



## Mathew B. Juan Honored by Arizona USA Run for the Fallen

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

Arizona USA Run for the Fallen is an organization with different chapters spread out across the United States. Their primary goal is to honor and celebrate the brave soldiers who gave their life in the line of duty while serving in the military. Arizona USA Run for the Fallen pays tribute to military service members and their families by hosting a statewide relay foot race. This past October 27, a hero was honored.

"It was for my Great Uncle Mathew B. Juan," said Kathy Ludlow. "He has a monument by Ira Hayes. He was killed in action in France," she said. Gila River was fortunate enough to receive Pvt. Juan's WWI medals from the military, which allowed for Ludlow to receive them in a ceremony held at the St. Peter Indian Mission School in Bapchule, Arizona.

"Originally, Gila River reached out to me trying to find family members for him. They knew me so I signed papers to get his records. It took about a year and a half, almost two years," Ludlow said while describing the paperwork process.

Private First-Class Harry Miguel who served in the Korean War was also honored at the ceremony along with Private First-Class Lloyd Miguel. However, Pvt. Mathew B Juan was the only recipient of the Ari-

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U.S. Army Private Mathew B. Juan, Company K, 28th Infantry Regiment, was the first American Indian and Arizonan to be killed in World War I.

In a ceremony held last fall at the St. Peter Indian Mission School in Bapchule, Arizona, Kathy Ludlow (seated) received her Great Uncle Mathew B. Juan's World War I medals along with Gila River Governor Stephen Lewis, SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard, and Kathy's daughter Sabrina Villafranco. Photo courtesy of SR Veterans Representative Troy Truax.

## SRPD Welcomes New Police Chief Walter Holloway



New SRPD Chief Walter Holloway. Photo courtesy of CRO Multimedia Division.

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

The Salt River Police Department has promoted Walter Holloway, an 18-year veteran of the department and a Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community member, to the post of police chief following the recent retirement of Chief Karl Auerbach.

Holloway was most recently a commander for the SRPD after serving in a variety of roles for the department since starting

his career in the Community in 2005. He said those previous roles have shaped his approach to policing and leadership.

"It's an honor to be the chief of the Salt River Police Department. This is something I have worked for my entire career in policing," said Holloway. "This means the Community has the trust in me to lead the department and be both responsive and respectful to the Community."

Holloway said his philosophy centers around promoting col-

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## Transportation Secretary Buttigieg Meets With Leadership From Four Sibling Tribes at GRIC



USDOT Secretary Pete Buttigieg (middle) meets with SRPMIC Council members Jacob Butler (left) and Michael Dallas, Sr., at the Gila River Indian Community's Huhugam Heritage Center on March 5 for a roundtable discussion with O'odham tribes.

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

Leadership from the Four O'odham Sibling Tribes convened at the Gila River Indian Community's (GRIC) Huhugam Heritage Center on March 5 for a roundtable discussion with U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary Pete Buttigieg about transportation infrastructure projects and needs within their tribal communities.

This was Secretary Buttigieg's second stop at the GRIC. The first was in 2021, when GRIC Governor Stephen Roe Lewis emphasized to Buttigieg the importance of federal funding for infrastructure improvement on the stretch of Interstate 10 that runs through the Community.

On January 25, Secretary Buttigieg let the GRIC know that the Community would be receiving a \$95 million grant that had been submitted to the USDOT by the GRIC and Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT).

Buttigieg's visit to the GRIC after the announcement of the grant conveyed his commitment to tribes and the importance of meeting their needs. His visit was met with a warm introduction from tribal leaders at the top of the stairs of the center's courtyard, where the leaders were welcomed with a cultural performance by Keli Akimel Hua Modk Cudkdam (Gila River Basket Dancers).

After the performance, Governor Lewis and GRIC Lt.

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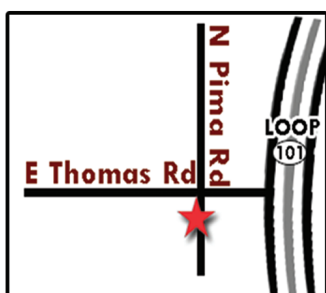
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## Emergencies and Walk-Ins seen on the same day!

# USS Arizona Memorial Gardens Hosts Navy Week Ceremony

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

Seaman First Class Donald Stratton was one of the few sailors stationed in the forward section of the USS Arizona during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Rescued by crew members from the USS Vestal, Stratton suffered burns all over his body from the attack and unfortunately witnessed the deaths of many of his crewmates. After he returned home in September 1942 via medical discharge, Stratton became an avid deep-sea diver and started a family.

On February 27, at the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River Fields, his granddaughter Nikki Stratton was in attendance for Navy Week, a weeklong celebration and outreach event in which members of the U.S. Navy promote and inform people about the Navy's commitment to serve and protect America. Navy Week take place in cities across the country, with the Phoenix Navy Week taking place from February 26 through March 3.

During the ceremony, the Navy Band Southwest performed for those in attendance. Musician First Class Whitney Adams was the designated speaker representing the NBSW and provided a few words about the history of the USS Arizona Unit Band No. 22. "On that day (December 7, 1941), attacks rang out over the ship; band members literally threw down their instruments and ran to their battle stations. All 21 members of the USS Arizona band died," said Adams.

A graduate of Arizona State University, Adams was a teacher for a few years in Arizona before enlisting in the Navy. Following her speech, the band performed "Taps" followed by a moment of silence for those who lost their lives during the 1941 attack.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Vice-President Ricardo Leonard then said a few words about the importance of the Navy and the partnership it has with the Community.



SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard (left), USS Arizona Sponsor Nikki Stratton (middle), and Executive Director Naval Special Warfare Command Thomas Schoenbeck (right) posed for photos following the Navy Week Ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River Fields.

"We are the only post (American Legion Post 114, the Bushmasters) that does the breathing ceremony for the flag," said Leonard. "There are many people within our Community who had Navy uncles, aunties and grandparents who were in the area at that time (of the Pearl Harbor attack)."

Following Leonard's speech, City of Scottsdale Mayor David Ortega gave a speech about the history of Arizona. "This land is where Ira Hayes is from, lifting the flag in Iwo Jima. As mayor of Scottsdale, I know our [city's] origins date back to the 1740s [in] Arizona," he said. Mayor Ortega then read a proclamation and declared Old Town Scottsdale the official Port of Call for the U.S. Navy in Arizona. A "port of call" is a port where ships stop for supplies, repairs, transfers and shipments of cargo.

A sponsor of the new USS Arizona (SSN-803, a Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine), Nikki

Stratton detailed how important it is to her to continue her family's legacy. In U.S. Navy and Coast Guard tradition, becoming a sponsor of a seagoing vessel involves providing good luck and divine protection to the crew and ship. The sponsor of a vessel is considered to be a permanent member of the crew.

The submarine will be the fourth U.S. naval vessel to be named after the state of Arizona and the first since the USS Arizona battleship that was destroyed in 1941. "I am so honored to be the sponsor of the new and future USS Arizona, SSN-803. Our crew is here today. They understand the legacy and commitment of the original Arizona battleship sailors. It will be a truly magnificent submarine," she finished. The submarine is under construction and scheduled to be completed by 2028.

Navy Week will continue making stops throughout the year. After the visit to the USS Arizona Memorial Gardens,



The Navy Band Southwest performed a medley of patriotic tunes as guests arrived to the ceremony.

the next stop was Savannah, Georgia, during the week of March 11-17. Navy Week also will make stops in Texas, Washington, Massachusetts, North Dakota and more.



SRPMIC Vice-President Ricardo Leonard shared the importance of American Legion Post 114, the Bushmasters, continuing the sacred duty of performing the flag breathing ceremony.



Following opening remarks, "Taps" was performed to honor the brave men and women who gave their lives serving their country.



City of Scottsdale Mayor David Ortega spoke at the podium during the ceremony and named Old Town Scottsdale as an official "Port of Call" for the Naval Academy.



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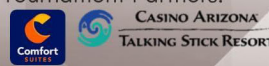
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# Congressman Morelle, Tribal Leaders Convene For Voting Rights Discussion at SCC

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

On February 22, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Scottsdale Community College welcomed Arizona tribal leaders and U.S. Congressman Joseph Morelle (D-25 NY), ranking Democratic member of the Committee on House Administration, to SCC's Indigenous Cultural Center to discuss voting rights in Arizona and across Indian Country.

The purpose of the discussion was to hear statements from tribal leaders on the history of the vote since the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924, also known as the Snyder Act, which was signed into law by President Calvin Coolidge on June 2, 1924. The 100th anniversary of the Act is coming up this year, and the minority side of the Committee (Democratic) plans to use the material from the discussion to release a report either on or close to the anniversary.

Although the Snyder Act was passed in 1924, Native American voters in Arizona still were barred from voting because the state considered Native Americans to be "under guardianship" and wards of the federal government. At the time, the court defined "under guardianship" as persons who basically lacked the understanding and capacity to vote, according to Gila River Indian Community Governor Stephen Lewis, who spoke at the discussion.

"In Arizona, it was our own Gila River Indian Community members Peter Porter and Rudolf Johnson who brought litigation after they were denied the right to register to vote in Pinal County," Lewis told Morelle. "When they attempted to vote, they were turned away by the county recorder.

It wasn't until 1948, when the Ari-



SRPMIC President Martin Harvier (center left) holds up a copy of O'odham Action News to talk about election coverage at the convening of tribal leaders at Scottsdale Community College on February 22. Also pictured: Gila River Indian Community Governor Stephen Roe Lewis (left), Congressman Joseph Morelle (middle right) and his wife Mary Beth Morelle (right).



Left to right: SRPMIC Council member Mikah Carlos, Alfred Lomahquahu (Hopi Tribe), GRIC Governor Stephen Roe Lewis, Congressman Joseph Morelle, Mary Beth Morelle, SRPMIC President Martin Harvier, Scottsdale Community College President Dr. Eric Leshinskie.

zona Supreme Court overturned *Porter v. Hall*, that Native Americans in the state of Arizona could vote, after Fort McDowell Yavapai members Harry Austin and Frank Harrison successfully challenged the 1924 decision.

"Our purpose here today is both solemn and sacred," said Morelle. "We believe fundamentally that the right to

vote is the most precious of all rights we have and that all rights flow from it. If people don't have the right of self-governance, if people don't have the right to participate fully and to make sure that their vote is counted, then it calls into question all the other rights that we all share as Americans.

Morelle continued, "It's striking to

me that almost a century after Native citizenship, many have yet to enjoy its full privileges." Morelle went on to say that even though there has been formal recognition of Native American voters in Arizona, there are still barriers preventing Native Americans from having access to the ballot.

SRPMIC Council Member Mikah Carlos used her discussion time to talk about recent instances of voter intimidation at local polling places and her own experiences attempting to vote.

"My experience with voting issues goes back to 2016. I went to vote with my tribal ID and I was told by a poll worker that I couldn't use it," said Carlos. "I had to sit there and look up the actual poll laws and show them and say, 'Well, it says right here legally I'm allowed to use this.' And they're telling me I still can't, until another poll worker intervened."

As recently as last year, Carlos voted with her tribal ID and was told by a poll worker that she was inconveniencing them because she wasn't using a state ID that they can scan.

SRPMIC President Martin Harvier gave Morelle a copy of a 2015 Arizona Law Journal book, *The History of Indian Voting Rights In Arizona: Overcoming Decades of Voter Suppression*, which Morelle said he will add to his personal collection.

"With Congress passing the Voting Rights Act in 1965, overcoming the imposed literacy requirements put on Natives and overcoming county opposition by placing polling locations in tribal communities and many other areas where it made it difficult for Native citizens to vote, going forward I hope that with these discussions we make it easier for Native Americans to vote," said Harvier.

# Colorado Rockies Visit with SRPMIC Seniors at Mardi Gras Senior Breakfast

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

Jim Kellogg has been executive vice president of community and retail operations for the Colorado Rockies since 2006. In his 30th year working for the team, Kellogg has continually ensured that the Rockies players spend time in the Salt River-Pima Maricopa Indian Community during spring training.

During the March Senior Breakfast on March 6, Kellogg, as well as Colorado Rockies pitchers Lucas Gilbreath and Daniel Bard, made guest appearances and spent time with the SRPMIC seniors at the Salt River Community Building.

SRPMIC Senior Services staff decorated the center with Mardi Gras-themed decorations and table settings, and they also set up a photo booth with Mardi Gras props for everyone to utilize.

"We're happy to be here," said Kellogg as he opened the floor for the Community seniors to ask questions. Gilbreath was drafted by the Rockies in 2017 and is entering his seventh year with the team. Bard is entering year five with the Rockies and has spent time playing with the Red Sox, the Los Angeles Angels, the Chicago Cubs and the Texas Rangers.

Seniors asked Kellogg if it was snowing in Colorado around this time of the year. "I'm very happy to be here in Arizona," Kellogg immediately replied, which made everyone chuckle. He then stated to the seniors that back home in Colorado they are experiencing heavy snowfall and he was planning on returning there later in the week.

Following the question-and-answer portion, Kellogg, Gilbreath and Bard posed for photos with the seniors in the Mardi Gras photo booth. The line to take photos with the Rockies nearly reached the kitchen area. Each senior took home a printed copy of their photo with Gilbreath and Bard.

"This is a wonderful time for us," said Kellogg. "We enjoy coming out here every year to spend time with the [Community] seniors."



The March Senior Breakfast was held at the Salt River Community Building and featured a Mardi Gras-themed celebration for all to enjoy.



Colorado Rockies Pitcher Daniel Bard (left), Deanna Burns (middle), and Lucas Gilbreath posed for photos at the March Senior Breakfast. All received printed copies of the photos.



Francia Neisen and Phobe Rosales were crowned Mardi Gras royalty as they were the winners who found the tiny baby inside of the baked goods served at the Senior breakfast.

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*A Special Election has been called regarding the “Proposed Constitutional Amendments to the Election Process”.*

*For details of the proposed amendments questions, go to [www.srpmic-nsn.gov](http://www.srpmic-nsn.gov)*

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**DEADLINE: THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024**

## **WHO IS A VOTER?**

You are able to vote in SRPMIC elections if you are:

- 1) an enrolled member of the Community
- 2) 18 years or older on the day of the election, and
- 3) a resident of the relevant electoral district for at least one (1) year; or if you are a non-resident, declared a home district. Persons who are in jail or prison on the date of election, or have been declared to be mentally incompetent are not eligible to vote.

## **WHAT DISTRICT DO I VOTE IN?**

Members who live West of North Mesa Drive are considered to be a District I (Salt River) voter and should vote at Salt River Community Building.

Members who live East of Mesa Drive are considered to be a District II (Lehi) voter and should vote at Lehi Community Building. Non-resident voters must fill out a form to declare their “home district” for voting purposes, and they should contact the Community Development Department (“CDD”) to obtain the form for declaring a home district.

## **A SRPMIC TRIBAL ID IS REQUIRED TO VOTE:**

Community members must show a (picture) tribal ID card at the polls before they will be given a ballot. Contact the Office of Membership Services at (480) 362-7330 or 362-7600 if you need a new tribal ID card. The Community membership rolls determine voter eligibility and the district in which you vote in, so please make sure that your name, tribal ID number, and address are up-to-date with the Office of Membership Services in CDD.

## **ABSENTEE BALLOTS:**

To minimize the risk of Covid-19 or other illnesses, it is HIGHLY recommended that you vote via absentee ballot via mail or drop off.

**TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT AND/OR QUESTIONS CONTACT** Erica Harvier or Ardell Moore at (480) 362-7466, 362-7465 or 362-7400 or by email at [Erica.harvier@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Erica.harvier@srpmic-nsn.gov) or [ardell.moore@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:ardell.moore@srpmic-nsn.gov).



Governor Katie Hobbs was at the medal ceremony in Bapchule, Arizona. Governor Hobbs delivered the medals to Ludlow and her family.



The WWI medals given to U.S. Army Private Mathew Juan, Company K, 28th Infantry which are now in the possession of Kathy Ludlow and her family.

zona Gold Star at the ceremony, a medal that Ludlow now possesses. “He was the only one to get awarded the Gold Star at the ceremony,” said Ludlow.

“My daughter and I went to the ceremony and Governor Katie Hobbs presented the medals to me,” stated Ludlow.

A member of the Arizona national guard, United States military reserves, or regular United States armed forces who was a legal resident of this state at the time the member was killed in action or died in the line of duty while deployed in support of combat operations from and after February 13, 1912 is eligible to receive the Arizona Gold Star Military Medal.

“We’re really proud of him, even if we didn’t get to meet him,” said Ludlow.

On their website, Arizona USA Run for the Fallen hosts a detailed database of all of the fallen service members who are no longer with us as of October 12, 2000. The organization’s goal is to feature and commemorate all servicemen regardless of branch and cause of death. Presently, they have also began featuring ceremonies for service members who are alive but have experienced struggles with their emotional wellbeing since returning home from service.

Currently, Arizona USA Run for the Fallen is looking for volunteer relay-race runners for their 2024 ceremony this coming November. If you are interested in participating or volunteering, you can submit a volunteer form by visiting their website at <https://arizona.usarunforthefallen.org>.



OAN reporters Juan Ysaguirre and Nalani Lopez learn to operate a drone.

BY KARI HAAHR  
*O’odham Action News*  
 Kari.haahr@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community’s News Team is getting ahead by going above! As part of their commitment to enhanced storytelling, staff from *O’odham Action News* joined staff from other divisions of Community Relations for a hands-on drone training session.

The Multimedia Division led the demonstration, which took place on March 22 near where the Salt River meets Red Mountain. The goal was to learn and practice safe drone flight and go over best practices when filming events and utilizing drone footage in future projects. The in-house training was part of the collaborative effort among divisions to share knowledge and insights learned through experience.

Training on this new technology is essential for visual story-



telling, but working with drones requires more than the technical aspects of flight and control. Additional considerations include airspace regulations, privacy concerns and the potential for intrusive or sensationalist imagery. The use of drones in news projects not only adds to visual storytelling, it reminds and empowers us as journalists to uphold principles of accuracy, fairness and respect for subjects along the way. This “elevation” in visual storytelling can help deliver immersive experiences that inform, inspire and encourage new perspectives.

## National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition Hosts Legislative Briefing in Washington, D.C.

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

The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) is a nonprofit organization leading the way in helping to eliminate intergenerational trauma caused by U.S. federal Indian boarding schools.

On Tuesday, February 13, NABS held a legislative briefing on Senate Bill 1723/H.R. 7227, otherwise known as a bill to establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act, with four of the co-sponsors at their congressional offices in Washington, D.C.

The delegation for the legislative briefing panel consisted of tribal leaders and individuals from across Indian Country. Moses Brings Plenty (Oglala Lakota) served as the keynote speaker and also detailed his experiences as an Indian boarding school survivor.

If the bill is approved by the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, President Joe Biden will sign the act into law. The law will create a six-year federal commission to investigate the traumatic impacts of Indian boarding schools in the United States. The committee will locate and interview survivors, descendants and

relatives of those who were forced to attend Indian boarding schools. As part of the commission’s objective, the committee will also release the information they find to the public. These efforts are part of NABS’ mission to begin the healing process for those who have been impacted by Indian boarding schools.

During the legislative briefing, members from Indian Country spoke their truth about their experiences in Indian boarding schools. A representative from the Cheyenne Nation stated that when she was at an Indian school when she was younger, she and her classmates were sexually, emotionally, physically and spiritually abused. Now an elder, she told the panel that she supports the bill and said, “We cannot change the past, but we can still help the future.”

The legislative briefing also featured a banquet dinner on February 13 and a lunch-and-learn on February 14 to continue generating support for the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies Act.

Currently, the bill to establish the Act has been submitted to the Senate floor for voting. *O’odham Action News* will continue to monitor and update the bill’s progress as it moves through Congress.

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# SCC Students Propagate Trees for SRPMIC Earth Day



Scottsdale Community College students donate their time and labor to assembling velvet mesquite trees for the SRPMIC.



Within the Scottsdale Community College Campus is a plaque dedicated to velvet mesquite trees and their significance to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

BY NALANI LOPEZ  
O'odham Action News  
Nalani.lopez3@srpmic-nsn.gov

areas of the Community. As they are native to the Sonoran Desert, the seedlings will survive the dry seasons and high temperatures of the desert.

“Mesquite trees have an incredible root system. The taproots can go down far to any soil moisture it can find; some can even reach up to 150 feet deep,” said Case.

To begin the planting, Case prepared germinated mesquite pods for the students.

“The seedlings have a long pod you break open to free the seed from its coating. Then, you do a pre-treatment to tell the seed to germinate, because it won't do it on its own,” said Case.

Adding some fun science to the process, Case and the students performed three different pre-treatments with the mesquite pods: one group received sprinkled soil from an existing mesquite tree, another biological soil crust, and

Trading in their pencils and notebooks for a pair of gloves and soil bags, Scottsdale Community College students got their hands dirty with the school's Center for Native and Urban Wildlife program on February 23 to propagate mesquite trees for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's upcoming Earth Day celebration.

“Since Scottsdale Community College is on tribal land, we want to have a relationship with the Community,” said SCC Education Programs Developer Natalie Case. “For close to 20 years, we have worked with the Community on various projects like Earth Day, the Fall Overhaul and the Aurora Project.”

With the tree-propagation project, the CNUW program will plant velvet mesquite tree seedlings to restore barren



The 50 prepared mesquite trees will be sprouted in time to plant during the SRPMIC Earth Day celebration in April.

the last group was left in its natural state.

Working side by side in an assembly line, the SCC students filled pots with soil and saplings to reach their goal of 50 mesquite trees.

By the time SRPMIC Earth Day arrives in April, the velvet mesquite trees will be ready for planting in the shared habitat between Scottsdale Community College and the SRPMIC.

## 2024 Mesa State of the City Address Focuses on Tribes

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

Amid the excitement of the extravagant, space-themed multimedia presentation that was the Mesa State of the City 2024 was a focus on the city's relationship with surrounding tribes. This was one of many topics touched on by Mesa Mayor John Giles in his final State of the City address after serving as mayor for 10 years.

Mayor Giles announced that, a week prior to the February 13 address, he issued a proclamation that acknowledges the history of the land that comprises present-day Mesa, along with a land acknowledgement statement.

The address began with the following land acknowledgement being read over the speakers and displayed on the screens at the Mesa Convention Center:

The City of Mesa acknowledges that we gather on the homeland of the Native people and their ancestors who have inhabited this landscape from time immemorial to the present day. The landscape is sacred and reflects cultural values central to the O'odham (Pima) and the Piipaash (Maricopa) way of life and their self-definition. This acknowledgement demonstrates our commitment to work in partnership with Ancestral Indigenous Communities to foster understanding, appreciation and respect for this heritage.

Both Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President Martin Harvier and Gila River Indian Community Governor Stephen Roe Lewis attended the address and were recognized by Mayor Giles.

President Harvier opened the address by giving a blessing and publicly thanking the City of Mesa's first responders for their support as the SRPMIC lost a couple of first responders in the line of duty in recent times.

“Our great state of Arizona is Native land. It's important that we honor the legacy of our tribal ancestors and recognize the tremendous impact



SRPMIC President Martin Harvier opened the Mesa State of the City 2024 with a prayer and words of appreciation for Mesa first responders. Screenshot courtesy of City of Mesa/YouTube

that our tribal partners will always have in our state and on the city that we love,” said Mayor Giles during his address. “For example, the canal system in our region is one of the most sophisticated in the world. The Indigenous people that are here now are the direct descendants of those canal architects.”

Giles introduced a video produced by the city which talked about the Mesa Grande Cultural Park, an archaeological site with a platform mound built by the Huhugam, the relatives of the O'odham here in the Community.

SRPMIC Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Shane Anton was featured in the video. “We're actively working with the Arizona Museum of Natural History to provide better access to Mesa Grande. We understand progress has to happen. Things have to be built. But there needs to be a respect [for] what the aboriginal people had here, and I think we're starting to do that and hope to continue to do that,” Anton said.

Mayor Giles announced that the name of Mesa Grande Cultural Park will be changing to better reflect the traditions and culture of the Huhugam, with the specifics of the name change yet to be released.

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SENIOR SERVICES  
SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

**O'ODHAM** ACTION NEWS

If you have a story idea, please call or email **Dodie Manuel**, Managing Editor at **(480) 362-7731** or email **dodie.manuel@srpmic-nsn.gov**

Leave your name, number and brief message and she will get back to you.



# Transportation Secretary Buttigieg Meets With Leadership From Four Sibling Tribes at GRIC

Governor Regina Antone took Secretary Buttigieg on a tour of the center and all of the traditional and cultural items on display before heading to the roundtable.

At the roundtable discussion, Governor Lewis remarked that it is a tremendous opportunity for tribes to have a Cabinet secretary visit their communities, and that Secretary Buttigieg in particular has been an advocate for tribal access to critical transportation funds.

“In the past few years of working together with you, I’ve been impressed by your philosophy of true partnership for tribal government and sovereignty,” Governor Lewis said to Secretary Buttigieg.

and state policies often excluded or disregarded tribal lands and lacked tribal input. Under your leadership, that’s changing.”

Secretary Buttigieg said that he was especially grateful that the Sibling Tribes were invited, so that he could get a sense of what is affecting the communities. He also recognized the resiliency of the GRIC in coming back and trying again after their first attempt at obtaining the grant funding was unsuccessful.

“So many of our best stories have to do with transportation projects that were brought forward, didn’t get the answer they were hoping for the first time, came back, revised the approach, strengthened the case and then came back victorious,” said Buttigieg. “And that is true for this I-10 project, and it reflects a readiness to work with our team, a determination to work with each other and of course the merits of the project itself, which is part of why we’re so pleased to be able to support it.”

Present at the roundtable for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community were Council members Michael Dallas, Sr. and Jacob Butler.

“The SRPMIC has more than 650,000 vehicles traveling on the highways and roadways through our Community every day. While our connectivity with the [surrounding] jurisdictions encourages economic development, it also creates unique negative impacts,” Dallas told Secretary Buttigieg.

“With a significant number of vehicles [using] the Community’s surface roads as an alternate to regional arteries as cut-through traffic, [the] wear and tear on our roads creates potential risk for injuries. As you can imagine, this puts



Tribal leaders, Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Keli Akimel Hua Modk Cudkdam (Gila River Basket Dancers) pose for a photo in the Courtyard of the Huhugam Heritage Center.



SRPMIC Council member Michael Dallas, Sr. addresses Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg about transportation issues within the SRPMIC, as SRPMIC Council member Jacob Butler looks on.

“During your time as secretary, you’ve acknowledged that prior federal

a tremendous strain on the SRPMIC’s public safety and public works agencies that are responsible for maintaining and keeping roadways safe for travel.”

When asked what the USDOT can do to help offset the cost of transportation infrastructure projects within tribal communities that often see heavy traffic from commuters from other communities in the fast-growing Phoenix metropolitan area, Buttigieg told *O’odham Action News* that it’s a topic that he hopes to take back with him to Washington after talking with tribal leadership.

“Sometimes [outside traffic] can happen during a disruption or closure, and then a lot of traffic is pushed through Indian Country. Sometimes it happens routinely, and many of the people who

benefit from the roads are not necessarily the same people who are funding the creation of the roads,” said Buttigieg.

“I heard what the Ak-Chin Indian Community was saying about their complicated challenges with [the City of] Maricopa, for example. Often just by setting the table and making sure those conversations happen, we can help create a better path forward.”

## Create Your Defensible Space Before Wildfire Season

BY NALANI LOPEZ  
*O’odham Action News*  
Nalani.lopez3@srpmic-nsn.gov

Have you seen Salt River Fire Department trucks driving by residences within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community more often than usual? Don’t worry; with wildfire season approaching, the Salt River Fire Department is examining the 1,500 residences throughout the Community checking for “defensible spaces” to prevent house fires.

Making a defensible space involves clearing away bushes, trees or other vegetation surrounding a building, such as a house. If a wildfire were to occur, the cleared space would lower the chances of the house catching fire. For Community homes, the SRFD is looking for about 30 feet of clearance around the residence.

During wildfire season in Arizona, roughly between late April and early August, the vegetation dries up from the heat and becomes a fuel source. With this extra fuel, larger and more aggressive fires are more likely to occur.

“If you have weeds and tumbleweeds up next to your house, and then a fire picks up during monsoon season, fires can become fast-moving and harder for fire crews to contain,” said SRFD Capt. Robert Scabby.

A few summers back, a brush fire took off in the Community and threatened multiple homes within its direction of travel. This quickly could have become devastating for the affected families and homes; it could also be difficult for fire crews to manage, especially with afternoon winds during the peak of summer heat.

“To prevent fire and mitigate the



To prevent wildfires, the Salt River Fire Department is aiming for about 30 feet of defensible space (Zone 1) around Community homes.

likelihood of a potentially dangerous wildfire season, we are trying to go out, be proactive and work with other [Community] departments to identify the houses and potentially get [the homeowners] some assistance with cleaning and clearing a defensible space around their residence,” said Scabby.

The SRFD will conduct house-to-house evaluations through mid-April and rate them according to hazards identified. Homes within the Dangerous/Severe category require immediate preventive action. Community housing programs, Public Works or the Senior Home Repair and Replacement Program (SHRRP) will offer assistance to help clear defensible space around those homes, while the owners of private residences will be given information on how to keep their homes safe.

Clearing defensible spaces will keep Community homes more resilient, safe and out of harm’s way should a wild-

fire happen within the Community this upcoming season.

“It’s better to act early, not when a wildfire is approaching,” said Scabby.



A couple summers back, Salt River Fire Department responded to a growing fire approaching Community homes. Photo courtesy of Robert Scabby

**The National Fire Protection Association offers tips for homeowners on how to protect their homes during wildfire season.**

**Go online to <https://www.nfpa.org/Education-and-Research/Wildfire/Preparing-homes-for-wildfire>.**

**You can read the information there or download the handy fact sheet: [How to Prepare Your Home for Wildfires](#).**

# Salt River Joins Celebrations at 60th Mul Chu Tha

BY KARI HAAHR  
O'odham Action News  
Kari.haahr@srpmic-nsn.gov

The Gila River Indian Community Celebrated 60 Years of Unity at their annual Mul Chu Tha Fair and Rodeo over the weekend of March 16-17. The Celebrations opened with a parade featuring dignitaries from various tribes across the state and beyond.

Birds Singing and Dancing by the River performed along the parade route just ahead of SRPMIC Council, who were joined by Wiley the Wolf of the Great Wolf Lodge, and Baxter from the Arizona Diamondbacks. SRPMIC President Martin Harvier and Council members David Antone and Jacob Butler rode horseback while Council members Wi-Bwa Grey, Cheryl Doka, and Deanna Scabby joined Miss Salt River and Jr. Miss Salt River as representatives from Journey to Recovery carried the banner.



Birds Singing and Dancing by the River participated in the 60th Mul Chu Tha parade.



Council member David Antone and SRPMIC President Martin Harvier.



Birds Singing and Dancing by the River.



Jr. Miss Salt River and Miss Salt River.



Birds Singing and Dancing by the River.



Left: Journey to Recovery carried the banner ahead of SRPMIC Council and President Harvier.

Right: Council member Jacob Butler.



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**Currently located**  
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# SRPD Welcomes New Police Chief

laboration and Community-oriented policing in the department. "I believe in building a strong relationship with the Community and working together to address issues effectively," said Holloway. "Going forward, I see the department as one that embraces technology and innovation to enhance our police efforts. We will continue to prioritize professional development

**"Chief Holloway is a direct, hardworking, responsible and honest person who will not shy away from telling you the truth even if it is something you do not want to hear, which I believe are qualities that are needed in law enforcement," said SRPD**

*Sgt. Christopher Davis*

for our officers, ensuring they have the equipment, knowledge and skills to better serve the Community."

SRPD Lt. Forest Wood has known Chief Holloway for most of his life, attending Webster Elementary, Carson Junior High and graduating from Westwood High School together. They even played basketball together as teenagers.

"[Holloway] was very good at defense and rebounding," recalled Wood. "He enjoys sports. You can ask him about any player on any team and he could tell you all about them."

Wood has confidence that Hollo-

way will focus on building a stronger relationship between the SRPD and Community members.

SRPD Sgt. Christopher Davis shares a similar sentiment, saying that he only sees positivity and growth within the SRPD under Holloway's leadership.

"What I look forward to in regard to Chief Holloway's leadership is nothing more than how he has carried himself since I met him in 2005," said Davis. "Chief Holloway is a direct, hardworking, responsible and honest person who will not shy away from telling you the truth even if it is something you do not want to hear, which I believe are qualities that are needed in law enforcement."

Davis reminisced about when he and Holloway were both hired together, and both were asked about what their future goals were while working for the SRPD. Holloway said at the time that he would someday like to become chief of the SRPD.

"I also remember Holloway saying that after he retires, he would like to work towards becoming the president of his Community," said Davis. "It is pretty awesome to think about him making that statement way back in August of 2005 and seeing where he is now in 2024. I have no doubt that if he decides to, he will become president as well."

Chief Holloway said that he is very approachable and committed to serving the Community with integrity and compassion.

"I am excited about the opportunity to lead our department into the future," said Holloway.



## ATTENTION SRP-MIC

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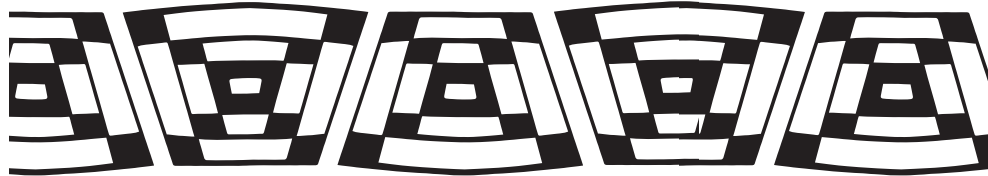
A VITA Volunteer will promptly return your call with further details.

### REQUIREMENTS

- Must have an appointment
- Income of \$58,000 or less
- Social Security card for tax filer & all dependents or any official government document with SS#
- Copy of Driver License or Government ID (tax filer & spouse)
- All tax documents (W-2, 1099's, etc.)
- **IRS Child Tax Credit letter, if applicable**
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## Social Suite

1880 N Longmore Rd  
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April 4 6 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

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## Native Plants Series Gets Hands on Learning



Participants of the Native Plants class filled seed starter trays with a mixture of soil, manure, and flower seeds.

BY NALANI LOPEZ  
O'odham Action News  
Nalani.lopez3@srpmic-nsn.gov

Jonathon Curry and Veronica Flores have a passion for growing their own foods. Since their first harvest in the spring of 2020, the pair have planted various traditional crops such as Pima 60-day corn, tepary beans and squash blossoms.

They started Salt River Valley Farm and share their ever-growing knowledge of gardening and traditional harvesting with those interested through their social media and, as of recently, their Native Plant classes with the Salt River Tribal Library.

On March 12, they opened up their property to allow participants of the series to gain some hands-on gardening experience.

"From when the land was first allotted here in Salt River, it has been worked and farmed by six generations," said Curry.

Gathering with the participants under the

vato (ramada), Curry began the planting with an O'odham corn-planting song.

"When we sing, we bless the field. We pray for a strong harvest and a good growing season," said Curry.

In the first session, Curry introduced seed starting, soil building and soil amendments to the class. Participants filled seed starter trays with a mixture of compost and soil amendments including perlite, while sowing cut-flower seeds such as zinnia, dahlia, and celosia. Once the seeds sprout, they will be transplanted into the garden beds Curry and Flores built for use by the Community.

As a result of the classes and sharing of knowledge, they hope participants will feel encouraged to return for more planting.

The next hands-on gardening class is on March 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and will cover traditional planting techniques. Follow Salt River Valley Farm on Instagram to follow their journey: @srvalleyfarm.

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

# Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY 9AM  
MAR. 30TH

SALT RIVER BASEBALL FIELD  
EASTER KIDS CRAFTS  
PHOTOS W/ EASTER BUNNY

## AGENDA

- 9:15AM EASTER EGG HUNT  
2-3 YRS, 4-6 YRS,  
7-9 YRS, 10-14 YRS
- 9:50AM EASTER DRESS PARADE
- 10:00AM FIELD GAMES
- 10:30AM EGG EATING CONTEST  
(FIRST 10 ADULTS)

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## AROUND THE COMMUNITY: Elementary Students Learn About Journalism



Recently, O'odham Action News Reporter Intern Nalani Lopez gave a presentation to the fifth- and sixth-grade members of the Salt River Elementary School Eagles Club on all facets of storytelling, including photography, video and the key elements of journalism. Lopez shared her experiences since joining the OAN team and explained what goes into a newspaper and how to tell a story through words and images. The students then implemented what they learned in a hands-on exercise creating cover pages for a newspaper. Armed with the Five W's of journalism—who, what, where, when and why—they reported on the facts of the event, drew pictures to accompany the cover story, and even captured quotations about the event.

# Salt River Ba'ag Continues to Shine On and Off the Court

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

This year, the players on the Salt River Ba'ag club basketball team have been showcasing their skillsets on and off the court. Head coach Miyone Roanhorse has seen major improvements from this year's team and has nothing but positive remarks about their progress.

"I've seen all of our players grow," said Roanhorse, "in their communication, maturity, IQ of the game and their shooting selections." In their varsity game against local team AZ MonStarz over the March 3 weekend in Avondale, Salt River Ba'ag took home second-place honors. The following weekend, Salt River Ba'ag finished the Fort McDowell Jam (FMD JAM) tournament in first place with an impressive record of 5-0.

"If we compare them to when they started with the program in their sixth-grade year to now, it's phenomenal growth ... on and off the court," said Roanhorse. Salt River Ba'ag continued the season with another tournament in Ganado, Arizona, on the Navajo Nation for the annual NAZ Soldiers Tournament, March 14-16. "It's our annual trip up north to our parents' house and [a chance for] the boys to enjoy northern Arizona," Roanhorse said.

The boys will continue their stellar play on the court during this year's Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) tournament, to be held July 22-27. "Our players have made the arrangements to play NABI this year," said Roanhorse. Celebrating its 21st year, the Indigenous basketball tournament will be hosted by Grand Canyon University, utilizing the school's 13 courts.

Succeeding in this year's NABI tournament is the expected goal for Salt River Ba'ag. However, the players are looking toward how basketball will continue to help shape their lives as they all individually approach graduation at their respective schools.

"A main goal of our players is setting them up for success in their next chapter in life after high school," said Roanhorse. "[I am] proud to say [that] our team averages a 3.7 GPA, with many of [the players] taking honors classes."



Above: Celebrating their second place win, the Salt River Ba'ag are primed for greatness at the next level. From (l-r): Beau Burns Jr., Logan Johnstad, Kyle Bonner, Conor Doka, O'shea Bonner, Kenny White, Ray Angulo, Jarred Johnstad, Jase Benjamin, and Will Gordon. Photo courtesy of Michelle Fulwider.

Right: Salt River Ba'ag continued their winning ways by going 5-0 in the Fort McDowell Slam (FMD Slam). Photo courtesy of Michelle Fulwider.



# From the Classroom to the Field: Toka Students Play Their First Match



The entire McGilbary family came out to support mom Lindsay Cuch and daughter Ella McGilbary in gathering their usagas.



With their mesquite branches freshly cut, women place the ends of their sticks into fire to begin the "step and bending" process.



After their hard work, women in the class played a couple of friendly scrimmages with each other using their new usagas.

BY NALANI LOPEZ  
O'odham Action News  
Nalani.lopez3@srpmic-nsn.gov

Following their teaching by Jessica Ruiz at the Salt River Tribal Library (see February 15 issue), participants in the three-part Toka Workshop series prepared their own usaga for a scrimmage on March 5.

Beginning earlier in the month, class participants first learned the history of toka, the traditional women's stick game. Then, later in the month, the women and their families took a field trip to the Red Mountain Preserve area to gather an usaga, the playing stick.

About a quarter-mile from the Salt River, the participants had abundant mesquite trees to choose from.

"The farther away from the water you search, the stronger your branches are going to be," said Ruiz. "If you have more moisture in your branch, it will make the firing process longer."

Most important was the grip and thickness of the stick. Some women preferred a thick branch, others a thin branch.

With the support of male family members, a pair of gloves and a saw, the workshop participants cut their ideal mesquite tree branches for their usagas. The freshly cut branches reveal a dark ring of sap.

"The ring shows that the sap in the branch has hardened, so it will keep your stick from breaking when you play. If the ring is smaller, it's just as good too, but if it doesn't have a ring, the branch has a higher chance

of splitting during the drying process and breaking out on the field," said Ruiz.

Preparing for the game's fierce nature, participants searched for two usagas in case one snaps.

Following the cutting of the branches, participants learned the firing and bending process for usagas. From the heat of a fire, one end of the stick is placed into the flames. After removing it from the heat, you step on the affected section, then slowly lean against the upright part of the stick. Through this combination of heat and pressure, the usaga achieves its iconic curved shape.

"It takes time to find the right stick and figure out what you like," said participant Mauricia Carlisle. "It's a good feeling to learn about this process with all the women in our group."

Once the stick is bent to their preferred curve, the women peel the toasted bark of their usaga to prepare it for sanding. Once they're sanded smooth and free of bumps and splinters, the usagas are ready to use.

Gathering for their third time, the women of the workshop brought their freshly prepared usagas to their first scrimmage. In a circle, the women began with the game's traditional O'odham song. The song sings of the women chasing the o'da, the game piece, across the field with their usaga. After the song, the women lined up across from each other, holding their usagas in hand, waiting for Ruiz to toss the o'da into the middle.

The goal of the game is to hit the o'da across the team's goal line. Positioned on opposite sides of the



The participants in the class smile after completing the three part toka series.

field, the women were in for lots of running and swift hits with their new usagas. From learning the game together in the library to playing together out on the field, the women brought their traditional journey full circle.

"It was incredible to have everyone come out. It felt like bringing the old ways back to our family. It was meaningful to share this experience with my daughter," said participant Lindsay Cuch.

Interested O'odham women are invited to contact either Salt River toka team, Onk Akimel Siviliki or Salt River Tada, on Facebook for additional information.

# SRPMIC Hosts Teen Dating Violence Webinar

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

For the month of February, the Salt River-Pima Maricopa Indian Community ensured that Community members and employees were aware of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month by hosting a webinar for adults and teens.

"It's never too early to start talking about what a healthy relationship is," said SRPMIC Health Educator Vurlene Notsinneh-Bowekaty during the webinar, which was titled "Fast Facts: Teen Dating Violence 101 for Parents." The presentation was an initiative of the SRPMIC Department of Health and Human Services Prevention and Intervention Services.

Notsinneh-Bowekaty and Community Health Educator Melanie Nosie hosted nearly 100 Community members and employees for the webinar presentation.

"Sometimes when we talk about violence, we only know about the physical part. We don't think about the psychological part. This includes the internet and social media. Our children are so involved in that," said Notsinneh-Bowekaty.

Teen dating violence on the internet has become an unfortunate occurrence. When power and control are used in a negative manner by an individual, the person is committing dating violence against their significant other. Behaviors associated with teen dating violence include using extreme emotions like jealousy, sending harassing text messages, using verbal put-downs, controlling a person's wardrobe, smashing objects, making threats and quickly resorting to anger.

According to loveisrespect.org, a project of the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1 in 3 U.S. teens will experience sexual, emotional or physical abuse from someone they're in a relationship with before becoming adults. Nearly 43% of U.S. college women report experiencing violent or abusive behaviors.

"We always [cast] the male as the aggressor and the female as the victim," said Notsinneh-Bowekaty. She then added, "I've witnessed the roles switched the other way. When I was teaching, I remember seeing a boy who was being abused by his girlfriend. I asked him, 'Why do you allow her to do that?' He made excuses for her behavior, telling me, 'Oh, she's just having a



Staff members at the River People Health Center's Pharmacy Department got together in February to bring awareness to "Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month" by wearing the official color, orange. Photo courtesy of Vurlene Notsinneh-Bowekaty

bad time, her parents are on her a lot," she said.

Notsinneh-Bowekaty informed the class that the significant other who is being abused normally takes the blame as a way to cover up dating violence committed by their partner.

Throughout the presentation, Notsinneh-Bowekaty and Nosie asked questions of the group, specifically regarding how they talk with their teens about dating and the dangers of dating violence. Many people mentioned that they have established family rules for their children, with some invoking a "no dating until 18" rule.

"Sometimes, kids don't feel comfortable coming to adults asking for help," said Notsinneh-Bowekaty. "They'll come home from school, and a parent will ask how school was and what they learned. The teen will answer, 'It was okay' and 'Stuff,'" she said. "We have to take the time and sit down with our kids to make sure they're okay," she added.

Notsinneh-Bowekaty said by providing teens with an open space free of judgment, kids become more comfortable around adults, which makes it easier for them to communicate if they are being abused in a relationship. "It's never okay to use pressure or control in a relationship," added Notsinneh-Bowekaty.

As the presentation came to an end, Notsinneh-Bowekaty educated the group on how damaging the cycle of abuse can be.

"Those who don't understand, they'll say, 'Why don't you just leave?' Well, it's challenging. A relationship can start out well. Then something can happen. He might talk to someone else. She may do the same. Then they're mad. That opens the door for violence, like hitting and shoving," she said. "Then he apologizes and promises never to do it again. Then the relationship goes back to being okay. After a while, the tension begins again. We need to be educated on when and how to leave an unhealthy relationship," she said.

# New O'odham Language Street Signs Installed in Community

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

To more accurately reflect the cultural and historical significance of certain areas of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, five new street names featuring words in the O'odham language have been installed in two areas of the Community.

The street signs were posted in the ground on February 1 in the Cemaimagi Subdivision (formerly the Monte Vista Subdivision) off North Extension Road, and at Temporary Housing Site F, off North Country Club Drive.

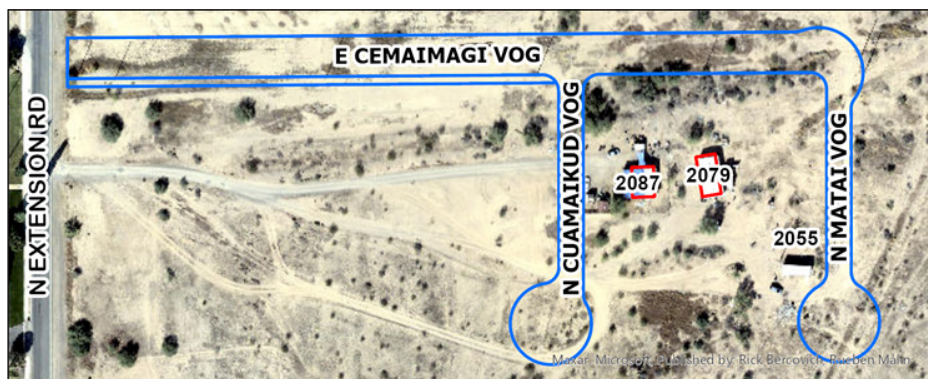
At the Cemaimagi Subdivision, the new street names are Cemaimagi Vo:g (Horned Toad Road), Matai Vo:g (Ashes Road) and Cuamaikud Vo:g (Roasting Pit Road). At the Temporary Housing site, the new street names are Ceul Vo:g (Willow Road) and Hiosig Vo:g (Flower Road).

The new street names are a result of an SRPMIC Council resolution signed on November 30, 2022. A Council work session in 2018 set policy guidance on Native language street names, which the roadways in the subdivision all qualified for, according to Engineering and Construction Services Department (ECS) Design Division Manager Rueben Malin, GISP.

"The process is initiated once we receive a request from either the landowner(s)/resident(s) or from within the tribal government," said Malin.

"As of now, the policy states that a roadway qualifies as long as it does not already exist elsewhere in the Community. If a road meets this requirement, we can start the process of looking into finding an approved O'odham or Piipaash street name."

The criteria for the chosen words are



New street signs and maps of where they are placed in the Community. Photos courtesy of ECS Design Division Manager Rueben Malin, GISP.

that they be easy to pronounce, have no special characters and do not exceed a set number of characters due to the space available on street signs.

Recommendations for street names of significance to the geographic area of the roadway begin with the Cultural Resources Department (CRD). After reviewing the plan, if there are no recommendations, there is an approved list of names for ECS to choose from.

According to Malin, the name Cemaimagi Vo:g (Horned Toad Road) was selected because, during the archaeological process, a horned toad effigy carved out of stone was found on the floor of a pit house. Matai Vo:g (Ashes Road)

was selected because the soil in the area is very dark, almost black, due to the amount of ash and charcoal-filled roasting features. Cuamaikud Vo:g (Roasting Pit Road) was selected because there were so many roasting pits found in that area.

"Once a street name is selected, we get consensus from the stakeholders, the Salt River Police Department, the Salt River Fire Department, CRD, Community Development Department (CDD), Public Works (PW), ECS and residents and/or landowners," said Malin. "We then take it through the public process, the Land Management Board and Council."



Malin said that when new street signs are implemented, the ECS Design Division sends an address letter to the residents affected by the change. The division then notifies the appropriate parties of the change, such as Emergency Services, PW, ECS, Saddleback Communications, the U.S. Postal Service, Salt River Project, SRPMIC Membership Services and third-party mapping services such as Apple, Google and Here.

SRPMIC residents are responsible for implementing the changes with CDD Membership Services, their service providers, on their driver's licenses, and with any other private services they might have.







**CHURCH LISTING**

**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 at church, 6:30 p.m.  
-SOAR Group 2nd & 4th Friday every month at the church 7 p.m.  
-Mon. night Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.  
-Singspiration, last Sunday of the month at 6 p.m.

**FERGUSON MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
1512 E. McDowell Rd. (Lehi)  
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 Sunday of every month 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 very first Sunday of the month (potluck after)

**SALT RIVER ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
10657 E. Virginia Ave.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256  
(480) 947-5278  
saltriveragchurch.com  
Rev. WinterElk Valencia  
Services  
-Sunday Morning Prayer 10 a.m.  
-Worship 11 a.m.  
-No Evening Service till further notice.  
-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, AZ85256  
(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

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

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

**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

**DALIA'S LANDSCAPING**  
Yard maintenance / tree trimming, sprinkler repairs and service.  
Sherry Harris, (480) 580-0501/ (623)-282-0902  
daliarendeziz0815@icloud.com

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

**ERNIE'S CATERING**  
Food catering for all your needs  
Ernie Lopez (chef and owner)

(480) 907-8945  
erniescateringbusiness@yahoo.com

**GOODLIFE NUTRITION**  
Healthy cafe offering plant-based juices and smoothies, meal-replacement options and event catering. Mon-Fri 9am-3pm, Sat 11am-3pm. Closed Sundays.  
7607 E. McDowell Rd. Ste. 103  
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

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

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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

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Promotional products, silkscreened and embroidered apparel, custom made 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  
vipimara@cox.net

**PIIPASH SHELL**  
4001. N. Pima Rd., Scottsdale, AZ  
Michael Smith- Owner Piiipash 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

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

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

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

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

**SALT RIVER BUSINESS LISTINGS**

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.

**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  
**Memorial Services & Cemeteries**

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

Office Hours:  
**Monday through Friday  
8:00AM – 5:00PM**

Main Office Located at:  
**Memorial Hall  
9849 East Earll Drive  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256**

For Any Questions Call:  
**(480) 278-7050**

**CONTRACTED MORTUARIES**

**Bunker Family Funerals & Cremation (480) 964-8686**  
**Meldrum Mortuary & Cremation (480) 359-2112**  
**Whitney & Murphy Funeral Home (602) 840-5600**

(Continued from page 16)

**DEFAULT NOTICES**

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.

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

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

Ordered this 19th day of January, 2024

Judge Anthony Little

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

**THOMAS SR., DILLON  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
CV-23-3521**

TO: Dillon Thomas Sr.

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 18th day of March, 2024 at 9:00 AM, in Court Room #1, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to obey Court Orders

**STANDING ELK, CARLA  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
C-23-0045**

TO: Carla Standing Elk, Respondent

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to appear before the above-entitled court on the 13th day of March, 2024 at 9 AM, in Court Room #2, and show cause why you should not be held in contempt for failing to abide by the Court Order issued on September 28th, 2023

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

ORDERED this 22nd day of January, 2024.

Judge Raymond L. Deer

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY TRIBAL COURT

**PUBLIC WORKS NOTICE**

**SRPMIC Council has approved the nightly closures of the Salt River and Lehi Cemeteries due to continued vandalism.**

**The Salt River and Lehi Cemeteries will be closed from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.**

**If you have any questions, please contact Memorial Services at (480) 278-7050**

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.

O'dham Action News encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. However, letters must be typed or printed clearly, and should include the writer's name, address and phone number. This information is for verification only. Other submission of articles, artwork and photos are encouraged. O'dham Action News does not assume responsibility for unsolicited materials and does not guarantee publication upon submission.

O'dham Action News reserves the right to reject any advertising, material or letter submitted for publication.

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O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS  
10,005 E. Osborn Road,  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256



**DODIE MANUEL, MANAGING EDITOR**  
(480) 362-7731  
dodie.manuel@srbmic-nsn.gov

**SENIOR NEWS REPORTER**  
Vacant

**CHRIS PICCIUOLO  
NEWS REPORTER**  
(480) 362-6626  
chris.picciuolo@srbmic-nsn.gov

**JUAN YSAGUIRRE  
NEWS REPORTER**  
(480) 362-7323  
juan.ysaguirre@srbmic-nsn.gov

**NEWS REPORTER (ONLINE)**  
Vacant

**NEWSPAPER ASSISTANT  
KARI HAAHR**  
(480) 362-2698  
kari.haahr@srbmic-nsn.gov

**NALANI LOPEZ  
NEWS REPORTER, TEMP**  
(480) 362-7308  
nalani.lopez3@srbmic-nsn.gov



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

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

**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 Dodie Manuel for advertising info.  
(480) 362-7731 / [www.oodhamnews.org](http://www.oodhamnews.org)

**O'ODHAM ACTION NEWS DEADLINES**

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>DEADLINE AT NOON</u>
<b>APRIL 4 APRIL 21</b>	<b>MARCH 22 APRIL 5</b>

**SEND INFORMATION TO DODIE MANUEL at [dodie.manuel@srbmic-nsn.gov](mailto:dodie.manuel@srbmic-nsn.gov)**  
**For more information please call (480) 362-7750.**

# NOXIOUS WEED ALERT !



## Stinknet

Also known as Globe Chamomile  
Scientific name: *Oncosiphon piluliferum*



It looks like a pretty flower, but it is a highly invasive weed.

And it is spreading quickly!

Appearance, you ask?

Leaves appear “carrot-like” and dark green. They have a strong odor. Flowers are bright yellow and ball shaped.

### Most Importantly!

## DO NOT BURN STINKNET!

Smoke from burning stinknet is **corrosive and can be irritating to the eyes, nose, & lungs.**

Stinknet, as an allergen, can cause skin irritation, including rashes and burns.



Stinknet can and should be **pulled or manually dug out** as soon as possible.

For more information: <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/epnr/compliance/#weeds>  
Or call the EPNR hotline: 480-362-7500



**SALT RIVER SCHOOLS**

SUPERINTENDENT  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

# CANDIDATE FORUM

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**TUESDAY  
APRIL 30  
6:30-8PM  
ALA LECTURE HALL**

More details at [SaltRiverSchools.org](http://SaltRiverSchools.org).  
#SaltRiverRising

The public is invited to meet the finalists in the search for the next Superintendent / Director of Education at Salt River Schools. This event is open to the public.

SALT RIVER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE

## COMMUNITY PARK CLOSURES PARK IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 1

The following Community Parks will be closed to Community residents for repairs and improvements.

VICTORY ACRES 1 PARK - 4190 NORTH MACDONALD ROAD <b>CLOSED</b> Monday, March 11 to Friday, March 22, 2024	RED MOUNTAIN VISTA PARK - 11840 EAST GLENROSA DRIVE <b>CLOSED</b> Monday, March 18 to Friday, March 27, 2024
VICTORY ACRES 2 PARK - 11737 EAST GLENROSA DRIVE <b>CLOSED</b> Thursday, March 28 & Friday, March 29, 2024	FRIENDSHIP PARK - 3297 NORTH LONGMORE ROAD <b>CLOSED</b> Monday, April 15 to Friday, April 19, 2024

Park improvements are by Ezerplay Inc.  
Public Works Project Manager: Jeff Rind, 480-362-5744 or email [jeff.rind@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:jeff.rind@srpmic-nsn.gov)

**SALT RIVER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

480-362-5600 | [PWCustomerService@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:PWCustomerService@srpmic-nsn.gov) | [www.facebook.com/SRPublicWorks](http://www.facebook.com/SRPublicWorks)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**THURSDAY  
APRIL 4  
4-7PM  
ALA GYM**

**#SaltRiverRising**  
More details at [SaltRiverSchools.org](http://SaltRiverSchools.org).

**SALT RIVER SCHOOLS**

# EDUCATION FAIR

# Veterans Open House Provides Resources and Services to Community Veterans

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

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Veterans Services Department held a Veterans Open House on February 23 at the Round House Café. The event offered resources and information to support Community veterans, their families and SRPMIC employees who are veterans.

The event provided services such as health insurance eligibility and enrollment, benefits and claims assistance, toxic exposure screening and more.

"It's crucial [for Community veterans to have access to these services] because some veterans are well-informed about resources but may not actively seek them out," said Veterans Representative Amanda White. "By bringing these resources and services to the Community and raising awareness, we can engage our Community veterans and families, who often prefer hands-on, face-to-face interactions."

A total of 13 vendors had booths at the event, including the U.S. Department



Representatives from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs set up a booth with information about toxic exposure screenings at the Veteran's Open House.

of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other local organizations that provide housing and homelessness assistance for veterans.

One of the vendors was the VA at Home Telehealth Program, which offers telehealth services that align with a veteran's healthcare plan.

"These services allow you to meet virtually with your VA provider, adapt to

your lifestyle, and support your well-being and independence at home by using computers or mobile devices," said White. "During our discussions, I discovered that they can also supply iPads to veterans in need."

Veterans Representative Troy Truax Jr. said that tribal communities should ensure that veterans are not only ac-

knowledgeable for their military service, but are also empowered to reach their future goals by raising awareness, advocating for them and providing direct support.

A primary goal of the event, according to Truax, was to facilitate a smooth process for Community veterans within the VA system and ensure that they are accounted for and enrolled in the system.

"The Veterans Representative team's goal is to provide the best possible healthcare for our veterans, whether through the VA system or from established healthcare providers like the River People Health Center," said Truax.

Truax added that Veterans Services aims to improve this annual event and welcomes input from both the Community and SRPMIC employee veterans.

You may share your thoughts at [Veteran-Services@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:Veteran-Services@srpmic-nsn.gov). "We hope to see you next year at our annual Veterans Open House event," he said.

**2024 SRPMIC AUCTION**

**Auction Vehicle Viewing Dates:**  
Saturday – April 13, 2024 8:00am to 12:00pm  
Saturday – April 20, 2024 8:00am to 12:00pm

**Bids may be submitted During viewing**  
Final bid submission will be Saturday – April 20, 2024 12:00pm

**ALL Viewers Must have SRPMIC – Tribal IDs**  
**All Sales Are Final**  
For more information contact The Department of Transportation 480-362-7315

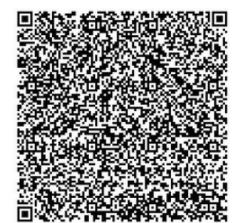
## VIRTUAL FOSTER CARE INFO SESSION



Join us to get more information on the process to become a Licensed Foster Parent. You've got questions? We've got answers!

**SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH**  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**2024 Schedule**  
4/10, 5/8, 6/12, 7/10, 8/14, 9/11, 10/9, 11/13 & 12/11



<< SCAN

**"We're Known by the Tracks we Leave... Honor our Ancestry."**

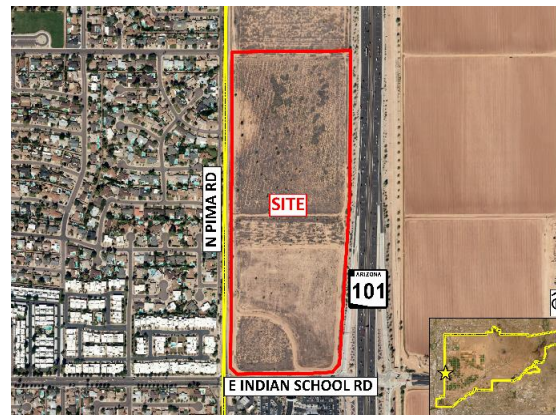
If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a foster parent or would like to learn more about our services, please contact Social Services at **(480) 362-5645**

### NOTICE OF COMMUNITY HEARING Scottsdale AutoShow North

Proposed Business Lease, Planned Development Overlay, Conditional Use Permit, and Right-of-Way Easement

SRPMIC, as the applicant, is requesting the following:

1. Proposed Business Lease B-505
  - a. The Salt River AutoShow, LLC requests approval of a proposed 99 year business lease on ~55.2512 acres tribal and allotted land.
2. Planned Development Overlay District (23-ZN-01)
  - a. Allow development standard changes to accommodate an auto park.
3. Conditional Use Permit (23-CUP-11)
  - a. Allow auto dealerships and ancillary uses within the new auto park.
4. Right-of-Way (ROW) Easement
  - a. Requesting a 48' wide easement within the auto park for road & utility improvements.



These requests are for the development of a project called Scottsdale AutoShow North. This project will consist of eight (8) lots for auto/light outdoor vehicle sale and leasing.

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024**

**TIME: 5:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION: SRPMIC COUNCIL CHAMBERS 10091 East Osborn Road Scottsdale, AZ 85256**

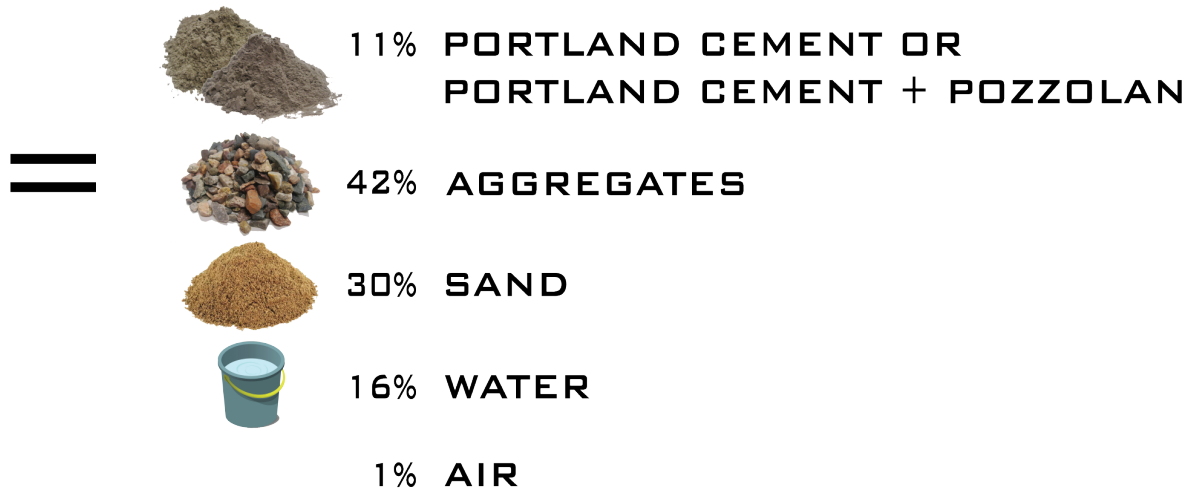
To find more information regarding this proposal, please visit: <https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/1879-phc/>  
Public comments can be made by email at [public\\_hearing\\_comments@srpmic-nsn.gov](mailto:public_hearing_comments@srpmic-nsn.gov), by phone or text at (623) 282-5757, or by mail to CDD, Attn: Public Comments, 10005 E. Osborn Rd, Scottsdale AZ 85256.

For more information about the project, contact CDD at (480) 362-7600.



100% AMERICAN™

# SALT RIVER MATERIALS GROUP PRODUCES AND SUPPLIES THE KEY INGREDIENTS NEEDED TO MAKE CONCRETE



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

## Calendar of Events

### ONGOING

**YOGA FOR FALL PREVENTION**, Mondays 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. at WOLF Senior Room. All Fitness Levels Welcome! Sign up with Celinda Joe at (480) 876-7180 and request transportation if needed.

**YOGA FOR FALL PREVENTION**, Fridays 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at WOLF Senior Room. All Fitness Levels Welcome! Sign up with Celinda Joe at (480) 876-7180 and request transportation if needed. \*\*Last Fridays of Each Month are YOGA BINGO with prizes!

**BEADING CIRCLE AT SALT RIVER TRIBAL LIBRARY**, 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. alternating Wednesdays. Scheduled to be held 3/20, 4/3, and 4/17.

**WATER AEROBICS AT WAY OF LIFE FACILITY POOL**, 45-minute sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 10 a.m., 12 p.m., and 1 p.m. No registration required. Questions? Call (480) 362-6310

**VITA TAX PROGRAM**, Tax assistance by appointment available until April 18. Seniors/Disabled Priority \*NO Filing Back Taxes and Itemized Taxes. Requirements: Must have an appointment, Income of \$58,000 or less, Social Security Card for tax filer & all dependents or any official government document with SS#, Copy of Drivers License or Government ID, All tax documents (W-2, 1099's, etc.), IRS Child Tax Credit letter, if applicable, Bank Account/ Routing number (for direct deposits). Contact the Vita Message Line: (480) 362-7540. Leave your Full Name & Phone Number. A VITA Volunteer will promptly return your call with further details.

**WELLBRIETY 12 STEP AND MEDICINE WHEEL**, Wednesdays and Fridays 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. Wellbriety is a Native American recovery fellowship that blends spiritual practice with the 12-Step program. Its approach to recovery focuses on healing and is rooted in the Teachings of the Medicine Wheel, the Cycle of Life, and the Four Laws of Change. Wellbriety emphasizes creating new thought patterns,

attitudes, and feelings about sobriety based on traditional concepts and Native American teachings.

**TALKING CIRCLE FOLLOWING WELLBRIETY**, Wednesdays and Fridays 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Following the Wellbriety session, participants are invited to join the Talking Circle to share insights and experiences related to living in recovery and honoring traditional practices, including fellowship, community, and connection. Talking Circle sessions also take place every Wednesday and Friday, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

**WARRIOR'S SUPPORT CIRCLE**, 2nd Thursday Warrior's Support Circle is a talking circle aimed at offering our Veterans a safe space to meet and share their life experiences, challenges, and successes. The circle offers a free, confidential space for members to take steps towards recovery by gaining insight from others and learning more about PTSD, adjustment issues after reintegration into the civilian world, and to discuss general challenges that accompany service in the our military.

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

### KUI 'I'IVAGIDAG MAŞAD XLY'A XMOK MARCH

**23 HUHUGAM KI: MUSEUM'S ANNUAL TORTILLA FESTIVAL**, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Demonstrations, Tortilla History, Tortilla Making, Chicken Scratch Band, Food Vendors, Games & More!

**26 SPECIAL ELECTION ON PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION PROCESS**, Vote

at your respective district! District I (Salt River) Voters - Vote at Salt River Community Building, 1880 N. Longmore Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256; District II (Lehi) Voters - Vote at Lehi Community Building, 1231 E. Oak Street, Mesa, AZ 85203; Polls Open: 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. SRPMIC Tribal ID Required. Questions, contact: Council Secretaries at (480) 362-7466 or (480) 362-7465.

**27 K-POP DAEBAK KLUB**, Way of Life Facility, Room 56. 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Join us to celebrate, connect, and embrace the vibrant world of K-Pop, no matter your age or ability. Please contact the Tribal Library at (480)362-6600 or TribalLibrary@srpmic-nsn.gov with questions

**28 CM BUTLER DISTRICT A MEETING**, 6 p.m. at SRPMIC Council Chambers 10091 E Osborn Rd Scottsdale, 85256. Topics to include Introduction of New Police chief, introduction of new fire chief, amendments to the child support ordinance, and community member comments. Please contact council secretaries office to confirm meeting and agenda at (480) 362-7469

**28 ADULT WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) INFORMATION SESSION**, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. at Two Waters Building B-102. Join the Salt River WIOA Program for an information session on how the program offers support to individuals toward their career goals through education and training. For questions, contact Illeana Ray, WIOA Specialist at (480) 362-3071

**28 PRE-DIABETES BINGO NIGHT**, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at WOLF Room #247. Bring your friends and family for a night of knowledge, "Know Your Numbers", and helpful resources and tips for your health. Prizes will be awarded to the lucky bingo winners! For more information, contact Karina J Watson Community Health Educator at (480) 362-3278 or karina.watson2@srpmic-nsn.gov

**30 COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT**, see ad on page 12 for more information.

### KUI HIOSIG MAŞAD XLY'A CHMPAP APRIL

**4 ADAPTIVE RECREATION TABLE TALK**, Join Community Recreational Services Adaptive Recreation division from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Social Suite at 1880 N Longmore for an evening filled with dinner, discussion, and feedback. Share your input on what you would like to see offered from Adaptive Recreation programs. See ad on page 12 for more information!

**4 EDUCATION FAIR**, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at ALA Gym. See ad on page 18 for more information!

**5-6 PIIPAASH MATASHEEVM COMMUNITY SOCIAL**, 12 p.m. at Lehi Gathering Area. All bird and O'odham singers and dancers are invited to join us for dinner (while supplies last) and dancing. For questions, please contact piipaashmatasheevm@srpmic-nsn.gov

**10 K-POP DAEBAK KLUB**, Way of Life Facility, Room 56. 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Join us to celebrate, connect, and embrace the vibrant world of K-Pop, no matter your age or ability. Please contact the Tribal Library at (480) 362-6600 or TribalLibrary@srpmic-nsn.gov with questions

**13 PROBATE AND WILL OPEN HOUSE**, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Way of Life Facility. Presented by Community Development Department and Legal Services Office. See ad on page 10 for more information!

**20 EARTH DAY**, Save the date! More information to come!

**24 K-POP DAEBAK KLUB**, Way of Life Facility, Room 56. 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Join us to celebrate, connect, and embrace the vibrant world of K-Pop, no matter your age or ability. Please contact the Tribal Library at (480)362-6600 or TribalLibrary@srpmic-nsn.gov with questions

**25 THRIVING WITH DIABETES**, 830 a.m. - 3 p.m. at River People Health Center's Teaching Kitchen. Every fourth Thursday

of the month, providers will go over major topics of diabetes care including food, medication, physical activity, and stress management. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Call (480) 362-3355 for information and to reserve a spot.

**30 SUPERINTENDENT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION CANDIDATE FORUM**, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. at ALA lecture hall. See ad on page 18 for more information!

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

**2-5 NATIVE FASHION WEEK IN SANTA FE**

**14 WIC & PARTNERS SPECIAL EVENT AT SRPMIC FOOD BANK**, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at 1952 N. Longmore Rd. Enjoy Indigenous Ingredients & Take Home A Tribal Food Box. Quantity is Limited and Indigenous Ingredients may vary. Contact us at: 480-362-7300 or Email: wic@srpmic-nsn.gov