O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS

"Telling the Stories of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community" www.oodhamnews.org NOVEMBER 19, 2026

Halloween coverage
Page 10, 11

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From Pixels to Paper



The OAN team and additional staff from the Community Relations Office traveled to the Casa Grande Valley Newspapers on Oct. 23 to learn how the OAN newspaper gets printed and delivered to SRPMIC.

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

CASA GRANDE, Ariz. — Traveling on Interstate 10 on the early morning of Oct. 23, the team from O'odham Action News and various members of the Community Relations Office traveled to the offices of Casa Grande Valley Newspapers, the family-owned newspaper and commercial printing company that prints the newspaper. The goal was to get a better look at how they print and deliver *O'odham Action News*.

Additionally, the group also stopped in the Ak-Chin Indian Community to get an inside look at how the *Ak-Chin O'odham Runner* newsroom team creates and delivers their newspaper.

Casa Grande

The group arrived at Casa Grande Valley Newspapers just before lunchtime, meeting Composing Department Supervisor Melva Bekis and her team of professionals that help

Continued on page 12

Salt River Flows From Released Stormwater



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Emergency Management Coordinator Terry Nelson (left) and Emergency Management Coordinator Kirsten VanDeventer (right) assess the flood damage to McKellips Road on Nov. 3 at the Salt River after stormwater was released into the river.

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

The usually dry Salt River was filled with excess stormwater over the wet Halloween weekend, creating temporary road closures and a spectacle for Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members and their curious neighbors driving through.

Salt River Project released the stormwater from the Stewart Mountain and Bartlett dams, which feed into the Verde River and Salt River. McKellips Road at the Salt River was closed by MCDOT on Oct. 31 due to flooding.

Emergency Management Coordinator Kirsten VanDeventer reminds Community members to stay safe when the Salt River is flowing.

"Don't enter floodwaters. Turn around, don't drown," said VanDeventer. "Make sure, if you're out taking pictures of this historic water flow, that you're mindful of the embankments and the erosion that can occur. Make sure you're not entering any water that's moving very quickly."

Floodwater can be toxic because it picks up anything in its path as it flows downriver, so don't drink or swim in it. For a video of the water release affecting the Community, check our website.

Check out the Video!
This story included video coverage. Scan the QR code below to see more!
Watch now on YouTube

Language Corner
Page 3
***
Can You Solve the Crossword Puzzle?
Page 6
***
News and Events In and Around Indian Country
Page 6
***
Animal Word Search
Page 6
***
7 Generations Spiritual Run
Page 9
***
Fiesta Bowl Legacy Clinic Scores a Touchdown with Salt River Youth
Page 13
***
Warrant Resolution Day Offers Opportunity to Address Outstanding Warrants
Page 16
***
Legal Notices
Page 16
***

Baseball in October: Arizona Fall League Brings America's Pastime to Salt River



Salt River Rafters teammates and Arizona Diamondbacks prospects Yassel Soler (left) and Demetrio Crisantes (right) toss the baseball during pregame warmups before their game on Oct. 16 vs. the Peoria Javelinas at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick.

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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As the baseball season changed from September to October without the Arizona Diamondbacks in the playoff picture, local fans could still lift their heads to hear the crack of the bat echoing from their seats. The Arizona Fall League was preparing for a fresh season of baseball in the Valley from October through November.

Housed on tribal land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, the spring training home of the Arizona Diamondbacks and Colorado Rockies. One of the AFL's six teams, the aptly named Salt River Rafters, also plays here.

Continued on page 13

Tiny Skaters, Big Talents



Salt River Girls Scout and skateboarding legend Winnie Yazzie and Las ChicAZ skate coach Brielle Morella modeled how to properly wear the correct safety gear, in addition to showcasing superior skateboarding skills.

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
O'odham Action News
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The Notah Begay III Foundation continues to pay dividends here in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Last January, local skate group Las ChicAZ teamed up with the SRPMIC Skeg Himdag Ki: team to present a skateboarding clinic for Community children. The clinic taught skateboarders of all levels the basics of skateboarding and provided free safety equipment, snacks, drinks and a coloring book station.

The clinic arrived in the Community as part of a sponsorship by the Notah Begay III Foundation.

Fast-forward about 10 months, and Las ChicAZ returned to Salt River on Oct. 17 with an even bigger team, as the nonprofit skateboarding group now allows boys and men to help showcase and promote skateboarding as a healthy activity for all.

During the October skate clinic, Las ChicAZ founder Natalie Krishna Das greeted skateboarders and their families/guardians with a massive

Continued on page 9

SRPMIC Election Results

Results from the Nov. 17, 2026, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Council General Election can be found at www.srpmic-nsn.gov or by scanning the QR code.

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Huhugam Ki: Museum Secures Grant to Fund Photography Collection Identification

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
O'odham Action News
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This past summer, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Huhugam Ki: Museum landed a $250,000 grant to help the Community achieve the goal of identifying people depicted in 30% of their collection of over 158,000 digitized photographs from the Community Relations Office.

The funds come from the Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services award distributed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a U.S. federal agency. The grant expires Aug. 31, 2028.

The award will allow for two members of the Community to have one very important and specific job focused on photo identification and metadata collection. Employees in these roles will help make it easier for Community members to find information on family members when searching a database that will be available in the future at the Repository.

"The goal is to have tribal people working with this repository because it's their collection," said Huhugam Ki: Museum Director Gary Owens.

Owens feels it is important for the employees in this role to have knowledge of the people in the Community from the broad time period when the photographs were taken, mainly in the 1980s through 1990s.

Museum Digital Archivist Lessie Dingler is overseeing the employees working on the project. Dingler concurred with Owens about the photos belonging to the Community.

"At end of the day, it's what I always tell them: This is for you. This is your history, your story, your life. We want you to be able to have your hands on it and see it and be a part of it," said Dingler.

Gloria Vasquez, a historical data specialist with the museum, is one of the two new hires for the project. She talked with O'odham Action News about her current role.

"I go through and try to identify the people, the event, where the event is [and] about what year it is. If I look deep, I can zoom into the pictures to [possibly] see a calendar to get a year," Vasquez said from her desk at the SRPMIC Cultural Repository.

"I'm a Community member, born and raised here. I have older siblings. I can go back to a certain time point. I've got a brother; he's about 40. I can remember some of his friends, some of the people he used to hang out with, so I can point them out."

Historical Data Specialist Denise "Niso" Osif is Vasquez's coworker on the project. The two work closely together to help fill in the gaps.

"As a hobby, I do family history for myself as well as for Community members and others who request it," said Osif.

"Putting names to faces is great! To see someone in their younger years, it helps with the story I already know."

This is the museum's third attempt at securing funding for the project. The museum revised its proposal after an earlier application was rejected for being too ambitious.

Prior efforts helped move the project along at its early stage when Community member and former longtime Community Relations Director Janet Johnson took on the temporary role of identifying who was who in the vast collection from her time overseeing the photographic archives.

Blue Wave Hits Arizona

BY DALTON WALKER
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The congressional district in Arizona that includes the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community shifted blue for the first time in years.

On Nov. 3, Democrat Amish Shah was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives after winning Arizona's 1st congressional district. The seat was long held by Republican David Schweikert, who had decided to run for Arizona governor.

Other notable winners on election night:

• Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs (Democrat) was reelected, this time with a lieutenant governor in John Giles on the same ticket. This election was the first to include the lieutenant governor position.

• Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes (Democrat) was reelected.

• Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes (Democrat) was reelected.

• Arizona State Treasurer Nick Mansour (Democrat) was reelected.

• Democrat Teresa Leyba Ruiz was elected Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction.

• Democrats Clara Pratte and Jonathon Hill secured the two Corporate Commissioner seats. Pratte, who received the most votes, is Navajo and is the first Native candidate to win a statewide office in Arizona.

• Arizona state Sen. Lauren Kuby (Democrat) was reelected in District 8, and state Reps. Janeen Connolly and Brian Garcia, both Democrats, were also reelected. District 8 includes the SRPMIC. Garcia is from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

• Navajo Democrats Ian Teller and Mae Peshlakai were elected to serve Arizona Legislative District 6, along with state Sen. Jamescita Peshlakai, who is also Navajo.

• Republican Eli Crane barely beat Democrat Jonathan Nez in Arizona's 2nd congressional district. Nez is the former Navajo Nation president.

For full Arizona election results, visit results.arizona.vote.

Notable winners in Indian Country:

• Former U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland was elected governor of New Mexico, making her the first Native woman elected to lead a U.S. state. She's Laguna Pueblo and a Democrat who served in the Biden administration.

• Minnesota Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan is the first Native American woman elected to the U.S. Senate. She's from the White Earth Nation and a Democrat.

• Alaska Native Mary Peltola also made history and was elected to the U.S. Senate to represent her home state. She's Yup'ik and a former member of the U.S. House.

• U.S. Rep Sharice Davids, a Democrat, was reelected in Kansas. She's Ho-Chunk.

• New York elected Claire Valdez to the U.S. House of Representatives. She's a Democrat from Ysleta del Sur Pueblo.

• Democrat Sean McCann, a citizen of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, won in Michigan's 4th congressional district.

• Republican Tom Cole, the longtime U.S. House member, was again reelected. Cole is Chickasaw and was first elected in 2003 to represent Oklahoma.

• Republican Josh Brecheen was reelected to another term in the U.S. House, also representing Oklahoma. He's Choctaw.

SRPD
SALT RIVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

8860 E CHAPARRAL ROAD
SUITE 100, SCOTTSDALE, AZ

480.850.8200
SALTRIVERPD.COM

SRPD AWARDED $140,000.00 FOR DUI ENFORCEMENT AND SUSTAINED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT FISCAL YEAR 2027

October 24, 2026 — Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
The Salt River Police Department (SRPD) has been awarded $140,000 in grant funding from the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety (AZ GOHS), made possible through federal funds. These grants support Salt River PD's ongoing efforts to keep the Community's roads safe through enhanced DUI enforcement, targeted traffic safety programs, and specialized training for our officers. This funding will allow Salt River PD to increase officer presence on the roads, focus on impaired driving enforcement, and expand public awareness campaigns aimed at reducing traffic-related incidents. The grants also support officer training to improve accident investigation capabilities.

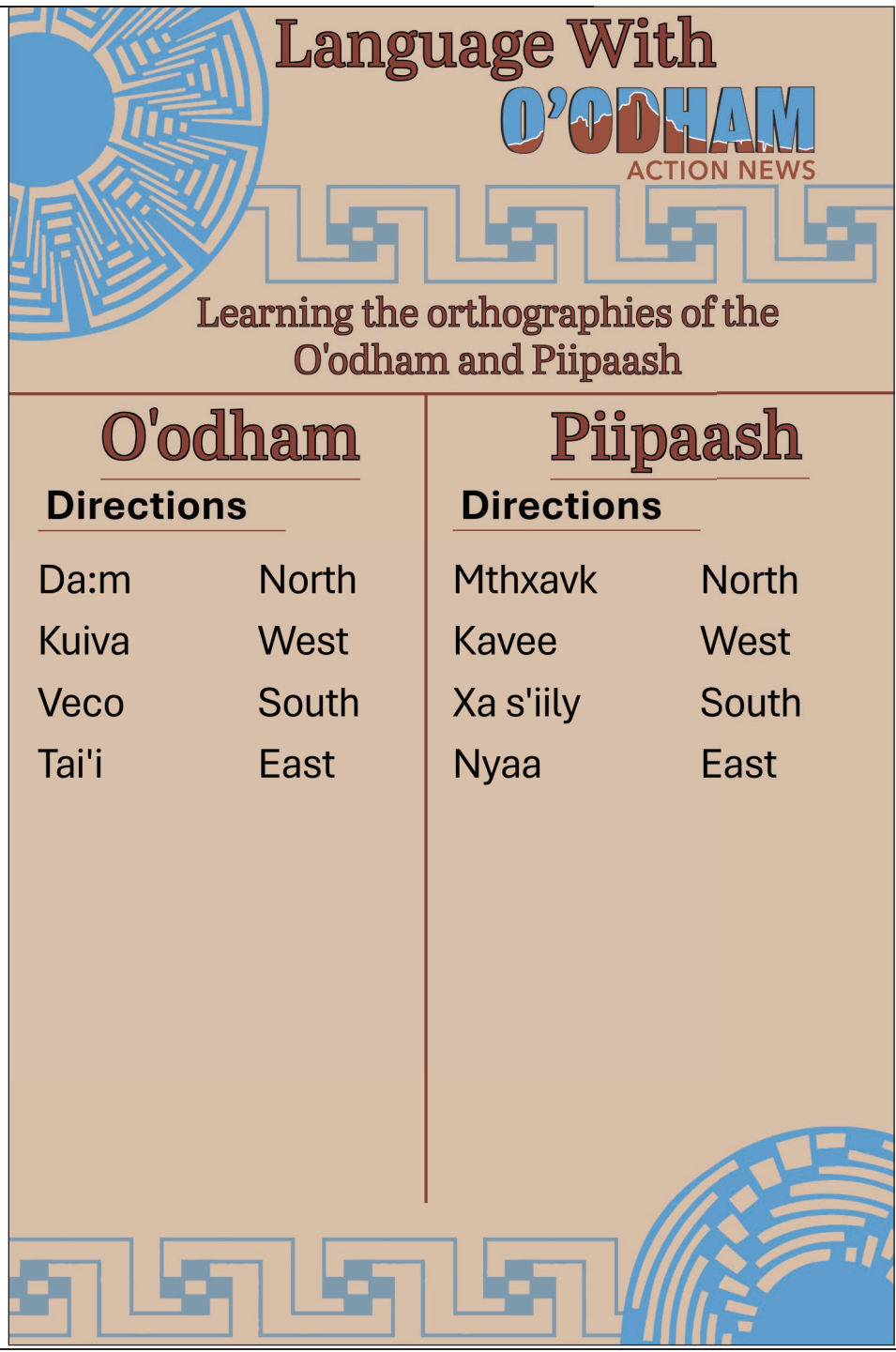
Breakdown of Grant Awards:

- **$70,000 – DUI Enforcement:** Supports officer overtime to increase DUI task force and patrols, as well as public education about the dangers of impaired driving due to alcohol or drugs.
- **$70,000 – Traffic Enforcement:** Funds support increased patrols targeting speeding, aggressive driving, and other dangerous behaviors to promote safer roadways for everyone.

"These grants reflect the Salt River Police Department's steadfast dedication to traffic safety and our continued partnership with the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety," said Salt River Police Department leadership. "Our goal is to prevent collisions thereby saving lives through proactive enforcement, Community education and outreach."

The Salt River Police Department encourages everyone in the Community to do their part in making our roadways safe by diligently obeying traffic laws, not texting and driving, and driving safely. When drinking, use a designated driver, ride-share service, taxi, or call a friend or family member. Everyone plays a role in keeping our roads safe.

For more information about SRPD traffic safety initiatives contact the Salt River Police Department 480-850-8200.



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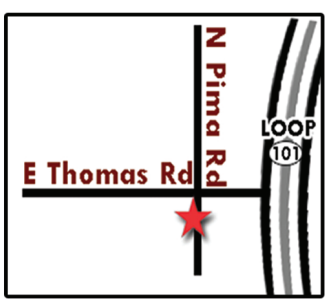

Emergencies and Walk-Ins always welcome!

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A place where learning, support, and community converge.

The American Indian Program at Scottsdale Community College functions as a relational and support center, empowering student success through meaningful support services and resources.

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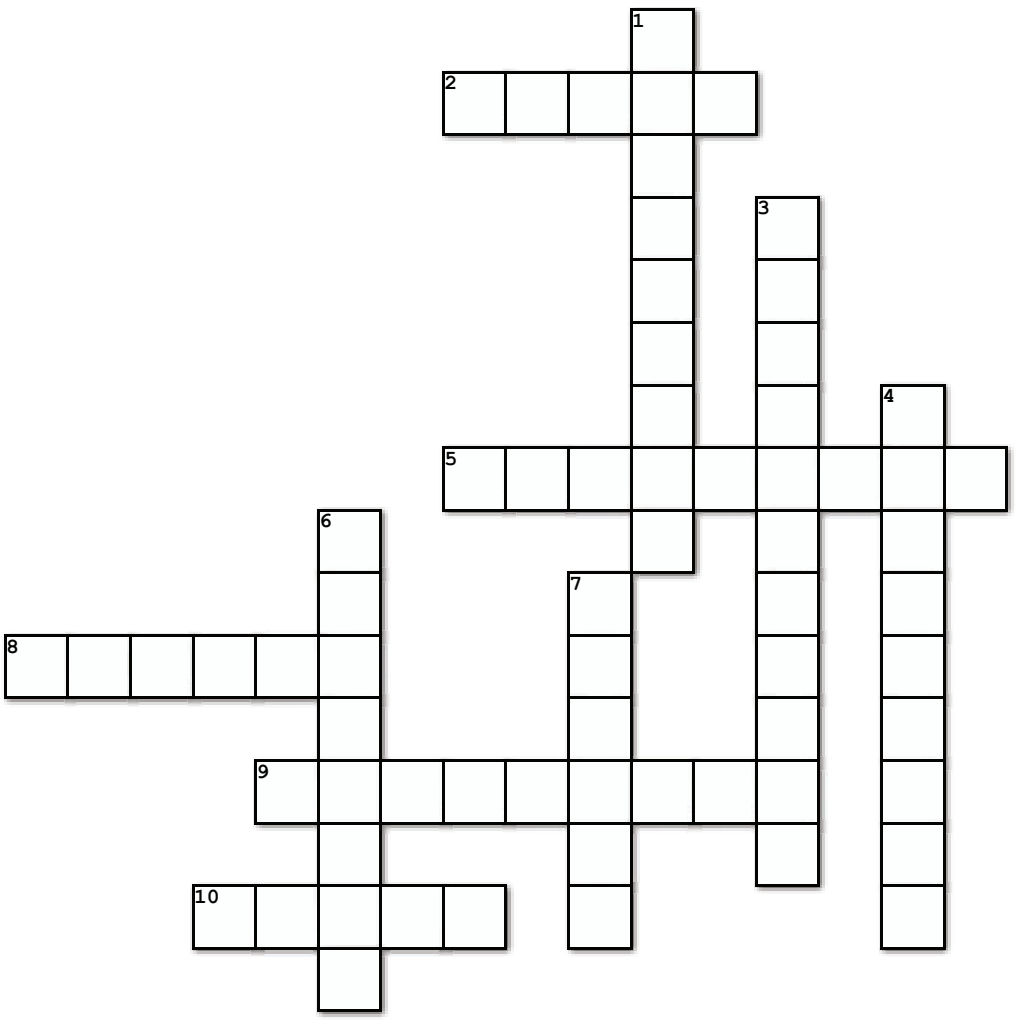
Can you solve the crossword puzzle?



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

Across

2. Who closed McKellips Road on Halloween?
5. Arizona Fall League team from Peoria
8. Name of the club that visted OAN on Oct. 19.
9. "Iconic" vendor from SRPMIC at Fall Festival Spooktacular.
10. Name of the Hopi elder who gave runners words of wisdom.

Down

1. Arizona's new Lieutenant Governor.
3. Staff members who dressed as dinosaurs.
4. Local skate group nonprofit who came to SRPMIC.
6. Newsroom in Casa Grande visited by OAN.
7. Name of Fiesta Bowl mascot.

News and Events In and Around Indian Country

BY DALTON WALKER
O'odham Action News
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Arizona Gets New National Park

A longtime national monument in southeastern Arizona is now a national park. The Chiricahua National Park Act was signed into law in October.

The area was designated a national monument in 1924 and is the homeland of the Chiricahua Apache. The park is near Willcox, Arizona, and measures about 12,000 acres. It's home to many hoodoos, rhyolite rock spires formed by an ancient volcanic eruption.

Tribal Leadership Elected in Arizona

The Navajo Nation elected its first woman president in November. Crystalyne Curley and her running mate, Christopher C. Deschene, received the most votes in the tribe's presidential election.

Gila River Indian Community Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and San Carlos Apache Tribe Chairman Terry Rambler were reelected in their tribes' races. Both Lewis and Rambler have served in their leadership roles for multiple terms.

The tribes held elections that coincided with the state and federal election on Nov. 3.

Phoenix Indian Center Holds Record Fundraiser

The Phoenix Indian Center held its 43rd annual Silver & Turquoise Ball in October at Talking Stick Resort in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The event raised a record $764,000 to support the center's programs aimed at helping urban Native families. More than 800 people attended the fundraiser, including Arizona Cardinals legendary wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald Jr., who served as event chair.

The popular ball also presented Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Tribal Council member Bernadine Burnette with the 2026 Leon Grant Spirit of the Community award. Casino Arizona and Talking Stick Resort served as the event's first-ever Diamond Presenting Sponsor.

Justice Department Shares Operation Not Forgotten Results

Operation Not Forgotten focuses on unresolved cases in Indian Country, specifically violence against women and children.

In its fourth year, Operation Not Forgotten increased personnel and investigative resources from April 1 through Sept. 30, 2026, resulting in 118 arrests, 25 child victims identified or located, and 72 weapons recovered. FBI agents conducted 990 interviews and 232 search operations.

In the District of Arizona, at least four cases were charged, including two violent assaults, an arson, the aggravated sexual abuse of a minor under 12 on the Navajo Nation and an additional assault on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

GRIC Rodeo Members Spotlighted

Gila River Indian News spotlighted saddle bronc rider Jalen Joaquin, breakaway roper Savannah Joe and rodeo secretary Penny Mix in Las Vegas at October's Indian National Finals Rodeo.

The popular rodeo celebrated 50 years in 2026 and routinely attracts the best in rodeo from across Indian Country. Read more about it on the *Gila River Indian News* website.

Animal Word Search

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

D	Ñ	C	S	T	U	X	P	L	Z	H	Ñ	W	J	Ĭ	Z	Y	P	V	Q
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Ĭ	L	Ñ	K	O	X	Z	Y	R	X	N	M	N	X	Y	X	D	O	Z	K

O'ODHAM

HO'HOKIMEL, Butterfly
VAMOK, Mosquito
UHIG, Bird
SIPUK, Cardinal
HO:HI, Morning Dove
VAPKAKĬ, Duck
NANAKMEL, Bat
HAIVAÑ, Cow
KAVIYO, Horse
VAVUK, Raccoon

PIPAASH

K'UULY, Jackrabbit
CHMDUULY, Ant
XMA, Quail
MMDII, Owl
CH'OR, Hawk
MXWETH, Bear
CHII, Fish
KOSH, Pig
QWAAQ, Deer
XNARXNAR, Turtle

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Black Friday Gift Grab

Friday, November 27

9AM – 12PM

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SCHOOL & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

WE SUPPORT SRPMIC YOUTH

School & Community Relations offers support services to SRPMIC-enrolled students and their families. Specifically, SCR addresses issues related to school attendance, behavioral concerns, and educational financial assistance.

WHAT IS TRUANCY?

Truancy (§11-310) is an unexcused or unverifiable absence from at least one class period that meets school procedures for referral to an Attendance Officer for citation.

Scan the QR code to view the full Truancy Ordinance.

FACTS TO KNOW ABOUT TRUANCY

An absence includes a missed school day or accumulated tardies in one semester:

- Elementary: Tardy on 5 school days.
- Grades 7–12: Tardy to 5 class periods.

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

- §11-314: Parent and guardian responsibilities.
- §11-316: Meeting after 3 unexcused absences.
- §11-317: Family incentives, restorative opportunities, and attendance recognition.
- §11-318: Graduated consequences for students and parents/guardians.

WHY ENFORCE TRUANCY LAWS?

Enforcement supports school attendance and protects the welfare of SRPMIC children. Requirements are outlined in the SRPMIC Code of Ordinances, Chapter 11, Article XI.

NOTE: This brief overview is not legal advice.

SALT RIVER SCHOOL & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Salt River Schools Administration Building
4836 N. Center Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85256
480-362-2534
saltriverschools.org/departments/scr

SCR SUPPORT AREAS INCLUDE:

- Counseling: Individual, Group, Academic
- Referrals (e.g., Tutoring, Behavioral Health)
- Family & Student Advocacy
- Help with scheduling & attending school meetings.

SCR also provides Student Transportation up to 6 times per semester for students residing within SRPMIC. Call 480-362-2555 before 9:30 AM.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

- ***Parent Responsibility***: Parents remain responsible for attendance, including when students ride the bus, are dropped off, or travel independently.
- ***Transportation Help:*** SCR offers up to 6 school transports per student, per semester for students living within SRPMIC boundaries.
- ***Check Attendance Daily***: Ensure your child attends school on time each day. Address concerns promptly.
- ***Use the Parent Portal:*** Check attendance, grades, assignments, and school updates regularly.
- ***Stay Connected:*** Talk with your child about attendance and contact school staff when concerns arise.
- ***Build Routines:*** Set consistent bedtimes, wake-up times, and homework schedules.

Every school day supports learning, friendships, and future success!

O'odham VAPT O 'E NAKO
You are capable of great things.

XOTM KWIIM V'AWTHIK **Piipaash**
Keep up the good work.

Continued from front page

Tiny Skaters, Big Talents

smile, fist bump or hug. The Salt River Girl Scouts joined in on the fun this go-round, showing their talents while out on the skate park.

Much like the last clinic in January, the skateboarders were divided into groups according to their ability and skill level. Las ChicAZ staff members demonstrated proper techniques and explained how skateboarding can improve health and wellness for those who choose to pick up a board.

The skate coaches for Las ChicAZ were Brielle Morella, Sydney Shabro, Erica Acuña, Kristie Masseth and others.

Skeg Himdag Ki: Adaptive Recreation Coordinator Ethan Larned and additional staff members ensured that the skaters stayed safe and taken care of. SRPMIC Injury Prevention Coordinator Monte Yazzie was also on hand during the clinic, emphasizing the importance of wearing proper safety gear while skating.

For those skateboarding athletes with artistic talents, Das and her Las ChicAZ team came prepared with a poster printout of a skateboard for the participating children to autograph, draw or color on.

The clinic ended with a cool-down session led by Das. The kids discussed their favorite parts of the day and what they learned.

To the delight of many, Das and her team have already promised to find a way to return to Salt River for additional skate clinics showcasing the positives of skateboarding.



Las ChicAZ have already promised to find a way to return to Salt River for another skate clinic and even more fun.

7 Generations Spiritual Run

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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Several local runners participated in the 7 Generations Spiritual Run from Sept. 20 to 30, which began with a sweat lodge ceremony in Fort Defiance, Navajo Nation, and continued to the last stop at District 7 in the Gila River Indian Community.

The run was organized by Wayne Wauneka from Fort Defiance to bring attention to multiple issues, including missing and murdered Indigenous people and tribal communities fighting for their land, water and sovereignty.

"On average, there were about 10 runners a day, sometimes 15 to 20, depending on how many Community members came out to join, or if any runners would come and support for a day or two," said Teresa Cabrera, who ran on the journey with her twin grandchildren, Zaylan and Zayana Cabrera.

"We are so proud of these two strong-willed children who every day proudly [represent] who they are, where they come from, their family and more. They are passionate and proud of what they are involved in and are making a difference," said Teresa Cabrera.

The twins identify as Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Hopi and Colombian. They are the youngest of four generations descended from their great-grandmother, SRPMIC member Sharon Selestewa. The twins' mother is SRPMIC member Tonisha Thomas, whose mother Lorraine Selestewa is Sharon's youngest daughter. SRPMIC member Tammy Walker made the traditional clothing for the twins' run.

Cabrera said that along the way there was a Hopi elder named "Bucky" who gave the kids words of wisdom, and there were also police officers giving out gifts at every stop.



Sharon Selestewa (middle front) is surrounded by family members Lorraine Selestewa and Tonisha Thomas(back) and great-grandchildren twin runners Zayana and Zaylan at the 7 Generations Spiritual Run.

"The children were grateful for every shell necklace, [t-shirt and bear]," said Cabrera. "We as a group were also grateful for all the blessings and food that was given to us or cooked for us."

Altogether, there were 22 stops in the run. Each day, new runners joined or took over while others met up again later.

After their run in Dinétah, the group ran through a long stretch of the Hopi Reservation on Sept. 22. By Sept. 24, they had left Flagstaff and were resting in Williams. On Sept. 26, the runners were greeted by Yavapai Apache relatives in Chino Valley. The Yavapai Apache runners took the lead, carrying the 7 Generations staffs through Sept. 27. On Sept. 29, the recharged group walked through Buckeye to Goodyear.

Wauneka said the group arrived at District 7 on Sept. 29, where they rested and "were welcomed in a good way" before a closing ceremony of "a beautiful sacrifice of love, hope and prayer" on Sept. 30.





ECEC Students Celebrate with a Goodie Gathering

BY ZOE HERNANDEZ
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Have you ever been chased by a dinosaur? Well, the chase was on for Early Childhood Education Center students at Salt River Schools. On Oct. 16, students, families, and community partners gathered for the annual Goodie Gathering.

In previous years, the gathering took place outside, but this year it was held in the multipurpose room due to high winds. Despite the weather, these young ghouls still dressed up and attended the gathering.

The multipurpose room was filled with staff members from Salt River Pima–Maricopa Indian Community departments handing out healthy treats such as applesauce and granola. Each department's staff dressed up and waited excitedly for the kiddos. Students from 6 weeks to 4 years old jumped up and down and wiggled their fingers in anticipation of the treats they would receive. Parents and guardians also had the opportunity to ask questions about the programs and resources that the departments offer.

As students exited, they were greeted by Public Works staff members dressed as dinosaurs. The students were happy to play with the dinosaurs even though they could be scary at first.

This year's Goodie Gathering was frightfully fantastic!

If you're wondering how your child can attend the next function hosted by the ECEC, visit https://ecec.saltriverschools.org/home.



Fire safety is exciting!



Be aware of your surroundings, a dinosaur might bite your head.



This Scooby is excited for treats!



Lieutenant Dan makes an appearance for the costume contest.





Run! These dinosaurs are gonna get you.



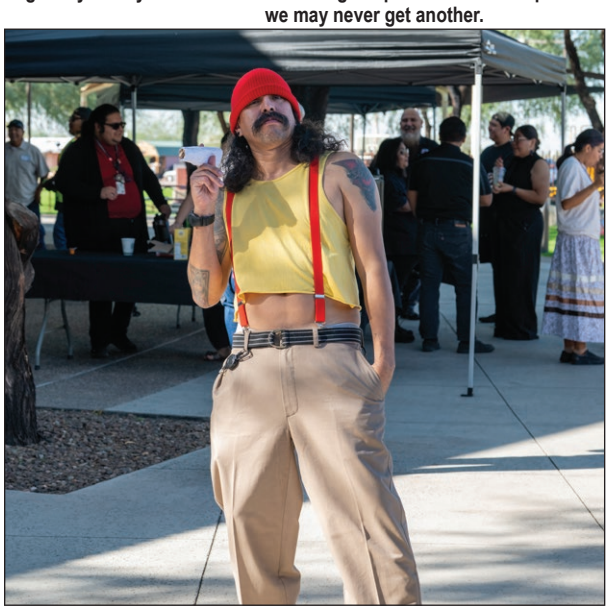
Left to right: Terry Dooley, President Martin Harvier, outgoing Community Manager Bryan Meyers share a laugh before the program begins.



Glad we got a pictue of this Sasquatch we may never get another.



Jason Bird gives the crowd a show!



Adrian Tobar shows off his winning costume to attendees!

Give 'em Pumpkin to Talk About!

BY ZOE HERNANDEZ
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Halloween creeped up on Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community employees this year. On Oct. 23, employees gathered in the Two Waters Courtyard to fright for the right to claim the titles of first-, second- and third-place winners at the annual Employee Halloween Costume Contest.

Human Resources Director Steven Haydukovich served as the host for the frightful morning. Haydukovich enjoyed creepin' it real throughout the entire contest, sharing a good dad joke or two. This year's judges were SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, Community Manager Bryan Meyers and Internal Audit Director Terry Dooley. Before the program began, the judges received a special acknowledgment, as they will all be retiring in the coming weeks.

Screams and shouts filled the courtyard as brew-tiful faces showcased their costumes. Familiar characters included Wayne from "Wayne's World," Ghost Face from "Scream," Wolverine from Marvel, and many more frights!

The winners of the costume contest (those who happened to be the most fang-tastic) were Adrian Tobar from IT as Cheech from the iconic duo Cheech and Chong; Janet Mauck from Health and Human Services as Lieutenant Dan from "Forrest Gump"; Odie Toney from Health and Human Services Security as Steve Harvey; Michael Hundley from Engineering and Construction Services as the viral Rumpelstiltskin video wearing Nike shoes; Angela Williamson and Marie Osborne as Ethel and Lucy from "I Love Lucy"; and Elvira Osuna Kelsie Cadieux from River People Health Center as the Sanderson sisters from "Hocus Pocus."

The 2026 Employee Halloween Costume Contest was one for the books!

An Eerie Twist at Fall Festival Spooktacular

BY ANDREEA MIGUEL
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This scary season, ghouls and girls gathered at Salt River Schools' Accelerated Learning Academy for the popular Fall Festival Spooktacular.

This time, however, there was a spooky twist as two Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community departments partnered to host the event. The Community Relations Office and Education worked together to combine the annual Fall Festival and the annual Spooktacular into one big party for Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community members and others to enjoy.

The Fall Festival Spooktacular kicked off on Friday, Oct. 30, the night before Halloween. Staff from tribal government departments brought out treats and costumes at their information booths, and a trunk-or-treat area was set up for kids to gather goodies.

Food vendor Pacific Rim and Sushi provided delicious Hawaiian cuisine alongside other vendors such as Fouta Toro, First Down Catering and the iconic Dank Drank. All provided an array of graveyard-worthy grub. For those who didn't know what to choose, free Barro's pizza was provided by organizers on a first-come, first-served basis.

This year was particularly different as the week brought heavy rain and cooler weather, but that didn't stop the festivities from starting. Due to rain that day, the event was moved from the football field to the parking lot and court area. Still, costumed participants powered through in high spirits for the haunted house, good eats and helpful information.

As fun as the event was, sadly it had to be cut short due to storms and the concern for public safety.











Continued from front page

From Pixels to Paper

get our newspaper printed.

The group was given permission to tour the *Casa Grande Dispatch* newsroom, the two-story printing press and other printing-related spaces. They enjoyed and up-close view of the massive ink rollers and steel plate-based printing equipment that Bekis and her team utilize for each OAN edition.

On a standard delivery week, Bekis receives the final portable document formats (PDFs) from the OAN team and begins work on putting each individual page onto the printing press a few days before delivery day in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The printer bundles and delivers the newspapers on a pallet via a delivery truck to the Community just after sunrise every first and third Thursday of the month. The pallet is delivered to the Two Waters Complex, where OAN staff members gather and get ready for local delivery and newspaper labeling.

The tour gave the team a hands-on look at how O'odham Action News gets printed, as well as providing time for Bekis to share various ways staff can make the newspaper shine even more. The group brainstormed different ways to produce content, which can include special-edition printables such as inserts, magazines and other various services the company offers.

After, the team grabbed lunch before traveling on the Maricopa–Casa Grande Highway to visit with the *Ak-Chin Runner* team.

Ak-Chin O'odham Runner

Runner photojournalist and former Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Robert Miguel gave the SRPMIC team a tour of their community, which included the new housing developments and library, then detailed how the newsroom puts their paper together. *Ak-Chin O'odham Runner* Editor Raychel Peters welcomed and greeted the SRPMIC team.

Just like the OAN team, the *Runner* sends their individual page PDFs to Bekis at Casa Grande Valley Newspapers for printing.

To make things a bit easier and to cover more ground during the tour, Ak-Chin utilized their community transit bus to take the SRPMIC team around. The group visited and toured the Ak-Chin airport, Hickman's Egg Farm, the potato washing factory and more.

"If you've ever had French fries at In-and-Out burger, those potatoes are from here," said Miguel during the tour.

Kirsten Villegas and Megan Quintero, two *Runner* photojournalists, joined Miguel and provided additional insight during the tour of their community.

Villegas and Quintero asked the *O'odham Action News* group for some tips to improve the Council candidate headshots they were tasked to complete for Ak-Chin's upcoming tribal election later this year.

Earlier this year, the Runner team visited SRPMIC and met with OAN staff.

The Ak-Chin/OAN tour was also the first official meeting for the newly announced Indigenous Journalists Association Southwest Cohort, which is composed of Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff from the SRPMIC, Ak-Chin, Gila River Indian Community and the surrounding area who report on Indigenous stories in the Southwest.

In the coming months, the newsrooms will continue to network, collaborate and share resources to further enhance and strengthen the bonds between the respective communities.

Salt River Elementary School Hosts Annual Halloween Fun Run













SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

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DECEMBER 05 2026

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Fiesta Bowl Legacy Clinic Scores a Touchdown with Salt River Youth

BY JUAN YSAGUIRRE
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It's always a good time when Fiesta Bowl mascot "Spirit" gives you a high-five, especially moments after scoring a touchdown in front of your friends and family.

This is what Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community children ages 6 to 17 had a chance to experience during the Fiesta Bowl Legacy Football Clinic, which was held at Scottdale Community College's football stadium on Oct. 28. One of the many focal points of the clinic is to help showcase how being active outdoors and playing sports such as football can improve overall well-being.

Future football phenoms received hands-on experience running, catching and tackling across seven different skill stations, all while under the supervision of SRPMIC Ske:g Himdag Ki: and Fiesta Bowl staff.

Once the youth athletes were seated on the stadium's bleachers, the Fiesta Bowl mascot appeared—almost out of thin air—and instantly became fast friends with the children. Giving out high-fives and fist bumps, as well as doing the "6-7" motion with its hands, the mascot kicked things off in a good way moments before the official clinic began.

Later, the athletes got a chance to run out onto the football field by sprinting through a massive inflatable football helmet, just like how some college football and professional teams do before kickoff.

Participants received an official goodie bag filled with Fiesta Bowl merchandise, as well as the official football clinic t-shirt.

To stay up to date on more fun and exciting activities coming up, contact the SRPMIC Ske:g Himdag Ki: staff at (480) 362-6800.



SCC's football stadium housed countless smiles and touchdowns during the Fiesta Bowl youth football clinic. *Photo by Community Recreational Services Senior Multimedia Specialist Paula Maturana.*



The Fiesta Bowl mascot "Spirit" was a fan favorite for the kids and families, giving out high fives and even doing the "6-7" dance.

Continued from front page

Baseball in October: Arizona Fall League Brings America's Pastime to Salt River

3 Takeaways:

- *The Salt River Rafters play at Salt River Fields from October through November each year.*
- *O'odham Action News attended a Rafters game vs. the Peoria Javelinas and interviewed Rafters second baseman and Arizona Diamondbacks No. 1 prospect Demetrio Crisantes.*
- *MLB teams affiliated with the Rafters include the Diamondbacks, Colorado Rockies, Minnesota Twins, New York Yankees and the Washington Nationals.*



The starting lineup for the Salt River Rafters on Oct. 16 vs. the Peoria Javelinas at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick.

Game Day: Oct. 16

O'odham Action News attended a Rafters home game on Oct. 16 vs. the Peoria Javelinas. Fans of all ages lined up along the first base line seats near the dugout with their Sharpies and phones, waiting for autographs and a chance to meet players.

On this windy day, no baseballs made it out of the ballpark, but plenty of runs were scored … just not by the Rafters. After three scoreless innings, the Javelinas got runners on base and scored four runs each in the fourth and fifth innings. They added two more runs in the eighth inning, as the Rafters couldn't overcome the deficit on five errors throughout the game. The Javelinas prevailed, 10-0.

Diamondbacks No. 1 prospect (seventh-round pick in the 2022 MLB draft) Demetrio Crisantes had a quiet day at the plate, going 0-4 but with solid defense on the field at second base.



Arizona-born Salt River Rafters second baseman and top prospect in the Diamondbacks organization Demetrio Crisantes makes contact during a plate appearance on Oct. 16 vs. the Peoria Javelinas at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick.

Crisantes was born in Tucson and grew up in Nogales, Arizona.

"It's a blessing to be here in Arizona. Being from Arizona is means a lot, to represent the Arizona Diamondbacks and my hometown," Crisantes told O'odham Action News.

"It's awesome that I can get some family and friends to watch me play."

The Rafters' players had met only two weeks prior to the game, and Crisantes said it seemed like they had been playing all year together.

"It's a great group of guys, and hopefully we can come back with a championship," said Crisantes.

Crisantes said in these next few months he's going to keep working hard on his routine while making some improvements so he can hopefully help the big-league club one day.

Getting to see a top prospect like Crisantes up close at an AFL game is part of the charm that brings fans to the ballpark.

According to the AFL, 35% of all players (27 of 77) named to the 2026 MLB All-Star Game in Philadelphia were AFL alums. Notable players from the AFL Hall of Fame include Derek Jeter, Nomar Garciaparra, Max Scherzer, Albert Pujols, Mike Trout and Alfonso Soriano.

About the Salt River Rafters

The Salt River Rafters have not been around long enough for any of their players to be eligible for the AFL Hall of Fame; however, that time could come soon. The AFL formed its Hall of Fame in 2001. To qualify for eligibility, each inductee must have five-plus years of MLB service time and must have won at least two major MLB awards.

Playing in other stadiums since the AFL was founded in 1992 as the Tempe Rafters before stints as the Grand Canyon Rafters and Surprise Rafters, the team kept their name for the move to Salt River in 2011. The Salt River Rafters won the AFL Championship in their first year at Salt River Fields and won again in 2014, 2019 and 2024.

The Rafters have an affiliation with five Major League Baseball teams: the Diamondbacks, Colorado Rockies, Minnesota Twins, New York Yankees and the Washington Nationals.

With ticket prices at $14 for adults, $12 for seniors (60+) and free for kids 10 and under accompanied by an adult, a Salt River Rafters game at Salt River Fields is a relatively inexpensive treat for baseball fans in the Community.

For more information about the Salt River Rafters and the AFL, head to www.mlb.com/arizona-fall-league.



Rafers third baseman Yassel Soler gladly signs autographs to young fans along the first base line before the game on Oct. 16.

Employees 'Rise to the Occasion' for Recognition in Q4

BY CHRIS PICCIUOLO
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Each quarter, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's Human Resources team and executive leadership recognize staff members who have served beyond the regular call of duty at their job and rise to the occasion.

For the fourth quarter of 2026, these employees were acknowledged at the Talking Stick Golf Club on Oct. 9 with a breakfast buffet and ceremony that included a certificate of recognition and a personal handshake and thank-you from Community leaders.

Employees are nominated by their supervisors and department heads.

"Each submission tells a story of someone who chose to do a little more than what is expected and served with excellence," said Human Resources Director Steve Haydukovich.

"[Executive leadership] gets to see and hear about some amazing people who are making a difference in the operations of the SRPMIC."

Haydukovich said employees genuinely enjoy the semi-formal atmosphere and the time they spend at the breakfast. It reassures them that they matter.

SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard gave the blessing before breakfast, which was a spread of eggs, bacon, potatoes and fruit. Haydukovich and Community Manager Bryan Meyers provided a brief welcome before a group trivia activity and the certificate presentation.

After the presentation, the employees met outside by the golf course for a celebratory group photo to commemorate the event and honor their excellent work.



Above: Q4 2026 Employee Recognition Award recipients pose for a group photo outside near the golf course at Talking Stick Golf Club on Oct. 9.



Right: SRPMIC Human Resources Director Steve Haydukovic speaks with Q4 2026 Employee Recognition Award recipients while they wait to eat breakfast.



Below: Recognized employees from the SRPD shake hands with SRPMIC leadership from left to right: Council Member Dianna Scabby, Community Manager Bryan Meyers, ACM Doran Dalton, Council Member Cheryl Doka, ACM Dawn Sinoqui and Vice President Ricardo Leonard.

Q4 2026 Employee Recognition Award Recipients

Chad Antone
Gregg Bacome
Paige Baker
Petra Becerra
Jessica Bell
Beulah Blacka
Dean Carpenter Jr.
Vanessa Chilly
Travis Cuch
Angela DiCicco
Trevor Foster
Mayra Garcia
Raymond Garcia
Salvador Garcia
Brandy Halvorsen
Nevelle Howard
Jennifer Jack
Gregory Joe
Erica Joshevama-Joe
Treina Junes
Kathy Kline
Derrick Lewis
Jesselina Lewis
Jeffery Littrell
Monique Lopez-Rosalez
Rachael Mack
Brice Manuel
Barbara Marchant
Devyn Mennenga
Aurelio Mori
Tatsu Nakamura
Nathaniel Nickels
Maria Peck
Angelica Reyes
Renata Riena
Salvatore Riena
Judith Santeo
Valentin Santiago-Sanchez
Salese Schurz
Patrick Slusser
Jaucqlynn Soto
Daniel Sweatt
Sophia Thomas
Truitt Thunderbull
Angela Webster

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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 msactruth.com for more
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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.

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

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

NOTICE REGARDING AI FLYERS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Please Note: O'odham Action News will no longer accept submissions and flyers that are believed to be AI-generated. Paid advertisements that appear to be made with AI will be subject to our design fees, which are based on ad size and available on our website.

O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS DEADLINES

ISSUE	DEADLINE AT NOON
DECEMBER 3	NOVEMBER 20
DECEMBER 17	DECEMBER 4

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

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 boxingbearsphotography.com cody@boxingbearsphotography.com

COTA INTERIOR DESIGN GROUP
Commercial and Residential Interiors, FF&E Procurement, Five-Hour Design Advisory, and Real Estate Staging. Serving Phoenix, Scottsdale, New York City, and Working Globally. LORENZOCOTA.COM | INSTAGRAM: @LORENZOCOTA

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

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

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

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

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

FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING
Pressure Washing, tree trimming/removal, junk removal, etc. Premium monthly service package comes with free pressure wash.
(480) 434-3307
tyking_7@outlook.com

GREY ALLIANCE PARTNERS (GAP) LLC
Bridging the GAP, Building the Future Tribal consulting; business liaison for Community members and outside organizations on various collaborative topics including sports and development greyalliancepartners@gmail.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: vagaro.com/honeybraidznspallc1

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

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

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

MOQUINO'S BODY & PAINT LLC.
Auto Body Work and Paint LLC. Community Member 15% discount. Pete Moquino, (480) 236-3033 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 SHELL
4001. N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, AZ Michael Smith- Owner Piipash LLC (480) 947-6400 (store) piipash@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home
(602) 840-5600

For Any Questions Call: (480) 278-7050

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

Andrews, Teresa – Permanency Hearing Case: JV-26-0041 Court Date: December 14, 2026 at 9 a.m.

Reed, Kevin Dale - Mother: Jessica Schurz (DOB: 09/19/1994) Children: D.D.S. (DOB: 06/04/2023); C.R.C.S. (DOB: 06/04/2023) Review Hearing Case: JV-25-0198/0199 Court Date: December 3, 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

Carrillo, Daniel Renee - Evidentiary Hearing Case: CV-26-5245 Court Date: December 17, 2026 at 10 AM

Corporate Audio Visual Labor Inc., - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-26-5389 Court Date: December 2, 2026 at 10 AM

Garza, Savannah - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-26-6089 Court Date: December 17, 2026 at 10 AM

Johnson, Tyson - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-26-6091 Court Date: December 17, 2026 at 10:30 AM

Manuel, Nicholas Chad - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-26-6090 Court Date: December 8, 2026 at 10:30 AM

Manuel, Roy - Restraining Order Hearing Case: CV-27-0210 Court Date: December 28, 2026 at 4 PM

Medina, Denrica Gloria - Civil Complaint Hearing Case: CV-26-6092 Court Date: December 8, 2026 at 9:30 AM

Silversmith, Alyse Charlene Blessing- Initial Probate Hearing In the Matter of Gary Lawrence Silversmith

Case: CV-26-5787 Court Date: December 2, 2026 at 1:30 PM

Silversmith, Davina Helene- Initial Probate Hearing In the Matter of Gary Lawrence Silversmith

Case: CV-26-5787 Court Date: December 2, 2026 at 1:30 PM

Silversmith, Kimberlee Spring Blossom - Initial Probate Hearing In the Matter of Gary Lawrence Silversmith

Case: CV-26-5787 Court Date: December 2, 2026 at 1:30 PM

Spex, Vannessa - Annual Guardianship Review/Order to Show Cause Case: CF-17-0248 Court Date: January 7, 2027 at 9:30 AM

Thomas, Clinton Keith - Evidentiary Hearing Case: CV-26-6642 Court Date: January 4, 2027 at 10 AM

DEFAULT NOTICES

BARKER, MARY ELLEN
CASE #: CV-26-3597

Notice of Judgment and Order Granting Retrieval of Property:

Judgment and Order Granting Retrieval of Cargo Container – Container ID no: 45-450015-8 is hereby ORDERED AND ADJUDGED and is hereby ENTERED on the 29th day of September, 2026

It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Southwest Mobile Storage has authorization to retrieve the property at issue after October 29, 2026. All obstacles shall be removed to allow for retrieval of the property and any/all personal belonging shall be removed from the container prior to October 29, 2026.

SMITH, KARILYN D.
CV-26-4566

DIANE NOLINE v. KARILYN D. SMITH

To: Karilyn D. Smith, RESPONDENT

1. A Complaint / Petition has been filed against you in this Court and your immediate attention to this fact is urgent if you do not want judgment entered against you.
2. The Court record reflects that you have failed to respond to defend by filing an answer, motion to dismiss, request for extension of time or other responsive pleading and you have failed to attend hearings at the Court called for this matter.
3. If you do not defend against this suit within Thirty (30) days from the date the Process Server hands you this or you are served with it otherwise as permitted under the Community Code, the Court may enter default judgment against you.
4. A default judgment may have serious, adverse, and irreversible consequences against you.
5. If you want to defend against the claim and avoid default judgment entered against you, you must file a written answer, motion to dismiss or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days from when you are served with this Notice. The Court will not extend time for your response and you must make your response in writing, no oral responses will be accepted
6. If you do nothing, the Court may give Judgment for what the Complaint demands. (Section 5-16.1, Judgment by Default) Call 480-362-6315 for copy of documents.

DATED this 22nd of September, 2026.

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

SPEX, VANNESSA
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE
CF-17-0248

In The Matter of A.E. (MINOR)

To: Vannessa Spex

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 7th day of January, 2027 at 9:30 A.M. in Court Room #1, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to appear for the hearing on August 31, 2026 at 9:30 A.M., after being duly noticed.

FAILURE TO APPEAR will result in a Bench Warrant issued for your arrest for Contempt of Court from (§6-41) of the Code or Ordinances.

ORDERED: November 16, 2026.

JUDGE JANAYA JOHNSON, SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

WESLEY-HOWARD, ARISTEN
CV-26-4227

Notice of Default Judgment:

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Court, State of Arizona, Maricopa County original jurisdiction court case number CV-26-4227

Notice of Default Judgment is hereby given ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that default judgment against Respondent, Aristen Wesley-Howard, is hereby ENTERED. It is further, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that Respondent, Aristen Wesley-Howard, shall pay Petitioner, Country Club Cars in the amount of $11,098.07. Payment shall be made to Petitioner within thirty (30) days of this Order. This order is final and shall be served on Respondent in accordance to Rule 5-20(c). For a copy of this Order please contact the Salt River Court at 480-362-6315.



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

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

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

Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home
(602) 840-5600

For Any Questions Call: (480) 278-7050

NAGI Foundation



info@nagifoundation.org
(602) 730-2092
facebook.com/nagifoundation
@nagifoundation

TRUSTED PAWS
arizona humane society

SPAY NEUTER FEST 26'

Honoring our four-legged relatives.
Free surgery & wellness services.

Open to all registered Tribal Members in Arizona

15 DATES IN NOV & DEC

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

FREE SERVICES: surgery, vaccines, microchip, take-home pain medication & cone

nagifoundation.org/spayneuter2026

Warrant Resolution Day Offers Opportunity to Address Outstanding Warrants

SUBMITTED BY SRPMIC OFFICE OF THE COMMUNITY PROSECUTOR

Individuals with outstanding tribal warrants issued by the Salt River Community Court are encouraged to take advantage of an upcoming opportunity to address their warrants voluntarily and avoid an unexpected arrest.

On Friday, Jan. 22, 2027, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Salt River Community Court will host a Warrant Resolution Day, providing individuals with outstanding warrants an opportunity to self-surrender and begin resolving their legal matters.

Outstanding warrants do not simply disappear with time. Ignoring a warrant can result in an arrest during a traffic stop, at home, at work, or during another encounter with law enforcement. These arrests can be disruptive, embarrassing and stressful for individuals and their families.

Warrant Resolution Day is intended to provide a more proactive alternative. Rather than waiting to be arrested, individuals can voluntarily appear at the Community Court to address their outstanding warrants and take steps toward resolving their cases.

The event also reflects a broader commitment to encouraging personal responsibility while reducing unnecessary involvement with law enforcement. By providing a designated opportunity for individuals to come forward voluntarily, the Court hopes to help participants address unresolved legal matters before they result in additional complications.

Warrant Resolution Day will take place at the Salt River Community Court on Jan. 22, 2027, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Snacks will be provided.

For additional information, contact the Defense Advocate Office at (480) 362-5660 or the Office of the Community Prosecutor at (480) 362-5400.



SRPMIC Community Announcement Boards

Under Construction

The announcement boards listed below will be out of use until further notice as they are prepped for the Youth Services-Teen Program to complete murals on the boards.

Locations: Canalside, VA I, VA II, & Lonely Cactus

13 community announcement boards have been placed throughout Salt River and Lehi for community departments and public use. These boards are ONLY used for flyers & announcements. Please use the clips provided on each board.

Out of respect for all utilizing the boards, DO NOT REMOVE ANY POSTED FLYERS/ANNOUNCEMENTS. If you find no available empty clips please overlap flyers.

Please refrain from using the following items on boards as they are prohibited:

- **Any kind of tape**
- **Any kind of glue**
- **NO SCREWS OR NAILS**
- **HEAVY DUTY STAPLES (STAPLE GUN)**

Questions/Comments/Concerns call: Community Relations Office 480-362-7740



Nurture Naturally:

Unlock the Benefits of Breastfeeding

Come learn about breastfeeding and other programs to keep your family well. Discover resources and support for new and expecting mothers, ensuring every family has the tools to thrive.

MORNING SESSIONS

NOV. 17
DEC. 15
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

NOV. 18
DEC. 16
2:00PM-4:30PM

NEW LOCATION

8800 E. Chaparral Rd Suite 110 Scottsdale, AZ

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU
CALL 480-362-7300 OR EMAIL WIC@SRPMIC-NSN.GOV.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving

Drive-Thru Turkey & Food Box Event

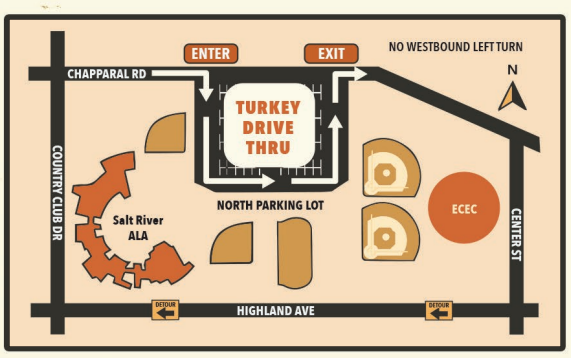
Hosted by St. Mary's Food Bank

NOVEMBER 23, 2026 | 9AM-11AM

SALT RIVER ACCELERATED LEARNING ACADEMY • NORTH ATHLETIC PARKING LOT

FREE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

ITEMS TO BE GIVEN:
- WHOLE FROZEN TURKEY
- FOOD BOX
- HOLIDAY PRODUCE



THERE WILL BE A DEDICATED SENIOR (55+) ONLY LINE.

MUST BE IN VEHICLE. NO WALK UPS. NO OVERNIGHT PARKING.

REQUIRED TO RECEIVE ITEMS:
- Must be 18 and over.
- One Turkey/Food Boxes, Holiday Produce items per household.

INTAKE QUESTIONS
(while you wait in line)
Name, Address, Date of Birth, How many in the household?

MUST SHOW ONE PROOF OF RESIDENCY:
AZ State Driver's License, AZ state ID or SRPMIC Tribal ID OR Mail with your name and address on the front.

No proof of income required.

St. Mary's Food Bank

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ST. MARY'S FOOD BANK FOR THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SRPMIC.
ST. MARY'S FOOD BANK IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER & EMPLOYER.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS - EVENTS | 480-362-7740 | SRPMIC | SALTRIVERINDIANCOMUNITY

To American Indian or Alaska Natives on AHCCCS, **your coverage is not changing.**

New AHCCCS rules will start in 2027. But if you are American Indian or Alaska Native, under federal law, these requirements do not apply to you, and your coverage will stay the same. To ensure no coverage gaps, AHCCCS needs information confirming you are American Indian or Alaskan Native – through information on an application, documents you've submitted, or electronic verification.

YOU MAY get a letter about these changes. Everyone with AHCCCS coverage gets one – it doesn't mean anything has changed for you or your family. For more information, visit **KeepMyAHCCCS.com**.

Talk to someone you trust. Your tribal health program or Community Health Representative can answer your questions. You can also call AHCCCS at (855) 220-0903.

Learn more at
KeepMyAHCCCS.com

KEEP MY AHCCCS

One Student's Story

SUBMITTED BY MARCUS JOHNSON ACCELERATED LEARNING ACADEMY STUDENT

Starting high school seemed fun for me. I was excited but nervous, coming from a private middle school where there were the same faces every day. It being a K-8th grade [school], you would end up meeting the whole school eventually.

Everyone has started high school only once, but that was not [true] in my case. I started twice: once at Saguaro High School, where I attended for a couple months but dropped [out] due to family issues. I tried to continue with online school, but that was a joke to me. I was falling into bad drinking habits. After some time passed, I turned 17, and my aunt wanted better for me. So, I enrolled in the Accelerated Learning Academy.

Everyone's journey is not the same in high school. I've come to terms with this, and that is okay. My high school journey started at Saguaro High. My perception of school was that it was shallow like a pond, where the personalities were predictable. I thought the social connections were already made, so it would be unnecessary to branch out. High school was different, though; it was like an ocean with many different species. Eventually, I started getting used to the crowds, the noise, even the smell. I started getting the hang of my classes, and I was making new friends and finding different routes to take to get to class on time. But due to unexpected family issues, I was forced to drop out. I switched to online school for the remainder of my high school career. During that time of online education, I started to develop bad habits as an excuse to cope with what I was going through. Finishing school seemed secondary to what I had going on at the time.

After time passed, I ended up meeting my biological father, which led to my first job and helped me to lean more toward finalizing my decision to make school secondary in my life. It felt good to be independent, to get the things I want for myself, so I didn't see a need to continue school when I had met my short-term goal. I thought I had it figured out, but looking back on it, it damaged my relationship with my father. Lying to my father when he asked, "How are you doing in school?" I would say, "I'm doing fine." I brushed past the topic to escape that awkward feeling. He already knew, though. As I coped with these feelings, my aunt saw a prolonged lapse in my education and acted on it. I did not like the abrupt change because I had already grown accustomed to my own grind.

Being told I had to start my high school journey all over again with zero credits was frightening. I felt discouraged about starting my academic journey again. [But] I took the opportunity to do things right this time to repay my aunt. I was ready to find myself to start this journey. There is a saying, "Sometimes the only apology you can give for how you lived your life is to change it." (Nancy A. Welander)

I am grateful for the ALA because it gave me the opportunity to slow down in a fast-paced world; that world will move on, whether you want it to or not. To get this chance to attend ALA was refreshing because it was at home, in the community, with the friends and cousins I knew. I enjoy that I get to be myself and do not have to impress anybody or act a certain way. Because of ALA, I got to experience two school years in welding school, which helped me get certified and gave me an insight [into] what a career in the trades would look like.

During my time at ALA, I made many friends. It does not even feel like they are just friends, and same with the teachers. It feels like one big family. It does not matter if you just joined or have been here a long time. Once you start ALA, you are more than just a student; you become part of a family that shares the same struggles. ALA became more than just a school. It became a comfort zone with support on all sides.

Since attending ALA, for the first time I have developed long-term goals, and I see a productive future for myself. I never really had high expectations for myself. I just took things as they came, so when my mother passed it was like a part of me went along with her. ALA allowed me to pursue a career in an in-demand trade, welding. Since I was able to pursue my chosen career, it gave me time to pick a hobby as well, so I picked up filming and skating along with photography.

When I look back and reflect on how far I have come, I think about someone else who might be just starting their journey. If I could share some advice, I'd tell them that it is okay to be scared—if not, are you even human? Some of the greatest accomplishments in history started because someone was scared. You are likely scared because it is unfamiliar, and that is okay. It is okay to take your time, because a broken temple does not fix itself within a day.

[When I was] growing up, people asked what I wanted to be in life. Most people are loaded with answers, but when they asked me, I just went with what sounded the coolest. I finally have the answer, though. Now, my response to that question is "That's something you'll find out by living." ALA has given me more than a reason and a purpose—ALA has inspired me to be a better person, so now I feel confident to face this new chapter in life. Now I am ready to graduate.

Public Input Invited - Help Shape This Year's Plan

Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Begins

SUBMITTED BY SRPMIC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community officially adopted the Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan through Council Resolution on December 8th, 2021. Mitigation planning is the process used to identify risks and vulnerabilities associated with natural disasters and to develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property in future hazard events. The process results in a mitigation plan that offers a strategy for breaking the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage and a framework for developing feasible and cost-effective mitigation projects. Under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), local and tribal governments are required to develop and maintain a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan as a condition of eligibility for receiving certain non-emergency federal hazard mitigation grants.

A multi-jurisdictional planning team comprised of representatives from the county, city, town and tribes within Maricopa County will be meeting regularly to review, revise and update the current hazard mitigation plan, with specific attention to:

Natural hazards that may impact or have impacted the community

Profiles of the most relevant hazards

Vulnerability assessment to the identified hazards

Goals and objectives for hazard risk reduction/elimination

Mitigation actions/projects to achieve the stated goals and objectives

Plan maintenance strategy for the next 5-year cycle

For plan access and to provide your feedback, please visit www.maricopa.gov/1760/hazard-mitigation to start the survey. Last day to participate in the survey is Nov. 30, 2026.

To learn more and stay involved with the planning process contact:

SRPMIC – Emergency Management

Email: EmergencyManagement@srpmic-nsn.gov, phone (480) 362-7927

or

Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management

Email: EMInfo@maricopa.gov, phone: (602) 273-1411

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY PUBLIC WORKS

Salt River Public Works Holiday Trash Schedule

Our offices will be closed on Thursday, November 26th in observance of Thanksgiving and Friday, December 25th in observance of Christmas.

THANKSGIVING 2026

All residential domestic trash will be serviced as scheduled on Tuesday, November 24th & Friday, November 27th.

All residential recycle will be serviced on Wednesday, November 25th.

CHRISTMAS 2026

All residential domestic trash will be serviced as scheduled on Tuesday, December 22nd & Thursday, December 24th.

All residential recycle will be serviced on Wednesday, December 23rd.

Please have your containers out in your designated pick up area by 6:00 AM for servicing.

Thank you & have a wonderful & joyous holiday season!

SALT RIVER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

480-362-5600 PWCustomerService@srpmic-nsn.gov

Salt River Schools Club Visits O'odham Action News

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

Young photographers at Salt River Schools recently spent some time with the communication wing of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Students from the digital photography class of Salt River Elementary School's Eagles Club visited the Community Relations Office at Two Waters for a guided tour led by O'odham Action News staff on Monday, Oct. 19.

Students were shown the process of how the newspaper is created, along with taking part in a fun podcast recording and photo session in the Creative Ki: Studios. Students even got to see OAN's drone in action before heading back to school.



Salt River Hosts Blood Donation Drive



On Oct. 7, the Vitalant mobile-unit was parked at two locations, the SRPMIC Justice Center and the River People Health Center.

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

If Dracula were looking for a Halloween fix, he would to need to look no further than the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community as nearly 100 tribal government workers participated in the annual blood donation drive, which was held a few weeks before Halloween, on Oct. 7.

Officially, 92 participants donated blood during the annual Vitalant Blood Donation Drive, with mobile donation stations at the River People Health Center and the Two Waters campus. Additionally, Vitalant and the SRPMIC held a blood donation drive throughout the month of October for those who could not attend the Oct. 7 drive.

According to a study conducted by The Ohio State University, one pint of blood can save up to three lives. Therefore, if the 92 donors from the SRPMIC blood drive provided one pint of blood each, the community potentially saved up to 276 lives.

Every blood donation makes a difference.

Each donation goes to individuals in need, such as cancer patients, intensive care unit patients and those facing unexpected medical emergencies every day. Understanding this, the SRPMIC allowed for employee incentives such as paid time off.

For more information on Vitalant, check out their website at Vitalant.org.

Pink Out Day

Dozens of Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community employees took a morning walk at Two Waters as part of Pink Out Day. The walk for breast cancer awareness was held on Nov. 5 at 9 a.m. and started at Friendship Park. First, participants stretched with the guidance of Senior Physical Fitness Specialist Dion Begay. Afterward, they walked south along Longmore Road to Oak Street and back to Two Waters. Walk participants received a $2 coupon to use at the Round House Café. - Dalton Walker



Native Culture Celebrated

The 42nd annual Native American Connections parade took place on Oct. 10 and included royalty from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. Sialik King (in photo, center) spent part of her last day as Miss Indian Arizona marching in the parade. Later that night, a new Miss Indian Arizona was crowned at the annual pageant. Miss Salt River Jizelle Juan, Miss Salt River First Attendant Ella McGilbary and Miss Salt River Second Attendant Cherish Vavagas also participated in the parade. - Dalton Walker



PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

USS ARIZONA MEMORIAL GARDENS

GUEST OF HONOR & FEATURED SPEAKER
Daniel Martinez
Retired Chief Historian
Pearl Harbor National Memorial

DECEMBER 7, 2026
4:00PM–5:30PM
THE RELIC ROOM WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 7:00PM



ORDER OF EVENTS

Welcome Remarks | Guest Speaker: Daniel Martinez | Flag Breathing Ceremony | 21-Gun Salute
Taps | Laying of the Wreath | Closing Prayer

This Public Service page is sponsored by:

SRMG

Happy Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER 26TH

As we gather this Thanksgiving, let us celebrate the blessings in our lives and give thanks to those around us. We wish you and your loved ones a holiday filled with gratitude, joy, and cherished memories.

SRMG

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

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FOR THE COMPLETE SRPMIC CALENDAR, SCAN THE QR CODE

BELOW:

ONGOING

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

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/dependance. 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, Join Community Recreational Services every 1st and 2nd Tuesday of the month for a community writing circle, from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm!
Upcoming dates:
Lehi Community Building Rm 109: Tuesday November 3, 2026; Tuesday December 1, 2026; Tuesday January 5, 2027
Salt River Tribal Library: Tuesday November 10, 2026; Tuesday December 8, 2026; Tuesday January 12, 2027.
All genres and levels are welcome to express themselves in a safe and welcoming environment while listening to other's stories in writing. Questions? Contact Recreation Education Division staff at 480-362-6695

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.

SOAM MAṢAD XLY'A SHAXUK MAYK SHENTH NOVEMBER

21 COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Two Waters Courtyard. Gather together with the Community for a thankful meal! Enjoy time with family and friends. Turkey Calling Contest, Entertainment: Molina Music, Kids Zone. This is a no alcohol/drug/gang/ & no tobacco/vaping event. No pets, weapons/firearms, or outside ice chests/grills/food/glass allowed. Bags subject to search. Questions? Please email events@srpmic-nsn.gov.

23 DRIVE-THRU TURKEY & FOOD BOX EVENT, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Salt River Accelerated Learning Academy north athletic parking lot. Must be 18 and over. Free while supplies last. See flyer on page 17 for more information.

26-27 SRPMIC OFFICES CLOSED - THANKSGIVING, Please plan accordingly. Essential services will remain operational. Normal business hours will resume on Monday, November 30, 2026.

30 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CLOSING CELEBRATION, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at River People Health Courtyard. Event includes cultural displays and performances.

DECEMBER

5 SRPMIC CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Two Waters Courtyard. Entertainment, kids zone, vendors, holiday treats, visit and photos with Santa. Senior Bingo and Lunch at 1 p.m. at the Round House Café. See flyer on page 9 for more information.

5 SRPMIC HOLIDAY LIG.HT PARADE, 5:30 p.m. start with staging at 3 p.m. at the Salt River Baseball Field. Route travels north on Longmore Road. Applications must be submitted by Dec. 1. See flyer on page 12 for more information.

7 PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at USS Arizona Memorial Grounds. The Relic Room will remain open until 7 p.m. See flyer on page 19 for more information.

12-13 S'EDAV VA'AKI MUSEUM INDIAN MARKET, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Phoenix museum. The family-friendly outdoor event showcases dozens of Native artists and more. Gila River Indian Community potter Antoinette Avis Pinon is the featured artist.

19 SRPMIC 2026 INAUGURATION CEREMONY, Salt River Grand Ballroom at Talking Stick Resort. Time to be determined.

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