIC Constitution and Sections 7-72 through 7-75 of the SRPMIC Code of Ordinances voted on November 1, 2023 to permanently exclude Fernando Jesus Muniz from the boundaries of the Community. It was determined that Fernando Jesus Muniz is a nonmember whose presence is detrimental to the peace, health, or morals of the SRPMIC.

Committee and Permanently Exclude Fernando Jesus Muniz from the territory and boundaries of the SRPMIC". See SR-4098-2023. Fernando Jesus Muniz is not allowed to be within the territorial boundary of the Community and therefore, he is not to drive through, work, visit others, reside or come within the Community boundaries at any time for any reason.

To avoid any doubt, but not to limit the broad permanent exclusion order, Fernando Jesus Muniz shall not be permitted to visit 9990 E. Highland Rd, Scottsdale AZ 85256 or at any other location within the Community.

The SRPMIC Council's decision is in an order entitled "An Order by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community ("SRPMIC") Council to uphold the decision of the SRPMIC Exclusion

**DEFAULT NOTICES
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice of DECREE of Dissolution of Marriage (Divorce):

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number D-23-0013, Romo, Michael, Petitioner v Chaca, Cheryl A., Respondent.

Notice of DECREE of Dissolution of Marriage (Divorce) is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the grounds for divorce habitual intemperance of either spouse, no minor children, no property acquired during the marriage and each party is assigned his/her separate property and debt that is in their name and no spousal maintenance. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the marriage of the parties is dissolved and the parties are restored to the legal status of single person. This order is final for purposes of appeal and shall be served on Respondent, Chaca, Cheryl A. in accordance to Rule 5-20(c). For a copy of the Dissolution of Marriage please contact the court at 10040 E. Osborn Rd Scottsdale AZ 85256 and/or call (480) 362-3615.

LEGAL NOTICES

**JUVENILE COURT
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
Andrews, Dracy Devon - Review Hearing Case: J-23-0040/J-23-0041/J-23-0042 Court Date: January 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Antone, James Sheldon - Permanency Review Hearing Case: J-23-0033 Court Date: January 4, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Antone, James Sheldon - Permanency hearing & Review Hearing Case: J-23-0033 Court Date: January 8, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Barraza, Michelle Ann Marie - Review and Status Hearing Case: JV-23-3006 Court Date: January 10, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Francisco, Marissa Martina - Informal Adjustment Agreement Review Hearing Case: J-23-0026 Court Date: January 17, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Courtroom #3.

Lawrence-Felton, Gaylce - Review Hearing Case: J-22-0064 Court Date: December 20, 2023 at 09:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Lewis, Calvin - Mother: Renae Loring (DOB: 02/18/1994) Minor: M.A.L. (DOB: 07/09/2022) Disposition Hearing Case: JV-23-3038 Court Date: January 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Lewis, Julia - Permanency Review Hearing & Status Hearing Case: J-20-0136/0137 Court Date: January 11, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Lewis, Robi Corey - Mother: Marissa Francisco (DOB: 03/13/1999) Minor: C.M.L.F. (DOB: 02/08/2020) Informal Adjustment Agreement Review Hearing Case: J-23-0026 Court Date: January 17, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Courtroom #3.

Paul, Derek Lloyd - Mother: Joanna Marie Alvarez (DOB: 01/28/1974) Minor: C.N.A. (DOB: 02/27/2009) Review and Permanency Hearing Case: J-18-0117 Court Date: January 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Courtroom #3.

Ramirez Sr., Gabriel Mark - Mother: Julie Burns (DOB: 01/15/1987) Child: P.M.R. (DOB: 02/27/2007) Adjudication Hearing Case: JV-24-0016 Court Date: January 02, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Spex, Brittany Arless - Permanency Review Hearing Case: J-23-0033 Court Date: January 4, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Spex, Brittany Arless - Permanency hearing & Review Hearing Case: J-23-0033 Court Date: January 8, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Swan, Dajuan Anthony - Mother: Anaya Ticer (DOB: 02/22/1996) Child: N.L.T. (DOB: 10/28/2019) Review Hearing Case: J-22-0127 Court Date: January 25, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

Unknown Father-Mother: Michelle Barraza, 7/8/1988 Child: Not

Named Barraza Review and Status Hearing Case: JV-23-3006 Court Date: January 10, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Court Room #3

Valenzuela, Frank Harvier - Review Hearing Mother: Cedagijuk Carpenter (DOB: 03/24/1987) Minor: C.R.C. (DOB: 05/08/2012) Case: J-19-0055 Court Date: January 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom #3

**CIVIL COURT
JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN
COMMUNITY COURT
ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ
85256**

**CONTACT: (480) 362-6315
CIVIL COURT CASES REPORT TO COURTROOM #1/ #2 ON
THE 1ST FLOOR.**

FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS
Clapp, Monica - Probate Status Hearing Case: P-23-0009 -Court Date: January 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom #1

Casias, Daniel Fernando - Probate Hearing Case: CV-23-3001 Court Date: January 9, 2024 at 1:30 PM. in Courtroom #2

Chiago, Adonia Marie - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-23-4019 Court Date: February 1, 2024 at 10:45 AM. in Courtroom #1

Enos, Nancy Dey - Probate Hearing Case: CV-23-3011 Court Date: January 17, 2024 at 9:30 AM. in Courtroom #1

Lopez, Robin Lee - Evidentiary Guardianship Hearing Case: CV-23-4242 Court Date: January 22, 2024 at 9:00 AM. in Courtroom #1

Loring, Xia Rae - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-23-4290 Court Date: January 8, 2024 at 9:00 AM. in Courtroom #1

Martinez, Ambria Jean - Probate Status Hearing Case: P-23-0009 -Court Date: January 9, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom #1

Standing Elk, Carla Anne - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: C-23-0045 Court Date: January 18, 2024 at 9:30 AM. in Courtroom #2

Standing Elk, Nicole - Evidentiary Child Support Hearing Case: CFCS-23-0018 Court Date: January 4, 2024 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom #2

Thomas, Dillon Sr. - Entry of Default Judgement Case: CV-23-3521 Court Date: January 16, 2024 at 11:00 AM. in Courtroom #1

Thompson, Franzia Kaye - Evidentiary Hearing Case: CF-23-0090 Court Date: January 17, 2024 at 11:00 AM. in Courtroom #2

Wakolee, Melanie Grace - Child Support Modification Hearing Case: CFCS-19-0018 Court Date: January 4, 2024 at 10:30 AM. in Courtroom #1

Zepeda, Hector Jose Jr. - Review Case: CF-22-0071 Court Date: January 10, 2024 at 9:30 AM. in Courtroom #2



Salt River Public Works Holiday Trash Schedule

Our offices will be closed on **Monday, December 25th** in observance of Christmas and **Monday, January 1st** in observance of New Years.

CHRISTMAS 2023

NO CHANGE TO SCHEDULE

All residential domestic containers will be serviced on **Tuesday, December 26th & Friday, December 29th.**

All residential recycle containers will be serviced on **Thursday, December 28th.**

NEW YEARS 2024

NO CHANGE TO SCHEDULE

All residential domestic containers will be serviced on **Tuesday, January 2nd & Friday, January 5th.**

All residential recycle containers will be serviced on **Thursday, January 4th.**

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

Thank you & have a wonderful & joyous holiday season!

SALT RIVER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

☎ 480-362-5600

✉ PWCustomerService@srpmic-nsn.gov

🌐 www.facebook.com/SRPublicWorks

Kimberly Enos Recognized as Employee of the Year at Annual Employee Holiday Luncheon

movie theater candy and popcorn handed out after the meal.

Both SRPMIC President Martin Harvier and Vice-President Ricardo Leonard delivered holiday messages before the Battle of the Bosses Lip Sync Contest, which featured bosses performing as “Rez Dog Night,” portrayed by Assistant Finance Director Jeremiah Powers and Freddie Mercury of Queen. “Freddie Mercury,” portrayed by SRPMIC Community Manager Bryan Meyers, stole the show and won the audience over.

In between a visit from Santa Claus and games and contests for employees was the presentation of the SRPMIC Employee of the Year.

There were 23 nominees this year: Debra Apodaca (Youth Services), Antonio Arredondo (DOT), Sabrina Ayers Fisher (Defense Advocate), Kandis Balderrama (CRA), Gem Bartsch (HHS), Ariel Begay-Smith (Legal Services), Nancy Dedakia (HHS), Kassidy Dickson (HHS), Kimberly Enos (Journey to Recovery), Landon Goodwell (Social Services), Erica Jakupi (SRPD), Glen Law (Administration), Lisa Loya (Education), Arlo Manuel (Public Works), Ricky Martinez (CRA), Cheryl Montano-Lewis (HHS), Gwendlyn Osif (Court), Maegen Partlow (HHS), Adriel Pineda (SRPD), Kevin Pooley (Office of Prosecutor), Tamar Ramos (Administration), Frances Rodriguez (Defense Advocate) and Melissa Sherman (CRA). Each nominee received a gift bag and a \$500 prize.

The winner was Kimberly Enos, case manager in the Journey to Recovery (JTR) program.

“Today I want to celebrate a very special person who is a key member of



President Harvier hands Kimberly Enos the 2023 Employee of the Year Plaque.

our Journey to Recovery team,” said Department of Health and Human Services Director Joe Remitera in a recorded message.

“Kim has been a member of our team since 2006, when she joined the Community as a transportation driver. But that was just the start in her 17 years [dedicated] to her Community.”

According to her supervisor, Frank Saverino, Enos is always at JTR first thing in the morning with a positive attitude.

“Kim is always willing to come in for extra shifts and volunteer for events,”

said Saverino. “If it means helping one of our clients, Kim will always go the extra mile. She is the heartbeat of JTR.”

For her recognition, Enos received a gift bag as well as a \$2,000 prize.



Two SRPMIC employees dressed as the “Sticky Bandits” from Home Alone for the costume contest.



Employees from various departments across the Community filled the hallway to enjoy the warm meal.



SRPMIC Community Manager Bryan Meyers as “Freddie Mercury” during the Battle of the Bosses lip sync.

Salt River Hiking Club Explore Joshua Tree National Park



Jasmine Enos ventures onto the Arch Rock trail along with other hikers.



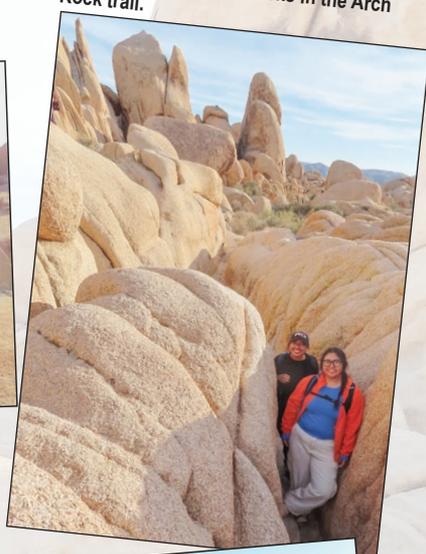
The hiking club pose in front of one of the iconic Joshua trees seen throughout the park.



Amson Collins demonstrates how to make rope from a yucca plant.



L-R: Kevin Riding-In, Seraphina Gould, Amson Collins, Romelia Paul, David Nash, Kevin Dalton, Kerstin Johnson, Isaiah Lerma, Teegan Smith, Jasmine Enos, Dawn Sinoqui, Salina Sampson, Nalani Lopez, Vickie Andrews, and Elizabeth Anton.



Below: Kerstin Johnson and Teegan Smith squeezed through the rocks in the Arch Rock trail.



Right: Dawn Sinoqui prepared the fresh chumuth for the camper’s breakfast.

BY NALANI LOPEZ
O’odham Action News
Nalani.lopez3@srpmic-nsn.gov

With two vans packed full of camping tents, warm clothes, and 10 excited participants, the Outdoor Recreation Adult Hiking Club headed west to Southern California to hike in the Joshua Tree National Park during the weekend of December 2.

The weekend in the Mohave Desert started on Saturday afternoon with the participants and staff setting up camp a few miles away from the National Park. Before the group headed out onto the trails, they visited the Joshua Tree Visitor Center to learn about the local tribal communities including the Serrano, Chemehuevi, and the Cahullia.

“I learned they had an enormous understanding of the desert plants and valued the natural flow of the rivers and springs,” said ODR hiking club member Isaiah Lerma.

Once out in the rocky, desert landscape, the group spent the afternoon exploring various trails in the park including Arch Rock and Skull Rock. The extraordinarily large boulders and iconic spiked trees made the area a unique terrain for the hikers to explore.

“It felt like I was a kid in a candy store, running, jumping, and rock climbing. My legs paid for it the next day,” said ODR hiking club member David Nash. “The SR hiking club members were very supportive of each other.”

“As we did our hikes, one of the participants, Amson Collins, took the time to explain the different plants and medicines the desert had to offer, and how we can still use them,” said ODR hiking club member Elizabeth Anton. “It was one of my favorite memories.”

After a couple more hours of jumping from rock to rock and squeezing in between the boulders’ crevices, the group watched the Mojave Desert’s sunset from the Keys View lookout.

Back at their campsite, temperatures dropped to the low 40s. The campers gathered around the campfire to stay warm and look at the blanket of stars above.

“It was a blast enjoying everyone’s company, joking around the fire, and stargazing at night,” said Lerma.

Bright and early the next morning, the group shared a warm breakfast consisting of fresh ce:mait, fluffy scrambled eggs, and sizzling bacon.

“It was nice to have teamwork with everything, especially during breakfast,” said Anton. The morning burros was the group’s last meal before they packed up camp and headed to their last trail.

To close their weekend in Joshua Tree National Park, the hiking group visited the Hidden Valley Nature Trail and Barker Dam. Afterwards, they hopped back into the vans and returned home to Salt River.



A rock-climbing photobomb from Kevin Riding-In.

Carpentry Students Install New Benches at St. Francis Church



Apprentice Carpentry Program participants installed newly built benches in the courtyard of the St. Francis Catholic Church.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
PHOTOS BY KARI HAAHR
O'odham Action News
juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

Carpentry students from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Apprenticeship Program have been busy this year working on various projects throughout the Community. Their latest assignment was installing new wood benches at St. Francis Church.

"The students are taking a strong interest in the carpentry field and what it can offer in terms of a stable job opportunity, financial support for their families and being able to contribute to the [Salt River] Community workforce," said Joseph Seletstewa, new carpentry instructor for the SRPMIC Apprenticeship Program.

Their hard work thus far has involved building mock-up walls, hanging drywall, stucco application, roof application and much more. In July, the students successfully passed their OSHA 10-hour training. According to OSHA's website, the OSHA 10-hour training teaches basic safety and health information to entry-level workers in construction and general industry. It is part of the OSHA Outreach Training Program, which explains serious workplace hazards, workers' rights, employer responsibilities and how to file an OSHA complaint.

The students were also required to maintain and possess current first-aid, CPR and automated external defibrillator (AED) training. They successfully accomplished that this past August. Following their training,



Back row L-R: Adrian Hill, Sage Waters, (Instructor) Joseph Seletstewa, Victor Enos-Jackson, Leon Lopez, Zilas Kisto, Aaron Rivers. Seated: Jay Gold and Julian Lewis.

the group was invited to tour the Phoenix Carpenter Union Hall in September.

With Seletstewa continually guiding the students along the way during each of their projects, the students were able to accept their latest assignment, installing new benches at the St. Francis church.

The students began the bench project on the morning of December 6. "Three Mission-style benches are being donated to the church on behalf of the Community employment Carpentry Apprenticeship Program," said Seletstewa. "The students were very excited to install the benches at the church," he added.

The benches were prepped for installation during the final week of November. In the last phase, the

students were responsible for staining and sealing the wood benches before they could be ready for the public.

The students will continue learning the ins and outs of carpentry with additional work and assignments scheduled for the remainder of this year and 2024. "They've done great," said Seletstewa.



The Carpentry students prepare to install the new wood benches at St. Francis Church.

4th Quarter 2023 ELIGIBILITY DEADLINE December 31, 2023

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

DEADLINES FOR CHANGES

Direct Deposit Start-Ups and Changes: Thursday, December 28th at 5:00 PM. This deadline is for new start-ups for direct deposit or changes to existing information. All forms MUST be submitted with a "VOIDED" check or statement from the bank with the Routing and Account Numbers. Forms received by this date will be effective for the **January 2024** payout. Forms received after this date will not be effective until the **April 2024** payout.

Discontinue Direct Deposits: Thursday, December 28th at 5:00 PM. 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 16th at 5:00PM. This deadline is for submitting the Adult SRP-MIC Member's Per Capita Information Certificate. Forms received by this date will be effective for the January 2024 payout. Forms received after this date will not be processed until the first week of April 2024.

Tax Withholding Changes: Tuesday, January 16th at 5:00PM. 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

ADULT WIOA ORIENTATION

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act



Connect With Us!

Learn about WIOA eligibility requirements; program services for enrolled participants; guidance toward obtaining career goals through education & training.

1st Session:

January 4, 2024
Two Waters, Building B
Room: B102 - X'aa
(Cottonwood)
9 am - 10 am

2nd Session:

January 18, 2024
Two Waters, Building B
Room: B102 - X'aa
(Cottonwood)
9 am - 10 am

Contact: Salt River WIOA Program at: 480-362-7950



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Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TTY: 711
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CHURCH LISTING

LEHI CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
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.
-Sun. School, 9:30 a.m.
-Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.
-Sun. Night Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
-Wed. Devotion Night at church, 6:30 p.m.
-SOAR Group 2nd & 4th Friday every month at the church 7 p.m.
-Mon. night Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.
-Singspiration, last Sunday of the month at 6 p.m.

FERGUSON MEMORIAL 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
saltriveragchurch.com
Rev. WinterElk Valencia
Services
-Sunday Morning Prayer 10 a.m.
-Worship 11 a.m.
-No Evening Service till further notice.
-Thursday Bible Study 6pm

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

NOTICE TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABOUT TREE PRUNING

SUBMITTED BY SRP

Salt River Project (SRP) has hired contractors from ACRT Inc and Asplundh Tree Expert Company to come out to the Community to identify, prune and remove vegetation around transmission powerlines and easements. Operations will commence January 2024 and are expected to continue through April 29, 2024.

Staff from the Environmental Protection & Natural Resources (EPNR) division have been coordinating efforts with both SRP and SRP Contractors to ensure the trimming operations meet the Community's conditions and requirements for ongoing maintenance.

SRP periodically prunes or removes trees that are near powerlines to prevent unsafe conditions and to maintain reliable electric service. Trees that grow too close to overhead power lines can create fire and safety hazards, and cause power outages. SRP prunes or removes vegetation around lines that are part of the SRP electric delivery system. SRP uses an internationally recommended arboricultural technique called "directional pruning." This explains the various tree shapes that result from this pruning technique. However, this approach enables them to maintain the proper clearance from overhead lines and keep trees in place.

If you have any concerns regarding recent vegetation clearing activities, please email TreeTrim@srpnet.com.

Salt River Public Works Department

Memorial Services & Cemeteries

"Providing a hospitable place to honor loved ones at the end of life's journey."

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00AM – 5:00PM

Main Office Located at:
Memorial Hall
9849 East Earll Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

For Any Questions Call:
(480) 278-7050

CONTRACTED MORTUARIES

Bunker Family Funerals & Cremation (480) 964-8686
Meldrum Mortuary & Cremation (480) 359-2112
Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home (602) 840-5600

SALT RIVER BUSINESS LISTINGS

ART & MAX'S LANDSCAPING
Free estimates mowing, service, sprinkler, repair, trimming tree clean up, maintenance.
Max, (480) 667-9403
art&maxlandscaping@gmail.com

A'S FAMILY LANDSCAPING
Lawn Maintenance, Shrub/Tree Trimming and Debris/Trash Removal.
FREE ESTIMATES. L. Azule,
(480) 467-8449

AIR CONDITIONING AND HEATING RMG MECHANICAL
Community Member owned business. One job done right the first time! We service all makes and models. License #ROC310871. Bonded & Insured.
Rebecca Gonzales, (480) 334-1257/
(480) 823-2802
Rmgmechanical@gmail.com

AU-AUTHUM KI, INC.
Commercial construction.
Margaret Rodriguez, (480) 250-7566

BOXING BEARS PHOTOGRAPHY
Boxing Bears Photography is a photography business based in Scottsdale, Arizona. We specialize in portrait photography and photo booths.
Cody Wood, (480) 272-4035
boxingbearsphotography.com
cody@boxingbearsphotography.com

DALIA'S LANDSCAPING
Yard maintenance / tree trimming, sprinkler repairs and service.
Sherry Harris, (480) 580-0501/ (623)-282-0902
daliarensendiz0815@icloud.com

DALLAS PROFESSIONAL PAINTING
Commercial Painting Company, Licensed, Bonded, Insured, ROC#250102
David Dallas, (623) 337-4070
david@dallaspropainting.com

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Ernie Lopez (chef and owner)

(480) 907-8945
erniescateringbusiness@yahoo.com

GOODLIFE NUTRITION
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7607 E. McDowell Rd. Ste. 103
goodlife.nutrition@yahoo.com
(480)274-3306

HEAVENLY TOUCH CLEANING
SRPMIC Member Owned and Operated specializing in residential and commercial cleaning services; get a quote by phone or emailing contact information below.
Yesika Saldivar-Zotigh, Owner
(602) 301-9832
Heavenlytouch08@yahoo.com

MOQUINO'S BODY & PAINT LLC.
Auto Body Work and Paint LLC. Community Member 15% discount.
Pete Moquino, (480) 236-3033
moquinoscustompaint@yahoo.com

LB's HAIR SALON
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Linda Baptisto, (602) 525-9142
hairbylindab@yahoo.com

NATIVE CREATIVE APPAREL, LLC
Native American themed clothing for babies, kids and adults. Design your own custom shirts
Isaac Lopez, (480) 410-8685 / (562) 761-9341
nativecreativeapparel@gmail.com

NATIVE GROUND COFFEE
A Native American coffee company from Salt River.
Winter Wood, (480) 522-8393
www.nativegroundcoffee.com

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Promotional products, silkscreened and embroidered apparel, custom made awards and printing services.
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www.pimaawards.com
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vipimara@cox.net

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Michael Smith- Owner Piipash LLC
(480) 947-6400 (store)
piipash@hotmail.com

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redcactusphotography480@gmail.com

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Please call for appointment.
Lock out available
Eric Schurz, (480) 735-9730
rezhawktowingandrecovery@yahoo.com

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

STAYSHONS CHEVRON
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Boyd Chiago, (480) 990-2004

VMK ENTERPRISES, INC
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Sheryl@vmkenterprises.com

If we CANNOT contact you by phone or email, your business will be removed from the listing, call O'dham Action News at (480) 362-7750 to have your business put back on the listing.

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DODIE MANUEL, MANAGING EDITOR
(480) 362-7731

dodie.manuel@srpmic-nsn.gov

SENIOR NEWS REPORTER
Vacant

CHRIS PICCIUOLO NEWS REPORTER
(480) 362-6626

chris.picciuolo@srpmic-nsn.gov

JUAN YSAGUIRRE NEWS REPORTER
(480) 362-7323

juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

NEWS REPORTER (ONLINE)
Vacant

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

NALANI LOPEZ INTERN
(480) 362-7308
nalani.lopez3@srpmic-nsn.gov

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O'DHAM ACTION NEWS DEADLINES

ISSUE

December 21
January 4

DEADLINE AT NOON

December 8
December 22

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



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Calendar of Events

ONGOING

ONGOING - 1/3/24, SRPMIC'S CDD/EPNR AIR QUALITY PROGRAM WINTER REMINDERS... SRPMIC's Air Quality Program would like to remind you to do your part in keeping our air clean this winter season! In the past, SRPMIC has promoted a Voluntary No Burn Day where we recommend no wood burning on between Dec. 23-26 and Dec 31, 2023 to Jan. 3, 2024. SRPMIC does not restrict Community members from burning wood, but we would appreciate your voluntary cooperation. Please take a look at this link from Maricopa County: <https://www.maricopa.gov/5914/Outreach/> for more information on how to keep our winter air clean. For any additional questions call CDD-EPNR Hotline (480) 362-7500.

ONGOING - 1/14/24 - ZOOLIGHTS. It's the Valley's favorite holiday tradition - ZooLights, 455 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix, AZ! Shining bigger and brighter than ever with nearly four million lights, hundreds of dazzling displays, brand new Wildlife Lanterns and the return of the tallest floating tree in North America showcasing ORIGINAL music and a synchronized light show! For more info. go to <https://www.phoenixzoo.org/events/zoolights/> or call 602-286-3800.

ONGOING - 12/24/23 - CHRISTMAS AT SCHNEPF FARMS, 24810 E Rittenhouse Rd. Queen Creek, AZ. Experience a winter wonderland like no other with seasonal food, fun and festivities for the whole family. Catch a ride on the World of Illumination Express, hop on a hayride to visit Rudolph or journey through Santa's magic workshop. For more info. go to <https://schnepfchristmas.com/>

ONGOING - 12/31/23 ENCHANT CHRISTMAS, Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, 7555 N Pima Rd. Experience a world of adventure with awe-inspiring animated light sculptures, and discover our charming Village offering ice-skating, live entertainment, interactive games, dining, holiday shopping, Santa & Mrs. Claus, and so much more. For more info. go to <https://enchantchristmas.com/scottsdale-az-salt-river-fields/>

ONGOING - NATIVE ART MARKET, every Sat. and Sun., 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Pavilions at Talking Stick. Every weekend this cultural event features Native American artists from various tribes. With over 300 Native performers and vendors registered The Market is ever changing, giving frequent visitors a fun and different experience every time. For more information, go to <https://www.discoversaltriver.com/event/native-art-market/>

DECEMBER

SKO:MAGI MAŞAD

XLY'A SHAXUK MAYK XVIK

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO DECEMBER DISTRICT MEETINGS FOR DISTRICT E AND LEHI.

25-26 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY, Tribal offices closed, please plan accordingly.

27-30 HOLIDAYS AT THE HEARD FT. "LUMENOUS", 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. for daytime programming and 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. for evening programming. Join us this year as we feature music, dance, and for the first time ever, LIGHT! This year's Holidays at the Heard will be a mix of familiar tradition and awe-striking discovery. Holidays at the Heard is four days of live

performances and family activities during the daytime in addition to the opportunity of enjoying the exhibitions now on view. Stick around for three nights of light as the Heard presents "Luminous" for the first time ever! "Luminous" will feature a special display of light, architecture, and immersive art from indigenous artists that the whole community can enjoy.

31 COMMUNITY NEW YEAR'S/MIDWAY CELEBRATION, 12 p.m. - 12 p.m. at SR Gym/Community Building Parking Lots. Featuring One Way Sky, Southern Scratch, and DJ Jermatik. \$5 Wristband sales to be held in the weeks leading up and morning of. Contact Community Relations - Events for more information at (480) 362-7740. See ad on page 12.

JANUARY

'AUPPA HIOSIG MAŞAD

XLY'A SHENTHIK

1 NEW YEARS DAY, Tribal offices closed, please plan accordingly.

5 BINGO & PIZZA WITH CRS ADAPTIVE RECREATION, 5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. at WOLF Room 56. Enjoy bingo and cap it off with some pizza on first Fridays at the WOLF! Drop off is available for those able to participate on their own. Questions? Contact Tammy Thomas or Ethan Larned at (480) 362-7965

5 CUMBIATRON: THE CUMBIA RAVE, 9 p.m. at The Van Buren 401 W. Van Buren St., Phoenix, AZ. Get ready to immerse yourself in the pulsating beats and infectious rhythms of cumbia music, as Cumbiatron sets the stage on fire. This one-of-a-kind concert will feature an exhilarating lineup of talented artists,

who will transport you to the heart of the cumbia movement.

4 ADULT WORKFORCE INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA), 1st session, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m., Two Waters Building B; X'aa (Cottonwood) Conference Room B102. Learn about WIOA eligibility requirements; program services for enrolled participants; guidance toward obtaining career goals through education & training. For more info. call Salt River WIOA Program at (480) 362-7950

5 FIRST FOODS FRIDAYS WELCOMES A COOKING DEMO HOSTED BY SKODEN COFFEE AND TEA, featuring Navajo Tea and Blue Corn. Take place 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the River People Health Center.

12-13 NEW YEARS CLASSIC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

12-13 ASIAN FESTIVAL, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., W. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ. Asian Festival includes Asian & Borneo Cultural Villages, this year show case Living National Heritage from Sarawak's Arts, Craft and Music. For more info. go to <https://asianfestivalaz.com/>

18 ADULT WORKFORCE INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA), 2nd session, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m., Two Waters Building B; X'aa (Cottonwood) Conference Room B102. Learn about WIOA eligibility requirements; program services for enrolled participants; guidance toward obtaining career goals through education & training. For more info. call Salt River WIOA Program at (480) 362-7950

18 & 20 NAGI FOUNDATION WELLNESS

CLINICS, Doors open at 8 a.m. at Community Building Gymnasium, 1880 N. Longmore Rd. This free monthly pet clinic is available for the pets legal owner, aged 18+. Cats must be in their own carrier and dogs must be on a leash. First come, first served. SRPMIC members, residents, and employees are eligible. Tribal ID or proof of residency/employment required. Email info@nagifoundation.org with questions.

25 THRIVING WITH DIABETES, will be held in the River People Health Center Teaching Kitchen from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month. Sessions include Diabetes A to Z, Healthy Eating, Being Active, Know Your Medications, Know Your Numbers, Finding Solutions, Reducing Risks and Healthy Coping. Please call (480) 362-3355 to register and save your seat.

27 BINGO, RAFFLE & FOOD SALE hosted by the Piipaash Matasheevm Committee, 2 p.m. at the Lehi Community Building. Family friend fun, prizes for all ages. All proceeds will directly benefit the annual Piipaash Matasheevm. For more info. call Ardell Moore at (480) 362-7465, Emily King at (480) 362-2626 or Elaina Osife at (480) 635-6692.