

Salt River Schools **Updates Policies on Electronic Device Usage** Page 3



"Telling the Stories of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community"

www.oodhamnews.org

OCTOBER 2, 2025

Cultural Teacher Gathering 2025
BY ZOE HERNANDEZ

O'odham Action News Zoe.hernandez@srpmic-nsn.gov

In O'odham, we say ske:g taş for "good day." To say good, we say *sape*, or in Piipaash *xotk*. At the Culture Teacher Gathering, it was sape all around. Jokes and he'hem (laughing) were present from everyone in the room. Everyone at the gathering was *sekik* (happy) to be there and had a story to tell.

The gathering took place in Vaşai Gakidag Maşad (Dry Grass Month)

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The 2025 Cultural Teacher Gathering provided resources and opportunities to connect for educators from the four sibling tribes.



Enoch Cree Nation Council member Jerome Morin Jr. (middle) was joined by many of his fellow Council members and representatives from the nation during a Community presentation facilitated by SRPMIC Community Manager, Bryan Meyers.

The Enoch Cree Nation visits with the SRPMIC

3 Takeaways:

- The Enoch Cree Nation is comprised of 2,566 community members and hail from Alberta, Canada, just west of
- Enoch Cree Nation tribal council and department directors met with Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier and Community Manager Bryan Meyers to get a better understanding on how to run and operate their own community back home.
- The Enoch Cree Nation is part of the Plains Cree, one of the largest Indigenous groups in Canada.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

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Here in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, we set the standard.

For quite some time now, the SRPMIC has been

viewed as a leader among tribes in Indian Country. From the many business enterprises that the Community owns and operates to the traditional cultural gatherings that connect neighboring cities with the tribe, the

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9th Annual Salt River Fire Secretary of State Fontes Talks Fighters 9/11 Stair Climb Election Procedures Manual With **Has Record Turnout** ITAA Tribal Leaders



Firefighters turn the corner and back up the stadium stairs during the Stair Climb.

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

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

First responders and their supporters and families participated in the Ninth Annual Salt River Firefighters 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick on Sept. 13. The memorial climb is a way to honor and remember the 343 firefighters, 60 police officers and 10 emergency medical services personnel who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001, in New York City.

The stair climb course, which runs throughout the stadium's seating area, is the equivalent of the 110 stories of the World Trade Center. Each climber wore a badge with the photo and name of a first responder who died on that tragic day.

About 1,600 climbers signed up ahead of time online and donated to participate this year. Over \$183,000 was raised, which

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BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

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The Inter Tribal Association of Arizona (ITAA), which represents 21 federally recognized tribes in the state, brought Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes and ITAA tribal leaders together for a meeting on Aug. 28 at the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona headquarters in Phoenix regarding the 2025 Election Procedures Manual (EPM).

Fontes said that the EPM is intended for county election officials and any other election officials in Arizona.

"This rulebook is essentially the handbook for the counties," said Fontes.

"Importantly, this book is not specifically intended to be out there for the general public, though it is a state law. Of course, folks can look at it, but it's specifically intended for the people who run the elections. It's not a campaign manual or how to run for office. It's not a community engagement manual or how to get more people to vote."

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Office of



Secretary Fontes meets with ITAA Tribal leaders at the ITCA headquarters in Phoenix to discuss the Election Procedures Manual.

Congressional and Legislative Affairs (OCLA) attended the meeting on behalf of the SRP-MIC government. OCLA representative Gary Bohnee reiterated the importance of the tribe's presence at the meeting.

"It's important that tribal provisions in the policy manual are in place so that there is more clear guidance to our county recorder [Justin Heap], since [the SRPMIC] is in Maricopa County," said Bohnee, who wants to make sure that tribal voices are represented in deter-

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Secretary of State Fontes Talks Election Procedures Manual With ITAA Tribal Leaders

mining how elections are run.

Even though the election is over a year away, Bohnee said the Community needs to start doing work now

"The OCLA team has been working with our Get Out the Vote Committee to identify two priority issues right now: getting Community members interested and trained to be poll workers, and ... voter registration," said Bohnee

"Rather than trying to do it last minute during the election cycle, we can start to roll out voter registration

opportunities in the Community for Community members [sooner]."

According to state law, topics covered in the EPM include voting and early voting; producing, distributing, collecting, counting and storing ballots, including hand counts; registering paid or out-of-state petition circulators; and campaign finance reports and investigations. Any person violating a rule established in the EPM may be found guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor (up to four months in jail).

Arizona law also requires the secretary of state to draft an EPM that brings "the maximum degree of correctness, impartiality, uniformity and efficiency" to elections.

Tribal leaders attending the meeting included Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Gabriel Lopez and Tohono O'odham Nation Attorney General Howard M. Shanker.

ITCA Arizona Executive Director Maria Dadgar provided opening remarks, and ITCA Assistant Director Thomas Throssell and Civic Engagement Coordinator Alexander Castillo-Nuñez closed the meeting.

Arizona State University Indian Legal Clinic Director Patty Ferguson-Bohnee supplied a list of EPM tribal provisions and compared the 2023 EPM to this year's version. Fontes was joined by Arizona State Election Director Lisa Marra to give an overview of the EPM.

Fontes said Arizona is fortunate to have an EPM in its statutes. Not every state has one.

"Most states, when they run their elections, they [must] go straight to the statutes and that's all they have for guidance. So, the counties and municipalities and other folks who run elections, they don't have this sort of a tool," said Fontes.

"The statute tells the secretary of state that every two years we need to update [the EPM] and that the governor and the attorney general will sign off and say, "This is good to go."" A registrant may also submit a legible copy of the registrant's Tribal Certificate of Indian Blood or Tribal/BIA Affidavit of Birth as satisfactory DPOC.

Proof of Location of Residence (DPOR)

What counts as proof of location of residence? A.R.S. 16-123 does not require tribal members or other Arizona residents to have a standard street address to satisfy A.R.S. 16-123.

Any Tribal ID document, including but not limited to a census card, an ID card issued by a tribal government, or a tribal enrollment card, regardless of whether

> the Tribal identification document contains a photo, a physical address, a P.O. Box, or no address.

Establishing Precincts and Voting Locations

For polling places on tribal lands without close access to public transit and major highways, the property should be in a central location on the tribal lands or a location where tribal members frequently gather.

Bilingual Poll Workers

photos?

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Covered jurisdictions for tribal languages should work with the applicable tribal government regarding recruiting and hiring bilingual poll workers.

Poll Worker Training

Procedures for checking ID, including alternative forms of ID such as utility bills, tribal ID, and mobile AZ-MVD issued licenses.

Re-Precincting within Tribal Boundaries

Regarding re-precincting, "On Tribal Reservations, counties should, to the extent possible, match precinct boundaries to Tribal Subdivision boundaries."



Tribal leaders gather at the ITCA Headquarters courtyard in Phoenix for a group photo. The SRPMIC was represented by OCLA representative Gary Bohnee, fifth from the right.

Oct. 1 was the deadline to submit the draft manual, and the deadline for the governor and attorney general to approve the EPM is Dec. 31.

The EPM is to be updated in odd-numbered years.

Example Tribal Provisions in the 2025 EPM Draft

County/State Responsibility for Supplying Forms The County Recorder shall make available State Forms (at no cost) to all federal, state, county, local, and tribal government agencies, political parties, and private organizations located within the County Recorder's jurisdiction that conduct voter registration activities. A.R.S. 16-151(A)

Documented Proof of Citizenship (DPOC)

A registrant may submit a Tribal Enrollment Number, Indian Census Number, BIA Card Number, or Tribal Treaty Card Number as satisfactory DPOC.

Salt River Schools Updates Policies on Electronic Device Usage

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL

O'odham Action News
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After it passed in both the Arizona Senate and House of Representatives, House Bill 2484 was signed into law by Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs on April 14.

The new law requires all public and charter schools across the state to prohibit the use of personal cell phones and electronic devices for the duration of the school day. However, students are allowed to use their devices for educational purposes, in case of an emergency or if students must stay in contact with their parents to manage medical conditions.

On Aug. 4, the Salt River Schools Education Board approved of the law and its policies. Salt River Schools is enforcing these new policies throughout its campuses, including the Early Childhood Education Center, Salt River Elementary School and the Accelerated Learning Academy.

"We have always collected students' phones when they arrive on campus," said SRES Library Media Specialist Nancy Yurek. "[The] teachers have lockboxes to put them in, and this was in [our] policy before the [new] cell phone policy."

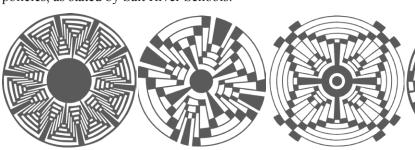
Each school will implement different policies, as stated by Salt River Schools.

The Accelerated Learning Academy will allow students to use their personal devices between classes and at lunch, whereas Salt River Elementary School students are allowed to use their cell phones only before and after school, not during the school day. They also may not use devices while attending Eagles Club, which is an after-school program. Further, using electronic devices on school buses is prohibited.

"Cell phones are a privilege, [for use] after schoolwork or after class," said a Salt River Elementary School parent. "The schools offer [the students] tablets and computers, but there are limitations on those computers where they can't get into social media or anything."

Additionally, social media platforms will be unavailable on the schools' internet networks, unless it's for educational purposes.

"At Salt River Schools, we want to build strong futures and even stronger relationships for the youth of this Community, and that means providing them with distraction-free learning environments," Superintendent Sheryl Houston said in a statement. "We need everyone's help to comply with this new law. We look forward to partnering with staff, students and families to enforce policies meant to help us create spaces for students to grow and thrive."



DID YOU KNOW?

Arizona law limits cell phone use in schools!











AZ House Bill 2484 (A.R.S. § 15-120.05) limits student access to cell phones and personal electronic devices during instructional time.



At SRS, this includes students **riding the bus** to/from school and **students attending field trips**.

SRES students are limited to using their phone before or after school only; phone use is prohibited during Eagles Club.

ALA students may be allowed to use their phone between classes and at lunch.

The SRS Education Board approved this policy Aug. 4, 2025. Students are permitted to use their cell phone or personal device during class if:

- Its use is for educational purposes, at SRS staff discretion;
- There is an emergency; or
- The device is needed to address a medical condition.





If you need to contact your student during the school day, please call your school's front office or 480-362-2500.

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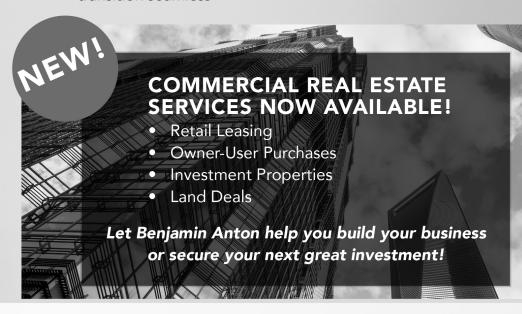
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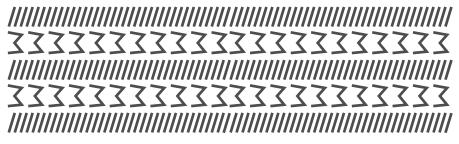
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News and Events In and Around Indian Country

BY DALTON WALKER

O'odham Action News dalton.walker@srpmic-nsn.gov

National Indian Health Board Meets in Arizona

The National Tribal Health Conference took place this year in Chandler, Arizona.

The annual conference is organized by the National Indian Health Board and was hosted by the Gila River Indian Community at its Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass venue in September.

Acting Indian Health Service Director Benjamin Smith and other IHS leaders were among those to participate in a listening session and panel discussion.

For event highlights, check the health board's Facebook page.

Orme Dam Victory Days Set

The 44th annual Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation's Orme Dam Victory Days will take place the weekend of Nov. 14. The three-day event features a powwow, rodeo and carnival at the Fort McDowell Rodeo Grounds northeast of Phoenix.

For the latest event information, check the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation's Facebook page.

Tribe Launches Indigenous Coast Guard

The Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in northeastern Minnesota, along Lake Superior, has launched a coast guard.

In a statement, the tribe said it was the nation's first Indigenous coast guard. The operation marked the beginning of a program years in the making to enhance marine safety on the North Shore of Lake Superior, according to a news release.

The initiative began when the U.S. Coast Guard station in Grand Marais closed in 2022. The program is called Genawaaboonagak, an Ojibwe word

that means "keeping watch while on the water."

Four custom vessels were commissioned; the first was delivered in September and is a 34-foot rigid-hull inflatable boat with a total length of 39 feet.

Indian Programs Advance Appropriations Act Reintroduced

Members of the U.S. Congress have introduced bipartisan legislation to authorize advance appropriations for the Indian Health Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education.

Advance appropriations provide funding for the current fiscal year and one year in advance for public services. In 2023, Congress provided the IHS with advance funding for the first time through the annual appropriations bills.

Congress also introduced the Tribal Trust Land Reaffirmation Act to address the Supreme Court's 2009 Carcieri v. Salazar decision by reaffirming that land put into trust on behalf of a federally recognized tribe by the Department of the Interior is officially reaffirmed as trust land. Both bills were introduced in September.

New Native American Book Lands on Bestseller List

A new book called "Sisters of the Wind" by award-winning author Angeline Boulley debuted on the New York Times Bestseller List in September.

Boulley is from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and is three for three when it comes to achieving the honor. Her latest book is part of a book series that started with 2021's "Firekeeper's Daughter."

"Sisters of the Wind" is mystery about a foster teen claiming her Native heritage in Michigan.

Boulley is a former director for the Office of Indian Education at the U.S. Department of Education.



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American Indian Program Open House at Scottsdale Community College

O'odham Action News

Zoe.hernandez@srpmic-nsn.gov

The American Indian Program (AIP) at Scottsdale Community College (SCC) hosted an open house on Sept. 3 at the college's Indigenous Cultural Center. Attendees included students, families and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members.

The program invited students to connect with staff and community partners. The AIP team provided resources for academic advising, tutoring, scholarships and internships.

The Indigenous Cultural Center was filled with information for Native American students to help them achieve success both on campus and in daily life. Staff from colleges around Arizona attended, along with representatives from Native Health and Salt River agencies and organizations. They set up tables offering information and promotional items.

Open house attendee Kasheen Walker was pleased with the amount of information and programs available at the open house.

"[I was looking for] information for my son because he finished the automotive technician program at UEI College. He got a certificate for welding, and now he wants to open a shop of his own. He wants to go to school for business," said Walker. She was able to find the information she needed for her son.

"I thought [the open house] was cool," she said. AIP hosted one for the books, and they are already looking forward to next year. You can reach SCC's American Indian Program by phone at (480) 423-6531 or by email at AIP@scottsdalecc.edu.





TOP: Artie the Artichoke grabs some valuable information from Salt River Schools staff.

LEFT: Families visit community resources to gain more information during the American Indian Program Open House.

BOTTOM: River People Health Center staff share the resources available to attendees.



LEFT: Kasheen Walker excited to be learning new information to present to





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Continued from front page

ulture Teacher Gathering 20

on Sept. 5 in the Indigenous Cultural Center at Scottsdale Community College. It was hosted by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Cultural Resources Department (CRD) and the Salt River Schools Education Native Language & Culture Team. Attending the event were O'odham teachers from the gi'ik (four) sibling tribes: the SRPMIC, the Gila River Indian Community, the Tohono O'odham Nation and the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

The Salt River Education Board and the CRD wanted the gathering to be "something [where] we can come together and enjoy one another's company, but at the same time gather important information and strategies that we can take back to our communities and share with our children, our families and our different communities." said emcee and Education Native Culture Coordinator Ipa Dutchover.

The gathering began with a welcoming and prayer, along with *chiver* (bird songs) and *piipa* (people songs) shared by CRD staff member Aarick Mack. The morning ceremonies

were followed by a presentation from keynote speaker Jeremy Johns from the Ak-Chin Indian Community and then gi'ik breakout sessions. The breakout sessions were O'odham focused and designed to promote the O'odham language. The gathering concluded with an O'odham cu:dk (socials) and giveaway.

Dutchover explained the significance of revitalizing the two languages and cultures within the SRPMIC, since the gathering took place within the SRPMIC boundaries.

"We represent two different tribes in one community here in Salt River, the Onk Akimel O'odham and the Xalychidom Piipaash. We're very thankful that our Community and our Council [support our efforts]. We [also] heard from our Education Board that they support our efforts in revitalizing our language, and we're not just doing it for one, [we're] doing it for both," said Dutchover.

He also expressed how important and special it is to bring light to both languages and cultures. "We're working very hard to bring quality and

notability to both languages and both cultures within our communities and within our schools, and we know how hard it is to teach one language. We're really trying our best to teach and give the opportunity for both languages and cultures to be showcased within our Community," said Dutchover.

Within Salt River and its sibling tribes, language and culture teachers are working with individuals who may be fluent in O'odham as well as individuals who are new to the language and rely on fluent speakers.

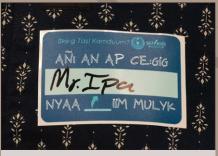
According to Johns, O'odham is referred to as an endangered language. He noted, "O'odham is going through a language shift at the moment, and it isn't learned as a first language by everyone in the Community anymore as it once was." A language shift is described as a community of people shifting from one language to another over time. "For O'odham communities in the U.S., we are slowly shifting from O'odham to English," said Johns.

Johns focused his presentation on heritage learners. "A heritage learner is anyone inside our Community who is learning the language spoken by the people and the culture that they come from. For us, this means our Community members, whether they live on or off the reservation," said Johns. For some heritage learners, the process becomes difficult because they say people will get mad or laugh at them if they make errors. Johns says, "Half the battle of learning a language is deciding that you actually want to learn [the language] and put the effort into learning it.'

He believes one of the most important factors for language learning is continuous exposure. "You need to hear it as much as possible. You need as many people who know the language talking to you as possible, and [it's important] for you to answer them in the language."

"Heritage learners will be our next teachers," said Johns.

By $da:m \ ju:k \ (noon)$, the phrase $he\tilde{n}$ navoc (my friend) was heard throughout the gathering. The Culture Teacher Gathering 2025 became not just a place of learning, but a place of friendship.



Culture Teacher Gathering attendees wore name tags in O'odham and Piipaash.



O'odham language workshop focused on remembering the sounds and spelling of the O'odham alphabet.



O'odham are known to give a good laugh.



"Mlah" brings a smile to the group by this attendee



The Culture Teacher Gathering was



Keynote speaker Jeremy Johns presents on heritage learners.



Isabella Dockerty showcases Piipaash alphabet during workshop.



Attendees participate in a brain break and play paper, rock, scissors in the O'odham language.



Attendees write down valuable information during Jeremy Johns presentation.



Ak-Chin Community member Mary participates in bonding exercise, The Culture Teacher Royalty Pageant.



Aarick Mack presents attendees with Bird songs during welcoming.



Giveaways, Snow Cones and Field Trips: A Lehi Boys & Girls Club Update



Boys & Girls Club of Greater Scottsdale Lehi Branch celebrated gaming week by enjoying playing popular video games such as Minecraft amongst one another. Photos courtesy of Duane Oakes, Boys & Girls Club branch director.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

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

The past few months at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale Lehi Branch have been filled with nonstop fun and fabulous prizes for club members and their families.

First, members participated in a summer reading contest. During the final days of summer camp, the Lehi Branch staff designed the building's interior to appear as though the young readers were 30,000 feet high in the sky on an airplane. Youth were treated to delicious snow cones from the Kona Ice snow mobile.

During July's hot temperatures, the club celebrated "Gaming Week," in which the youth refined their video game skills while also learning about teamwork. Additionally, the older club members took a field trip to the Heard Museum in Phoenix, where they immersed themselves in art, music, history and stories of Indigenous people.

In August, the club hosted its annual open house for families to tour the facility and chat with staff.

"We had over 100 people attend, with Community members, club members and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council members Michael Dallas Sr. and Deanna Scabby attending and participating in our passport activity where they visited every room," said Duane Oakes, branch director for the Boys & Girls Club

As part of the fun during the open house, completed passports were entered into a raffle for prizes such as bicycles, skateboards, backpacks and more, all generously donated to the Lehi Branch.

"We were lucky to have the Salt River Fire Department visit the center too," said Oakes.

The SRFD staff happily assisted in the raffle drawing, selecting the winners for the prize giveaway. Later, club members and staff posed for photos with members of the fire battalion.

Oakes shared that the SRFD visiting with the club and helping pick the winners for the passport prize giveaway was a major highlight for him and his staff.

With the new school year already underway, one thing remains clear: The fun times will continue at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale Lehi Branch.

The Lehi Branch is located at 1231 E. Oak in Mesa. For more information, call (480) 850-4453 or email Lehi@bgcs.org.



The Enoch Cree Nation Visits With The SRPMIC

inner workings that make the SRPMIC a wonderful place have reached across the United States and now into Canada

Enter the Enoch Cree Nation from Treaty 6 in Alberta, Canada.

On Sept. 10, Enoch Cree Nation executive directors and managers and Tribal Council members traveled roughly 1,500 miles from their homeland to meet with executive staff of the SRPMIC, including President Martin Harvier and Community Manager Bryan Meyers.

The group traveled around the Community by shuttle throughout the day, with SRPMIC Public Information Officer Blessing McAnlis-Vasquez answering questions as they came up. On the first leg of their tour, the group left from the Talking Stick Resort and Casino and traveled to the SRPMIC Justice Complex.

Exiting the shuttle in the Justice Complex parking lot, the group noticed the Council Chambers across the street. So they asked McAnlis-Vasquez for an impromptu tour of the building, stating how impressed they were.

Inside the jury assembly room in the Justice Complex, Harvier presented a snapshot history of the SRPMIC to the group. The Enoch Cree Nation members asked him about the resources available to Community members, such as the sober living homes, how the tribal government operates, the origins of the day labor program and more.

"We don't get much money from the government," said Chief Cody Thomas of the Enoch Cree Nation. "We do receive money from grants, but not much."

During the meeting, Thomas revealed that the Enoch Cree Nation does not charge its members for water because the nation has an agreement with the city of Edmonton, Alberta.

Later, the group was provided with a tour of the Justice Complex courtrooms and interrogation rooms.

SRPMIC Operations Highlighted

Following the tour of the courtrooms, Meyers answered questions from the group. During his welcome, Meyers introduced himself in O'odham and Piipaash.

He then detailed the SRPMIC elec-

tions and education system, as well as the frequency of Council meetings held throughout the Community, the business enterprises that the SRPMIC owns, and how the enterprise board members and CEOs work in tandem with the Community.

The representatives of the Enoch Cree Nation shared one of their biggest concerns back home, which is how to correctly establish and maintain their information technology (IT) systems.

The tribe has been working with outdated computers and software for a long time. After many internal discussions, the nation upgraded its IT systems. However, in doing so, the new system became vulnerable and unfortunately was the target of hackers.

That would not have happened with the old computer equipment.

We've got a mountain of people in IT," said Meyers. "For your 2,500-plusmember organization, you would probably need about 120 IT staff," he recommended.

The guests' visit wrapped up with lunch and a gift bag containing their very own shells and an important piece of SRPMIC: tepary beans from Ramona Farms.

"This is like gold here in the Community," revealed McAnlis-Vasquez with a smile. The guests then began discussing the different recipes back home that could utilize the beans.

The group then returned to Talking Stick Resort and Casino to conduct a virtual meeting with selected tribal members back in Alberta. They consistently thanked the SRPMIC for taking the time to detail for them the inner workings of the Community.

The group promised to return to the SRPMIC soon. They went home to begin preparing for their upcoming cold winter months, when the temperature barely reaches 30 degrees during the day and gets down to a low of -3 degrees at night.









SRPMIC Court Administrator Sondra Acedo (far right) answered many questions from the Enoch Cree Nation as they inquired about the inner workings of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Justice Complex and its day-to-day operations.





SRPMIC Assistant Court Administrator Brian Garza (middle) provided the Enoch Cree Nation with a tour of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Justice Complex. During the tour, many representatives from the Enoch Cree Nation complimented the SRPMIC on the design of the exterior and interior of the Complex.

SRPMIC Youth Services Staff Present at ICWA Conference

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

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

3 Takeaways:

- Enacted in 1978, the Indian Child Welfare Act responded to the crisis of the forced removal of Native children from their families and communities at alarming rates of 25% to 35%, with 85% being placed outside of their families, even when relatives or tribal members were available to care for them.
- This year, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe hosted the 8th Annual ICWA Conference at the Casino Del Sol Resort in Tucson.
- Six staff members from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Youth Services department made a presentation to conference attendees.

In mid-August, six staff members from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community traveled to the Casino Del Sol Resort in Tucson for the eighth annual Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Conference, hosted by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Nearly 300 representatives from various tribes attended.

Mylo Smith (Crow Creek-Dakota) served as the emcee for the conference. Smith is a comedian who has spent the last 18 years drug and alcohol free. Elisia Manuel, founder and executive director of Three Precious Miracles, was the keynote speaker.

SRPMIC Youth Services Director Tori Paukgana, Assistant Director Brian Yazzie, Program Manager John Paul Saspe, Youth Development Specialist Natasha Martinez, Youth Development Culture Specialist Isaac Lopez and Youth Development Specialist Alyssa Rodriguez presented during the four-day conference.

"My passion is working with the youth and helping to teach our culture. I shared how I want to continue to create a safe space for the youth to connect with their roots and feel proud to be O'odham and Piipaash," said Rodriguez.

Saspe echoed similar remarks. "I've learned so much [over] these past years; we wanted to share what we have learned to help others create their own initiatives."

The conference featured several breakout sessions that covered an overview of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe origins, boarding schools, protecting tribal advocacy, case updates, ethical issues involving the implementation of artificial intelligence in the practice of law, as well as sessions in flower-making, an art that has cultural meaning for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.



From L to R: Youth Services Program Manager John Paul Saspe, Youth Services Youth Development Specialists Natasha Martinez, Alyssa Rodriguez, and Isaac Lopez. Photo courtesy of Youth Services Director Tori Paukgana.

The staff from SRPMIC Youth Services networked with representatives of fellow tribes as they provided updates on all things related to the SRPMIC.

"We wanted to share the connections we have made with our Community and youth, and also the amazing things that can come out of collaboration when we put our resources together!" said Paukgana.

Rodriguez added, "We started from nothing, and building what we have now has not only made a difference, it's become a blueprint. Speaking at this year's conference was important to us because it gave us the chance to share that journey, to show what's possible when you invest in youth art and culture initiatives. It was an opportunity to uplift our Community's voice and hopefully inspire others to create similar spaces of growth, creativity and connection."

On day four, the Youth Services team presented to conference attendees about their most recent art activity, this past summer's "Echoes of The Akimel Murals & Youth Identity" event.

"Art and culture programs are more than just activities," said Martinez. "They are pathways for our kids to discover who they are and build a sense of belonging. The core message of my presentation at the ICWA conference was about the transformative power of art for our youth. All the work I put into the art program comes from a genuine place of wanting to support young people and be a positive mentor."

She added, "I've been using my voice to advocate for art programming as a way to show [youth] what's possible, helping them build confidence, connect with their identity and see new opportunities through creativity."

Lopez shared that the team was nervous to present at first. However, the department's passion and drive to represent the SRPMIC well took over and eliminated all nerves when it came time to present.

"Being able to be ourselves and who we are brought it all together with our passion for what we do," he said.

Now looking toward the future, members of the Youth Services team revealed they were proud to attend this year's ICWA conference because they all have the same unified goal: learning how to better help our future leaders in the SRPMIC.

"We need to get the message out that foster families are needed and are so important to being part of the solution when youth are removed from their homes," said Saspe.

Rodriguez shared, "We want readers to know how important it is to invest in our Community's youth, because they are our future leaders. Programs like these don't just support the kids, they uplift families and strengthen the entire Community. We hope that the work we've done through our art and culture programs can serve as a model for other tribal communities. Most of all, we want people to know that we truly love what we do, and we support our youth with big hearts."

The Youth Services team would like to thank the following departments, families and individuals for their assistance and collaboration: the Casey Family, SRPMIC departments, SRPMIC administration, Amy Davila and the Youth Services staff and families.

Honoring Veterans Together: Community and Employee Veterans Day Event



SUBMITTED BY VETERANS AFFAIRS

This year, we are proud to bring the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members and employees together for a special Veterans Day event. The celebration will be held on Friday, Nov. 7, at the Two Waters government complex starting at 10 a.m.—four days prior to the nationally recognized holiday on Nov. 11.

By hosting this joint gathering, we aim to create a meaningful day of recognition, reflection and gratitude for all who have served. This will be both an exciting and heartfelt event that unites our employees and Community members in honoring our veterans.

Full event details will be shared in the next issue of O'odham Action News, so please stay tuned for more information.

We warmly invite all Community members, whether or not you are a veteran, to join us on Nov. 7. We also encourage you to contribute by sharing updates or personal stories about your veteran loved ones. These narratives enable us to honor the lives and sacrifices of those who served and allow us to recognize them during our program and future events in a manner that genuinely reflects their service and legacy.

We look forward to celebrating this day with all of you as we honor the courage, sacrifice and dedication of our veterans.

COMMUNIT 10/18 & 10/25 VIEWING 8AM-NOON DAYS **ACCEPTING STARTING 10/18** LAST DAY TO BID 10/27 @ 5PM BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON VIEWING DAYS OR BETWEEN 8AM-5PM AT THE **OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION** TRIBAL MEMBERS ONLY TRIBAL ID'S WILL BE REQUIRED NO EXCEPTIONS ALL VEHICLES & AUCTION ITEM ARE SOLD AS-IS MUST BE 18YEARS OLD TO SUBMIT BID NO EXCEPTIONS **VEHICLE STORAGE LOT** CALL: 480.362.73<u>15</u> (BY DIALYSIS CENTER)

SALT RIVER DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Rio Active Transportation Study Looks to Public for Feedback

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

The Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) and a stakeholder advisory group of MAG member agencies, tribal partners and the ASU Rio Reimagined project are in the early phase of the Rio Reimagined Active Transportation Study and are gathering input from the public.

The 18-month study, which began in 2025, aims to identify a preferred river trail alignment along the Salt and Gila River corridors. By mid-2026, MAG hopes to compile a draft and final report.

"[The path] will connect walking and biking routes to transportation infrastructure and destinations, based on community and stakeholder input," said MAG Communication Coordinator Juan Juarez.

"The outcome will be a trail alignment, community connections and a funding strategy that local agencies can use to move projects forward."

The study is supported through MAG's federal transportation funds and was approved by the MAG Regional Council, with member agency support, as a part of a budget amendment to initiate the project.

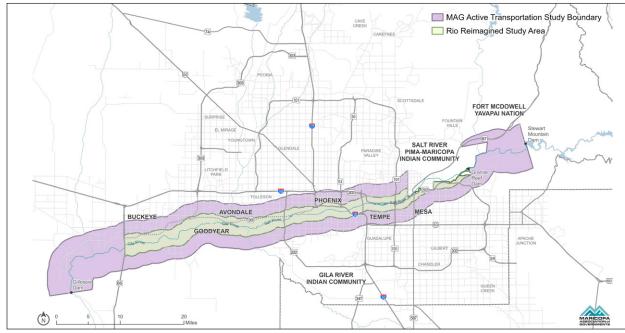
In 2018, the Rio Reimagined initiative formally launched after Valley municipalities and other partners, which include the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, signed a non-binding statement of intent to pledge support and staff resources for creation of an advisory board or committee to help advise on the project.

SRPMIC has participated in meetings since 2018 and is looking to see how the plan can incorporate into future Community development.

A 16-person "Scoping Committee" is working to identify the type of plan and approach to developing such a regional-scape plan for the river corridor, according to Juarez.

Juarez said engaging communities such as the SRPMIC and GRIC, as well as their tribal historic preservation offices, early in the process has allowed MAG to gain valuable feedback, better understand critical issues and refine the study's focus to address stakeholder concerns.

"[The] SRPMIC has also been an active partner in



A map of the proposed MAG Active Transportation Study boundary and Rio Reimagined Study Area. Graphic provided by Maricopa Association of Governments.

promoting the community online map and survey. Engagement with SRPMIC and GRIC and other partners will continue throughout the study," said Juarez, who noted that there is active dialogue with tribes.

"Tribal representatives serve on our Stakeholder Advisory Group, which helps guide the study and provides technical expertise and feedback on key elements. This group will meet several times over the 18-month study, and their participation, starting with a kickoff in April and additional meetings, will be scheduled at key milestones."

According to Juarez, early stakeholder feedback shows strong support for native plants and the removal of invasive species along the area of the study.

"For projects funded through Rio Reimagined, native names and cultural significance of plants are included in signage and events along the river," said Juarez.

MAG is also updating the 2020 Regional Active Transportation Plan. In 2023, MAG's Regional Council approved \$800 million over 20 years for sidewalks, bike lanes and trails—about \$40 million annually starting in 2027.

"Guided by public input, the updated plan will identify priority projects and recommend funding programs to support design and construction, helping create a safer, healthier and more connected region," said Juarez.

An interactive map and survey are now available for community input: https://tinyurl.com/23sszapn. More information can be found on the project website: http://azmag.gov/atp.



13 Successful Years With Ann Cvelich



Ann Cvelich Poses with flowers, a Pendleton blanket and an award presented by Council.

BY ZOE HERNANDEZ

O'odham Action News Zoe.hernandez@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Courtyard by Marriott Scottsdale Salt River and the Residence Inn Scottsdale Salt River have reached incredible heights in the hospitality field, occupying the top two spots for hotels in Scottsdale on Tripadvisor for the last seven years.

Ann Cvelich joined Marriott in 1981, and she has worked at multiple Marriott locations. In 2014, Cvelich began her journey with the Courtyard by Marriott Scottsdale Salt River, and a few years later she took the Residence Inn Scottsdale Salt River under her wing as a dual manager. Cvelich led both hotels to become award-winning Marriotts.

Cvelich is now ready to retire after 13 wonderful years with the properties. On Sept. 10, Cvelich was recognized at the Council meeting held in Lehi for her dedication to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Her family, friends, staff and supporters accompanied Cvelich on this momentous occasion.

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier shared some words about Cvelich. "We are proud to recognize someone who has not only built a remarkable career, but who has become a true partner and friend to the SRPMIC."

Cvelich has been recognized by Marriott International for her accomplishments several times, including two Diamond General Manager awards, two Silver awards, four Gold Medal awards, four Platinum awards and two Residence Inn Diamond awards.

"I just want to thank you for all your accomplishments," Harvier said to Cvelich. "From the moment that she arrived, Ann embraced our Community and our vision for the Talking Stick Entertainment District. She made sure her team didn't just operate in Salt River, they became part of Salt River. Ann's legacy is in the people she has inspired."

Cvelich said, "This is the longest time I've been with any hotel, and there is a reason for that. This Community, from the moment I was hired, has taken me under their wing as family. Anytime I've interacted with anyone in the Community—the police, the fire [department]—[they] all just made me feel like members of the family, and it's going to very hard to step away."

Being recognized at Council was bittersweet and emotional for Cvelich. "I'm honored to be here in front of you all. It's been my pleasure [and] my honor to run these two beautiful, amazing hotels and lead them to the success we've had. I just thank you so much for the opportunity to even be a small part of this community, and I continue to be very grateful for the opportunities. Thank you," she said.

Cvelich plans to start a new chapter called "CEO of Me." She also is looking forward to traveling with her family and enjoying the adventures still ahead. Good luck, Ann!



Ann Cvelich blows a kiss to her family and friends.



Ann Cvelich smiles ear to ear as she stands with her supporters after being recognized at the Council meeting held in Lehi.

9th Annual Salt River Fire Fighters 9/11 Stair Climb Has Record Turnout





Two patriotic American flag holders chant, "USA! USA!" to motivate the climbers as they weave in and out of aisles of stairs.

SRFD Color Guard and the SRFD Pipes & Drums Band began the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb program.

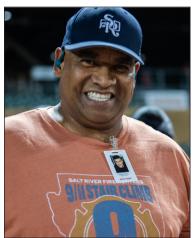
is a record for the Salt River Stair Climb, exceeding the \$150,000 goal. Proceeds from the event benefited the New York Fire Department (FDNY) Counseling Services Unit, the Salt River Firefighters Relief Fund, East Valley Firefighter Charities and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF), supporting families of fallen heroes in Arizona and across the nation

The NFFF's mission is to honor America's fallen fire heroes; support their families, colleagues and organizations; and work to reduce preventable firefighter death and injury.

Salt River Fire Department Capt. Riley Murph said that East Valley Firefighter Charities supports firefighters and their families not only in the East Valley and around the state, but also here at the SRFD, should a firefighter contract job-related cancer, suffer a debilitating injury or lose their life in the line of duty.

"These [proceeds from the Stair Climb] will help people like that who are in need," said Murph. "This was an awesome year. It was our biggest year yet, and our most profitable."

Murph expressed his thanks to Discover Salt River and the staff at Salt River Fields at Talking



"10-6!" Shouted Odey Toney from the stands, remembering the photographer's birthday.

Stick for the work they have done and continue to do to ensure a successful event.

Throughout the evening, climbers weaved up and down the stadium's seats, from the first base line to the third base line. Patriotic chants of "USA! USA!" could be heard at times by some participants waving large U.S. flags.

Many local fire departments participated, including



A team of firefighters participate in the Stair Climb.

the Phoenix Fire Department and Superstition Fire & Medical.

Speaking of the first responders who lost their lives on 9/11, Superstition Fire & Medical posted this on their Instagram account: "These stair climbs are a powerful reminder of their courage and commitment, and our members were proud to carry that memory with each step. We will never forget."



SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

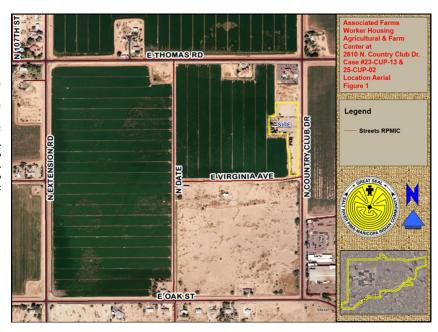
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Two Waters Building B, Third Floor, 10005 East Osborn Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256 Phone: 480-362-7600 | Email: Planning@SRPMIC-nsn.gov

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY HEARING

Associated Farms – Conditional Use Permits (23-CUP-13, 25-CUP-02)

The Applicant, Associated Farms has requested two Conditional Use Permits (CUP) to renew an agricultural lease (Lease B-232) located at 2610 North Country Club Drive. The two Conditional Use Permits (CUP) are for Worker Housing Agricultural and a Farm Center. A community Hearing is being held by the Community Council as required by Code of Ordinances Chapter 25 Article 2.8.4.



DATE: Wednesday, October 22, 2025

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

LOCATION: SRPMIC Council Chambers | 10091 East Osborn Road Scottsdale, AZ 85256

You May view the recorded presentation starting Thursday, October 23, 2025. Public comments can be made by email at public_hearing_comments@srpmic-nsn.gov, by phone at (480) 362-7470, or by text at (623) 282-5757.

For more information about the project, contact Julio Lugo, Planner I at (480) 362-3162

SAFEtalk Training Held in SRPMIC

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community hosted SAFEtalk suicide awareness training for Suicide Prevention Month.

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

Editor's Note: This story contains sensitive subject matter that readers may find upsetting.

September is Suicide Prevention Month. To ensure that Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members and staff are supported as we all navigate our individual journeys in life, the SRPMIC hosted a SAFEtalk training session designed to educate individuals on how to be aware of and alert to any signs that someone, including themselves, might be considering suicide.

SAFEtalk stands for Suicide Alertness for Everyone (SAFE) and training individuals on how to tell, ask, listen and keep safe (talk) while they assist an individual who may be having thoughts of suicide.

It is important to understand that the SAFEtalk training is not meant to replace any professional help given by trained counselors and therapists. In fact, the SAFEtalk training is meant to bridge people from their dark thoughts, allow them to feel listened to and supported, and help to connect them with professional services.

The annual training has been a standard in the Community for the past few years as SRPMIC Health and Human Services continues to strive toward making the SRPMIC a suicide-safer community.

Community Health Educators Vurlene Notsinneh-Bowekaty and Melanie Nosie facilitated the afternoon's training. Michelle Schurz, SRPMIC Community Outreach specialist, was also in attendance.

Because this is a sensitive topic, to ensure all guests and trainers were okay, they were required to give Schurz a thumbs-up if they needed to step out for a moment, even if it was to use the restroom or answer a quick phone call.

Notsinneh-Bowekaty shared with the group that the SAFEtalk presentation falls under the curriculum of Living-Works, an organization that has been providing prevention and intervention solutions to communities for over four decades.

"Suicide is everyone's business," said Nosie. "Wouldn't it be great if we could talk about it at home? And at work?" she asked the class.

More than 15 individuals, comprising Community members and staff, attended the training.

SAFEtalk stands for Suicide Alertness for Everyone (SAFE) and training individuals on how to tell, ask, listen and keep safe (talk) while they assist an individual who may be having thoughts of suicide.

"Talking about suicide is not easy. It's not comfortable. It's taboo in some groups of people. They say, 'Oh, we don't talk about that' or 'It's taboo to talk about death.' There are many reasons why they're not comfortable [talking about suicide]," said Nosie.

Contributing factors such as intergenerational trauma, economic dispari-

ties, high rates of substance abuse and exposure to trauma at an early age are some of what Indigenous communities face today.

Nosie reiterated that the SRPMIC continues to strive to be at the forefront of ensuring the health and overall wellbeing of the Community's members and staff. She detailed the Community's annual leave and sick leave policy, in addition to the latest update, the new policy which allows for staff to take a mental health day. These resources are just some examples of how the SRP-MIC strives to be a more suicide-safer Community.

As the presentation neared its conclusion, Nosie shared the many different ways we all can be sensitive, caring and non-judgmental. "Pay attention to what you see, what they do, what you hear from them and the statements they make, as well as what you sense from them and learn from them about what they are dealing with.

"Always make sure the person you're talking with feels supported and valued. If they're having a tough time but still don't want to talk, you can say to them, 'If you don't want to talk about that with me, that's fine. Let me get you

help with a counselor or therapist."

At the end of the presentation, attendees were given certificates stating that they are trained to assist an individual experiencing suicidal

thoughts. Any staff members in the Community with the official SAFEtalk sticker can assist someone experiencing suicidal thoughts and help connect them with professionals who can give them the help they need.

Here are organizations and resources available.

StrongHearts Native Helpline:

1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483) or 988 for suicide/crisis helpline

National Maternal Mental
Health Hotline:

Call/text 1-833-TLC-MAMA (1-833-852-6262)

The Trevor Project: 1-866-488-7386

Crisis Text Line:

Text "HOME" to 741741

National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN): 1-800-799-7233

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Dial 988 nationwide

River People Health Center Public Health Hotline:

(480) 362-2603

Patient Advocate: (480) 362-3470 Crisis Line (24/7): (480) 850-9230

SRPMIC

Residential Substance Abuse Services (Social Detox, Journey to Recovery, Sober Living):

(480) 362-5640

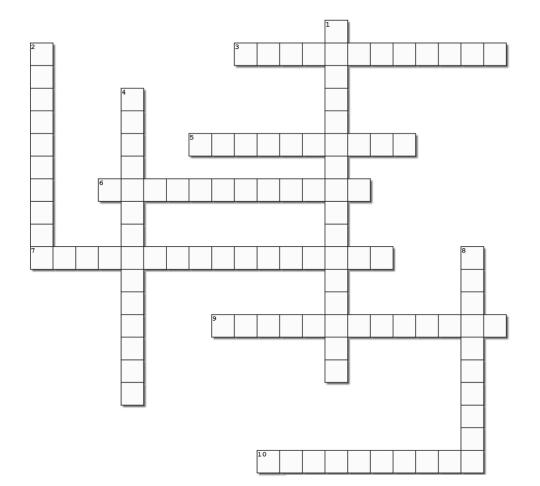
Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services:

(480) 278-7742, ext. 4201

Open your tablet/mobile phone and scan the QR code with your camera to receive additional information.



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. Current Arizona Secretary of State.
- 5. CEO of Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence.
- Salt River Higher Education Program Advisor.
- 7. The title of Angeline Boulley's New York Times Best-selling book.
- 9. The 18-month study which aims to identify a preferred river trail alignment along the Salt and Gila River corridors.
- 10. Recent retiree of Courtyard by Marriott Scottsdale Salt River and Residence Inn Scottsdale Salt River.

Down

- 1. The hosting tribe of this year's Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Conference.
 - 2. Current Chief of the Enoch Cree Nation.
- 4. SRPMIC Community Outreach specialist who assisted with the SAFEtalk presentation.
- 8. The Salt River Fire Department Capt. who said the 9/11 stair climb as the biggest and best event yet.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

Burns, Candace - Restraining Order Hearing Case: CV-25-

4576 Court Date: October 20, 2025 at 11:30 AM

Carlos, Laila Athena - Entry of Default Judgement Hearing
Case: CV-25-3178 Court Date: October 20, 2025 at 9 AM

Goodwin, Heather - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-25-0900 Court Date: November 3, 2025 at 9:30 AM

Goodwin, Heather - Status Hearing Case: CV-25-1968 Court Date: November 3, 2025 at 9 AM

Flores, Lance Eagle - Entry of Default Judgement Case: CV-25-0859 Court Date: October 8, 2025 at 9 AM

Flores, Olivia - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-25-4184 Court Date: October 6, 2025 at 11 AM

Gonzalez, Cherysh - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-25-4184 Court Date: October 6, 2025 at 11 AM

Hamalowa, Anthony - Restraining Order Hearing Case: CV-25-4634 Court Date: October 20, 2025 at 4 PM

Hayes, Ariana Persuasia - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-24-6558 Court Date: October 22, 2025 at 11 AM

Mack, Chester Vaughn - Evidentiary Dissolution Hearing Case: CV-25-1839 Court Date: October 22, 2025 at 10 AM

Miguel, Michael Wayne Jr. - Evidentiary Guardianship Hearing Case: CF-21-0015 Court Date: November 20, 2025 at 10 AM

Miguel, Roland Leon Jr. - Evidentiary Dissolution Hearing Case: CV-25-4120 Court Date: October 27, 2025 at 9 AM

Osif-Thomas, Daniel Matthew - Evidentiary Hearing Case: CV-25-1935 Court Date: October 20, 2025 at 10 AM

Parchcorn, Ellis J. Jr. - Evidentiary Child Support Hearing Case: CV-25-4084/CV-24-4577 Court Date: November 5, 2025 at 11 AM

Parchcorn, Ellis J. Sr. - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-24-5858 Court Date: October 27, 2025 at 10 AM

Saunders, Michael Daniel - Evidentiary Guardianship Hearing Case: CV-25-3813 Court Date: October 27, 2025 at 9 AM

Thomas, Elijah Mon - Evidentiary Paternity Hearing Case: CV-25-3829 Court Date: October 8, 2025 at 11 AM

CARLOS, JUSTIN NOTICE OF DEFAULT JUDGMENT CV-25-0598

COUNTRY CLUB CARS V. JUSTIN CARLOS
To: Justin Carlos

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State

of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number CV-25-0598 Notice of Default Judgment is hereby given ORDERED

lotice of Default Judgment is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default judgment against Respondent, Carlos, Justin is hereby ENTERED. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, that Respondent, Carlos, Justin shall pay \$21,213.45 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).

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

CARLOS, LAILA ATHENA DEFAULT NOTICE CV-25-3178

To: Laila Athena Carlos , RESPONDENT

- 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.
- 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
- If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)

DATED: August 28. 2025

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

Public Comments on Proposed Amendments to the Guardianship/Conservatorship Ordinance Comment Period: July 9, 2025 – October 10, 2025

On Wednesday, July 9, 2025, the SRPMIC Council authorized a ninety (90) day public comment period for the proposed amendments to the Community's Guardianship / Conservatorship Ordinance. The draft ordinance does the following:

These amendments are fairly minor and the primary purpose of the amendments are to change the government department that manages the guardianship program. The specific amendments are as follows:

Changes the "Health and Human Services Department" to the "Social Services Department" with respect to the government department that manages the Guardianship Division. The reason for this change is because the Health and Human Services Department is primarily focused on health services and public health initiatives whereas the Social Services Department is best suited to handle case management type of services. The Guardianship Division is primarily a case management function. A guardian provides for the daily needs of vulnerable adults including but limited to: food assistance, housing assistance, life skills training, scheduling medical care, and providing transportation for various needs. Currently the code mandates that the director of the Health and Human Services Department and the director of the Finance Department are solely responsible for managing the Guardianship Division and the Conser

vatorship Division. These code amendments will add language of "or his/her designee" as it relates to these directors. This change will allow those respective directors to delegate the duty to one of their employees which will allow for flexibility and better service to Community members.

Currently the code requires that an audit be conducted every year for the Conservatorship Division. These code amendments would change that requirement to every other year which gives the government more flexibility and aligns with the current practice of the government wide external audits which occur every other year. You can find the full text of proposed ordinance amendments and presentation materials at https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/ogc/proposed-ordinances/

Please submit all comments in writing either to the Community's intranet "Ordinance Public Comment" page, or via standard mail or email to the following:

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
The Office of the General Counsel
10,005 East Osborn Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85256
OrdPublicComment@srpmic-nsn.gov
Jeff.Harmon@srpmic-nsn.gov

Public Comments on Proposed Amendments to the Workers' Compensation Ordinance Comment Period: July 9, 2025 – October 10, 2025

On Wednesday, July 9, 2025, the SRPMIC Council authorized a ninety (90) day public comment period for the proposed amendments to the Community's Workers' Compensation Ordinance. The draft ordinance does the following:

These amendments contain three (3) separate provisions with the primary purpose of providing additional workers' compensation benefits to Firefighters and other first responders focusing on cancer diagnoses, heart issues and mental health counseling after exposure to traumatic events. The amendments are as follows:

Option 1: A presumption would be added to the law allowing firefighters to qualify for workers' compensation benefits when they are diagnosed with certain cancers that result in disability or death. Certain criteria must be met in order to prove it is a work-related injury.

Option 2: A heart or perivascular injury is presumed to be an occupational disease and is deemed to arise out.

that result in disability or death. Certain criteria must be met in order to prove it is a work-related injury.

Option 2: A heart or perivascular injury is presumed to be an occupational disease and is deemed to arise out of employment for first responders only if it can be fairly traced to the employment as the proximate cause.

Option 3: A program would be established to provide first

responders who are exposed to a traumatic event while in the course of duty up to twelve (12) visits of licensed counseling fully paid by the Community. Additionally, there would be no loss of pay and benefits to the employee if a licensed mental health professional determines the employee is not fit for duty. The employee would not be required to use leave for these counseling sessions. You can find the full text of proposed ordinance amendments and presentation materials at: https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/ogc/proposed-ordinances/

Please submit all comments in writing either to the Community's intranet "Ordinance Public Comment" page, or via standard mail or email to the following:

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
The Office of the General Counsel
10,005 East Osborn Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85256
OrdPublicComment@srpmic-nsn.gov
Jeff.Harmon@srpmic-nsn.gov



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Contact **Newspaper Assistant Kari Haahr** at

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Leave your name, number and message and they will get back to you. **GOT A STORY IDEA?**

Email us at **oodhamactionnews@srpmic-nsn.gov** or call **(480) 362-7750**

DEFAULT NOTICES HAYES, ARIANA PERSUASIA

ORDÉR TO SHOW CAUSE CV-24-6558 SARI CELINE TORRES V. ARIANA PERSUASIA HAYES

TO: Ariana Persuasia Hayes; Respondent,

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear for Order to Show Cause Hearing on the 22nd day of October 2025 at 11:00AM, in Court Room #1, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for Civil Complaint hearing on January 16, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. and for hearing on March 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. 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.

You are entitled to subpoena witnesses on your behalf and to be represented by counsel.

ORDERED this 25th day of August 2025.

Raymond L. Deer. Presiding Judge SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

MACK JR., CHESTER DEFAULT NOTICE CV-25-1839

VIRGINIA MACK V. CHESTER MACK JR.

To: Chester Mack Jr., RESPONDENT

- 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.
- 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
- If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)

DATED: August 20. 2025

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

MELENDEZ, NICOLE PATRICIA NOTICE OF DEFAULT JUDGMENT CV-24-5856

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court

ase number CV-24-5856

Notice of Default Judgment is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default judgment against Respondent, Melendez, Nicole Patricia, is hereby ENTERED. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, that Respondent,, Melendez, Nicole Patricia shall pay \$9,687.12 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).

PARCHCORN, ELLIS ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CV-24-5858

COUNTRY CLUB CARS V. ELLIS PARCHCORN

To: Ellis Parchcorn

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 27h day of October 2025 at 10:00am in Court Room #2, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to abide by Default Judgment Order issued May 19, 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: September 23, 2025.

ANTHONY F. LITTLE, II, ASSOCIATE JUDGE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

WASHINGTON, EDWARD LYNN DEFAULT NOTICE CV-25-3181

Country Club Cars v. Edward Lynn Washington To: Edward Lynn Washington, RESPONDENT

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

1. A Civil Complaint has been filed against you in this

- 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
- the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.

 4. A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and

irreversible consequences against you.

or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under

- 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: August 18. 2025

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

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

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SALT RIVER BUSINESS LISTINGS

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vahoo.com

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AU-AUTHUM KI. INC.

Commercial construction. Margaret Rodriguez, (480) 250-7566

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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 drinkware and engraving www.dajcreations. com 480-584-0401 dajnativedesigns@

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Yard maintenance / tree trimming, sprinkler repairs and service. Sherry Harris, (480) 275-9934 / daliaresendiz0815@icloud.com

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O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS 10.005 E. Osborn Road. Scottsdale, AZ 85256

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4001. N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, AZ Michael Smith-Owner Piipash LLC (480) 947-6400 (store) piipash@hotmail.com LEHI CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

SERVICES: Visit us on Facebook Live

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1452 E. Oak St. Mesa, AZ 85203

Pastor Merrill Jones

Sun. School, 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.

Sun. Night Bible Study, 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

1512 E. McDowell Rd. Mesa. AZ 85203

SERVICES: Sunday Worship Service,

app. Call church for Zoom ID.

1342 E. Oak Mesa, AZ 85203

annette.f.lewis@gmail.com

the Month, after services

Pastor Annette Lewis

(480) 404-3284

at 4 p.m.

AZ, 85256

PAPAGO WARD

(480) 947-1084

LEHI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICES: Sunday Services 10 a.m.,

Birthday Sunday Potluck- Last Sunday of

Youth Devotion/Music (bring your instru-

ments!) last 2 Saturdays of the month

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

2056 N. Extension Rd. Scottsdale

PIMA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

12207 E. Indian School Rd.

Scottsdale, AZ 85256

Pastor Marty Thomas

the month (potluck after)

SERVICES: Sunday service begins at

(480) 874-3016/ Home: (480) 990-7450

SERVICES: Sunday service 11 a.m.

Lord's Supper every first Sunday of

Communion First Sundays at 10 a.m.

10 a.m. Now available through the Zoom

Wed. Devotion Night 6:30 p.m.

(480) 234-6091

the Nazarene.

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Pastor Neil Price

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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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kari.haahr@srpmic-nsn.gov

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OCTOBER 16 NOVEMBER 6 NOVEMBER 20

DECEMBER 4

DEADLINE AT NOON OCTOBER 3 **OCTOBER 17 NOVEMBER 7 NOVEMBER 21**

SEND INFORMATION TO O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS at oodhamactionnews@srpmic-nsn.gov

For more information please call (480) 362-7750.

SALT RIVER CHURCH LISTINGS 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

SALT RIVER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Study 6pm

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 Tuesvisit vomesa.org for more service times, life group locations, and events

MORNINGSTAR APOSTOLIC CHURCH 3263 E Guadalupe Rd, Gilbert, Arizona 85234

Follow us @vomesachurch on Instagram

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 Instagram 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.

HUHUGAM KI: MUSEUM

MUSEUM CLOSURE

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 31

THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED FOR INVENTORY AND EXHIBIT CHANGES. STAFF WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING NORMAL HOURS VIA PHONE.

Join us for our reopening on November 3rd and our 38th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, November 8th. More info coming soon!





HUHUGAM KI: MUSEUM 480.362.6320 WWW.HUHUGAMKI.ORG

• @HUHUGAMKI 1 @HUHUGAMKIMUSEUM

COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

For the week of October 6, 2025, the Wednesday SRPMIC Council Meeting and Thursday Work Session have been CANCELED.

· October 8, 2025 | Regular Session

· October 9, 2025 | Work Session

Thank you for your understanding. Have a safe and enjoyable week.





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ACESDV Program Update

Learn how the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence has continued helping individuals in the Valley of the Sun by helping support legislation, hosting support group meetings and more.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

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

When survivors are not listened to, that impact ripples out negatively and adds to a family's generational trauma.

For nearly four decades, the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) has become known as one of the premiere organizations leading the way when it comes to helping end sexual and domestic violence in Arizona.

When the organization first launched in 1980, its main objective focused on eliminating domestic violence in Arizona. For nearly three decades, the nonprofit grew considerably while providing resources to survivors and their families as they navigated the proper steps to take next.

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3 Takeaways:

- ACESDV was founded in 1980 as AZ Coalition Against Domestic Violence, with the focus being primarily on domestic violence. In 2013, the organization rebranded as ACESDV and now includes sexual violence.
- The nonprofit focuses on key areas, including its Native American program, which provides in-person training sessions, community engagement and more to all 22 tribal communities in Arizona.
- In 2024, ACESDV received nearly 5,000 calls, chats, texts, and emails to its helpline.

In 2013, the organization rebranded as ACESDV and updated its mission statement to include sexual violence.

The organization's updated objective allowed for the coalition to expand its approach and become more involved with policy and legislation changes in Arizona. This also allowed the nonprofit to begin collaborating with all 22 tribal nations in Arizona to further provide resources, support and training to Indigenous communities fighting domestic and sexual violence.

In its 2024 annual report, ACESDV noted that it received 4,863 calls, chats, texts and emails to its helpline.

In 2025, ACESDV partnered with 2SLGBTQIA+communities to help push for more positive policy changes. Staff helped create the policies at local shelters to ensure all services conducted are inclusive and affirming of 2SLGBTQIA+ survivors.

Furthermore, this past May, ACESDV announced the passage of Arizona House Bill 2581, which authorizes and establishes a statewide sexual assault kit tracking system. "This law is a promise kept to survivors: that their experience matters, that their evidence won't be forgotten, and that our systems will work for them and not against them," said Jenna Panas, CEO of ACESDV.

The new law requires full participation by all law enforcement, ensures survivors have secure access to case status updates, and standardizes accountability across the state to ensure the timely handling and testing of all sexual assault kits.

The bill was sponsored by Rep. Selina Bliss, who

represents District 1, which includes Yavapai County. Gov. Katie Hobbs signed the bill into law on May 13.

ACESDV still continues to advocate for Arizona residents while providing support and guidance to those who need it.

In the next issue of *O'odham Action News*, get to know the team behind ACESDV and learn the impact of the work that they provide statewide, including here in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.



Open your mobile phone/tablet and open your camera to scan and receive additional information regarding the types of services ACESDV provides to those living in the state of Arizona.



Limited Vendor Space

Open to the Public

damages.

Sponsored by the Piipaash Matasheevm Committee

Alcohol and drug free event.

PMC not liable for thefts, injury, or

Remembering Edward Reina, a Lifetime of Leadership in Tribal Public Safety



PUBLISHED BY OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, SEPT. 19, 2025

The Justice Department Office of Tribal Justice joins the federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement family in mourning the passing of Edward Reina, a member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, (Akimel O'odham) and a retired chief law enforcement executive.

During Reina's many years of public service, he served as a tribal law enforcement leader in many roles, including as chief of police in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and Yavapai-Prescott Tribe, and as director of Public Safety for the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Reina was also the first tribal police chief to serve as president of the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police. And he was a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Indian Country Law Enforcement Section.

Reina is perhaps best known as the respondent in the 1990 U.S. Supreme Court case of *Duro v. Reina* in which he defended tribal law enforcement authority on his home reservation and across Indian Country.

Reina passed away on Sept. 14 in Florida and is survived by his wife Enid.

In September, at the Justice Department in Washington, we honored Ed and his family with a moment of silence at a meeting of the Indian Country Federal Law Enforcement Coordination Group. We are humbled by his legacy and sorely miss his great partnership and contributions to public safety in Indian Country. We extend heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

O'odham Action News October 2, 2025

Salt River Higher Education Program Orientation Informs Students

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

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

On Sept. 9, the Salt River Higher Education Program offered an orientation at the Education Board Room for enrolled Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members with plans to pursue higher education.

The orientation session helped prospective students meet their goals and learn about scholarship program application deadlines.

"The purpose of [the orientation] is to get Community members together to talk more about higher ed," said Salt River Higher Education Program Advisor Kenisha Begay.

"We want [prospective students] to know that they have the ability to go to school, first of all. Second of all, they have support that is available."

Other Higher Education Program advisors working to help students are Joyla Gates, Erica Outcalt and Mario West. Additional staff members include Early College Advisor (Early College Outreach) secretary Davina Leon, accountants Andrea Stanley and Tonya Coakley, and Higher Education administrator Rebeca Ronstadt-Contreras.

At the session, prospective students received a college and vocational school application checklist with deadline dates and items to be provided, such as copies of a high school diploma or GED transcript, signed authorization letters, 2025-2026 FAFSA submission summary, a Higher Education scholarship application and more.

At the orientations, a program advisor also presents a variety of services, resources and information to students,



Salt River Higher Education program advisor Kenisha Begay advising a prospective student who came to the Sept. 9 orientation at the Education Board room.

such as early college outreach, financial assistance and education career advising.

Virtual and in-person advising appointments are available to all students, from high school to incarcerated students.

The program covers costs related

to academic and vocational programs, tuition and mandatory fees, and books, supplies, credit incentives and childcare.

Upcoming deadlines for students to

be mindful of are Nov. 30 (academic funding) and Oct. 31 (vocational funding). Applications can be found at http://he.saltriverschools.org.

For more information on the program or upcoming orientation sessions scheduled on Oct. 2 and Oct. 17, call (480) 362-2547 or email HigherEducation@saltriverschools.org.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY: ADAMS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A JOURNALIST



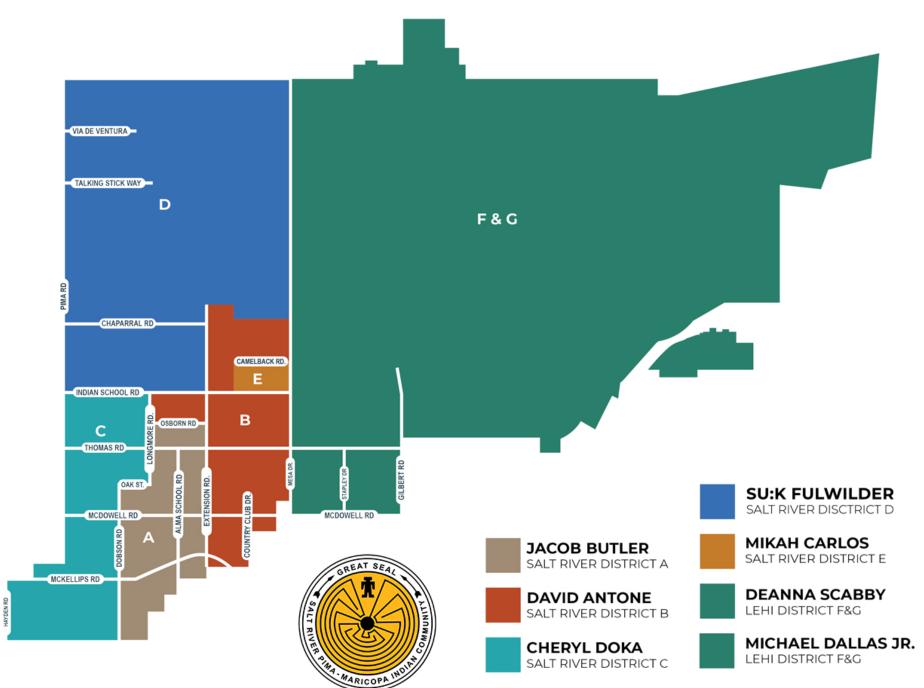
Adams Elementary students in Mesa have some new ideas for what they might want to be when they grow up. The Native American Education Program at Mesa Public Schools invited *O'odham Action News* to the school on Tuesday, Sept. 15, to speak with students and share what it takes to get into journalism as a career. Staff members shared the different paths that led them into journalism. They said that while a career path might not be clear or straight, by sticking with school and keeping an open mind, students can build skills in things they enjoy.

The students learned what goes into telling stories—the who, what, where, when, why and how—and the importance of Native stories being told by Native voices. The news team shared different skills they use as journalists, including creativity in writing stories and designing newspaper layouts, thinking about how stories reflect and impact the Community, and problem-solving when something unexpected happens. Students also got a hands-on look at the technology that helps OAN staff cover exciting events, showing enthusiasm for the drone that the team uses to document events in the Community for news videos. They expressed surprise at how heavy a camera can be.

No matter what career they choose, these students have bright futures ahead and the NAEP is ready to support their journey.

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MAP OF COUNCIL DISTRICTS







Salt River Materials Group is a leading supplier of cement, pozzolans and aggregates in Arizona and the Southwest U.S for the over 60 years. SRMG has a wide variety of career positions, and we invest in our employees through extraordinary benefits, training and development opportunities to allow our employees to grow in their careers.

BENEFITS

Life Disability

Long & Short-Term Disability Insurance

PTO (Paid Time Off) & PSL (Paid Sick Leave)

Bereavement Leave - immediately available upon hire date.

Holiday Pay - 7 observed and paid holidays, 2 floating holidays!

Health - extensive medical, dental, vision and prescription drug coverage.

Supplemental Programs - Everyone Health, Teledoc (24/7 medical/mental heal services), GRAIL - pre cancer screen (based upon eligibility)

Health Club Membership - Health club membership for employees.

401(k) – A retirement savings plan with multiple investment options and 6% matching dollar for dollar

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

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.

Check us out at. . . www.srmaterials.com

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., Ske:q Himdaq Ki: Senior Room. This ancient Chinese martial art uses slow and continuous movements to improve the mind and body. For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive

LOVE AND HARMONY COUPLES GROUP, Tuesdays 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM | Behavioral Health Services, River People Health Center 10901 E McDowell Rd. Scottsdale AZ 85256. Ready to strengthen your relationship and build deeper connection? Join our Couples Group, based on Dr. John Gottman's The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work. Learn practical tools to: Improve communication; Resolve conflicts; Deepen intimacy; Navigate challenges around family, work, and more. Call (480) 362-5707 to learn more or sign up today.

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. at the Ske: q Himdag Ki: (WOLF) pool. 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

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. at RPHC. 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.

WARRIOR'S SUPPORT CIRCLE, 2nd Thursday Warrior's 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/dependance. Fridays 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at RPHC Room 3106 (3rd Floor) For More Information please contact Shea Hinton at (480)

SENIOR SACRED STRIDERS, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 1:30-2 p.m., Ske:g Himdag Ki: track. Walking sticks available. Prizes based on participation. Walking after a meal boosts digestion and lowers blood sugar so join us for a feel-good and good-for-you stroll. For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs.

HELPING HANDS HALF OFF FOR SRPMIC MEMBERS,

Every Friday Community members get 50% off at Helping Hands. Open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., closed 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. for lunch at 10213 E. Osborn Rd. Call 480-362-5625 for more information.

BEADING CIRCLE, Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. at Salt River Tribal Library inside Ske:g Himdag Ki:. Open to enrolled SRPMIC members and Ske:g Himdag Ki: mem-

bers. Call 480-362-6600 for more information.

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP, Every 1st Thursday of the Month, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at Lehi Community Building Room 109. In partnership with SCC, Creative Writing Group provides a creative environment to learn and explore prompt writing, literary discussion, and quest writers/authors. All genres and levels welcome. Open to adult Community Members and Ske:g Himdag Ki: members. For more information, call 480 362-6600.

S'HE:PIJIG MASAD **XLY'A SHAXUK OCTOBER**

2 CIRCLE OF HOME AND REMEMBRANCE, The River People Health Center is hosting a Circle of Hope and Remembrance as an effort to take a stand on drug use in the Community. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. in the first floor lobby. For more information, call (480) 362-2603.

3 CHICKEN SCRATCH MOLINA BAND, Everyone is invited to the StrongLife event at the Salt River Community Building. The dance goes from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

4 ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI MISSION CHURCH FEAST DAY,

3090 N. Longmore Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85256. Mass at 9:30 a.m., blessing of the animals, lunch served. Benediction at 5:30 p.m. Also featuring raffle and drawing, bingo, cake walk, games, music, vendor spaces. St. Francis will not be responsible for any injury, theft, or accidents. Sale items are to be appropriate to the general public. Drugs, alcohol and weapons are not allowed. For more info, contact 480-994-0952

4 PIIPAASH MATASHEEVM COMMUNITY SOCIAL. Beginning at 12 p.m. at Lehi Gathering Area. See ad on

page 18 for full details!

4 SALT RIVER ARTS FESTIVAL, The free event takes place at Roadhouse Cinemas from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The festival is presented by Salt River Materials Group and will spotlight traditional contemporary expressions from Indigenous artists. Complimentary totes for the first 200

- 6 COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST, The breakfast will take place at the Salt River Community Building from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. A light meal will be provided. For those who wish to submit unspoken prayer requests, email srpmicprayerbreakfast@gmail.com
- 6 FREE ANIMAL HEALTH EVENT, In partnership with SRPMIC Environmental Health, NAGI Foundation will host a free animal health event for dogs and cats at the Salt River Ballfields. SRPMIC members and residents of the Community are eligible with a tribal ID or proof of residency. One appointment required for each pet. Call (602) 730-2092 for more information.
- 7 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS SEMINAR, 5 p.m. -8 p.m. in ALA Cafeteria. Don't miss this jam-packed event which will feature informational speakers, exceptional prizes, and valuable resources so we can END Domestic Violence for good! See ad on page 10 for more informa-
- 8 LEGACY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLINIC, Calling all Native youth ages 6-17. The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Legacy Clinic is taking place at Scottsdale Community College Stadium. Check in starts at 5:15 p.m. with the clinic going from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Westwood High School football legend Sammy Moore will be in attendance. For questions, call (480) 362-6365.
- 9 BREAKTHROUGH WITH SRPD, The Salt River Police Department is hosting this Community event designed to keep you informed and connected. Department divisions will share updates. Refreshment and snacks will be served. The event is from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at police headquarters, 8860 E. Chaparral Rd.
- 10 PUBLIC SAFETY DAY, 5:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m. at Salt River Ballfields. Music, food, and fun for all ages! See ad on page 10 for more information.
- 14 GLOW WALK, Everyone is welcome to participate in the walk, starting at 6 p.m. at 10241 E. Osborn Rd., Scottsdale, AZ. T-shirts and a light dinner will be available for the first 200 participants. For more information, call (480) 362-7350.
- 18 COMMUNITY VEHICLE AUCTION, See page 12 to learn