



Sialik King Crowned Miss Salt River 2024-2025

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'odham Action News
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This year's Miss Salt River 2024-2025 pageant featured three Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members vying for the crown: Sialik King, Zoe Hernandez and Evevannah Garza.

Held inside the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom on June 22, the glamorous event featured a who's who of Indigenous royalty from across Indian Country, in addition to members of the SRPMIC Tribal Council, board members and staff. The pageant is entering its 36th year.

Miss Salt River 2021-2022 Sistine Lewis and Arizona State University Associate Vice President of Tribal Relations Jacob Moore served as the emcees. "We are so happy to be your emcees today," said Lewis in the welcoming speech. Former Miss Salt River 2020-2021 Isabella Dockerty was also in attendance and sang the national anthem in O'odham.

The 2024-2025 Miss Salt River pageant was the first appearance for the new Jr. Miss Salt River 2024-2025, Diondria Pilger. Providing

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Former Miss Salt River 2023-2024 Kennise McGertt officially crowns the new Miss Salt River 2024-2025, Sialik King.

Jr. Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Crowned, Begins Reign



Jr. Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Diondria Pilger is crowned by outgoing Jr. Miss Salt River 2023-2024 Jizelle Juan at the 32nd Annual Jr. Miss Salt River Pageant at Talking Stick Resort Ballroom on June 21.

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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On June 21, the Miss Salt River Committee kicked off the royal weekend with the 32nd Annual Jr. Miss Salt River Pageant, which was held in the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom.

Three participants competed for the title of Jr. Miss Salt River, who will serve alongside Miss Salt River 2024-2025: Aiyanna Toya, Tiaré Begay-Smith and Diondria Pilger.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Vice-President Ricardo Leonard welcomed everyone to the program, recognizing the legacy of all the young women who have come before and represented their Community.

"What these young ladies are doing now is thinking out of the box," remarked Leonard.

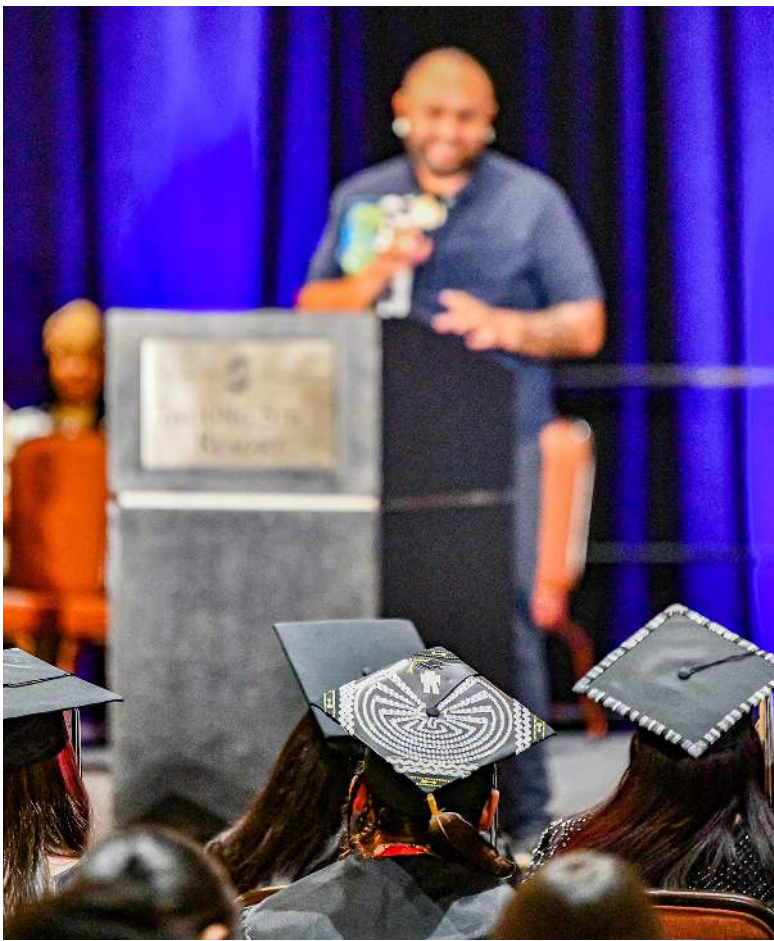
The emcees for the event were Jessica Ruiz and Martha Ludlow Martinez, both of whom have played—and continue to play—a big role in the lives of the young women who participate in the pageant.

After the Salt River Fire Department Honor Guard posted the colors, Miss Indian Arizona 2022-2023 Sistine Lewis sang the national anthem in O'odham.

Outgoing Jr. Miss Salt River 1st Attendant 2023-2024 Patricia Woody gave the invocation, and outgoing Jr. Miss Salt River 2023-2024 Jizelle Juan gave the opening remarks.

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Sixteen Students Graduate from Accelerated Learning Academy



Ipa Dutchover, Education Native Language Culture teacher, stated how proud he was of all of the graduates, including those that decided to wear traditional clothing.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
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There was not a dry eye inside the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom on June 25 as 16 students graduated from the Accelerated Learning Academy in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Members of the 2024 ALA graduation class are Isabelle Adams, Diante Lee Anderson, Charlotte Carlisle, Larissa Chavez, Larrissa Ciarra, Angelita Kay Chiago, Joseph Preston Enos, Benjamin El Rayno

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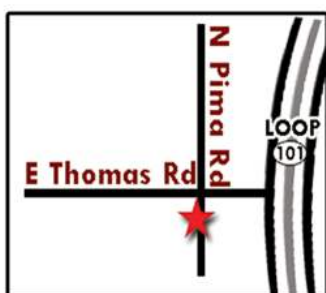
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Sixteen Students Graduate from Accelerated Learning Academy



ALA Principal Barbara Wilkinson congratulates Ross Martinez, Class Valedictorian.

Francisco, Tashmahhag Lois Hight, Louis Matthew Jackson Jr., Sabrina Joleen Kavoka, Nicholas Daniel Lewis, Erin J. Martinez, Rosario Anna Martinez, Johnny Charles Perez III, Faith Smith and Juan Smith Jr.

As the graduation song “Pomp and Circumstance” by English composer Sir Edward Elgar played through the speakers, the graduates’ families and loved ones cheered as they watched their graduates file into the ballroom. Education Native Language Culture (ENLC) teacher Ipa Dutchover served as the host for the graduation ceremony. “It makes me feel extremely proud and grateful to see so many of our graduates wearing their traditional clothing, celebrating our people,” said Dutchover.

Following the posting of the colors by members of the Pee-Posh Veterans Association, Sheryl Houston, assistant/acting superintendent for Salt River Schools, shared positive remarks about the graduating class.

“Congratulations to the class of 2024. You have worked hard and persevered at ALA. You have not only fulfilled the graduation requirements, but also learned life skills that will help you in the future,” she said. Superintendent Houston also provided kind words to the graduates’ families and loved ones for supporting them on their academic journey. “I wish you joy, success and confidence in the future,” she added.

Also in attendance were the new 2024-2025 SRPMIC royalty. Miss Salt River Sialik King spoke first in O’odham and then in English as she greeted everyone and congratulated the ALA graduates. Miss Salt River First Attendant Zoe Hernandez, Miss Salt River Second Attendant Evevannah Garza, Jr. Miss Salt River Diondria Pilger, Jr. Miss Salt River First Attendant Tiaré Begay-Smith, and Jr. Miss Salt River Second Attendant Aiyanna Toya all provided their congratulations to the graduates during their introductions.

The festivities and congratulations continued as Johnny Perez III was selected to represent the ALA graduating class and provide the student address. To assist with his speech, Salt River Schools Early College Advisor Davina Leon approached the podium and

asked Perez’s parents to come up to the stage as well. “My experience at ALA is filled with fun memories such as Fall Overhaul, field trips and many more,” said Perez in his prepared speech, which was recited by Leon. “Take pride in how far you’ve come, have faith in how far you’ll go, but don’t forget to enjoy the journey. Congratulations, class of 2024.”



SRPMIC high school graduate Johnny Perez III was selected to represent the graduating class of 2024 for ALA.



Each of the 16 graduating students were given their moment in the spotlight as they crossed the stage and received their diploma.

Each of the 16 graduates had their moment in the spotlight as they walked across the stage and were congratulated by SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, Vice-President Ricardo Leonard, members of Tribal Council and members of the Salt River Schools Education Board, as well as representatives of the ALA Administration and Salt River Schools. Royalty greeted the graduates as they exited the stage and turned their tassels from the right side to the left, denoting that they are officially high school graduates.

SRPMIC Unites to Provide Support and Resources to San Carlos

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
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On July 12, the San Carlos Apache Tribe declared a state of emergency due to the Watch Fire that has destroyed the area near 7 Mile and Peridot districts on the San Carlos Reservation. Firefighters and first-responders have been working tirelessly to contain the fire, which is reported at being 81% contained as of July 16.

Over a dozen homes have been destroyed due to the fire, which has also left many of the San Carlos membership displaced in their community.

Evacuation centers were quickly established by the San Carlos Apache Tribe’s Tribal Emergency Response Commission. The San Carlos High School, Apache Gold Casino, and the Michael Noline Memorial Building/Peridot Activity Center are the three main evacuation shelters that were available to San Carlos membership and their loved ones.

On July 13, SRPMIC President Martin Harvier released a statement to the public which extended his heartfelt prayers to the families impacted by the fire, as well as the first responders. In his statement, President Harvier shared that the SRPMIC was at-the-ready to assist the San Carlos Reservation.

Once word spread of the tragic destruction in San Carlos, most of Indian Country rallied together to provide assistance and aid, with some individuals opting to provide help in-person on the reservation.

Non-perishable food, clothing, and baby/toddler donations are still being accepted, however the San Carlos Apache Tribe stated they are mainly in need of monetary donations at this time.



STATEMENT FROM
PRESIDENT HARVIER
ON THE
WATCH FIRE & SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE

July 13, 2024

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community extends its heartfelt prayers to the San Carlos Apache Tribe and all who have been impacted by the Watch Fire.

As of now, the Watch Fire has affected over 1,100 acres and destroyed 13 structures. The San Carlos Apache Tribe has declared a state of emergency and requested disaster assistance to manage this critical situation.

We commend the relentless efforts of the fire resources and first responders who are working to control the fire and ensure the safety of the community. Their dedication and bravery are deeply appreciated. We stand in solidarity with the San Carlos Apache Tribe and all those tirelessly working to combat the fire and provide relief to those in need.

The American Red Cross has established an Emergency Operations Center in Peridot, AZ, to oversee government operations and tribal relations. They are working to coordinate further efforts for the San Carlos Apache Tribe. As a Community, we are standing by to see how we can assist and will keep you informed.

Martin Harvier
President, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community



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SRPMIC Celebrates Community Graduates with Graduation Recognition Program



Marcus Ramirez received the "Roxie Andrews Perseverance Award" for graduating high school after being involved in a tragic accident.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
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To celebrate the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community students who recently graduated at the high school, GED, trade school, college and university levels, the Community held a Class of 2024 graduation recognition program at the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom on June 27.

Monte Yazzie, injury prevention coordinator for the SRPMIC Health and Human Services Department and an Arizona State University graduate (Class of 2005), served as the master of ceremonies. "I am so happy to be here with you tonight," Yazzie said.

The program also featured Education Board Chair Kyland King, who provided the invocation. In addition to congratulating the Community's 82 graduates, King wished them good health and good fortune.

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier welcomed everyone to the celebration.

"As a Community and a Tribal Council, it makes us feel good to see our members achieving their higher education," he said. "Good luck [as you take] your next step in life."

Pascua Yaqui classical guitarist Gabriel Ayala performed while dinner was served. Ayala played songs from his latest album as well as the classic 1959 song "Sleep Walk" by brothers Santo and Johnny, made famous in the 1987 movie "La Bamba." Following his performance, Ayala visited the podium and, speaking first in Yaqui and then in English, thanked the SRPMIC for the opportunity to perform and wished all of the graduates success and good health. Ayala is one of Indian Country's most successful recording artists and pursued his own higher education, earning a master's degree in music performance from the University of Arizona.

This year's Roxie Andrews Perseverance Award was presented to Marcus Ramirez. The award recognizes a Community member who is a high school graduate and has overcome challenging obstacles in life. In 2021, when he was in 11th grade, Ramirez survived a tragic automobile accident. He was left blind and was forced to relearn basic life skills. Now, as a high school graduate, he will continue his education and learn additional independent-living skills.

The Higher Education Outstanding Graduate Award is given to a Community member and student who has showcased dedication to their studies and commitment to making a positive impact in the Community. Denelle Prieto, career services coordinator for the SRPMIC Human Resources Department, spoke about the award's origins before revealing this year's winner, Jacob Robles. Graduating from Northern Arizona University in March with a doctorate in physical therapy, Robles managed an average of 14 credit hours per semester. He plans to embark on a career as a traveling physical therapist with the goal of returning to the Community to provide services and give back to his people.



Even if it looked effortless, graduates worked hard to achieve their goals.



Jacob Robles was awarded the "Higher Education Outstanding Graduate Award." Robles attended Northern Arizona University where he averaged 14 credit hours per semester.

Members of the SRPMIC Tribal Council, Salt River Schools Education Board and Salt River Schools Administration all shook hands with the 82 graduates as they walked across the stage. Shelly Aday, attendance officer with Salt River Schools, and Salt River Schools Education Behavioral Health Counselor Celesia Lewis announced the names of the students as their families and loved ones clapped and cheered. All graduates were given certificates from the SRPMIC denoting their academic achievement.

"Making the decision to pursue your education and do something for yourself is something no one can take away from you. Be proud," finished Yazzie as he wished the graduates continued success in their lives inside and outside the classroom.



Joseph Schurz was one of the 82 SRPMIC graduates that were recognized for their academic achievements.



Above: Ceremony participants were personally congratulated by the President, Vice-President, and members of Council.



Left: Pascua Yaqui musician and a Masters Degree graduate from the University of Arizona, Gabriel Ayala provided the musical entertainment during the ceremony.

MEET THE GRADUATES

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Salt River Schools offices of School and Community Relations and Higher Education would like to recognize all SRPMIC high school and postsecondary graduates from the Class of 2024. This includes any graduation from high school, GED program, trade school or college/university occurring from July 2023 through June 2024.

A–G	H–M	O–Z
Nicolas Acosta	Annalicia Hayes	Benicio Ortiz
Nadia Andreas	Adria Hill	Lydia Ortiz-Hollis
Gumercindo Balderas III	Kilia Horta	Andrew Osife
Allan Baptisto	Jaron Johnson	Sumarie Paul
Angelo Baptisto	Jarrod Jackson	Johnny Perez
Christina Baptisto	Louis Jackson	Isabella Quiroz
Natasha Boone-Martinez	Marley Jackson	Marcus Ramirez
Nathaniel Burke	Janaya Johnson	Christina Richards
Beau Burns Jr.	Levi Johnson	Samantha Richards
Jessica Burns	Reina Johnson	Jacob Robles
Sherrie Burns	Zachary Johnson	Stephanie Romo
Carissa Cachora	Sabrina Kavoka	Anna Russell
Cholla Campos	Angelina Key	Teniya Salazar
Ryan Candelaria	Derrick King Jr.	Maximus Sanchez-Smith
Charlotte Carlisle	Dominic King	Matthew Saunders
Rose Casias	Karen King	Ava Schaaf
Idalas Castro	Phillip King	Eric Schurz Jr.
Immanuel Chavez II	Lorenzo Kline-Washington	Joseph Schurz
Jesse Chavez	Davina Leon	Symphony Schurz
Jordan Chavez	Gabriel Lewis	Tiffany Silversmith
Angelita Chiago	Nicolas Lewis	Samantha Smith
Delaine Correa	Josepina Lopez	Eliza Toney
Macquila Cruz	Nalani Lopez	Cindi Velasquez
Victoria Egoak	Manuela Mackett	Destenie Vasquez
Benjamin Francisco	Jacqueline Manzanares	Alex Wood
Christopher Gasdia	Michela McGertt	Soraya Zapata
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Community Celebrates July 4th With Fireworks, Carnival Games, and Eating Contests

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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The Accelerated Learning Academy football field was alive with lawn chairs, kids running around and the aromas of frybread and fireworks smoke as hundreds of Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members braved the summer heat to celebrate the 4th of July.

Food trucks Frybread Riot, Tacos Huachi and Ice Surrender provided food options available to purchase for hungry and thirsty attendees, who lined up around the fence waiting to order. Hot dog and hamburger meals were available at no charge.

"The food trucks were a hit, which was awesome," said Events Assistant Kym Tyler. "We're glad people had a variety of food choices to purchase other than the free food, which was out in an hour."

To cool off, everyone enjoyed free watermelon slices donated by Rousseau Farming Company, which leases farmland from the Community. In total, 2 pallets (40 to 60 watermelons) were donated. Casino Arizona donated 30 cases of water for thirsty attendees.

Throughout the evening, kids jumped around in large bounce houses and tried throwing the ball at the target at the dunk tank, where SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, Council member Jacob Butler and Salt River Royalty took turns escaping a watery fate inside the tank.

Kids also enjoyed face-painting and carnival games. The real fun began when they participated in the watermelon-eating contest. To win, you had to be the first one to eat the watermelon slice down to the rind. The winner of the contest was Martin Osife-Reid.

Following the watermelon-eating contest was a chicken wing-eating contest for adults. The contest was quite the spectacle as family members surrounded the contestants, cheering them on to eat the wings down to the bone. The winner was Adrian Jim Sr., who downed 20 wings.

As the sun went down, DJ Jermatik and Waila Style 87 kept Community members active and dancing the night away.

At 9 p.m., a single firework shot up into the sky to let everyone know that the big show was about to start. Community members were amazed by the dazzling light display that followed. The grand finale was met with cheers and claps on the dark football field, which was lit only by Community members holding up promotional glow sticks that were handed out by the SRPMIC Community Relations Events team.



Martin Osife-Reed wins the watermelon eating contest.



Adrian Jim Sr. wins the hot wings eating contest.



Waila Style 87 brought the chicken scratch to the Community for a night of dancing.



A kid attempts to dunk SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, who was ready in the dunk tank full of water.



A couple dances to music by Waila Style 87, just before the fireworks went off.



Watermelon and wing eating competitions were major events at the Community 4th of July Celebration.



The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community was treated to a dazzling display of fireworks on the Fourth of July.

Jr. Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Crowned, Begins Reign



Your 2024-2025 SRPMIC Jr. Miss Salt River Court (left to right): Jr. Miss 1st Attendant Tiare Begay-Smith, Jr. Miss Salt River Diondria Pilger and Jr. Miss 2nd Attendant Aiyanna Toya.

“Tonight is not just about winning a title; it’s about celebrating who you are and the unique attributes you bring to the Community,” said Juan. “Let’s make this evening a night to remember as we come together to honor our young women.”

The three participants began the evening showcasing a variety of talents. Toya presented how to dance to waila, or chicken scratch music. Begay-Smith demonstrated how to make a water canteen from a gourd. Pilger performed a dance about the coyote; the lesson was that people should be humble and embrace their differences.



Aiyanna Toya wears her traditional O'odham dress.



Tiare Begay-Smith wears her traditional wrap attire.



Above: Outgoing Jr. Miss Salt River 2023-2024 Jizelle Juan performs on stage.

Right: Diondria Pilger wears her two-piece O'odham muslin dress before being crowned Jr. Miss Salt River 2024-2025.



Next came the traditional dress and essay portion of the pageant. For her traditional dress, Toya wore a one-piece wraparound O’odham dress. Begay-Smith wore a traditional wrap attire that was common from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. Pilger wore a two-piece O’odham muslin dress. The participants then talked in-depth about their traditional dresses and why they wore them.

After the judges tallied their scores, the results were in: Diondria Pilger was crowned Jr. Miss Salt River 2024-2025. Miss Salt River Committee Chairwoman Elisa Pongyesvia said she is thrilled to see this year’s courts full of young women who want to make a positive impact in the Community.

“It is no easy task stepping into the light and being a role model; it takes a great deal of effort and lots of behind-the-scenes work to be prepared for an event like this,” said Pongyesvia.

“All of our young ladies come from different walks of life, but they have chosen to take this journey together in becoming bigger than themselves as ambassadors of Salt River. Their reign has only begun. I look forward to seeing them build friendships and flourish into stronger O’odham and Piipaash women.”

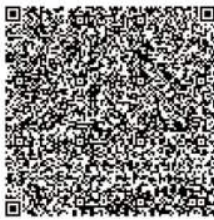
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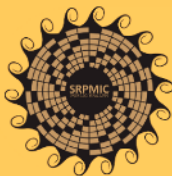
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Sialik King Crowned Miss Salt River 2024-2025

the invocation, Pilger also recited a blessing asking for good health and safe travels home for all.



Former Miss Salt River 2020-2021 Isabella Dockerty was selected to sing the National Anthem in O’odham during the Miss Salt River 2024-2025 pageant.

Following the blessing, Miss Salt River 2023-2024 Kennise McGertt shared a few words about how proud she felt after meeting this year’s three contestants.

“During Pageant Week, I had the opportunity to meet these three individuals, and I can confidently say that our Community will be well represented this year,” she said with a smile. As she concluded her prepared speech, McGertt spoke from the heart: “It has been an honor to represent the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Thank you. Sapo.”

The pageant began with the modern dress competition. Zoe Hernandez was the first contestant to appear onstage. Dressed in black dress pants with a peach-colored suit jacket, Hernandez introduced herself and thanked her Community for the opportunity to compete. A graduate of Westwood High School in

May, Hernandez revealed that she will be attending Arizona State University this fall to study architectural design.

Wearing black dress pants with a metallic-silver top, Evevannah Garza appeared second on the stage. Representing Lehi, Garza currently works for the Talking Stick Resort and Casino and shared with the audience that she will begin working toward a career in social work by attending Scottsdale Community College this fall.



Evevannah Garza shared a few words during the Modern Dress category,

Following Garza was Sialik King. As she introduced herself in O’odham and English, King stood onstage wearing beige dress pants, a black top and suit jacket, a shell necklace, and Man in the Maze earrings. Currently attending Arizona State University, King provided

insight as to why she decided to run for the 2024-2025 title. “I have been blessed to hold various tribal titles and to be an ambassador to our Community, which is the reason [I am] participating in this year’s pageant,” she said.

Serving as judges for this year’s Miss Salt River competition were Miss Indian Arizona 2010-2011 Sweetie Cody (Navajo); David Buhl, historian with the SRPMIC Cultural Resources Department; SRPMIC Justice Center prosecutor Alane Breland; Alyse Marrietta, 2021-2022 Miss Gila River; and Erica Myron, Miss Wheelchair USA 2021. Hailing from the state of Washington, Myron is the first Indigenous winner of the Miss Wheelchair USA crown.

In the modern talent portion, the three contestants showcased their many talents to the audience. Hernandez displayed her musical talent by playing the violin. Garza showed three of her hand-painted portraits of O’odham women sitting together with Red Mountain in the background. When it came time for King to present her talent, she decided on a slideshow presentation detailing her love of math and how useful it can be.

As the pageant neared its end, the three contestants appeared in their traditional dress and answered questions from the judges. When the question-and-answer segment concluded, emcee Moore said, “Our judges have the challenging task of picking the new Miss Salt River.”

Finally, the judges came to a decision: Sialik King was named Miss Salt River 2024-2025. Zoe Hernandez will serve as 1st Attendant and Evevannah Garza as 2nd Attendant.



Sialik King underwent many wardrobe changes, seen here during her Traditional Talent portion.

McGertt congratulated the new royalty onstage and then transferred the Miss Salt River crown from her head onto King’s. An emotional King thanked Lewis, crying joyful tears, as the entire Talking Stick Resort Ballroom erupted in applause and cheers.

At the conclusion of the pageant, families and loved ones took photos and congratulated the new Salt River Royalty. These young ladies will be representing the SRPMIC at various gatherings, events and ceremonies for a one-year term.



This year’s Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Royalty. From L to R: Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Second Attendant Evevannah Garza, Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Sialik King, and Miss Salt River First Attendant 2024-2025 Zoe Hernandez.



Zoe Hernandez performed a traditional dance for the traditional talent category.



Zoe Hernandez during the Modern Dress portion.



Evevannah Garza during the Traditional Dress portion.



Excelling at the playing the violin, Zoe Hernandez showed off her modern talent.

Salt River Youth Attend “Inspiring Girls Night” at Mercury Game

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

The WNBA team Phoenix Mercury held a special celebration, “Inspiring Girls Night,” during their game against the Los Angeles Sparks on June 28 at the Footprint Center in downtown Phoenix.

Among those present were members from a few Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community youth programs, including Recreation, Social Services, the Boys & Girls Club and the Miss and Jr. Miss Salt River courts.

Nike N7 partners donated a section of seats to the Community, and SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos invited the Miss Salt River Committee to attend, according to Miss Salt River Committee Chairwoman Elisa Pongyesvia. She said that, for a few of the girls, it was their first time attending a Mercury game.

“We are thankful to the Community, its partnerships, as well as Councilwoman Carlos for thinking of the Miss Salt River Committee,” said Pongyesvia.

The girls in attendance were Zoe Hernandez, 1st Attendant to Miss Salt River; Tiaré Begay-Smith, 1st Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River; Jr. Miss Salt River Diondria Pilger; and Aiyanna Toya, 2nd Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River.

Toya said that the night was a fun experience.

“Being there to watch the Mercury play basketball was definitely a top tier moment for me,” said Toya. “Inspiring Girls Night definitely inspired me to never give up on my dreams and always [reach] for something greater.”

“Inspiring Girls Night to me is awesome. It’s why I play the game. It’s why I coach the game,” said Kristi Toliver, associate head coach for the Phoenix Mercury. “I want them to see all these women that are excelling ... and understand that they are more than capable of accomplishing their goals, whether it’s on or off the court.”

The Mercury defeated the Sparks 92-78.



Left: Salt River Royalty pose for a photo outside of the Footprint Center.

Pictured left to right: First Attendant to Miss Salt River, Zoe Hernandez; First Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River, Tiaré Begay-Smith; Jr. Miss Salt River, Diondria Pilger; and Second Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River, Aiyanna Toya



Back row (left to right): Miss Salt River Committee Chairwoman Elisa Pongyesvia, SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos, Second Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River Aiyanna Toya, First Attendant to Miss Salt River, Zoe Hernandez. Front row (left to right): First Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River, Tiaré Begay-Smith; Jr. Miss Salt River, Diondria Pilger.

“We Run Together” With Red Mountain Boys and Girls Club and Community Partners



A Red Mountain Boys & Girls Club member runs up to an SRPD officer to give him a high five during a running exercise.

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

There were high-fives all around at the Way of Life Facility basketball court on June 27, as approximately 100 youth from the Red Mountain Branch of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale engaged in two hours of running and agility activities with Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members, partners and neighbors.

Demonstrating the event’s theme, “We Run Together,” the kids ran back and forth on the court at varying distances to touch hands with officers from the Salt River Police Department and SRPMIC Health and Human Services staff, who were there to cheer on the kids.

Certified running coach Nycole Leyba, who organized the event, has provided this event, as well as “We Run Mesa,” voluntarily to the Mesa community and Mesa Public Schools since 2019.

Red Mountain Branch Supervisor Angela DiCicco thought the event went well and said the kids seemed to have a lot of fun.

“The goal of the event was to get our kids moving and exercising in a fun way while making positive connections with adults from the community,” said DiCicco.

The kids listened to an inspiring talk by Denzel Burrell, associate director of academics for ASU Athletics, and each took home a \$50 gift certificate to Bobby Q’s Restaurant, donated by the Del Rio family, the restaurant’s owners.

Becky Osborne, manager of the Sprouts grocery store at Recker and Loop 202 in Mesa, donated fresh fruit for the kids to enjoy along with the popsicles they received.

The following Community partners also helped out with the event: John Pombier, senior manager of community engagement for Amazon; Renee Parker, director of community partnerships for Mesa Public Schools; Mesa Police Department Commander and Liaison for the Native American Community Stephanie Derivan; Community member and retired nurse Sue Ganter; Frankie Jo Rios, president/CEO of the East Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Amanda Ludlum, community outreach officer for Cookie Co. in the East Valley; Rebecca Osborne, forensic scientist with the City of Mesa Crime Lab; Community Outreach Coordinator Sarah White; Community leader and consultant analyst Dina DeLeon; and Mario Solorzano, community leader and member of the East Valley Chamber of Commerce.

VICTORY OUTREACH

VICTORY CENTER

FIND HOPE AND FREEDOM

DATES: JULY 2ND & 30TH AUGUST 6TH & 27TH

PHONE: 480-427-4678 TIME: 6:30PM

LOCATION: 1231 EAST OAK STREET, MESA, AZ 85203

NO GANG AFFILIATED COLORS ALLOWED

join us

COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE

W/ YOUTH

ages 12-18

Interested?

Scan the QR Code or visit: tinyurl.com/SRCYR to answer a couple questions.

MORE INFO TO COME

Elder Abuse Awareness Walk Reminds You to “Be the One”

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

According to the National Center on Elder Abuse, one in every 10 elders will experience some form of abuse in their lifetimes. Only one in every 24 cases is reported.

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community’s Senior Services Adult Protective Services (APS) team hosted an Elder Abuse Awareness Walk on June 26 at Friendship Park near Two Waters, to bring awareness to this reality that our elders and families face.

According to APS investigator Avarae John, who oversees APS, the program investigates allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation concerning adults with adaptive needs and seniors age 55 and older.

“The numbers are concerning, but with everyone’s help, we can learn to recognize and report elder abuse to ensure the well-being of our community’s elders and vulnerable adults,” said John.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is designated as June 15 every year. This year’s theme is “Be the One”—a powerful reminder that there are actions you can take to stop abuse when you see it.

“When our community is educated in how to recognize signs of abuse, you can ‘Be the One’ to give a voice to help our most vulnerable,” said John.

The goal of the event, according to John, was simply to get the word out to the Community about how to get in touch with the APS team. Informational pamphlets were available to participants who wanted to know more about the program and how to be aware of potential elder abuse.

“We’ve been trying to get the word out on reporting elder abuse—what it looks like, what self-neglect looks like. [Self-neglect] is our most common referral at APS,” said John. Self-neglect “can look like missed appointments, not taking their medication consistently, poor hygiene, etc.”

For the morning event, Senior Services provided walking sticks, visors, healthy food and plenty of water for the walk’s participants, who headed south down Longmore Road to Oak Street and then back up to Friendship Park.

For more information about what to look for regarding elder abuse, reach out to APS via email at adultprotectiveservices@srpmic-nsn.gov.



Participants walk down Longmore Road on June 26 for the Elder Abuse Awareness Walk.



Umbrellas were one of many options to keep from overheating at the Elder Abuse Awareness Walk.



President Martin Harvier (right) stops by a hydration station on Longmore Road and Oak Street during the Elder Abuse Awareness Walk on June 26.

Helping Hands Thrift Store Unveils New Look



Before and after construction was completed at Helping Hands. After being closed in the month of June for renovations, Helping Hands re-opened in early July with a brand new look which includes a new shade at the front entrance and reinforced sidewalks. Free items are still available at Helping Hands at designated tables.

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

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community thrift store, Helping Hands, has reopened with new facility improvements, additional merchandise and more. The store was closed for the majority of June as it underwent significant upgrades and improvements.

The thrift store, which is open to the public, reopened on July 3 with a brand-new front entrance shade to protect shoppers from the sun throughout the summer months. Additionally, the store maintains an inventory of new merchandise from name-brand labels. All items undergo a strict and thorough inspection before being placed onto the sales floor.

Helping Hands is located in the Community at 10213 E. Osborn Road, Scottsdale. For questions, call (480) 362-5625.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER HOME BASED PROGRAM

Are you pregnant or parenting a child under 3 years old?
Do you live within the SRPMIC boundaries?
Are you willing to meet weekly with a parent educator?
Would you participate in activities to meet other families?

Weekly Home Visits with a Parent Educator

- Individualized Activities for You & Your Child
- Resources to Support Parents & Family Services
- Developmental Screenings

Call or text TODAY to learn more!

Carrie Hodge
480-241-2806

Dawna Hulet
480-240-8299

ECEC.saltriverschools.org | 480-362-2200

Seniors Enjoy July’s Harry Potter Themed Breakfast in Lehi

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL
O’odham Action News
Andreea.miguel@srpmic-nsn.gov

On Wednesday, July 3, Salt River Senior Services hosted its monthly senior breakfast at the Lehi Community Building. July’s breakfast took seniors to “The Great Hall” in Hogwarts Castle, as the theme for this month is Harry Potter. The room was decorated with banners, balloons and wands as Senior Services staff members greeted each guest in their Hogwarts House costumes, alongside the new 2024-2025 Jr. Miss and Miss Salt River Courts. Before taking their seats, guests had the opportunity to visit different informational tables set up by Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

departments including Public Works, Finance, Health and Human Services, and Community Relations. Each table had different brochures and goodies for the seniors as they made their way around to be seated at the dining tables, which were decorated according to the four different Hogwarts houses shown throughout the Harry Potter books and movies: Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin. As seniors got settled in, SRPMIC Council Member Jacob Butler recited an opening prayer before a plate of toast, eggs, hash browns and gravy were served to each guest, with the choice of a cup of coffee or orange juice. SRPMIC Senior Services also had an agenda of informational presenta-



SRPMIC guest in "The Great Hall" as food is being served while waiting for presentations to begin.



tions lined up for the morning. Topics included brownfields redevelopment planning, a message about missing persons, monsoon safety tips from Robert Scabby of the Salt River Fire Department, and a voting outreach message for the upcoming election in Arizona, which included introductions to several political candidates. As the event came to an end, the Salt River seniors left with full bellies, bags filled with complimentary goodies, and useful information that will benefit them in the future.

Staff members at Senior Services sharing upcoming events calendars along with sign-up sheets.



SENIOR SERVICES
SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

Mark your calendar!

Next Senior Breakfast:

August 7





Congratulations to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community & the Talking Stick Resort team!



Voted #1 Casino - Best of the Desert



TALKING STICK RESORT

Locally owned and caringly operated by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Must be 21 years of age or older to participate. Management reserves all rights.
Problem gambling? Call 1-800-NEXT-STEP, text NEXTSTEP to 53342 or visit problemgambling.az.gov.





NEW LOCATIONS! FREE SRPMIC PUBLIC HEALTH KIOSK

For enrolled SRPMIC Community
Members and eligible family



SALT RIVER COMMUNITY BUILDING

1880 N LONGMORE RD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256

THE WELLNESS CENTER

10295 E OSBORN RD
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256

ALA FOOTBALL FIELD

4827 N COUNTRY CLUB DR
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256
(SOUTH SIDE OF FIELD)

LEHI COMMUNITY CENTER

1231 E OAK ST
MESA, AZ 85203

CALL (480) 362-2603 FOR MORE INFORMATION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP

WHEN
Tuesday's: Women
Wednesday's: Men
5:30pm-6:30pm
Beginning 07/02/24



WHERE
River People Health Center
3rd Floor: Rm 3202
10901 E. McDowell Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85256

**What is
Domestic
Violence?**

**Safety
Planning**

**Power and
Control**

Cycle of Abuse

Stalking

Gas Lighting

Strangulation

**Healthy
Boundaries**

**Protection
Orders**

And more...

Domestic Violence Victim Advocates
480-362-3580



River People
Health Center

Tribal Library Hosts Presentation on LGBTQ+ History



Attendees joined Historian Marshall Shore (center) for a group photo following the presentation.

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

The Salt River Tribal Library at the Way of Life Facility hosted a presentation and discussion on June 25 focusing on LGBTQIA+ history in Arizona. Historian Marshall Shore, known as "The Hip Historian," shared facts and stories ranging from Arizona's early Territorial days to developments from within the past decade.

The presentation opened with a disclaimer that the intention was to learn about the history of Two-Spirit and LGBTQ communities in the Valley. With that in mind, attendees were asked to stay on topic and be respectful to the presenter and fellow guests during the discussion.

The presentation was an entertaining overview of significant individuals and milestone events related to LGBTQ+ communities in Arizona. While some members of the audience

were able to answer questions like where the transgender pride flag was designed (answer: in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1999), many were surprised to learn that the woman who designed it, Monica Helms, now has a recognized day by the City of Phoenix and that the original flag is currently housed in the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.

As Shore continued highlighting landmarks and historical figures who were known for more than their orientation, guests happily snacked on pride-themed cookies and treats provided by Tigg Bakes. Following the presentation, audience members participated in a discussion about what compelled each of them to attend that evening.

If you're interested in learning more about Arizona history or LGBTQ+ history, Shore can be contacted on social media with the handle @hip_historian or through his website, www.hiphistorian.com.



SOCIAL BIRD DANCING AND GOURD SINGING PRACTICE

SATURDAY, JULY 20TH | 7PM - 9PM

LEHI GROUNDS

3221 N. Stapley Drive Mesa, AZ 85203

ALL BIRD SINGERS & DANCERS ARE WELCOME!

POTLUCK STYLE

BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

ELAINA (480) 635-6692 OR MICHELLE (480) 244-9651



'Pathway to Home Ownership' Program Helps Members become Mortgage Ready



Lori Calderon, Community Outreach Supervisor from the SRPMIC Health and Human Services, addressed the SRPMIC membership on how they can begin the home ownership process.

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

On June 25, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Pathway to Home Ownership program held a meeting for all SRPMIC members with the goal of outlining the process of becoming a homeowner.

The meeting was held in Two Waters' A building in room 107. Lori Calderon, community outreach supervisor from the SRPMIC Health and Human Services Department, and Gracie Briones, financial training coordinator, served as presenters for the meeting.

"I was looking at some information and I saw that people are paying \$2,000 a month for rent. If you multiply that by 12 months, that's a considerable



Gracie Briones, SRPMIC Financial Training Coordinator, detailed the difference between saving and spending money.

amount of money for a place that's temporary," said Calderon.

Detailing the difference between renting and purchasing a home, Calderon emphasized that owning a "forever home" provides stability for families, in addition to many more positives. "Once you become a homeowner, the home becomes your forever home. There is pride in ownership, and it helps create strong community ties," she said.

"We're getting more and more homes built, and the tribe is looking at investing in other different housing opportunities. In Indian Country, there always seems to be a housing crisis. But it is getting better," Calderon added.

Briones explained that becoming a homeowner is a process. "I work on the front-end part of the process of home ownership," began Briones. "I do your financial assessment. We will assess your situation, and if there's work to be done, we'll help you create an action plan."

Having reliable income, having steady work, maintaining checking/savings accounts and filing tax returns are some of the requirements for obtaining a mortgage. Knowing how to manage finances is crucial to becoming mortgage ready. "If home ownership was easy, everyone would have a house," said Briones.

Continuing her presentation, Briones brought up land ownership. "That is a separate part of the [mortgage] process. If you have land, but it hasn't been recorded in your name, that takes time to get completed. You can be working on that while working on the financial side as well."

Briones provided suggestions for managing finances and keeping a budget. "Sometimes people will have spreadsheets for their budget. I can't do that personally. It's about what works for you," she said. "Print the last two months of your bank statements and highlight every time you swiped your debit card. Then total it up at the end of the month. Was it a necessity or wasteful spending?"

Additionally, Briones informed the group that the SRPMIC does count per capita as part of a Community member's financial portfolio. "We previously did not accept per capita as qualifying income, but now we do," she said.

Community members who are interested in learning more about the home ownership process may contact Lori Calderon at (480) 362-5763 or Gracie Briones at (480) 362-7833.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY



In a show of appreciation for her 27 years of service, O'odham Action News' Dodie Manuel was honored at the July 3 Council Meeting held at the SRPMIC Council Chambers. President Martin Harvier and Vice-President Ricardo Leonard draped a Pendleton blanket over her shoulders as a gift to commemorate her retirement as managing editor for the Community newspaper. They joined Council members and colleagues in congratulating Manuel on her remarkable career leading the O'odham Action News staff and thanked her for her contributions to the Community in her role. The only deadlines Manuel must adhere to now are the ones she wants to, and we are all thrilled for her as she starts her next chapter.

SCHOOL + COMMUNITY RELATIONS

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH
SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

TUESDAY, JULY 23
5-7PM

ALA CAFETERIA
4827 N. COUNTRY CLUB DR.,
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256

THE Cool Place

10295 E OSBORN RD SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256

Welcome to all

Why visit The Cooling Place?

- Air-conditioned environment: Relax in a cool, comfortable space.
- Water and refreshments: Stay hydrated with free bottled water and light snacks.
- Cooling stations: Access to cooling towels and fans.
- Information and resources: Tips on staying cool and recognizing signs of heat-related illnesses.

Questions? 480-362-2603

Wellness Center

Monday-Friday
8am-5pm
Excluding Holidays

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOL

COVID-POSITIVE?

PLEASE USE THE PHARMACY DRIVE-THRU FOR PICK-UP/REFILLS.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

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, Ariel – Review Hearing Case:
JV-24-0084 Date: September 4, 2024 at
9 a.m.
Baptisto, Angelo - Review Hearing Case:
J-19-0007 Court Date: July 24, 2024 at
11 a.m.

Burke, Brandee - Review Hearing Case:
J-19-0007 Court Date: July 24, 2024 at
11 a.m.
Manuel, Ashley Noreen – Review Hearing
Case: J-22-0118/0119/0120 Court Date:
July 24, 2024 at 9 a.m.
Thomas, Melissa – Truancy Hearing Case:
JV-24-0170/JV-24-0171 Date: August 15,
2024 at 3 p.m.
Vest, Jacob Sean - Mother: Morningstar
Manuel (DOB: 07/21/1992) Child:
I.J.V. (DOB: 05/24/2008), I.L.V (DOB:
04/07/2009) Review Hearing Case: J-19-
0042/0043 Court Date: September 10,
2024 at 10 a.m.
Wahpeta, April Francine - Review Hearing
Case: J-23-0027/0028/0029 Court Date:
August 19, 2024 at 9 a.m.

CIVIL COURT
JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA
MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY
COURT
ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN RD.
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256
CONTACT: (480) 362-6315
CIVIL COURT CASES REPORT TO
COURTROOM #1/ #2 ON THE 1ST
FLOOR.
FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT
YOUR RIGHTS
Cooper, Matthew Regis - Divorce
Modification Hearing Case: D-18-0001
Court Date: August 14, 2024 at 11 AM
Fulwilder, Gilland - Restraining Order
Hearing Case: CV-24-4547/CV-24-4548
Court Date: August 15, 2024 at 11:30 AM

Fulwilder, Tyler Joseph - Annual
Guardianship Review Case: CF-15-0120
Court Date: July 23, 2024 at 9:30 AM
Goodwin, Joe Conan - Entry of Default
Judgement Case: CV-24-0852 Court Date:
August 12, 2024 at 9 AM
Kochampanasken, Leah - Restraining Order
Hearing Case: CV-24-4544 Court Date:
August 5, 2024 at 11:30 AM
Loring, Jezlyn Norma - Petition for Name
Change Case: CV-24-4581 Court Date:
August 19, 2024 at 10 AM
Mack Jr., Chester - Order of Protection
Hearing Case: CV-24-4827 Court Date:
August 14, 2024 at 11:30 AM
Martinez, Monica Elise - Initial Paternity/
Custody/Legal Decision Making Case:

CV-24-4161 Court Date: August 7, 2024
at 10 AM
Martinez, Xavier - Annual Guardianship
Review Hearing Case: CF-22-0076 Court
Date: July 23, 2024 at 9 AM
Mora, Joseph - Initial Guardianship Hearing
Case: CV-24-3758 Court Date: August 8,
2024 at 10 AM
Porter, Mariana - Initial Guardianship
Hearing Case: CV-24-3758 Court Date:
August 8, 2024 at 10 AM
Rivers, Efren Lee - Evidentiary Guardianship
Hearing Case: CV-24-3174 Court Date:
July 29, 2024 at 11 AM
Suniga, Ernesto - Restraining Order Hearing
Case: CV-24-4545 Court Date: August 6,
2024 at 11:30 AM

DEFAULT NOTICES

D.L. SR.
CFCS-22-0033
Notice of Order of Wage Garnishment: D.L.
Sr.
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County
original jurisdiction court case number
CFCS-22-0033
Notice of Order of Wage Garnishment is
hereby ORDERED AND ADJUDGED on
the 6th day of May, 2024 and entered 11th
day of June, 2024. It is further, ORDERED
AND ADJUDGED K. G. request for a
wage garnishment order for D.L. Sr. is
GRANTED; the prior assignment Order
is VACATED in favor of the garnishment
Order. Please contact the Salt River Pima
Maricopa Indian Community Tribal Court
for any questions regarding this matter at
480-362-6315 Monday through Friday 8am
to 5pm.

HILL, INDARIA
CV-23-3990
Notice of Default Judgment:
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County
original jurisdiction court case number
CV-23-3990
Notice of Default Judgment is hereby
given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that
default judgment against Respondent,
Indaria Hill, is hereby ENTERED. It is
further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that
Respondent, Indaria Hill, shall pay
Petitioner, Country Club Cars. Payment
shall be made to Petitioner within thirty
(30) days of this Order. This order is final
and shall be served on Respondent in
accordance to Rule 5-20(c). For a copy
of this Order please contact the court at
480-362-6315.

MASAWISTEWA, MORIAH
CV-23-3859
Notice of Default Judgment:
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County
original jurisdiction court case number
CV-23-3859
Notice of Default Judgment is hereby given
ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default
judgment against Respondent, Moriah
Masawistewa, hereby ENTERED. It is
further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that
Respondent, Moriah Masawistewa, shall
pay court ordered Child Support and has
ten (10) days to respond from date of
publication. For a copy of this Order please
contact the Salt River Court at 480-362-
6315.

SALT RIVER CHURCH OF CHRIST

VBS
Vacation Bible School

HE SPOKE, AND THINGS WERE MADE
Fun Friends Faith

THIS IS VERY GOOD!

25-28 JULY
6:00-8:00PM THUR-SAT
9:30-NOON SUN

Creation Theme
Genesis 1

Classes for all ages
Transportation available
Learning activities
Snacks

Contact info - Josh Austin | djaustin14@hotmail.com | 720-626-2171

PIIPAASH MATASHEEVM

BINGO!

Raffle & Food Sale

Saturday, July 27

2pm | Lehi Comm Bldg

Join us for an afternoon
of family friendly fun!

Prizes for all ages

Questions, contact Ardell (480) 362-7465 / Emily (480) 362-2626 / Elaina (480) 635-6692

All proceeds directly benefit the Annual Piipaash Matasheevm

3rd Quarter 2024 ELIGIBILITY DEADLINE
September 30, 2024

Must be eighteen (18) years old, enrolled, and living to be eligible for the
October 2024 Per Capita Payment.

DEADLINES FOR CHANGES

Direct Deposit Start-Ups and Changes: Thursday, September 26th 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 **October 2024** payout. Forms received after this date will not be effective until the **January 2025** payout.

Discontinue Direct Deposits: Thursday, September 26th 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, October 15th 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 October 2024 payout. Forms received after this date will not be processed until the first week of November 2024.

Tax Withholding Changes: Tuesday, October 15th at 5:00 PM. This deadline is for making changes to "Additional" tax withholding percentage or amount.

Tax forms are available on the Finance Per Capita Intranet Site and can also be requested by e-mailing FINPERCAP1@srpmic-nsn.gov.

If you have any questions regarding:

-Tribal ID, Per Capita Eligibility & Change Forms: call Membership Services @ **(480) 362-7600**

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

“ VATTO WUIHIM HEG VIOHOG—’IIYAA CHUUMALY ’AYAAO ”

THE HUHUGAM KI: MUSEUM NEEDS MESQUITE PODS.

Collecting July 15th- August 9th, 2024

- Must be free of dirt, rocks, twigs and bird/animal droppings.
- Must be from a native Velvet or Honey Mesquite tree, not Chilean Mesquite. Chilean is thick like fingers and flatter than the native trees.
- Must pick them up by hand. Do not rake them into a big pile and scoop them up. This will gather more than just pods and may include things not fit for consumption.
- We will only accept beans that are harvested from the tree. Harvesting from the ground increases the chances of mold, fungus, fecal matter, etc. Aflotoxins can be present but not visible.
- Do not gather near asphalt, road intersections, telephone poles or places where contaminants are on the ground or tree.
- Do not store them in plastic or trash bags. They can ferment and spoil.
- Pods can be collected in a box, laundry basket or paper bag.
- Appointments must be made to drop off pods beginning July 15th. Collection will be on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am - 12pm and 3pm - 430pm.
- Entrance to the back of the Museum is through the gate, on the east side.
- We will inspect and measure the pods for you. We reserve the right to not accept pods that are dirty, rotted or smell.
- All activity is on your own and not sanctioned or to be held liable by the Huhugam Ki: Museum, Cultural Resources Dept. or the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

SALT RIVER BUSINESS LISTINGS

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

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

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

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 daliasesendiz0815@icloud.com

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

DESERT'S EDGE, LLC
Professional Landscaping Services and Maintenance Weekly, Bi-Weekly, Monthly -Clean Ups -Trimming - Sprinkler Repair & Grass Seeding For a free estimate, call or text 480-646-2587

ERNIE'S CATERING
Food catering for all your needs Ernie Lopez (chef and owner) (480) 907-8945 erniescateringbusiness@yahoo.com

GOODLIFE NUTRITION
Healthy cafe offering plant-based juices and smoothies, meal-replacement options and event catering. Order online by visiting instagram! @goodlifeaz 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

KI: PROPERTY SERVICES
Fully Licensed Grading, Lot Clearing, Gravel Spread, Trash Haul, Landscaping, General Home Repair Call for Per Cap Specials! 480-227-7336 ki.property.services81@gmail.com

LB's HAIR SALON
For all your hair needs. Over 30+ years of experience specializing in trending haircuts, color, highlighting, perms, blow dry's and also manicures, pedicures and facial waxing. Linda Baptisto, (602) 525-9142 hairbylindab@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

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

NATURES DEFENSE
Do it yourself pest control. All organic, non-toxic, chemical free. Safe/ effective against roaches, scorpions, fleas/ticks, beetles, bed bugs and more! JB Cortez, (480) 453-9371 saltriverjb@gmail.com

PIMA AWARDS PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS, INC
Promotional products, silkscreened and embroidered apparel, custom made awards and printing services. 15610 N 35th Ave Ste #7 Phoenix, AZ 85053 www.pimaawards.com Ron Lee, (623) 271-8311

PIMARA CONSTRUCTION
Civil & structural engineering. Virginia Loring, (480) 251-6849 vipimara@cox.net

PIIPASH SHELL
4001. N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, AZ Michael Smith- Owner Piipash LLC (480) 947-6400 (store) piipash@hotmail.com

RED CACTUS PHOTOGRAPHY
Professional Photography for all occasions: business, commercial, extreme adventure, family gatherings, portraits, real estate, social media, sports, and weddings. D. Gonzales, (480) 828-5863 redcactusphotography480@gmail.com

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

SALT RIVER HOSPITALITY
Food service, bar, janitorial equipment and supplies. J.B. Cortez, (480) 945-0062 saltriverjb@gmail.com Location 1: Phoenix Park-N-Swap Location 2: The Spot on Camelback

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

THE MAIN INGREDIENT
Home and commercial quality kitchen supplies, open to the public. J.B. Cortez, (480) 945-0062 themainingredientaz@gmail.com

THE SPOT ON CAMELBACK
An Open Air Market And Multicultural Gathering! Handmade arts, crafts, and jewelry, clothing, tools, kitchen supplies, and more. JB Cortez (480) 945-0062 11514 E. Camelback Rd. Scottsdale, 85256 thespotoncamelback@gmail.com thespotoncamelback.com

VMK ENTERPRISES, INC
Janitorial supplies. Sheryl@vmkenterprises.com

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

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

O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS DEADLINES

ISSUE	DEADLINE AT NOON
AUGUST 1	JULY 19
AUGUST 15	AUGUST 2
SEND INFORMATION TO O’ODHAM ACTION NEWS at oodhamactionnews@srpmic-nsn.gov For more information please call (480) 362-7750.	

CHURCH LISTING

LEHI CHURCH OF THE NAZA-RENE
1452 E. Oak St. Mesa, AZ 85203 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. Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85201 (720) 626-2171, Josh Austin SaltRiverChurchofChrist.com SERVICES -Bible Class 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. -Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. -Sunday Bible Class 6 p.m. -Bible Study Wednesdays 7 p.m. -Local transportation available, please call phone number above

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.

SOARING EAGLE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL (SEMI)
Marriott Courtyard, 5201 N. Pima Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85250 Apostle Edward Chance apostleeac@gmail.com (480) 516-6509 SERVICES 10 AM on Sundays Visit us on Facebook Live, Wednesdays at 7 PM for Voice of Truth

VICTORY CENTER
1231 E Oak St. Mesa, AZ 85203 Senior Pastor Danny Cruz 480-427-4678 SERVICES First and Third Tuesday of Each Month at 6:30 p.m. Follow us @vomsvictorycenter on instagram

VICTORY OUTREACH CHURCH MESA
5610 E. Main St. Mesa, AZ 85205 Senior Pastor Danny Cruz SERVICES Sunday 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Wednesday 7 p.m. Youth Nights Tuesday at 7 p.m. visit vomesa.org for more service times, life group locations, and events Follow us @vomesachurch on instagram


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.


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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ADVERTISING
Call O'odham Action News for advertising info. (480) 362-2698 / www.oodhamnews.org

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



100% AMERICAN™

SRMG Wins Portland Cement Association's Safety Innovation Award

Brett Lindsay, Sr. Director Cement Operations & Environmental, SRMG

The Portland Cement Association (PCA) holds a Safety Innovation Award contest annually where cement manufacturers across the Country are able submit details on a safety related project they've completed over the past year. These awards not only serve as recognition for innovative and creative thinking that has gone into solving a new problem or existing challenge, but also provide insight and inspiration to other cement manufacturers in finding safe solutions, the goal being for our entire industry to continue to improve upon our safety practices and have all our employees go home safe and sound at the end of the day.

This year we were very proud of the Gearbox Platform Project that was submitted and excited that the PCA chose it as a winner in this year's Safety Innovation Award contest.

Replacing a vertical mill gearbox is always a serious job with many safety challenges. While we have a number of vertical mill gearboxes at our facility, the one on our raw mill presented a unique challenge as we began our plans to replace it during our last outage in January. The gearbox weighs a massive 47 tons and sits 11 feet off the ground. We dismissed using an overhead hoist because it wasn't rated for the weight of the gearbox. We also considered

using a mobile crane but found there wasn't enough clearance to safely move the crane into the work area. We assessed using cribbing, but because of the clearance issues and other impediments in the work area, this idea was shut down because of additional safety concerns. We considered several other approaches, but at the end of the day the team wasn't enthusiastic about any of them.

A team member finally suggested we build a platform which we could raise and lower beside the gearbox. The crew thought this was a great idea. So plant employees and contractors worked together and communicated our ideas throughout the planning and building process that took several months. The platform raises and lowers on hydraulic jacks held in place by pins and allows us to roll the gearbox onto and off of it. And when the outage came earlier this year, the gearbox was removed, and the replacement gearbox was installed all through the use of this platform; everything went by the numbers.

This platform gave us all peace of mind knowing that the gearbox could be secured and blocked from unplanned movement. We prevented strains, sprains and hand injuries for our miners because we didn't use cranes or cribbing. This platform not



only served its purpose during this job, but it will prevent injuries for planned and unplanned outages down the road.

This project was the best example of how to work together as a team, how to do a risk assessment, and how to arrive at a better way to remove safety hazards before doing a job. The proof was in the pudding as there were no injuries when we successfully changed out the gearbox.

The PCA recognized the Safety Innovation Award winners on June 11th at the Cement Industry Fly-In Event that was held in Washington, D.C. There to receive the award were two of the team members involved in the project; Kyle Shanahan (Maintenance Manager) and Anthony Razo (Maintenance Supervisor). Congratulations to Kyle, Anthony and the rest of the team!



(L to R): Mike Ireland, President and CEO, Portland Cement Association (PCA), Kyle Shanahan, Maintenance Manager, SRMG, Anthony Razo, Maintenance Supervisor, SRMG, Massimo Toso, President and CEO, Buzzi Unicem USA, Chairman of PCA Board of Directors

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www.srmaterials.com



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

Calendar of Events

ONGOING

AA MEETING TEMPORARY NEW LOCATION, 5/23-8/22 at Red Mountain Neighborhood Center 11889 E Glenrosa Dr. AA meetings that were held on Thursday evenings at RPHC will be held from 6-8 p.m. at the above dates & locations. Contact: Lois Evanston (480) 362-1399

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP, 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. in room 3104 (Cloud), 3rd floor of RPHC. This free, confidential, and safe group of individuals support one another by utilizing their collective experiences and learned wisdom. This gathering is for adults diagnosed with diabetes. For more information, contact (480) 362-3355

TAI CHI FOR SENIORS, Tuesdays 9-10 a.m. at WOLF Senior Room and Thursdays 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. at Senior Services North Annex. Join Senior Services for tai chi, an ancient Chinese martial art used today as an effective moving meditation that improves the health of the mind and body. All abilities and fitness levels are welcome. For community seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs. Questions? Call 480.362.6350.

YOGA FOR FALL PREVENTION, Mondays 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. at WOLF Senior Room. All Fitness Levels Welcome! Sign up with Celinda Joe at (480) 876-7180 and request transportation if needed.

YOGA FOR FALL PREVENTION, Fridays 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at WOLF Senior Room. All Fitness Levels Welcome! Sign up with Celinda Joe at (480) 876-7180 and request transportation if needed. **Last Fridays of Each Month are YOGA BINGO with prizes!

WATER AEROBICS AT WAY OF LIFE FACILITY POOL, 45-minute sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 10 a.m., 12 p.m., and 1 p.m. No registration required. Questions? Call (480) 362-6310

NAMI FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP, First and Third Wednesdays of each month from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. at RPHC 3rd Floor, Room 3104. Contact (480) 362-6948 for more information.

WELLBRIETY 12 STEP AND MEDICINE WHEEL, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Wellbriety is a Native American recovery fellowship that blends spiritual practice with the 12-Step program. Its approach to recovery focuses on healing and is rooted in the Teachings of the Medicine Wheel, the Cycle of Life, and the Four Laws of Change. Wellbriety emphasizes creating new thought patterns, attitudes, and feelings about sobriety based on traditional concepts and Native American teachings.

TALKING CIRCLE FOLLOWING WELLBRIETY, Wednesdays and Fridays 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Following the Wellbriety session, participants are invited to join the Talking Circle to share insights and experiences related to living in recovery and honoring traditional practices, including fellowship, community, and connection. Talking Circle sessions also take place every Wednesday and Friday, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

WARRIOR'S SUPPORT CIRCLE, 2nd Thursday Warrior's Support Circle is a talking circle aimed at offering our Veterans a safe space to meet and share their life experiences, challenges, and successes. The circle offers a free, confidential space

for members to take steps towards recovery by gaining insight from others and learning more about PTSD, adjustment issues after reintegration into the civilian world, and to discuss general challenges that accompany service in the military.

CRAFT COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING, Support group for families of loved ones battling substance abuse/addiction/dependence. Fridays 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at RPHC Room 3106 (3rd Floor) For More Information please contact Shea Hinton at (480) 362-2739

SALT RIVER VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION ORIENTATION, Bi-weekly on Tuesdays 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Human Resources, Two Waters Building B. Walk-ins welcomed! Contact (480) 362 2650 for more information.

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JULY

20 CM ANTONE DISTRICT B MEETING, 9 a.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers. Please contact Council Secretaries with questions and to confirm schedule.

20 BIRD DANCING AND GOURD SINGING PRACTICE, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Lehi Grounds 3221 N. Stapley Dr. Mesa, 85203. All bird singers and dancers welcome to our potluck style gathering, bring your own chairs! *For more info see ad on page 12!*

22 RIVER PEOPLE HEALTH CENTER CLOSED, Please plan accordingly, see ad on page 7 for more information

23 BACK TO SCHOOL BASH, 5 - 7 p.m. at Accelerated Learning Academy Cafeteria. SCHOOL & COMMUNITY RELATIONS presents their annual BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH School Supply Giveaway! Questions? Call SCR at 480-362-2500. *See ad on page 13 for more information!*

25 CM BUTLER DISTRICT A MEETING, 6 p.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers. Please contact Council Secretaries with questions and to confirm schedule.

25 THRIVING WITH DIABETES, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at River People Health Center's Teaching Kitchen. Every fourth Thursday of the month, Providers will go over major topics of diabetes care including food, medication, physical activity, and stress management. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Call (480) 362-3355 for information and to reserve a spot.

25-28 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Thursday - Saturday and Sunday 9:30 a.m. to noon at Salt River Church of Christ. Theme is Creation, discussion of Genesis I. *See ad on page 14 for more information!*

27 BINGO RAFFLE AND FOOD SALE, 2 p.m. at Lehi Community Building. Join us for an afternoon of family-friendly fun with prizes for all ages. All proceeds benefit the annual Piipaash Matasheevm Gatherings. Questions? Contact Ardell at (480) 362-7465

30 VICTORY CENTER OUTREACH, 6:30 p.m. at Lehi Community Center. Join us for a night of faith and healing! *See ad on page 9 for more information!*

30 COOKING CLASS-BACK TO THE BASICS, 5:30 -7:00 p.m. at RPHC Teaching kitchen. Back to the Basics is a 6-week, cooking and nutrition group class. Participants get to learn basic cooking skills through hands-on recipe preparation, while learning and talking about the basics of nutrition science. This session will cover: Nutrition Label and Dried Beans- Crunchy Potatoes with Carrots and Chuck Roast. Call 480-362-3355 to reserve your space!

ŞOPOL E'ESBIG MAŞAD XLY'A SAPXUK AUGUST

2-3 BACK TO THE SCHOOL YARD YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, to be held at WOLF & ALA HS Facility. Co-ed divisions. For more info, contact (480) 362-5785

6 COOKING CLASS-BACK TO THE BASICS, 5:30 -7:00 p.m. at RPHC Teaching kitchen. Back to the Basics is a 6-week, cooking and nutrition group class. This session will cover: Meal Planning-pozole and breakfast sandwiches. Call 480-362-3355 to reserve your space!

7 AUGUST SENIOR BREAKFAST, Save the date! More info to come!

13 COOKING CLASS-BACK TO THE BASICS, 5:30 -7:00 p.m. at RPHC Teaching kitchen. Back to the Basics is a 6-week, cooking and nutrition group class. This session will cover: Food storage-pizza party) Call 480-362-3355 to reserve your space!