



Web Simpson 2020 WMPO Champion



Story by Runner Staff, photo by: C. Picciuolo

Above, Ak-Chin Councilmember Lisa Garcia (left) along with Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel are among the first to congratulate Webb Simpson on his PGA tournament win with Waste Management Phoenix Open, Sunday February 2, 2020.

WMPO 2020 leaves lasting impressions with Community

Wow! The 2020 Waste Management Phoenix Open, Presented by The Ak-Chin Indian Community has made its last rounds. For those who were able to attend, it was another epic event, with gorgeous weather, great golf and memorable moments.

The week started out great, especially for Jim Fortier, Ak-Chin Sr. Security Systems Specialist who was chosen to participate in the Monday Coors Light ProAm, along with Brandon Peters, Ak-Chin Treasurer. Both enjoyed a competitive round of golf, and at the end of the day it paid off for Jim as he and his teammates, Kelsey Kipp, Julie Miller, Bobby Wuertz and Pro Roger Sloan took fourth place honors.

"I am grateful for having been given the opportunity to participate in such a prestigious event. It was a very memorable experience." Jim shared.

Tuesday's San Tan Ford Special Olympic Putting Challenge had Bren Valisto out and about with Ak-Chin Vice-Chairman Gabriel Lopez. Both spent the afternoon learning and participating in the fun events. Teammates Mark Ludwig, Captain of the Bristol Bay Fishing Fleet in Alaska and Kyle Lohse, former professional baseball pitcher and member of the Namloki Tribe helped Bren with her putting skills.

Wednesday's Annex Pro-Am was filled with excitement, celebration and celebrities. Team Harrah's with Ak-Chin Fire Chief, Cecil

Peters, Harrah's GM Robert Livingston and Harrah's VIPs Lois Kamysiak and Joseph Brekan were paired up with Brandt Snedeker and Collin Morikawa. Team Southern Dunes, led by Brady Wilson, SD General Manager, Joseph Justin, Community Member and college golf coaches Roy Edwards and Floyd Jensen were paired with Tony Finau and Si Woo Kim.

Joseph was super stoked to be playing with his favorite golfer Tony Finau. "I didn't think I'd ever get paired with Tony Finau. I was hoping I would and it came true, definitely something off the bucket list. Tony is such a nice person, he makes time for the fans that follow him. He was such a great guy, honestly, he was like overall a nice genuine humble person."

The Shot of Glory also wowed everyone with its opening skydiving team landing in the coliseum, followed by a four Blackhawk helicopter flyover and the Star-Spangled Banner performed by the Phoenix Children's Choir. Kelly James ribbed all players who took their Shot at Glory, even those he'd just met. Once the closest to the pin winner was announced it was time to head over to the opening concert at the Coors Light Bird's Nest, featuring Cody Johnson who opened up for Miranda Lambert.

Thursday's action included spectacular weather as well as spectacular play from the field of golfers. By day's end Wyndham Clark with his flurry

WMPO 2020 continues to 1b

Ak-Chin embraces 82nd Annual Tohono O'odham Nation Rodeo and Fair

Photo courtesy of Roberto Q. Narcho



Above, Ak-Chin Toka team pose for a photo during the Tohono O'odham Toka Tournament, which celebrated its 30th year, held on Sunday February 2nd, during T.O.'s Rodeo and Fair.

From left; Deidra Carlyle, Cecily Peters, Lori Allen, Holly Antone, Desirae Antone and Amber Antone (kneeling) enjoyed themselves; playing the traditional game of toka, and representing Ak-Chin.

"We may have not have won but we played the best we could and represented our community. The love for the Toka game is def getting deeper!! Once again thank you ladies for coming out to play ! Thank you to Tohono-

O'Odham-Nation for letting us be apart of your 30th Toka tournament." Amber shared on FB.

Although, Ak-Chin may not have come out in record numbers to this year's event, those who did come out had a great time enjoying the rodeo and fair events, and of course all the delicious food vendors and unique arts and crafts exclusive to native fairs.

Friday's Jr. Rodeo had a few participants from Ak-Chin including Caleb Ugalde, who participated in the sheep and stick horse; Zachary Garcia and Chizzum Justin in steer riding; and Chizzum and Rope Justin who participated in team roping.

Ryan and Tami Justin were also participants in the adult team ropings. Ryan won the 4-Tribe team roping with Ty Romo.

Ak-Chin Council was in full force for the parade on Saturday, February 1, with Chairman Robert Miguel accompanying Tohono O'odham Nation Chairman Ned Norris on the T.O. leaders float, while Ak-Chin Council rode or walked alongside the UltraStar Luxe bus handing out snacks. Little Mr. Ak-Chin Stacie Antone was also in the parade.

Chairman Miguel was thankful for the invitation to participate in all the activities.

T.O. Rodeo and Fair continues to 4b

Low temps hit rural desert areas with hard-freeze



"Here is a picture taken on the farms this morning" shared Adrian Fierro, with Ak-Chin Farms.

Taken Wednesday, February 5, the photo shows one of Ak-Chin's sprinkler systems iced up in the farm's field.

A hard freeze warning was issued for western Maricopa County, Pinal and La Paz counties.

According to the National Weather Service, "Those rural desert areas could see temperatures drop into the upper 20s on Wednesday morning, with a hard-freeze warning beginning in Pinal County, and the Globe and San Carlos areas."

The hard freeze could impact crops and other sensitive vegetation as well as possible damage to plumbing.

Retirement luncheon for Jenny Holsen

Submitted by: Elder Center Staff



Please congratulate Jenny Holsen on her recent retirement.

On Friday, January 3, Ak-Chin elders and staff bid a retirement farewell... "but we'll see you on Monday for breakfast and lunch," to Jenny Holsen, at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club.

During the luncheon elders in attendance honored Jenny with written well wishes, and some also praised her out loud, thanking her for all she's done for the Community and its elders. She was also presented a gift basket and a beautiful Pendleton blanket from the elders, with a turtle on it, representing the Ak-Chin elders.

Chairman Robert Miguel was also asked to share a few words. He spoke of Jenny's commitment to the Community, as well as knowing Jenny as a caring mom, who he admired growing up.

Jenny has worked with the Elder Center as an In-Home Caregiver since 2013, and actually started out as a temp back in 2003. Over time, Jenny built quite a reputation for herself, known as gifted individual with the desire to help people. When a Community Elder needed

in-home assistance, Jenny was highly requested. Her compassion, dependability and great attitude is what made her highly requested.

"She has had the honor of providing end of life care for many of the community's 'eldest Elders'. Now we will be able to show Jenny we care." Shared Candace Alcott, Elder Care Supervisor. "We hope to see her daily here at the center, enjoying meals with the Elders and hanging out in the craft room."

Being a caregiver daily can be difficult and exhausting. Jenny carried out her duties with a great sense of humor and a smile. Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, Elder Center Director shared, "It has been a pleasure to work with Jenny. We do not have to say good bye! Jenny is now an official elder at the Elder Center and is enjoying just being an elder. We are very happy about that."

If you see Jenny around town please thank her for her service to the Ak-Chin Community and wish her a happy and relaxing retirement. Congratulations Jenny! You have been the best!

Let's get rolling!



WHEELCHAIR/WALKER REPAIR DAY: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

The Ak-Chin Elder Center has partnered with Health and Human Services to provide a "Repair Day" for the Ak-Chin Community members who have Walkers or Wheelchairs in need of repair.

If you are an Elder and have a wheelchair or walker in need of repairs, please sign up at the Elder Center.

If you are not an Elder "yet" ☺ please contact Penny Harris with Health and Human Services at 568-1169 to ensure you get scheduled.

Elder repairs will be scheduled from 1:00PM – 3:00PM
Non-Elder community members will be scheduled from 3:00PM – 4:00PM

PLEASE NOTE: Repairs may not be made if parts are not available. A second day will be scheduled for Wheelchairs and Walkers in need of parts.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Candace Alcott at the Elders Center, 568-1770 or Penny Harris at Health and Human Services, 568-1169.

Sign up for Wheelchair/Walker repair day.
It would be helpful if you let us know what problem you are having and let us get a model number from your devices prior to the date.

Jamboree of Joy celebrates caregivers

Submitted by: Elder Center Staff



Family Caregivers, or Care Partners, provide 87% of care in America. Family caregivers/care partners are defined as someone who helps a loved one with one or more routine activities of everyday life, usually without pay.

Often the role of caregiver leads to poor health outcomes for the caregivers themselves. Studies indicate that 1 in 5 caregivers experience higher levels of physical strain, and 2 in 5 find caregiving to be emotionally stressful (AARP, Caregiving in the U.S, 2015). In fact, for those who provide higher hours of caregiving, 53% report higher levels of emotional stress.

FSL (Foundation for Senior Living) presents an event focused on family care partners' achieving and maintaining emotional fitness. Being self-compassionate is the foundation of self-care and emotional health.

The Jamboree of Joy celebrates caregivers with enlightening and motivational speakers, interactivity, movement, sound, and introspection. The event features Dr. Anne Borik, DO - Founder, Prayer Motion. Ak-Chin Indian Community caregivers will be attending this gathering of those who care for their loved ones on February 25, 2020 at the Franciscan Renewal Center at 5802 E. Lincoln Dr. in Scottsdale.

The activities incorporated throughout the event will assist participants with:

- reflecting on giving themselves credit for the tough work they do
- recognizing their resiliency
- moving away from the negative self-talk, and
- practicing "Me Time"

This no cost extravaganza is possible through the generous sponsorship of AARP Arizona.

Elder Center hosts CPR/AED classes

Submitted by: Elder Center Staff



Anyone can find themselves in an emergency and you're never too old to learn Emergency skills.

On January 29th Elders and

Employees of the Elder Center took a CPR/AED class here at the Center.

We had grandparents who are raising their grandchildren, Community Caregivers, and

Elder Center Employees learning lifesaving skills. Each participant learned the techniques, practiced hands on with CPR mannequins, and took a test to demonstrate their knowledge. CPR and First Aid classes are held free of charge, once or twice a year, at the Elder Center for the communities Unpaid Caregivers and Grandparents raising Grandchildren.

Ak-Chin Elders,

Join Us as we Celebrate the Day of Love.

Elder Valentine's Day Party

February 14th

11am

*Ak-Chin Elder Center
48141 W. Farrell Rd.
Maricopa, Az 85139
(520) 568-1760*

W/ Special Guest

ART SESSION: CERAMICS

COME CREATE

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

LEARN & CREATE YOUR OWN CERAMIC PIECE FROM START TO FINISH

Location: Art Building
Session Begins: January 28, 2020
Session Ends: March 26, 2020
When: Every Tuesdays & Thursdays from 11:00AM to 1:00PM (Members, Residents, Employees of the Ak-Chin Indian Community)
 5:00PM to 7:00PM (Members & Residents of the Ak-Chin Indian Community)

Transportation Provided
 Pick Up and Drop Off within the Ak-Chin Indian Community
 For transportation please call: 520-568-1350 (Please call before 4:30 p.m.)

For any additional questions please call: 520-568-1354

Elder Menu

<p>Feb. 7 Chicken Soup w/ Vegetables Moon Bread Pears</p> <p>Feb. 10 Bell Pepper Casserole Mixed Vegetables Romaine Salad Wheat Rolls Zucchini Bread</p> <p>Feb. 11 Split Peas Turkey over Stuffing (D) Red Quinoa Pilaf Broccoli/ Pop Over Pineapple</p> <p>Feb. 12 Salad Bar Potato Soup Crackers Jell-O/Apples</p> <p>Feb. 13 Chicken Fajita Pinto Beans Rice, Green Leaf & Tomato, Peaches</p>	<p>Feb. 14 Lasagna Roll Ups Zucchini & Yellow Squash/ Bread Sticks Salad/ Parfait</p> <p>Feb. 18 Cabbage Stew Carrot Peas Biscuits Fruit Cocktail</p> <p>Feb. 19 Tuna Fish or Chicken Salad Sandwich Broccoli Soup Mixed Vegetables Cookies/Oranges</p> <p>Feb. 20 Sandwich Bar Pasta Salad 3 Bean Salad Watermelon Mint Salad</p> <p>Feb. 21 Red Chili Indian Tacos Corn on Cob Jell-O/Apples</p>
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Chairman Miguel and Leona Kakar, selected 2020 O'odham Tash Parade Grand Marshals

Saturday, February 15.

Chairman Miguel was elated to hear Leona would be his sidekick for Grand Marshal, "I sit in my office and everyday I see this photo of former Chairpersons from Ak-Chin; Chairwoman Leona Kakar, Chairman Jonas Miguel and Chairman Francis Antone Sr., riding horseback in the O'odham Tash parade representing Ak-Chin, I believe the photo was taken back in the 70's."

Both Jonas Miguel and Francis Antone has since passed; Jonas was the chairman's grandfather and Francis was his uncle, so he would love to have the opportunity to somehow be part of that moment.

"I always said to myself that if I could re-incarnate that photo today with myself in it, that it would be one of the highlights of my life. We won't be riding horseback, but to have Leona Legend ride with me, one of my dreams would in reality



Chairman Robert Miguel

come true. Leona doesn't participate in events like O'odham Tash anymore, so I was truly excited to know that she would participate only if we rode together."

Chairman Miguel and Leona invite everyone to come out and see them at the parade as well as enjoy this year's festivities at the 2020 Casa Grande Cowboy Days and O'odham Tash. The parade is scheduled for 10am, and will start at Brown Street and run west down Florence Boulevard to Florence Street.



Past Ak-Chin Chairmen. Pictured from left: Jonas Miguel (badt), Leona Kakar and Francis Antone (badt).

It has been over 40 years since former Ak-Chin Chairwoman Leona Kakar has strolled down Florence Blvd. on horseback, as a participant in Casa Grande's O'odham Tash Parade.

After a bit of prodding and a unique photo op, Leona has graciously agreed to once again be a Grand Marshal, as she joins Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel for the 2020 O'odham Tash Parade.



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16600 N. Maricopa Highway Maricopa, Arizona 85139
OFFICE HOURS
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
MONDAY - FRIDAY
PHONE: 520•568•1375
FAX: 520•568•1376
E-MAIL: runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us

Ak-Chin O'odham Runner Staff
Editor: Raychel Peters
Photojournalists: Justine Peters and Chris Picciuolo
Graphic Artists: Diana Carlyle
News Assistant: Charlene Pane

Ak-Chin Community Council
Chairman: Robert Miguel
Vice Chairman: Gabriel Lopez
Council Members: Delia Carlyle, Lisa Garcia and Octavio Machado

Regular Contributors:
Ak-Chin: Cultural Resources, Education, EPD, Health Education, Him-Dak, Library, Health & Human Services, Recreation & MUSD.

The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner is published on the first and third Friday of each month.

The "Runner" is delivered to all residents and departments of the Ak-Chin Indian Community, as well as surrounding community businesses, interested groups and subscribers.

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The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 16600 N. Maricopa Highway Maricopa, Arizona 85139

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Announcements and wishes may be phoned in, faxed or e-mailed.

ARTWORK, LETTERS, STORIES
The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner is a Community Newspaper and encourages Community involvement.

If you have artwork, photos, poems or a great story that you would like to share, please contact us so we can include it in "YOUR" newspaper.

Also, if you have suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, let the Runner Staff know that too.

All submitted letters MUST be signed by the author and are limited to 200 words. Authors must also include their name, address, and phone number. Names can be omitted by request. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted.

We reserve the right to edit all submitted material for clarity, grammar and good taste. All submissions should be received as typed or non-cursive writing. Please do not submit UPPERCASE or formatted paragraphs.

Submitted pictures need to have a return address and brief description. Pictures with no address will remain on file. Allow 2 weeks for return.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE
2020 Subscription rate is \$33.75. If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$33.75 check/money order to: Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 16600 N. Maricopa Highway Maricopa, Arizona 85139

Make check/money order payable to: Ak-Chin Indian Community

DEADLINE
Don't forget the DEADLINE for the FEBRUARY 21 - MARCH 5, 2020 issue is due by **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020**

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020**

Any material submitted after the **FEBRUARY 14, 2020 DEADLINE** cannot be guaranteed placement. But, if appropriate and relevant, will be included in the following issue.

Ak-Chin Veterans receive donation

On January 24, members of the Mesa Metropolitan USBC Association presented a check to the Ak-Chin Veterans Group from proceeds of the First Annual Military Team Classic bowling tournament held at UltraStar Ten Pins Down in September 2019.

Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel and Ak-Chin Police Sergeant and Marine veteran, Davis Garcia were on hand to accept the donation check.



Humeyumptewa cooking up Native Edible Experience



Left to right: Yvette, Andrew, Miss Indian Arizona, Erica, Twila, Bridget. Picture taken at On The Edge Gallery in Scottsdale by Fox 10. The segment was scheduled to air before the Native Edible Experience, which is being held on Saturday, February 8 and features the cooking of Ak-Chin's own chef Andrew Humeyumptewa. Come on out!

HDS Profile: Yvette Oliver

The Harrah's Development System (HDS) has had a successful 2019 and continues to stay busy at the start of 2020. The program provides Ak-Chin members an opportunity to learn about the ins and outs of how casinos operate and gives associates a chance to travel and explore other venues.



Meet Yvette Oliver. She is gaining great experience rotating throughout the many departments at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino.

Name: Yvette Oliver

Parents/Family: Late Gabriel Vincent & Lena Vincent

HDS Start Date: October 2018

What is your current job/position? HDS Associate II

Work experience prior to Harrah's: None
Area of interest (internship): Bingo has my interest, but I'll know for sure once I'm done with all my rotations.

Reason for applying for and accepting position as HDS Associate: Since my youngest child started kindergarten I thought it was time to get out of the house and do something. The program seemed interesting

— HDS Profile continues to page 4b

O'ODHAM TASH
O'Odham Tash is back in Casa Grande Feb. 15 & 16
PARADE • RODEO • CARNIVAL
SOFTBALL & TOKA TOURNAMENTS
COWBOY CHURCH
All participation forms are on our website www.casagrandecowboydays.com
Preference will be given to rodeo entries in the order they are received.
The City of Casa Grande is proud to be a major sponsor.

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan Update
Due February 29th 2020
Make Your Voice Count!
LET'S SHARE
Ak-Chin Circle
IT'S SURVEY TIME
Win!
One participant who completes the survey will be eligible to win a new: Apple iPad (Latest Model) with Wi-Fi - 32GB - Gold
Only one survey per person is eligible. Drawing for the giveaway will take place in March 2020.
Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan Update
About the Master Plan Update
Various development plans originally identified in the 2013 Ak-Chin Public Use and Commercial Area Master Plan have come to fruition or are in the process of being developed. But there is more work to be done and we need your input.
Take the Survey Today
Please complete the Public Survey for the Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan Update and tell us what types of services, retail, restaurants, and entertainment needs you think would best serve the Community.
Take the online survey at:
<https://AkChinCircleMP.typeform.com/to/N9Kvvn>
DEADLINE: February 29, 2020

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan Update
Community SpeakOut Meeting
Ak-Chin Circle
Monday, February 10th
6:00 - 7:00
SERVICE CENTER
48227 WEST FARRELL ROAD, AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY
About the Master Plan Update
Various development plans originally identified in the 2013 Ak-Chin Public Use and Commercial Area Master Plan have come to fruition or are in the process of being developed. But there is more work to be done and we need your input.
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Please complete the Public Survey for the Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan Update and tell us what types of services, retail, restaurants, and entertainment needs you think would best serve the Community.
Scan me to take the survey
COME SHARE

CREATIVE LEARNING

February 7 - 20, 2020

Leading Edge Academy

Photos submitted by Y. Miranda



Carson DePaola gets on Honor Roll.



Haedin DePaola receives Student of the Quarter.



Stella Miguel receives Student of the Month.

January 31st, Leading Edge Academy held a second quarter award assembly for their students. Among those

recipients were Ak-Chin students Carson DePaola Haedin DePaola and Stella Miguel.

The students were awarded for their hard work during the second quarter of the school year.

Student recognition: Legacy Traditional School

Photos by J. Peters



Kylee Carlyle received a certificate for achieving Principal's Pride. She had all A's on her report card in the second quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.



Mateo Rodriguez received a certificate for his placement on Honor Roll. He had all A's and B's on his report card in the second quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.

Haedin DePaola shines at Spelling Bee

Submitted by Sonia Depaola

Haedin DePaola participated in a spelling bee at Leading Edge on January 28.

"This was to get into the Pinal County Spelling Bee. Haedin fell out in the 3rd round, she got stuck on a word and got stage fright." Shared mom, Sonia DePaola. "I am super proud of her for her hard work!!!"

Haedin competed again the following week against district wide Leading-Edge Charter.



Haedin DePaola at spelling bee.

MUSD's Native American Education Program

FAMILY MATH NIGHT

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF ENJOYMENT!

Math Games and Activities
Fun for All ages
Food and Prizes!

FEBRUARY 11th
at 6:00 PM

Maricopa Unified School District
44150 W. Maricopa/Casa Grande Highway
Maricopa, AZ 85138

RSVP by Feb. 7th | 520-568-5145 | tponticello@mUSD20.org

Ak-Chin Youth Council Presents

Ak-Chin Chickwidaq Tash

February 8, 2020
Old Vaila Site

47701 W. FARRELL RD. MARICOPA, AZ 85139
10 AM - 5 PM

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF TRADITIONAL GAMES!
FOOD BOOTHS ON SITE
BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR

- GINS
- KO'OMAI
- HORSESHOES

TOURNAMENTS AND EXHIBITION GAMES | ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING BETS

- POPOVER CONTEST (ALL MATERIALS PROVIDED)
- WOOD CHOPPING CONTEST (BRING YOUR OWN AXE)

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT THE AK-CHIN YOUTH COUNCIL (520)568-1044
JPAVISZ@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

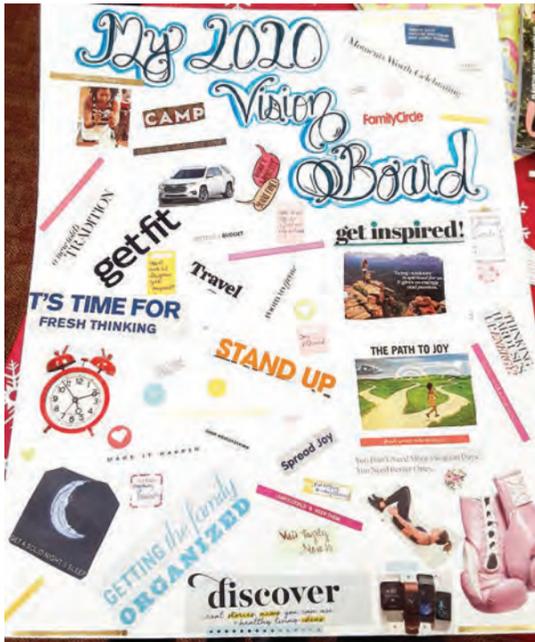
2020 New Year Vision Boards

Story and photos by J. Peters

January 23rd – Thursday afternoon, Ak-Chin members, residents and employees were invited to come create a vision board, or as some would call it motivational. It is a reference board for one to pin down daily motivations and inspirations to help manifest their goals into their own perfecting reality.

Making a board is simple, but takes time; collecting numerous images from various sources like magazines, quotes that inspire, motivational ideas or words, travel destinations, anything really.

Once you have collected all these motivational pieces you then start placing them on a poster board, arranging the inspiring images how



A vision board made during the library crafting time. Photo by Susan Sanchez.

best it seems to fit.

These boards can depict what goals or dreams a person sets for themselves to accomplish within a determined or undetermined amount of time. With this

visionary reminder one will never forget what they are striving for. A number of things can be put on the boards, it all depends on what the maker wants to focus on during their journey of self enhancement.



Healthy living is traditional living.

As you share family stories, share how important healthy living is.

Health care coverage is possible and affordable.

Healthcare.gov
1-800-318-2596



Magazines were used to help find inspirations for the boards.

HDS Visits Harrah's SoCal

Submitted by: Erica Manuel, HDS Supervisor



HDS Associates and Interns stand in front of the seal for the of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians.

November, 2019, Harrah's Development System (HDS) Associates and Interns visited the Harrah's Southern California (SoCal) Property in San Diego, CA.

HDS Supervisor, Erica Manuel and Harrah's SoCal General Manager, Darrell Pilant, coordinated the trip with the vision of creating an experiential visit among the HDS Interns and Associates, broadening their knowledge and continued development within the HDS Program.

Arrangements were made for each of the HDS Interns and Associates to pair up with the department team leaders from the Slot Operations, Slot Performance, Facilities, Beverage, Hotel and Culinary departments.

Following the department

shadowing, the team met with Rincon Councilwoman, Laurie Gonzalez, who provided the group with a tour of the Rincon Government Center.

The trip was definitely an experience for the group; the trip provided useful and valuable insight on the daily operations of Harrah's SoCal Casino.

The group also gained a better understanding of the Rincon Community's governmental processes.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community and the Rincon tribe are comparable in size and population.

Harrah's Ak-Chin and Harrah's SoCal are tribally owned casinos, managed and operated by Caesar's Entertainment.

Harrah's Ak-Chin Resort and Casino announces re-opening of Agave's Restaurant

(MARICOPA, Ariz. – Jan. 20, 2020) – After a four-month renovation and refresh, Agave's Restaurant located at Harrah's Ak-Chin Resort and Casino has re-opened with a whole new look and an updated menu. The newly remodeled 3,869 square foot space with seating for 118 guests boasts indoor and pool-side dining in a new, modernized environment. The restaurant features an elegant yet contemporary casual setting complete with beautiful fixtures and chrome décor where diners can crave an abundance of flavors inspired by Executive Chef Colin Ribble.

Open from 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. seven days a week, Agave's features traditional breakfast fare such as Denver omelets and pancakes as well as Sonoran-inspired breakfast items including Machaca Con Huevos and a Chorizo Con Queso Omelet. Lunch items include burgers, sandwiches and salads, build-your-own tacos and burritos, specialty dessert items and cocktails served in 53-ounce schooners. According to Robert Miguel, chairman of the Ak-Chin Indian Community, "the grand re-opening of Agave's Restaurant gives Harrah's customers another spectacular dining option. It also further supports our commitment to providing the first-class amenities that our customers deserve. At Harrah's, we provide the best, for the best, by the best!"

"The re-opening of Agave's Restaurant is the final chapter of our multimillion-dollar expansion project that touched practically every inch of the Harrah's Ak-Chin property," said Robert Livingston, general manager and regional president of Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino. "Now that we have completed the expansion and celebrated our 25th anniversary, we will continue our 'play for all' philosophy into the coming year."



About Harrah's Ak-Chin Resort and Casino: Celebrating 25 years in Maricopa, Arizona, Harrah's Ak-Chin Resort and Casino is Arizona's first and only tribal casino to have an international management partner. Harrah's Ak-Chin is the only casino in Arizona that allows guests, through its Caesars Rewards program, to unlock benefits and other prizes that can be used worldwide at the entire Caesars' family of casinos.

Harrah's Ak-Chin also boasts the only Bingo hall in the Caesars organization, continuing the proud heritage of William F. Harrah, who opened his first Bingo hall in Reno in 1937.

In addition to its slot machines, video poker, video Keno, statewide progressives and

live action poker and Black Jack, Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino guests can also enjoy a variety of dining options, including the Copper Cactus Grill, Chop, Block & Brew, Oak & Fork, Agave's Restaurant, The Buffet and Dunkin' Donuts®.

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino features 529 luxurious resort and tower guest rooms, spa and fitness center, and an outdoor swimming pool with swim-up bar.

Harrah's Ak-Chin has been named a Most Admired Company by Arizona Business Magazine and Best Companies AZ, and Phoenix Business Journal has named the property one of the "Best Places to Work in the Valley" four consecutive years. Harrah's Ak-Chin was also awarded a Volunteer Service Award from the Arizona Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism.

For more information about Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino, visit www.harrahsakchin.com.

FEBRUARY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

UPCOMING EVENTS
Community Gathering held at the Service Center, 6- 8PM
Community Meeting held at Ak-Chin Service Center, 6-8PM

ELDER CENTER INFORMATION
Elder Center 520-568-1760
Center Hours
Monday-Friday 8 AM to 5 PM
Breakfast 7:30 AM to 9 AM
Lunch 12 noon

Transportation
520-568-1760 or 520-568-1769
Please Call Before 4 PM

Eggs Delivered every Tuesday.
Eggs pick up Wed-Fri 8 AM-3 PM After Hours 520-858-5043

Elder Shopping and Errands are provided every Monday and Friday at 1 PM. If you need transportation for Shopping and Errands on any Other day, please call Transit Department. 520-568-1630

LIBRARY INFORMATION

*Needs to be signed up to be in program. Call 520-568-1675 for more information.
Elder Coloring - Takes place at the Elder Center. Japan Pop - Transportation to and from library is Required. You must be 10 years or older to participate. Baby Time!* - Every Wednesday, 10:00-10:45am. Children 0-5 ONLY & PARENT MUST BE PRESENT.

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday – Friday – 8AM-6PM
Saturday-12PM-4PM
Sunday-Closed

RECREATION INFORMATION
For more information on Rec Center events please call the Rec Center @520-568-1740
Calendar Subject to Change

ELDER CENTER



FEBRUARY 8
30th Annual Heard Museum World Championship Hoop Dance Contest
Pick up Starts @ 7 AM

FEBRUARY 10
Angel Care Home Health w/ Erin Kariuki 12:15 pm

FEBRUARY 11
Wheelchair/Walker Repair Service Center 1 PM to 4 PM

FEBRUARY 12
Diabetes 2 Presentation w/ Health Ed @ 12:15 PM

FEBRUARY 13
Master Plan Ak-Chin Circle Area Elder Input Presentation 12:15 PM

FEBRUARY 14
Valentine Party Elder Center with Special Guest 11 AM

FEBRUARY 17
Center Closed

FEBRUARY 18
Egg Day
Bones & Muscles for Healthy Aging w/Health Ed @ 12:15 PM

FEBRUARY 19
Movie Day

FEBRUARY 20
Education Presentation Higher Education / GED Program 12:15 PM

HEALTH EDUCATION



FEBRUARY 14
ZUMBA 7-8 pm

FEBRUARY 16
ZUMBA 7-8 pm

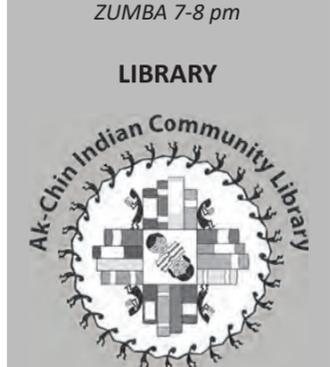
FEBRUARY 21
ZUMBA 7-8 pm

FEBRUARY 23
ZUMBA 7-8 pm

FEBRUARY 28
ZUMBA 7-8 pm

FEBRUARY 30
ZUMBA 7-8 pm

LIBRARY



FEBRUARY 7
Elder Crafts & Lego 11:00am-12:00pm
VIDEO GAME HANGOUT 3:00pm-5:30pm
LEGO ROBOTS 4:00pm

FEBRUARY 8
Movie Club* 9:30am – 4:00pm

FEBRUARY 10
GREEN SCREEN DAY 12:30pm-3:00pm
(Take a photo with your celebrity crush)

FEBRUARY 11
V-Day Cake Pops (KIDS ONLY)

PROGRAM) 1:00pm-4:00pm
Preschool Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm

FEBRUARY 12
Baby Time! 10:30-11:00am
Crazy Elephant Toothpaste 1:00pm-3:00pm
Game Hacker* 4:30pm-6:00pm

FEBRUARY 13
V-Day Cake Pops (ADULTS ONLY PROGRAM) 12:30pm-2:00pm
Preschool Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm

FEBRUARY 14
Adult V-Day SLIME 12:00pm-2:00pm
Kids V-Day SLIME 2:00pm-4:00pm
Library Closes @ 5:00pm

FEBRUARY 15 - 17
Library Closed

FEBRUARY 18
Elder Coloring*, 9am-10am
CANDY SUSHI 2:00pm-4:00pm
Preschool Storytime, 11am-12pm

FEBRUARY 19
Baby Time! 10:30-11:00am
'Nailed It' 2:00pm-5:00pm
Game Hacker* 4:30pm-6:00pm

FEBRUARY 20
Preschool Storytime, 11am-12pm

PARKS & RECREATION



FEBRUARY 7
Open Gym 8am to 5pm

FEBRUARY 8
Open Gym 11am-3pm

FEBRUARY 9
9-12 Basketball League WK 2

FEBRUARY 10
Open Gym 8am –2pm
Heritage Class 2pm-4:30 pm
Mini Basketball Practice 6pm-8pm

FEBRUARY 11
Open Gym 8am-2pm
Heritage Class 2pm-4:30 pm
9-12 Basketball Practice 5pm-6:30pm

FEBRUARY 12
Open Gym 8am –2pm
Heritage Class 2pm-4:30 pm
Mini Basketball League WK 1

FEBRUARY 13
Gym Closed Mats Down For Elder Tournament

FEBRUARY 14
Valentine Elder Chair Volleyball Tournament

FEBRUARY 15
Open Gym 11am –3pm

FEBRUARY 16
9-12 Basketball League WK 3

FEBRUARY 17
GYM CLOSED

FEBRUARY 18
Open Gym 8am-2pm
Heritage Class 2pm-4:30 pm
9-12 Basketball

FEBRUARY 19
Open Gym 8am-2pm
Heritage Class 2pm-4:30 pm
Mini Basketball League WK 2

FEBRUARY 20
Open Gym 8am-2pm
Heritage Class 2pm-4:30 pm
9-12 Basketball
Mini Basketball Practice 6pm-8pm

O'odham Neok

O'odham Word List "Things we use to eat with"

The Language Program is concentrating on things you find "In the Home," the following are everyday items that a person would use while eating, these are considered dining ware. In the next Runner issue, the Language Program will expand the identification of items found inside the home (kitchen area) to include kitchen appliances and dining area items.

We encourage you to identify the items listed below in your home and try to pronounce the item using our O'odham Neok; to help, we encourage you to try and sound the word out using the "Pronouncing the word," area located to the far right of the table.

Share and practice these words with your family and friends, have fun!

English	O'odham	Pronouncing the word
Fork	U'skuanakud	ooz-kwah-nah-kood
Spoon	Kusal	kooh-sah-rrl
Knife	Vainom	veye-nawhm
Plate	Huasa'a	wah-sah-ah
Bowl	Bi:kud	bee-kood

Directions: Using the O'odham words above, write the correct letter with the corresponding picture.

A. U'skuanakud

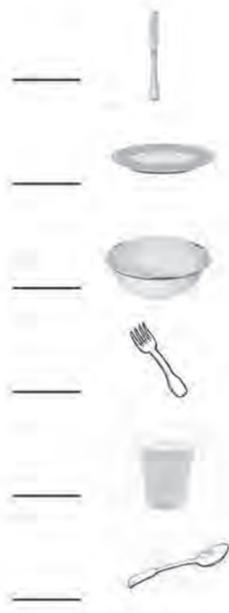
B. Kusal

C. Vainom

D. Huasa'a

E. Bi:kud

F. Ko:ba



O'odham Bingo brings culture to game night

Story and photos by J. Peters

January's community gathering was hosted by the Language Department, on the 30th a evening of O'odham Bingo brought toddlers and everyone in between to the service center for the a night of family, food and of course wining something from the huge pile of prizes.

"Hava" or Bingo, is like the ordinary game in which random number or in this case a word are drawn randomly and announced to the crowd to see if they have the matching word on their "Hava" cards. With O'odham Bingo the twist is that every card and every announcement translated and said in the O'odham language.

Blending the simple game with the native language brought a learning curve to the gathering, as everyone who participated learned words or were given a refresher in the language. The older participants had no problem playing the game but the youths had a slight difficulty understanding what was going on, using this as a teaching moment staff members gladly walked around the room helping anyone who needed assistance with a words, teaching them how to peroneus the word and the meaning of the word.

After a few rounds of bingo, a tasty meal of cocido made with short ribs was served by the departments.



The ladies are making sure the beans are placed in the right spots.



This baby enjoying some yummy cemate.



Language staff serve a meal to members.

Second Quarter Incentive Night celebrates Ak-Chin students' achievements

Story and photos by Runner Staff

The Student Recognition event was held to recognize and celebrate students in grades K-12 for outstanding grades and attendance during the 2nd quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.



Brenley Hackney holds up the grand prize Fire HD10 Kids edition that she won.



Above: Middle school advisor Faith Batopis runs her booth at Incentive Night, visited by Susan Sanchez-Peters, Joanna Acosta and Sophia Peters.

Ak-Chin student advisors, counselors and truant officers worked with students and their families to promote positive achievements in both areas.

Each academic quarter (based on school calendar) allows for students to start anew in terms of grade and attendance, with each

Ak-Chin staff member informing the student(s) of small, but reachable goals in reference to academic achievement and attendance for each academic quarter.

The program was developed by the Education Department in an effort to recognize and celebrate student achievement throughout the school year; the Ak-Chin Education Department is happy to host families for each student recognition event and hope that it continues to grow in the future.



Jennifer Boehm-King and her children, clockwise: Benjamin King, Isaac King, Mateo Rodriguez and Antonio Rodriguez pose for a fun photo at the Runner photo booth.

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS

Interns needed for Summer Program 2020

To be considered for the WIOA College Internship Program:

- Be an enrolled GRIC/AK-CHIN member
- Have a higher education degree and/or certificate
- Be enrolled in a college or university as Jr. or Sr.
- Or Be 3 to 4 Months from graduating from Vocational Training Program

Let us help you get your career started!
Contact Employment & Training
 (520) 562-3385/86 or Email eulonda.martinez@gric.nsn.us

Michael Peters MWMS Girls Basketball Senior Year Season takes off Record 12-4

Story and photo submitted by Veronica Fierro

The first half of the season Michael was wrestling very well. He has suffered some knee injuries that have made the second half very difficult.



Michael Peters pictured on his Senior Night February 23rd. Photo by L. Peters

We are hoping the rehab will be successful and he will be ready to go to sectionals February 8th.

"As his father I am very proud of him and extremely happy he decided to participate in wrestling this season. I am excited to see what the future holds."

-Coach Fierro

Sectionals will be Saturday, February 8th. If he places 4th or better he'll be going to State in Prescott February 13th -14th.



Michael Peters(top) prepares to overturn and pin opponent.

Spotlight: Kaylan Peters

Story and Photo by C. Picciuolo



Kaylan Peters heads down court.

Kaylan Peters is making an impact on the MHS Lady Rams on all squads as a freshman captain and with minutes on the JV and varsity teams. A versatile player, Peters spends most of her time as a shooting guard and small forward, and even runs the point from time to time.

Head coach of the freshman girls team Jenn Miller tells the Runner that Peters leads by example and picks up her team when they are struggling. This fact was apparent when we covered a freshman game on January 17 and Peters scored four of the team's six points in the first quarter.

In the second half, Peters kept the Lady Rams in the game and made a shot in the paint to tie the score 12-12 with 3:15 left in the third.

Peters displayed solid defense and did not back down from any matchup, usually in the middle of any tough grab for the ball, fighting for a rebound and sprinting down the court to set up a shot or play.

Coach Miller says that Kaylan is a great perimeter shooter. "She (Peters) drives to the basket well and moves without the ball to get open.

Kaylan plays intense, heads-up defense so I can safely say she gets a few steals each game," said Miller.

Miller grew up in Maricopa and has been coming to MHS basketball games her whole life and has seen some of the most talented Rams play the game. She says that Kaylan knows what basketball means in this community and she is absolutely living up to the standards that were set in past generations.

"She's exciting to watch and she is definitely a player to watch over the next few years," said Miller.

Coach Miller also says the freshman team is improving every week with a goal this year of getting the young players as many opportunities on the court as they can.

"I'm really proud of how much all the girls have grown," said Miller. "We expect this year's freshmen to contribute and lead at the JV and varsity levels next year."

Kaylan has a head start on these expectations and is on pace to be a leader at the next level.



Mylauni Antone.



Carrianna Villareal.

On January 4th, Maricopa Well Middle School girls' basketball team played against Cactus Middle School from Casa Grande.

The teams played at the MWMS gym with a packed house cheering them on. MWMS came in strong winning the first half of the

Story and Photos by Runner Staff

game but were defeated in the second half, with the final score 30 to 38. MWMS just losing by eight points.

Ak-Chin Community was well represented as four members were on the court; Mylauni Antone, Joanna Acosta, Taylor Santiago, and Carrianna Villareal. The girls played a great game against Cactus.



Taylor Santiago.

The next MWMS Girls Basketball game is February 10th at Desert Winds Middle School. February 11th at Maricopa Wells Middle School and February 18 at Maricopa Wells Middle School.

Come out and cheer our MWMS Panthers on!



Joanna Acosta.



Athletic Shoe Drive

Donations of gently used shoes for all sports (basketball, baseball, soccer, t-ball etc) Being accepted

Shoes benefit Ak-Chin Sport Program participants

Donations can be dropped off at the Recreation Building during normal business hours

For more information or questions please call the Parks & Recreation Department 520-568-1740



If you have a student-athlete from Ak-Chin participating in an upcoming event and would like them covered in future editions of the Runner, please let us know!
Email: runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us
Phone: (520)568-1375

Scorpions win Arizona Crush Softball Tournament

Submitted by Marlene Garcia

Emily Peters along with her Arizona Scorpions teammates won the Arizona Crush Softball tournament on January 18-19, 2020.

The tournament was held at McClintock High School. The Scorpions were undefeated throughout the entire

tournament with an amazing record of 6-0.

Congratulations Emily, your family is very proud of you.

Emily is the daughter of Brandon and Martina Peters and granddaughter of a very proud Marlene Garcia.

Right: Emily Peters lands a hit during her championship game in the Arizona Crush Softball tournament.

Below: The Arizona Scorpions pictured together with their championship awards. Emily is pictured at left, bottom row.



New Years Resolution 5K Run brings healthy habits

Story and photos by C. Picciuolo



The beaming sun came out just in time for the Second Annual New Year's Resolution Run 5k presented by the Ak-Chin Health Education Department on January 25 at the Ak-Chin Service Center.

Some runners had a head start for an unofficial participatory jog around the course at their own pace while 5k participants gathered on E. Elder Loop Road facing the south for a 9:00am start time, preceded by a prayer.

The first place winner was Dakota Thomas,

who is training for the Boston Marathon. Not far behind was Evone Santiago in second, followed by Alyssa Dickerson in third.

When the run was finished, everyone gathered in the Service Center to beef up on breakfast protein and stacked up on portioned fruits and vegetables and learned facts like: one cucumber, 20 cherry tomatoes, 16 strawberries and two individual packages of baby carrots is equivalent in calories to a bag of Doritos.

About 40 people

participated in the event overall, which has been one of the newest events added to Health Education's calendar.

"We wanted to host this event to help everyone get a kick start on the new year to help individuals with their 2020 New Year's resolutions and/or fitness goals," said Ak-Chin health educator Martina Peters.

Health Education would like to thank the following departments and individuals for assisting us with our event. We could not have done it without your

help!

Ak-Chin Sanitation Department, Ak-Chin GIS, Ak-Chin Fire Department, Ak-Chin Police Department, Ak-Chin Farms, Ak-Chin Security, Vekol Market, Nicole Delma.

Thank you to all the participants for joining us at our first 5K of 2020! I hope you enjoyed our event and the route. Please save the date. Our next event will be held on February 22nd at the Ak-Chin Service Center.

Mega Volleyball soars at Rec

On January 28, 10 teams tried with all their might to get the 6 foot "Mega Volleyball" over the net as Ak-Chin departments worked together for a big start to a brand new year.

Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation director Ann Marie Antone said that she wanted employees to laugh and have a good time in the funniest manner possible.

"We want to incorporate team building among departments," she said.

This tournament was "single-elimination" due to court size restriction, but that could change in the future.

Mega plans are in the works such as indoor field hockey, badminton and a video game room.



1st Place- Recsters



2nd Place- Hema Ep



3rd Place- Fire Department



Top females L-R: Julene Narcia, Alyssa Dickerson, Evone Santiago, Nicole Delma, Irene Arredondo, Enna Post.



Top males L-R: Albert Tom, Dakota Thomas, Harley Gilbert Jr., Owen Santiago, Marcos Santiago, (female) Layla Santiago and her father Albertino Santiago.

AN OFFICIAL MESSAGE FROM THE MARICOPA COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT:

HEY VOTERS!

I'm Phil the Ballot - Did you know only registered Democrats can vote in the Democratic Presidential Preference Election on March 17th?

Let's meet up at

BeBallot READY

 **.vote**



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



FOR VOICE INFO, CALL 602-506-1511



Gila River
HEALTH CARE

Were you treated with kindness & respect?

At Gila River Health Care, our Patient Advocates welcome your questions, concerns, and compliments regarding your care.



Patient Advocates: Star; Valerie; Veronica; Marcilla

**We'd love to hear about your experience!
Call to speak with a Patient Advocate.**

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
(520) 562-3321

Komatke Health Center
(520) 550-6000

Hau'pal Health Center
(520) 796-2661



Main:
(520) 562-7400
Admissions Office:
(520) 562-7411 / (520) 562-7447
Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM to 6:30 PM

grhc.org/tch

OFFERED SERVICES:

- Specialized Rehabilitation (Physical, Occupational Therapies and Speech-Language Pathology)
- Total Direct Care
- 24 Hour Registered Nurse Staffing
- On-Staff Nurse Practitioner
- Alternative Therapies (Chiropractic, Massage Therapy, and Acupuncture)
- Wound Care
- Podiatry
- Therapeutic Recreation
- Beauty & Barber Services
- Deli Service
- Outdoor Garden
- Movie Theatre

ADULT DAY CARE SERVICES:

- Hot Meals & Snacks
- Arts & Crafts
- Community Outings
- Group Exercise
- Entertainment

LIFE CENTER

DIABETES, ENDOCRINOLOGY & WELLNESS

Let's Ask Dr. Roopa



What is the kidney's role in our body?



The kidney's main job is to filter waste and excess fluids from the blood into the urine to be passed out of the body. The kidneys also play a key role in maintaining blood pressure.

How to detect kidney disease?

It can be detected early and easily by simple lab tests like a Urine test for proteins and blood tests for creatinine and Glomerular filtration rate (eGFR). These are checked at least once a year in people with

Please Check With Your Doctor For A Simple Urine Protein And Blood Test

PREVENT OR SLOW THE PROGRESSION OF DIABETIC KIDNEY DISEASE BY

<p>Taking medications to control high blood pressure</p>	<p>Managing changes in eating, diet, and nutrition</p>
<p>Managing blood glucose levels</p>	<p>Losing weight if you are overweight or obese</p>
<p>Getting regular physical activity</p>	

© TheDiabetesCouncil.com

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GET YOUR FLU SHOT!



Walk in or call any of our locations to get your flu shot today!



Reminder!
Gila River Health Care's Administrative Offices and Outpatient Clinics will be

CLOSED

IN OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY 4/10/2020

If someone told you that **your baby's chances of dying** are **40 TIMES GREATER**

when sleeping in an adult bed rather than a crib, where would you put your baby to sleep tonight?



Practice The ABCs of Safe Sleep:

- A** Alone
- B** Back
- C** Crib

Baby sleeps safest **ALONE**, on their **BACK**, and in a **CRIB**.
For more information: <https://dcs.az.gov/services/office-prevention>



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of CHILD SAFETY
Office of Prevention



ROADWAY TO SAFER TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Protect Our FUTURE

Use child safety seats on every ride.

The Facts

- ◆ Among children aged 0-12, American Indian and Alaska Native children have the highest traffic death rate of all racial/ethnic groups in the United States.¹
- ◆ More than half of car seats and booster seats are not used correctly. If the seat isn't installed the right way, or you're using the wrong type of seat for your child's age, height, or weight, your child is not as safe as he or she could be.²
- ◆ Using age- and size-appropriate car seats, booster seats, and seat belts significantly reduce the risk of injury and death among children in a crash.

Help Keep Yourself and Your Loved Ones Safe

- You can help keep yourself and your loved ones safe by:
- ◆ Using a car seat, booster seat, or seat belt on every trip, no matter how short.
 - ◆ Finding the right car seat or booster seat for your child's age, height, and weight. See the chart below for tips.



- ◆ Getting help installing a car or booster seat from a certified child passenger safety technician.
- ◆ Properly buckling children aged 12 and under in the back seat. The back seat is safest for children.
- ◆ Never placing a rear-facing car seat in front of an airbag. Airbags can injure or kill small children riding in the front seat.
- ◆ Not using traditional baby carriers (such as cradleboards) in place of a car seat. Traditional carriers do not keep children safe in cars or trucks.
- ◆ Always wearing a seat belt when pregnant. Be sure to wear the lap belt below your belly. Place the shoulder belt across your chest—never behind the back, under the arm, or across the stomach.³

EMPLOYEE UPDATE



Mathilda Miguel
Security Guard
Guards



Mauricio Chairez
Driver
Sanitation

Happy Birthday Son
See you soon.
Can't wait so we can party.
Love Mom

Happy Birthday to my daughter Jeannette
Love, Mom

Happy Birthday to my grandsons Eugene Jr. and Marlon and my granddaughters Michaela, Aleena and Jane
Love, Grandma

Happy Valentine's Day to our ♥'s Warren, Rachel & Daniel, Cecily & Bri, Dannon, Morgan, Percy, Aubrey, and O.P.
Love, Bapa and Luma

Happy Valentine's Day to ALL!!
From the Runner

HAPPY Valentine's Day to all of our Elders in the Community!!

February Employee Birthdays

1 Anthony Giovanni, Fire & Safety Wesley Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation	8 Concepcion Miguel, Human Resources Jade Rodriguez, Courts	13 Griselda Fonseca Saldana, Maintenance
2 Mario Molina, Education	10 Julia Dickerson, Parks & Recreation Steven Schaecken, Fire & Safety	14 Lori Leavitt, Fire & Safety
4 Francine Sanchez, Early Childhood	11 Kyle Chavez, Law & Order Salinda Lopez, Human Resources	15 Diana Velazquez, Education
6 Abiel Parsons, Housing	19 Lisa Garcia, Council Marcos Santiago, Parks & Recreation	20 Aaron Apodaca, Vekol
7 Matthew Tess, Education	12 Grace Pablo, Housing	

AK-CHIN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Accountant
- Archaeologist
- Police Officer – Certified
- Police – Non-Certified
- Detention Officer – Certified
- Detention Officer – Non-Certified
- Police Commander
- Driver -Sanitation
- Driver – Elder Program

Open to Enrolled Ak-Chin Members Only

- Art Technician
- Cultural Resources Specialist

APPLICANTS CAN NOW APPLY ONLINE!
Visit Ak-Chin Indian Community website (www.ak-chin.nsn.us) and click Job Openings to review or apply for an open position. If you are claiming Indian Preference, proof of tribal enrollment **MUST** be submitted at the time of application.

NOW HIRING

ULTRA Star MULTI-TAINMENT CENTER Ak-Chin Circle

- Experienced Line Cook
- Experienced Server
- Experienced Bartender
- Experienced Nightclub/Sports Bar Server
- Experienced Maintenance Mechanic

Interested candidates may apply at UltraStarAZ.com or pick up an application at Ultrastar's box office.

February

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1 Chyenne Anderson Adam Bowman Angelina Arellanes-Burgos Christopher Cypriano Ian Narcia
2 Jonah Dickerson David Manuel, Jr. Preciousrose Warren	3 Elizabeth Antone Roxanne Vincent	4 Latasha White	5 Charles Carlyle Dominique Nosie-Romo Benny Romo	6 Audrina Antone Stella Miguel	7 Eugene Peters, Jr. Bercco Thompson, Jr.	8 Geneva Antone Elizabeth Baptisto Marcos Olivas, Jr. Deana Quinonez
9 Aiyana Campbell	10 Alexandra Carlyle Julia Dickerson Isaiah Osife Draven Soliz	11 Kyle Chavez Mary Diaz Jeanette Peters Marlon Peters	12 Destiney Delowe Grace Pablo Erin Pete Caleb Ugalde	13 Karin Smith Koren Vincent	14 DeliAnna Lewis Valentina Narcia Justin Perillo Michaela Peters Johnny Stephens	15 Terry Aguilla, Jr. Aleena Antone Carole Lopez Cheyenne Vallejos
16 Lanita Lopez	17 Mara Delores Jose Lopez	18 Annalise Manuel Edward Martinez Andrea Reams	19 Lisa Garcia Jane Lopez Jonas Miguel Kerrin Miguel Allan Narcia Philbert Narcia, Jr. Marcos Santiago Tyra Williams	20 Rechanda Manuel Maria Narcia Unique Santiago	21 Calvin Van Sickle	22 Perris-Jade White
23 Ryleigh Delores Joshua Dominguez Joseph Narcia Octaviana Ormsby Victor Ortega Norbert Peters, Jr.	24 Keira Attakai Kylie Gardner Junior Peters	25 Alexander Lopez Corianna Nevarez Vallejos	26 Christian Castro Havier Francisco Stephens, Jr. Joseph Thomas	27 Woodrow Marsh Shyla Thomas	28 Rebecca Alvarez Raymond Miguel Robert Narcia Victoria Smith	29 Cody Miguel Traci Thomas

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Environmental Protection Department
(Water Operations)



OUTDOOR WASTEWATER/SEWER EMERGENCIES CALL 520-858-6999

OUTDOOR WATER EMERGENCIES CALL 520-858-6061

Like Us On **facebook**



The Ak-Chin Indian Community is now on Facebook!
Make sure to LIKE us to stay up-to-date on what is happening in the Community.

Arroyo Grille toasts to Prisoner Wine Co.

Story and photo by C. Picciuolo

Arroyo Grille at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club presented a five-course wine dinner event with wine pairings featuring The Prisoner Wine Company on January 18 to much success.

Matt Hale from The Prisoner Wine Company and Jeff Douglas and Stuart McCall from Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits joined Arroyo Grille for the evening.

According to food and beverage manager/sales and catering manager Danielle Klutz, Southern Dunes had record wine sales to the 42 guests in attendance totaling 139 bottles. The five course, five pairing meal was prepared

by Chef Neil Magbanua.

Chef Magbanua named broths and creams after the wine being paired with each course, which included: roasted chicken thigh, artichokes, spring onions and blindfold cream paired with a 2017 "Blindfold White Blend" and shellfish soup, scallop, mussel, clam, garlic, onion, thyme, warm baguette and snitch broth paired with the 2016 "The Snitch," among other courses.

The Prisoner Wine Company just launched a new brand three weeks ago called "Unshackled" with a cabernet, red blend and rose.



"The Prisoner" and "Eternally Silenced" wines.

Southern Dunes is currently offering a wine deal through April 12, 2020, starting at \$120 per person plus tax, where a guest can play 18 holes and receive a custom labeled bottle of Kendall-Jackson's Vintner's Reserve Pinot Noir after their round as a keepsake or for a special occasion.

Movie Showtimes

Friday, Feb. 7, 2020 through Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020

Birds of Prey (R) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Thu: 7:00, 8:00 Fri & Sat: 11:00 AM, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 10:55 Sun - Thu: 11:00 AM, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00 6:00, 7:00, 8:00
Bad Boys for Life (R) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Thu: 11:15 AM, 12:30, 2:15, 3:45, 5:45, 8:45 Fri & Sat: 11:05 AM, 12:15, 3:15, 5:45, 7:15, 8:30, 10:30 Sun - Thu: 11:05 AM, 12:15, 3:15, 5:45, 7:15, 8:30, 10:30
1917 (R) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Thu - Thu: 11:00 AM, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45
Dolittle (R) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Fri & Sat: 11:30, 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25 Sun - Thu: 11:30, 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
Gretel & Hansel (PG-13) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Fri & Sat: 11:45 AM, 2:45, 5:30, 8:15, 10:50 Sun - Thu: 11:45, 2:45, 5:30, 8:15
The Gentlemen (R) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Fri & Sat: 11:10 AM, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 10:10 Sun - Thu: 11:10, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05
Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Fri - Thu: 12:30 AM, 3:30, 7:10, 10:15
The Rhythm Section (R) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Fri - Thu: 4:45, 7:45
The Turning (PG-13) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Fri - Thu: 11:15 AM, 1:30, 4:30, 7:35, 10:20
Just Mercy (PG-13) Star Class 21+; Upcharge Applies	Fri - Thu: 1:15, 10:35

Come Bowl With Some Love With Your Family.

Love

Heart Shaped Pizza

Available Only at Ten Pins Down While Supplies Last

\$10

OFFER VALID ON FEBRUARY 14TH ONLY!

HAPPY Valentine's Day

DINNER & A MOVIE

FEB 14 • \$30**

SPECIAL INCLUDES:
1 Entree of Your Choice and
1 Slice of Chocolate Cake from the 347 Grill
1 Movie Ticket
1 Regular Popcorn

**Price is listed per person. Taxes and Gratuity not included. Reservations highly suggested. Available for purchase at the Box Office and 347 Grill. Offer not valid in the Luxe Lounge.

UltraStarAZ.com

16000 Maricopa Road, Maricopa, AZ 85139 • Theater Info (520) 494-7827 • (520) 568-3456

SUMMER WEDDING EXCLUSIVE

Hemapda Ki

The Gathering Place
at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club

All-Inclusive Wedding \$2500

June, July & August 2020 Bookings
*Some Restrictions Apply

FOR INFO & BOOKING 520.426.6832 AKCHINSOUTHERNDUNES.COM

ARROYO GRILLE

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Proudly owned by the Ak-Chin Indian Community

Harrah's AK-CHIN CASINO FEBRUARY 2020



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE SWEEPSTAKES

EARN ENTRIES

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH 2020

2 REWARD CREDIT BONANZA SUPER BOWL LIV	3 50% OFF NATIVE AMERICAN JEWELRY AT THE GIFT SHOP ALL FEBRUARY	4 MARBLE STONE POTS & PANS GIVEAWAY	5 MARBLE STONE POTS & PANS GIVEAWAY	6 COME OUT & PLAY	7 REWARD CREDIT BONANZA SEAFOOD BUFFET \$31.99	8 THE SPA PLAN A SPA DAY SEAFOOD BUFFET \$31.99
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23 REWARD CREDIT BONANZA	24 COME OUT & PLAY	25 MARBLE STONE POTS & PANS GIVEAWAY	26 MARBLE STONE POTS & PANS GIVEAWAY	27 ENJOY LIVE ENTERTAINMENT IN THE LOUNGE	28 REWARD CREDIT BONANZA SEAFOOD BUFFET \$31.99	29 SEAFOOD BUFFET \$31.99

More 2020 WMPO Highlights...



What a sweet surprise as Tony Finau gives his autographed shoe to Rope Justin during the Annexus Pro-Am on Wednesday, January 29.

of birdies led after round one.

Friday's leader was J.B. Holmes as he set the pace with a 13-under par. Fan favorite Rickie Fowler fared much better on Friday, working his way back from a +3 on Thursday to -3 Friday, making the final cut for Saturday.

There was plenty of green on Saturday, for the GreenOut to promote Waste Management and its recycling efforts. Tony Finau received much attention and quickly became one of the crowd favorites as he slowly chipped away at the lead, with a bogey free 9-under par, that included seven birdies and one eagle. Giving him 16-under par for Sunday, followed by Webb Simpson, who started out Sunday at 15-under par.

The big showdown came down to Tony Finau and Webb Simpson who were neck and neck the whole day, and ended up tied at -17 on Sunday with Justin Thomas, Nate Nashley and Bubba Watson tied for third at -14. Simpson was down a couple of shots with only two holes to play and closed 17 and 18 with two clutch birdies



Morikawa from Los Angeles, CA. Snedeker has been on the PGA Tour since 2007 and has won the FedEx Cup. Morikawa turned professional in 2019 and is at the tender age of 22... living the dream! Both were extremely nice and helped us read our putts throughout the round.

I think the most exciting moments for me were on 16. The first two years when I walked through the tunnel, I could feel my heart pumping. My only regret is that I have not been able to put a ball on that green. I guess I work too much to be good at golf. I am extremely grateful to the Ak-Chin Community for allowing me to participate in this event over the years.

My experience over the last five years has been awesome. I've been able to meet and play golf with some of the best in the game. In addition to Snedeker and Morikawa, I have played with Steve Stricker, Billy Horschel, Patrick Reed, Bryson DeChambeau, Beau Hossler, and Webb Simpson.

My highlight this year was a 50-foot putt for Birdie which was a net Eagle on our scorecard.

Brady Wilson, Southern Dunes General Manager
"Great weather + great PGA Players + great teammates = a great day."

The first year I hit a horrible tee shot on the 17th hole... so bad I had 160 yards in from a side hill lie in the rough, over a hospitality tent. I hit the shot to 10 feet and made a birdie in my Peyton Manning Broncos jersey. Ian Poulter looked at me and said 'that is whip cream on a turd if I ever saw one.'

Look at how much the event has grown during the years under the Community's sponsorship.

The first year, there was no Cube behind 18, Bay Club, Cove or suites on the right of 18... and the charitable donations have continued to skyrocket each year. It seemed like the tournament really flourished during the Community's involvement.

Also, watching Joseph Justin play this year with his favorite golfer, Tony Finau, was awesome. He hit his best shot of the day on 16 and the ball never left the flagstick. It went deep, but while it was in the air it looked like it was going to be close or a hole in one!

Brittany Sourjohn, Community Events and Marketing Manager

The experience of being part of #thepeoplesopen is one I will never forget! It is a great time to meet new people, talk to vendors and catch up with community members and employees.



Brittany Sourjohn, Ak-Chin Community Events and Marketing Manager, Brady Wilson, Southern Dunes General Manager, and Mike Kintner, Harrah's Ak-Chin Director of Marketing and Operations, enjoy their moment at Ak-Chin's Corporate Tent on 18.

The Thunderbirds were an amazing organization for the community to be partnered with, they are all about supporting local charities and strive to put dollars back into the community! From my perspective, they were always responsive, helpful, easy to work with and nothing but accommodating!

The 16th hole has always been a hot commodity! Also, Bird's Nest tickets fly out of this office. The Dierks Bentley concert had the most raffle entries out of the 4 concerts.

I enjoyed seeing members become more and more interested over the 5 years of the partnership. We had more ticket requests this year than in years 1 through 4. We have great relationships with the Enterprises but this event really gives us the opportunity to work together on a different level. That is a highlight for me!

I will miss working the event all week, the experience is always memorable and I was shocked at how many people were at the event earlier this year. I would say Wednesday must have set a record for attendance!

Joseph Justin, Community Member

I would like to thank my Community along with Council and Brandon Peters for giving me the opportunity to play in the pro-am... I can't thank Brandon enough for suggesting me to play. Also want to thank Events as well for all they do.

WMPO is quite the experience, an event I will definitely remember like no other. Being on the same grounds and the same course as the professional golfers I follow, along with the professional athletes is something I will remember for a lifetime.

My highlight of the day was playing with Tony; when I had good shots and heard him say good ball, along with my fellow players, it brought my confidence back up when I was doing bad.

Approaching the tunnel to the 16th hole was very nerve-wracking. My shot on 16 is a shot I will remember forever (just ask Brandon or Brady about my shot on



Bren makes putting look so easy at Tuesday's Special Olympics putting challenge.

16). Once I started out on the first hole getting to the 16th hole was on my mind pretty much the whole round. I hit the green so I didn't get booted. My ball was literally like pin-high on the green.

Robert Miguel, Ak-Chin Chairman

The Waste Management Phoenix Open was one to remember as Webb Simpson and Tony Finau battled to a playoff with Simpson coming out on top when it was all said and done. The Ak-Chin Community for the past 5 years have been blessed to have had a relationship with Dan Mahoney of the Thunderbirds and John Bridger of the Phoenix Open, the two are second to none and have treated Ak-Chin well. I think one of the things I'll come away with, is that of the 5 years we've been associated with the

Open, 3 actually went into a playoff match. It was great to see community members, constituents, employees of the Ak-Chin, and other Tribal Leaders enjoy the Open. They were all able to take in all the professional golfers, professional athletes, and just the overall experience of watching thousands and thousands of people having fun watching someone hit a little white ball into a hole with hopes of winning one million or thousands of dollars. Not many Native American communities are able to support and sponsor events such as the Open, but Ak-Chin was able to. Giving our members the opportunities to interact and enjoy "The People's Tournament" is something they'll remember for the rest of their lives.

Thank you, Ak-Chin!



Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel (left) with good friend Chairman of the Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribe in Connecticut.



Team Snedeker- Morikawa



Team Finau- Si Woo Kim



Concert-goers enjoy fun in the Ak-Chin Cabana at Birds Nest



Some familiar faces outside of the G-Eazy/Warren G concert on Thursday night.



Team Sloan with Jim Fortier



Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps gives autographs on Wednesday.



Bren Valisto, Mark Ludwig & Kyle Lohse giving a thumbs up.



Brandt Snedeker helps Cecil Peters line up his putt on 15 as Allen Allcott looks onward.



Warren G stole the show with his old school hip hop and interaction with the fans before G. Easy took the stage on Thursday's Birds Nest concert.



WMPO 2020 winner Webb Simpson presented with earnings surrounded by the Thunderbirds



Football legend Emmitt Smith and Chairman Robert Miguel at Players Club.



Team Jertson with Brandon Peters



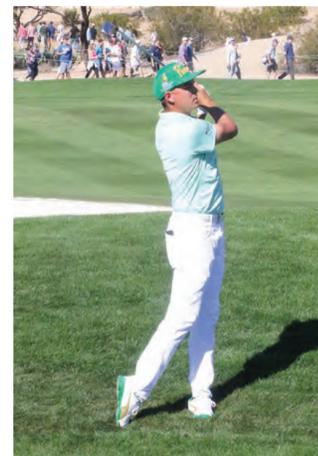
Ak-Chin FD enjoy the comforts at 18 corporate tent.



UltraStar crew, Left to right: Laurie McCartney AGM/ director of marketing, David Trujillo entertainment operations manager, Angela Howell HR, Michelle Trujillo, Jennifer Birk sponsorships and advertising, Bryce Bowen lead projectionist, Steve Garcia, Kelly Garcia purchasing and accounting, Adam Saks GM VP UltraStar and his wife Lynn.



The Goodyear Blimp floats above the 18 hole on Sunday.



Rickie Fowler on 9



Joseph Justin and son Jaxton inside the Coliseum on 16.



The scoreboard being updated after the final round went into a playoff between Finau and Simpson.

AK-CHIN HEALTH EDUCATION PRESENTS...
6TH ANNUAL Valentine's Day 5K
 2.22.2020

Event Info

Date: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22ND, 2020
Time: 8:00 AM EVENT CHECK-IN 8:30 AM 5K START
Location: AK-CHIN SERVICE CENTER 48227 W. FARRELL RD.
Details: EARLY REGISTRATION AVAILABLE. T-SHIRTS TO FIRST 150 TO REGISTER. BREAKFAST PROVIDED! PRIZES FOR TOP FINISHERS!

Did you know February is American Heart Month? Physical activity helps keep the heart and blood vessels healthy! Come join us and take action to keep your heart healthy.

Questions? Please contact Health Education at (520) 568-1080

ARTS & CRAFTS VENDORS WANTED

Ak-Chin Him-Dak Eco Museum 29th Annual Celebration

Date: April 4, 2020
Time: 8:00AM - 1:00PM
Location: Ak-Chin Him-Dak Eco Museum

If you are interested or have any questions please call the museum at (520)568-1350.

47685 W. Eco-Museum Rd Maricopa, AZ 85139

FOOD VENDORS WANTED

Ak-Chin Him-Dak Eco Museum 29th Annual Celebration

Date: April 4, 2020
Time: 9:00AM - 1:00PM
Location: Ak-Chin Him-Dak Eco Museum

If you are interested or have any questions please call the museum at (520)568-1350. 47685 W. Eco-Museum Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85139

INFO BOOTHS WANTED

Ak-Chin Him-Dak Eco Museum 29th Annual Celebration

Date: April 4th, 2020
Location: Ak-Chin Him-Dak Eco Museum
Time: 8:00AM-1:00PM

If you are interested or have any questions please call the museum at (520)568-1350.

47685 W. Eco-Museum Rd Maricopa, AZ 85139

GATHER: FOOD, FUN & FAMILY

HEALTHY FAMILY HABITS START AT THE DINNER TABLE SHARE SOME QUALITY FAMILY TIME AS WE PREPARE AND SHARE A DELICIOUS FAMILY STYLE DINNER

SPRING SESSION
 MARCH 3rd & MARCH 10th
 Ak-Chin Service Center
 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM

*Open to the first (2-3) Ak-Chin families to sign up
 *Additional gathering sessions will be offered quarterly
 *Attendance required on both session dates

Every family leaves full of good food, good times, and good (GFFF) swag!

Questions? Please contact Lynne Houston-Volden at (520) 568-1086 or Martina Peters at (520) 568-1085.

T.O Fair and Rodeo continued from Front

During the Toka Tournament a special tribute was held for Teresa Choyguha and Elisha Flores, both were recognized for their spirit and fight as they both battle cancer. Cards with

a picture of Teresa in front with ladies playing Toka and a saying from Teresa on back were handed out in honor of Teresa and Elisha.



The Schuk Toak Elders on their great looking float.



Councilmember Octavio Machado with son Octavio Jr., hand out snacks as Pate Justin and Zachary Garcia hold up Ak-Chin Council banner.



Chizzum and Rope Justin participated in team roping events.



The starting line of the Tohono O'Odham Nation Rodeo and Fair parade.



Chairman Robert Miguel greets the T.O. community during parade.



Team Ak-Chin plays against Casa Grande.



Caleb Ugalde participated sheep riding and stick horse events.



Submitted by Dorissa Garcia

O'odham Nation.

This is a picture of Doria Garcia (middle) along with Miss Tohono O'odham Nation 2020, SuNigh Antone (left) and her 1st Attendant, Tanika Raymond (right).

When she saw her, SuNigh was excited to see her and they refer to each other as twins and call each other's "My Ak-Chin twin/My Tohono O'odham twin" SuNigh is the President of the Tohono O'odham Youth Council.

Was taken on Saturday during their Pow Wow Gourd Dancing. Doria was pretty excited when she was told her friend SuNigh was chosen as Miss Tohono

We wish them both well as they start their duties and know that they will do a great job on them representing their Nation.

HDS Profile continued from page 3a

so figured I'd try it.

Length of rotation/current position: Just finished Slots after a month, will start Cage on Friday.

Most memorable events so far? Attending the conferences, there's always something, we always have fun when we go on them (NIGA/AIGA/G2E).

What do you like/enjoy most about the HDS program? I enjoy the rotations, it's always something different as well as getting to learn new things about the property.

What do you like least/enjoy about the HDS program? It would probably have to be some of the shift changes. You get used to one shift and then a few days later you start a different shift in some rotations.

What skill/knowledge have you gained from the HDS program? Since being in the HDS program I have actually learned a lot. In the rotations; learning about the different types of departments; how they run and what's needed to make them run. Also, helping guests and directing them to where they're headed to or help them look for different things.

Graduation Date? Fall 2020
How has being part of the HDS program changed your life/career path? The program has changed my life in a few ways, helps managing my time.

Comments or advice for others currently interested in HDS program? Follow your dreams, catch them and succeed in them. Never underestimate yourself.

Ultimate goal: To complete the whole program and stay with the casino.

Hobbies: Enjoying family time, traveling when we get the chance.

Save the Date!



INDIAN FESTIVAL

free family event + food trucks + performances + storytelling + kids activities + artisan market + music
For more information visit: ArizonaIndianTourism.org or Facebook at: Arizona Indian Festival

February 8 & 9, 2020
Scottsdale Civic Center

75th Anniversary Iwo Jima Flag Raising
Military Parade and Flyover to begin at 8:30 AM. Ceremonies to follow at the Mathew B. Juan, Ira H. Hayes Veterans Memorial Park in Sacaton, AZ.
All Public and Veterans Groups are welcome

Feb.22 2020

Luncheon hosted by American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 84 with St. Peter Church and School. Event sponsored by American Legion Ira H. Hayes Post No. 84 and Auxiliary Unit No. 84. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 186 Sacaton, Az. 85147 / Phone: 520-562-8484 / Fax: 520-562-3297. Email Address: ihpost84@gilanet.net / Website: irahayespost84.org

CHICKEN SCRATCH BATTLE OF THE BANDS

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020 12:00 p.m. | **SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020 12:00 p.m.**

MUL-CHU-THA FAIRGROUNDS | SACATON, AZ
Registration Opens February 3, 2020 | Registration Deadline: February 28, 2020

1st place: **\$1,500.00**
2nd place: **\$1,000.00** | 3rd place: **\$500.00**

Awards for Best Instrument: Drums, Accordion, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Saxophone and Percussion

To sign up, please call (520) 562-9859 or 9713 or email: MulChuTha@gric.nsn.us

GLA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY AND COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE SHALL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR BODILY INJURY, THEFT, OR DAMAGES INCURRED DURING THE MUL-CHU-THA FAIR & RODEO