



## Junior Nationals Features SRPMIC Athletes

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE  
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The amazing display of talent showcased at the sixth annual Native American Junior Nationals basketball tournament means one thing: there will be many more Indigenous hoopers in the NBA and WNBA in the decades to come.

Hosted at the Arizona Athletic Grounds in Mesa from June 27 to 29, the popular tournament featured athletes in the boys' and girls' divisions at the high school, middle school and elementary levels. It was

held across three facilities with 24 courts and over 1,000 basketball games played in one weekend.

For those in Indian Country, the annual basketball tournament has earned the unofficial nickname of "The Nattys," and saw a record number of teams competing for the top spot this year.

The tournament offers opportunities for athletes of all skill levels and ages to refine their talents on the court. Recruiters from community colleges and universities across the country also attended in search of

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Noah Lasiloo, guard from The River, drives through contact in the paint to make an acrobatic layup for two points during their game against team Zugwuts from Niqually, Washington.

## Summer Speaker Series Kicks Off With Elder Panel



Former Council member Tom Largo, Sr., former President Delbert Ray, Sr., Ms. Patricia Enos King and Ms. Sharon Selestewa comprised the elder panel for the first in a series of guest speaker sessions to be held at Council Chambers.

BY KARI HAAHR  
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This summer, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is hosting events on the last Tuesday of each month in June, July,

August and September. The series launched with a bang as four beloved Community elders were joined by Assistant Community Manager Lena Jackson-Eckert on June 24 in the packed Council Chambers.

After a meal and some mingling, the

panelists — former Council member Tom Largo Sr., former SRPMIC President Delbert Ray Sr., Patricia (Patsy) Enos King and Sharon Selestewa — joined Jackson-Eckert in prayer before discussing their memories

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## ALA Class of 2025 Have Much to Celebrate at Commencement



ALA graduates have a seat after their grand entrance to the Talking Stick Resort and Casino Ballroom for their commencement ceremony on June 26. Photos by OAN Staff.

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO  
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Salt River Accelerated Learning Academy (ALA) Principal Barbara Wilkinson beamed from ear to ear as she welcomed the class of 2025 graduates to their commencement ceremony on June 26 at the Talking Stick Resort and Casino ballroom.

While she is undoubtedly proud of the graduating class for their achievements, there is even another reason to celebrate the occasion.

"For the first time ever, this group is graduating from the highest ranking the school can be awarded, an A-letter-grade school," Wilkinson said.

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## New Miss Salt River and Jr. Miss Salt River Courts Announced At Coronation



The 2025-2026 Miss Salt River and Jr. Miss Salt River Courts are Jr. Miss Salt River Tiare Begay-Smith, Miss Salt River Emma Scabby and Jr. Miss Salt River 1st Attendant Aiyanna Toya.

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO  
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Each year, the Miss Salt River Committee provides an opportunity for young women to participate in a traditional pageant to determine who will become goodwill ambassadors for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

For the 2025-2026 year, the Committee held a Jr. Miss Salt River and Miss Salt River Showcase and Coronation event instead

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Fathers with Pop's  
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Senior Luncheon  
Celebrates Father's  
Day  
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SRPMIC Celebrates  
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Slick City Action Park  
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# TOP INDOOR THRILLS TO BEAT THE HEAT

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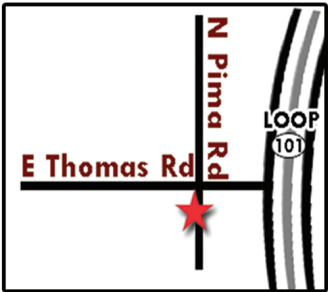
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# Caleb Dash Joins the Marine Corps

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO  
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Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member Caleb Dash is joining the U.S. Marine Corps.

Dash reported to Camp Pendleton in San Diego, California, on July 7 for 13 weeks of basic training. He'll come home for 10 days before being sent to Marine Combat Training (MCT) school and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) school at a location to be determined.

After training and school, he will be serving as a reservist and stationed at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona as a private first class (PFC). His MOS is 1391, which he says is a bulk fuel specialist.

"I've always wanted to join the military and serve," Dash said, reminiscing about playing soldier with his cousins.

"...But when the time came in high school, I found love and I kind of gave up wanting to join the military, just simply wanting to be with my girlfriend and settling down someday."

But after five years of dating, Dash and his girlfriend separated. "I was heartbroken but decided, 'You know, maybe I should go back to looking into the military,' and I just said, 'Screw it, what do I have to lose?'"

Dash said that he is focusing on himself, healing and growing as a person.

"Even though the pain hurts, the Marines say, 'pain is just weakness leaving the body,'" Dash said.

"I feel like ever since enlisting, working out and going to church have all helped, and that's what Marines do...they deal with some of the hardest challenges and come out on top!"

The Salt River Veterans Representatives brought Dash's family and friends together for a military send-off gathering on the evening of June 27 at the Round House Café.

The family who came out to say "see you later" included his uncle, Pacer Reina; grandfather, Eugene Dash; uncle, Nicholas Ramos; grandmother, Marilyn Wood; aunt, Angela Webster; and sister, Monica Webster.

Reina and other family members sat down at some chairs during the gathering and performed traditional gourd songs for Dash.

The café staff prepared a meal for the gathering that included steak, baked potatoes and squash.



Veterans Representative Troy Truax Jr., Veterans Representative Assistant Sierra Malin, SRPMIC member Caleb Dash and Veterans Representative Amanda White take a photo outside of the Round House Cafe at Two Waters on June 27 for Dash's send-off dinner. Dash has joined the Marines.

Below, at the send-off, Dash talks to friends and family about his journey and where he's heading next.



## WIC Celebrates Fathers with Pop's Pop-Up

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO  
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For the second consecutive year, the Salt River WIC program hosted a special celebration for dads called Pop's Pop-Up on June 12 in the lobby of the River People Health Center. WIC originally planned for 50 guests, but welcomed 73 attendees.

The two-hour, family-centered outreach event highlighted how the WIC program supports wellness and child development. Fathers had the opportunity to check their children's height, weight and hemoglobin measurements as part of WIC's standard health screening tools, which helps tailor information to support the needs of each family.

Since services can now be completed over the phone, WIC clients have up to 60 days after applying to provide these measurements.

Community Health and Nutrition Supervisor Maggie Fisher, MS, RDN, CDCES, said that outreach efforts like this event foster connections and facilitate meaningful interactions with the Community.

"[These events] can drive positive change because attendees obtain wellness-promoting information from those they trust," Fisher said.

"One of WIC's goals is to help families feel their best."

Pops and other guardians tried healthier meal options, such as kebabs with chicken, vegetables, or fruit, and were encouraged to drink more water over other beverage choices. A photo booth was also set up for families to capture memories.

Fisher said that one of the health topics taught to fathers this year was to inform them about how to track their



A family poses for a photo at the photobooth during WIC's Pop's Pop-Up event on June 12 at the River People Health Center lobby.

child's milestones and to know when to seek help for their child as needed.

The idea originated from the WIC team's attendance at the 2025 NWA (National WIC Association) Annual Education and Training Conference, where they learned about the importance of using the CDC's "Learn the Signs. Act Early." campaign resources to support patients in their child's development.

As part of participating in the event, attendees received small incentives: a stone bracelet with a wellness-promoting message and an all-in-one universal socket handyman tool, which Fisher said is a practical and thoughtful gift symbolizing the many roles that fathers play in their families' well-being.

"These incentives served as both gifts of appreciation and functional takeaways to keep families engaged in health and wellness," said Fisher.

## Senior Luncheon Celebrates Father's Day

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL  
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The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community celebrated MVPs on Father's Day.

Senior Services held an annual luncheon to celebrate Father's Day for Community seniors on June 12.

The celebration took place at the Lehi Community Building, and both guest and staff were encouraged to dress in their favorite sports jerseys. The sports-themed luncheon was a way to honor and celebrate "the MVPs of our families and our Community." The sports theme was a heartfelt tribute to show gratitude to all fathers for their guidance, love, and unwavering support. The wins in life that matter the most.

As the music played throughout the room, a barbecue-style lunch was served for guests to enjoy. Later, the Salt River Police Department provided Dad's Old Fashioned Root Beer for the gentlemen in attendance.

Sports-themed confetti and streamers decorated the tables, along with 14 balloon centerpieces that were shaped like trophies and had the words "Most Valuable Papa" printed across the front. Each centerpiece was entered into a raffle that was only available to the dads in attendance.

A photo booth was available for all to capture the moment and share memories with friends and family. As a way to show appreciation to all the fathers in attendance, staff presented departure gifts to guests as they began leaving.



The Salt River Police Department provided Dad's Old Fashioned Root Beer for the gentlemen in attendance.



# ALA Class of 2025 Have Much to Celebrate at Commencement

“To our graduates, a message for you: the ALA will undoubtedly always be a part of your Man in the Maze, your *himdag* and your journey. As you navigate the decisions, celebrations and challenges throughout your life, remember what you have learned through your experiences here and take comfort in knowing that the celebratory moment means we and your community are here to celebrate and support you.”

Wilkinson had another strong message for graduates as they reflect on their achievement and what to look forward to next.

“Never lose sight of your own perseverance and consistency. The consistency to show up on days when you would have rather stayed in bed. The consistency to focus on your goal one class at a time,” Wilkinson said.



“The consistency to power through writing that essay, taking that math quiz, completing your ECAP (Education Career Alternatives Program) because you knew the quick wins contributed to the larger goal. Now that you have achieved this, ask yourself, ‘What else can I do?’ The answer is simply this: Anything you can put your mind to.”

Opening remarks by Salt River

Schools Superintendent Sheryl Houston and an invocation by the Education Board Chair Kyland King preceded Wilkinson’s welcome.

The graduates, seated toward the front toward the stage, attended the commencement ceremony with their families and supporters, who filled the nearly packed seats.

Sitting on the stage were the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier, Vice-President Ricardo Leonard, the SRPMIC Tribal Council, members of the Salt River Schools Education Board and ALA administration.

The master of ceremonies was ALA student Duryus Burke, who introduced each speaker to the lectern. PeePosh Veterans Association posted and received the colors and presented the national anthem.

Newly crowned 2025-26 Miss Salt River Emma Scabby and Jr. Miss Salt River Tiare Begay-Smith made one of their first appearances as a court, congratulating the class on their achievement.

“I hope you guys have an amazing future planned, whether it be taking a gap year, traveling, or starting a new life in college,” Begay-Smith said.

Before student speaker Michael Patrick took the stage, ALA valedictorian Rena Santiago presented an encouraging student address to all graduates.

“To my fellow graduates: I want to say that this is not the end but rather the beginning of a new chapter,” Santiago said, reminding the graduates that the ups and downs they have faced so far has only made them stronger.



ALA graduates await their turn to the stage to receive their diplomas at the Talking Stick Resort and Casino Ballroom for their commencement ceremony on June 26.

“We have been given the tools to succeed, and it is up to us to use them to make a positive impact on the world.”

After the student speakers, Wilkinson and Early College Advisor Davina Leon led the presentation of graduates. The graduates stood up and walked to the stage, where they accepted their diplomas, shook hands with leadership and posed for a photo before sitting back down as official high school graduates.

ALA Academic and Career Counselor Reina Mora gave the closing remarks and King took the stage to confirm the ALA Class of 2025.

“Graduates, please begin your march,” King said, as the song ‘Pomp and Circumstance’ began to play over the speakers.

**Want to see more photos?**

**visit our website at**  
**[www.oodhamnews.org](http://www.oodhamnews.org)**

## ALA Class of 2025

Stevi Katey Burke  
Vincent Victor Gonzales  
Brandy Karol Hayes  
Dominic A Lassa-Corneiro  
Victor Loring  
Marcella D. Manuel  
Koda Littlebear Mercado  
Cynthia Ella’Oyza  
Morataya  
Oliyana Monique Norris  
Michael Patrick III  
Rena Rachael Santiago  
Angelita Geraldine Shaw  
Ash’ki B. Silversmith Jr.  
Elaina J. Smith  
Kayla Spex  
Gary Ray Vest Jr.  
Eli Andrew Waters  
Aleczander K’Den Wood  
Marcelino Angel Ybarra



## SRPMIC Celebrates Community Graduates at Banquet Dinner

*Over 75-plus graduates celebrated in a recognition program held at the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom*



The Roxie Andrews Award, one of the several awards handed out throughout the evening, was given to Oliyana Norris (middle) as she was joined on stage with Kathy Toney, Marty Lewis and Roxie Andrews.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE  
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On June 26, inside the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom, nearly 100 Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community graduates were celebrated for their academic achievements this past year.

The ceremonial banquet dinner is an annual tradition in the Community that celebrates all graduates from the SRPMIC while surrounded by family and loved ones. The ceremony recognizes graduates at every academic level, including those with GED certificates, high school diplomas and doctoral degrees.

SRPMIC Injury Prevention Coordinator Monte Yazzie hosted this year’s ceremony. A graduate of Arizona State University, Yazzie provided his congratulations to the graduates and their families.

“Congratulations to everyone for working so hard for your education, you’ve all worked so hard throughout the school year to achieve this great accomplishment,” Yazzie said.

Following Yazzie’s opening remarks, SRPMIC Council member Michael Dallas Sr. provided the invocation, asking for continued blessings to the graduates and their families. Salt River Schools Superintendent Sheryl Houston then delivered the official welcome.

“It is humbling to stand in front of so much achievement tonight,” Houston said. “I am truly blessed to be here to celebrate all that you have done and all that you have accomplished. It is such a privilege for me to serve as Salt River Schools superintendent.”

Houston congratulated graduates on their hard work and achievements. She reiterated the importance of culture and traditions as she wished the graduates good luck in their future endeavors.

“Your culture, your traditions, your language and your stories are not just beautiful, they are powerful,” Houston said. “They carry wisdom our world truly needs you to share, now more than ever.”

Gila River Indian Community comedian Wolf Brown provided the entertainment for the evening. Recently, Brown placed third in a state-wide competition for “Funniest Comedian in Arizona.”

Later in the program, Kathy Toney and Marty Lewis approached the lectern and announced the winner of this year’s Roxie Andrews Award. The award is given out to a high school graduate who has demonstrated academic success while overcoming

obstacles and challenges. This year’s recipient was Oliyana Norris, who received a plaque and a heap of applause as she was congratulated on stage by Toney, Lewis and Roxie Andrews herself.

“Congratulations to all graduates,” said Andrews. “You’ve worked so hard to get where you’re at, don’t stop. Give it your all, it’s worth it in the end.”

Additional achievements were celebrated as Denelle Prieto handed out the Higher Education Outstanding Graduate Award to four graduates: Heaven Sepulveda, Isabella Dockerty, April M. Gilbert and Ellyse Andreas.

Leah James and Davina Leon then announced the names, schools and diploma levels of each graduate in attendance. Each Community graduate walked up to the stage and was congratulated by the SRPMIC Council, the Salt River Schools Education Board and Salt River Schools Administration.

As the ceremony neared its conclusion, SRPMIC Council member Jacob Butler delivered an emotional closing.

“When we talk about breaking cycles, for some of you, you’re the first in your family to graduate from high school or to get a Doctorate. For some of us, going back to school means going back and getting your GED, so I say thank you to all of you,” Butler said.

Butler continued, “The other day, we were saying farewell to previous royalty. We say, ‘You’re the future leaders of the Community,’ and then a Hopi elder told me, ‘They’re already leaders.’ And that’s so true. The things you did to get to where you are tonight, shows a level of leadership that isn’t found in everybody. I just want to say thank you.”

To conclude the ceremony, Heaven Sepulveda provided the benediction and reminded the graduates the importance of remaining true to oneself.

“None of us walk this path alone, today we celebrate not just individual achievements, but the collective strength that has brought us to this moment,” she said. “For generations, education was used to take our language, identity and our way of life. Today, we reclaim it.”



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**Verde Reservoirs Sediment Mitigation Project Environmental Impact Statement**  
**Notice for In-Person and Virtual Public Scoping Meetings**

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) invites public and agency comments to identify issues or alternatives to be considered in the environmental impact statement for the Verde Reservoirs Sediment Mitigation Project. (VRSMMP). Reclamation, in coordination with the Salt River Project as the lead non-federal cost-share partner, is conducting the VRSMMP Feasibility Study. For more information on the VRSMMP, visit the project website at [www.virtualpublicmeeting.com/vrsmp-fr-eis](http://www.virtualpublicmeeting.com/vrsmp-fr-eis).

During 30-day public comment period from July 14, 2025 to August 13, 2025, the public can participate in the scoping process through three in-person meetings and two virtual public meetings. Subject matter experts will be available during the meetings to answer questions about the VRSMMP, preliminary alternatives, and resource issues. Meetings will be held at the following locations and at the scheduled dates below:

- July 28, 2025, 5:30-7:30 pm, Virtual, see project website for registration details
- July 29, 2025, 5:30-7:30 pm, at Fountain Hills Community Center, Fountain Hills, Arizona
- July 30, 2025, 5:30-7:30 pm, at Escalante Multi-Generational Center, Tempe, Arizona
- July 31, 2025, 5:30-7:30 pm, at Carefree Hampton Inn, Carefree, Arizona
- August 1, 2025, 12-2 pm, Virtual, see project website for registration details

The purpose of the VRSMMP is to restore lost capacity from sedimentation at Horseshoe Reservoir and mitigate reservoir sediment accumulation while addressing future water supply resiliency through increased surface water yield from the Salt River Federal Reclamation Project Verde River reservoir system. Combined, Horseshoe and Bartlett Reservoirs sediment losses amount to approximately 15% of the total original storage capacity of the Verde River reservoir system to sediment accumulation. Reclamation is seeking public comments to identify significant issues, effects, or other alternatives to be addressed in the EIS.

Comments may be submitted via email to [VRSMMP@usbr.gov](mailto:VRSMMP@usbr.gov), through the project website, during the public meetings, or by mail at the address below. For your comments to be reviewed and considered in a timely manner, we ask that comments be submitted by August 13, 2025. Mailed comments can be sent to Phoenix Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation, (Attn:VRSMMP EIS), 6150 West Thunderbird Road Glendale, Arizona 85306-4001.

## Slick City Action Park Opens, Offers Discount to SRPMIC Membership



The park features over a dozen slides, each with its own unique twists and turns, a basketball and dodgeball court, along with additional attractions.

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL  
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With 16 locations across the country, including three in Arizona, Slick City Action Park opened its doors in 2025 at The Pavilions at Talking Stick in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Slick City is an indoor slide park with dozens of activities for all ages, including a separate play area for toddlers. Concessions and games are also available for guests. On June 12, the park dedicated a day to the Community. Community members were able to visit and enjoy all the attractions that were available since the park's opening. Before enjoying the adrenaline rush that Slick City offers, all visitors are required to fill out a waiver. Stations are available to com-

plete waivers, or guests can fill one out in advance on their mobile device. Once the waiver is finished, guests can ask for special safety socks from the front desk--then the fun begins. The park features over a dozen slides, each with its own unique twists and turns, a basketball and dodgeball court, along with additional attractions. "We are here in the Community, and we love to give back to the Community," said Assistant Manager Chef Jay. During regular hours, SRPMIC members can receive a 15% discount. Regular park hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday.





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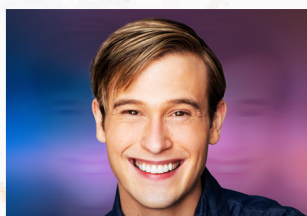
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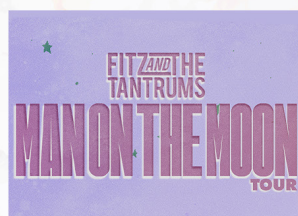
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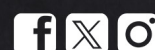
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Junior Nationals Features SRPMIC Athletes

which star athlete could join their team one day.

NBA player Lindy Waters III, a citizen of both the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma and the Cherokee Nation, was in attendance and roamed the AAG facility during day two of the tournament. Waters posed for photos with fans and watched the next generation of hoopers battle it out on the court. He played for the Golden State Warriors and Detroit Pistons this past NBA season.

Actor and comedian Tatanka Means (Oglala Sioux Tribe, Navajo, Dakota and Omaha) also attended the tournament.

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community had several teams competing in this year’s tournament:

- Salt River Renegades
- Salt River Ba’ag
- FMD
- NWT
- Tribal Force
- FMD Lions
- Young Gunz
- Ba’ag 2028
- The River
- AZ Lady Warriors
- Native Clash

In the girls fourth grade division, the Salt River Renegades went 4-2. The Renegades dominated their opponents in their wins, posting scores of 17-2, 19-6 and 15-6. They would go on to win the platinum division in the championship game against the Cherokee Lady Braves in an instant classic that went down to the final moments of the game. When the clock struck zero, the Renegades were up two, 17-15, taking the championship.

Facing some tough competition, Salt River Ba’ag cruised to three easy victories in the 11th and 12th-grade boys division against AK Native Elite

from Fairbanks, Alaska, Rockhawks from Brockton, Montana, and Missouri River Elite from Bismarck, North Dakota. SR Ba’ag would advance to the tournament’s playoffs but came up short 40-37 against a fellow SRPMIC team, Young Gunz.

Team FMD, led by recent high school graduate and point guard Jacob Smith, showcased their scrappy defense and fast-paced offense against teams with taller opponents, but got off to a slow start in the early stages of tournament. Their first loss was to Horsepower from Hays, Montana, 76-34. However, FMD still advanced to the playoffs thanks to their 2-2 overall record. Unfortunately, FMD was unable battle back against Ho-Chunk from Black River Falls, Wisconsin, and were eliminated 40-32.

Making noise in the ninth and 10th-grade girls division, NWT proved they are still “Natives With Talent” as they defeated Hoop Dancers from Wyola, Montana, 43-14, as well as Sunset Park from Gracemont, Oklahoma, 46-22. They added one more victory against Enchantment from Gallup, New Mexico, but lost 32-29 to the GC3 Stars, who came to Mesa all the way from Honolulu, Hawai’i.

Tribal Force made it to the championship game in the fifth and sixth-grade boys division. Unfortunately, the force seemed to be with the Wookies from Tohatchi, New Mexico, as they defeated Tribal Force in the platinum championship game. Although they were out, Tribal Force had fun throughout the tournament, cheering on their fellow SRPMIC teams on from the sidelines.

FMD Lions, the third-grade, co-ed hoopers from Fort McDowell, proved they are mighty. Despite a one-point loss to the Florida Warriors in their first

game, FMD Lions would go on to win two straight against the Lil’ Rascals from Owyhee, Nevada, and the Tune Squad from Pinon, Arizona. Their tournament ultimately ended on Saturday to Sunset Park from Gracemont, Oklahoma, 26-21.

Young Gunz proved to be one of the leading teams in the nation in the boys’ 11th and 12th grade divisions, going undefeated in pool play. One memorable win came on Friday when the Young Gunz defeated FZS Nations from Ronan, Montana, 48-2. On Sunday, the team’s first playoff game was against a fellow SRPMIC team, SR Ba’ag. The nail-biter game packed the bleachers with many from the SRPMIC cheering on both teams. Young Gunz won 40-37 but came up short of winning it all, losing to the Rezbombers from Scottsdale 55-54.

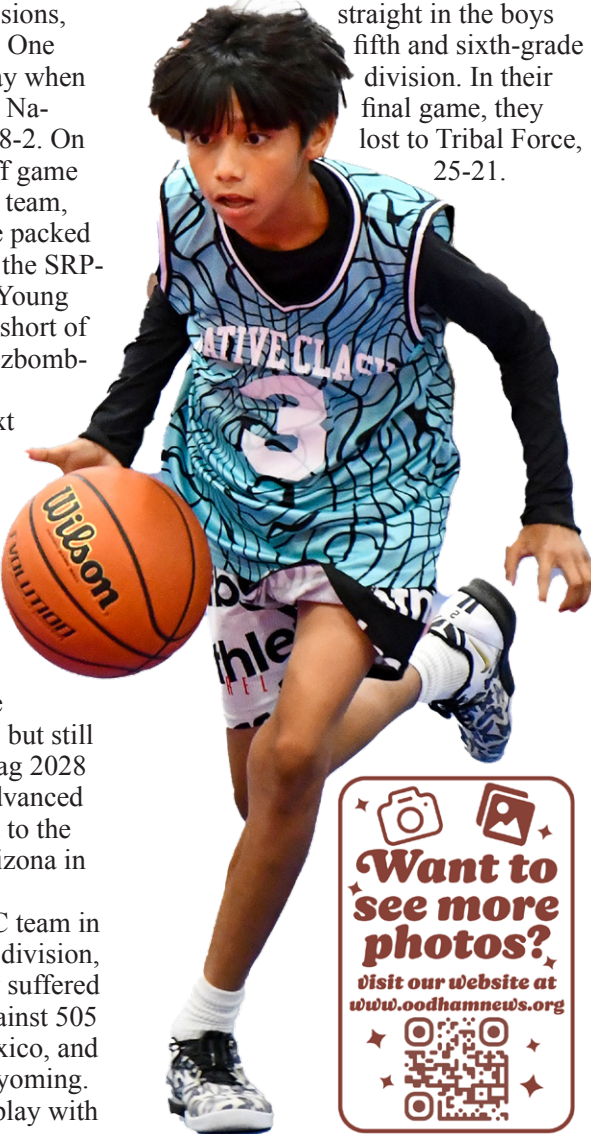
Ba’ag 2028 featured the next up-and-coming high school hoopers in the ninth and 10th grades. However, the team had many hoopers out of this year’s tournament due to their attendance at the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) conference in San Diego, which took place at the same time. Limited on players but still battling on the hardwood, Ba’ag 2028 went 3-1 in pool play. They advanced to the playoffs where they lost to the Fort Apache Runners from Arizona in a close one, 40-33.

The River, another SRPMIC team in the boy’s 11th and 12th-grade division, battled stiff competition. They suffered two quick losses on Friday against 505 Elite from Shiprock, New Mexico, and Chiefs Nation from Ethete, Wyoming. They ended their tournament play with back-to-back losses on Saturday.

AZ Lady Warriors, competing in the

girl’s 11th and 12th-grade division, also lost both of their games to start their tourney play. During day two, the AZ Lady Warriors nearly pulled off the upset victory against Makinaak Majiw from Belcourt, North Dakota, but could not finish the job, losing 37-32.

Rounding out the SRPMIC teams was Native Clash, who lost four straight in the boys fifth and sixth-grade division. In their final game, they lost to Tribal Force, 25-21.



Want to see more photos?  
visit our website at [www.oodhamnews.org](http://www.oodhamnews.org)

Sam Butler made a huge impact on both sides of the basketball, contributing on offense and defense.



MICHAEL CAREAGA



JUSTICE WALKER



JACOB SMITH



MICHAEL PATRICK



JADA HASSON



JOSIAH ELLIS



JOSH HOOD



LILY THOMAS



# 2025-2026 Miss Salt River and Jr. Miss Salt River Courts Announced at Coronation



Miss Salt River participant Emma Scabby is crowned by outgoing Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Sialik King.



2025-2026 Jr. Miss Salt River Tiare Begay-Smith and Jr. Miss Salt River 1st Attendant Aiyanna Toya.



Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Sialik King gives her farewell address.



Jr. Miss Salt River 2025-2026 Tiare Begay-Smith is crowned by 2024-2025 Jr. Miss Salt River Diondria Pilger.



Miss Salt River 2024-2025 Sialik King says, "See you later."



2024-2025 Jr. Miss Salt River Diondria Pilger waves to the crowd as she ends her reign.

Left: Miss Salt River 2016-2017 and current SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos provided the welcome address for the coronation.

of a pageant on June 21 at the Talking Stick Resort and Casino Ballroom.

The 2025-2026 Miss Salt River and Jr. Miss Salt River courts are Miss Salt River Emma Scabby, Jr. Miss Salt River Tiaré Begay-Smith and Jr. Miss Salt River First Attendant Aiyanna Toya. Begay-Smith and Toya moved up from last year's court, where they were Jr. Miss First Attendant and Jr. Miss Second Attendant, respectively. Scabby was the lone participant and crowned Miss Salt River.

2016-17 Miss Salt River and current SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos provided the welcome address for the coronation, congratulating the outgoing royalty and their families who supported them along the way. Carlos said that being a representative of Salt River as royalty can be a challenging yet rewarding job.

"These women are ambassadors for our Community. Their job is to go out to other communities and to share the goodwill of our Community, as well as represent our culture and our values of O'odham and Piipaash," Carlos said.

"[Being Salt River Royalty] is a very honorable experience. But again, it's a very hard experience sometimes. When you go out to the communities, you're the only representative from Salt River that anybody will ever meet, and so I always tell them that so they keep that in the back of their mind that they are representing our Community so that they can do it in a graceful way."

2020-21 Miss Salt River Sistine Lewis was the mistress of ceremony. Lewis first introduced the Salt River Fire Department Honor Guard, which posted the colors, and outgoing Miss Salt River Sialik King sang the na-

tional anthem in O'odham. Outgoing Miss Salt River First Attendant Zoe Hernandez gave the invocation.

Outgoing 2024-25 Jr. Miss Salt River Diondria Pilger addressed the Community members in the crowd, as well as the new court.

"We would like to wish the best of luck to the incoming Court as they take on this new journey in their lives and we also would like to encourage you all to give your encouragement and support as they embark a new adventure," Pilger said.

"The reason why I wanted to participate [this year] is that I want to step outside of my comfort zone and learn more about my culture and my Community and be the voice of my Community," Scabby said during her introduction.

Begay-Smith also felt that this past year on the Jr. Miss court pushed her to step outside of her comfort zone and believe in herself more.

"Over this past year, I felt I've grown a lot, especially in my confidence," Begay-Smith said, who expressed that she enjoys representing her Community.

Toya looks forward to continuing with the Jr. Miss Salt River Court. She thanks her family for being her biggest support during this time.

"This is a special day, not only for me but for my 'sash sisters,'" Toya said.

The group Bird Singing and Dancing by the River provided traditional dance and gourd singing in between the traditional talent, dress and essay portions of the event.

When it was time to crown the new Miss Salt River, King stood up behind Scabby and slowly placed the crown and sash over her as overwhelming tears fell from Scabby's eyes.



2025-2026 Miss Salt River Emma Scabby performs a basket dance for her traditional talent showcase.



2024-2025 Miss Salt River 1st Attendant Zoe Hernandez lays a sash on Jr. Miss Salt River 1st Attendant.



Vice-President Ricardo Leonard performs a gourd song.



2025-2026 Miss Salt River Emma Scabby introduces herself at the coronation.



Jr. Miss Salt River 2025-2026 Tiare Begay-Smith introduces herself to the crowd.





# Fourth of July Lights Up The Night

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL

*O'odham Action News*  
andreea.miguel@srpmic-nsn.gov

Despite the summer heat and humidity from recent rainfall, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community gathered in celebration of Independence Day on July 4 at the Accelerated Learning Academy's football field.

"The biggest challenge was the weather," said Events Assistant Adrian Sixkiller, "thankfully we were more prepared to handle the heat this year around."

As the celebration kicked off, attendees enjoyed a variety of games and activities, including inflatable games like basketball and axe throwing. A dunk tank was also available, which featured Council Member Jacob Butler and the newly appointed 2025-26 Miss Salt River, Emma Scabby, Jr. Miss Salt River Tiare Begay-Smith and Jr. Miss Salt River 1st Attendant Aiyanna Toya.

DJ Jermatik played music throughout the event, followed by live music performed by the Gila River Indian Community band, Two Rivers.

Friendly competitions were also on the agenda. For the kids, a watermelon bowling contest, followed by a hot dog eating contest for adults. Contestants were put to the test; each person was given a plate of 12 hot dogs, courtesy of Ernies Catering, and had 10 minutes to eat as many as possible. Ernies also distributed free hot dogs to event attendees.

"We would like to give a big shout-out and thank you to Casino Arizona for donating the bottled waters and to Rousseau Farming Company for donating the watermelons," said Events Assistant Kym Tyler.

Additional food options were available to guests, including frybread for purchase from Enos Family Eats, fresh lemonade by Dank Drank, and shaved ice.

"I really enjoyed the event, especially watching the children enjoy themselves...the heat typically keeps them indoors otherwise," said Andrea Preston, events specialist.

"My favorite moments were the hotdog eating contest and fireworks," Sixkiller said. "The hotdog eating contest always draws a huge crowd—and fireworks are always great to sit back and watch after all the months of planning."

The fireworks were the finale of the event. As the lights went out, family and friends gathered to witness an amazing display of colorful sparks bursting into the air, marking the end of the celebration.





# Summer Speaker Series Kicks Off With Elder Panel

and hopes for the Community. What came after was a lot of laughter, freckled with few somber reflections, as each took turns sharing their perspectives.

Following introductions, each shared a little about their family and upbringing, all touching on the importance of faith in their younger years and how it has endured over time, often switching between speaking in English and O’odham. The Council Chambers was soon filled with laughter as the group recalled hard-learned lessons about following directions and

how far a quarter used to take you. As Jackson-Eckert posed questions to each elder, themes emerged on the role of faith and of connecting, especially in understanding what it means to be O’odham as individuals and as a Community.

The panel opened discussions to the audience, where attendees, both in-person and online, asked questions and received feedback from the respected panelists. The elders encouraged people to seek volunteer opportunities within the Community to

build and maintain those connections and to honor the sacrifices of those who came before, making specific mention of military service.


A full recording of the evening’s presentation is available on the Community’s Facebook page, where it was live-streamed. The next event is scheduled for July 29 and will feature Salt River youth sharing their stories and perspectives. The series is open to all and includes a light meal before each presentation.

"I have lived on this reservation for probably 22 years...I have come to find that we are a caring people, a loving people, that when somebody is down, somebody will pick you up. You know, and that's just the way we are... Nobody knew that before I came here, that I was actually an alcoholic. But when I came here, it was after I had accepted the Lord. And when I did, it was over. It's been, I'm going to say, 39 years since I've had a drink."


"When I moved out here... everything opened with prayer, and I think we're getting away from that. I'm not trying to say that prayer is something you can overlook, because it's not. That's what this community is, it's a major part of starting anything. It had to be with prayer, and I think we're getting away from that."

"I can remember downtown there used to be at theater called the Fox Theater. It only cost a dime to get in, and my mother would give me a quarter. Because the candy and everything was so expensive, you didn't want to spend your money getting in, so we'd have somebody go into the theater and pay, and then he would go in and go to the back door and open it and we'd all go in like a club of quail running in. Having them chase you was the fun part about it, seeing if you could get away. That was the fun right there... part of it, anyway."

TOM LARGO



SHARON SELESTEWA



"...It was those days when you didn't have to worry about it, you're leaving your doors open, we didn't even have locks on our doors. So it was a safe place for us kids to hang around in the roads and wander around everywhere, and there's so many times like that."

"But if you love the reservation, and you care about the reservation, you care about the future of your children, your grandchildren, great grandchildren, you'll do anything to make that a success and show that there will be a future."

"People were helpful and always there when there was a loss in the family. I remember we'd get stuff loaded up and go to a person's house, and there would be other people there chopping wood or cleaning the yard, helping however they could. There was that closeness, the empathy that was there for the family and bringing them supplies that they would need eventually and showing them that you care for them. Today we still will help each other some, but not as much as they did then."

"Our adventures were going down to the pumps barefoot in the summertime and swimming with our cousins. Now a lot of people don't know their relatives and it's sad. That's sad. Yet if we look into each other's families, we are probably all related somehow or some way."


"There's things going on that it's really hard for me to hear where we're hurting each other. Whether it's through words or gossip, or whether it's through the guns, the lifestyle our young people have, or other people have in their lifestyle that they're using. I don't know how we got there. Like Sharon said when we were little, we didn't have any fear of a lot of these things. I think we were more protective of each other. Now it's a lot different and I think it's because we don't reach out or just touch someone else in talking to them. That's what I have hope for."

"I barely started connecting with some of my relatives. I should be running over to Sharon's house and seeing her all the time, or Miss Ruth, I promised her I would come read to her, I haven't done that yet, and shame on me. There's a lot of things that we hold back on, but we should just do it. There's something that holds us back."

PATRICIA ENOS KING



DELBERT RAY



"There's just so much that I'm thankful for today. ...I'm going through a lot of things right now, but you know what? My my mind is still there. This is the best part of it, you know, every night, when I pray and every morning, when I wake up, I swing my feet to the ground, and if I feel the floor, I say, "Hey, thank you!"

"Let me just tell you that... We need to talk to each other. How can we make life better? I'll reach out to people and say let's talk about [O'odham]. Let's talk about [O'odham]. Let's talk about *skovk cemait*, all these things. Let's go eat.... This is good, you know, I really appreciate this gathering, I like to reach out to people... These are things that are really important. I've been retired now for seven years or something. I have time for people. Let's make some *cemait*. Let's go."

"Right now, talking about AI, I don't know what the heck that is. But you know, you try to get on the phone and talk to somebody, you can't talk to nobody. I don't like to talk on the phone. I'd rather just go and see your face and say, "[O'odham greeting and chatter]". Let's learn from each other."

## SALT RIVER DAY SCHOOL BEGINNER CLASS OF 1955

TOP ROW: Bradford Dale Sampson, Linda Sebahe (Webster), Patricia Smith (Wadena), Roberta J. Williams (Jaramillo), Gerald Williams, Nadine Waters (Rhoades), Ray Lewis Jr., Guthrie Dick, Lawrence Robinson, Darice Enos, Etheleen Brown (Osif), Lois Ferguson (Smith), Rebecca Collins (Doka), Carmen Juan

MIDDLE ROW: Delbert Ray, Eardine Richards, Diane Richards (Howard), Jenelle Johnson (Lovelace), Francisco Carlos, Angelo Martinez, Corrida Osif (Brown), Cora Lee Butler (Moore), Lavenda Manuel, Sharon Chiago, Gilman Card, Bruno Howard, Jerome Lewis

BOTTOM ROW: Alexander Stanley, Richard Burton Jr., Jerry Manuel, Bennett Chiago, Juan Wilson Jr., Sylvia Brown (Sinoloo), Patricia King, Gilland Fulwilder, Linda Antone, Nadine Miles (Hernandez), Narin Howard, Gary Rivers, Betty Lou Vest, Victor Santo



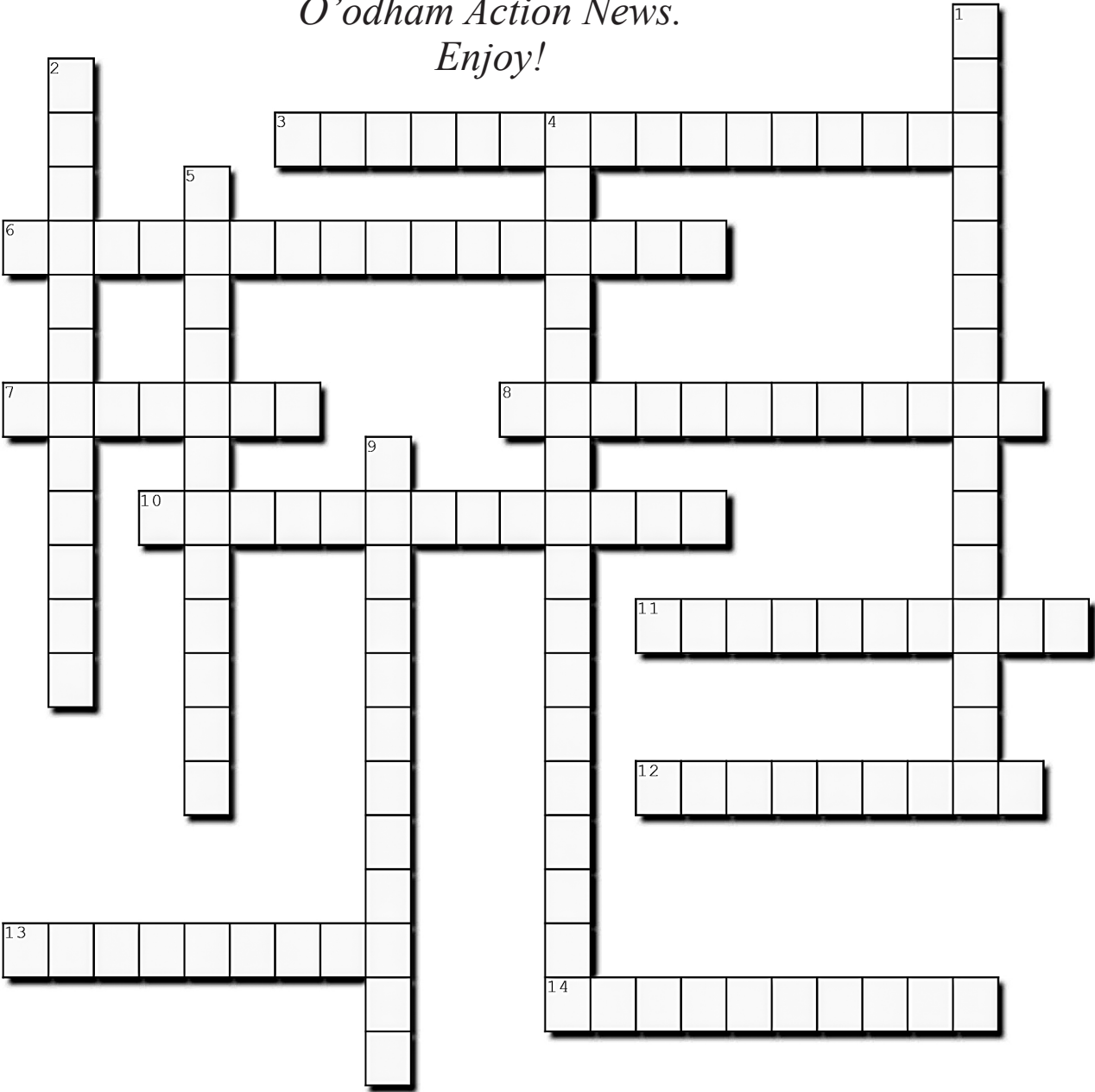
During the presentation, a slideshow featured pictures provided by the elders including this class photo featuring Delbert Ray and Patricia King. Above photo courtesy of Ms. Patsy King.





# 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

- 3. The name of the award-centerpiece featured during the Senior Father’s Day Luncheon.
- 6. Salt River Accelerated Learning Academy Principal.
- 7. The military branch of service Caleb Dash recently joined.
- 8. Community Health and Nutrition Supervisor at the River People Health Center who assisted with the WIC Pop’s Pop-Up
- 10. SRPMIC Senior who was born on September 1, 1945.
- 11. The name of the DJ who played the hits during the SRPMIC 4th of July festivities.
- 12. Senior Physical Fitness Specialist from the Ske:g Himdag Ki:
- 13. Name of the action park located at the Pavilion’s at Talking Stick Resort.
- 14. SRPMIC Senior who was born on May 24, 1940, at the old Indian School in Phoenix.

### Down

- 1. SRPMIC Senior who was born on August 4, 1945, and spoke at the Elder Panel.
- 2. The 2025-2026 Miss Salt River.
- 4. Assistant Community Manager who assisted in the hosting duties for the Summer Series Elder Panel.
- 5. The actor and comedian who attended Saturday’s Junior Nationals Native American Basketball Tournament in late June.
- 9. SRPMIC Senior who was born on April 7, 1948.



## Men’s Health Awareness Month Features Sensory Awareness Class

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

“It’s OK to not be OK.”  
That has been the focal point for the entire month of June as the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community hosted four in-person classes commemorating Men’s Health Awareness Month.  
Dion Begay, senior physical fitness specialist from the Ske:g Himdag Ki:, hosted the classes which covered a wide array of topics and featured guest speakers.  
On June 24, the fourth and final class covered an important topic: sensory overload.  
The class was offered to the Community after Begay attended a webinar presentation on the same subject earlier this year.  
“I attended this webinar in February, and I felt that this was very informational, and I thought this could be help for Men’s Health Month,” said Begay as he welcomed the room full of attendees.  
Dominic DiLoreto, LPC-S, MS, MA, from SRPMIC’s Health and Human Services facilitated the class.  
Sensory overload is defined as the condition in which the brain receives more sensory input than it can comfortably process. Loud noises, bright lights, strong smells and crowded places are some examples of triggers that can impact an individual’s overall health.

If an individual experiences sensory overload, they may feel headaches, dizziness, fatigue or physical pain.  
These aspects and more were covered by DiLoreto, who constantly checked on guests attending the webinar presentation to ensure they were not experiencing sensory overload. “We’re all going to experience things a bit differently,” said DiLoreto. “That’s OK.”  
DiLoreto shared that humans each have their own levels of sensory difficulties. Some are severely impacted, while others may be able to simply shrug it off.  
“We do have individuals who are neurodivergent. They tend to experience the world a bit differently.”  
During the presentation, DiLoreto explained how specific classrooms have begun to create sensory rooms, which help ease a student who may experience sensory overload from the bright classroom lights and loud school buses.  
DiLoreto stated early plans to develop sensory classrooms within the Community are in the initial stages.  
Throughout his presentation, DiLoreto detailed the nervous system and the various ways the body responds, specifically highlighting the ear’s central role in this process.  
Discussing the vestibular system, DiLoreto described how an individual receives sensory information and processes it by utilizing receptors inside the inner ear.



Dominic DiLoreto, LPC-S, MS, MA, facilitated a presentation on sensory awareness. The class was hosted at the Ske:g Himdag Ki: and featured an online component for interested individuals to attend the presentation virtually.

“If someone is on a swing, that [will get processed] into three different relay stations. All of our movement and information we’re taking in is pretty complex [while on the swing].”  
On a swing, the movement relays the information to the cerebellum, which coordinates eye control, head movement and posture. Continuing, the motion of being on a swing activates oculomotor nuclei, which steadies the eyes as the body and head are in motion. The spinal cord then influences muscle movement, while the thalamus and cortex interpret the input from the senses and play a role in motion, perception and spatial orientation.  
Spatial orientation refers to the ability to perceive and understand one’s position and orientation.  
DiLoreto also educated guests on being trauma informed, which is the understanding that many people have

experienced trauma and that it can significantly impact their overall well-being. A key aspect of being trauma-informed, is to listen.  
“By being trauma-informed and aware of sensory processing challenges, we can create an environment helps to foster a friendlier and more understanding workplace. We can foster some growth, learning and healing.”  
Interested individuals looking to attend a future presentation at the Ske:g Himdag Ki: can call (480) 362-6800 for more information.



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1902 Court

Case: CV-  
30 AM

Case: CV-

**Lackey, Debra**  
2858 Court

**Lackey, Wendi**  
Court Date:

**Lewis, Dustin**  
4144 Court

**Lewis, Geoffrey**  
Case: CV-2  
PM

**Lewis, Maria**  
Case: CV-2  
9:30 AM

**Osif-Thomas**  
Case: CV-2

**CONGER, MELINDA ARLENE**  
**CV-25-1902**  
**DEFAULT NOTICE**  
**COUNTRY CLUB CARS V. MELINDA ARLENE**  
**CONGER,**

To: Melinda Arlene Conger, RESPONDENT

1. A 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 Commencement Notice is

**CONGER, MELINDA**  
**CV-25-1902**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE NOTICE**  
Country Club Cars v. Melinda Conger  
TO: Melinda Conger; Respondent  
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the  
above-entitled court on the 4th day of August, 2025 at  
9:30 AM, in Court Room #1, and show cause why you  
should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for  
a Civil Complaint Hearing on June 2, 2025 at 10am  
after being duly noticed.  
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 2nd day of June 2025.  
JUDGE JANAYA JOHNSON - SALT RIVER PIMA-  
MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

**DEFAULT**

**DELONEY SR., JAYCE PHILLIP**  
**J-23-0049**

**SUMMONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN**  
**S.R.P.M.I.C. §§ 10-114 THRU 10-126**

In the Matter Of: J. D. JR. D.O.B. 01/21/2021

TO: Jayce Phillip Deloney Sr. / 655 S. Mesa Dr. Apt.  
2009, Mesa, AZ 85210

A Petition for Appointment of Guardian of Minor has been  
filed in this Court in which it is represented that you  
are a parent or legal guardian of the child(ren) named  
above. The Petition includes a request for the Court  
to appoint proposed person(s) as guardian(s) for the  
child(ren) named above. Your rights may be affected.

Within 30 calendar days after receiving this Summons  
and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of Minor,  
you must file a written response. If you fail to attend

COURT CLERK - SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA  
INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

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**FLORES, LANCE EAGLE**  
**CV-25-0859**  
**DEFAULT NOTICE**  
**COUNTRY CLUB CARS V. LANCE EAGLE**  
**FLORES**

To: Lance Eagle Flores

1. A 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)

# NOTICES

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: 2-1-2025

**MARTINEZ SR., MARIO/SANTO, CHARNELE**  
**CV-25-0853**

Notice of Default Judgment:

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number: CV-25-0853

Notice of Default Judgment is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default judgment against Respondents, Mario Martinez Sr. & Charnele Santo, is hereby ENTERED. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Respondents, Mario Martinez Sr. & Charnele Santo, shall pay Petitioner, Country Club Cars. Payment shall be made to Petitioner within sixty (30) days of this Order. This order is final and shall be served on Respondent in accordance to Rule 5-20(c). For a copy of this Order please contact the court at 480-362-6315.

**PARHCORN SR., ELLIS J.**  
**CV-24-5858**

Notice of Default Judgment:

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number CV-24-5858

Notice of Default Judgment is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default judgment against Respondent, Ellis J. Parchcorn Sr. is hereby ENTERED. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, that Respondent, Ellis J. Parchcorn Sr. shall pay \$3,268.59 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).

CP-17-0248  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE NOTICE**  
In the matter of: A.E. D.O.B.: 11/02/2013  
TO: Vanessa Spex; Guardian  
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the  
above-entitled court on the 28th day of July, 2025 at  
11:00 AM, in Court Room #2, and show cause why you  
should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for  
a Guardianship Review Hearing on May 21, 2025.  
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 21st day of May, 2025.  
JUDGE ANTHONY LITTLE II - SALT RIVER PIMA-  
MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS DEADLINES	
ISSUE	DEADLINE AT NOON
AUGUST 7	JULY 18
AUGUST 21	AUGUST 8

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

## NOTICE OF COMMUNITY HEARING

The 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.


Joe Murray with JCM Design Group, as the applicant, requests a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow a kennel use for Camp Bow Wow within The Pavilions at Talking Stick shopping center. The proposed business will be located within Suite B2 at 8930 E. Talking Stick Way. This property is zoned C3 (General Commercial) and a CUP is required for a kennel 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, July 23, 2025  
**Time:** 5:00 p.m.  
**Location:** SRPMIC Council Chambers (Longmore & Osborn)

You may also view the pre-recorded video and audio presentation of the Community Hearing starting July 24, 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](mailto: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.





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

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

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

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

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

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

**DAJ NATIVE DESIGNS**  
Printing, DTS, sublimation for drink-  
ware and engraving www.dajcreations.  
com 480-584-0401 dajnativedesigns@  
gmail.com

**DALIA’S LANDSCAPING**  
Yard maintenance / tree trimming,  
sprinkler repairs and service. Sherry  
Harris, (480) 275-9934 /  
daliareSENDIZ0815@icloud.com

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

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

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

**GOODLIFE NUTRITION**  
Healthy cafe offering plant-based  
juices and smoothies, meal-replace-  
ment options and event catering.  
Order online by visiting instagram! @  
goodlifeaz goodlife.nutrition@yahoo.  
com (480)274-3306

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

**KI: PROPERTY SERVICES**  
Fully Licensed. Grading, Lot Clearing,  
Gravel Spread, Trash Haul, Landscap-  
ing, General Home Repair. Call for  
Per Cap Specials! 480-369-2018  
ki.property.services81@gmail.com

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

**MOQUINO’S BODY & PAINT LLC.**  
Auto Body Work and Paint LLC. Com-  
munity Member 15% discount. Pete  
Moquino, (480) 236-3033 moquinoscu-  
stompaint@yahoo.com

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

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

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

**PIMA AWARDS PROMOTIONAL  
PRODUCTS, INC**

Promo items, silkscreen/embroider  
apparel, custom awards and printing  
services. 15610 N 35th Ave Ste #7  
Phoenix, AZ 85053 www.pimaawards.  
com Ron Lee, (623) 271-8311

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

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

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

**RED MOUNTAIN ENGINEERING, LLC**  
Full service civil engineering,  
surveying and consulting firm. Patrick  
D. Dallas, (480) 237-2708  
www.redmtngineering.com

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

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

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

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

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

**VMK ENTERPRISES, INC**  
Janitorial supplies. Sheryl@vmkenter-  
prises.com

**LEHI CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
1452 E. Oak St. Mesa, AZ 85203  
Pastor Merrill Jones  
(480) 234-6091  
SERVICES  
Visit us on Facebook Live and in person.  
Search for Lehi Church of the Nazarene.  
Sun. School, 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.  
Sun. Night Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.  
Wed. Devotion Night 6:30 p.m.  
SOAR Group 2nd & 4th Friday, 7 p.m.  
Mon. night Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.  
Singspiration, last Sundays at 6 p.m.

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

**LEHI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
1342 E. Oak Mesa, AZ 85203  
Pastor Annette Lewis  
annette.f.lewis@gmail.com  
(480) 404-3284  
SERVICES  
Sunday Services 10 a.m.  
Communion First Sundays at 10 a.m.  
Birthday Sunday Potluck- Last Sunday  
of the Month, after services.  
Youth Devotion/Music (bring your instru-  
ments!) last 2 Saturdays of the month  
at 4 p.m.

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST  
PAPAGO WARD**  
2056 N. Extension Rd. Scottsdale  
AZ, 85256  
(480) 947-1084  
SERVICES  
Sunday service begins at 10 a.m.

**PIMA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
12207 E. Indian School Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256  
Pastor Marty Thomas  
(480) 874-3016/ Home: (480) 990-7450  
SERVICES  
Sunday service 11 a.m.

Lord’s Supper very first Sunday of  
the month (potluck after)

**SALT RIVER ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
10657 E. Virginia Ave. Scottsdale, AZ  
85256  
Rev. WinterElk Valencia  
(480) 947-5278  
saltriveragchurch.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 INTER-  
NATIONAL (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 8-11 a.m.  
Bible classes Wednesdays at 7 p.m.  
Visit msactruth.com for more  
Follow us @morningstarapostolic on In-  
stagram and on Facebook at facebook.  
com/msactruth

**REDEEMER APOSTOLIC CHURCH**  
200 E First St Mesa, AZ 85201  
Pastors Santos and Andrea Navarrete  
https://www.redeemerministries.com/  
SERVICES  
Sunday 11 a.m. English, 1:30 p.m.  
Spanish, Wednesday 7 p.m.

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

# News and Events In and Around Indian Country

BY DALTON WALKER  
O’odham Action News  
dalton.walker@srpmic-nsn.gov

## Miss Indian Arizona Deadline

The 64th annual Miss Indian Arizona Scholarship Program is accepting appli-  
cations through the end of the month.  
Each October, the program hosts a  
pageant as part of its program to name  
a new Miss Indian Arizona. Isabella  
Newman of the San Carlos Apache  
Tribe currently holds the crown.  
The application and fee deadline  
is July 31. The pageant is scheduled  
for October 11 at the Chandler Center  
for the Arts. Those interested can find  
application forms on the Miss Indian  
Arizona website.

**Native Judge Elected Associate Pre-  
siding Justice of The Peace**  
A southern Arizona judge has been  
elected to a new role in Maricopa  
County. Judge Jennifer Jermaine, of the  
San Marcos Justice Court, is the new  
associate presiding justice of the peace.  
Her term began July 1 and lasts for one  
year.

Jermaine is from the White Earth  
Nation in Minnesota and has previously  
served two terms in the Arizona state  
Legislature. She was elected to the San  
Marcos Justice Precinct in 2022.

## Indian Health Service At 70

The Indian Health Service celebrated  
its 70th anniversary on July 1.  
On July 1, 1955, approximately  
2,500 health program personnel of the  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, 48 hospitals,  
18 health centers, 62 stations, 13 school  
infirmaries and other locations transi-  
tioned to the jurisdiction of the newly  
created Indian Health Service.  
IHS is a federal branch of the U.S.  
Department of Health and Human  
Services. Its mission is “to raise the  
physical, mental, social, and spiritual  
health of American Indians and Alaska  
Natives to the highest level.”

## O’odham Police Force Take Manda- tory MMIP Training


The Tohono O’odham Police Depart-  
ment in southern Arizona has launched  
a new initiative to learn more about the  
crisis affecting Indian Country.  
The department takes mandatory  
training on missing and murdered  
Indigenous people, according to a  
news report by Arizona Mirror. The  
first training took place at the Tohono  
O’odham San Xavier Police Depart-  
ment in May.  
Indivisible Tohono founder April  
Ignacio led the training, along with  
Arizona Department of Public Safety’s  
Tribal Liaison Capt. Paul Etnire.  
To learn more about the training,  
visit the Arizona Mirror website.

## New Jim Thorpe Documentary Re- leased

The legend of Jim Thorpe is explored  
in a new documentary released by the  
HISTORY Channel in July.  
Thorpe was from the Sac and Fox  
Nation. He was a professional baseball  
and football player, as well as an Olym-  
pic gold medal winner.  
“Jim Thorpe: Lit by Lightning” pre-  
miered July 7. The two-hour documen-  
tary is directed by Native creative Chris  
Eyre and produced by NBA superstar  
LeBron James.  
The documentary explains Thorpe’s  
legendary sports career through archi-  
val footage, interviews and recreations.

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.

O’odham Action News is published bi-weekly by the  
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Editorials  
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Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.  
O’odham Action News encourages the submission  
of letters to the Editor. However, letters must be typed  
or printed clearly, and should include the writer’s name,  
address and phone number. This information is for  
verification only. Other submission of articles, artwork and  
photos are encouraged. O’odham Action News does not  
assume responsibility for unsolicited materials and does  
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or information may be sent to:  
O’ODHAM ACTION NEWS  
10,005 E. Osborn Road,  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

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



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**O’ODHAM ACTION NEWS  
MAIN LINE (480) 362-7750**  
(Leave a message with your name and number  
and we will return your call)

**ADVERTISING**  
Call O’odham Action News for advertising info.  
(480) 362-2698 / [www.oodhamnews.org](http://www.oodhamnews.org)

## PUBLIC WORKS NOTICE

SRPMIC Council has approved the nightly closures of the Salt River  
and Lehi Cemeteries due to continued vandalism.  
The Salt River and Lehi Cemeteries will be closed from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.  
**If you have any questions, please contact Memorial Services at  
(480) 278-7050**





# SALT RIVER MATERIALS GROUP

PRODUCES AND SUPPLIES THE KEY INGREDIENTS  
NEEDED TO MAKE CONCRETE



11%

PORTLAND CEMENT OR  
PORTLAND CEMENT + POZZOLAN



42%

AGGREGATES



30%

SAND



16%

WATER



1%

AIR

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Check us out at . . .  
[www.srmaterials.com](http://www.srmaterials.com)



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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ONGOING

**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 Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., at the Tribal Library, 2nd floor of the Ske:g Himdag Ki (WOLF). For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs.

**TAI CHI FOR SENIORS**, Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m., and Thursdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Room of Ske:g Himdag Ki (WOLF). This ancient Chinese martial art uses slow and continuous movements to improve the mind and body. For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs.

**YOGA FOR FALL PREVENTION**, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays, 1-2 p.m., Senior Room of Ske:g Himdag Ki (WOLF). Standing or chair options available. Guided movements improve strength, balance and flexibility. For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs.

**SENIOR AQUATIC FITNESS**, Fridays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., pool at the of Ske:g Himdag Ki (WOLF). Guided exercises in water improve strength with less stress on joints. Bring a towel and wear comfortable swim attire. For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs.

**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.

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**18-19 MY FUTURE IS BRIGHT YOUTH CONFERENCE**, Courtyard Scottsdale Salt River. Open to all SRPMIC youth and families! Register at: [tinyurl.com/MyFutureIsBright25](http://tinyurl.com/MyFutureIsBright25)

**19 CM ANTONE DISTRICT B MEETING**, 9 a.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers. For the district meeting agenda, please visit the SRPMIC Council District Meeting information website: <https://tinyurl.com/SRPMICDMs>

**22 CRS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM REGISTRATION NIGHT**, Join us for 2025-26 CRS After School Program Registration Night on Tuesday, July 22nd from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Salt River Community Building. Our CRS Accredited program is open to K-6th graders and new this year, Tweens (7th-8th grade). For more info or support for youth with accommodations, contact CRS Social at (480) 362-6360.

**22 JOURNEY THROUGH THE MIDDLE SCHOOL MAZE**, Are you a rising middle school student and an enrolled member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community? Don't get lost in the Middle School Maze! The journey from elementary to middle school can feel like a dizzying

labyrinth, but it can also be ahh-MAZE-ing! The School and Community Relations team is here to help you along your journey to the junior high environment. Join us on Tuesday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for our fun, engaging, and informative youth conference that's all about navigating this incredible journey! Questions? Contact the School and Community Relations office at 480-362-2534.

**24 BACK TO SCHOOL BASH**, School supply giveaway 5-7 p.m. at ALA Gymnasium. For more information, call (480) 362-2534

**24 CM BUTLER DISTRICT A MEETING**, 6 p.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers. For the district meeting agenda, please visit the SRPMIC Council District Meeting information website: <https://tinyurl.com/SRPMICDMs>

**26 O'ODHAM NEW YEAR CELEBRATION**, Come join us at Friendship Park on Saturday, July 26, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 10:30 PM, and celebrate a season of tradition, gratitude, and togetherness. The O'odham New Year Celebration is a gathering that honors one of the most sacred times in the O'odham calendar—the baidaj season, marked by the harvest of the saguaro fruit. Traditionally, this time of year signifies renewal, prayer, and preparation for the coming seasons. Our celebration will take place late in the summer to give the community another opportunity to come together in that same spirit of renewal and gratitude. This event offers a space to honor our traditions, reconnect with one another, and celebrate our cultural teachings through music, food, and dance. Enjoy: Live Waila music performed by Molina Music; Free food for the first 100 attendees; Traditional Dancing, O'odham and Piipaash. This celebration is hosted by the Young River Peoples Council and is open to the entire community—tribal

members, families, guests, and youth of all ages are welcome.

**29 SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES: YOUNG RIVER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL PANEL**, Join us for the Voices of Summer Salt River Speaker Series for engaging talks that reflect our past to shape our future. Sessions held the last Tuesday of each month through September at Salt River Council Chambers. Dinner served starting at 5 p.m. and 45 minute presentation at 6 p.m. followed by 15 minutes of Q&A. All are welcome! Questions? Contact summer-speakerseries@srpmic-nsn.gov

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**2 PIIPAASH MATASHEEVM BINGO**, 2 p.m. at Lehi Community Building. Join the Piipaash Matasheevm Committee for family friendly fun, including Bingo, Food Sales, and a Raffle! Questions can be directed to: Ardell Moore, (480) 362-7465 or Emily King, (480) 362-7400. All proceeds directly benefit the Piipaash Matasheevm events.

**7 PURPLE HEART DAY VIRTUAL FUN RUN/ WALK**, to be completed between July 21 and August 5. Honor our nation's wounded heroes by completing a 1.5-mile run/walk - anytime, anywhere. Every step is a tribute to the courage, bravery, honor, and sacrifice of Purple Heart recipients. Sign up available through July 20th at <https://tinyurl.com/purpleheart2025> T-Shirt pick up available for the first 150 on August 6 at Roundhouse Cafe from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.