



James Schaaf Performs in ASU Drumline at Peach Bowl
Page 13



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Indian Nations And Tribes Legislative Day Celebrates 30 Years

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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The 30th Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day featured distinguished guests and leaders from Arizona's 22 recognized tribal nations.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community leaders traveled to the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix for the 30th anniversary of a day meant to celebrate the rich cultures and histories of the state's tribal peoples.

Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day, held this year on January 15, also allows for mutual issues of interest to be addressed, according to the Arizona Governor's Office on Tribal Relations.

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier and Council members Mikah Carlos and Suk Chuvak Fulwilder were guests on the Senate floor during the joint protocol session. In reserved seating looking down at the Senate floor were Council members David Antone and Michael Dallas, members of the Salt River Young River People's Council, and SRPMIC seniors. Also present was SRPMIC Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs representative Gary Bohnee.

Like past years, three leaders were selected to give the Tribal Nations Address: Colorado River Indian Tribes Chairwoman Amelia Flores, Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation President Sandra Pattea. They discussed issues their respective communities experience.

"The issues that we're bringing up as tribal leaders today, all of these issues should be nonpartisan and working together in a positive way," Lewis said during his speech on the Senate floor.

President Harvier said seeing tribal leadership come together brings a sense of

solidarity, and it's important tribes have the opportunity to meet with state representatives. Harvier noted tribal nations aren't a monolith; different tribes experience different issues.

"... [T]here are issues that we all face, and it was good to hear the comments on their concerns moving forward," Harvier said. "And the message that I got is that we've got to move forward together."

Council member Carlos agreed.

"It's a good commitment to show tribes that we have a seat at the table meeting here

in the state legislature," said Carlos.

Of the many issues Carlos prioritizes is the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), which continues to need state support and funding for appropriate training.

"Ultimately, I'm trying to make sure that the resources that should be made available to tribes through the state and those partnerships, continue to happen," Carlos said.

Of the events many learning opportunities were two breakout sessions. The first detailed collaborations between the Arizona Department of

Continued on page 8

New Youth Leaders Sworn In



Members of the Young River People's Council sat on stage of the Accelerated Learning Academy auditorium for their 2025 inauguration.

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

A bright year of leadership and transformative opportunity lies ahead for the new members of the Young River People's Council.

Twenty O'odham and Piipaash youth leaders took their oaths of office at the YRPC inauguration held at the Accelerated Learning Academy in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community January 10.

YRPC is a group of Community youth who promote engagement through educational, traditional and governmental opportunities. New executive members and at-large members are sworn in every year.

"In all of you, I see your parents," said keynote speaker Council member Jacob Butler. "In your actions, I see the teachings of your parents and grandparents. They paved the way for you to be here, and I hope that in a few years, you'll be standing here in larger roles, representing our people and making an impact."

Reflections of the past year were shared by the outgoing YRPC executive members: President Liam Enos, Vice President Jizelle Juan, Correspondent Secretary Tizoc Lopez, Clerical Secretary Myson Galindo and Treasurer Cruz Lasiloo. They thanked their families, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to attend events,

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Alyssa Thomas Dominates in Tough Loss



Westwood's Alyssa Thomas had her work cut out for her against the fierce Mountain View Toros on January 17.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
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Juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

The sky-blue Jordans Alyssa Thomas wears are as loud and flashy as she is steady and unpretentious. With quiet strength, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community student-athlete has dominated her first varsity basketball season for Mesa's Westwood High School.

The Warriors faced fierce competition this season, starting with a

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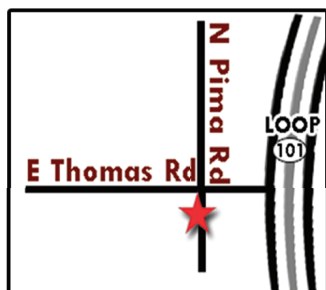
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Emergencies and Walk-Ins seen on the same day!

Saddleback Communications Wins Award, Continues to Ascend



Saddleback Communications is an enterprise of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Photo courtesy of Saddleback Communications.

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

The ability to connect online is invaluable. Whether it's getting home via rideshare apps, ordering groceries, finishing schoolwork or sharing life's moments with loved ones, the internet plays an invaluable role in how the world communicates.

Enter Saddleback Communications. Celebrating its 25th year, Saddleback provides fiber-based voice, internet and cloud communications services based in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, where it's also the leading provider of high-speed internet to businesses and Community residents—97 percent of them.

Now the company will be able to connect more Community members

with digital literacy and internet resources thanks to a \$1.6 million grant announced January 10 by U.S. Sens. Mark Kelly and Ruben Gallego, both Arizona Democrats.

"Affordable, reliable internet is a necessity for our children, workforce and future," SRPMIC President Martin Harvier stated in a press release.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP) funds the grant, which is meant to expand and improve high-speed internet access, as well as provide digital literacy classes in the Community to ensure members understand how to access and use the ever-changing aspects of the internet.

Both Gallego and Kelly stated the funding makes a difference in com-

munities like SRPMIC by expanding internet access, improving affordability, and creating more opportunities for education, healthcare and economic growth.

The TBCP provides grants to Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian entities to support high-speed internet deployment and affordability, digital inclusion, workforce development, telehealth and distance learning.

This isn't the first award for Saddleback Communications. Additionally, Reinvent Telecom, a division of Saddleback, received the 2024 Internet Telephony Friend of the Channel Award from *Internet Telephony* magazine—for the sixth consecutive year, according to David Ansehl, vice president of sales and marketing at Reinvent Telecom. Reinvent Telecom helps businesses

communicate more efficiently by providing cloud-based, phone and messaging solutions. They offer services that allow companies to use phones, text, and the internet to stay connected with their clients and business partners. The award specifically recognizes businesses that go above and beyond in making it easier for companies and their partners to conduct business online.

The continued ascension is proof that in today's digital age of the internet, Saddleback Communications will continue to remain at the forefront.

Saddleback Communications is located at 10190 E. McKellips Road in the Community. Call (480) 362-7150 or email customerservice@saddleback.com to establish or upgrade services.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT CONCERNS

January 24, 2025

With the change of the Administration in Washington D.C., there is now a greater emphasis on enforcement of federal immigration laws. This may result in increased federal law enforcement activity throughout the country.

It is unfortunate that we, the first people, are being confronted with this situation that challenges our identity as people that have been here since time immemorial. Individuals concerned about themselves or their loved ones should understand their rights and be prepared.

Community leadership will continue to monitor developments and provide more information as necessary. I remain hopeful that any proposed changes will have a minimal impact to our community and our members.

For additional information, please refer to the attached flyer.

Martin Harvier
President, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community



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If You are Stopped for Questioning:

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- Do not interfere with or obstruct the work of law enforcement officials.
- Do not lie or give false documents.
- Remember the details of the encounter.

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- You have the right to remain silent. If you wish to exercise that right, say so out loud.

- You have the right to a lawyer if you are arrested. Ask for one immediately.

- If an immigration official or law enforcement personnel shows up to your home, ask to see a warrant signed by a judge before allowing any action to proceed.

For information regarding SRPMIC Tribal I.D.s or C.I.B.s call Membership Services at (480) 362-7600.



Continued from cover

such as the UNITY conference in Portland, Oregon, and felt blessed to make connections with Community members at local events. Advisors Janyse Salinas and Sommer Lopez were thanked for their support.

Enos served two consecutive terms as president—2023-2024 and 2024-2025—and plans to attend the University of Texas in the fall.

“I will forever cherish my time as the Young River People’s Council president,” said Enos. “The experiences with my peers, Community and the places I visited taught me so much. This council helped me hone my potential and deepen my connection to our Community. I encourage other youth to join. It’s a transformative opportunity.”

As one journey came to an end, a new one began for others. Honorable Judge Janaya Johnson administered the oath of office for the 2025-2026 at-large and executive council members: President Jizelle Juan, Vice President Cruz Lasiloo, Correspondent Secretary Myson Galindo, Clerical Secretary Tizoc Lopez and Treasurer Amelia Lasiloo.

“I see the growing interest in learning about our culture and traditions within the YRPC,” Juan in her inaugural address. “I want to extend this knowledge to the Community by organizing events for those who may not have access or don’t know where to start. Together, we can spark interest, create opportunities and remind everyone of the importance of preserving our cultural practices.”

Juan presented bundles of *segoi* (creosote) to the incoming council for good medicine and protection.

The inauguration concluded with traditional singing and dancing. Young men with gourds sang O’odham and Piipaash songs, while young women performed traditional basket and bird dances.

“Watching them step into their culture—singing and dancing our traditional songs on their own—fills my heart,” said Sommer Lopez, who is also a youth development specialist in addition to being one of the YRPC advisors.

“Janyse and I often get emotional seeing how far they’ve come, and it’s so beautiful to see them car-

rying our traditions and representing our Community with such eagerness and love,” Lopez added. “This next generation is filled with so much empathy, creativity and brilliance, and I truly believe that if we continue to nurture and guide them, they will create a future more beautiful than we could ever imagine.”

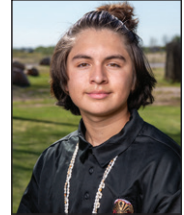


Incoming President Jizelle Juan gifting Outgoing President Liam Enos a bundle of *segoi*.

YRPC Executive Council 2025-26



Jizelle Juan
President



Cruz Lasiloo
Vice-President



Myson Galindo
Correspondent Secretary



Tizoc Lopez
Clerical Secretary



Amelia Lasiloo
Treasurer



Members of the youth council performing the Basket Dance.

Can you solve the crossword puzzle?

The answers to this crossword puzzle can be found in the stories throughout this issue of O’odham Action News.

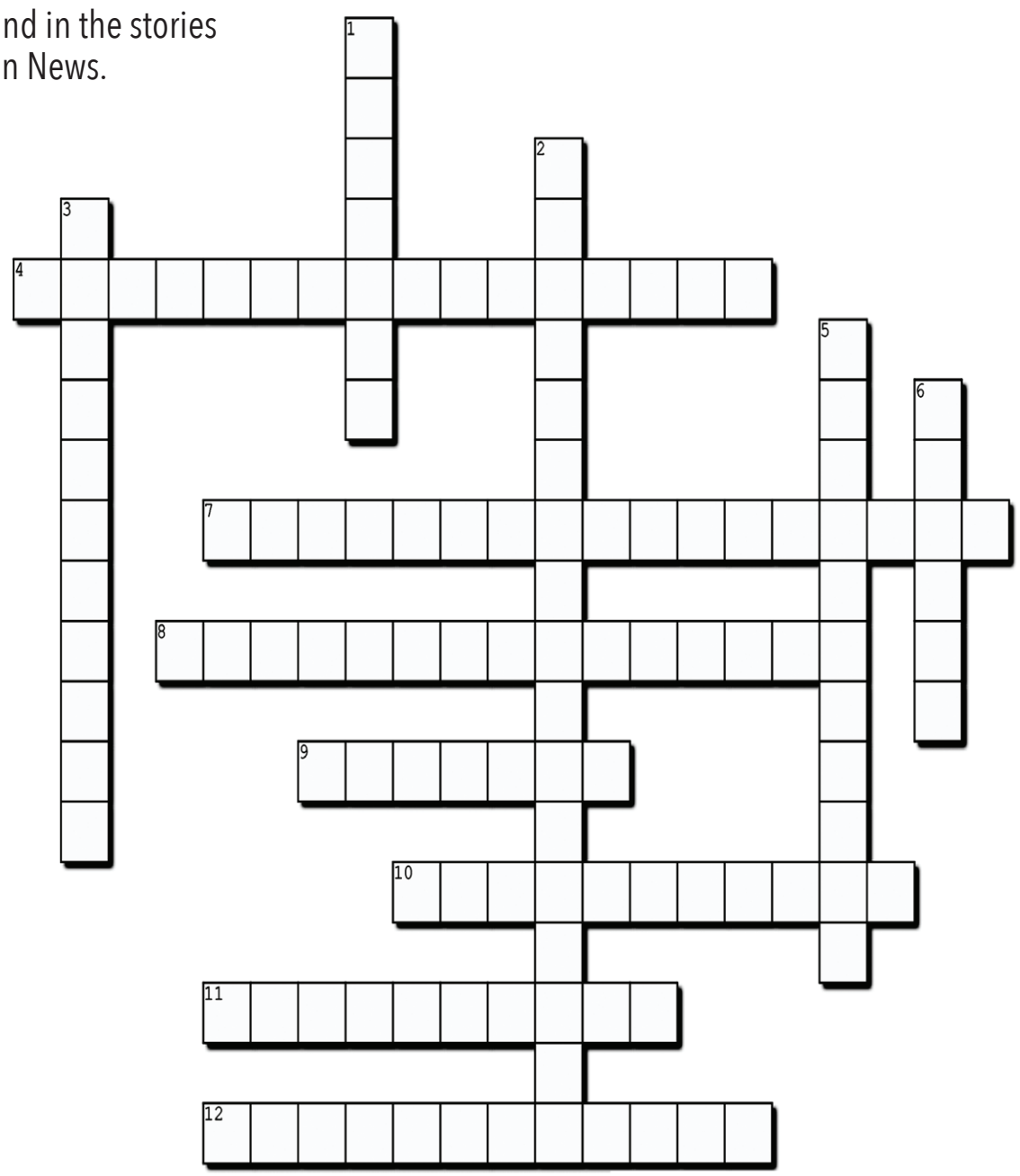
Enjoy!

Across

- 4. Arizona non-profit news organization with a MMIP database
- 7. The next Winter Storytelling event in Chandler occurs on this date
- 8. This year marked the _____ Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day
- 9. This college gifted a Tiny Library to the SRPMIC as part of the Fiesta Bowl festivities
- 10. Drummer for Arizona State University’s Marching Band
- 11. Deadline for REAL ID-compliance required in Arizona
- 12. Starting at center for Westwood’s Girls Basketball Team

Down

- 1. Birthplace of Deb Haaland
- 2. The Acceptance Walk was held on this day
- 3. Vice President of the Young River People’s Council 2025-2026
- 5. President of the Young River People’s Council for 2025-2026
- 6. The SRPMIC Council Member who was also the the keynote speaker during the YRPC Inauguration



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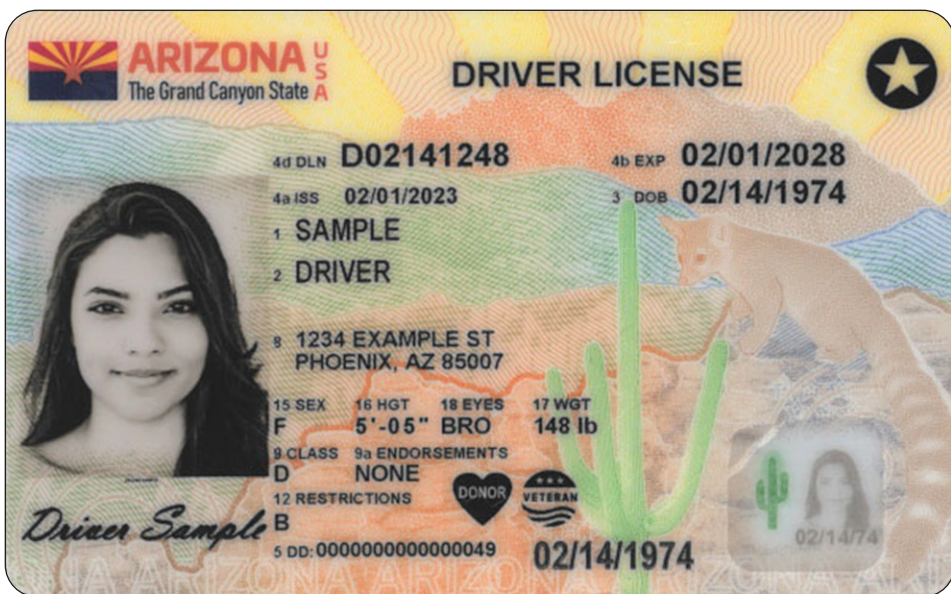
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Arizona Travel ID Deadline Approaching May 7

Valid tribal IDs considered Real ID-compliant and may be used post-deadline at airport security



Sample Arizona Travel ID. Courtesy Arizona Department Of Transportation.

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

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The clock is ticking for travelers with plans to board an aircraft or enter restricted federal buildings and military bases after May 7 when Real ID-compliant forms of identification will be required.

The Arizona Travel ID complies with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005 and is available as both a driver license and identification card, according to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

State-issued IDs and tribal IDs will continue to be accepted to board a plane until May 7. The deadline to get a Real ID has been pushed back a few times over the years; it was extended to May 7 for reasons related to COVID-19 and backlogged licensing agencies.

There are many instances in which citizens of federally recognized tribes are legally able to use tribal ID in place of state-issued ID, such as air travel and voting. The experience using a tribal ID differs person to person. For instance, in states with few or no Native communities, agents with the Transportation Security Administration may not recognize tribal IDs or know they are valid forms of ID when presented at the security line. Conversely, at airports in cities with large populations of Natives, such as Phoenix, TSA agents may be more familiar with tribal ID.

Will Native American travelers need to upgrade their tribal ID to Real ID? Do tribal IDs comply with the REAL ID Act of 2005?

O'odham Action News reached out to ADOT's Motor Vehicle Division and the TSA for clarification about Real ID and

the impact those will have on tribal ID. Bill Lamoreaux, ADOT MVD spokesperson and assistant communications director for customer outreach, said his office encourages all Arizonans to get the Arizona Travel ID ahead of the federal deadline of May 7, "as a convenient way to meet the new federal requirements and limit or reduce any delays in getting past TSA checkpoints."

The Arizona Travel ID is not the only form of federally compliant ID accepted by TSA, Lamoreaux said. He directed travelers to the TSA webpage that lists the agencies accepted IDs: www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification. The list includes "an acceptable photo ID issued by a federally recognized Tribal Nation/Indian Tribe, including Enhanced Tribal Cards (ETCs)."

According to the TSA, these credentials issued by federally recognized tribes—as listed in the Federal Register—are considered an acceptable form of ID and are on the same list as U.S. Passports and U.S. Passport Cards.

Tribal citizen or not, the TSA recommends Arizonans double-check with ADOT MVD if they are unsure if their ID is Real ID-compliant before the May 7 deadline.

How to obtain an Arizona Travel ID

At Home

Step 1: Complete a Travel ID application at <https://azdot.gov/motor-vehicles/driver-services/arizona-travel-id>.

Step 2: Plan an office visit by scheduling an appointment at an MVD office or go anytime to an authorized third-party driver license office. Most are open on Saturdays.

Step 3: Gather original identification documents and bring them to the licensing office.

At MVD or Third-Party Office

Step 1: Check in and have photo taken.

Step 2: An MVD service representative will review the application and identification documents (one establishing birth or legal presence and two documents to establish Arizona residency). Visit the ADOT website for a list of acceptable documents.

Step 3: Pay the application and renewal fee for Travel ID (\$25). Allow up to two weeks for mail delivery. In most cases, the Arizona Travel ID is valid for eight years (exceptions apply for seniors and non-U.S. citizens with authorized legal presence).

News and Events In and Around Indian Country

BY DALTON WALKER

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News Organization Launches MMIP Database for Arizona

The nonprofit news organization *Arizona Luminaria* created what it called a first-of-its-kind database dedicated to missing and murdered Indigenous people in Arizona.

A database and map were launched in January and includes nearly 100 people spanning 70 years. Cases from the East Valley and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community are included.

"This is not the full accounting of Indigenous people who are missing or murdered in Arizona, but rather the cases Arizona Luminaria has been able to verify so far," reads a database statement.

The database can be found at www.azluminaria.org.

Leonard Peltier Granted Clemency

In one of his final acts as president, Joe Biden granted Indigenous activist Leonard Peltier executive clemency on January 20.

Peltier, 80, is a member of North Dakota's Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. He was imprisoned for nearly 50 years and serving two consecutive life sentences after being convicted of aiding and abetting in the murder of two FBI agents in 1975.

Advocates have been fighting for Peltier's freedom for decades. After having his parole denied multiple times, Peltier will now serve the remainder of his sentence at home.

Gaming Association Elects Chair

White Mountain Apache Tribal Chairman Kasey Velasquez is the newly elected chair of the Arizona Indian Gaming Association's executive board of directors.

Membership elected Velasquez in January and includes nine tribes from Arizona, including the Ak-Chin Indian Community and the Tohono O'odham Nation.

The association was established in 1994 to support tribal gaming enterprises across the state.

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Updates Leadership

Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska now chairs the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Sen. Brian Shatz, a former committee chair and a Democrat from Hawai'i, is now serving as vice chair, Murkowski's former role.

The leadership change was announced in January. The committee oversees legislation affecting American Indian, Native Hawaiian and Alaska Natives. The 11-member committee has six Republicans and five Democrats.

Winter Storytelling Opportunity

The Huhugam Heritage Center in Chandler will host a storytelling event on Saturday, February 15.

The free, outdoor event is from 6 to 8 p.m. and open to the public. Antonio Davis is the emcee and Robert Stone, Kelly Washington and William Allen are presenters.

The Huhugam Heritage Center is a Gila River Indian Community enterprise. For more information, call (520) 796-3500.



Justin Catlett Named President of Saddleback Communications



Saddleback Communications, a provider of highly reliable fiber-based voice, internet and cloud communications services, is pleased to announce Justin Catlett, a seasoned corporate finance and private equity industry executive, to be the company's new president.

Catlett has been a key leader at Saddleback Communications since 2018, serving as CFO for the company and its subsidiary, Reinvent Telecom. He succeeds Bill Bryant, who is stepping down as president after 20 years of exceptional service and leadership.

"We owe tremendous gratitude to Bill Bryant for his 20 years of extraordinary leadership and dedication," said Ricardo Leonard, vice-president of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, which owns Saddleback Communications. "At the same time, we're excited to welcome Justin Catlett as president. Justin brings a fresh vision and a proven track record of financial acumen and strategic insight that will lead Saddleback to new heights."

Before joining Saddleback, Catlett held roles in finance and business strategy for companies ranging from startup through Fortune 100. Catlett earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Arizona, a master's degree in international business from the Thunderbird School of Global Management and is a licensed CPA.

"I'm truly honored to lead Saddleback Communications at such an exciting time," said Catlett. "From delivering cutting-edge solutions that empower businesses in the Scottsdale 101 corridor to ensuring reliable and high-quality services for residents on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, we're dedicated to exceeding expectations. I look forward to working alongside our talented team to build on our strong foundation and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead."

For new business inquiries with Saddleback Communications, please call 480.362.7110 or email sales@saddlebackcomm.com.

Inclusivity at the International Day of Acceptance Glow Walk

Ve:s 'ac od hemajkam. Piipaa mat chuuwaama walykwnyshmiinymak. "We are all the same"



The Accelerated Learning Academy track turned into a 'walking dance party' on January 13 for the International Day of Acceptance Walk.

BY NALANI LOPEZ

O'odham Action News

Nalani.lopez@srpmic-nsn.gov

Eric Schurz Sr. walked with and in support of his daughter, Christina, who has epilepsy, a brain condition that causes seizures. The pair were one of many with glowsticks and bright spirits illuminating the path during this year's International Day of Acceptance Glow Walk.

"I never really noticed disabilities until it became a way of life for us," Schurz said at the walking dance party that occurred January 13 on the outdoor track at the Accelerated Learning Academy. "Once she was diagnosed, we started to notice how many individuals are living with or live with someone who has a disability. We started to see how much it takes to live with a disability."

Christina said it was important to participate in awareness events like the Glow Walk to bring awareness to a condition that often goes unrecognized and misunderstood.

"You don't know what others are going through," she said, "so we should always be mindful of that, and treat others with welcome and acceptance."

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Communi-

ty's Recreation Services Adaptive Division hosted the event to promote social acceptance for individuals with disabilities. International Day of Acceptance is celebrated annually on January 20 when communities across the globe advocate for individuals with disabilities, embrace acceptance of all abilities and foster a more inclusive society.

Adaptive services provides recreational opportunities for people

with disabilities in the Community, including monthly activities, quarterly celebrations and summer camp-outs. A sensory support room and specialized aquatic, athletic and gaming equipment are also available.

"Everyone has the right to participate and be included," said Adaptive Recreation Coordinator Ethan Larned.

Event participants received t-shirts, resources and information about the importance of inclusion.

"Educate yourself on different disabilities, understanding the physical, cognitive, sensory and invisible disabilities," said Larned. He added that disabilities don't define individuals. "For anyone seeking resources, Special Needs Resources is a great starting point."

Larned suggested there are ways to begin creating more inclusive relationships and environments, such as being mindful of specific language/words used and work to dispel common misconceptions. For example, person-first language is important when referring to an individual with a disability. Larned said it's important not to assume how people with disabilities identify; always ask for preferred terms.

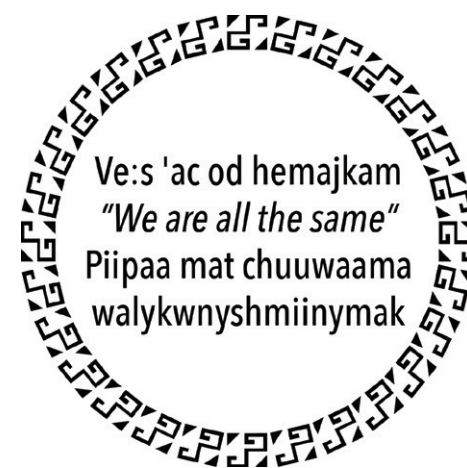
Larned also advocates for raising awareness of



Participants showed their support with neon signs and glow sticks.

invisible disabilities, such as fibromyalgia, and said large-scale inclusion needs to happen in everyday environments, such as sidewalks, playgrounds and public transportation vehicles, which require adjustments that are ADA accessible (Americans with Disability Act). Here in the Community, change is happening, if slowly. For instance, the Adaptive Division hopes to provide an ADA-accessible van as an option for its participants, and Salt River Schools has constructed several new buildings, parking lots and playgrounds with accessibility in mind.

With intentional effort from individuals and communities, a more inclusive world for people with disabilities is possible, Larned said. "Together we can make a difference."



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Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day Celebrates 30 Years



The Arizona State Capitol located in the downtown Phoenix area.

Transportation and tribal nations; participants learned about the 1,200 miles of state highway systems crossing tribal lands. United National Indian Tribal Youth hosted the other session, “Lighting the Fire: Native Youth Navigating Advocacy in the Present and into the Future.”

The event also featured many special performances: SRPMIC group Bird Singing and Dancing by the River shared a traditional song; Pascua Yaqui Veterans Post 124 – Guadalupe – posted the colors; Gila Crossing Community School students sang the Pledge of Allegiance; and Miss Indian Arizona Isabella Newman from the San Carlos Apache Tribe gave the invocation.

Council member Fulwilder said it was a good experience to be at the event and see tribal nations come together.

“I heard [from tribal leaders] about some of the history as far as water rights and things like that. So, I know there is a lot to learn and a lot to be reading up on just to know the history of what our people went through and the fights that we have for our future generations,” said Fulwilder.

“It’s a good feeling to be here among all our other Natives.”



ABOVE: (Left to Right) SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos, President Martin Harvier, and GRIC Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis after the joint protocol session on the Senate floor.

Photos by Andreea Miguel.



ABOVE: SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos and President Martin Harvier with Arizona Sen. Lauren Kubu.



ABOVE: Members of the SRPMIC Young River People's Council alongside Deputy Director of Arizona Tribal Affairs Angela Willeford and Council members Mikah Carlos and Su:k Fulwilder.



ABOVE: (Left to Right) SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, Council member Mikah Carlos, Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs, and Council member Su:k Fulwilder meet before the day's festivities. Photo courtesy of SRPMIC OCLA.

LEFT: SRPMIC seniors and leadership are all smiles waiting for the joint protocol session to begin.

Journey to Wellness Transforms the WOLF into the Magic Kingdom



betes Prevention Services. The January 11 event featured vendor booths from many Salt River departments and programs.

The event began with a fun run where SRPMIC families could choose distances of 1, 2 or 5 miles. Participants received a free water bottle after completing registration, and Diabetes Prevention staff provided free water and snacks.

SRPMIC Senior Fitness Specialist Dion Begay led families in a group exercise. "Let's get warmed up and start moving around," he said. While Begay demonstrated correct stretching form, Spider-Man and Captain America encouraged fun run participants with high-fives and hugs at the starting line.

The fun run course began on Indian School Road and continued north on Center Street before turning around just past Highland Avenue. The Salt River Police Department showcased their own kind of superpowers by ensuring participant safety and maintaining traffic control.

At the WOLF's finish line waited an energetic Spider-Man, who congratulated Community kiddos and directed everyone to the baseball field where Magic Kingdom-themed

stations were set up to promote healthy lifestyles.

Families received a stamp in their event passport as they visited vendor booths; completed passports were entered into a raffle to win prizes. The wellness event also featured yoga, belly dancing, an obstacle course, face painting and more.

As the event ended, participants left knowing it's important for both superheroes and civilians to take care of their health.

For more information about Diabetes Prevention Services and their upcoming events, call (480) 362-7328 or email diabetespreventionservices@srpmic-nsn.gov.



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

Spider-Man, Captain America, and Elsa and Anna from "Frozen" visited the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Way of Life Facility to promote healthy lifestyle. The "Happily Ever After" Magic Kingdom-themed Journey to Wellness event was a collaboration between the WOLF and Dia-



Mario West, program advisor, encouraged families to reach out and talk with the higher education staff if they have questions or concerns regarding any part of the application process. "We are here to help you," he said.

Salt River Higher Education Launches Orientation Series

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

O'odham Action News

Juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

While the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community makes it easy for its members to reach their higher education goals, navigating college applications and financial aid can be confusing. A new orientation series aims to help.

The Salt River Higher Education program held the first of six monthly orientation sessions January 9. SRP-MIC members with questions about the program and its scholarship process were invited to attend.

Program advisors Kenisha Begay and Mario West facilitated the orientation session.

"We provide financial aid, scholarships, outreach, recruitment, and differ-

ent types of advising as well," Begay said. "A lot of our students know they want to go to school, but don't know where, or what for. We can help you with getting a better understanding on your educational outlook."

Higher Education operates under Salt River Schools and assists Community members with their college and career goals. Students at a college or university gain knowledge and research skills in a variety of areas and attend anywhere from two to six or more years, depending on the area of study. Vocational schools teach specific career skills, such as plumbing, welding and carpentry. From financial aid to job resumes, the program's advisors can help Community members plan for a successful future.

West and Begay said they advise students along many pathways, from educators to cosmetologists and everything in between.

"If you want to go for a specific degree, reach out to our program," said West. "Come and talk to us; we're here to help."

"Whether it's a community college or university, we can definitely help you," said Begay.



Kenisha Begay facilitated the January 9 Higher Education Orientation Program inside the Salt River Education Board Room.

Receiving funding from the Higher Education program requires Community members to submit specific information by certain deadlines. Begay said the process varies by school, the time of year a student plans to start attending school, and other variables.

"We're here to help with every step along the way," Begay said. That includes tuition to attend college or vocational school and a voucher for books and supplies. Begay said it's common for Higher Education scholarship recipients to receive extra funding from another source; when that happens, Higher Education can redirect its funding toward other student needs, such as on-campus housing.

Beyond financial aid and school applications, Begay said the program provides students with both academic and non-academic support, such as overall wellbeing.

"Sometimes life happens, and you might have concerns about what happens next," Begay said. "We want to make sure you are sticking to your goals and have a support system."

The next orientation session is Friday, February 7, at noon in the SRS Education Board Room, located at 4836 N. Center Street. For more information, contact the Salt River Higher Education program at (480) 362-2547 or visit HE.saltriverschools.org.

The annual deadlines for college/university and vocational schools are below. If a deadline falls on a weekend, applications will be accepted the following business day. Higher Education also offers deadline extensions.

Vocational Schools

January 30: For school start dates in February, March and April.

April 30: For school start dates in May, June and July.

July 30: For school start dates in August, September and October.

October 30: For school start dates in November, December and January.

College/University

June 30: Fall Semester

November 30: Spring Semester

April 30: Summer Semester



Storytelling Night

The Education Native Language & Culture team is thrilled to share Storytelling Night with students, staff, families, and the Community on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the ALA.

A light meal will be provided from 5:30-6:15 p.m. in the Cafeteria while supplies last. The storytelling begins at 6:30 in the Lecture Hall, where listeners will be treated to one O'odham story and one Piipaash story.

This event is free and open to ALL!

Thursday FEB 6 5:30-7:30PM ALA Lecture Hall

SALT RIVER SCHOOLS
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ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Got **HIGHER ED** plans? Let us help you meet your goals AND our scholarship program application **DEADLINES!**

The Salt River Higher Education Program offers early college outreach, financial assistance, and education and career advising to enrolled SRPMIC members through our new Orientation Program!

Thursday March 13 10-11AM
Salt River Schools Education Board Room
4836 N. Center St.
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

SALT RIVER HIGHER EDUCATION
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#AimHigher

A Student's Journey at the Accelerated Learning Academy

SUBMITTED BY SALT RIVER SCHOOLS

Everyone has been impacted by COVID-19 in one way or another, whether you were unfortunate enough to catch it or not. I am grateful to have never caught the virus myself, however, that didn't mean I was safe from hardship. When the lockdown was first put into effect in March of 2020, I was confined to my house for weeks which meant I couldn't go to school. To make things worse, Salt River High School closed down that same year. That meant I had to transfer to Dobson High, where I had to work from home because the lockdown was still in effect.

“I remember thinking to myself, ‘There’s no way I’m going to graduate. It’s just not possible.’ That all changed when my parents enrolled me at the ALA in September 2022.”

Admittedly, I didn't care to do my schoolwork which lead to me dropping out in 2021. After that, I didn't go to school for an entire year, and all that time I spent in my room practically doing nothing. I remember thinking to myself, “There’s no way I’m going to graduate. It’s just not possible.” That all changed when my parents enrolled me at the ALA in September 2022.

After a full two years of attending this school, I am proud to say that I am getting really close to graduation. I genuinely never thought I'd get this far in life. So, what's next for me? Well, I plan on attending a second year at EVIT and getting a job at Harkins Theaters.

At first, I was a little hesitant to sign up for EVIT, mainly because I wasn't sure if it would be something I'd enjoy. However, I proved myself wrong once I started attending. I actually love EVIT a lot,

because I get to learn about the things I'm most passionate about.

Right now, I'm taking the digital animation class, and it's pretty much everything I could've hoped for. Normally, teachers wouldn't like to see students drawing in class, but in this case, my teacher encourages it. For our semester project, our teacher had us 3D model an entire environment using the program MAYA, and I had a lot of fun doing so. Next semester, we're going to be creating a small animated short using our environments, and I can't wait for that.

This is why I wish to attend a second year, so I can continue learning about animation.

Once I graduate high school, I'll have more free time on my hands. That means I'll be able to get a part-time job, and my first ideal place to work is Harkins Theatres. I've been thinking about getting a job there since I was 16, because I think it would be fun and a great learning experience. I heard they have flexible hours and free drinks and movies for employees; and since I consider myself a moviegoer, I know those will be great perks for me. Not only that, but I'll also earn money to support my family.

Overall, I am ecstatic that I'm so close to graduating. I really can't believe I'm about to hold a diploma in my hands soon! It's great knowing I've come so far in my life, and I know this means I'm one step closer to achieving my lifelong goals. I can't wait to see what my future holds.

So far, my dream careers are being a storyboard artist or an animator. I'm not too sure which one I'll pick later down the line, but I know those are things I really want to do in life. Overall, I'm just in a really positive place right now.

**-Brandy Hayes
Final Narrative
English 12B**



Celebrating Life's Moments



“Life is full of ups and downs, not everything is unicorns and glitter.”
This image was generated with AI.

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

The brain is constantly at work analyzing our relationships, conversations, careers—everything.

That can quickly get overwhelming, Community Health Manager Melanie Nosie, LMSW, told the nearly 100 attendees who joined the January 7 webinar hosted by Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Health and Human Services, which Nosie facilitated.

Nosie's presentation on the importance of celebrating life's moments was the first HHS webinar of 2025. It featured tips to avoid a negative mindset while striving to improve one's physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing.

Negativity requires zero effort, causes harm to the self and impacts relationships

at home and in the workplace, Nosie explained. The responsibility for health and happiness rests with the individual.

“Life's lessons can be heartbreaking, but we're learning and growing [everyday],” said Nosie. “Life is full of ups and downsttt, not everything is unicorns and glitter.”

Celebrating life's milestones is necessary to reform negative thoughts and feeling closed-off from the world. Making mistakes and having regrets is a normal part of life, Nosie said, but it's essential to practice gratitude, especially with regard to milestones of life, careers, relationships and personal development.

“We should celebrate when we get that first job, graduate from school, discover something new or even retire,” Nosie said. She added that

grand gestures are unnecessary, celebrations don't have to be expensive. A trip to your favorite coffee shop or fishing spot is a celebration.

Celebrating milestones is about moving to the next goal.

“The things that were important to me when I was 20 are not the same for me now,” Nosie reflected. “... [B]eing comfortable with who you are and what you're doing is a huge accomplishment. We need to create a mindful environment. Whether it's at home, work or our car, we need time to reflect and pause. Find areas to embrace and move forward. You can do it.”

For information on upcoming HHS webinars, contact Community Health Educator Melanie Nosie, LMSW, at (480) 362-6678.

Due to the high demand for Tribal IDs and CDIBs, Community Development Department-Office of Membership will be offering extended hours (Tuesdays & Thursdays) and on Saturday during the month of February.

Mail-out services available upon request.

Regular Business Hours Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

Extended Hours 5pm-7pm

Tuesday, 2/4/2025	Thursday, 2/6/2025
Tuesday, 2/11/2025	Thursday, 2/13/2025
Tuesday, 2/18/2025	Thursday, 2/20/2025
Tuesday, 2/25/2025	Thursday, 2/27/2025

Saturday 9am-12pm

2/8/2025



For more information, please contact us at: (480) 362-7330
Email: enrollmenthotline@srpmic-nsn.gov

Two Waters Building B 3rd Floor | 10079 E. Osborn Rd, Scottsdale AZ 85256



Fiesta Bowl Gifts Little Library to Salt River

STAFF REPORTS
O'odham Action News

A new Little Free Library is coming to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, courtesy of the Fiesta Bowl.



A group of youth from the Community took a special trip last December and met with the library builders – members of the Rutgers University football team. The build was part of a Fiesta Bowl community service project.

The team was in Phoenix for the 35th annual Rate Bowl football game against Kansas State University held on December 26. Kansas State won the game, 44-41.

Two days earlier, Fiesta Bowl staff and Rutgers football players met with youth on a practice field in Scottsdale, Arizona to build the libraries and for book reading by the student athletes. The Salt River Tribal Library took a small group of Community youth to the library building.

The little library was built and is expected to be delivered to the Salt River Tribal Library sometime early this year.

The Fiesta Bowl started in 1971, then at Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, Arizona, before shifting games to State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. Penn State University beat Boise State University in this season's game, which was part of the college football playoffs. The Rate Bowl falls under the Fiesta Bowl umbrella.



Photos courtesy of Salt River Tribal Library and Fiesta Bowl.



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James Schaaf Performs in ASU Drumline at Peach Bowl



ABOVE: James Schaaf (above, middle) plays the snare drum in the Arizona State University Sun Devil Marching Band Drumline. RIGHT: Schaaf and The Sun Devil Marching Band perform on the field at the Peach Bowl. Photos courtesy James Schaaf.



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

at ASU.

Generations of Emersons—Schaaf's maternal line—performed in tribal marching bands, including the Salt River Indian Marching Band, the Quechan Indian Band and the Colorado River Indian Tribes marching band. His great-grandfather Fred played the trombone; his great-uncle Loren and grandfather Keith were both trumpeters; and one pair of great-aunts played clarinet (Charlene and Marsha), while another played flute (Janice and Jonelle).

Intrigued as a kid by a YouTube video of a drum corps playing their complex and intricate warmup sequence, Schaaf knew that he wanted to do the same one day. These days, when he's not on the field with the marching band, Schaaf stays busy writing music for his drum set and other projects. He hopes to land gigs and have fun playing live music well into the future.

"I'm forever thankful for how marching band and music has changed my life, who I've become, and the friends I have today," said Schaaf.

He encouraged others to find fulfillment by trying new things and sticking to the hobbies, exercises or art that makes them happiest.

"... [G]etting to experience this joy is something that you won't get out of anything else," Schaaf said, "especially when you get to explore the community behind each activity."

Being in front of a crowd is nerve-racking for most people, but performing for more than 70,000 college football fans was no sweat for James Schaaf, a member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Schaaf (Pima/Mohave/Quechan/White Mountain Apache) plays the snare drum in the Arizona State University Sun Devil Marching Band Drumline, which traveled to Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, Georgia, for the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl on January 2.

The Peach Bowl featured a matchup between ASU and the University of Texas Longhorns, which won the college football playoff quarterfinal 39-31 in a double overtime thriller.

A surreal experience, the pressure of the large scale performance didn't faze Schaaf. "Maybe because I got so used to performing at many home games leading up to Atlanta, so it was just business as usual."

Schaaf said the band, also known as "The Pride of the Southwest," performed the ASU fight song, rearranged Carlos Santana pieces and other crowd pleasers. The ASU drumline uses Vic Firth, Remo and Mapex equipment. The Longhorn band, also known as "The Showband of the Southwest," features around 400 members.

"It was crazy to see, because the ASU band is not as big," Schaaf said, "so seeing that huge band perform right before us was really fun..."

Music runs deep in Schaaf's family DNA: His dad, Michael Schaaf, is also a drummer, while his mom, Yvonne Emerson Schaaf, played the piccolo

James Schaaf (below, middle) shows his snare drum playing technique while marching with the Sun Devil Marching Band. Photo courtesy BHopps Photo.



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ROAD CLOSURE



NORTHBOUND DOBSON AND LONGMORE ROADS CLOSED AT MCKELLIPS ROAD

The Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) continues construction of the McKellips Road improvement project located on the Salt River-Pima Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC). The second phase of this two-phase project will begin Wednesday, January 22nd, 2025, and continue through early 2026.

On January 22 and continuing through mid-March 2025, both the eastbound and westbound traffic will be shifted to the southern lanes of McKellips Road between Alma School Road and 92nd Street. Travel will be reduced to one lane in each direction. Northbound access to Dobson and Longmore Roads from McKellips will be closed and only open to local traffic. Motorists are encouraged to find alternate routes to their destinations.

Please watch for work crews, obey all traffic control signs and follow reduced speeds in the work zone. For more information on the project and the latest on travel restrictions, please visit the project website at: <https://www.maricopa.gov/5938/McKellips-Road>.

WORK SCHEDULE:

Where: McKellips Road from Alma School Road to the SR101L.
When: Wednesday, January 22, 2025, through mid-March, 2025.
Weekdays from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Occasional weekend or holiday work may occur if required.

Participating Agencies



Questions: ☎ 602.506.3342 ✉ MCDOTprojects@maricopa.gov

Schedule is subject to change for reasons beyond MCDOT's control, including: weather, equipment failure, illness or other circumstances.



2901 W Durango Street : Phoenix, AZ 85009 : (602) 506-3342 : maricopa.gov/transportation : @maricoparoads

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Deb Haaland Thanks Indian Country as Interior Secretary Tenure Ends



Deb Haaland during her visit to the Gila Crossing Community School in the Gila River Indian Community during President Joe Biden's apology to Indian Country. OAN File Photo.

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

The legacy of U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland begins with her federal boarding school initiative to hold the country accountable for the atrocities committed against Native American children and families. Haaland influenced former President Joe Biden's historic apology on behalf of the U.S. government and its role in boarding school violence and trauma, and his designation of national monuments, such as the Carlisle Federal Indian Boarding School National Monument. *O'odham Action News* covered Haaland and her

efforts to heal and aid Indian Country, including Biden's boarding school apology visit to the Gila Crossing Community School in the Gila River Indian Community on October 25, 2024. "I have sought to shed light on this legacy and leverage my platform to amplify the voices of those who deserve to be heard. Because Native American history is American history," she stated in a press release following Biden's apology. "This trauma is not new to Indigenous people, but it is new to many people across our nation." Haaland is Laguna Pueblo and was born in Winslow, Arizona in 1960. Located in New Mexico, Laguna Pueblo is 500,000 acres and includes six villages: Encinal, Laguna, Mesita, Paguete, Paraje and Seama. Haaland served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2019-2021.

Haaland's history-making tenure as the first Native American cabinet secretary began when the U.S. Senate confirmed her appointment 51-40 in March 2021. The Interior Department oversees the bureaus of Indian Affairs, Indian Education, Land Management and others, as well as the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, among many other offices that manage the nation's natural and cultural resources. Haaland's boarding school initiative investigated and documented known locations and the abuse that occurred there. Stories were collected from survivors of boarding schools and their descendants. Haaland's grandparents were sent to St. Catherine's Indian Boarding School in Santa Fe, New Mexico during their youth. While secretary, Haaland worked to receive her

master's degree in American Indian studies from the University of California, Los Angeles. She is nearing graduation. President Donald Trump nominated Doug Burgum, the former governor of North Dakota, as Haaland's successor. Some tribal leaders in North Dakota, as well as other areas of the country with resource-rich lands to develop, have welcomed the idea of Burgum leading the Interior Department. In her farewell address on January 15, Haaland thanked Indian Country. "I didn't know the sheer breadth of what we'd accomplish. I just knew this work was urgent and necessary," she stated, adding that the nation is on a path to healing. "Even with the uncertainty of today, the future remains bright, and it remains ours." Haaland will return to New Mexico with her husband and family with plans to run for governor in 2026. "This work is not finished," she stated in a press release dated January 6. "The pain and hardship of the past will not be corrected in our lifetimes. But [President Biden's] actions and the work of the incredible team at the Department begins a new chapter and breathes new life into our shared building of a better future. Our past can never be re-written, but together, we can heal."



Deb Haaland is now gearing up for a run for governor of New Mexico. Here she greets Indian Country at the Gila Crossing Community School on October 25, 2024. OAN File Photo.

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Sunday Services 10 a.m. Communion First Sundays at 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.

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10657 E. Virginia Ave. Scottsdale, AZ 85256 Rev. WinterElk Valencia (480) 947-5278 saltriveragchurh.com SERVICES
Sunday Morning Prayer 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. 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, AZ (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 Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Follow us @vomsrvictorycenter 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

MORNINGSTAR APOSTOLIC CHURCH
3263 E Guadalupe Rd, Gilbert, Arizona 85234 Bishop Daniel Lizarraga and Pastor Jason Lizarraga SERVICES
Sunday 2:30 p.m. Wednesday 7:15 p.m. Bible classes Wednesdays Visit msacruth.com for more Follow us @morningstarapostolic on Instagram and on Facebook at facebook.com/msacruth

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.

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.

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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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10,005 E. Osborn Road,
Scottsdale, AZ 85256



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SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL	
PRESIDENT Martin Harvier	VICE-PRESIDENT Ricardo Leonard
DISTRICT A COUNCIL MEMBER Jacob Butler	DISTRICT E COUNCIL MEMBER Mikah Carlos
DISTRICT B COUNCIL MEMBER David Antone	LEHI DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER Deanna Scabby
DISTRICT C COUNCIL MEMBER Cheryl Doka	LEHI DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER Michael Dallas, Sr.
DISTRICT D COUNCIL MEMBER Su:k Fulwilder	

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

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
Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home (602) 840-5600

O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS DEADLINES

ISSUE	DEADLINE AT NOON
FEBRUARY 20	FEBRUARY 7
MARCH 6	FEBRUARY 21
MARCH 20	MARCH 7

SEND INFORMATION TO O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS at oodhamactionnews@srpmic-nsn.gov
For more information please call (480) 362-7750.

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**
Antone Sr., Nicholas Levi – Adjudication
Hearing Case: JV-24-0218 Court Date:
March 6, 2025 at 10 a.m.
Baptisto, Nathaniel – Permanency Hearing
and QRTP Hearing Mother: Carolynnda

Namoki (DOB 04/07/1991) Minor: F.P.V
(DOB: 11/12/2010) Case: J-13-0087, Court
Date: March 31, 2025 9 a.m.
Mora, Joesph Andrew - Mother: Mariana
Brenda Porter (DOB: 11/28/2000) Child:
R.E.M. (DOB: 11/05/2023) Initial Hearing
for Termination of Parental Rights Case:
JV-25-0026 Court Date: February 13, 2025
at 9:00 a.m.
Porter, Mariana Brenda Initial Hearing for
Termination of Parental Rights Case:
JV-25-0026 Court Date: February 13, 2025
at 9 a.m.
Valencia, Victor – Permanency Hearing and
QRTP Hearing Mother: Carolynnda Namoki
(DOB 04/07/1991) Minor: A.S.V (DOB:
03/30/2008) Case: J-13-0086, Court Date:

March 31, 2025 9 a.m.
Wahpeta, April Francine – Permanency/
Review Hearing Case: J-23-
0027/0028/0029 Court Date: February 25,
2025 at 9 a.m.
Zahgotah, Roberta Andrea – Adjudication
Hearing Case: JV-24-0246 Court Date:
January 29, 2025 at 10 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**
Enos-Allen, Hailey V. - Child Support
Modification Hearing Case: CFCS-18-
0002/CFCS-18-0003 Court Date: February
10, 2025 at 11:30 AM
Frederick, Avis Sacora - Order to Show
Cause and Annual Guardianship Review
Case: CF-22-0073 Court Date: February
10, 2025 at 10:30 AM
French, Tracey AKA Smith, Tracey Serina*
- Order to Show Cause and Annual
Guardianship Review Case: CF-22-0073
Court Date: February 10, 2025 at 10:30 AM
Harrison, Jasmine Alexandria - Visitation
Hearing Case: CV-24-5850 Court Date:

February 10, 2025 at 1:30 PM
Kavoka, Balen Kelly - Initial Probate Hearing
Case: CV-25-0169 Court Date: February
10, 2025 at 9 AM
Kavoka, Michael Elwood - Initial Probate
Hearing Case: CV-25-0169 Court Date:
February 10, 2025 at 9 AM
Lewis, Kaylene Littledove - Child Support
Modification Hearing Case: CFCS-22-0046
Court Date: February 26, 2025 at 10 AM
Smith, Tracy Serina - Initial Visitation
Hearing Case: CV-24-6345 Court Date:
March 12, 2025 at 10 AM
Spex, Vanessa - Initial Probate Hearing
Case: CV-25-0169 Court Date: February
10, 2025 at 9 AM

DEFAULT NOTICES

**FREDERICK, AVIS SACORA
CF-22-0073
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE NOTICE**
IN THE MATTER OF: Y.P.F. DOB:
02/16/2012; J.F.J. DOB: 11/25/2016
TO: Frederick, Avis Sacora
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear
before the above-entitled court on the 10th
day of February 2025 at 10:30 AM, in Court
Room #1, and show cause why you should
not be held in contempt for failing to appear
for an Order to Show Cause and Annual
Guardianship Review Hearing on October
21st, 2024.
FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench
Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt
of Court from (§6-41) of the Code or
Ordinances.
ORDERED this December 12th, 2024
JUDGE JANAYA L. JOHNSON - SALT
RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN
COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

1. A Civil Complaint has been filed against
you in this Court and your immediate
attention to this fact is urgent if you do not
want judgment entered against you.
2. The Court record reflects that you have
failed to respond to defend by filing an
answer, motion to dismiss, request for
extension of time or other responsive
pleading and you have failed to attend
hearings at the Court called for this matter.
3. If you do not defend against this suit within
Thirty (30) days from the date the Process
Server hands you this or you are served
with it otherwise as permitted under the
Community Code, the Court may enter
default judgment against you.
4. A default judgment may have serious,
adverse, and irreversible consequences
against you.
5. If you want to defend against the claim
and avoid default judgment entered against
you, you must file a written answer, motion
to dismiss or other responsive pleading
within thirty (30) days from when you are
served with this Notice. The Court will not
extend time for your response and you
must make your response in writing, no
oral responses will be accepted
6. If you do nothing, the Court may give
Judgment for what the Complaint
demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by
Default)
DATED: January 17, 2025
CLERK OF THE SRPMIC TRIBAL COURT

**MELENDEZ, NICOLE PATRICIA
CV-24-5856
DEFAULT NOTICE**
**COUNTRY CLUB CARS V. NICOLE
PATRICIA MELENDEZ**
To: Nicole Patricia Melendez, RESPONDENT
1. A Civil Complaint has been filed against
you in this Court and your immediate
attention to this fact is urgent if you do not
want judgment entered against you.
2. The Court record reflects that you have
failed to respond to defend by filing an
answer, motion to dismiss, request for
extension of time or other responsive
pleading and you have failed to attend
hearings at the Court called for this matter.
3. If you do not defend against this suit within
Thirty (30) days from the date the Process
Server hands you this or you are served
with it otherwise as permitted under the
Community Code, the Court may enter
default judgment against you.
4. A default judgment may have serious,
adverse, and irreversible consequences
against you.
5. If you want to defend against the claim
and avoid default judgment entered against
you, you must file a written answer, motion
to dismiss or other responsive pleading
within thirty (30) days from when you are
served with this Notice. The Court will not
extend time for your response and you
must make your response in writing, no
oral responses will be accepted
6. If you do nothing, the Court may give
Judgment for what the Complaint
demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by
Default)
DATED: January 17, 2025
CLERK OF THE SRPMIC TRIBAL COURT

Honorable Judge Deer, the Salt River
Juvenile Court on Thursday, February 13,
2025, at 9:00 AM, in Court Room #3.
Pursuant to Administrative Order No.
14-0004, effective August 4, 2014, legal
counsel, parties, and their respective
witnesses shall be present in the
courthouse at least fifteen (15) minutes
prior to any proceeding.
NOTICE: Violation of this Order is Subject
to Proceedings for Contempt of Court
Pursuant to Salt River Community Code
Section 6-42. If Good Cause is Not
Shown, the Court May Find the Parent,
Guardian or Custodian in Contempt for
Failure to Appear at a Court Hearing or for
Failure to Follow Court Orders. Further,
the Parties Should be Advised that the
Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights
May Proceed Without the Parent or
Necessary Respondent Present. Failure
to Appear May Result in the Hearing Being
Held Without the Parent and the Parental
Rights of the Parent may be Terminated.
CLERK OF THE COURT - SALT RIVER
PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY
TRIBAL COURT

to dismiss or other responsive pleading
within thirty (30) days from when you are
served with this Notice. The Court will not
extend time for your response and you
must make your response in writing, no
oral responses will be accepted
6. If you do nothing, the Court may give
Judgment for what the Complaint
demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by
Default)
DATED: January 17, 2025
CLERK OF THE SRPMIC TRIBAL COURT

**FRENCH, TRACEY AKA SMITH,
TRACEY SERINA
CF-22-0073
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE NOTICE**
IN THE MATTER OF: Y.P.F. DOB:
02/16/2012; J.F.J. DOB: 11/25/2016
TO: French, Tracey AKA Smith, Tracey
Serina
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear
before the above-entitled court on the 10th
day of February 2025 at 10:30 AM, in Court
Room #1, and show cause why you should
not be held in contempt for failing to appear
for an Order to Show Cause and Annual
Guardianship Review Hearing on October
21st, 2024.
FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench
Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt
of Court from (§6-41) of the Code or
Ordinances.
ORDERED this December 12th, 2024
JUDGE JANAYA L. JOHNSON - SALT
RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN
COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

**MARRUFO, JUDY
CV-24-4198**
Notice of Default Judgment:
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County
original jurisdiction court case number
CV-24-4198
Notice of Default Judgment is hereby
given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that
default judgment against Respondent,
Judy Marrufo is hereby ENTERED. It is
further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED
that Respondent Judy Marrufo, shall pay
\$11,250.07 to 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).

**MORA, JOESPH ANDREW
JV-25-0026
SUMMONS**
In The Matter of: R.E.M. D.O.B.: 11/05/2023
TO: Joesph Andrew Mora / 2726 W. Melvin
St, Phoenix, AZ, 85009
A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has
been filed in this Court against you which
alleges grounds for the termination of your
parental rights of the above captioned
child(ren).
THEREFORE YOU ARE ORDERED
to APPEAR for an Initial Hearing for
Termination of Parental Rights before the

**PARCHCORN SR., ELLIS J.
CV-24-5858
DEFAULT NOTICE**
**COUNTRY CLUB CARS V. ELLIS J
PARCHCORN SR.**
To: Ellis J Parchcorn Sr., RESPONDENT
1. A Civil Complaint has been filed against
you in this Court and your immediate
attention to this fact is urgent if you do not
want judgment entered against you.
2. The Court record reflects that you have
failed to respond to defend by filing an
answer, motion to dismiss, request for
extension of time or other responsive
pleading and you have failed to attend
hearings at the Court called for this matter.
3. If you do not defend against this suit within
Thirty (30) days from the date the Process
Server hands you this or you are served
with it otherwise as permitted under the
Community Code, the Court may enter
default judgment against you.
4. A default judgment may have serious,
adverse, and irreversible consequences
against you.
5. If you want to defend against the claim
and avoid default judgment entered against
you, you must file a written answer, motion

**PORTER, MARIANA BRENDA
JV-25-0026
SUMMONS**
In The Matter of: R.E.M. D.O.B.: 11/05/2023
TO: Mariana Brenda Porter / 6919 E Carson
Rd, Laveen, AZ, 85339
A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has
been filed in this Court against you which
alleges grounds for the termination of your
parental rights of the above captioned
child(ren).
THEREFORE YOU ARE ORDERED
to APPEAR for an Initial Hearing for
Termination of Parental Rights before the
Honorable Judge Deer, the Salt River
Juvenile Court on Thursday, February 13,
2025, at 9:00 AM, in Court Room #3.
Pursuant to Administrative Order No.
14-0004, effective August 4, 2014, legal
counsel, parties, and their respective
witnesses shall be present in the
courthouse at least fifteen (15) minutes
prior to any proceeding.
NOTICE: Violation of this Order is Subject
to Proceedings for Contempt of Court
Pursuant to Salt River Community Code
Section 6-42. If Good Cause is Not
Shown, the Court May Find the Parent,
Guardian or Custodian in Contempt for
Failure to Appear at a Court Hearing or for
Failure to Follow Court Orders. Further,
the Parties Should be Advised that the
Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights
May Proceed Without the Parent or
Necessary Respondent Present. Failure
to Appear May Result in the Hearing Being
Held Without the Parent and the Parental
Rights of the Parent may be Terminated.
CLERK OF THE COURT - SALT RIVER
PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY
TRIBAL COURT



1st Quarter 2025 ELIGIBILITY DEADLINE March 31, 2025

Must be eighteen (18) years old, enrolled, and living to be eligible for the
April 2025 Per Capita Payment.

DEADLINES FOR CHANGES

**Direct Deposit Start-Ups and Changes: Thurs-
day, March 27 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 **APRIL 2025** payout.
Forms received after this date will not be effective until
the **JULY 2025** payout.

Discontinue Direct Deposits: Thursday, March
27th 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 pay-
ment.

Per Capita Eligibility: Monday, April 14th 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
APRIL 2025 payout. Forms received after this date will
not be processed until the first week of MAY 2025.

Tax Withholding Changes: Monday, April 14th at
5:00 PM. This deadline is for making changes to “Ad-
ditional” 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, Eligibility & Change Forms:
Membership Services @ **(480) 362-7600**

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

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP



WHEN
Tuesday's: Women
Wednesday's: Men
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Beginning 01/07/2025

WHERE
RPHC-BHS
3rd Floor: 3203
10901 E. McDowell Rd.,
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

Domestic Violence Victim Advocates 480-362-3580

- Historical Trauma**
- Power and Control**
- Stalking**
- Strangulation**
- Order of Protection**

- Safety Planning**
- Domestic Violence Cycle**
- Gas Lighting**
- And more...**



NOTICE OF COMMUNITY HEARING

The Community Council has scheduled a Community Hearing. You may or may not be a landowner in this area; however this special invitation is extended to all Community Members and Landowners with ownership interest within a ½ mile radius.



Foursite Consulting, LLC, has applied for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow for the construction of three (3) outdoor recreational sports courts for a commercial entertainment venue called Pickle and Social at 8625 North Pima Road within The Sydney development. This property is zoned C3 (General Commercial) and a CUP is required for outdoor recreational sports courts for a commercial use per the SRPMIC Zoning Ordinance.

This notice is made under Article I, Section 17-4, Sections 7-95 (d), 17-97 (a) and 17-97 (e) along with the SRPMIC Code Ordinance.

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: SRPMIC Council Chambers (Longmore & Osborn)

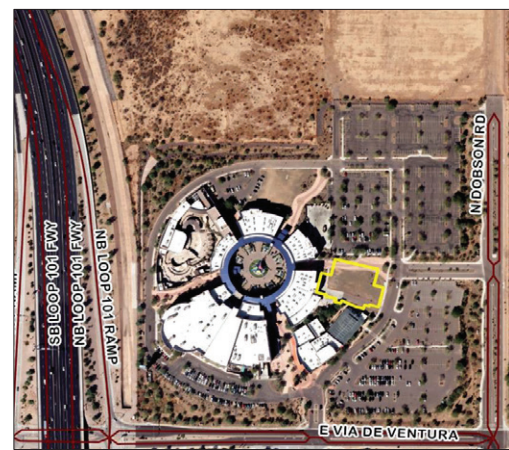
You may also view the pre-recorded video and audio presentation of the Community Hearing starting February 20, 2025. To view the video, please visit:

<https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/1879-phc/>.

Public comments can be made via email at public_hearing_comments@srpmic-nsn.gov, by phone at (480) 362-7470, by text at (623) 282-5757, or by mail CDD, Attn: Public Comments, 10005 E. Osborn Rd, Scottsdale AZ 85256.

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY HEARING

The Community Council has scheduled a Community Hearing. You may or may not be a landowner in this area; however this special invitation is extended to all Community Members and Landowners with ownership interest within a ½ mile radius



AZB Rides, LLC, represented by Greg Charbeneau, Managing Director of Arizona Boardwalk as the applicant, has requested a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to construct an amusement park consisting of five (5) amusement rides on 0.716 acres of land within the Arizona Boardwalk, a mixed use entertainment, restaurant and retail use development. The property address for Arizona Boardwalk is 9500 East Via de Ventura. This property is zoned C3 (General Commercial) and a CUP is required for an amusement park for a commercial use per the SRPMIC Zoning Ordinance.

This notice is made under Article I, Section 17-4, Sections 7-95 (d), 17-97 (a) and 17-97 (e) along with the SRPMIC Code Ordinance.

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: SRPMIC Council Chambers (Longmore & Osborn)

You may also view the pre-recorded video and audio presentation of the Community Hearing starting February 20, 2025. To view the video, please visit:

<https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/1879-phc/>.

Public comments can be made via email at public_hearing_comments@srpmic-nsn.gov, by phone at (480) 362-7470, by text at (623) 282-5757, or by mail CDD, Attn: Public Comments, 10005 E. Osborn Rd, Scottsdale AZ 85256.

Seniors 55+ Computer Classes 2025

Community Seniors 55+ are welcome to attend the computer basic classes provided by SRPMIC Information Technology Department - Customer Care Division.

Classes are held once a month from 9:00AM - 11:00AM. Classes at Two Waters are held in Building A - Red Mountain Computer Lab A117. No computer experience is required. We will see YOU there!

LOCATION	DATE	LOCATION	DATE
Salt River Seniors	FEB 11	Salt River Seniors	MAY 13
Two Waters	FEB 25	Two Waters	MAY 20
Salt River Seniors	MAR 11	Salt River Seniors	JUN 10
Two Waters	MAR 18	Two Waters	JUN 17

Contact the Senior Services Department for transportation to the Two Waters class at: (480) 362-6350

VICTORY OUTREACH

VICTORY CENTER

"FIND HOPE AND FREEDOM"

DATES: 1/14, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/11, & 3/25

PHONE: 480-427-4678 TIME: 6:30PM
 LOCATION: 1231 EAST OAK STREET, MESA, AZ 85203

****NO GANG AFFILIATED COLORS ALLOWED****

SALT RIVER LANDFILL

EFFECTIVE
December 1, 2024

NEW HOURS

MON-THURS.:
6AM-4PM ★

SATURDAYS:
6AM-3:30PM

★ SUNDAYS:
CLOSED

WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE



ATTENTION SRP-MIC

SALT RIVER VITA TAX PROGRAM

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

FEBRUARY 3, 2025 TO APRIL 15, 2025

IT'S TAX TIME!

SENIORS/DISABLED PRIORITY

NO FILING BACK TAXES AND ITEMIZED TAXES

REQUIREMENTS

- Must have an appointment
- Income of \$58,000 or less
- Social Security card for tax filer & all dependents or any official government document with SS#
- Copy of Driver License or Government ID (tax filer & spouse)
- All tax documents (W-2, 1099's, etc.)
- IRS Child Tax Credit letter, if applicable
- Bank Account/Routing number (for direct deposits)

CONTACT

THE VITA MESSAGE LINE

(480) 362-7540

Leave your Full Name & Phone Number.

A VITA Volunteer will promptly return your call with further details.

LOCATION

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
Two Waters Building A, 3rd Floor, Suite 300

Alyssa Thomas Dominates in Tough Loss



One of the main contributors on this year's Westwood girl's varsity basketball team, Alyssa Thomas received loud cheers from the Westwood bleachers as her name was announced during the starting lineup introductions.

victory against the Kofa Kings and another against Corona Del Sol 51-27 in the McClintock High School Thanksgiving Turkey Shootout.

With December came a five-game losing streak that continued into January. Down, but never out, Thomas maintained her dedication to improve.

Coach Korina "Kori" Trevizo spoke to *O'odham Action News* before the Westwood home game against Mountain View January 17. She said Thomas is a hardworker and a great addition to the varsity lineup.

"[Thomas] puts her head down and gets right to work," Trevizo said.

Trevizo complimented Thomas' basketball skills and said she's been working to refine Thomas' on-court communication skills this season. "She's always asking for feedback, which is great," Trevizo said.

Mountain View came out of the gate with stellar defense and forced the Warriors to commit costly turnovers. Thomas was matched against the Toro's tallest player and battled for tough rebounds the entire game. When Thomas got control of the ball, she was double- and triple-teamed, a strategy implemented by coach Mandi Carson during Mountain View's initial timeout. Westwood eventually lost the match 56-23.

The Warriors finish their season with home games against Red Mountain and Dobson February 7 and 11, and an away game against the Mesa Jackrabbits February 12.

Thomas made the leap to varsity this year after spending last season on junior varsity alongside fellow SRPMIC student-athlete, Taylor Moore. Her knowledge of the game and willingness to grow makes Thomas a player to be

proud of, Trevizo said. "She knows it took a lot for her to get here," the coach said of Thomas. "That's the great thing about Alyssa: She has so much more to grow."




Alyssa Thomas showcased her defensive and offensive talents on the court against the Mountain View Toros.



RECREATION EDUCATION DIVISION
COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL SERVICES

LATIN MIX
DANCE CLASS



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
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FEBRUARY 11 & 18, 2025
5-7PM

WAY OF LIFE FACILITY - ROOM 56
Drop In, No Registration Required

Open to Community Members and WOLF members, minors must be accompanied with an adult at all times

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A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Contact: 480-362-6600
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COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL SERVICES

SALT RIVER JR. HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
FEBRUARY 21ST & 22ND, 2025



REGISTRATION STARTS JAN 22ND - FEB 7TH, 2025
FIRST (8) TEAMS
1ST, 2ND & 3RD PLACE AWARDS
Boys & Girls Divisions 6th - 8th Grades
Entry FEE: \$150.00 per team Must pay before registering online.
Contact CRS Athletics for TEAM ENTRY
CRS - ATHLETICS DIVISION 480-362-6365

FOR TEAM ENTRY OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ROBIN HENDRICKS 480-362-5785

Kristine Scabby Takes Basketball Talent to California

A conversation with Kristine Scabby:

What does your daily routine look like?

Typically, I wake up around 5 a.m. and get ready for practice at 6 a.m. Once practice is over, I either go back to my apartment or go to class. If I had time after practice, I sometimes go lift in the fitness room in my apartment building.

How do you balance school and basketball?

It's been easy since we practice in the morning, then the rest of the day is for school. This past semester I had only one class a day except Tuesdays and Thursdays when I had two classes. Having practice in the morning allowed me to work on whatever I needed to.

Who or what is your biggest support system? What motivates you?

My family has been my biggest support system since I was young. My great-grandparents are who I would say motivates me the most. This past year I lost my great-grandmother, Beverly Smith, which had a big impact on me. My great-grandparents would always sit front row at all my games when I was at Westwood and Scottsdale Community College. I could always count on them to be there sitting in the front. My grandfather Paul Smith Sr. would talk to me and give me advice and told me to play hard. I've made my personal goal to play my hardest each time I step on the court for them both.

What would you tell younger kids who may look up to you?

Don't give up on yourself. Keep putting in the work on your own, even when no one is watching. Those are two main things I would keep in mind while I was in high school and during my time at SCC. I can honestly say there had been times where I wanted to quit, but I stayed strong and thought about all the people who have supported me and realized I can't just give up.

Photos courtesy of Kristine Scabby.



BY ANDREEA MIGUEL
O'odham Action News
andreea.miguel@srpmic-nsn.gov

I've met new people, traveled to different places in Northern California, and it's just been a fun experience in general."

After spending the winter holidays with family in Arizona, Scabby returned to California to continue her education and dominance on the court. She said visiting home helped her overcome the first semester's biggest challenge: Homesickness.

"It was a little hard, going from seeing my family every day to not seeing them at all," she said. "I was used to waking up every day and going to talk to any of my family members and finding random activities to do with them. Once I got out here [in California] it was a little hard for me to figure out what to do with all the extra time I had to myself."

Now Scabby said she's ready to tackle the spring semester.

"I represent my family and the Community while I'm out here," said Scabby, "and I want to show my younger siblings and cousins that they are capable of doing whatever they put their mind to."

Kristine Scabby moved more than 700 miles to follow her basketball dream.

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member caught the attention of the women's basketball program at California Tribal College in Sacramento, which was recruiting Native students for its brand-new athletic program.

Scabby, a 2023 Westwood High School graduate with a headline-making basketball career, spent a year at Scottsdale Community College before heading to California. She just finished her first semester at CTC, which has a unique partnership with Sacramento State University to help tribal students earn their undergraduate and graduate degrees. In turn, Scabby helped her basketball team start its first season with a 9-4 record.

"My first semester has gone very well," Scabby said. "I'm glad that I get to experience college at a university level. It's not too different from SCC, there's just a little more work. Other than that,

Coronado Dons Lose Heartbreaker to Tempe



With moments left in the game, Tempe opted to double team Pat Shaw Jr, cutting off Coronado's offensive output.

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

Ten players. Eight minutes. Five points.

It was a thrilling game of numbers that came down to the final seconds between the Coronado Dons and the Tempe Buffaloes at a junior varsity boys basketball matchup in Scottsdale on January 10.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community student-athlete Pat Shaw Jr. helped keep the Dons ahead of the Buffaloes with crucial jump shots and fast breaks throughout the game, but it was a battle from start to finish.

From the stands, the difference in the two teams

was noticeable: Tempe (4-1) had players much taller than Coronado (2-2), forcing Shaw and the other starting Dons to double their efforts on rebounds and outside shots.

The Buffaloes brought their tenacious defense to Scottsdale and never took their foot off the gas, despite falling behind by double digits. This created challenges for the Dons; the team substituted in an entirely new lineup in the second quarter to give its starting players much needed rest.

At halftime, the score was 37 to 22 Coronado.

The Buffs introduced a gameplan in the third quarter that changed the trajectory of the game and sent fans into a frenzy.

Known for his high basketball IQ and ability to make plays with or without

the ball, Shaw started the second half taking shots and running the ball, but the Buffaloes defense halted his efforts. Still, Shaw initiated many of Coronado's fast-break baskets, and his talents were on display as the game entered the crucial fourth quarter.

The Buffaloes trailed the entire game, and at the top of the fourth, they were down 10 points. But as the game approached its final minutes, the Buffs converted turnovers into points and brought the score to 46-44.

Coronado called time out. Fans stomped their feet. The bleachers shook.

When play resumed, the Dons fouled, and Tempe sank two easy baskets. With seconds left in the game, the Buffaloes took the lead with the swish of free

throws.

The final score: 54 to 49 Tempe.

Defeated, several emotional Coronado players removed their jerseys on the way to the locker room. A calm and composed Shaw kept his jersey on as he walked off the court, his head held high.

The Coronado Dons finished out January with games against Crimson, Cortez, Dysart and others. In February, they take on Yuma and Desert Sunrise as their season nears completion.



Ready with his flawless jumpshot, Pat Shaw Jr. shined during a tough loss against the Tempe Buffaloes.



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VIEW FULL JOB DESCRIPTIONS AND APPLY ONLINE AT SRMATERIALS.COM

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Clarkdale, AZ

Electrical Engineer

Clarkdale, AZ

Project Engineer

Clarkdale, AZ

Pozzolans

Facility Operator I-IV

Huntington, UT (Huntington Facility)

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Tuition Reimbursement – SRMG will pay up to 100% of tuition and books.

Employee Local and National Discounts - Theme Parks, Sporting Events, Plays & Concerts, Vehicle & Home purchases and much more!

Green Vehicle Program – Employees may receive up to \$1500 each calendar year for 3 years for the purchase of fuel-efficient vehicles.

Home Energy Efficiency Incentive – Employees may receive up to \$100 each calendar year for the purchase of energy efficient compact light bulbs (CFL's) and LEDs or an Energy Audit performed by SRP or APS.

Does Salt River Materials Group have preference in hiring?

Yes, Salt River Materials Group (SRMG) is the commercial trade name for marketing activities of Phoenix Cement Company and Salt River Sand and Rock. Phoenix Cement Company and Salt River Sand and Rock are independent divisions of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRP-MIC).

However, all qualified individuals are encouraged to apply. During the hiring process, management will determine a prospective employee's ability, skill, competency and other qualifications needed for the job. When all these are equal between a qualified Community Member, a qualified Native American and other qualified candidate, preference will be given to the qualified Community Member, then a qualified Native American and then other qualified candidate.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ONGOING

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

SENIOR BOOK CLUB, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30 at the Tribal Library at WOLF.

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.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at RPHC. Women's meetings held on Tuesdays, men's meetings held Wednesdays.

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.

PRESBY PICKINS' FLEA MARKETS, 1st Saturday of Nov, Dec, and Feb - April from 8am-2pm at Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church, 13001 Fountain Hills Blvd. 50+ vendors, food carts, & music. Shop for toys, collectibles, household items, jewelry, art, crafts, & more! Visit www.fhpresbyterian.info/fleamarket, call 480-779-8115.

'AUPPA 'I'VAGIDAG MAŞAD XLY'A XVIK FEBRUARY

6 ENLC WINTER STORYTELLING NIGHT, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at ALA Lecture Hall. A light meal will be provided in the cafeteria while supplies last. See ad on page 10 for full details!

8 CRD WINTER STORYTELLING, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m., Lehi Gathering Grounds, open to the public. Bring your comfy chairs and enjoy stories of the past. A meal will be provided to the first 100 people. Coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts will be available. Contact the Huhugam Ki: Museum 480-362-6320

11 WIC INDIGENOUS FOOD BANK, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Salt River Multi-Purpose Building. Come Join WIC and partners to enjoy

indigenous ingredients and take home a tribal food box. Quantity is limited and indigenous ingredients may vary. Contact us at 480-362-7300 for information.

11 CM CARLOS DISTRICT E MEETING, 6 p.m. at WOLF Room #56. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/SRPMICDMs> for more information.

12 SENIOR VALENTINE'S DINNER HOSTED BY SENIOR SERVICES, 5 p.m. at Talking Stick Resort Grand Ballroom. Whether you're celebrating with someone special or enjoying the evening with friends, it's the perfect way to celebrate Valentine's Day with music, dinner, and raffles! This event is for community seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs. Questions? Call 480-362-7656

13 ADAPTIVE RECREATION SWEETS & HEARTS PARTY, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. at Salt River Community Building. See ad on page 12 for more information!

13 ADULT WIOA ORIENTATION, 9 a.m. at Two Waters Building B Room B102 (Cottonwood). Connect with us and learn about WIOA eligibility requirements, program services for enrolled participants, and guidance toward obtaining career goals through education and training. Questions? Call 480-362-7950

14 SENIOR SERVICES SENIOR EXPO, WOLF Courts 1 & 2, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Join Senior Services for our Senior Expo and to celebrate Toby Tootle's first birthday! Learn about all of the amazing programs and activities available to seniors through Senior Services and the Community. Sign up with Celinda Joe by Feb. 10 at 480-876-7180

15 CM ANTONE DISTRICT B MEETING, 6 p.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/SRPMICDMs> for more information.

17 PRESIDENTS DAY, SRPMIC Offices closed. Please plan accordingly.

19 HEALTHY HEART ZUMBA PARTY, 5:45 p.m. at Salt River Community Building. Get ready to dance for your heart health! Join us for a Zumba Party and wear red to show your support for heart health! All are welcome! Questions, contact Lynn Michelle Tenorio at 480-362-5606

20 CM SCABBY / CM DALLAS DISTRICT F & G MEETING, 6 p.m. at Lehi Community Center. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/SRPMICDMs> for more information.

21 ANNUAL VETERANS OPEN HOUSE, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Round House Café 10047 E Osborn Rd Scottsdale, 85256

21-22 JR. HIGH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, See ad on page 18 or call 480-362-5785 for more information.

24 CM DOKA DISTRICT C MEETING, 6 p.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/SRPMICDMs> for more information.

26 WALK-IN WEDNESDAYS WITH WIC, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at SRPMIC WIC Office. Whether you're a current WIC client or curious about how WIC can support your family, our friendly team is ready to help! Join us for Walk-In Wednesdays and get the resources you need, including nutrition support, breastfeeding resources, and much more to help your family thrive. Questions? Call us at 480-362-7300 or email WIC@srpmic-nsn.gov

27 CM BUTLER / CM FULWILDER COMBINED DISTRICTS A & D MEETING, 6 p.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/SRPMICDMs> for more information.