

## MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AWARENESS MONTH

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## 'The People Come First': 2026 Springtime Piipaash Matasheevm

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE  
O'odham Action News  
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The bird songs and dances filled the hearts of many with joy out in Lehi, also known by the people as "God's Country," for the 2026 springtime Piipaash Matasheevm.

Held on April 3 and 4 this year, the two-day springtime celebration is widely considered to be one of the biggest events held in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The April celebration was the ninth annual Piipaash Matasheevm, which has been put together by collaborative efforts between the Piipaash Matasheevm Committee (PMC), SRPMIC Council, Community departments, volunteers, enterprises and more.

Just like in previous Matasheevms, the emcees for the celebration were Pacer Reina, Tyrone Emerson, Jeremiah Shaw and Garfield Nish.

The celebration began with Friday morning's sunrise blessing by Nish. Later that day, the Piipaash Matasheevm Community Veterans presented the colors. The night continued with dinner, the tiny tot special presented by the Miss Salt River Committee, and of course, bird songs and dances underneath the moonlight.

On Saturday, Nish again performed the early-morning sunrise blessing before the Young River People's Council-sponsored walk began. Thankfully, Mother Earth provided a fresh blanket of clouds, so the scorching heat took a backseat throughout both days.

Later in the afternoon, Reina made sure to say a few special words about an individual who is crucial to the Lehi district as well as to the Matasheevms, Garnet Gates.

"I just wanted to mention Mr. Garnet Gates, who is a longtime pillar of this Community," said Reina. "He



Cameron Ramirez shares a song at the springtime Piipaash Matasheevm, which was a wonderful reminder of the celebrated bird songs and dances that help create the SRPMIC.

Continued on centerspread pages 10-11

## Governor Katie Hobbs Tours Recovery and Cultural Centers, Meets with Tribal Council

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO  
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Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs spent an afternoon in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community on April 14 to discuss important issues with leaders and tour of a handful of facilities.

The tour began at Journey to Recovery (JTR), a residential treatment facility on the River People Health Center campus. Later, SRPMIC leaders gave her a brief tour Community sober living home facilities and facilitated a peek at the Kavaq/Kushov Cultural Center before it opens.

Joining Hobbs was Governor's Office of Tribal Relations Director of Tribal Affairs Jason Chavez and Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs Angela Willeford, who is from the Community.

Hobbs was welcomed first by SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, Council member

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LEFT to RIGHT: HHS Director Joe Remitera, Council member Jacob Butler, Gov. Katie Hobbs, President Martin Harvier and Chief Behavioral Health Officer Nate Velez.

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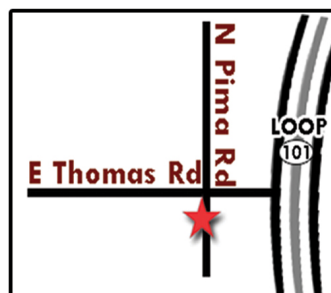
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# Michael Smith Celebrates 30 Years of Service with the SRPMIC Gaming Enterprises

Michael Smith, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member and owner of Pi-ipaash Shell, was honored on April 8 for three decades of service to the SRPMIC Community Gaming Enterprises.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE  
O'odham Action News  
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The year is 1996. Music group the Spice Girls and their latest single, "Wannabe," are quickly climbing to the top of the charts. The first installment of the "Mission Impossible" film series starring Tom Cruise is about to debut in theaters.



"I'm not done yet," said Smith with a smile after being showered with celebrations, handshakes, hugs and laughter from many during his "workiversary" celebration on April 8.

Meanwhile, in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Michael Smith is about to begin his career working for the Community Gaming Enterprises, a career that will introduce him to many CEOs, a billionaire from California, countless legendary musicians, political figures and a lifetime's worth of memories.

On April 8 of this year, Smith was honored for 30 years of service at a special celebration. He was quick to remind guests that it was not a retirement party, but a "workiversary" celebration.

Plans for the celebration were put together thanks to Casino Arizona Team Engagement Specialists David Brewer and Jason Samletzka. It was held inside The Showroom at Casino Arizona. The event featured a catered meal with a celebratory cake.

As Smith was provided a microphone to say a few words, he started by stating how crucial the poker room is to the SRPMIC Community Gaming Enterprises. "We may not have had our gaming compact or any of this without the poker room," he said.

Smith read aloud the names of the individuals he worked with for the last 30 years. Some who are still with us, some now in leadership positions elsewhere in the Community, and the individuals who are no longer with us.

"For those who are no longer with us, I say, 'They went home,'" said Smith.

Smith recalled that, before the Community Gaming Enterprises came to be, the Salt River Landfill was the biggest revenue generator for the Community.

Later, Smith continued to detail the SRPMIC Community Gaming Enterprise history, while the second-ever CEO of Casino Arizona, John Jenkins, smiled proudly and nodded, agreeing with Smith's retelling of the gaming compact's early origins.

Jenkins worked previously at Apache Gold Casino and would later leave there to join Smith at Casino Arizona. With a cheeky grin, Smith recalled, "Myself

and a few others went to Apache Gold to meet with him to talk, and he came back with us; we captured him."

Smith also said before they were called Casino Arizona and Talking Stick Resort, the Community's gaming enterprise was simply called "Gaming Development Department."

In 1996, the department began the process of getting signatures for a referendum to create Proposition 201 and get it on the Arizona ballot.

Prop. 201 passed on Nov. 5, 1996, with 856,903 Arizonans voting yes to support the state of Arizona entering gaming compacts with Indian tribes.

During that time, Ivan Makil was chairman of the SRPMIC. Supporters of Prop. 201 at that time included then-Sheriff Joe Arpaio, Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell and Mesa Mayor Willie Wong.

Smith continued to thank previous and current gaming executives, department officials and the Community for the support he's received during his three decades of service. He reiterated that the employee 401(k) plan, life and health insurance benefits, as well as the support from upper management, has made the SRPMIC Gaming Enterprises a premiere place to work for many.

"During COVID, when things were at their worst, a lot of people were being furloughed or laid off and we weren't sure what the future was going to be. They've been extremely grateful for not furloughing anybody and allowing us to take time off while still paying us. There's no company in the world that would do that, but they did," he said.

As he finished his speech, Smith read names of additional individuals who have "gone home" and revealed some of his future goals.

"Soon, may we see the future development of our tribal members in leadership positions, including one day a tribal chief executive officer, tribal chief hospitality officer, tribal general managers and other tribal directors. We'll see that real soon; it won't take 30 years," he said.

Smith was then showered with hugs and handshakes and received a diamond-shaped plaque commemorating 30 years of service.

However, in his own words, he's "not done" just yet. Guests at Casino Arizona can still catch him out on the gaming floor flashing his signature smile.

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# Gold Stars for Outstanding SRPMIC Employees

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL  
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Every quarter, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Human Resources Department holds a special breakfast for employees who have demonstrated particularly hard work and dedication to the Community.

On April 15, the quarterly Employee Recognition Event was held at the Scottsdale Community College Indigenous Cultural Center. Employees who were recognized were given a goodie bag and a certificate signifying that their hard work has not gone unseen.

"Your work matters. And clearly you are

doing something right, with somebody recognizing that you did something that matters," said Steve Haydukovich, Human Resources director.

Council members, along with SRPMIC President Martin Harvier and Vice-President Ricardo Leonard, attended the event to congratulate and celebrate with the employees.

Haydukovich spoke some last words as people began making their way back to serving the Community in the ways they do best.

"I want to thank you guys for being here. Thanks for coming and thank you for allowing the Community to recognize your service and what you do."

## Congratulations, SRPMIC Employees!

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Levi Draper	Corrections Officer	Jerome Guzman	Civil Engineering Inspector
Robert Patterson	Corrections Officer	Dashia Arthur	Custodian II
Emily Niu	Asst Education Director (Ops)	Sarah Achin	Custodian II
Lynette Ortiz	Wellness Court Coordinator	April James	Custodian II
Laura Santiago-Rosas	Wellness Court Coordinator	Jennifer Cathcart	Police Officer
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Tamar Ramos	Council Support Specialist	Brenda Dacawyma	PS Telecommunicator I
Elaina Gutierrez	Secretary	Persephone Rosas	PS Telecommunicator I
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Eric Sloan	Youth Activities Coordinator	John Oliver	Trainer II
Armida Castaneda	Gaming Agent	Heidi Picard	HR Business Partner
Steven Arellano	Machine Compliance Tech	Anita Perez	HR Specialist II - Recruitment
Rene Uriarte	Water Distribution Worker I	Ki-Ana Loring	Recruitment Specialist
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## News and Events In and Around Indian Country

BY DALTON WALKER  
O'odham Action News  
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### Tribal Self-Governance Conference

Tribal leaders, federal government officials and others recently spent a few days at Gila River Indian Community's Wild Horse Pass Casino for the annual Tribal Self-Governance Conference.

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was among the many federal officials to attend. Gila River has hosted the national gathering for the last three years.

More than 1,600 attended the conference.

### Salt River Fields Celebrates Spring Training

The Arizona Diamondbacks sold out Salt River Fields seven times during spring training this year, and the Colorado Rockies had two sellouts during the same timeframe.

The Diamondbacks and Rockies share the ballpark, an enterprise of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

In all, attendance hit 334,360 combined for both teams.

### Sibling Tribes Oppose Loop 202 Rename

Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs vetoed a state Senate bill in March that would have renamed Loop 202, saying any renaming of a highway must follow the process through the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names.

Many came out against the renaming of Loop 202 after the late political media personality Charlie Kirk.

The four sibling tribes sent Hobbs a three-page letter dated March 12 explaining why they opposed the bill.

It was signed by leadership from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, Tohono O'odham Nation and Ak-Chin Indian Community.

### HUD Issues Housing Block Grant Funding

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Native American Programs announced more than \$1.1 billion in Indian Housing Block Grant funding to support affordable housing projects in nearly 600 tribal communities.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act, a law that established the Indian Housing Block Grant.

"This investment will help us meet the needs of those living in Indian Country by promoting healthy communities while strengthening our partnership with tribes and their leaders," HUD Secretary Scott Turner said in a statement.

### O'odham Veterans Serve as Color Guard for Final Four

The NCAA Women's Final Four featured more than basketball when it was here in Phoenix in early February. O'odham women veterans from the Tohono O'odham Nation and Gila River Indian Community served as the official color guard during the championship game.

The group of eight, in traditional ribbon skirts and dress, brought in multiple flags and stood on the court during the national anthem.

UCLA beat South Carolina for the championship at Mortgage Matchup Center in Phoenix.

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# ECEC Students Learn Where Their Food Comes From at Community Garden

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO  
O'odham Action News  
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"Who's ready to see the flowers?" Early Childhood Education Leader Heaven Sepulveda asked a group of young students at the Cultural Resources Department Community Garden on the morning of April 14 in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The kids traveled to the garden via bus and learned about a variety of new happenings there.

Groups of students rotated through different activity stations, which included harvesting food and sitting in a tractor and pretending to drive it.

One of newest additions to the Community Garden is livestock. The scents and sounds of the chickens and pigs made them hard to miss.

Groups of kids took turns getting to know their new neighbors.

"Maybe [the kids] want to grow some chickens one day, or maybe they want to grow some pigs," said Community Garden Coordinator Stetson Mendoza.

"So, we're just a small example here at the Community Garden of what you can do at home."

Mendoza said that the main goal of the visit was to get the young students to understand more about where their food

### 3 Takeaways:

- Early Childhood Education Center students visited the Community Garden on April 14 to learn about what's growing there this spring.
- Pigs and chickens are new to the Community Garden.
- The students pulled carrots from the ground and pretended to drive tractors.

comes from in a hands-on setting.

The kids got their hands dirty pulling carrots and eating them.

"We showed the students the difference in taste between the store and how [carrots] taste that much better here in the field," said Mendoza.

To Community Garden Technician Jared Butler, sharing a sense of ownership of the land with the students was important.

"This is your garden here, and we want to encourage you to come out here and enrich your life," Butler told the kids.

Community Garden Supervisor Jeffrey Wilson agrees with Butler's sentiment.

"We want you to know that you come from a long line of people that farmed this area, that grew crops," Wilson told the kids.

"Some of that knowledge has been lost over the years, but we want to try to bring it back to the Community."



"Say carrot!" ECEC students and staff pose for a photo at the Community Garden with the carrots they just pulled from the ground with the assistance of garden staff.



"What's up, Doc?" An ECEC student holds freshly pulled carrots from the dirt.



"Vroom! Beep beep!" This ECEC student is pretending to drive a real tractor used by Community Garden staff to grow food.



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**Special June 4, 2026 Graduation Issue.**

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May 27, 2026 6 p.m.

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Open to graduating Community Members and their immediate families. Email [oan@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:oan@srpmic-nsn.gov) with questions!



SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

## Memorial Day Ceremony



*Let Us Never Forget*

**Monday, May 25, 2026**

\*\*\*

**7AM | Lehi Cemetery**

3660 N Horne Rd. Mesa, AZ 85203



Reception at the Lehi Community Building following ceremony. First 200 receive a T-shirt and meal.

Any questions please call 480-362-7884 or email [veteranservices@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:veteranservices@srpmic-nsn.gov)

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SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

Memorial Day

## Flag Planting

**Saturday, May 23, 2026**

\*\*\*

**7AM | St. Francis Cemetery**

Flag Planting will begin at St. Francis, then SR Cemetery, and ending at Lehi Cemetery.

**Requesting volunteers to help with Flag Planting**  
No registration required, hope to see you there!

Any questions please call 480-362-7884 or email [veteranservices@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:veteranservices@srpmic-nsn.gov)

# Governor Katie Hobbs Tours Recovery and Cultural Centers, Meets with Tribal Council

### 3 Takeaways:

- Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs toured facilities across the SRPMIC on April 14.
- Hobbs' longest stay was at Journey to Recovery, where she met with leaders and residents and listened to an addiction recovery story.
- SRPMIC leaders met with Hobbs and her Office of Tribal Relations staff at Two Waters.

Jacob Butler, and Health and Human Services leaders at JTR. "Here in Salt River, we appreciate not only what Gov. Hobbs does for us, but what she does for all the tribes in Arizona," said Harvier.

"I know we have worked a lot on the missing and murdered Indigenous peoples issue, and so much of that is related to people being exploited for behavioral health and substance abuse issues, and so having this center here is really important."

The last time Hobbs was at the River People Health Center was in August 2022, when she kicked off her campaign as the Democratic nominee in the Arizona gubernatorial race with a visit to the campus, which was in its first weeks of operation at the time.

"It was brand new," recalled Hobbs, who reflected on the progress now, with the opening of JTR. "It's so exciting to be here and see this."

Hobbs continued, "I know we have worked a lot on the missing and murdered Indigenous peoples issue, and so much of that is related to people being exploited for behavioral health and substance abuse issues, and so having this center here is really important."

Real-life evidence of the center's importance was presented to Hobbs in the form of the moving story of Community member Patrick James.

James, a recovering addict and U.S. Army veteran, grew up feeling like he was missing guidance in his life. He turned to drugs and crime at age 12, searching for a father figure. Instead, he said he found others who were just as lost as he was.

James made the decision to join the military the day after the events of 9/11. He said he believed joining the military would give him purpose and a way out.

"The military gave me structure and allowed me to see the world, but it also exposed me to violence, loss and trauma," said James.

"When my service ended, I returned to civilian life more broken than before."

One day he heard about the JTR program. With nothing to lose, he decided to give the program a chance.

"I wish I could say I got it the first time, but that's not my story. It took me eight attempts before something finally changed," said James.

"JTR didn't just help me get sober, it helped me feel human again."

Now, James is three and a half years sober and works for JTR as a behavioral health technician. After his powerful story, the room filled with thunderous applause.

Hobbs toured the JTR facility to see the work firsthand, meet some residents seeking treatment and meet the staff that makes it all possible.

Following the tour, Hobbs' motorcade traveled to the Kavad/Kushov Cultural Center to hear about the history of the former Salt River Day School and how it is being repurposed into the offices and multipurpose instructional spaces of the Cultural Resources Department.

The governor's stay concluded at Two Waters with a closed-door meeting with Harvier and Council members.

"The SRPMIC looks forward to building bridges with the governor and her administration," the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs said in a statement.



ABOVE: SRPMIC President Martin Harvier welcomes Gov. Katie Hobbs and her Governor's Office of Tribal Relations team to Journey to Recovery. (LEFT to RIGHT) Governor's Office of Tribal Relations Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs Angela Willeford, Director of Tribal Affairs Jason Chavez, Gov. Katie Hobbs, President Martin Harvier and Council member Jacob Butler.

RIGHT: Assistant Cultural Resources Director (THPO) Shane Anton, Gov. Katie Hobbs and Cultural Resources Director Kelly Washington tour the Kavad/Kushov Cultural Center.



Community member and JTR Behavioral Health Technician Patrick James shares his recovery story.



ABOVE: BHS Cultural Counselor Bowie Leonard lays a necklace around Gov. Hobbs' neck.



LEFT: Chief Behavioral Health Officer Nate Velez leads a tour of the Journey to Recovery facility.

## Salt River Project Announces Election Winners

In an election that saw a record turnout, Salt River Project elected new individuals in leadership positions

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE  
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For the next four years, Salt River Project's two organizations, the District and the Association, will have several new individuals representing the 10 different voting areas, including a new president and vice-president.

SRP provides electricity and water to a service area of about 240,000 acres spanning Maricopa, Gila and Pinal counties.

### 3 takeaways:

- Salt River Project held an election for leadership positions on April 7.
- A record number of ballots were turned in.
- The newly elected officials will begin their terms in May.

Presently, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is in SRP Voting Area 7. Mesa is in SRP Voting Area 9.

For this election, only landowners in the respective counties could vote. The voting system was based on land ownership. For example, a landowner with 12 acres of land received 12 votes. Those who live in rental properties were not eligible to vote.

The new leaders will now begin establishing new policies, assist in approving budgets and handle ongoing operations for the utility.

On April 7, landowning voters turned in a record number of ballots for the election. Nearly 40,000 ballots were requested, which is about five times the av-

erage amount of ballots requested in previous election years. The 2024 SRP election received 7,500 votes in each race for the Association and District.

Here are the official results:

#### The Association Election (Voting Areas 7 and 9)

President: Christopher J. Dobson (5,412.87 votes)  
Vice-President: Barry E. Pacey (4,534.09 votes)

#### The District Election (Voting Areas 7 and 9)

President: Christopher J. Dobson (54,441.55 votes)  
Vice-President: Barry E. Pacey (4,567.88 votes)  
At-Large Board of Directors Seat 12: Krista H. O'Brien (23,496.00 votes)  
At-Large Board of Directors Seat 14: Kathy L. Mohr-Almeida (23,165.00 votes)

The newly elected officials began their terms on May 4 and 5. O'odham Action News will continue to monitor this story.

# 'The People Come First': 2026 Springtime Piipaash Matasheevm

has always been there to say, 'Hey, we need more here in the Lehi district' or anything else we need. [He] and his family have always been those types of people to speak up."

Gates did not attend this year's Matasheevm, as he was not feeling well. Reina asked for continued blessings for Gates and his family. Reina also made sure to mention Gates' U.S. Marine Corps service and the time he served in Vietnam. "He is a big part of this and helps put it all together. He has always been a part of this Community," said Reina.

Gates received a rousing round of applause from the people.

Later, the honors continued as the PMC announced the official 2026 Piipaash Matasheevm Elder Honorees, Alfretta Antone and Danny Harvier.

### Alfretta Antone

"Good afternoon, God's Country," began Cecila "Tweety" Antone. "She [Alfretta Antone] has been gone close to 15 years; just [her] being remembered, it's very humbling," she said. "She was raised in Salt River, right there on Center Street. Part of the original house is still there today. She grew up O'odham. She cooked, cleaned and did a lot. She told me she could chop wood just as good as her brothers," she said with a smile.

Later, Council member David Antone also shared a few words. "I just really want to thank everybody for this honor," he began. "The gratitude that I feel about this Community honoring my mother is just as Tweety said, very humbling. At least for me, my brothers and my sisters, she always taught us to be strong in life and to have the courage to face life," he said.

He added, "She would always talk about

this Community, her Community. She would say, 'The people come first.' That was her motto she lived by."

Council member Antone finished his speech by sharing a story about how one day, many years ago, his mother asked him to build her a pedestal.

"So, I built her one," he said. "When I finished, she put a headstone on it. On the headstone, she honored her youngest brother, Herman Clement Juan. He was a Marine. On that headstone, it said his name and where he died. He died at Iwo Jima. She would talk about him. I never got to know him because he died before I was born. That's how she felt about not only her brother, but the veterans and the Community. I want to thank her for instilling all the ideas and how we think about our Community. We are somebody. I'm proud of not only her, but of this Community and everyone here today. Thank you."

### Danny Harvier

For his elder honoring, Danny Harvier's granddaughter Darice Norris spoke on behalf of the family while Danny was surrounded by his relatives.

"My grandpa has been an inspiration to all of us. I think the reason I'm a workaholic is because of him. I watched him struggle to go to work when I was little. He did what he had to do to get to work. He'd ride his bike from Highland Avenue all the way to Talking Stick, where he used to work. He retired in 2005, the year I graduated. We had a big celebration at the Catholic church," she recalled.

She described how her grandfather would always volunteer his time to the church. "He'd be up there offering the blood of Christ, helping with the collection and more. We would also travel with him all the time;

we went to so many places. The main big one he took us to was to the canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha. We went to Rome; that was cool," she said.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha was canonized on Oct. 21, 2012, by Pope Benedict XVI and is the first-ever Native American saint.

Following the honoring of the two elders, Reina thanked the elders and their families. "I remember hearing both of their names growing up," he said. "It's a very good thing to hear as a family how the elders inspired them. That's what I've been told growing up, that's the best work you will ever do in your life, is in between the walls of your home as you learn to take care of and help raise your families."

### Veterans Recognition

Additional honorees were announced during the springtime Piipaash Matasheevm as the committee selected four Community veterans for the Veterans Recognition program.

"Every year for this event, the PMC sits back and thinks of all the veterans who have served. They really deliberate to make sure not only the elders, but also the veterans, are recognized for their contributions not only to this country, but to this Community," said Council member Deanna Scabby.

Richard French (Marines), Phillip Largo (Army), Ben Wood Jr. (Navy) and Tsosie Wood (Marines) were honored this year for their service to their country and Community.

Each recipient was presented with a special commemorative plaque which detailed the honoree's military branch of service, compliments of the PMC.

Tom Largo Sr. was the designated representative for the Largo family. "I want to thank the committee on behalf of the family for honoring Phillip Dean Largo. Phillip was

born to Anthony and Sarah Valenzuela-Largo on Sept. 28, 1923. Phillip joined the Navy Reserve. He was 18 when he entered the service. He was 20 when he lost his life."

Suzy French represented the French family. Sadly, during her speech, she revealed that the Veterans Administration has her father Richard's information listed incorrectly, therefore not much information is in the VA database.

"I know he joined when he was 17; when talking to my brothers and sisters, we learned he served for four years," she said. She later revealed that on his headstone, his first and middle names are reversed, thus providing a bit of reasoning as to why her father is not in the VA database.

"He taught us a lot. How to behave and how to be good people. Unfortunately, he had cancer, so he died at 55 on Cinco de Mayo. It's been 38 years now."

French was overcome with emotion during her speech and received support and hugs from nearby loved ones.

Ben Wood Jr.'s son, Forest, spoke on behalf of his father. "My father served in the U.S. Navy. One thing I think about when I think about him is service. He served his country, God and Community, being a police officer, chief of police and ending his career as chief judge in the Community. I thank the Committee for honoring him, the other veterans and the elders. Thank you very much."

Surrounded by his family, Tsosie Wood thanked the PMC for his special recognition. "We grew up on McDowell (Road), in front of the golf course. That's why my brothers are so good at golf," said Wood with a grin.

He continued, "It was 1983. I was going to Westwood (High School) and not going to class. I think you call that 'ditching,'" he said, grinning. "I was 17; my parents had to

sign me in to enlist. My mom started crying. My dad was all, 'Take him. He needs to do something.'"

While serving his country in the Marines, Wood saw the world, including a tour stop in Saudi Arabia, Japan. He also was stationed in Saudi Arabia and served in operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield with "Pacer Reina, Lynn Andrews and a couple more people from the Community," Wood said.

Wood revealed that, at the time, "We were originally supposed to go to Türkiye for an operation, but that's when Iraq decided to invade Kuwait. So, since we were ready to go, we were the first ones on a plane heading to Saudi Arabia," he recalled.

"I want to thank the Committee for honoring us, my dad and Phillip (Largo). It's a great honor. Thank you."

### Performers

The two-day Matasheevm celebration also featured a who's who of legendary bird singers, dancers, royalty and more.

Singers Angel Ortiz, Aarick Mack, Jeff Thomas, Alonso Pesado, Ral Christman, Lynwood Vest, Preston Arrow-Weed, Faron Owland many more rounded out the entertainment schedule.

"All the way from Salt Lake City, it's Jeff Thomas," announced emcee Jeremiah Shaw, who also spent time singing during the Matasheevm. "Welcome home, brother," said Shaw to Thomas moments after he finished his first song.

Welcome home, indeed. The Springtime Piipaash Matasheevm remains a crucial cultural focal point for many here in the Community. The multi-day celebration invites members and their loved ones to bask in the songs and dances of the Piipaash, honoring those who came before them and the traditions they passed down.



Piipaash Matasheevm Elder Honoring 2026 - Cecila and David Antone for Alfretta Antone.



Piipaash Matasheevm Elder Honoring 2026 - Danny Harvier and Family.



# Thunderbird Throttle Rides for MMIP Awareness at Casino Arizona



Motorcycle riders participating in Thunderbird Throttle enter the Casino Arizona parking lot on April 11.



SRPMIC Council member Cheryl Doka reads a proclamation at the lectern signed and approved by President Martin Harvier supporting Thunderbird Throttle Day.

**BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO**  
*O'odham Action News*  
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More than 300 motorcycle riders assembled en masse at Casino Arizona in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community on April 11 for the fourth annual Thunderbird Throttle, an event supporting families impacted by the missing and murdered Indigenous people (MMIP) crisis.

The collaboration between Rez Riders Indian Motorcycle Club and Phoenix Indian Center was the only known Native American ride during Arizona Bike Week, according to ride organizers.

Bystanders waited in the casino parking lot, listening for the distant engines revving to signal the approaching riders' convoy from 92nd Street. The route to Casino Arizona began at Indian Motorcycle of Chandler and included a stop at the Tonto Basin Water Users Recreation Site.

With Red Mountain in their rearview mirrors, the roaring riders, led by road captain Rob "Wheelz" Day, entered the parking lot shortly after 1 p.m. One by one the motorcycles filed in, with the riders heading straight to the barbecue luncheon and taking their seats for the program.

Riders also visited information booths from a variety of organizations supporting MMIP awareness and listened to the chicken scratch stylings of the band Waila Style 87.

Organizer Patty "Wildcat" Dimitriou from Thunderbird Throttle was scheduled to be the event emcee, but she couldn't make it to the event. Cheryl Wood traveled alone from the Treaty 6 area of Alberta, Canada,

### 3 Takeaways:

- Thunderbird Throttle is a collaboration between Rez Riders Indian Motorcycle Club and Phoenix Indian Center that supports families impacted by the MMIP crisis.
- Over 300 riders rode to Casino Arizona on April 11 in support from Indian Motorcycle of Chandler.
- SRPMIC Council member Cheryl Doka read a proclamation that recognizes April as Thunderbird Throttle Day.

to meet with her event organizer sisters to help fill Dimitriou's absence.

"Us girls come together as a village many times a year. We travel all over North America," said Wood.

"Our goal is one and the same. We come together as a village of women warriors supported by the men in our community and we raise awareness."

SRPMIC Council member Cheryl Doka took to the lectern to read a proclamation signed and approved by President Martin Harvier that supports April 11 as Thunderbird Throttle Day.

Doka said the thunderbird is a powerful symbol in many Native cultures, representing strength, protection and unity.

"This event is more than a ride, it's a collective voice raising awareness for missing and murdered Indigenous peoples, an issue that continues to impact our families and communities across the nation," said Doka.

"We thank you for traveling through our land with respect and for standing alongside us in support of Native voices."



Riders embrace after a trek from Indian Motorcycle of Chandler and Tonto Basin Water Users Recreation Site to Casino Arizona.



Thunderbird Throttle organizers welcome fellow riders to their final stop at Casino Arizona.

## New Memorial For Emily Pike at Fitch Park in Mesa

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

Emily Carla Pike, a 14-year-old San Carlos Apache girl, went missing on Jan. 27, 2025, from a Mesa group home.

Her remains were found on Feb. 14, 2025, near Globe, but her case is still unsolved, with no persons of interest identified publicly by the FBI or the Gila County Sheriff's Office.

Pike's tragedy sent shockwaves throughout her community, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and around the state, prompting large-scale support for raising awareness of missing and murdered Indigenous people and the establishment of a new Turquoise Alert system in Arizona for missing persons.

The temporary memorial for Pike on the corner of Mesa Drive and McKellips Road in Mesa (the last place Pike was seen alive) was recently taken down, and a new permanent memorial was installed on March 3 at Fitch Park in Mesa, where Pike frequently played.

City of Mesa Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities staff provided support on planning and installation of the memorial, which was privately funded.

### 3 Takeaways:

- Emily Pike's temporary memorial has been taken down and a new permanent memorial installed at Fitch Park in Mesa.
- Pike's life is honored with a red push pistache tree, a granite plaque memorial featuring her likeness and a bench engraved in her honor.
- SRPMIC President Martin Harvier joined other Community leaders and Pike's family for the unveiling ceremony.

"The City of Mesa extends our deepest condolences to the family of Emily Pike, her loved ones, and the San Carlos Apache community. The city was honored to work with Emily's family and community members to facilitate the establishment of a permanent memorial in her remembrance," said Mesa Interim Communications Director Casey Blake.

Fitch Park, nestled along Center and Eighth streets, features ramadas, basketball courts, picnic tables and playgrounds for young kids.

Now, the park has a newly planted red push pistache tree, a granite plaque memorial featuring Pike's likeness and a bench engraved in her honor. The plaque reads:



A memorial plaque for Emily Pike at Fitch Park in Mesa.

*Emily Carla Pike  
 May 16, 2010 – February 14, 2025  
 Emily, a 14-year-old Apache girl, went missing Jan. 27, 2025, from Mesa, AZ.  
 She was found deceased on Feb. 14, 2025, near Globe, AZ.  
 Emily loved art, music, and her family.  
 Her absence echoes loudly in our communities.  
 We will honor her legacy and seek justice in her name.  
 No more stolen sisters.*



An engraved bench memorializing Emily Pike sits near the plaque and red push pistache tree.

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier and other tribal leaders joined the Arizona Governor's Office on Tribal Relations, community advocates and Pike's family for the memorial's unveiling ceremony.

# Getting to Know: Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Coordinator Paula Shaw

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE  
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The ongoing trauma of missing and murdered Indigenous people (MMIP) continues to weigh heavily on the hearts and minds of many, especially in Indian Country.

Locally, to help navigate the harsh traumas of MMIP, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community has established its own MMIP coordinator, Paula Shaw, who works closely with Salt River police, fire and other department staff in these cases.

"If families find themselves in this situation, the very first step they would need to do is contact the Salt River Police Department," Shaw said. "In these cases, the police department investigates missing and murdered individuals as part of their job. I then get notified by the Salt River Police Department."

Shaw shared that all MMIP cases received by local authorities are automatically registered into the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs, namus.gov), an online resource center for information on missing, unidentified and unclaimed persons.

In the event of an MMIP situation in the Community, once the family contacts the SRPD and reports an individual as missing, SRPD authorities will contact Shaw and provide her with a brief overview of the situation.

"SRPD will let the family know that the MMIP coordinator will be reaching out to them. Afterward, I contact the family directly," Shaw said.

She continued, "My full job is to provide support to the families. If the family needs someone to explain things in a different way, or simply if they don't want to meet with police officers alone, I can be there for them. Those

are the kind of things I provide to the families. Or even if they just need a ride. I do anything to help the whole process flow better."

Shaw also works closely with SRPMIC Behavioral Health Services and other Community departments.

Part of her job is to ensure that the families take care of themselves while dealing with the difficult trauma of an MMIP situation.

"I stress to the families, like the statement the airlines use, 'The parents must put their oxygen mask on first before they help their kids.' [What I say is] very similar. I tell the families they must take care of themselves first in order to help their family members and loved ones," said Shaw.

She added, "I worked in the court system for a long time. The majority of the time, when people go to court, it's never for a happy reason, unless it's for a marriage or adoption. So, I let the families know they must take care of themselves during this time as well."

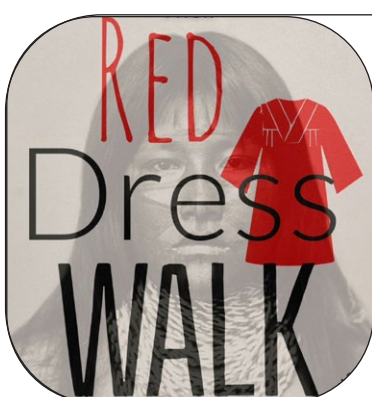
Shaw also revealed that if families find themselves dealing with an MMIP situation, they should avoid making big financial or other life-changing decisions during this time.

"[MMIP] is not a situation that anyone knows how to deal with. It's unfortunate that these cases happen. Nobody knows what to do or how to feel in this situation. In addition to talking with police or government workers, they also have these emotions and feelings that they're trying to deal with. I ease the family into each step that they'll have to deal with," she added.

Shaw will continue to be a supportive and resourceful presence here in the Community. Her official introduction to the Community occurred on May 5 at the Accelerated Learning Academy for the annual MMIP walk and candlelight vigil.



A large banner was carried around the ALA track on May 5, 2025, signifying the importance of the missing and murdered Indigenous peoples movement. Dozens of people participated in last year's event. Photo by Andreea Miguel, OAN archives.



Walk/Vigil for Loved Ones of the MMIW/P

May 10 at 5:30pm  
July 12 at 6:30pm  
Sept. 27 at 4:30pm

Message the official Facebook page at:  
[www.facebook.com/reddresswalk](https://www.facebook.com/reddresswalk)

\*A grassroots initiative of a Salt River Tribal Member\*

Stay tuned!

Coverage from the SRPMIC'S May 5th MMIP Awareness Day events at the Two Waters Amphitheater and the ALA Football Field will be published in future editions of O'odham Action News.

## MMIP Checklist for Families

Here are steps to take and additional information if families ever find themselves in an MMIP situation.

### Step 1: File a missing person report

- Contact the Salt River Police Department.
  - For all MMIP cases in the Community, the SRPD will contact the Community's MMIP Coordinator, Paula Shaw. Families do not need to contact Shaw directly.
- Use a separate, dedicated notebook to write down:
  - the name of the officials that will follow up with the family
  - the officer's info, badge number and police report number
  - the name of the officials that will follow up with the family
- Verify/ensure the missing person report is submitted to the NAMUS.gov databases.
  - All missing person reports taken by the Salt River Police Department are sent to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) national database.
  - Always provide honest and truthful information.

### Step 2: Preliminary steps before opening a missing person case

- Determine the date of last contact with the missing individual and list the ways he or she can be contacted:
  - Cell phone number
  - Family members
  - Email
  - Work colleagues
  - Social media profiles
  - School staff
  - Friends
- Check other hangout spots
  - Check local jails, detention centers, detox centers, domestic violence shelters and hospitals.
  - Certain facilities may not be allowed to provide a person's information for privacy reasons; they may simply state that they cannot confirm or deny certain information.
- Always use the full name and birthdate of the missing person.
  - Nicknames can assist in the search; however, they may not be as useful as a legal name, especially if the nickname is a common one.
- List any cognitive, mental or physical disabilities or limitations the person may have.
  - If applicable, list the person's medications and the dosages.

### Step 3: Generate a missing person poster

- Use a clear photo of the person that has not been altered in Photoshop.
  - Avoid using group photos with other individuals in the image.
  - Avoid using images that contain social media filters that can alter eye color, hair length or any other identifiers.
  - Ask local restaurants, businesses, churches and other locations for permission and assistance with putting up posters at their locations.
- The poster should be informative and have the family's contact information clearly listed.
  - Designate an individual's contact information to be listed.

### Step 4: Mobilize your community

- Reach out to family members, loved ones, volunteers, co-workers and more to create a community search group.
- Create a community command post at a library meeting room, chapter house, local business, church, etc.
- Select a neutral location that is available and accessible to the public for meetings and gatherings.
- Establish a community team lead who can be a point of contact for all police and officials.
  - Team leads should have:
    - Reliable email
    - Reliable phone number
    - Good communication skills with family and officials

### Step 5: Prioritize self-care

- Physical
  - Am I eating enough/too much?
  - Am I staying hydrated?
- Psychological
  - Am I depressed?
  - Have I allowed time for myself to cry?
- Social
  - Am I avoiding my friends and family?
  - Do I need to take a moment for myself?
- Spiritual
  - Do I need to pray about this?
  - Meditation and prayer can ease some of the mental anguish individuals feel.

### Step 6: What to avoid

- Avoid judging yourself.
- Avoid substance abuse.
- Avoid shame and guilt.
- Don't make any important life/financial decisions.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

**You are not alone.**

- There are many SRPMIC advocates and staff ready to assist in these cases.
- We are all in this together.

More information:  
<https://srpmic-nsn.gov/government/srpd/missing-persons-welfare/>  
SPRD Non-Emergency: 480-850-9230



# Prayer Run Starts at Red Mountain

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL  
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Runners who participated in the Labriola Prayer run pose for a picture while on a break at the Ske:g Himdag Ki: on the morning of March 28th.

The Labriola National American Indian Data Center is a special library located on the second floor of the Hayden Library at Arizona State University in Tempe. Run by an all-Native staff, it aims to provide resources for Native American students while also offering a study space where students can work and relax.

For the past three years, the center has honored its space by completing a prayer run starting at Red Mountain on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

“In light of our space that was created [the library at ASU], we decided to do a prayer run back then to honor this space that has so much impact for our Native students,” said Alex Soto, director of the Labriola Data Center. “[It’s] a space where they can be themselves and be safe. A space to access all the resources.”

The prayer run started at sunrise on March 28 at Red Mountain. The course continued to “A” Mountain in Tempe

and finished at South Mountain. Each runner chose a distance for their run and a pace that was most comfortable for them, relaying to a different runner when they felt it was a good time.

Through hot temperatures and city traffic, the group of runners pushed through different physical terrain and their own personal hardships, encouraging one another to push through and complete the run together.

“I’m proud to represent our people

in this, in this space and this run,” said runner Felix Muniz. “I appreciate seeing other Community members be a part of it, and hopefully this can become more normalized in our Community.”

Soto added, “We wanted to do a prayer run and that’s mainly because as O’odham, from my understanding, [this is how] we honor and recognize these things. Along with getting the full space, we wanted to usher it in,

in a way that respects our culture, our Himdag.”

Soto explained that the prayer run is not only seen for Indigenous spaces at ASU, but for the campus all together and for the Salt River Community.

“It’s not just for us, like just for Labriola; in some ways it’s for our communities, knowing that Salt River is nearby. We want to respect the lands we are on and [show it with] more than just words.”

# Diondria Pilger Wraps Up Senior Year as Westwood Editor-in-Chief

BY ZOE HERNANDEZ  
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The first academic yearbooks date back to the 17th century, when they were used to note student records and achievements. Now, school yearbooks are filled with pictures, quotes and student highlights from throughout the school year.

Diondria Pilger is the editor-in-chief for the 2025-2026 Westwood High School yearbook. A senior, she has dedicated most of her high school years to the yearbook team, starting with the digital publications class freshman year and following with the yearbook in her junior and senior years. Pilger began doing yearbook in junior high school, following in her grandfather’s and mother’s footsteps.

“My grandpa, he was a photographer, and he did lots of photography, and then my mom got into it, and she was in yearbook during her high school years,” said Pilger.

Being the editor-in-chief comes with several responsibilities. “We’re basically in charge of the whole class, and I made sure people were getting enough pictures to fill their pages [in the yearbook]. I would also go to different events like theater and choir, basically everything,” said Pilger. Once the school year starts, the yearbook team is already kicking things off with assigning jobs and going out and taking pictures. Pilger often reminded students throughout the year, “When we are out taking photos, we are not just representing the yearbook but also representing the school.”

Pilger struggled with balancing her studies with the yearbook program but was surprised by how fast she was able to cope with it.

“Having to balance my personal life, school life and doing the yearbook is super hard, but you [just have to make] sure you are taking care of yourself and you’re not letting all the stress get to you, because at the end of the day, we’re all human,” said Pilger.

With her grandfather being one of her biggest inspirations, she always remembers him as she walks in her path. “Having the thought of grandpa being maybe there by my side while I’m taking these photos, or [imagining] how impressed he would be, definitely encouraged me a lot,” said Pilger.

Pilger will graduate from Westwood in May and plans to study early childhood education at East Valley Institute of Technology. She also plans to attend college for early childhood education.

“I think want to do more journalism and continue that, and photography for sure, maybe as a side gig when I’m a teacher in the future. Who knows, I might start working for *O’odham Action News*,” said Pilger.

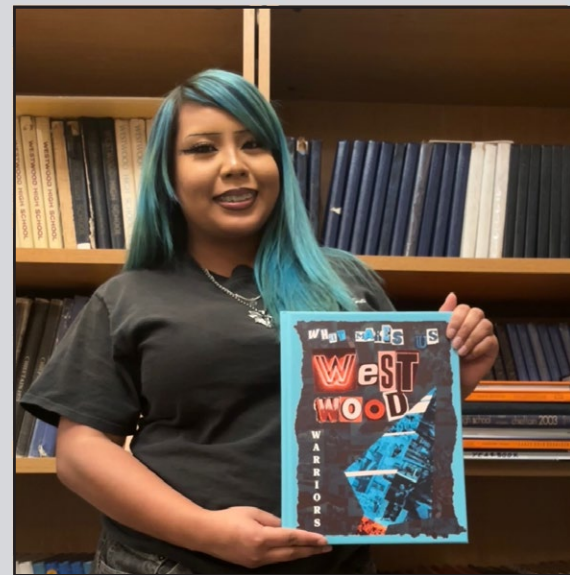
Pilger has high hopes for the Westwood underclassmen and looks forward to what they will accomplish in the upcoming school years. To order a Westwood High School Yearbook, visit the Westwood bookstore or order it online at <https://westwood.mpsaz.org/page/yearbook/>.



Young Diondria helps her grandpa who is her inspiration.



Diondria stands with the 2024-2025 Westwood Yearbook in her graduation cap and gown.



Diondria poses with the 2025-2026 Westwood Yearbook.

**SALT RIVER BUSINESS LISTINGS**

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

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

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

**ASTROS DETAILING LLC**  
Interior & exterior car detailing, deep cleaning, stain & pet-hair removal. Mesa, AZ • Tribal Member Owned Call/Text: Brandon Malin, 480-388-7964  
Instagram: @astrosdetailaz  
Book Online: astrosdetailing.setmore.com

**A&M VALLEY LANDSCAPING**  
Landscaping and yard work services Navin Wood aandmvalleylandsc@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**HONEYBRAIDZ N SPA, LLC**  
Licensed Cosmetologist specializing in luxury protective styling and natural hair wellness. We provide expert braiding services, including knotless and feed-in styles, along with handcrafted botanical scalp and hair care products. Ricsawn Johnson: (480) 781-7867 (text only), booking site: vagaro.com/honeybraidznsppall1

**JOLYN'S HEALING HANDS, LLC**  
Jolyn, a licensed massage therapist, provides relaxation, healing & wellness services. Jolyn S has been in the healing industry since 2009. Visit our site to book now! https://www.vagaro.com/jolynshealinghands  
Phone: (480) 819-6831  
Address: 1800 E Rio Salado Pkwy Building 170 Suite #150, Tempe, AZ 85288

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**ROUGH COUNTRY HANDYMAN AND REMOVAL SERVICE**  
Lester Loring 480-512-2262, RoughCountryHRS@gmail.com Mon-Sat, 7 am-6 pm (message after 6) Minor Home Repairs, doors/knobs maintenance, screens, small concrete installation/repair, small DIY projects, TV Mounting, Junk Removal Services, Debris Hauling, etc.

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

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

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

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

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

**SALT RIVER CHURCH LISTINGS**

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

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

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

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

**PIMA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
12207 E. Indian School Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85256 Pastor Marty Thomas (480) 874-3016/ Home: (480) 990-7450  
SERVICES: Sunday service 11 a.m. Lord's Supper every first Sunday of the month (potluck after)

**SALT RIVER ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
10657 E. Virginia Ave. Scottsdale, AZ 85256 Rev. WinterElk Valencia (480) 947-5278 saltriveragchurch.com  
SERVICES: Sunday Morning Prayer 10 a.m., Worship 11 a.m., Thursday Bible Study 6pm

**SALT RIVER CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
430 N. Dobson Rd. Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85201 (720) 626-2171, Josh Austin SaltRiverChurchofChrist.com  
SERVICES: Bible Class 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday Bible Class 6 p.m., Bible Study Wednesdays 7 p.m. Local transportation available, please call phone number above

**SALT RIVER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
P.O. Box 10125 Scottsdale, AZ 85271 E: SaltRiverPresbyterian@gmail.com Visit us on Facebook Pastor Charlotte Fafard  
SERVICES: Sunday Service, 1 p.m., Communion first Sunday of the month

**ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC MISSION**  
3090 N. Longmore, Scottsdale, AZ (602) 292-4466 (cell) Administrator: Deacon Jim Trant Parish President: Cindy Thomas Father Peter McConnell and Father Antony Tinker  
SERVICES: Sunday Mass 12 p.m., Holy Hours 1 p.m.

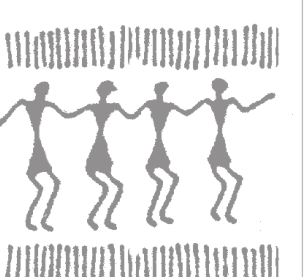
**SOARING EAGLE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL (SEMI)**  
Marriott Courtyard, 5201 N. Pima Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85250 Apostle Edward Chance apostleeac@gmail.com (480) 516-6509  
SERVICES: 10 AM on Sundays Visit us on Facebook Live, Wednesdays at 7 PM for Voice of Truth

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

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

**MORNINGSTAR APOSTOLIC CHURCH**  
3263 E Guadalupe Rd, Gilbert, Arizona 85234 Bishop Daniel Lizarraga and Pastor Jason Lizarraga  
SERVICES: Sunday 2:30 p.m., Wednesday 8-11 a.m., Bible classes Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Visit msacruth.com for more Follow us @morningstarapostolic on Instagram and on Facebook at facebook.com/msacruth

**REDEEMER APOSTOLIC CHURCH**  
200 E First St Mesa, AZ 85201 Pastors Santos and Andrea Navarrete https://www.redeemerministries.com/ SERICES: 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.

**Salt River Public Works Department  
Memorial Services & Cemeteries**

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

<p><b>MAIN OFFICE LOCATED AT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Memorial Hall 9849 East Earll Drive Scottsdale, AZ 85256 Monday-Friday 8 AM- 5 PM</p>	<p><b>CONTRACTED MORTUARIES</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bunker Family Funerals &amp; Cremation (480) 964-8686</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Whitney &amp; Murphy Funeral Home (602) 840-5600</p>
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**For Any Questions Call: (480) 278-7050**

**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**

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

**SALT RIVER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
HOLIDAY TRASH & RECYCLE  
COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

Residential containers **WILL BE SERVICED** as regularly scheduled on these holidays:

☑ New Year's Day	☑ Juneteenth
☑ MLK Day	☑ Independence Day
☑ President's Day	☑ Labor Day
☑ Good Friday	☑ Native American Recognition Day
☑ Memorial Day	☑ Veteran's Day
☑ SRPMIC Day	

\*and any other council proclamations that may occur

The SR Public Works Department will be **closed** on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Please contact PW Customer Service for their schedules.  
☎ 480-362-5600 ✉ PWCustomerService@srpmic-nsn.gov

**O'DHAM ACTION NEWS** DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION?  
Contact **Newspaper Assistant Kari Haahr** at (480) 362-2698 or kari.haahr@srpmic-nsn.gov  
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

2026 MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

*American Indian*  
**Convocation**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2026  
6pm - 8pm**

Salt River Fields  
at Talking Stick  
7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Gates open at 4pm | Program begins at 6pm  
*All Are Welcome!*

For more information or questions, please contact 2026convocation@srpmic-nsn.gov  
Proudly hosted by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community  
With support from: Gila River Indian Community - Tohono O'odham Nation - Ak-Chin Indian Community

**JUVENILE COURT**  
**JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT**  
**ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256**  
**CONTACT: (480) 362-6315**  
**ALL JUVENILE COURT CASES REPORT TO COURTROOM #3 ON THE 1ST FLOOR. FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS**  
**Andrews, Teresa** - Review Hearing Case: JV-26-0041 Court Date: June 23, 2026 at 9 AM  
**Vega, David Tyler** - Initial Guardianship Hearing Case: JV-25-0044 Court Date: May 20, 2026 at 1:30 PM  
**Weaver (aka Vega), Nicolle Leanne** - Initial Guardianship Hearing Case: JV-25-0044 Court Date: May 20, 2026 at 1:30 PM

**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**  
**Estate of Frank Avila,** - Probate Hearing Case: CV-26-2082 Court Date: May 14, 2026 at 10 AM  
**Burke, Chrystal Marie** - Probate Hearing Case: CV-26-2083 Court Date: May 14, 2026 at 9:30 AM  
**Burke, Dwayne Ernest** - Probate Hearing Case: CV-26-2083 Court Date: May 14, 2026 at 9:30 AM  
**Burke Jr., Veronica Jean** - Probate Hearing Case: CV-

26-2083 Court Date: May 14, 2026 at 9:30 AM  
**Carlos, Laila Athena** - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-25-3178 Court Date: May 11, 2026 at 9:30 AM  
**Casias, Lisa Anne** - Entry Default Judgement Hearing Case: CV-26-0675 Court Date: June 4, 2026 at 9 AM  
**Gonzalez, Cherysh** - Motion Hearing Case: CV-25-4184 Court Date: June 9, 2026 at 11 AM  
**Juan, Hatti Louise** - Entry of Default Judgement/Order to Show Cause Case: CV-25-4591 Court Date: April 21, 2026, at 10:30 AM  
**Lewis, Christina Lanae** - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-26-2424 Court Date: June 3, 2026 at 9 AM  
**Nahsonhoya, Damien Ray** - Status Hearing- Case: P-21-0007 Court Date: May 29, 2026 at 2:30 PM  
**Pettigrew, Joel** - Restraining Order Hearing Case: CV-26-3217 Court Date: May 26, 2026 at 4 PM

**J.A. S., C/O Skek Hyosik Jackson** - Status Hearing Case: CV-25-3816 Court Date: May 28, 2026 at 9 AM  
**Talamantez, Rachele Rae** - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-24-2773 Court Date: June 18, 2026 at 9:30 AM  
**Thomas, Elizabeth** - Entry of Default Judgement/Order to Show Cause Hearings Case: CV-26-0669 Court Date: May 26, 2026 at 9 AM  
**Villa, Daniel Lee** - Motion Hearing Case: CFCS-13-0027 Court Date: May 19, 2026 at 9 AM  
**Warren, Orion** - Order of Protection Hearing Case: CV-26-3202 Court Date: May 14, 2026 at 11:30 AM  
**Wellington, Angel Marie** - Probate Hearing Case: CV-26-2083 Court Date: May 14, 2026 at 9:30 AM  
**Williams, Bryann Lynn** - Status Hearing- Case: P-21-0007 Court Date: May 29, 2026 at 2:30 PM

**DEFAULT NOTICES**

**ANDREWS, ELIJAH WADE**  
**NOTICE OF DEFAULT JUDGMENT: CV-25-4582**  
Country Club Cars v. Elijah Wade Andrews  
TO: Elijah Wade Andrews  
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number: CV-25-4582  
Notice of Default Judgment is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default judgment against Respondent, Elijah Wade Andrews, is hereby ENTERED. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Respondent, Elijah Wade Andrews, shall pay Petitioner, Country Club Cars. Payment shall be made to Petitioner within sixty (30) days of this Order. This order is final and shall be served on Respondent in accordance to Rule 5-20(c). For a copy of this Order please contact the court at 480-362-6315.

hearings at the Court called for this matter.  
3. If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.  
4. A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.  
5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted  
6. If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)  
DATED: March 26, 2026  
CLERK OF THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.  
4. A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.  
5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted  
6. If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)  
DATED: March 17, 2026  
CLERK OF THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

2. The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.  
3. If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.  
4. A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.  
5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted  
6. If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default)  
DATED: March 24, 2026  
CLERK OF THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

**CARLOS, LAILA ATHENA**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CV-25-3178**  
Country Club Cars v. Laila Athena Carlos  
TO: Laila Athena Carlos  
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 11th day of May 2026 at 9:30 AM, in Court Room #1, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for a Civil Complaint Hearing that was heard on February 9, 2026 at 9:30 AM after being duly notice.  
FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt of Court from (§6-41) of the Code or Ordinances.  
ORDERED this 11th day of March 2026  
JUDGE ARISTINA SANCHEZ, SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

**J.A.S. C/O MOTHER, SKEK HYOSIK JACKSON**  
**SUMMONS CV-25-3816**  
TO: J.A.S. C/O mother, Skek Hyosik Jackson  
Notice is hereby given that probate proceedings have commenced in the Community Court concerning the estate of Jonathan Rene Scott, DOD: 04/26/2025. Alleged heir of the estate, J.A.S. C/O mother, Skek Hyosik Jackson, is hereby noticed that the next court hearing is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2026 at 9 a.m.

**JUAN, HATTI LOUISE**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CV-25-4591**  
Country Club Cars v. Hatti Louise Juan  
TO: Hatti Louise Juan  
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 21st day of April 2026 at 10:30 AM, in Court Room #2, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for a Civil Complaint Hearing that was heard on December 16, 2025 at 11:30 AM after being duly notice.  
FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt of Court from (§6-41) of the Code or Ordinances.  
ORDERED this 17th day of March 2026.  
ARISTINA SANCHEZ, JUDGE, SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

**THOMAS, ELIZABETH**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CV-25-0669**  
Country Club Cars v. Elizabeth Thomas  
TO: Elizabeth Thomas  
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 26th day of May 2026 at 9:00 AM, in Court Room #1, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for a Civil Complaint Hearing on March 24, 2026 at 9:30 AM.  
FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt of Court from (§6-41) of the Code or Ordinances.  
ORDERED this 24th day of March, 2026.  
JUDGE ARISTINA SANCHEZ, SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

**CASIAS, LISA ANNE**  
**DEFAULT NOTICE CV-26-0675**  
Country Club Cars v. Lisa Anne Casias  
To: Lisa Anne Casias, RESPONDENT  
1. A Civil Complaint has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.  
2. The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend

**JUAN, HATTIE LOUISE**  
**DEFAULT NOTICE CV-25-4591**  
Country Club Cars v. Hattie Louise Juan  
To: Hattie Louise Juan, RESPONDENT  
1. A Civil Complaint has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.  
2. The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.  
3. If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this

**R.L.**  
**NOTICE OF DEFAULT JUDGMENT: CF-11-0001/CF-11-0217**  
TO: R.L.  
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number CF-11-0001/CF-11-0217  
Notice of Entry of Default Judgment Reimbursement is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default judgment against Petitioner, R.L., is hereby ENTERED. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Petitioner, R.L. shall pay \$813.16 to Respondent, Y.W. Payment shall be made to Respondent by deduction of April 2026, Per Capita. This order is final and shall be served on Petitioner in accordance to Rule 5-20(c)

**WASHINGTON, EDWARD**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE CV-25-3181**  
Country Club Cars v. Edward Washington  
TO: Edward Washington  
YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 12th day of May, 2026 at 11:00 AM, in Court Room #1, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to comply with the Default Judgement that was ordered on February 18, 2026.  
FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt of Court from (§6-41) of the Code or Ordinances.  
ORDERED this 24th day of March, 2026.  
JUDGE ARISTINA SANCHEZ, SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

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O'odham Action News encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. However, letters must be typed or printed clearly, and should include the writer's name, address and phone number. This information is for verification only. Other submission of articles, artwork and photos are encouraged. O'odham Action News does not assume responsibility for unsolicited materials and does not guarantee publication upon submission.  
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**THOMAS, ELIZABETH**  
**DEFAULT NOTICE CV-26-0669**  
Country Club Cars v. Elizabeth Thomas  
To: Elizabeth Thomas, RESPONDENT  
1. A Civil Complaint has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community  
Community Regulatory Agency/Office of Alcohol Beverage Control

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with the SRPMIC Code of Ordinances, Ordinance Number SRO-355-2010, a public hearing on a Liquor License Application for Hampton Inn & Suites at Talking Stick located at 9550 E. Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85256, shall be held at the SRPMIC Community Regulatory Agency (CRA) on May 19, 2026, at 10:00 am, at 8840 E. Chaparral Rd., Suite 165, Scottsdale, AZ 85250 (Conference Room). Petitions and testimony will be heard from persons in favor of or opposed to the issuance of a liquor license that reside in the Community, or own or lease property located within the Community that is in close proximity to the proposed premises. To request for additional information regarding this application, contact Special Investigator Rolanda Reuter at (480) 362-5499.

**SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

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

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ISSUE	DEADLINE AT NOON
<b>MAY 21</b>	<b>MAY 8</b>
<b>JUNE 4</b>	<b>MAY 22</b>

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

# Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition Hosts Webinar on Sexual Assault of Men and Boys

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.

During April, which is national Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition facilitated webinars for the public to help raise awareness about sexual assault of men and boys.

Lenny Hayes, M.A. (Sisseton Wahpeton-Oyate), owner/operator of Tate Topa Consulting, LLC, based in Minnesota, facilitated a webinar presentation titled "The Impact of Sexual Violence on Men and Boys."

Due to the sensitive nature of the April 16 webinar, an official attendance count was not taken.

Hayes is a mental and chemical health therapist and is Dakota Two Spirit. They are a survivor of the foster care system and of child and adult sexual abuse.

According to a study conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Indigenous people experience high rates of intimate partner violence and sexual violence.

Simply put, it's time to put an end to sexual violence.

## What Is Sexual Violence?

Sexual violence is defined as rape, sexual assault, incest and child molestation. When a person uses tricks, power, threats or violence to have sexual contact with another, that is rape/sexual assault.

Incest is when the victim is a close blood relative of the offender. Child molestation is when the victim is a child.

None of these behaviors are acceptable.

Hayes said, "Sexual abuse is sexual

contact without consent. This applies for both children and adults."

They went on to add that children do not consent because they often do what adults tell them to do. This can potentially lead to parental figures gaslighting their own children and telling them "Nothing bad happened here" to prevent the child from acknowledging and processing the abuse.

If children cannot properly process or understand that they have been sexually abused, this can interfere with their development as they grow into adulthood and lead to mental health issues.

## Sexual Abuse

When an adult sexually touches a child, that is sexual abuse. Additionally, sexual abuse exists in any instance where an adult photographs a child for sexual purposes, conducts sexualized talk, exposes their genitals to a child, or simply witnesses others being sexually abused.

Hayes also revealed that a common form of sexual touching is when a child and adult are both wearing clothes.

"Touching can also come in the form of sexual hugs or rubbing. That includes touching or fondling of the child's genitals or other erotic areas," they said.

## Boys Don't Cry

"Boys are more reluctant to disclose [sexual abuse] than girls," said Hayes. "Children who are victims of a family perpetrator often delay disclosure longer than a non-family member," they added.

If a boy is sexually assaulted or abused, he may question his own ability to defend himself or grow up not trusting his own body. The boy might also learn to hate his body and lose respect for personal boundaries or the surroundings around him.

"That can result in use of alcohol and/or drugs, over- or undereating, and teen smoking," shared Hayes.

A sexually abused boy is more likely

to dissociate, which is a mental process involving a disconnection between thoughts, emotions and sense of identity and is a coping mechanism for stress or trauma.

"He might also feel powerless or worthless because the child might have learned from being abused that what he does, wants, feels or thinks makes no difference," shared Hayes. They added, "He will continue to question himself, 'Why didn't anyone in my family stop it?' and 'Why didn't I tell someone?'"

Society's current perception of sexual abuse can also hinder a boy's development. "A boy who talks about being abused by a woman is often greeted by disbelief, denial and others romanticizing his story," said Hayes.

## Loss of Childhood

When children are sexually abused, they lose pieces of their childhood. They experience a loss of memory of their childhood, which results in loss of opportunities to socialize in a healthful manner. Ultimately, the abused child may grow into an adult who has not experienced what a loving and nurturing family environment can provide.

When a family lives in collective denial of the sexual abuse of a child in that family, this negatively impacts everyone, especially the child, and adds to a family's generational trauma.

Furthermore, a portion of sexually abused boys go on to sexually abuse other children.

It is possible to work through the trauma of sexual assault and violence. However, it is important to understand that each person is different, and processing sexual assault and violence may be a lifelong journey.

"Men are often sent the message as a child to be strong, don't ask for help, take control and be dominant," said Hayes. "This leads to anxiety, depression, low self-esteem and discomfort when being touched. This results in dysthymia, a chronically depressed mood, as well as posttraumatic stress disorder," they added.

## How to Help

It's important to understand that there is always time to heal.

"How do we help men and boys heal? We must create a safe space for them, first," said Hayes. "We must show them compassion and empathy. This is how we break down the stigma. We must educate each other and help raise awareness while also remembering to encourage and support them," they finished.

Hayes suggested participating in sweat lodges, attending support groups and talking with elders.

"Each individual is different, with [some] similarities," said Hayes. "Not all issues and problems are the same with all adult survivors of child sexual abuse. Let's keep each other close and help each other heal," they concluded.

*You are not alone*

If you or someone you know needs support, help is available:

- National Domestic Violence Hotline **1-800-799-7233**
- Strong Hearts Native Helpline **1-844-762-8483**
- National Sexual Assault Hotline **1-800-656-4673**
- Visit <https://www.swiwc.org> to get connected.
- Visit [arizonasurvivors.org](http://arizonasurvivors.org) for a comprehensive list of resources specific to your needs.

**"Let's keep each other close and help each other heal."**

## SRPMIC Public Health Team Hosts Resource Fair

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

O'odham Action News

juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

Dozens of tents decorated the Two Waters complex in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community on April 9 to help celebrate 2026's National Public Health Week, which ran from April 6 to April 12. The week is presented annually by the American Public Health Association.

SRPMIC Injury Prevention Coordinator Monte Yazzie served as emcee. During his welcoming, he thanked the Community and the participating departments that set up booths.

"Thank you to all of our partners that have showed up out here in this hot weather," Yazzie said.

While the scorching sun made sure to make an appearance as well, the resource fair allowed many Community members and staff to visit with each of the booths and to get a better understanding of the services and resources the departments provide.

Raffle prizes, music, food, mini-games and a digital fire extinguisher training system were available for all to enjoy.

The digital fire extinguisher training system is a waterless operating system and utilizes digital sensors to mimic a real fire. Salt River Fire Department Capt. Robert Scabby Jr. demonstrated the system and invited many to try their hands at extinguishing the digital fire for themselves.



Vendor booths filled the Two Waters Complex Courtyard on April 12 to help celebrate National Public Health Week. Membership and their loved ones were given the opportunity to visit and meet with various Community departments and staff to get a better understanding of the services and resources available.

Also at the resource fair was Public Health Service Assistant Tammy Walker. Her presentation featured a brief overview of the items found in the SRPMIC Public Health kiosks. Walker encouraged children and their loved ones to take home samples of COVID-19 tests and other health and wellness goodies while informing them that the items in the kiosks are free for members.

To stay up to date on all the SRPMIC Public Health Department events, interested individuals can call (480) 362-2603.

## Sexual Assault Awareness Month Day of Action: Chalk & Walk

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

O'odham Action News

chris.picciuolo@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Family Advocacy Center hosted a "Chalk & Walk" Sexual Assault Awareness Month Day of Action event on April 7 at Friendship Park.

Participants wrote encouraging and positive messages with chalk on the basketball court blacktop to show their support.

Examples of the messages etched into the ground included "You are heard/seen/loved. Don't be afraid" and "You are worthy of support."

Miss Salt River Emma Scabby, Jr. Miss Salt River Tiaré Begay-Smith and Aiyanna Toya, First Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River, attended the event and led the walk, alongside Miss Indian Arizona Sialik King.

In a statement on the Miss Indian Arizona Instagram page, King said that sexual violence is "horrendous" and disproportionately impacts tribal communities.



A Chalk & Walk participant leaves an encouraging message on the basketball court with chalk.

"Events such as this one not only show support to all those that are impacted but also bring awareness to issues within our communities," said King.

"I want to thank Salt River's Family Advocacy Center for bringing our community together to show our support and love to everyone affected by sexual violence. To any survivors, please know that we all stand behind you and care for you. *Si has em elid* ("We are thinking about you"). *Sapo!*"

The first 150 people to participate received a State Forty-Eight/FAC collaboration t-shirt.

A light meal was provided after the walk.

## HOME IGNITION ZONE CHECKLIST

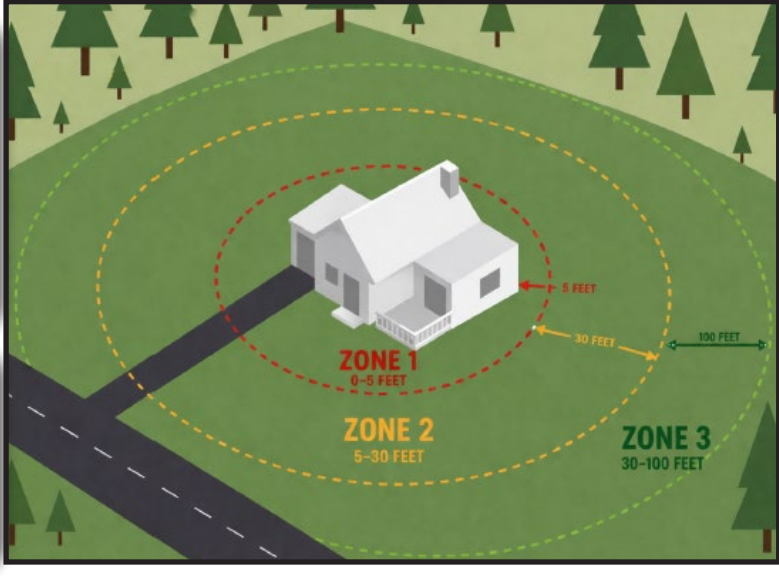
### SIMPLE STEPS FROM ROOF TO FOUNDATION TO MAKE A HOME SAFER FROM EMBERS AND RADIANT HEAT

- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8 inch metal mesh screening
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8 inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors - mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles - anything that can burn
- Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches

**VISIT FIREWISE.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS**  
Image by NFPA, with funding from USDA Forest Service

**Create Defensible Space Around Your Home to Protect Against Fires**  
Wet seasonal growth and rising temperatures increase wildfire risk in our Community. Creating defensible space around your home is a simple way to reduce fire hazards and help protect your family and property.

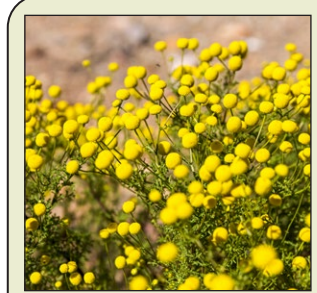
**Additional Safety Tips**  
- Remove trash, debris and rubbish from around your homes  
Stored vehicles should not contain gasoline  
- Keep your family and property safe and free from fire hazards



- | Zone 1<br>0 – 5 feet   | Zone 2<br>5 – 30 feet  | Zone 3<br>30 – 100 feet   |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove overhanging and dead tree limbs, dead plants, leaves and debris</li> <li>• Use flame-resistant landscape materials (gravel, stone)</li> <li>• Keep roofs, gutters, and decks clean</li> <li>• Move firewood, propane tanks, and outdoor furniture away from the house</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trim tree branches at least 6–10 feet from the ground and 10 feet from roof tops and sheds</li> <li>• Space shrubs and trees apart to prevent fire spread</li> <li>• Keep grass short (under 4 inches)</li> <li>• Remove flammable debris, dead vegetation and fallen branches</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thin trees and vegetation to reduce density</li> <li>• Remove dead trees and debris</li> <li>• Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants</li> <li>• Maintain access for emergency responders and their vehicles</li> </ul> |
- Questions? Phone: 480-362-SRFD (7733) Email: FirePrevention@srpmic-nsn.gov

## Common Weeds in SRPMIC & How to Control Them

- ### Herbicide Safety
- Make sure to read the product labels.
  - Wear appropriate clothing: long sleeve shirt, long pants, close-toed shoes, and goggles or glasses.
  - Do not spray right before rain, during rain, wind, or the heat of the day.
  - Do not mix herbicides.
  - Store herbicides in a secure, cool, dry place, out of reach of children and pets.
  - Let the sprayed area dry before letting children and pets resume using the area.
  - Keep away from eyes and mouth, and wash your hands after handling the herbicide.



**Control**  
- Hand-pull or dig out (WEAR GLOVES AND FACE PROTECTION) as soon as possible.  
- Use a weed preventer after pulling.  
- If large clumps are an issue, herbicides can be used.

**DO NOT BURN STINKNET**

**Stinknet**  
*globe chamomile; Oenothera biennis*  
Appearance: Has dark green, “carrot-like” leaves with a strong odor, bright yellow and ball-shaped flowers.

**Recommended Herbicides**  
**Weed Preventer** – Apply in late summer/early fall (Sept.–Nov.):  
- Preen Extended Control Weed Preventer  
**Weed Killer** – Apply in late fall through winter (Nov.–Feb.):  
- Round-up  
- Ortho Weed and Grass Killer  
- Vinegar/Acetic Acid 10-20% – on hot, sunny days

**Cheeseweed**  
*little mallow; Malva parviflora*  
Appearance: Has lobed, heart-shaped leaves. Grows either along the ground or can reach 2-5 ft in height.

**Control**  
- When low to the ground, hand-pulling is easy and hoeing can be used to destroy the roots.  
- Once older, the taproot needs to be mulched, destroyed, or entirely removed.



- For large areas, herbicide use after removal during growing season and a weed preventer pre-growing season is recommended.

**Recommended Herbicides**  
**Weed Preventer** – Apply in late summer/early fall (Sept.–Nov.):  
- Bonide Captain Jack’s Deadweed Brew  
- Preen Extended Control Weed Preventer  
**Weed Killer** – Apply in late winter/early spring (Feb.–April):  
- Round-up  
- Pulverize Weed, Brush, and Vine Killer  
- Spectracide Weed and Grass Killer

**London Rocket**  
*Sisymbrium irio*  
Appearance: Slender, 1–3 ft tall, yellow clustered flowers at the top, has rocket-trail-like stem, and thin leaves.



**African Mustard**  
*Asian mustard; Saharan mustard; Brassica tournefortii*  
Appearance: Grows 2-3 ft tall, small yellow flowers, “warty” green leaves, has long, thin, narrow seed pods.

**Recommended Herbicides**  
**Weed Preventer** – Apply in late summer/early fall (Sept.–Nov.):  
- Pulverize Weed, Brush and Vine Killer  
- Ortho Pre-Emergent Lawn Weed Killer  
**Weed Killer** – Apply in late winter/early spring (Feb.–April):  
- Round-up  
- BioAdvanced Season Long Weed Control  
- Spectracide Weed and Grass Killer  
- Compare-N-Save Concentrate Weed and Grass Killer

**Saltcedar**  
*Tamarix ramosissima*  
Appearance: A small tree/shrub with small pink flowers, reddish stems, thin and branched leaves and an oily feel.

**Control**  
If possible, the roots should be removed/destroyed entirely. Otherwise, cut the tree as close to the ground as possible and spray with an herbicide within 30 minutes of cutting.



**Recommended Herbicides**  
Apply in late winter/early spring (Feb.–April):  
- BrushTox with Triclopyr  
- Compare-N-Save Concentrate Weed and Grass Killer

**Control**  
- For small infestations, hand-pull, mow, or hoe as soon as possible. The ideal timing for manual removal is when plants are in the young seedling stage, before shoots appear during winter and early spring.  
- For large areas, herbicide use after removal during growing season and a weed preventer pre-growing season is recommended.

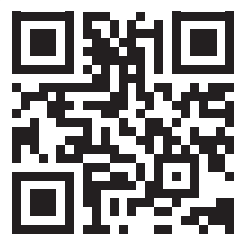
# AN 'EGG'STRA SPECIAL DAY!



## EASTER FESTIVITIES WITH SRPMIC



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# EXPLORING CAREERS: SRMG WELCOMES ALA STUDENTS

BY: ARLENA MORENO, ADMINISTRATION

On Friday, April 17, Salt River Materials Group's (SRMG) Aggregates Unit participated in the **Accelerated Learning Academy (ALA) Job Shadow Day**. This event gave students the opportunity to tour SRMG plants and learn about the many job opportunities within the company.

The students' first stop was at SRMG's corporate office, where they met **CEO Ruben Guerrero Jr.** and members of the **Aggregates** team. The students then toured the Glendale, Beeline, and Dobson plants. At each location, they learned about the production of aggregates, quality control of materials, and the safety considerations and risks associated with working on a jobsite.

Students also had the opportunity to tour the lab, mechanic shops, and scale houses, where they observed staff in action. After completing their job shadow, they were treated to lunch at Talking Stick Golf Course before returning to school.

During lunch, the staff got to learn more about the students, including their interests and future goals. They even learned some new slang along the way. In return, the staff shared stories about their families and memorable experiences working for SRMG. Overall, both the students and staff had a great time interacting with one another.

Events like the ALA Job Shadow Day provide a valuable opportunity for SRMG to connect with the community's youth by allowing them to observe daily operations and learn more about the materials the company produces.

SRMG Thanks **Salt River Schools** Accelerated Learning Academy staff for allowing these young scholars time to learn and take an interest in the company. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!



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



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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**FOR THE COMPLETE SRPMIC CALENDAR, SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW:**



### ONGOING

**AAR AFTERNOONS**, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1-3 p.m., Ske:g Himdag Ki: Senior Room. Engaging games, crafts and events for community members ages 18-54 with intellectual, physical and emotional needs. Questions? SSSDAdultAdaptiveRecreation@srpmic-nsn.gov

**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.

**REZ READERS**, Third Thursdays through April. Looking for a good book and a nice place to talk about it? Then come join Community Recreational Services and Salt River Tribal Library for the new Rez Readers Book Club. A club where we will focus on native authors and themes for fiction to some non-fiction reads and engage in some great conversations a we all share our insight, thoughts and experiences throughout each book. Starting February 19th, Rez Readers will meet every 3rd Thursdays, February - April from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Copies of the books will be available for check out (while supplies last). Questions Contact 480-362-6600 / Triballibrary@SRPMIC-nsn.gov

**TAI CHI FOR SENIORS**, Tuesdays, 9-10 a.m., Ske:g Himdag 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 needs.

**LOVE AND HARMONY COUPLES GROUP**, Tuesdays | 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM | Behavioral Health Services, River People Health Center. 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.

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

**WELLBRIETY 12 STEP AND MEDICINE WHEEL**, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. 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.

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

**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: members. 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. This Group provides a creative environment to learn and explore prompt writing, literary discussion, and guest 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.

**ELEVATING ELDERS**, Thursdays, 9-10 a.m., Ske:g Himdag Ki: Senior Room. Physical Fitness Specialist Nevelle Howard leads a fun, energizing class that boosts strength using body weight and light dumbbells. For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs.

**YOGA FOR FALL PREVENTION**, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m., Ske:g Himdag Ki: Senior Room. Standing or chair options available. Guided movements improve strength, balance and flexibility. For seniors 55+ and adults with adaptive needs.

### 'U'US VIOHOGTALIG MAŞAD XLY'A SARAP MAY

**8 SENIOR MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON**, Join Senior Services for a special afternoon celebrating the amazing moms, aunts and women who shine like the sun and help our families and community bloom. Enjoy Music, Fun & Prizes! Fri., May 8 | 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Talking Stick Ballroom 10 a.m. Doors Open | 10:45 a.m. Lunch Served For seniors 55+. Questions? 480.362.7565.

**13 MCCC AMERICAN INDIAN CONVOCATION 13 MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AMERICAN INDIAN CONVOCATION**, 6 p.m. at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick. Open to all. See flyer on page 15 for more information.

**14 SALT RIVER SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ENROLLMENT FAIR**, 5-7 p.m. at the Accelerated Learning Academy gym. Meet representatives from area schools eager to serve Salt River students. For questions, call (480) 362-2534.

**18 SALT RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**KINDERGARTEN CELEBRATION**, 9 a.m. at Accelerated Learning Academy Lecture Hall. Celebrate the promotion to first grade.

**19 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER PROMOTION CEREMONY**, 5:30 p.m. at the Accelerated Learning Academy gym. Celebrate the promotion to kindergarten.

**20 SALT RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SIXTH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY**, 1:30 p.m. at the Accelerated Learning Academy Lecture Hall.

**21 PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL**, Ceremony at Two Waters, will include prayers and a rifle salute (non-live ammunition). Begins at 9 a.m.

**23 SRPMIC MEMORIAL DAY FLAG PLANTING**, 7 a.m. Planting begins at St. Francis, then Salt River Cemetery and ending at Lehi Cemetery. See flyer on page 8 for more information.

**25 SRPMIC MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY**, 7 a.m. at Lehi Cemetery. Reception at the Lehi Community Building following ceremony. See flyer on page 8 for more information.

**25 OFFICES CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY**

**27 VIA LINDA BEHAVIORAL HOSPITAL SYMPOSIUM - INNOVATIONS IN THE TREATMENT OF TRAUMA: THROUGH THEIR EYES**, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 27 at the Showroom at Talking Stick Resort: 9800 E Talking Stick Way | Scottsdale, AZ 85256. This event is a trauma-informed care symposium designed to educate healthcare workers in the community, so that we can make waves of positive change with empathy, compassion and innovation. We will have guest speakers sharing personal stories on the importance of trauma-informed care (TIC), teaching the principles of T.I.C., educating members on new technological innovations designed to treat trauma (VR headsets to deliver exposure therapy), Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation, and neurofeedback therapy. In addition to this being an educational event offering guests Continued Education Units (CEUs), this event is also a demonstration of Via Linda's dedication to sharing empathy and T.I.C. values with the public. To reflect our mission, we are encouraging all attendees to donate to Not Our Native Daughters

as well as Salt River Community's Children Foundaton. To RSVP, email the Name/Title/ Employer of all parties in your guest list to [VialindaRSVP@uhsinc.com](mailto:VialindaRSVP@uhsinc.com)

### HA:ŞAÑ BAHIDAG MAŞAD XLY'A XAMXUK JUNE

**1 COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST**, 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Reminder: For those who wish to submit unspoken prayer requests can do so by emailing: [srpmicprayer-breakfast@gmail.com](mailto:srpmicprayer-breakfast@gmail.com). Location: Salt River Community Building (1880 N. Longmore Road / Scottsdale, AZ 85256)

**8-11 D-BACKS INTER-TRIBAL YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**, Native youth age 9 to high school senior will be competing in multiple divisions. Games will be held at baseball fields throughout SRPMIC. For questions, email [efigueroa@dbacks.com](mailto:efigueroa@dbacks.com).

**13 SRPMIC DAY EVENT**

**15 OFFICES CLOSED - SRPMIC DAY**

**19 JUNETEENTH SRPMIC OFFICES CLOSED**

**19 JR. MISS SALT RIVER PAGEANT**, 6 p.m. at Talking Stick Resort Ballroom. See who is crowned the next Jr. Miss and thank outgoing Jr. Miss Salt River Tiare Begay Smith. For questions, call (480) 362-7474.

**20 MISS SALT RIVER PAGEANT**, 2 p.m. at Talking Stick Resort Ballroom. See who is crowned the next Miss Salt River and thank outgoing Miss Salt River Emma Scabby. For questions, call (480) 362-7474.

**FOR THE LATEST DISTRICT MEETINGS SCHEDULE, SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW:**

