**COUNTY NETWOR** Featuring items of special interest to organizations and individuals working to improve the lives of people in our County. Published and emailed by Community Action Human Resources Agency (CAHRA), with support provided by Arizona Department of Economic Security Division of Community Assistance and Development

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### UNSHELTERED SIGN UP TO RECEIVE MAIL

### Service for the Unsheltered With No Address

Mail can be received at the following locations:

- CG Helps, 350 E. 6th St., Casa Grande, AZ 85122 (Register with Johnnie to begin service at 520-483-0010)
- Genesis Project, 564 N. Idaho Rd., Suite 5, Apache Junction, AZ 85119 (Register with Trinity to receive service at 4280-225-7757)

Let lrushing@cahra.org know if other agencies also offer mail service for those who are homeless with no address.

Pinal County's 2024 12th Annual Veteran Stand Down & Resource Fair We Honor Our Veterans !! Saturday, October 12, 2024 9am-1pm **HOHP Veteran Transition Center** 5497 West McCartney Rd., Coolidge, AZ **Registration Opens at 8am** Open to all local veterans of the United States military for the following resources and more: **Pinal County Veteran Court**  VA Benefits Assistance Substance Abuse Assistance Special Women Veterans Services Housing Assistance & Employment & Training Clothing **Opportunities** Haircuts & Showers Social Security Administration Pet Care/Pets 4 Vets Adoption

**OCTOBER 2024** 

- Services
- MVD Services: IDs & driver licenses
   Vouth Activities

Pinning Ceremony for Veterans at 10AM.

TRANSPORTATION: CAHRA 520-466-1112 For more Information contact HOHP at: PHONE: 520-338-2568 EMAIL: HOHP4HEROES@gmail.com WEB: HOHP4HEROES.org

### **UPCOMNG MEETNGS/EVENTS**

Faith Alliance Luncheon November 21st at 11:30 am First Presbyterian Church, Presenter: Andre Davis (Medical Examiner)

**Resource Family Event** (Coolidge) November 2, (United Way)

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### INFORMATION ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The Pinal County Network News is a monthly publication. If you wish to advertise meetings, events, items of interest, etc., please submit material by the 25th of the previous month to: <u>Irushing@cahra.org.</u>

# **Project Connect**

### Wednesday, October 23rd 3pm-6pm

The Salvation Army 605 E Broadway Apache Junction, AZ 85119

Project Connect is a one-day, one-stop event to provide access to free services, resources and referrals for community members.

### Free Community Event

Resource & Outreach Event for the Community of Apache Junction

> Sponsored By Apache Junction Homeless Coalition

Veterans Benefits

Mental Health

Snacks

Free Food & Beverages

Work Information

And Many More!

Vendor Registration Email by September 20th

Sheryl at bahexecutivedirector@yahoo.com

# SAVE THE DATE

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### PINAL COUNTY NETWORK NEWSLETTER

### By Jack Burns, Social Security Pubic Affairs Specialist, SSA Administration

### CELEBRATING 89 YEARS OF SOCIAL SECURITY

For nearly 90 years, Social Security has provided income protection to millions of retirees, people with disabilities, their dependents, and families who've lost a family

member who worked and paid Social Security taxes before they died. In addition to paying benefits, we issue millions of Social Security numbers each year, maintain wage records to make sure workers get the benefits they have earned, and much more. The scope of what we do is enormous, and we are proud to serve the American people. Whether providing service online at SSA.gov, over the telephone, or in person, our goal is to help you understand your eligibility for benefits and the best way to apply for them.

We also work to make sure our programs, particularly Supplemental Security Income (SSI), remain accessible to you. SSI provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness, and to adults age 65 and older, who have limited income and resources. This year we announced that we are expanding SSI eligibility criteria by:

- Updating the public assistance household definition.
- Removing food from in-kind support and maintenance.
- Expanding rental subsidy nationwide.

Find more information about SSI at <u>www.ssa.gov/ssi/</u>. We are dedicated to protecting the well-being of the people we serve. It is important to us that every person who is eligible for benefits gets them timely and accurately. That is how we help secure today and tomorrow.

To learn more about the history of Social Security, visit <u>www.ssa.gov/history</u>. Please share this information with your friends and loved ones who may need it.



### SOCIAL SECURITY INSTALLS NEW KIOSKS TO IMPROVE CUSTOMER CHECK-IN PROCESS

At Social Security we strive to make our services more accessible while maintaining your privacy. We installed new kiosks in most of our local offices to make it easier for you to check in and conduct business

with us. The kiosks are private, easy to use without assistance, and provide consistent service to our customers.

Modifications to earlier screens have improved the check-in process, especially for our customers who are blind or have low vision. Each kiosk is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and includes the following features:

- Accessible keypads.
- Audio headphone jacks (complimentary headphones are available upon request).
- Braille instructions for how to use the kiosk and report any accessibility issues.
- •Built-in thermal printers and ticket dispensers.
- •Enhanced 508-compatible check-in software.
- •Touchscreen monitors with privacy filters.

These kiosks are just one more way we're improving the customer service experience in our offices. Last year, we began offering Mobile Check-in Express. It allows customers to use their mobile device to scan a QR code at their local office to check in for scheduled and walk-in appointments.

By turning on their device's location services and mobile notifications, visitors receive:

- An electronic ticket so they know their place in line.
- An alert when an employee is ready to help them.
- Information about their interview location.
- An invitation to participate in our feedback survey.

With our new kiosks and Mobile Check-In Express, our check-in process has never been easier. To learn more about our commitment to accessibility, visit <u>www.ssa.gov/accessibility</u>.



### STAY HEALTHY AND INDEPENDENT WITH SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Are you eligible for Social Security retirement benefits or already receiving them? Did you know that you can also receive healthy meals and other nutrition services through the nation-

al Senior Nutrition Program? Local meal programs in communities across the country are waiting to serve you.

As we age, we have different needs, different ways we take care of our health, and different nutrients we need to get from our food. But we don't always have enough healthy food or the desire to prepare or eat a meal. Whether you need more food, healthier food, someone to share a meal with, or better eating habits, a meal program can help.

Every day, senior nutrition programs serve almost 1 million meals to people age 60 and older. With home delivery and group meal options, you can get the food you need in a way that works best for you. They can help you avoid missing meals – and save you time and money with less shopping and cooking.

Local programs serve more than food. They also:

- Offer opportunities to connect and socialize. This improves both your mental and physical health.
- Teach you how to create a healthy eating plan. You can learn about healthy food recommendations based on your age, needs, and preferences.
- Connect you with other resources like homemaker services and transportation to help you stay connected and engaged in your community.

It's no surprise that 9 out of 10 participants say they would recommend a senior nutrition program to a friend. We know this service can help create healthy, strong communities where people can thrive at any age.

Find a senior nutrition program in your area and help us spread the word to your loved ones, neighbors, and community. For more information on resources for older adults, please visit <u>eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx</u>.

To learn more about our retirement benefits, please visit <u>www.ssa.gov/retirement</u>.

The Senior Nutrition Program is administered by the Administration for Community Living, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**HEROES** 

AGAINST HUNGER



# 5K Run or Walk!

Join us for the 9th Annual "Heroes Against Hunger" 5K. This event raises money for the Santa Cruz Valley Food Pantry. Register at the below link:

https://runsignup.com/Race/Events/AZ /Eloy/HeroesAgainstHunger5K#event-858517



Saturday October 12, 2024





**Race Packet Pick up** 06:30 am **5K Start** 07:30 am - 10:00 pm Main Street Park 601 N. Main Street, Eloy, AZ 85131



**SCAN ME** 

The Sparrow Campaign

TIPPINGSHELVES@GMAIL.COM

VOLUME 34 ISSUE 10

WORKSHOP IS

FREE OF CHARGE

**Participation is limited!** 

Please email

maryg@pgcsc.org by October

18th to register or for questions.

October 23rd - November 27th

Dates: Wednesdays,

Time: lpm-3pm



## Virtual Healthy Living with Diabetes Workshop

The Diabetes Workshop is beneficial for Prediabetics, Diabetics and newly diagnosed Diabetics



The Diabetes Self-Management Workshop will cover healthy eating, menu planning, preventing high and low blood sugar and physical activities to manage blood sugar, improve strength, flexibility and endurance and techniques to deal with stress, depression, fatigue, and preventing and delaying complications.

### <u>Virtual workshop meets over Zoom</u> for 2 hours, once a week for 6 weeks

Participants will receive a <u>free</u> Healthy Living with Chronic Conditions book

> This project was supported by the Administration of Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the State of Arizona Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and nongovernmental source(s). The contents are those of PGCSC and do not necessarily represent the official views of nor are an endorsement of any funders.

Pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other nondiscrimination laws and authorities, Central Arizona Aging (CAA) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Persons that require a reasonable accommodation based on language or disability should contact CAA 520-936-2758 or 1-800-293-9393. Requests should be made as early as possible





#### Continued from Page 3, Social Security Column

October 12<sup>th</sup> is National Savings Day. It serves as

an important reminder to plan for your financial future. Social Security is a vital part of any financial plan. We have online tools to help you understand your potential benefits and how they fit into your financial future.

Regardless of your age, you should periodically review your *Social Security Statement* (*Statement*) using your personal *my* Social Security account at <u>www.ssa.gov/myaccount.</u> Your *Statement* is an easy-to-read summary of the estimated benefits you and your family could receive, including retirement, disability, and survivors benefits. You should also review your *Statement* annually to confirm your earnings history.

The retirement calculator in your personal *my* Social Security account allows you to check various benefit estimate scenarios based on the age you plan to retire. You can compare the effect different earnings and retirement start dates could have on your future benefit amount.

Please let friends and family members know how they can prepare for their financial future by signing in to their secure *my* Social Security account. If they don't have an account, they can create one at <u>www.ssa.gov/myaccount</u>.

### WE NEED YOUR INPUT!



We need your input on our community and housing needs in Casa Grande!

The City of Casa Grande is preparing the Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Plan for 2025-2029. The Consolidated Plan is designed to help local jurisdictions assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make datadriven, place-based investment decisions. Please consider taking our survey at : https://

www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDBG-Survey.

#### PINAL COUNTY NETWORK NEWSLETTER

### GENESIS PROJECT, PINAL COUNTY'S ONLY SOUP KITCHEN, FORCED TO CLOSE ITS DOORS WHEN LEASE EXPIRES

By Lindsey Ragas, 8//2/24 Apache Junction FOX 10 Phoenix

The only soup kitchen in Pinal County is being forced to close its doors soon after 10 years at the same location. Genesis Project was told their lease would not be renewed and that they needed to leave in three months. Many people in Apache Junction rely heavily on the Genesis Project and hearing that they'll close soon has left some of them questioning where they'll get their next meal.

"Everybody has a story here," says one regular, Holly Marcotte. "I have my story. It just so happens mine's a success story, although I'm struggling for food." "Genesis is a light of hope". Holly Marcotte is disabled on a fixed income. Her main mode of transportation is her electric wheelchair. "I'm just up the street, so I can bring my power chair up here and I can get a hot meal and a cold meal to go like a pizza or sandwich," she said. That's how she's able to get her meals at the Genesis Project.

"Genesis is a light of hope for those people who come here. It's not just homeless people, it's disabled people and seniors," Marcotte said. "What happens when Genesis stays open is it helps the community and reminds the community that everyone is a person and everyone deserves life and deserves a meal," said Genesis Project success story, Janice McCarthy. deserves a meal," said Genesis Project success story, Janice McCarthy. For years, McCarthy would go to the Genesis Project for meals until she achieved sobriety. Executive Director Trinity Cole says Genesis Project was notified on Aug. 1 that they'd need to be moved out by Oct. 31 at 5 p.m.

Genesis Project is committed to finding a new location. Cole says the nonprofit is committed to continuing services to the more than 200 people they serve every day, but desperately needs to find a new location soon. "I know that they cannot go without a meal, hydration, clothing and services, so it's tremendously concerning not knowing where we're going to go and when we'll be able to serve," Cole said. The property manager spoke briefly on the phone but only reiterated that the lease would not be renewed.



### COOLIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS





Official Entry Form Showdown on Main Pitmaster Challenge November 1st & 2nd, 2024 Event Benefits Florence Friends of Kids First Foundation NOTE: A COMPLETED ENTRY FORM & FULL ENTRY FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY October 11th, 2024. Make Checks payable to AZBarbeque Get your entry in Before July 31st, 2024 & save \$50						
Mail Application & Payment to AZBarbeq	efore July 31st, \$150 after ue - 7900 N. 70th Ave #101, Glendale, AZ 85303 first some first source					
	l, first come, first serve. eir own meat & supplies					
	Team Name:					
Mailing Address:						
City:	State: Zip:					
Home Phone #:	Cell Phone #:					
E-Mail Address:						
On or Before July 31st, 2024 - \$100 After July 31st, 2024 - \$150	] ]					
Total Amount Enclosed:						
Release: WAIVER OF LIABILITY: In Consideration of your accepting this entry, I the undersigned recognize that Florence Chamber of Commerce, the City of Florence, AZBarbeque, The Barbeque Championship Series, Florence Friends of Kids First, Florence Unified School District #1, Coolidge Florence Elks Club and any of their co-sponsors including other entries, their employees or agents assume no responsibility for myself or members of my group. I will assume all risks that arise from my participation. I also hereby waive any claims against Florence Chamber of Commerce, the City of Florence, AZBarbeque, The Barbeque Championship Series, Florence Friends of Kids First, Florence Unified School District #1, Coolidge Florence Elks Club its co-sponsors, their departments, officers, employees or agents for any injuries or loss that arise from our participation. Further, I grant full permission to AZBarbeque, the Barbeque Championship Series organizers, promoters and sponsors or any agent authorized by them, to use any photographs, videos, recordings or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose.						
Signature of Head Cook:	Date:					
All Details Subject to Change, please Check Web Site for Current Detailed info.						

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Official Backyard BBQ Entry Form								
Showdown on Main Backyard BBQ Challenge								
	November 2nd 2024							
approximation (Charling)		- -						
Event Benefits F	Event Benefits Florence Friends of Kids First Foundation							
NOTE: A COMPLETED ENTRY FORM & FULL ENTRY FEE MUST BE RECEIVED BY October 11th, 2024. Make Checks payable to AZBarbeque Get your entry in Before July 31st, 2024 & save \$25								
\$50 Entry Fee Mail Application & Payment to AZBarb	before July 31st, \$75 eque - 7900 N, 70th J							
Space is Limit	ed, first come, first	serve.						
Categories are Ribs & Tri Tip.	. Teams supply then	own meat & supplies						
Head Cook:	Team Nam	ie:						
Mailing Address:								
City:	State:	Zip:						
Home Phone #:	Cell Phon	e #:						
E-Mail Address:								
On or Before July 31st, 2024 - \$50		A COLOR						
After July 31st, 2024 - \$75								
Total Amount Enclosed:		_ CHALLENGE						
WAIVER OF LIABILITY: In Consideration Florence Chamber of Commerce, the City of Flore Friends of Kids First, Florence Unified School Dist including other entries, their employees or agents as assume all risks that arise from my participation. I als the City of Florence, AZBarbeque, The Barbeque Ch School District #1, Coolidge Florence Elks Club its of injuries or loss that arise from our participation. Championship Series organizers, promoters and sp videos, recordings or any other sp	ence, AZBarbeque, The I trict #1, Coolidge Floren ssume no responsibility f o hereby waive any clain ampionship Series, Flore co-sponsors, their depart Further, I grant full per ponsors or any agent aut	Barbeque Championship Series, Florence ce Elks Club and any of their co-sponsors for myself or members of my group. I will ms against Florence Chamber of Commerce, ence Friends of Kids First, Florence Unified ments, officers, employees or agents for any mission to AZBarbeque, the Barbeque horized by them, to use any photographs,						
Signature of Head Cook:		Date:						
All Details Subject to Change, please Check Web Site for Current Detailed info.								

#### PINAL COUNTY NETWORK NEWSLETTER

### SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION DIGITIZES OR REMOVES SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS FOR MANY FORMS MOVE EASES BURDEN ON MILLIONS OF CUSTOMERS

Social Security Administration (SSA) announced progress this year to reduce customer burden by transitioning wet (physical) signature requirements to digital signatures for over 30 forms as well as removing the signature requirements altogether for 13 forms. These actions simplify application processes for people, including removing a potential reason for claims to be sent back or denied.

"Across forms that Americans use most often, we're eliminating as many pain points as possible, from helping people sign at the click of a button to reducing the need to drive or mail something in whenever possible," said Martin O'Malley, Commissioner of Social Security. "This means faster and more error-free processing and better service for our customers, who deserve a government that meets their needs efficiently and effectively."

As a result of this work, SSA will now allow an electronic signature rather than a wet signature for more than 30 forms, which make up 90% of the most commonly used forms by SSA customers in local field offices. Collectively, these forms represent about 14 million signed forms submitted annually.

Furthermore, also this year, SSA has removed the signature requirement entirely for 13 of its most commonly used forms totaling about 1 million submissions in volume annually. This includes removing the signature requirement for the Medical Source Opinion of Patient's Capability to Manage Benefits (Form SSA-787, which has a total annual volume of 768,000), the Letter to Employer Requesting Wage Information (Form SSA-L4201, which has an annual volume of 133,000), and Request for Reconsideration/Disability Cessation Right to Appear (Form SSA-789, which has an annual volume of 49,000). Customers may also upload many of the 13 forms online, further reducing the burden felt by customers.

To build on this progress, SSA is considering removal of signature requirements on other forms that would ease requirements on about 1 million additional transactions. Social Security works to pay the right people t the right time in the correct amount. These efforts ensure we maintain strong anti-fraud protections while removing onerous requirements that are not serving their intended purposes.

These efforts also complement other initiatives to modernize and streamline operations. The agency is expanding paperless communication options for the millions of <u>my Social Security</u> users so they can see their online Social Security Statement, track the status of their claims, and calculate potential retirement benefits. Notices from across 60 categories are now provided through <u>my Social Securi-</u> ty for easy online access by customers, including the Cost-of-Living Adjustment, their SSA-1099, Benefit Rate Increases, Appointment Confirmations, and more.

New <u>my Social Security</u> account holders can choose online-only communications with one click, and others are encouraged to transition for an enhanced experience.

Social Security is undertaking this work in alignment with the Executive Order on *Transforming Federal Customer Experience and Service Delivery to Rebuild Trust in Government* (E.O. 14058), the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) guidance *Delivering a Digital-First Public Experience* (M <u>-23-22</u>), and OMB guidance *Improving Access to Public Benefits Programs Through the Paperwork Reduction Act* (M-22-10).

To hear directly from Commissioner O'Malley and learn more about the efforts to remove wet signature requirements, visit the agency's <u>YouTube</u> page.

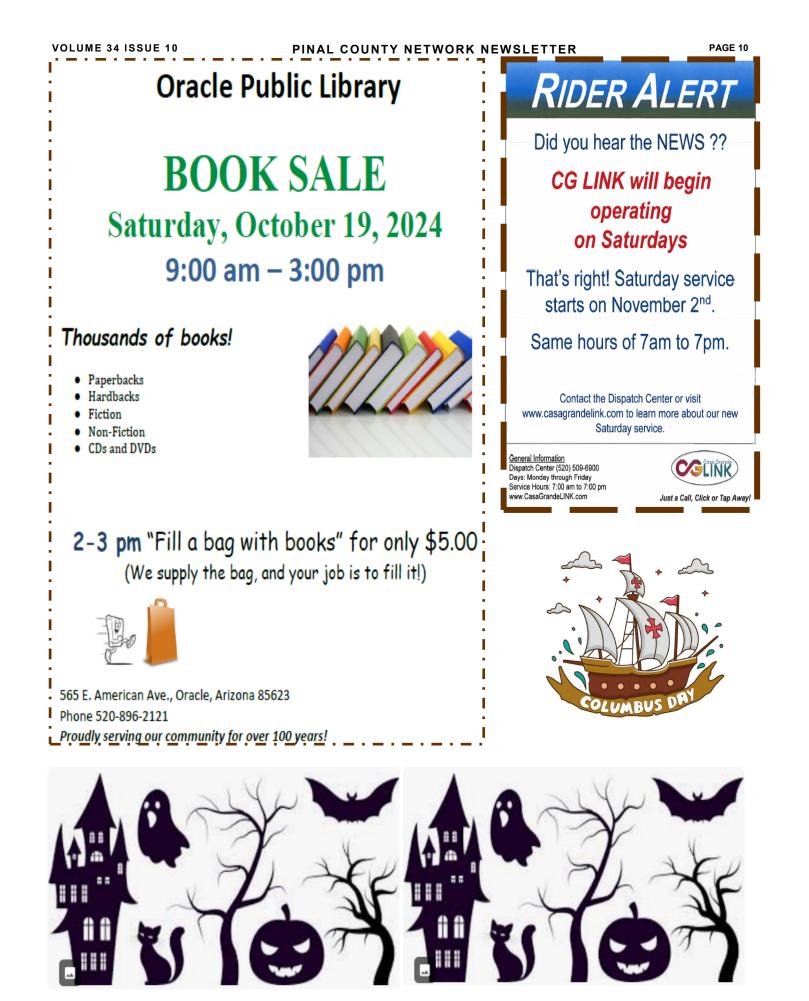
For more information on online services visit <u>Online</u> <u>Services | SSA</u>. To create a <u>my Social Securi-</u> <u>ty</u> account, please visit <u>www.ssa.gov/myaccount</u>.

To get more Social Security news, follow the Press Office on X @SSAPress.









PIN	PINAL-GILA COUNCIL FOR SENIOR CITIZENS MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT SCHEDULE October 15 <sup>th</sup> - December 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 Pinal and Gila County							
0 1035 N Apache Jun Wednesda	tion Active Adult enter I. Idaho Rd. action, AZ 85119 ay 10/23, 11/27 m-2pm	Coolidge Adult Center 250 S. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St. Coolidge, AZ 85128 Wednesday 10/16, 11/20 9am-2pm		330 N Florence Thursday	n Senior Center . Pinal St. e, AZ 85132 10/17, 11/14 n-2pm			
Casa Gran Wednesda	ell Senior Adult enter E 6 <sup>th</sup> St ide, AZ 85122 y 11/13, 12/05 n-2pm	Eloy Adult Center 3650 W Shedd Rd. Eloy, AZ 85131 Thursday 10/31, 11/27 9am-2pm		Globe Active Adult Center 579 S Broad St Globe, AZ 85501 Tuesday 10/15, 11/12 9am-2pm				
520 M Hayder Tuesday	Hayden Senior Center 520 N Velasco Hayden, AZ 85135 Tuesday 10/29, 11/26 9am-2pm		Miami Senior Center 506 W. Live Oak St Miami, AZ 85539 Tuesday 10/15, 11/12 9am-2pm		enior Center /. Main St , AZ 85541 y 11/06, 12/04 m-2pm			
	Maricopa Ser 41600 W. Smit Maricopa, A Tuesday 10/ 9am-2	h-Enke Road AZ 85138 <b>/22, 11/19</b>	Superior Sen 360 W. M Superior, A Thursday 10/ 9am-2	ain St Z 85541 /3 <b>1, 11/27</b>				
This project is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$749,363 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government								

PAGE 12



Your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) can help with one-on-one, unbiased guidance:

 Understanding costs and coverage
 Comparing options
 Completing the enrollment process

> Find your local SHIP: shiphelp.org • 877-839-2675





Contact PGCSC at: 520-836-2758 or 1-800-293-9393

MEDICARE EXPERTS

SCREENED

🗹 TRAINED

🗹 CERTIFIED

SHIP is a national program of the Administration for Community Living, an operating division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## **3D Mammograms** *made easy!*

Las mamografías, se realizan fácilmente!



### OCTOBER 22, 2024 • 12pm - 4pm

### *No Insurance?* You can receive a FREE SCREENING courtesy of:

No tiene seguro?Usted puede recibir un EXAMEN GRATUITO cortesía de:

🛟 arizona complete health.

To qualify for free mammogram screening you must: Los requisitos para obtener una mamografía gratuita debe:

- Be 35 years of age or older Tener 35 años o más
- Not be breast feeding or pregnant No tiene que estar lactando o embarazada
- Have no current breast complaints or concerns No debe tener quejas o preocupaciones actuales de las senos

Screening services provided by: assured

Viney Jones Library and Community Center 778 N Main Street Florence, AZ 85132



www.assuredimaging.com/viney-jones

OR CALL: 844-674-1295

This event is also open to insured patients! We accept all major insurances. Este evento también está abierto a pacientes con seguro médico! Aceptamos todos los seguros principales.

a Rezolut company

