



Welcoming in the Newly Crowned Miss and Jr. Miss Salt River Courts!



Left to right: Jr. Miss Salt River Contestants Lanae Medina, Thaila Silverhorn, Ava Makil, Lanice Emerson, and Peytyn Manuel.



Miss Salt River 2026-2027 Jizelle Juan.



Above: Alva Silverhorn plays a song on the guitar written by her father.



Below: Thaila Silverhorn proudly showcases her traditional attire.



Left to right: Alva Silverhorn, Cherish Vavages, Jizelle Juan, Ella McGilbary.



Jr. Miss Salt River 2026-2027 Lanae Medina.

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ALA'S CLASS OF 2026 ACHIEVES RECORD MILESTONE



With 31 graduates this year, the academy set a record for the highest number of graduates in the school's decade-plus history.

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AZ Sons Earn Top Honors in Na7ive Na7ions Tournament



The AZ Sons, coached by Arnold Thomas, showed why they're one of the premier 16U baseball teams in the state.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'dham Action News
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The triple-digit scorching heat over Father's Day weekend didn't deter the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community baseball team AZ Sons from bringing home championship hardware in the second annual Na7ive Na7ions 16U baseball tournament.

Celebrating their second year of the tournament, Na7ive Na7ions, which is run by former Major League Baseball pitcher DJ Carrasco, held the opening ceremony on June 18 at Salt River Fields.

A major component of the tournament comes at the end of the games, when the Na7ive Na7ions selection committee spends time reviewing game footage, statistics and the overall performance of all players to help determine a Na7ive Na7ions national baseball team

3 Takeaways:

- The AZ Sons 16U team, coached by Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member Arnold Thomas, participated in the second annual Na7ive Na7ions 16U boys' baseball tournament.
- AZ Sons 16U went undefeated during the tournament, going 6-0.
- At the tournament's conclusion, the Na7ive Na7ions selection committee selects several players across all participating teams to create a national Indigenous baseball team to play in the annual Babe Ruth World Series tournament.

to compete in the annual Babe Ruth World Series tournament, scheduled to be held in Missouri in August.

The 11 teams participated in pool play and tournament games on Friday and Saturday, leading up to Sunday's Father's Day championship game on June 21.

A 12th and honorary final

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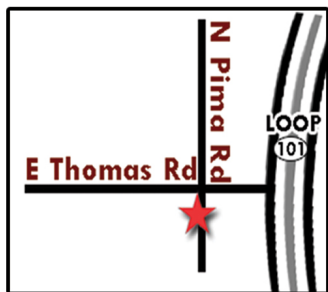
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Longtime Community Graphic Design Collaborator Gary Hill Retires

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO

O'odham Action News
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If you've been in or worked in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community long enough, you'll recognize the work of graphic designer Gary Hill.

You might not have seen his face, but you likely have an imprint of the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River and Talking Stick Entertainment District logos in your mind. Hill created those. He began collaborating with the Community about 26 years ago, and some of his logos and graphic standards are still being used to this day.

Hill recently retired from his work. In fact, Hill was on vacation in a cabin in the mountains when he patched in with his "iffy" cell service to talk with O'odham Action News about his work with the Community.

"Over the last 26 years, I've met and enjoyed working with a lot of great people at SRPMIC. I enjoyed learning a lot about the Community and Native culture," said Hill, who grew up in a small town in Illinois.

Hill's earliest exposure to Arizona Native culture was reading Arizona Highways magazine. His grandparents had a subscription.

Designing SRPMIC's early annual reports helped Hill learn about what was going on in the Community.

Hill graduated from Arizona State University in 1979 with a degree in advertising design. Through a series of referrals, Hill said he began working on a project with local communications services company STRATEG!ES and Janet Johnson, former Community Relations Office director.

3 Takeaways:

- Graphic designer Gary Hill, who worked with the SRPMIC on Community logo design, graphic standards and more for over 26 years, has retired.
- Notable work includes logos for the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River and Talking Stick Entertainment District and designing for campaigns during gaming compact talks.
- Hill also worked with the Community Relations Office, Discover Salt River, Health and Human Services and more on a number of graphic design projects.



Graphic designer and longtime SRPMIC collaborator Gary Hill is gifted by the Community Relations Office artwork by artist Chelsea Draper. Photo courtesy of Community Relations Office.

Johnson remembers working with Hill early on when the Community was strategizing how to work with the state of Arizona after Gov. Fife Symington refused to sign the 17th tribal compact with the SRPMIC in 1994, which led to the Community placing the Fairness

Initiative (Proposition 201) on the ballot in 1996. In June 1998, Arizona Gov. Jane Dee Hull signed a compact with the Community.

Hill's work on graphics for the campaigns impressed Johnson. "Hill came out with designs and gave us options for color," she said.

"Gary worked from home. He was kind of like an entrepreneur. He was a graphic designer when we didn't really have any graphic designers. Graphic designers weren't out there much. It wasn't really a field that was 'in the norm,' so he was very unique."

Johnson continued to work with Hill, which presented him with opportunities to work with other SRPMIC departments such as Community Relations, the Community Development Department, Discover Salt River, the Economic Development Department, Community Regulatory Agency, Health and Human Services, Saddleback Communications and the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs, to name just a handful.

As the CRO grew its own department dedicated to graphic design, Hill often collaborated with Daniel Martinez, who is now the CRO multimedia manager.

SRPMIC Public Information Officer Blessing McAnlis-Vasquez first had the opportunity to work with Hill more than 14 years ago as the Community began expanding its marketing efforts for the Talking Stick Entertainment District.

"He already had a strong under-



Logo for Discover Salt River, the SRPMIC's tourism department. Gary Hill designed this logo, which is still being used today.



Logo for the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River designed by Gary Hill.

standing of the Community and our approach to design, which made him an invaluable partner from day one," said McAnlis-Vasquez. "What always stood out to me was his ability to listen. I could send over a rough sketch or describe an idea, and he would transform it into something beautiful that was almost exactly what I had envisioned."

McAnlis-Vasquez said that he had a rare talent for adapting his work to reflect an organization's

vision, mission and style, rather than imposing his own.

"I miss working with him but am deeply grateful for the role he played in helping us tell our story over the years," said McAnlis-Vasquez. "I wish him all the best in a well-deserved retirement."



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Our Land, Our Responsibility: Reporting Illegal Dumping Matters

SUBMITTED BY SRPMIC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & NATURAL RESOURCES

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community encompasses more than 54,000 acres of land, including over 34,000 acres of open space and natural preserve areas. These desert landscapes are among the Community's most valuable resources. Recently, however, illegal dumping has become a growing problem, with individuals leaving tires, construction debris and other trash scattered across areas that should be kept clean and respected.

Based upon years of dumpsite cleanup data, according to the Community Development Department's Environmental Protection & Natural Resources Division (CDD/EPNR), most of the illegal dumping is not being done by Community members. Instead, outside individuals and contractors are often responsible. In many cases, these dumpers are paid to properly dispose of waste but choose to avoid disposal fees by leaving the material on Community land.

Illegal dumping is more than an eyesore. It shows a disregard for the land, polluting areas that have long provided cultural, environmental and economic value to the Community. Efforts to combat illegal dumping focus on both removing new dumpsites as soon as they are discovered and holding violators accountable through enforcement by the Salt River Police Department (SRPD).

Cleaning up illegal dump sites requires considerable time, equipment and manpower. EPNR crews regularly work to remove waste from remote areas, often with assistance from the SRPMIC Day Worker Program. These efforts not only restore the landscape but also reinforce the importance of stewardship and empowering Community members to take an active role in caring for the land they call home.

Removing illegally dumped waste is only one part of the solution. To address the root of the problem, the SRPD works to deter illegal dumping. Provided that the dumper is caught, the SRPD enforces SRPMIC's illegal dumping ordinance (Ordinances Chapter 13, Article I) by seizing any vehicles and trailers that are used for illegal dumping.

In one recent case, an SRPMIC member reported a dump truck unloading dirt on family land. SRPD Rangers responded, located the driver and impounded the truck. The vehicle remained in impound for about six weeks while the case went through SRPMIC Court. During that time, the owner lost income from not being able to use the truck, paid a fine, and was required to remove the dumped material before the vehicle was returned.

The First Line of Defense

The Community's greatest strength is its people. Community members play a vital role in the fight against illegal dumping, and their vigilance is critical to protecting Community lands. When residents report illegal dumping or suspicious activity, they help ensure that those responsible are held accountable and that the Community remains clean and safe for future generations. Reporting dumping as it is happening will enable SRPD to seize the dumper's vehicle.

Please do not approach the individuals; your safety is most important. Instead, immediately call SRPD Dispatch at (480) 850-9230 and state that there is illegal dumping in progress. Be ready to provide as much information as possible:

- Vehicle type, color and license plate number
- Number of people and their descriptions
- Type of materials being dumped
- The exact location

Every report helps protect the Community. By working together, Community members, CDD/EPNR and SRPD can deter illegal dumping, hold violators accountable and preserve the beauty of the SRPMIC for future generations.



Summer Youth Worker Joins Second Session with SRPMIC Community Relations Office



A photo taken by Summer Youth Worker and future award-winner, Daryana Washington.

BY DARYANA WASHINGTON
O’odham Action News
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Hello, my name is Daryana. I’m a youth worker for Community Relations. Here’s a little about myself. I’m 16 and the youngest of my siblings. Most of my time I spend with my dad watching movies together, going out to eat or helping him pick drawings or designs to put on gourds he works on. If I’m not spending time with my dad, I’ll prob-

ably be in my room listening to music or drawing. I like drawing because it distracts me from what’s going on around me. One of my main hobbies is Photography. I like taking pictures of animals, cars, flowers and sunsets. Someday I hope to have accomplished some of my goals in the future. One of my main goals is to hopefully start my own business because I want to create something of my own to be proud of.

The Kavaḍ/Kushov Cultural Center Is Now Open!

The Kavaḍ/Kushov Cultural Center, which opened in May, has already hosted events in the Community, including cooking and basket-making classes for youth.

BY ZOE HERNANDEZ AND
JUAN YSAGUIRRE
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After officially opening in May, the new Kavaḍ/Kushov Cultural Center in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community held its first cooking demonstration class for Community children on June 16.

Guided by Youth Cultural Specialist Isaac Lopez inside classroom 107 (Gegusdakuḍ in O’odham and ‘Ayu Lyuumaav in Piipaash), participants made their very own voihogī si’ ovī svaḍagam cemait, also known as mesquite pancakes.

Operating the classroom’s new broadcasting system, Lopez was able to present the cooking demonstration in the back of the classroom, from inside the kitchen as the children and additional staff watched him on the classroom’s live-feed monitor.

“This is why we’re doing this,” said Lopez as he walked the classroom aisles helping the children during the cooking demonstration. “This is a cultural activity for us because the voihogī is one of our food sources we live off of.”

Later, Lopez invited the children into the kitchen area to pour the batter onto the stovetop and flip the pancakes they created themselves from scratch.

3 Takeaways:

- The Kavaḍ/Kushov Cultural Center hosts traditional and educational classes for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.
- On June 16, Youth Services and Cultural Resources hosted the first-ever cooking class at the newly remodeled center.
- The children made mesquite pancakes while speaking the traditional language with SRPMIC Youth Cultural Development Specialist Isaac Lopez.

After Lopez showed them how to flip the pancakes, the children took over and laughter soon began to bounce off the kitchen walls.

Later in the afternoon, Lopez facilitated an additional cooking demonstration, this time with Community teenagers. Although they were shy and tried to remain casual, one could see the room light up as they grew more excited. The teens worked on their collaboration skills as well as brushing up on their O’odham during the workshop with Lopez.

The fun continued a few weeks later at the Kavaḍ/Kushov Cultural Center. On June 27, youth had another chance to attend a class, this time for bark skirt making. The skirt making class was the first demonstration class hosted there.

Interested individuals can contact the cultural center directly at (480) 362-6325 to receive more information on upcoming programs.

To see photos of the voihogī si’ ovī svaḍagam cemait, also known as mesquite pancake class visit <https://oan.srpmic-nsn.gov/>

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Protect Elders and Vulnerable Adults from Scams

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
O’odham Action News
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Elders are the population most vulnerable to online scams, as the internet has become a major avenue for fraud and financial exploitation. Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members with cell phones might know a thing or two about another type of scam that involves text messages.

If you have received a vague text on your phone seemingly out of the blue claiming there is a “problem with your payment” or that there is some “suspicious activity on your account,” you might recognize it as a scam and delete or report it. However, not all people can tell the difference between a scam text and an actual issue with an account.

The Federal Trade Commission warns not to click on any links from text messages you weren’t expecting, especially if they ask you to give personal or financial information. Legitimate companies won’t ask for information about your account by text.

FTC data suggests that American Indians and Alaska Native individuals are more likely to be victims of scams and less likely to report them than other racial or ethnic groups, which makes them an even more attractive target for con artists, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The BIA said fraudsters frequently look to gain the trust of those with ready access to money, which includes individuals receiving trust fund payments and tribal citizens in charge of investment committees.

With June being Elder Abuse Awareness Month, *O’odham Action News* spoke with SRPMIC Senior Services Adult Protective Services investigator

Avarae John to talk about ways that elders have become victims of scams.

Although neglect is the leading form of elder abuse reported in the Community, John said that there have been several referrals involving romance and social-media scams targeting elders and vulnerable adults requesting help in the form of money.

“One scam we have been alerted to is the DMV highway toll scams, where scammers will directly ask over text for immediate payment of funds,” said John. “APS is always here to educate and assist our elders and vulnerable adults. If there is a request for immediate payment, it is almost always a scam.”

John said that it’s a scary situation, with scammers getting more sophisticated in how they request funds.

“It is always a good plan to ask questions, either at the Finance Department, police station or APS,” suggested John.

According to data from the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) Internet Crime Complaint Center’s (IC3) 2025 Elder Fraud State Reports, there were 9,834 reported victims of internet crime ages 60 and older in Arizona in 2025, amounting to a total loss of \$343,984,935.

Throughout the U.S., in 2025, there were just over 1 million complaints reported to the IC3, with \$20.877 billion in total losses, a 26% increase in losses from 2024, with an average loss of \$20,699.

In the same year, 201,266 complaints from U.S. citizens ages 60 and older amounted to a total loss of \$7,748,911,371.

The BIA suggests reporting any scams to the FTC at www.Report-Fraud.ftc.gov.

News and Events In and Around Indian Country

BY DALTON WALKER
O’odham Action News
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Interior Department Seeks Tribal Advisory Committee Members

The U.S. Department of the Interior is taking nominations for its tribal advisory committee. Nominations are open to elected tribal officials through the end of July.

The committee was formed to strengthen collaboration between tribes and the federal government. Its focus will be providing strategic guidance to Interior Secretary Doug Burgum. Additional details can be found on the Interior Department’s website.

Heard Museum Hosts ‘Molly of Denali’

The Heard Museum in Phoenix has a new cultural experience in the form of “Molly of Denali.” It’s based on the PBS Kids program and showcases 10-year-old Molly’s life in summer and winter seasons. Visitors will explore Alaska Native culture with interactive opportunities.

The Peabody Award–winning television series premiered in 2019 and has five seasons. Heard Museum admission is free for Native people. The museum is open Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Native Hall of Fame Announces New Class

Six Native leaders will be inducted later this year into the National Native American Hall of Fame. A ceremony will take place in November in Oklahoma City.

The 2026 class includes longtime

U.S. Rep. Tom Cole (Chickasaw Nation), educator and former Montana state lawmaker Carol Juneau (Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation), attorney Arlinda Locklear (Lumbee Tribe), tribal leader Richard Milanovich (Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians), Indian gaming advocate Ernie Stevens Jr. (Oneida Nation of Wisconsin) and lacrosse player Lyle Thompson (Onondaga Nation).

See a list of inductees through the years on the hall of fame’s website.

Available Tribal Tourism Grants

Grants ranging in value from \$200,000 to \$300,000 will be awarded to 10 tribes or tribal organizations to facilitate, promote and enhance tourism offerings. The grants are part of a \$2.4 million Tribal Tourism Grant Program.

The program is administered by the Office of Indian Economic Development in support of the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act. This round’s deadline is Aug. 7.

Arizona Traffic Stop Nets Thousands of Dollars in Illegal Narcotics

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services Drug Enforcement K-9 unit seized 9.4 pounds of fentanyl powder during a traffic stop on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. The illegal narcotics have an estimated street value exceeding \$621,000, according to the bureau.

The traffic stop appears to have taken place on May 28. The announcement was made on June 1. Federal charges are being pursued through the U.S. attorney’s office in Phoenix.

Highlights of Proposed Mental Health Code Amendments

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council has approved that proposed changes to the Mental Health Code to move into the public comment period. This document explains what these changes will accomplish and how they could benefit Community Members and families. Redline copies of the changes are available for review.

MODERNIZED POLICY STATEMENT: Reframes behavioral health crises as medical emergencies; emphasizes trauma-informed, culturally responsive care, least-restrictive interventions, and protection of both public safety and individual rights.

UPDATED DEFINITIONS: Modernizes and clarifies key terms including danger to self, danger to others, grave disability, evaluation, and adds new definitions such as Behavioral Health Professional (BHP), Mobile Crisis Team (MCT), Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU), Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), least restrictive alternative, and imminent risk.

EXPANDED EMERGENCY APPREHENSION AUTHORITY: Authorizes law enforcement, BHPs, and MCT clinicians to initiate emergency apprehensions; establishes clearer timelines and release procedures.

LEAST RESTRICTIVE TREATMENT: Requires evaluators to consider and implement less restrictive alternatives whenever safe, rather than defaulting to detention or inpatient commitment.

DETENTION STANDARDS: Creates structured criteria for determining whether an individual should be held at the Salt River Department of Corrections or a medical/behavioral health facility, with a preference for clinically appropriate placement.

COURT-ORDERED EVALUATION: Expands who may petition for evaluation, clarifies required petition contents, and requires appointment of a Guardian ad Litem in commitment proceedings.

ENHANCED JUDICIAL OVERSIGHT: Provides judges with detailed factors to consider when ordering temporary detention and requires detention orders for medical facilities to specify the basis and duration of detention.

TREATMENT OPTIONS: Adds Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) as a formal alternative to inpatient commitment and authorizes courts to tailor outpatient treatment plans when community-based care can safely manage risk.

DISPOSITION & REVIEW: Clarifies treatment durations based on findings, requires periodic review hearings every 45 days, and expressly provides that noncompliance with treatment is addressed through civil—not criminal—processes.

POST-RELEASE JURISDICTION: Creates a new process allowing the Court to retain limited jurisdiction after discharge to enforce post-release treatment plans for up to 180 days, helping reduce relapse and repeat crises.

Highlights of Proposed Competency Rule

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council has approved that proposed changes to the Competency Process to move into the public comment period. This document explains what these changes will accomplish and how they could benefit Community Members and families. Redline copies of the changes are available for review.

ESTABLISHES COMPREHENSIVE COMPETENCY RULE: Creates a standalone rule governing competency from the filing of charges through restoration, trial, dismissal, or referral for civil commitment.

CLARIFIES LEGAL STANDARD: Defines mental illness, incompetence, and the legal effect of incompetence, making clear that mental illness alone does not render a defendant incompetent.

FORMAL COMPETENCY PROCESS: Authorizes the defense, prosecution, or court to request a competency evaluation at any time before sentencing upon a showing of reasonable cause.

STANDARDIZED EVALUATIONS: Requires evaluations by qualified mental health experts, establishes evaluator qualifications, sets report deadlines, and protects defendants’ statements from use at trial.

JUDICIAL COMPETENCY HEARINGS: Requires a hearing following the evaluation and establishes procedures, burden of proof, and findings available to the court.

CLEAR CASE OUTCOMES: Provides three disposition options: (1) defendant competent and case proceeds; (2) incompetent but restorable and restoration is ordered; or (3) incompetent and not restorable, resulting in dismissal without prejudice and, when appropriate, referral for civil commitment.

GUARDIAN AD LITEM: Requires appointment of a Guardian ad Litem for incompetent defendants, with authority extending into related civil commitment proceedings.

COMPETENCY RESTORATION PROGRAM: Creates a structured restoration process, including individualized treatment plans, inpatient or outpatient treatment, transportation, treatment supervision, and periodic court review.

TREATMENT OVERSIGHT: Requires treatment progress reports every 45 days, review hearings every 60 days, and limits restoration to six months unless the defendant is making substantial progress.

FINAL RESTORATION DETERMINATION: Requires a restoration hearing to determine whether criminal proceedings resume, treatment is extended for up to three additional months, or charges are dismissed with consideration of civil commitment if necessary.

How to participate in Public Comment

Community Members are invited to read the proposed laws and submit comments or questions.

Public Comment Period ends August 23, 2026.

How to Comment:

You may access draft ordinance materials and make your Comments to the Office of the General Counsel at the following link: <https://srpmic-nsn.gov/government/ogc/proposed-ordinances/>.

Additionally, the ordinances will be presented at several Council district meetings, and comments can be provided in person.

Finally, you can email your comments to OrdPublicComment@SRPMIC-nsn.gov, or reach out directly to Chief Prosecutor Alane Breland at (480) 362-5414 or Alane.Breland@SRPMIC-nsn.gov.



SALT RIVER

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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School Supply Giveaway!

This event is open to **SRPMIC-enrolled students** only. Students registered for the 2026-27 school year in grades K-12 are eligible, including students attending public, private, charter, parochial, or BIE schools.

MONDAY, JULY 27

5-7PM

ALA GYMNASIUM

4827 N. Country Club Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85256
Park south of the football field along Highland Ave.

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Changes to Civil Traffic Code

On July 1, 2026, the SRPMIC Council approved two changes to the civil traffic code that will go into effect on August 1, 2026. Fines for civil traffic violations will increase. Additionally a new “speeding” offense in a construction or work zone was added and that new offense will carry a higher fine than speeding in other areas of the Community.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Old Fine	\$100	\$75	\$50
New Fine	\$300	\$200	\$100

The previous fines were drastically lower than state fines for the same offenses, which raised concerns that they were insufficient to deter violations and promote safety on the roads. The fine increases are intended to increase accountability to the Community, strengthen deterrence from dangerous behavior, and improve the safety of the Community and its roads.

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact:

Jeffery Harmon, Deputy General Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
Jeff.Harmon@srpmic-nsn.gov / 480-362-7450

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KEEP

LAUREN KUBY
STATE SENATE



RE-ELECT

BRIAN GARCIA
AZ HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Supporting the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and tribal Arizona

- Working to end the pandemic of **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and People**
- **Protecting tribal sovereignty** and upholding our government-to-government duties
- Fighting to live free of voter suppression and intimidation so all Native people exercise **the right to vote**
- Protecting the environment, sacred sites, and our natural resources

Working for a more affordable Arizona

- Fighting to ensure more housing means more affordable housing
- Tackling energy costs and standing up to the utilities and data center interests
- Modernizing our public education system



LAUREN KUBY

- Led ASU's Stardust Center for Affordable Homes and the Family
- ASU Senior Global Futures Scientist
- Former Tempe councilmember
- Rejects lobbyist, utility and corporate contributions

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BRIAN GARCIA

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- First-generation graduate of our public schools
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Vote for them in the Democratic primary

BALLOTS MAILED

June 24

LAST DAY TO MAIL BACK

July 14

ELECTION DAY

July 21

Voting locations in the SRPMIC: Community Center and Scottsdale Community College

PAID FOR BY Lauren Kuby for State Senate AND Brian Garcia for House - LD8 • AUTHORIZED BY Lauren Kuby AND Brian Garcia

2026 SRPMIC

NOMINATION MEETINGS

**NOMINATION RESULTS WILL BE POSTED IMMEDIATELY VIA INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA.

PRESIDENT & VICE-PRESIDENT

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate **President** and **Vice-President** candidates.

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026 | 6PM

SALT RIVER COMMUNITY BLDG.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

The purpose of the meetings is to nominate **Council Member** candidates:

(3) District I (SR) Council Members

(1) District II (Lehi) Council Member

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026 | 6PM

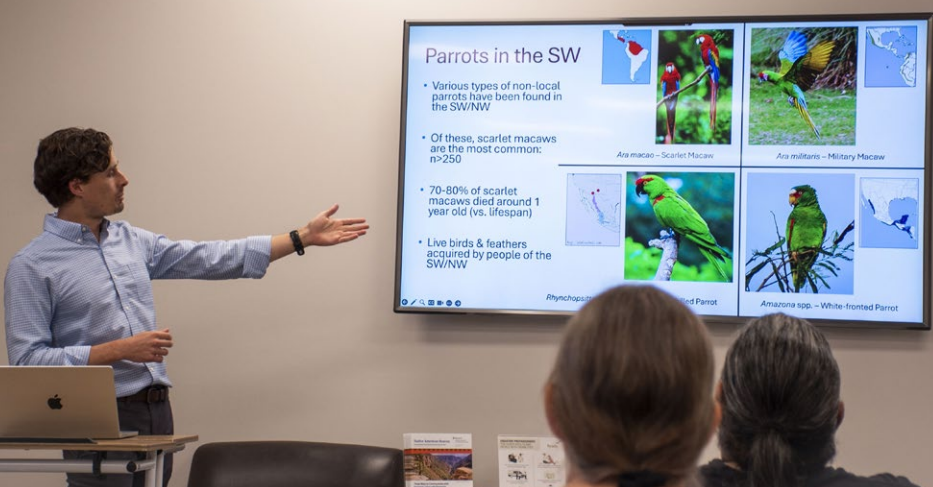
DISTRICT I – SALT RIVER COMMUNITY BLDG.

DISTRICT II – LEHI COMMUNITY BLDG.

*** MEETINGS ARE HELD SIMULTANEOUSLY AT EACH DISTRICT ***

AROUND THE COMMUNITY:

MACAW MONDAY



The Salt River Tribal Library hosted a presentation from Christopher Schwartz, Phoenix archaeologist at S'edav Va'aki Museum, on June 29 about the historical presence of scarlet macaws in the Southwest. The major archaeological sites referenced were Wupatki, near modern Flagstaff; Pueblo Bonito at Chaco Canyon, in modern New Mexico; Paquimé, in northwestern Chihuahua, Mexico; and locally at S'edav Va'aki. Schwartz shared the findings of remains at these and other sites and what the evidence implies about relationships between humans and animals, as well as trade routes of the time. The connection these birds have to the O'odham in particular may not be so surprising, as they're seen in artwork, including in the gymnasium of the Salt River Community Building. Attendees left with insight to the history of these birds and the amount of care and work that went into managing them in the area. They also received points toward summer reading goals. *By Kari Haahr, photo by Zoe Hernandez.*

Melchor Solis Facilitates Webinar on Personal Improvement, Reflection

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

3 Takeaways:

The webinar was hosted by Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona Project Manager Kelly R. Vallo, MSW.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member Melchor Solis explained how to increase personal reflection while being a good role model for youth.

The presentation was part of a webinar series featuring Indigenous presenters.

degree in social work and found employment in various departments in the SRPMIC, including the River People Health Center and the Ske:g Himdag Ki.

After turning their life around and focusing on helping themselves and others, Solis shared with the group that they have recently returned to college with plans of earning their Ph.D.

"To understand a person, you have to look at their whole environment," said

When was the last time you wrote a love letter to yourself? It might be time to try it out.

On June 23, the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona hosted a webinar titled "Protecting Our Relatives: A Reflection of Ourselves."

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member Melchor Solis facilitated the Zoom presentation to nearly 30 attendees.

Solis greeted the class and ensured that their presentation originated from a place of love. "If some of the things I talk about are new to you, may this be a nudge to you and come from a place of curiosity, because when we learn better, we do better," they began.

Solis wore their heart on their sleeve for all to see during the presentation, revealing the tough times they experienced in their 20s and how they overcame tragic moments, turning them into life lessons.

"When I was 21, I moved to Portland," Solis said. "That's where I learned to be my own person. [But] I made a lot of mistakes. I broke my hand twice fighting."

Eventually, Solis reached a crossroads.

"One day, I woke up in jail. I realized I could not live my life like that, so I went back to school."

In 2020, Solis earned a master's

Tethering Your Dog?

Keep Them Safe!

Dogs may be tethered to keep them from roaming, fighting, or getting hurt, but tethering can become dangerous in heat, storms, and around loose animals.

Here are a few ways to help keep your pets safe:

Provide shade all day in an area with good airflow.

Keep fresh, cool water available at all times.

During monsoons, bring pets inside or move them to a safe, covered area away from high winds, dust, rain, and lightning.

Use a proper collar or harness that will not choke, pinch, tighten, or tangle.

Make sure your dog can stand, sit, lie down, turn around, and reach shade and water safely.

Protect tethered dogs from loose dogs, wildlife, and other threats by bringing them inside or into a secure fenced area when possible.

Check often for heat stress, injuries, tangled lines, spilled water, or signs of distress.

A tethered dog cannot protect itself from heat, storms, or other animals. Check often and bring them inside when conditions are unsafe.

OAN PODCAST

Have you listened to OAN's Podcast?

We're back in the studio bringing you the stories of Salt River! Listen now on your favorite app or head to our website to get behind the scenes interviews and hear directly from special guests about all the exciting things O'odham Action News is covering.



Solis. "Much like a lot of you, I was born and raised in Arizona and came from a childhood filled with addiction, domestic violence and more. I was also born to parents that showed me how to push myself and seek the change I wished to see in my life."

A way to understand someone's environment is to learn more about how different systems impact a person's life. This is where Solis' near-decade worth of experience came into play.

"There's the microsystem, which is someone's ethnicity, temperament and physical abilities. The ecosystem is a person's social settings, like churches, community health services and parents' workplaces. The macrosystem is the laws in place in a society, cultural values in a community, and the norms and customs of a larger society. Finally, there's the chronosystem, or dimensions of time, which include puberty, getting married, and generational traumas like boarding schools and tragedies like Sept. 11, 2001."



Solis emphasized to the group that humans are complex and each of these systems impacts a person's life, even if they may not realize it. "Everything is interconnected," they said. "What happens in one area of life will happen in others. The only constant is change."

They continued to detail that loss of sleep, eating problems and experiencing bouts of depression negatively impact our minds and bodies.

Solis then asked this question to the group: "Has anyone here ever written a love letter to yourselves?"

Nobody raised their hands. "That's okay," said Solis.

They continued, "Writing a love letter to yourself is a great way to practice telling things to yourself that you might not hear from others. It also gives you an example of what you can tell others."

Solis read an excerpt from his personal love letter, which detailed the challenges they overcame and how they turned learning experiences into teachable lessons.

Later, Solis provided two minutes for the webinar group to try writing a love letter to themselves. For many, it was the first time they've done something like this.

As the webinar came to a close, Solis concluded by teaching the class how to properly ground themselves, an exercise that helps control breathing and can aid in de-escalating the mind.

"Movement is medicine," said Solis. "Being aware of our bodies is when we realize we need to take a walk or a break. This is how we can uplift each other and have healthy conversations. This is how we can be good examples for the youth and ourselves."

July 16, 2026

O'odham Action News

9

Jizelle Juan Crowned 38th Miss Salt River

BY ZOE HERNANDEZ
O'odham Action News
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Each year, young ladies vie for the title of Miss Salt River. Miss Salt River is a goodwill ambassador who represents and promotes the cultural values and traditions of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

This year, four young ladies—Alva Silverhorn, Cherish Vavages, Jizelle Juan and Ella McGilbary—made the confident decision to run for Miss Salt River.

This year's pageant was held on June 20 inside the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom, a day after Jr. Miss Salt River was crowned. Family, friends, dignitaries and visiting royalty were present to support their loved ones who were vying for the crown.

The afternoon began with a welcome by SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard. "I want to ask that you all give your best voice to support these young girls participating," said Leonard. Actor and author Anthony Thosh Collins served as the master of ceremonies.

The Salt River Fire Department posted the colors, and Miss Indian Arizona Sialik King sang the national anthem. After that, newly crowned Jr. Miss Salt River 2026-2027 Lanae Medina provided the invocation.

Emma Scabby, the outgoing Miss Salt River 2025-2026, shared some opening remarks. "Today is a special day as we come together to support this year's participants who are vying for the title of Miss Salt River. These young ladies are not only representing their families but also our Community and both the O'odham and Piipaash cultures here tonight," said Scabby.

The first participant to step onto the stage was Silverhorn, followed by Vavages, Juan and McGilbary. Each contestant briefly introduced herself, sharing her family, hobbies and why she decided to enter the pageant.

For the modern talent competition, each participant demonstrated amazing talents. Silverhorn played an original song created by her father, Seneca Silverhorn. The song featured a soft rock tone played with a wave of love.

Vavages is part of her family band, where she plays the saxophone. She performed a vaila song on her saxophone, accompanied by her family. Her performance sent cheers throughout the crowd and had everyone wanting to get out of their seats and dance.

Juan gave an in-depth demonstration of her process of making traditional skirts with modern materials. She has been teaching herself to sew and has grown a passion for it. "I encourage you all to go and find something you're interested in learning. Sewing is something I can carry with me for the rest of my life," said Juan.

McGilbary played the song "The Music of the Night" from "The Phantom of the Opera" by Andrew Lloyd Webber on her clarinet.

During the traditional talent portion of the pageant,

contestants shared their cultural knowledge with the judges. Silverhorn showcased an O'odham conversation with Community member Cody Achin. Speaking the O'odham language is a new skill for Silverhorn.

Vavages demonstrated bird dancing. She danced to the "Get Up and Dance" song, a social song that invites everyone out to dance.

Juan demonstrated her knowledge of the women's gambling game ko'omai. "In honor of us being at the casino tonight, I thought I could demonstrate the woman's gambling game of ko'omai," said Juan.

Finally, McGilbary gave a presentation on the traditional woman's game of toka. She began, "Step one, find a mesquite branch."

Following the talent portion of the pageant, it was time for the young ladies to showcase their traditional wear and essay, reflecting the pageant's theme of "O'odham and Piipaash Women Leading the Voices of Tomorrow."

Silverhorn wore a traditional O'odham two-piece dress in black and yellow along with a yellow necklace made by her mother, Tasha Silverhorn. Silverhorn carried a partially woven basket and held her head high. She began her essay, "Education is an important life skill in our lifetime. Women are highly educated."

Vavages chose a Piipaash-style outfit with a white peasant top paired with a red scarf along



with a gold and blue cape and a shell necklace. She wore a black cotton skirt with iridescent glitter and an assortment of ribbons. Vavages shared her take on the pageant's theme. "I feel it represents



Cherish Vavages plays a vaila song on the saxophone.



Ella McGilbary excitedly shares her toka process.

the biggest responsibility, strength and leadership in the connection to culture showing how important women are in guiding our future generations," said Vavages.

Juan showcased a willow bark skirt that she made with help from Richard Montana. She also wore a nude top to mimic the bare chest of women in the past and adorned herself with a beaded cape. Juan has had many mentors in her life, and she highlighted them in her essay. "I've been guided by strong O'odham and Piipaash women. When I was younger, I didn't always recognize their impact; but as I've grown, I have come to understand how blessed I am," said Juan.

Judges then faced the difficult decision of which young lady would be chosen to represent the Community as the 38th Miss Salt River. The congeniality award was presented to Juan. The modern talent award was presented to McGilbary. The traditional talent award was presented to Juan, who also received the traditional dress award and the essay award.

As the lights shined on the stage, the participants and the audience waited in anticipation of the announcement. Miss Salt River Second Attendant 2026-2027 is Cherish Vavages. Miss Salt River First Attendant 2026-2027 is Ella McGilbary. The newly crowned Miss Salt River 2026-2027 is Jizelle Juan.

To request an appearance by the new Miss Salt River court, email MissSaltRiver@srpmic-nsn.gov or call (480) 362-3464.



Ella McGilbary walks in beauty, showcasing her traditional Piipaash dress.



Cherish Vavages bird dances with pride during the traditional talent category.



Jizelle Juan smiles proudly as she shows her traditional skirts that she has created.



Alva Silverhorn flashes a smile to her family in the crowd while modeling her traditional wear.

O'odham Action News

Lanae Medina Crowned Jr. Miss Salt River 2026-2027

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



Lanae Medina is crowned Jr. Miss Salt River.

There was an air of excitement at the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community as daylight faded on June 19. The buzz was all about the turnout of participants for the 34th Annual Jr. Miss Salt River pageant program and who would represent the Community for the next year as young ambassadors. The next day, the 38th Annual Miss Salt River pageant program would also be held here.

Families, friends, visiting royalty and dignitaries filled every corner of the darkened ballroom to support the five participants: Lanae Medina, Thaila Silverhorn, Ava Makil, Lanice Emerson and Peytyn Manuel.

From a tower at the back of the ballroom, a single bright spotlight cast a radiant beam down to the stage, illuminating the participants in their traditional dress as they shared their talents and recited essays against the vibrant molten gold and ember-orange desert sunset backdrop painted by artist Dwayne Manuel.

Miss Salt River Committee Chairwoman Elisia Pongyesvia stepped into the light, welcomed the audience to the pageant and introduced the mistress of ceremonies, Miss Indian Arizona Sialik King.

"Tonight, we have the privilege of having five young ladies vying for the title of Jr. Miss Salt River," began King. "They will demonstrate what they've learned in the preparation of meeting this new challenge."

As the Salt River Fire Department Honor Guard entered the room for the posting of the colors, the buzz turned into a collective hush, giving space to absorb Angelica Hoover's soothing voice as she delivered the national anthem in O'odham.

Outgoing First Attendant to Jr. Miss Salt River 2025-2026 Aiyanna Toya offered the invocation, which was followed by introductory remarks from outgoing Jr. Miss Salt River 2025-2026 Tiaré Begay-Smith. She said that fellow outgoing royalty may seem as they are speaking comfortably from the lectern but noted that it's no small feat.

"These are bright lights, there's a ton of people that you may not know, and it can get very difficult," said Begay-Smith. "So, seeing that these five girls are stepping up to this position really warms my heart."

In front of the stage were tabulator Brittany Briones and judges Pamela Prasher, John Fernandez, Jeffrey Harmon, Sarah Mott and Daniel Martinez, all of whom served critical roles in deciding who would hold a new title by the end of the evening.

Talent Showcase

Signaling a shift to the program's talent showcase, gourd singers Aarick Mack, Da'Trae French and Marley Dallas appeared offstage as Medina began to dance tin can, or Piipaa, a style that originated from the Kumeyaay which is commonly sung among the Kwatsaan. Medina said she danced for those who are unable to dance and to honor her ancestors. She said she chose the dance because it gives her inner peace.

Silverhorn played "Jupiter" from Gustav Holst's orchestral suite "The Planets" on her violin. Makil performed a choreographed boxing demonstration with her coach, Keenan Carbajal, showcasing footwork, combinations and strength. Emerson performed the traditional dance "What Kind of Flower," her favorite basket dance that she said embraces the beauty of O'odham women. Rounding out the talent

portion of the evening was Manuel's rendition of "Swan Lake" by Tchaikovsky on viola.

The judges handed in their scores.

Traditional Dress and Essay

Next it was time for the participants to showcase their traditional attire celebrated the harvest of saguaro fruit during the O'odham New Year. Her dress was made from unbleached cotton muslin. She carried a basket to collect the fruit and a traditional kuipud, a long pole made of saguaro cactus ribs used for harvesting.

Silverhorn wore a traditional one-piece muslin dress with hand-painted water and basket designs. She carried a large pot and wore a shell necklace, ring, anklet and bracelets to represent the history of the O'odham runners who would gather shells, salt and other supplies in Mexico.

Makil's contemporary-style Onk Akimel O'odham dress was made of coral-pink satin. Her top was reminiscent of a peasant-style blouse adapted by the women after Spanish contact.

Emerson wore a contemporary two-piece Piipaash dress with a white peasant-style blouse made of satin, which was paired with a pink satin skirt. She said that pink is a comforting color that reminds her of all the beautiful things in the world.

Manuel's outfit blended traditional elements with a modern presentation created by Kathleen Miguel. Her white silk blouse with basket dancers and designs was paired with a skirt made of lilac silk fabric.

Once the scores were tabulated, the spotlight hovered over Begay-Smith one last time as her reign was about to end. She delivered a farewell presentation.

"It has been an honor of a lifetime to serve as your Jr. Miss Salt River 2025-2026. I hope I have left a positive and meaningful impact on you and our Community," Begay-Smith told the crowd, before making one last round of waves to the Community from the stage.

All five young women joined on the stage one last time before the big news was revealed.

The second attendant received a sash, a shawl made by Pat Villalpando, flowers, an overnight bag, custom traditional sandals and an award by A Native Touch Etching. The first attendant received the same awards, plus a two-piece luggage set. Jr. Miss Salt River's awards include similar items plus a crown, a hat



The new 2026-2027 Jr. Miss Salt River Court takes spotlight for the first time: Jr. Miss Salt River First Attendant Thaila Silverhorn, Jr. Miss Salt River Lanae Medina, Jr. Miss Salt River Second Attendant Ava Makil.



Thaila Silverhorn sharing her modern talent on violin.



Lanice Emerson wears her contemporary two-piece Piipaash dress.



Peytyn Manuel wears a silk blouse and lilac silk skirt.



Ava Makil spars with her coach on stage for her talent showcase.

box, a three-piece luggage set, a Chromebook with accessories and a \$1,200 monetary award.

King made the first two announcements.

Jr. Miss Salt River First Attendant 2026-2027 is Thaila Silverhorn, and the Jr. Miss Salt River Second Attendant 2026-2027 is Ava Makil.

Then, in a suspenseful moment, King looked down at the judges' scores and took a dramatic pause.

A new Jr. Miss Salt River is crowned: Lanae Medina.

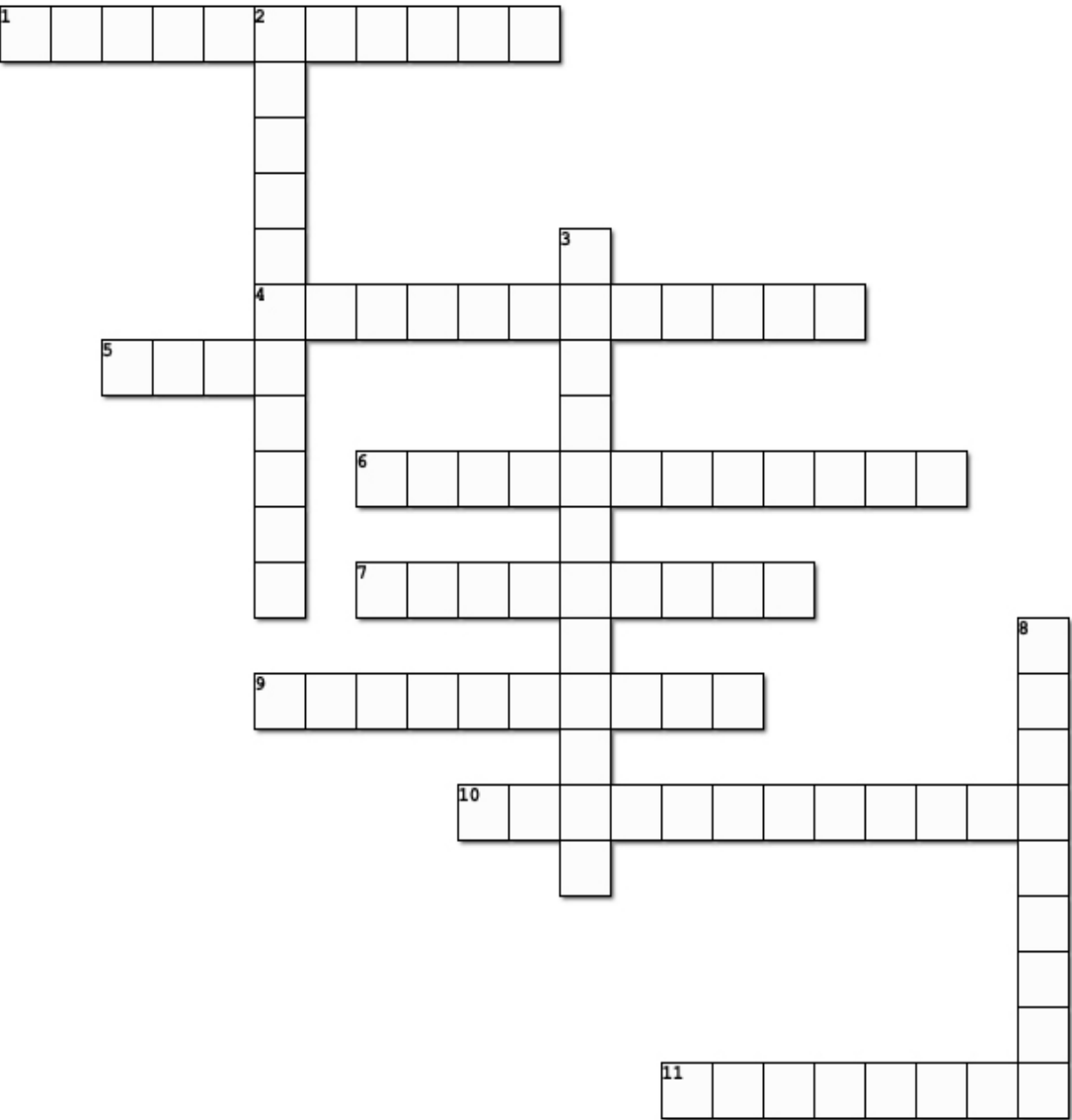
The ballroom erupted in excitement, with whistles and cheers from Medina's supportive Community.

Holding back tears, Medina closed her eyes as Begay-Smith carefully placed the crown over her head and delicately adjusted any stray strands of hair, showing grace and respect as she transferred the title.



Can you solve the crossword puzzle?

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

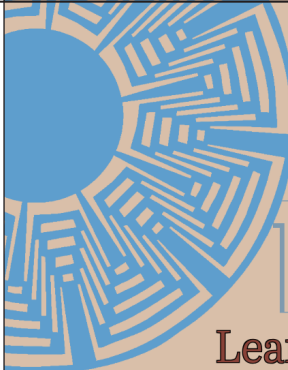


- Across**

 - 1. The new Miss Salt River 2026-2027.
 - 4. The SRPMIC member who facilitated a webinar on personal improvement and reflection.
 - 5. This month is designated as Elder Abuse Awareness Month.
 - 6. The bird (singular) that was discussed at the Salt River Tribal Library with Christopher Schwartz, Phoenix archaeologist.
 - 7. The number of years Gary Hill worked with the SRPMIC
 - 9. The instructor for the first cooking class at the Kavaḍ/ Kushov Cultural Center.
 - 10. The master of ceremonies for the SRPMIC Education Banquet Dinner.
 - 11. The city in Alabama where Naomi Anton will play in the Babe Ruth Softball World Series tournament this July.
- Down**

 - 2. The new Jr. Miss Salt River 2026-2027
 - 3. The head coach of the AZ Sons baseball team.
 - 8. The number of graduates in this year’s ALA class of 2026.





Language With



Learning the orthographies of the O'odham and Piipaash

O'odham

Vowels

a	father
e	earth
i	machine
o	all
u	brute

Long Vowels

a:	the : symbol following the vowel means it will be a "long vowel". Hold these just a beat longer when speaking.
e:	
i:	
o:	
u:	

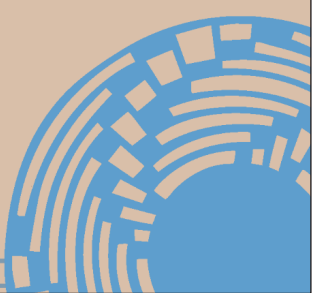
Piipaash

Vowels

a	father
e	pet
i	sick
o	go
u	flute

Long Vowels

aa	father
ee	play
ii	cheek
oo	go
uu	flute





POWER IN PARTNERSHIPS

Anyone can **report a concern** regarding a vulnerable elder or adult with adaptive needs:

Phone
Ask for Adult Protective Services at **480.362.6350**

Email
AdultProtectiveServices@srpmic-nsn.gov

In-Person
Ask for the APS team at **10510 E. Osborn Rd.**



SENIOR SERVICES
SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

team, from the City of Scottsdale’s Adaptive Recreation Department, rounded out the lineup of teams that were honored and celebrated during the tournament’s opening ceremony.

During the opening-ceremony festivities, Miss Indian Arizona Sialik King sang the national anthem in O’odham and performed with the Salt River Basket Dancers while SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard sang “The Basket Dance.”

Later, SRPMIC Council member Jacob Butler and Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council member Gloria Alvarez Gomez threw out the ceremonial first pitches.

Butler later thanked the Na7ive Na7ions staff and encouraged all the ballplayers to continue striving for greatness on the baseball diamond and in the classroom.

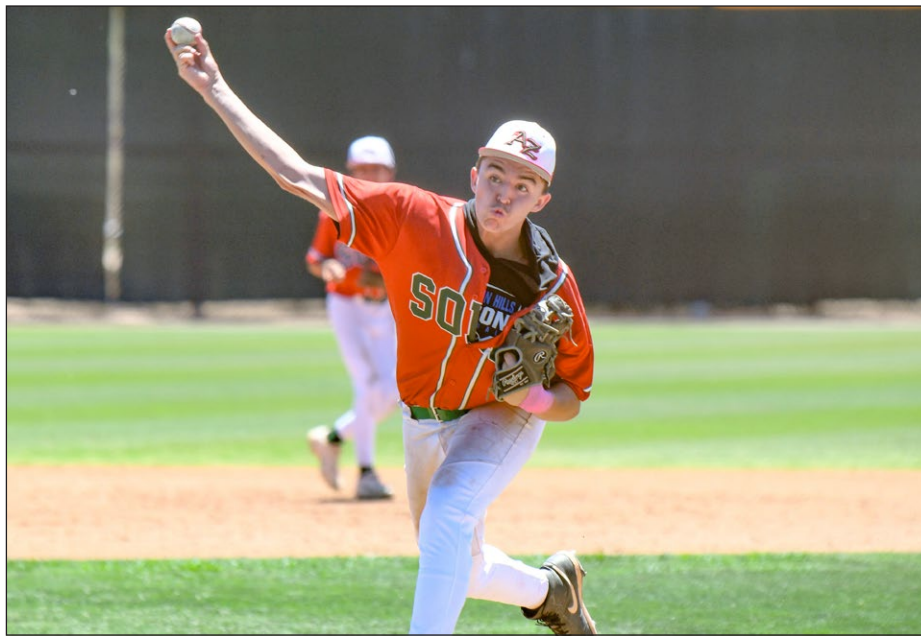
“I know some of you will make it to the major leagues too. I look forward to seeing you on TV,” he said. “This wouldn’t be possible without those people in the seats sitting behind you. Turn around and thank your families, friends and all your supporters who have all helped get you here.”

As the opening ceremony continued, a video by SRPMIC President Martin Harvier played on the stadium’s jumbo screen. In the video, Harvier showed the homemade pitcher’s mound he built on the side of his house to practice his pitches when he used to play in local community baseball tournaments.

“I’ve seen some very talented individuals and I often wondered, ‘Where are they playing now?’ That’s why I support this effort. There are so many Native Americans that are in rural areas that never get seen. They need an opportunity like this to showcase what they can do,” he said.

The Games

This year’s superstar athletes on the AZ Sons 16U team were Abelardo Valenzuela Jr., Angel Medina, Angel Rivera, Derek Parra, Jack White, Jayden Pena, Jesus Gonzales Jr., Lucas Joe, Nolan Tso, Reyes Ruvalcava, Ricky Gutierrez, Rylee Pena, Sir’Hendrix Sneezy and Zavior Bishop.



Representing Ft. McDowell, pitcher Jayden Pena, tossed impressive heat from the pitcher’s mound during Saturday’s game against the AZ Blue Birds.

The AZ Sons 16U team started off strong and never let their foot off the gas pedal, so to speak. In their first game of the tournament, they dominated the Trail Blazers and officially put all teams on notice as they cruised to an easy 12-0 victory.

That same day, AZ Sons went up against fellow Arizona team the AZ Blue Birds. The afternoon sun didn’t stop the Sons; they blanked the Blue Birds 14-0.

During their second game, a teachable moment occurred, compliments of AZ Sons head coach Arnold Thomas.

In the second inning, an AZ Blue Bird left-fielder dove to catch the baseball and missed, resulting in the outfielder smashing their face on the outfield’s lawn, causing a pause in the game. The crowd and nearby players from other teams playfully laughed, but not the AZ Sons.

“Good work, left field!” yelled coach Thomas from the dugout to the Blue Birds player. He then turned around to the AZ Sons and told the team, “Let’s be humble, boys.” Moments later, he and the AZ Sons gave the Blue Birds left-fielder a rousing round of supportive applause as the left fielder was tended to by medical officials.

Later, during Saturday’s games, the AZ Sons continued to ascend, securing three more victories.

All eyes soon turned to Sunday’s championship game, in which the AZ Sons and the New Mexico Pack Black battled it out for top tournament honors. Last year, the NM Pack took first place.

Ultimately, nothing is better than playing baseball in your own backyard. After some tense pitching in the early innings from both teams, the AZ Sons settled their nerves, claiming victory and the top honors of the entire tournament, defeating the NM Pack Black, 10-8.

“This tournament proves what is possible when Native communities come together around our youth,” Na7ive Na7ions CEO DJ Carrasco said. “Baseball is important, but the relationships, confidence, leadership and opportunities these young people gain will stay with them long after the final game.”

Only time will tell if the Na7ive Na7ions selection committee selects any superstars from this year’s AZ Sons 16U team to participate in this year’s Babe Ruth Baseball World Series, happening later this summer in Branson, Missouri.

O’odham Action News will continue to monitor this story.



Na7ive Na7ions All-Star Softball Team Selects Naomi Anton

Superstar student-athlete and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member Naomi Anton played in the Na7ive Na7ions softball tournament in Prescott and was also selected to join their all-star team.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

O’odham Action News

juan.ysaguirre@srpmic-nsn.gov

In sports, all you need is one opportunity, especially for free agents looking to join a softball team.

Student-athlete Naomi Anton participated in the Na7ive Na7ions softball tournament in Prescott, Arizona, over the June 14 weekend. Anton is a member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Anton joined a group of other Indigenous softball players looking to join a team. Rising to the occasion, Anton proved to be one of the shining stars on the free-agent team, showing everyone, including the Na7ive Na7ions selection committee, what she can do on the field.

While commanding first base, a position that requires quick reflexes and deep concentration, Anton also showed her skillsets at third base and in the outfield. She even joined a second team during the tournament, showing that playing softball is not just a hobby for her, but a true passion.

When Anton arrived at Prescott to play ball, she was greeted by some unexpected weather.

“The weather was hot,” admitted Anton. “It was windy too. There was dust in the air after the pitcher threw the ball; it got into our eyes sometimes.”

Though she didn’t hit any home runs, her father, Ben Anton, proudly revealed that during her tournament play in Prescott, Anton hit a few deep line drives that went out to the warning track of the outfield.

“No homers, but she had a few close ones,” he said.

While playing on the free-agent team, Anton battled it out against some local teams from Arizona as well as out-of-state teams from California, New Mexico and other places.

The talent showcased during pool play and the playoffs proved to be high caliber on all fronts. Anton’s free-agent team, though they played well together, went on to place third in the tournament.

After showing her skills and what she can do on the softball diamond, Na7ive Na7ions made the easy decision and selected Anton to join its all-Indigenous all-star softball team.

The all-star team will now play for a national championship in Florence, Alabama, later this month in the annual Babe Ruth Softball 2026 World Series. The team will be the only Indigenous one in the tournament.

“It’s wonderful,” her father said, beaming.

It will also be the first time Anton will visit Alabama. “I’m excited,” she said.

After the summer finishes and school resumes, Anton plans to play for her middle-school softball club team while continuing to improve her game. She also has plans to play at the higher levels of softball in the future. “That’s the goal,” said Ben Anton. “She wants to go play for UCLA or Oklahoma.”

With her recent selection to the Native Nations all-star team, Naomi Anton is now officially one step closer to one day playing college softball.



After showing what she can do on the softball field, Naomi Anton was selected to join the Na7ive Na7ions all-star softball team. Photos courtesy of Timon Harper.



Naomi Anton is headed to Florence, Alabama, in late-July to participate in the annual Babe Ruth Softball 2026 World Series.

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

2026 PRIMARY ELECTION

SEATS UP FOR ELECTION



Martin Harvier
President



Jacob Butler
DISTRICT I



Mikah Carlos
DISTRICT I



Ricardo Leonard
Vice President



Cheryl Doka
DISTRICT I



Michael Dallas, Sr.
DISTRICT II

IMPORTANT DATES

JULY 28	Nomination Meeting for PRESIDENT & VICE-PRESIDENT Promptly at 6:00PM – Salt River Community Building <i>President & Vice President Nominees must accept or decline their nomination no later than 5PM within two business days. Nominees can contact the Council Secretary to receive the Accept or Decline Form</i>
JULY 30	Nomination Meeting for COUNCIL MEMBERS Promptly at 6:00PM, at each voting district: -District I (SR) – Salt River Community Building -District II (Lehi) – Lehi Community Building <i>Council Member Nominees must accept or decline their nomination no later than 5PM within two business days. Nominees can contact the Council Secretary to receive the Accept or Decline Form</i>
4 WEEK PROCESS	Background check process for nominees who accepted their nomination. Per the amended SRPMIC Constitution, candidates must have not been convicted of a felony during the ten (10) years preceding the date of the election. A felony is any criminal offense punishable by more than one (1) year incarceration in the jurisdiction the person was convicted.
AUG 04	Election Board certification of President and Vice-President Nominees Per SRPMIC Code of Ordinances, Section 3-5(c)(1)(c) Certification of candidates shall be determined by the Election Board based upon the qualification of the candidates as provided in Article IV, Sec. 2
AUG 06	Election Board certification of Council Member nominees Per SRPMIC Code of Ordinances, Section 3-5(c)(1)(c) Certification of candidates shall be determined by the Election Board based upon the qualification of the candidates as provided in Article IV, Sec. 3
OCT 01	Deadline for Eligible Voters to request an Absentee Ballot for Primary Election Eligible voters may request an absentee ballot to vote by mail. Requests can be made via phone, email, or fax by contacting the Council Secretary.
OCT 15	Deadline to make request for Home Voting for Primary Election Eligible home voters (disabled or bedridden and within a 25 mile radius) may request to have (2) Election Board Members deliver a ballot for home voting at your location. Requests can be made by contacting the Council Secretary.
OCT 20	SRPMIC PRIMARY ELECTION DAY POLLS OPEN: 6:00AM – 6:00PM Results will be presented after Election Board tally’s onsite and absentee ballots for Council certification. President: Top 2 vote getters move on to the General Election Vice-President: Top 2 vote getters move on to the General Election District I (SR) Council Members: Top 5 vote getters move on to the General Election District II (Lehi) Council Members: Top 2 vote getters move on to the General Election
OCT 29	Deadline for Primary Candidates who are not advancing to the General election to take down their campaign signs. (Within 7 business days) Per Section 3-5(b)(4)(e) of the SRPMIC Code of Ordinances.

Contact the Council Secretary at (480) 362-7466 • SaltRiverElections@srpmic-nsn.gov for forms, ballots, and information.

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.

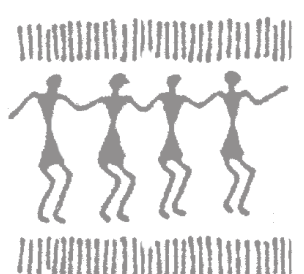
SOARING EAGLE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL (SEMI)
Marriott Courtyard, 5201 N. Pima Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85250
Apostle Edward Chance
apostleeac@gmail.com
(480) 516-6509
SERVICES: 10 AM on Sundays
Visit us on Facebook Live, Wednesdays at 7 PM for Voice of Truth

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/ SERVICES: Sunday 11 a.m. English, 1:30 p.m. Spanish, Wednesday 7 p.m.



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

O'dham Action News is published bi-weekly by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Editorials and articles are the sole responsibility of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion, attitude or philosophy of O'dham Action News or the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.
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10,005 E. Osborn Road,
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

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

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MAIN LINE (480) 362-7750
(Leave a message with your name and number and we will return your call)

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

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ISSUE	DEADLINE AT NOON
AUGUST 6	JULY 17
AUGUST 20	AUGUST 7
SEND INFORMATION TO O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS at oodhamactionnews@srpmic-nsn.gov For more information please call (480) 362-7750.	

Salt River Public Works Department
Memorial Services & Cemeteries
"Providing a hospitable place to honor loved ones at the end of life's journey."

MAIN OFFICE LOCATED AT
Memorial Hall
9849 East Earll Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85256
Monday-Friday
8 AM- 5 PM

For Any Questions Call: (480) 278-7050

CONTRACTED MORTUARIES
Bunker Family Funerals & Cremation
(480) 964-8686

Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home
(602) 840-5600

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 cody@boxingbears-photography.com

DAJ NATIVE DESIGNS
Printing, DTS, sublimation for drinkware and engraving www.dajcreations.com 480-584-0401 dajnative designs@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. Ricshawn Johnson: (480) 781-7867 (text only), booking site: vagarog.com/honeybraidznsnallc1

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.vagarog.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 hairbylindaab@yahoo.com

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

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

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

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

PIMA AWARDS PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS, INC
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 SELL
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 themaingredientaz@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

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

If we CANNOT contact you by phone or email, your business will be removed from the listing. Call O'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

✔ MLK Day

✔ President's Day

✔ Good Friday

✔ Memorial Day

✔ SRPMIC Day

✔ Juneteenth

✔ Independence Day

✔ Labor Day

✔ Native American Recognition Day

✔ Veteran's 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

DO YOU NEED TO UPDATE YOUR NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION?

Contact **Newspaper Specialist 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 oan@srpmic-nsn.gov or call **(480) 362-7750**

July 16, 2026

O'dham Action News

15

LEGAL NOTICES

JUVENILE COURT
JURISDICTION: SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT
ADDRESS: 10040 EAST OSBORN RD. SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85256
CONTACT: (480) 362-6315
ALL JUVENILE COURT CASES REPORT TO COURTROOM #3 ON THE 1ST FLOOR.
FAILURE TO APPEAR CAN AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS

Becerra, Oscar Garcia - Review Hearing and Initial Termination of Parental Rights hearing Case: J-15-0043
Court Date: September 1, 2026 at 9 AM

Kavoka, Jessica Ann - Default Judgement Hearing Case: JV-26-0095
Court Date: September 28, 2026 at 10 AM

Salazar Jr., Jose - Default Judgement Hearing Case: JV-26-0095
Court Date: September 28, 2026 at 10 AM

Santo, Carmelita Iris - Review Hearing and Initial Termination of Parental Rights hearing Case: J-15-0043
Court Date: September 1, 2026 at 9 AM

Sermeno, Benjamin Fredrick - Adjudication Hearing Case: JV-26-0118
Court Date: July 21, 2026 at 10 AM

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

Barker, Mary - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-26-3597
Court Date: August 4, 2026 at 9 AM

Dalton, Zoey Nadia - Probate Hearing Case: CV-26-3598
Court Date: July 29, 2026 at 1:30 PM

Loring, Jezlyn - Evidentiary Paternity/Custody Hearings Case: CV-26-3911
Court Date: August 24, 2026 at 10 AM

Perez, Janelle - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-25-4593
Court Date: August 24, 2026 at 9 AM

Smith or Antone, James - Probate Hearing Case: CV-26-3370
Court Date: August 12, 2026 at 1:30 PM

Talamantez, Rachelle Rae - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-24-2773
Court Date: August 13, 2026 at 9 AM

Webster, Crystal - Order to Show Cause Hearing Case: CV-25-4594
Court Date: August 3, 2026 at 9 AM

DEFAULT NOTICES

BECERRA, OSCAR GARCIA
SUMMONS
J-15-0043

In the Matter of Termination of the Parental Rights of: JOHN DOE – D.O.B.: 07/01/2011
TO: Oscar Garcia Becerra, parent

A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed in this Court against you which alleges grounds for the termination of your parental rights of the above captioned child(ren). You may obtain a copy of the petition by calling (480) 362-6315.

THEREFORE YOU ARE ORDERED to APPEAR for an Initial Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights before the Honorable Judge Heath, the Salt River Juvenile Court on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 9:00 AM, in Court Room #3.

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 14-0004, effective August 4, 2014, legal counsel, parties, and their respective witnesses shall be present in the courthouse at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to any proceeding.

NOTICE: Violation of this Order is Subject to Proceedings for Contempt of Court Pursuant to Salt River Community Code Section 6-42. If Good Cause is Not Shown, the Court May Find the Parent, Guardian or Custodian in Contempt for Failure to Appear at a Court Hearing or for Failure to Follow Court Orders. Further, the Parties Should be Advised that the Hearing for Termination of Parental Rights May Proceed Without the Parent or Necessary Respondent Present. Failure to Appear May Result in the Hearing Being Held Without the Parent and the Parental Rights of the Parent may be Terminated.

CLERK, SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

in this Court against you which alleges grounds for the termination of your parental rights of the above captioned child(ren). You may obtain a copy of the petition by calling (480) 362-6315.

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CLERK, SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE
JULY 2026

Meeting Date/Time	Agendas	Location
CM Butler District A Thursday, July 23, 2026 6:00 PM	*General Welfare Ordinance *Providence First Trust (tentative) *Community Member Comments	SRPMIC Council Chambers 10091 E Osborn Road Scottsdale, AZ 85256
CM Antone District B Saturday, July 18, 2026 9:00 AM	*General Welfare Ordinance *Community Member Comments	SRPMIC Council Chambers 10091 E Osborn Road Scottsdale, AZ 85256
CM Fulwilder District D Monday, July 20, 2026 6:00 pm	*Kavad / Kushov Cultural Center *General Welfare Ordinance *Community Member Comments	ALA Lecture Hall 4827 N. Country Club Road Scottsdale, AZ 85256
CM Scabby / CM Dallas Lehi District Tuesday, July 21, 2026 6:00pm	*General Welfare Ordinance *Providence First Trust (tentative) *Community Member Comments	Lehi Community Building 1231 E Oak Street Mesa, AZ 85203
CM Scabby / CM Dallas QUARTERLY Lehi District Meeting Saturday, July 18, 2026 9:00 AM	*General Welfare Ordinance *Providence First Trust (tentative) *Community Member Comments	Evergreen Neighborhood Center 12275 E. Fairmount Ave Scottsdale, AZ 85256

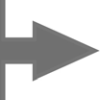
JULY – DECEMBER 2026

COMPUTER CLASSES
For Community Seniors 55+

Come have fun learning the Microsoft Office applications such as Word and PowerPoint, including other technology topics. No computer experience is required.

WHERE: Salt River Senior Center Annex Building
TIME: 9:00AM – 11:00AM

11
AUG



DIGITAL ART
ONLINE ART APPS

15
SEP

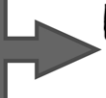


PHOTO EDITING BASICS
ONLINE PHOTO APPS

13
OCT



CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS
IT DEPT PRESENTATION

10
NOV



KEYBOARD & MOUSE
ONLINE TYPING GAMES

08
DEC



MICROSOFT WORD
CREATE A GREETING CARD



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SRPMIC IT DEPARTMENT
CUSTOMER CARE DIVISION

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

Fruit and Vegetable Word Search

Find the O'odham and Piipaash words from the list below!

S	R	V	D	C	B	B	S	H	A	X	P	C	W	F	L	E	X
H	K	I	U	R	M	C	Y	K	A	L	N	A	Y	U	K	Y	X
M	W	L	C	Z	P	M	Q	C	H	H	H	P	A	A	P	M	V
A	A	G	R	T	H	A	D	I	S	H	O	X	V	S	H	O	F
Q	X	O	H	C	M	R	N	U	L	A	S	V	A	E	E	X	T
W	T	D	U	P	I	I	S	E	V	N	D	X	I	B	R	E	H
E	H	I	D	N	B	I	D	X	J	D	L	F	G	C	A	C	O
S	O	V	V	B	H	K	N	A	L	A	S	T	W	I	D	L	M
P	N	I	I	F	A	D	W	U	A	A	M	A	K	A	M	M	A
S	Y	U	S	U	I	M	P	I	I	Y	A	A	Y	I	W	D	A
K	D	I	O	E	Q	B	F	Y	V	X	X	M	A	T	H	I	T
D	W	M	I	L	I	N	U	D	P	X	C	B	K	L	W	R	P

O'ODHAM

A: BAL, Apple

HOVIC, Banana

KALNAYU, Pome-

granate

HU: DVIS, Grapes

NALAS, Orange

IBHAI, Prickly Pear

ÑULAS, Peach

MILIÑ, Water-

melon

VILGODI, Apricot

WUA'AMAKAM,

Cantaloupe

PIIPAASH

SHAX, Onion

THADISH, Corn

MARIIK, Beans

XMATH, Squash

SHMA QWES,

Carrot

THOMAAT, Tomato

XVSHO, Spinach

'IIYAA,

Mesquite bean

KWAXTHON,

Devil's claw

PAAP, Potato

FLASHBACK TO LAST ISSUE ... XVSHUUK, blue/green

Did you catch our typo last issue? You can now mark the word search complete because here's the correct word! Well done to everyone who caught it and let us know. -OAN

X V S H U U K



Do you have information or knowledge on the history of the

Salt River Water Tower?

We want to hear from you!

Reach out at
480-362-3443 or email
andreea.miguel@srpmic-nsn.gov



HOSTED BY THE

Community Risk Reduction Division



OPEN TO ALL SRPMIC COMMUNITY MEMBERS & EMPLOYEES

UPCOMING TRAININGS

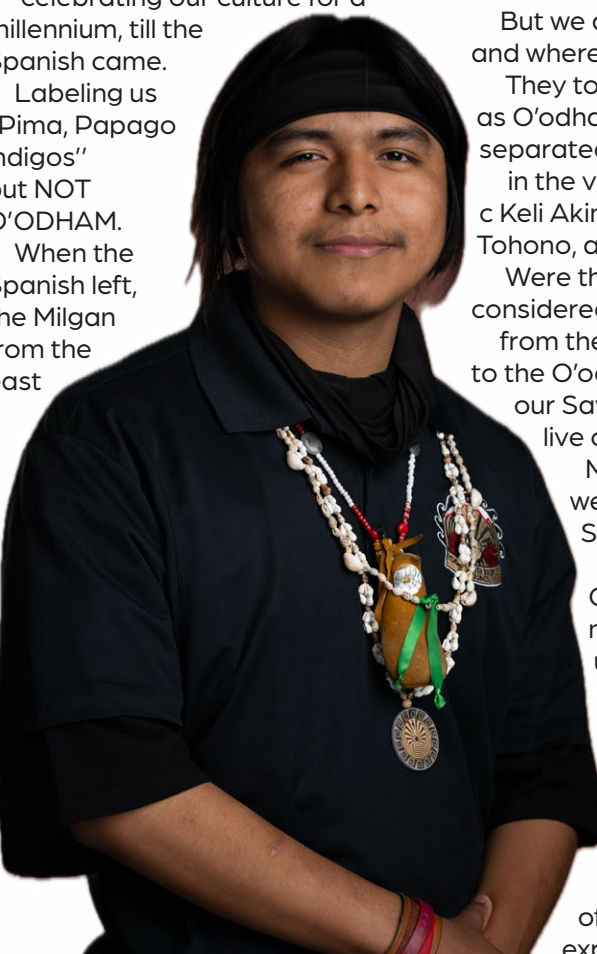
10AM-11AM
TWO WATERS,
BLDG. A ROOM 109

July 7	NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	2026 Weather Overview and Awareness class for the general public.
Aug. 4	SALT RIVER PROJECT	Electrical Awareness training for the general public.
Sept. 8	NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH	Salt River Emergency Management: Personal, Home, and Community Preparedness training.

For more information contact: Fireprevention@srpmic-nsn.gov | 480-362-SRFD

WE ARE O'ODHAM

POEM BY MARLEY DALLAS
Special Submission
oan@srpmic-nsn.gov



We are O'odham from the Northern part of Mexico to Phoenix Arizona,
The two rivers that run through the valley are O'odham, our Himdag Is what we protect.
celebrating our culture for a millennium, till the Spanish came.
Labeling us "Pima, Papago indigos" but NOT O'ODHAM.
When the Spanish left, the Milgan from the east

arrived, what came with them
Manifest Destiny we called it
invading. They kept the labels from the Spanish,
They tried to assimilate us into their culture, taking advantage of our hospitality and humbleness.
They scared us into not speaking our O'odham Nioki. We did not know whether to persist or resist,
But we did protect who we are and where we are from.
They told us to leave our lands as O'odham, we were divided and separated but still as one people.
in the valley was the Onk Akimel c Keli Akimel, Down south was the Tohono, and in Northern Mexico Were the Hia-ced. All are considered O'odham
from the Hua(basket) we weave, to the O'odham Nei Nei we sing with our Savkud, even the Jeved we live on, to the
Mountains in the valley we see from Svegi Do'ag, Svegium Do'ag, Muadagi Do'ag, and Gakodk Do'ag. These mountains are sacred to us
Which represents who we are as O'odham.
The Hope we see is all O'odham care for our Jeved, Nioki, and Himdag like how it was Before the arrival of Ju:kam or Milgan to express our identity as

O'odham, but to
Also be closer to all O'odham Hajian and Ve:mkikam. To not see some neighboring
Tribes as o:b anymore but as allies including our Naksad against the imperialist people
who disregard who we are and exploit Who we are as O'odham, not recognizing where they are, who's land there on and who have Lived there first as many O'odham have.
We pray always for the Ju:ki c Cevagi so that blessings
Can come to our Jeved, making our celebration for our Hasan Baidagi Harvest into
The New Year can be good. We believe prayer is strong among our O'odham Ve:mkikam
Because we pray for Ju:ki in Song, in dance, in ceremony, and in prayer
so that when the Hasan grow there Baidagi in the summer it will be good for all
O'odham people. I feel missing people holds a lot of strength to carry on I felt that with the loss of my two brothers I never met, my sister I never go to see, the
Father I never got to love, and my grandfather I never had time to talk to as much, that has a deep strength for me to carry on and live with but to also keep my spirit up for the huhugam before us.
They will always be watching and guiding us and our choices, just like my family has been overlooking my choices.
Everything has meaning from the songs

we sing, to the coronated dances we do, and the ceremonies we plan. our connection to the su:dagi means so much to us, even when we travel far away, in the words of my elders
" No matter how far you go, home will always be here.
To The plants, to animals no matter what they will always have a connection to the su:dagi c
Jeved. As our huhugam did before us protecting our Himdag, Nioki, and Sacred places that we
Hold close to our ibdag, showing that they have guided us into the right path
For all O'odham and we are the children of our huhugam, we will defend and protect the people
Of our Jeved and stand strong in our culture. Using the most powerful tool any nation can
Have and that is our Nioki or Language, with each part of this valley we have named from
Vasai Svasoni, Ski:kigk, Oitbad, Mo:mli, Cuk Son, and including this state's name Al Son.
Resistance of culture shows our people stand proud from the nation's
of Tohono O'odham Nation, Ak chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, and Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community. We are all O'odham from one to many
no matter how divided we are, we stand strong as O'odham
and Free all those who are oppressed.
dahugi, sapo

ALA'S CLASS OF 2026 ACHIEVES RECORD MILESTONE



During the graduation ceremony, SRPMIC Education Board Chairman Kyland King provided the invocation to all graduates, their families and their loved ones.

3 Takeaways:

- Thirty-one graduates participated in the Accelerated Learning Academy's Class of 2026 graduation ceremony.
- ALA students Junior Camargo-Pasos and Matthew Hernandez served as masters of ceremonies.
- The ceremony was held at the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE

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

In the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Accelerated Learning Academy continues to help Community students achieve their dreams.

This year, a record 31 graduates turned their tassels to the left and were honored at the ALA graduation ceremony, held at the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom on June 25.

Families, friends and loved ones packed the ballroom, with many bringing flowers, signs, family photographs and more to help celebrate ALA's largest graduating class of all time.

ALA students Junior Camargo-Pasos and Matthew Hernandez served as masters of ceremonies.

Graduates were announced one by one as they made their way down to the front of the stage. SRPMIC Education Board Chair Kyland King provided the invocation.

Salt River Schools Superintendent Sheryl Houston congratulated the graduates during her opening remarks.

"I'm honored to be here today to celebrate the graduates and the families and staff that supported them. You have worked so hard and are the largest graduating class in ALA history," she said.

Moments later, the room erupted with applause and cheers.

"You have persevered and achieved your goals. We are so proud of you," continued Houston. "You have not only fulfilled the graduation requirements, but you also possess the life skills that will serve you well into your future."

ALA Principal Barbara Wilkinson echoed similar remarks.

"This group represents 31 different journeys and 31 stories of perseverance. If there's any message I can share, it's that your journey continues through continuing school, joining the workforce and giving back to the Community."

Additionally, the ALA graduation was one of the first few Community events attended by the new 2026-2027 Miss Salt River and Jr. Miss Salt River courts. Miss Salt River Jizelle Juan, Miss Salt River First Attendant Ella McGilbary and Miss Salt River Second Attendant Cherish Vavages provided warm remarks and congratulations to the graduates.

ALA valedictorian Jack Butler spoke from the heart while representing the graduating class. "Today is a good day for all of us, because we made it," they began. "The teachers and staff here never gave up on us. They helped us catch up and helped us do better. At this school, we learn more than academics. We learn that setbacks do not define us; they teach us. To the teachers and staff, thank you for believing in us."

Xavier Trinidad served as one of the two student speakers during the ceremony. Marley Dallas was the second.

During his speech, Trinidad gave an extra-special shout-out to the mother of his son, Esperanza Fulwilder-Burns, also an ALA class of 2026 graduate. "You deserve your flowers," said Trinidad. "We've been through a lot together. There were moments where we thought we wouldn't make it. But we made our son proud. His mama and daddy have graduated."

Following Trinidad's words, Dallas thanked the ALA staff as well as the SRPMIC for the support he received thus far on his academic journey. "This is a big step towards new opportunities in life. Anything you pursue can be accomplished," he said.

During his speech, Dallas gave credit to his uncle Meldon Fulwilder and to Aarick Mack for their guidance in teaching him the cultures and traditions of the Community.

"My journey through high school

was not easy. As a freshman, I would struggle in being motivated. But arriving at ALA changed my path and I truly feel blessed for this opportunity I have been given for this important part of my life," he said.

After the student speeches, ALA academic counselor Reina Mora provided the closing remarks. "It has been such an honor to serve as your academic counselor and to talk alongside you throughout your journey at ALA," Mora said. "At the end of the day, life is not measured by titles, money or possession. It is measured by the love you give, the compassion you show and the legacy you leave behind in the hearts of others."

Once all the speeches were completed, King returned to the lectern to officially confirm the ALA class of 2026. "This is one of my favorite parts," said King with a smile, moments before confirming the graduating class.

"You can toss your caps now," said Camargo-Pasos and Hernandez to the class as the ballroom quickly erupted in cheers and applause.

Many of the 31 graduates will continue their academic journeys. Some will join the workforce and others may help care for families and children. No matter their next step, the 31 graduates from ALA's class of 2026 have been prepped for success and are ready to help their Community and world become a better place.



Photos by Andreea Miguel and Juan Ysaguirre.



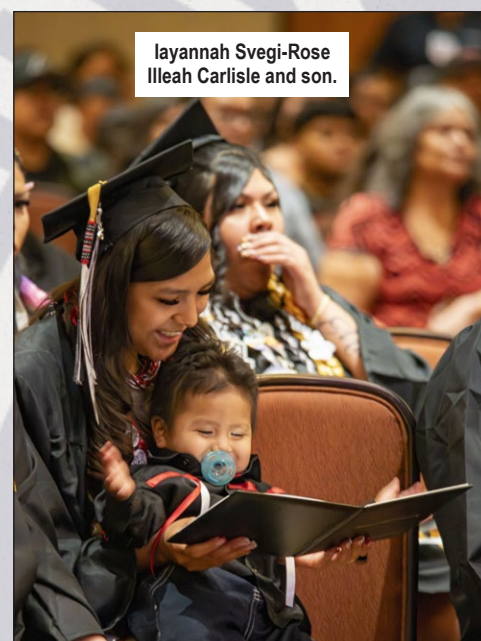
Xavier Trinidad and Esperanza Fulwilder-Burns and their son.



ALA valedictorian, Jack Butler.



Tirsia Hozho Reina and family.



Ilayannah Svegi-Rose and son.



Courtney Wood received the Higher Education Outstanding Graduate Award. She earned her Master of Science, Physician Assistant Studies, from A.T. Still University.



Rosemarie Antone was this year's recipient of the Roxie Andrews Perseverance Award.



The Higher Education Outstanding Undergraduate Award went to Liliana Olmedo. They earned a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

SRPMIC Celebrates Community Graduates with Recognition Program

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE AND ZOE HERNANDEZ
O'odham Action News
oan@srpmic-nsn.gov

In the blink of an eye, the 2026 graduation season has officially come to an end in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. To help celebrate all the graduates from the Community, the SRPMIC held its Graduation Recognition Program on June 25 at the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom. Salt River Schools Native Language Culture Coordinator Ipa Dutchover served as master of ceremonies. The annual event honors graduating students from the school year. Whether students received their GED or a Ph.D. in business administration, the annual banquet celebrates their hard work and academic achievements. Salt River Schools Education Board chair Kyland King provided the invocation by asking for continued blessings to the graduates, their families, those in attendance and those who could not attend the ceremony. "I love that we live in a Community that supports prayer," said Dutchover. Salt River Schools Superintendent Sheryl Houston provided the welcome message. "Tonight, we come together in celebration, not only in resilience, but in heritage and community. To the graduates, congrat-

- 3 Takeaways:**
- Nearly 100 graduates registered to be honored at the annual Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Graduation Recognition Program.
 - The awards dinner was held at the Talking Stick Resort Ballroom on June 25.
 - Salt River Schools Native Language Culture Coordinator Ipa Dutchover served as master of ceremonies.

ulations. Graduation is more than a ceremony; it is a rite of passage. It is a time to honor those who've walked before you with courage and to recognize your own powers." She continued, "What sets you apart from the others is the strength of your roots. Your culture, traditions, language and stories are not just beautiful, they are powerful. They carry wisdom that the world needs now more than ever." Before the awards were presented, everyone enjoyed dinner while country-music band Dirt Rhodes provided the entertainment. **The Awards** Honored students received a framed certificate of achievement from Salt River Schools, which detailed their name, school and degree. A photo booth was set up outside of the ballroom for families and loved ones to take photos with their graduates. The Roxie Andrews Perseverance Award was presented to Rosemarie Antone, and the Higher Education Outstanding Graduate Award went to Courtney Wood. Additionally, Liliana Olmedo received the Higher Education Outstanding Undergraduate Award. Antone graduated from East Valley Academy. Wood graduated from A.T. Still University with her master's degree in science, physician assistant studies. Olmedo earned a bachelor of science degree in aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

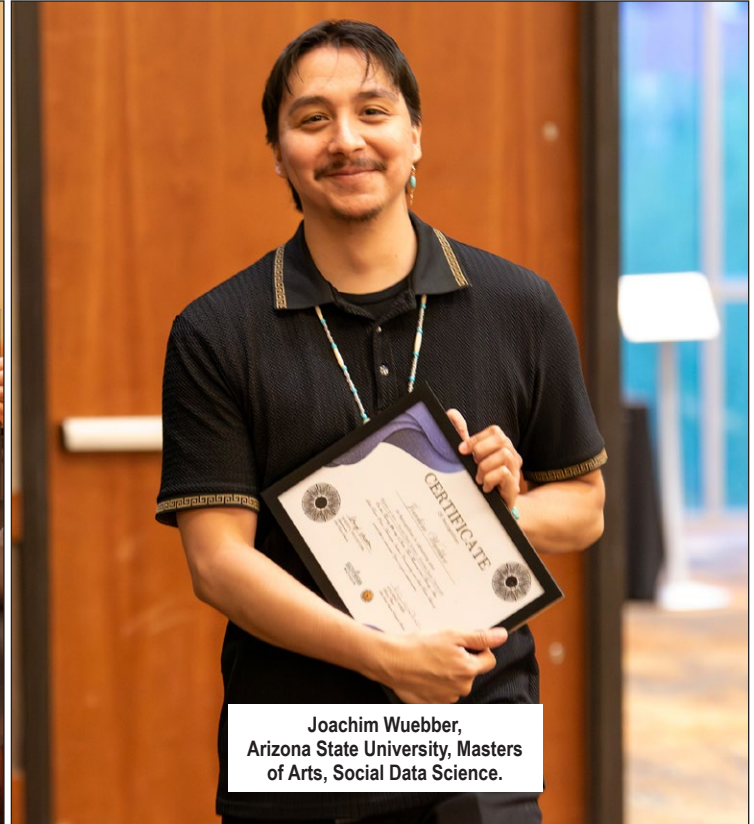
All three award-winning students were praised with a heartfelt speech outlining their accomplishments in their academic journey, followed by a rousing round of applause. Each also received a diamond-shaped plaque etched with their name and degree. Later, staff members from Salt River Schools and the Community Relations Office, Lorena Cashin and Davina Leon, read aloud nearly 100 registered names of this year's graduating students from the Community. Each graduate in attendance was congratulated by SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, Council members and distinguished representatives from Salt River Schools. Harvier provided the closing remarks. "Growing up, my dad was very strict with us," he began. His speech revealed that his father graduated from the old Phoenix Indian School in 1930. Harvier shared that his father instilled into him the importance of graduating from high school at an early age. "But I probably ditched [a] half-year of school [during] my freshman year," Harvier admitted. He would soon reverse course and graduate from high school, saying that as he got older, he realized the importance of his father's words about continuing education. "I'm so proud of you," he said to the graduates. "I want you to look at your parents and thank them, because at some point, I know they encouraged you to be the best. For those that graduated from high school, I encourage you to keep going." He concluded, "When you improve yourself, you improve your family. When you improve your family, you improve your Community. God bless you. Congratulations." As the banquet neared its end, SRPMIC Council member Michael Dallas Sr. recited the closing prayer and asked for protection and blessings to be given to the Community, the graduates and their families.



Erica Schurz, Pima Medical Institute, Dental Assistant.



Shaylee Scabby, University of Oklahoma, Bachelors of Arts, Community Health.



Joachim Wuebber, Arizona State University, Masters of Arts, Social Data Science.



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

BENEFITS

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Bereavement Leave - immediately available upon hire date.

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

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

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Health Club Membership – Health club membership for employees.

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

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

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

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

Does Salt River Materials Group have preference in hiring?

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

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

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www.srmaterials.com



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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? SSDAdultAdaptiveRecreation@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 Wednesday of each month from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. at RPHC 3rd Floor, Room 3203. Contact (480) 278-7742 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.

JU:KIABIG MAŞAD XLY'A PXXYEE JULY

18 CERT TRAINING 3 OF 3, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SRFD Headquarters Training Room, 8860 E. Chapparral Rd. Suite 110 Scottsdale, AZ 85250. This Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) course provides students with information about personal preparedness and practical skills through a variety of topics to better prepare for disasters or significant events taking place in your community. The following course topics are included as part of the curriculum: Disaster Preparedness, CERT Organization, Disaster Medical Operations, Disaster Psychology, Fire Safety & Utility Controls, Light Search & Rescue Operations, Terrorism and CERT. Must attend all three class dates to successfully complete the course. To register for the upcoming CERT training, please call Terry Nelson at 480-362-7929 or email EmergencyManagement@srpmic-nsn.gov.

18 CM DALLAS / CM SCABBY QUARTERLY LEHI DISTRICT MEETING, 10:00 am at Evergreen Neighborhood Center 12275 East Fairmount Avenue Scottsdale, AZ 85256. Agenda: General Welfare Ordinance, Providence First Trust Company, Community Member Comments.

22 JOURNEY THROUGH THE MIDDLE SCHOOL MAZE, Are you heading into middle school next year? Mark your calendar for Wednesday, July 22! This aMAZE-ing conference hosted by the School & Community Relations team will guide new middle schoolers through the journey ahead. RSVP by July 10 by contacting us at 480-362-2534.

27 BACK 2 SCHOOL BASH: SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY!, Join the Salt River School and Community Relations Department for the Back 2 School Bash: School Supply Giveaway on Monday, July 27 from

5:00 - 7:00 pm at the Accelerated Learning Academy Gymnasium. Park south of the football field along Highland Ave. (4827 N. Country Club Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 86256) This event is open to SRPMIC-enrolled students only. Students registered for the 2026-27 school year in grades K-12 are eligible, including students attending public, private, charter, parochial, or BIE schools.

28 NOMINATION MEETING FOR PRESIDENT & VICE-PRESIDENT, See flyer on page 14 for complete details.

29 WIC WALK-IN WEDNESDAYS, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at SRPMIC WIC Office at RPHC 10901 E. McDowell Rd. Need WIC services but don't have an appointment? Stop by during our upcoming Walk-In Wednesdays! Whether you're a current WIC participant or interested in learning how WIC can support your family, our team is here to help with nutrition education, breastfeeding resources, benefit information, and more. WIC is here to help families thrive through nutrition support, education, and resources for healthy living. Questions? 480-362-7300 | WIC@SRPMIC-NSN.GOV We look forward to seeing you there!

30 NOMINATION MEETING FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS, See flyer on page 14 for complete details.

FOR THE LATEST DISTRICT MEETINGS SCHEDULE, SEE PAGE 16 OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW:

