

2019 Ak-Chin Masik Tas continues to bring great entertainment and new events

Story and photos by Runner Staff

This year's Masik Tas should be remembered for many things; the first of course being our language, as this year's theme focused on; "Our Language is Our Medicine... We Lose Our Language, We Lose Our Medicine."

The weather was also something to remember, which was pretty decent, despite a little rain on our parade during the first weekend. And although the clouds seemed to circle the community at times then leave, it seemed the rain only fell as things were coming to an end, and the light sprinkling that did fall did not put a damper on Masik Tas events.

Memorable moments would also include the new lineup for this year's rodeo making it a FULL rodeo that spanned over two days and offered all the standard events and three new ones; Ladies team roping, 4-Tribes team roping and Century roping.

Whether it was the

adrenaline pumping rodeo action, tournaments galore, live entertainment, great carnival or all that delicious carnie food; fun and community gatherings were found both weekends.

The best ballers from surrounding Native Communities assembled for the 2019 Masik Tas Basketball Tournament at Ak-Chin Indian Community. The women's teams played on December 7 at the Maricopa High School Multi-Purpose Gym in Maricopa while the men's teams played at the Rec from December 5-8.

No Ak-Chin teams played at the women's tournament, but in what was a theme throughout both tourneys, the women's games were competitive with close scores.

In a matchup to make it to the championship game, X-Factor and Unknown ran a super close game, with Unknown taking the



Amber Antone makes steer riding look easy at the 2019 Masik Tas Bull Bash on Friday, Dec. 13.

overall win and X-Factor taking third.

Unknown gave it their all after playing back to back games. The championship game was intense and close in score, with Ball it Up taking the win. Ball it Up's #42 came out with the MVP, while #11 and #50 took All-Tourney honors. Unknown's #20 and X-Factor's #32 were also selected for All-Tourney.

Leading off the men's games, the Ak-Chin team faced T.O. Buckets. Ak-Chin came out on fire with a 14-7 lead, staying on top 37-26 at the half. Buckets pushed back to within 7 with 13:00 left in the game, with the score 40-33. That's the closest they would get as they fell to Ak-Chin 66-56.

Ak-Chin would not make it to the final three, but they played hard and made an impact on the tournament.

To get to the championship game, AZ Warriors and the Redhawks went head to head. Both teams were evenly matched, as the game was tied 17-17 with 6 minutes left in the first half and still tied 31-31 at the half. Redhawks came out of the half with just a little more gas in the tank to keep a three-point lead much of the second half.

However, with a minute left, AZ Warriors finally got within a point and sealed the deal with a 3 pointer by #23, who then protected the 62-60 lead with a solid block in the paint at the other end with 23 seconds left. Final score 64-60, sending the Redhawks to third place.

AZ Warriors then faced a tough and talented Ruff Ryders team for the championship. In another neck and neck game, the teams traded leads several times in the first half, tied 30-30 at the half. As close as the Warriors came to answering shot by shot in the second half,

Ruff Ryders would take the lead and never look back. Ruff Ryders would win the championship game with a final score of 70-67.

Ruff Ryders player #52 was selected as MVP, while teammates #22 and #5 received All-Tourney honors. AZ Warriors #23 and Redhawks #23 also made All-Tourney.

A day of traditional games were held on Saturday, December 7 that featured Toka and Songivu'l tournaments. Although there were not enough men to fully participate in the Songivu'l the Ak-Chin Youth Council had a fun time competing, with Davin Garcia besting Dyami Jackson for the win.

Eleven teams had a strong showing for the Toka tournament. Some came with as many as 19 players, including Team Ak-Chin. There was also a new presence as many teams showcased some very young talented women; as Toka is an all-women-all-ages traditional game.

Ak-Chin had a great turn out with many first-timers playing and even though they were not

as experienced as some the new players showed great enthusiasm and determination, as did all teams who came out to play.

After the last o'la had been tossed, S-keg Komckud would win top Toka honors, with Stota Okoko placing second.

Both winners in the Songivu'l and Toka events were awarded plaques, made by Ak-Chin Media Tech, Felicia Vincent. All players were also given lunch bags with a light lunch. Snacks and water were also provided throughout the event.

Saturday evening provided a light sprinkling, heightened spirits and Ak-Chin's Annual Light Parade, where there were about 30 entries. Many community and royalty participants could be found, either walking or riding down Farrell Rd. 2019 Grand Marshals included the Ak-Chin Language Program, in recognition of this year's theme, as well as for the many new changes over the year, like moving to a new location, getting a new language building and new director.

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2019 Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Show us your Holiday Spirit Ak-Chin!

The Runner will be sponsoring the Community Home Decorating Contest for Christmas and would love to showcase your home in the next Runner!

The contest is open to all homes in the Ak-Chin Indian Community. Prizes will be awarded to the top five homes.

Judging will be conducted from December 23 - 31, 2019
Winners will be announced in our January 3, 2020 Runner issue.

We are also looking for a "People's Choice" so please be sure to submit nominations to: runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us or to the Runner office at 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Maricopa, AZ 85139

Judging will be based on following criteria:
Creativity (originality, unique design and use of lights/decorations)
Special Effects (sound/animation)
Overall Appearance (color coordination, decoration display and theme)



On 12/9, a double rainbow appeared near The Runner, extending all the way out toward the Farms. The week was full of interesting weather, which saw low visibility fog and pleny of rain as well as the rainbows.

Masik Tas Elder chair volleyball tournament

Story and photos by Runner Staff



Left to Right: S-To:Ta A'an (Third place), Salt River Steppers (First place), Sacaton Silver Hawks (Second place).

The 2019 Masik Tas Elder Chair Volleyball Tournament was held on December 10 at the Ak-Chin Recreation Gym.

Four Ak-Chin teams played in the popular tournament: Mighty Turtles, Ak-Chin Hu:Hujud, Hu:Hujud, and 55+.

The Ak-Chin teams unfortunately did not place in the top three, but they played hard and had a fun time with

the competition.

George Lewis commented on how his Mighty Turtles played, "The experience was pretty good. We came out just to have fun. We did fair, not great, but fair."

The Mighty Turtles in particular won three games before elimination.

When all was said and done, it was a tough competition and

a good turnout throughout the whole day.

As far as the top three teams went, S-To Ta A'an came in third place while the Sacaton Silver Hawks and Salt River Steppers battled for the championships.

The Steppers could not be contained and went on to become champions of the Elder Chair Volleyball Tournament.



Salt River Steppers and Sacaton Silver Hawks go head to head during the championship game of the tournament.

Making joyful holidays for people with memory disorders

Article from Caregiver/Caregiver.com
Submitted by Ak-Chin Elderly CareWorker Supervisor Candace Allcott

For those living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia, the excitement of the holiday season might have the opposite effect. Baylor College of Medicine experts have a few tips to help make this season as joyful as possible for those with memory disorders and their families.



"Too much noise and activity along with a disruption of routine can be overwhelming for someone with dementia. It can cause them to withdraw, become angry or scared," said Dr. Mary Kenan, a psychologist with Baylor's Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center.

Maintaining a routine is important in reducing agitation and improving mood. Disruption can trigger behavioral symptoms, which also can make care giving more difficult.

Kenan offers some tips to help create a meaningful holiday for all:

- Focus on the present. Alzheimer's and other memory disorders are progressive diseases that each year can bring new changes and challenges. Try not to compare past holidays to the current condition.
- Rather than test your loved one's memory by asking, "Do you remember who this is?" introduce each person by name. For example, "This is Jane, your niece."
- Schedule times for family and friends to arrive or visit in small groups. If that isn't an option, find a side room or area where guests can visit quietly with your loved one.
- Include your loved one in certain tasks for the day, such as setting the table or decorating, if you know they can handle the undertaking.
- Try to maintain routine as much as possible. If your loved one with a memory disorder customarily takes a walk after eating lunch or dinner, try to maintain this activity and go with him or her.
- Watch for signs of anxiety or distress and intervene immediately using techniques you know may calm him or her down. For some that means sitting quietly together, going for a walk or even taking a drive around the block.
- Develop new ways of marking the holiday season. For example, ask family and friends to come prepared to tell a favorite story from past holiday seasons involving the loved one with Alzheimer's. Reminiscing is an important therapeutic tool.
- Use the sights, sounds and smells of the holidays to stimulate your loved one's senses. Your loved one may be able to participate in the singing of well-learned holiday songs.
- Ask for help. Caregiver's stress also can increase the stress of your loved one. Delegate holiday responsibilities to friends or family.

"Patients with Alzheimer's disease can still enjoy the holidays," Kenan said. "Be sensitive to your loved one's strengths and limitations, as well as your own as a caregiver, and celebrate accordingly."

Elders enjoy making quilts

Story and photos by C. Picciuolo



Left to Right: Linda Sue Jose, Melinda Pete and Jenny Holsen work on a quilt and pass around crafts for sale.

Ak-Chin Elders have been spending quality time making a full-size quilt for the last couple of weeks.

The quilt is colorful with plenty of hearts on the fabric with the message, "Jesus Loves Me," and includes plenty of stitch work from the Elders.

Although they are not sure of the price they will sell the quilt for, \$150 is a suggested price for such work.

Elderly care worker supervisor Candace Allcott says that quilting is such a wonderful way for the Elders to bond and visit.

It keeps them active and using their hands.

"Quilting is said to help the cognitive, creative and emotional well-being of people, especially among the elderly," she said. "Being around all the bright colors

uplifts the spirit and the activity itself relieves stress.

The Elders also make other crafts such as throw pillows, aprons, hot pads and dish cloths just to name a few.

Elder Melinda Pete currently



Linda Sue Jose doing stitch work on the quilt that the Elders are making.

has beautiful placemats, picture frames and an advent calendar for sale.

Some of the Elders can make custom crafts, so stop by or reach out to the Ak-Chin Elders Center if you are interested.



The Runner would like to apologize for our spelling error on the Apex story in Issue #23. The name should read "Michael Waltrip"

Elder Menu

December 23 Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole, Rolls, Cake	December 27 Black Eyed Peas, Beef & Barley Soup, Corn, Spinach Salad, Rolls, Cupcakes
December 24 Taco Salad, Mandarin Oranges	December 30 Hamburgers, Potato Wedges, Carrot Raison Salad, Fresh Oranges
December 26 Bar-B-Que Ribs, Plain Ribs (D), Yams, Broccoli, Tropical Fruit	December 31 Tamales, Rice, Beans, Assorted Desserts



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ARTWORK, LETTERS, STORIES

The Ak-Chin O'dham 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

2019 Subscription rate is \$33.75.
If you would like to receive the
"Runner" by mail, please send a
\$33.75 check/money order to:
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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
January 3-16, 2020
issue is due by

**FRIDAY
JANUARY 10, 2020**

Please submit all
announcements,
wishes, etc. no later than
**FRIDAY
JANUARY 10, 2020**

Any material submitted
after the
JANUARY 10TH DEADLINE
cannot be guaranteed
placement. But, if appropriate
and relevant, will be included in
the following issue.

Thunderbird Fire District receives funds from ADT

Story and photos by C. Picciuolo

On December 12, the Thunderbird Fire District on Ralston Road in Maricopa received a much-needed gift to help the volunteer-run stations provide area residents with more resources.

The gift of \$5,000 first came out of the blue a few weeks ago with a phone call from ADT, Inc., the largest security company in the United States, according to Thunderbird Fire District Chief and Ak-Chin Fire Marshal Allen Allcott.

"We got a phone call from (ADT) and they explained what was going on and asked me a few questions about the district and our budget said Allcott.

"I got an e-mail four or five hours later that said they selected us and they were going to give us some money to use for whatever we needed."

The Thunderbird crew arrived before sundown to pose for a photo in front of the fire truck.

Director of public relations for ADT's corporate office in Florida Bob Tucker traveled to the Thunderbird station for one of four stops in surrounding states as a part of the company's annual donations to volunteer entities.

Tucker shook hands with



Thunderbird Fire District Chief Allen Allcott and volunteers pose for a photo with ADT director of public relations Bob Tucker after receiving a check for \$5000.

the Chief and the volunteers and proceeded to hand the Thunderbird Fire District an oversized check in front of the truck.

"Today, we presented a \$5,000 contribution to the Thunderbird Fire District to help them in their efforts to make the community here safer. Given that the annual budget of the fire district is \$18,000, \$5,000 is a pretty significant portion of that," said Tucker.

"So, we're glad to hear that the Chief has some good plans to help use that money and make the fire district even better."

As a token of appreciation,

the crew gave Tucker two Thunderbird Fire District t-shirts to take back with him to Florida, with one shirt going to another ADT employee who helped facilitate the donation.

Currently serving somewhere between 1,000-2,000 residents with 11 volunteers, Allcott is looking to expand the district, which will bring the budget to over \$400,000.

Emergency calls are patched into the Chief's phone, who then sends out a mass text to all volunteers.

Trucks are positioned strategically at volunteers' homes to help with response times.

"Right now, our fire district is roughly only about 12 or 15 square miles, but our coverage area is over 100 square miles, because south of our location here is what they call 'no man's land.' They have no fire coverage at all and they're not in a fire district. So, we have been covering that for a while," said Allcott.

According to Allcott, the award money is expected to go to truck repair, possibly painting the station and getting some new uniform shirts. "More than likely we will get the pump repaired on Engine 556, then see how much is left," he said. "Our wish list is usually greater than a bank account."

"Make your voice count!" Community seeks feedback for Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan Update

Submitted by Amaktoolik Studios, on behalf of Bartholomew Smith, Community Operations Manager

Ak-Chin Indian Community has fulfilled many of the strategies defined in the 2013 Ak-Chin Public Use and Commercial Area Master Plan. Specific to the Commercial Area known as "Ak-Chin Circle," some of the major economic initiatives have been completed, but there is more work to be done. A planning project was launched in September 2019 to create the Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan Update.

The Master Plan Update is intended to support earlier planning efforts and studies, incorporate recent development activity, identify additional development opportunities and generate an optimal Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan. The Project Area has been the subject of earlier strategic branding, land use planning efforts, and development over the past few years. Some of the previous development within the area includes, a Fire Station, Surface Water Treatment Facility, UltraStar Multi-tainment Center, Elements Event Center, and a Central Plant. A new road system and utility upgrades were also completed in 2018. This plan is also intended to guide future development and growth within the Ak-Chin Circle and assist the Community with future decision-making regarding development within the Ak-Chin Circle area.

Goals of the planning project include identifying products and services not currently available in the immediate area, and enhancing economic growth and diversification in and around the highly successful entertainment destinations of Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort and UltraStar Multi-tainment Center.

Community Need for Products and Services.

Market forces in the region are changing the look, feel, and make-up of

local communities surrounding Ak-Chin Indian Community. The on-going fast-pace of growth throughout the Greater Phoenix metro area continues to influence development in the southern communities, including the rapidly changing Pinal County and the expanding, more affordable cities of Maricopa and Casa Grande. Coupled with the Community's own needs for services and employees, and the need to continually enhance Community life, a unique opportunity exists to bring new businesses into the Community to offer products and services. Balance this need with new economic opportunities for the Community and individual Community members; it could mean a win-win for Community.

A Visitor Destination for Economic Diversification & Growth.

Visitors to the Ak-Chin Indian Community come to enjoy, play, explore and spend money at two highly successful and well-known brand-name attractions. Combine this with the enormous un-tapped opportunities that exist from Arizona's tourism market as a top international destination, along with the developable land in the Ak-Chin Circle project area, a truly unique opportunity may exist to realize the next economic evolution in the Ak-Chin Circle project area as a "destination."

The Master Plan Update project will also explore brand identity for the Ak-Chin Circle project area as a regional

area for commerce, hospitality and entertainment.

Next Steps: Community Participation – "Make Your Voice Count!"

Over the next few months the Community will be asked to participate in "Make Your Voice Count!" feedback and input processes, including surveys and public meetings. The public survey will start in January 2020 and continue through February. It will be available online and offered in paper form as well. Specific questions that will be asked include:

1. What services and products are needed in the Community that are not available?
2. What other components could be offered to enhance the visitor experience?
3. How can the Ak-Chin Circle be branded to maximize and differentiate its identity?

****Be on the lookout in future editions of the Runner for instructions and locations to fill out the survey.**

For more information contact:

Bartholomew Smith, Community Operations Manager, 520.568.1023, BSmith@ak-chin.nsn.us
Jaclyn Sarnowski, Community Planner, Planning and Development, 520.568.1062, JSarnowski@ak-chin.nsn.us

Ak-Chin Circle Master Plan - Project Area Vicinity Map





Larisa Rascon competes in spelling bee

Larisa Rascon, daughter of Joel & Deanna Rascon, participated in the Sequoia Pathway spelling bee held on December 3, 2019.

Larisa placed 4th out of the 40 students who were in the spelling bee. Her 4th place status made her the Alternate. She and the three top finishers.

Good Luck Larisa!!

Right: Larisa Rascon shows her certificate.



Article submitted by Delia Carlyle

Education Department decks the halls for kids

Story and photos by C. Picciuolo



Door judges from the library inspect Rudolph door.

The Ak-Chin Education Department decorated nine of their doors with elaborate Christmas designs for a friendly contest. Over the course of three days, Ak-Chin Library employees, third-fifth graders and ninth-twelfth graders took turns voting for their favorite decorations.

As a part of the activity, tutored students participated in “Christmas Incentives for Academics,” which included picking prizes from a tree and a letter to Santa. “We wanted to bring a little magic to the process so we found a letter to use,” said Ak-Chin online/after school advisor Matthew Tess. “Also, this helps Santa know which gift the students picked and will receive should they get all C’s or better on their report cards.”

Tess and the Education Department team picked a certain number of gifts and the students voted on what they wanted out of that selection. Highest votes were tallied and put on the tree for students to pick before voting on door decorations.

“We came together as a team to get in the holiday spirit for the kids,” said administration support technician Tera Thornton. “We got a little competitive and everybody put their own little spin on each decoration.”

The competition made the door designs really pop out and shine. Each door had a different theme related to the holiday, and some were more embellished than others. Some of the decorations extended beyond the door, such as the Polar Express theme at Ak-Chin Education K-5 advisor Sheila Pablo-Bandin’s office, which had a train track out into the hallway.

Other creative displays included the 1964 TV special stop motion animation version of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, The Nutcracker, snowmen with cowboy hats and a cactus wearing a Santa hat, wrapping paper, a GED-inspired Christmas tree with presents underneath, the Grinch and Snoopy.

The students decided the final vote on 12/18. After all votes were counted, Pablo-Bandin’s “Polar Express” was announced as the winner, with 16 votes.

Second place was a tie with five votes each given to “The Grinch” by student counselor Yolanda Miranda and “The Bumble and Rudolph” by Tera Thornton.

Third place was “The Nutcracker” by lab tutor Diana Velazquez with four votes.

Fourth place was a tie with three votes going to “O’ Christmas Tree” by GED instructor Desiree Guarino and “Christmas Lights” by Matthew Tess.

Rounding out the contest in fifth place was a two—vote tie going to “Snoopy” by truant officer Liane Iglesias and “Christmas in the Desert” by enrollment/academic advisor Pam Velasquez.

D.I.Y. Magazine Christmas Trees at the Library

Photos by J. Peters

December 11th the library set out supplies and colorful paints for their afternoon Xmas craft.

The D.I.Y. Christmas Tree created using an old magazine, some folding techniques and colorfully supplies made decorating for the holiday a little easier.

Step 1: Open up a magazine and bend to break spine.

Step 2: Fold individual page from top right corner to inside seam. Fold same page from bottom right edge to gutter.

Step 3: Fold bottom triangle of each



additional magazine page up, making the bottom of the tree flat. ...

Step 4: Spray-paint folded tree desired color.



Mrs. Pollie and Mrs. Stephanie's Class

Lindsay Antone- a present and a baby

Harlee Jose- 5 barbies, kitten, barbie jacket

mask bike, Pj mask jacket

Mauricio Valles- Bull riding clothes and bull riding necklace and shoes

Hunter Narcia- Blue power ranger, Headquarters with PJ masks inside

Damien Thomas- Christmas, Batman, Spiderman

Amiyah Deleon- Bear and candy

Sadie Ontiveros- Barbie, Barbie trucks, robots

Peyton Zepeda- LOL, Christmas tree, Candy cane

William dema- Rawr baby

Gabriel Pablo- Christmas tree, Santa Claus, Christmas tree, Pj

Mauricio- ropes and gloves

Adriel Rivera- Teddy bear , train set, pj masks shoes

Mrs. Francine's Class

Parker- I want a big Power Ranger and a Big monster truck.

big LoL doll house, Woody toy and Big lego box.

Mylaunah-I want a make-up set, a baby with a stroller and stuff for the baby.

Mason-Power Ranger house, a blue and red Power Ranger, Legos, Playdoh, sandbox and a Robot.

Allison-I want a Barbie dream house, new shoes and Barbie car with two seats.

Natalie-Toys, Barbie car, Puzzles, Helicopter for my Barbie.

Dallyss-A big doll house, big Barbie dream house and playdoh.

Summer-Markers, books and a Barbie. Juliana-Markers, Barbies, Books, jacket and some shoes.

Rosa—Playdoh, Barbie and a Barbie car.

Deizol- Hot wheels, Gorilla hot wheel set, Monster truck that is red.

Itzehl-Shoes, Jojo blanket, bike, painting book, big pool and a tree house.

Jeremiah-Mickey mouse, toys, legos.

Ariah-I want a

Mrs. Rebecca's Class

Alexis Garcia- "A lot of surprise, snow & furniture for my doll house"

bear"

skye toy, chocolate, & toys Peppa family" Connor Martinez- "A police officer truck"

Joaquin Dickerson- "Cars, monster trucks & spider man toys"

Benjamin King- "A robot" Cole Soke- "A dinosaur & cars"

Yondell Antone- "Avengers toy & cookies"

Makaio Schrader- "A dinosaur & teddy

Luisana Garcia- "A

Morgan Miller- "Belle from beauty & the beast and a fishy"



Hu:Hujud



Ak-Chin 55+



Ak-Chin Mighty Turtles



Ak-Chin Hu:Hujud

— 2019 Masik Tas continued from Front

This year's parade winners included:

Best Lit Musical Group: Maricopa High School Band

Best Lit Community Dept.: Ak-Chin Tribal Court & Sanitation Dept.

Best Lit Enterprise: Harrah's Ak-Chin

Biggest and Brightest: Ak-Chin Fire Dept.

Best Lit Mascot: Ak-Chin EPD

Best Lit Family/Community Member Group: Ak-Chin Language Dept.

Sunday, December 8 rounded out the first weekend with a Community day that featured a free bbq luncheon. A day long agenda of events was also offered through Ak-Chin Youth Council. The wood chopping and popover contests unfortunately had to be rescheduled due to the damp wood, but that did not stop the group from hosting a fun run/walk to begin the morning from the Youth Council/Enrollment office down Farrell Rd. to the old vaila site.

A free bbq lunch awaited those who made their way to the old vaila site, along with a great line-up of entertainment, beginning with the Ak-Chin Mumsigo band who played all their best cumbias and chotes. Registrations were also being taken for the highly anticipated dance and menudo contest.

After Mumsigo finished up, Papago Warrior took to the stage to play during

the dance contest. Three age groups signed up to participate in the dance contest and after the last spin on the dance floor the team of Daria Garcia and Iliana Perryman won the children's category; Rena Santiago and Chizzum Justin won for the youth category; and Maria Valenzuela and Stewart Blaine won the adult category.


Before the night ended, Yolanda Miranda was announced this year's menudo contest winner, with Alex Carlyle taking second.

Ak-Chin Masik Tas tied in a few more events during

the week of December 9, with a golf tournament held on Monday at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes. After a bit of delay due to the dew, fog and clouds the tournament hosted about 100 players and a great day of golf.

Once players registered they received free golf gear and then headed out to their tees for the shotgun start. After everyone had finished they were invited to a hot buffet dinner while winners were announced from numerous contests including; Closest to the Pin: #4 – Kevin Campbell, #6 – Tom McCullough, #11 Brian Daley, #17 – Robert Livingston; Women's

— 2019 Masik Tas continued to page 1b



Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

AGRICULTURAL LEASE PAY OUT*

Friday, January 17, 2020

8:30am Seniors and Disabled	10:00 am – 6:00 pm General Landowners
Round House Café at SRPMIC Two Waters Government Campus 10,005 E. Osborn Road, Scottsdale 85256 - Look for directional signs	

Checks not picked up on January 17, 2020 can be picked up at Finance - Cashiers Office (Two Waters Bldg. A) January 21st through February 3rd.

Checks not picked up by 5:00 pm February 3rd will be mailed out to the address on file.

Power of Attorney (POA) - Only originals accepted, written notes will not be accepted. Must be verified before release of check. Verification done at pay out.

Ensure SRPMIC has your current mailing address - Incorrect information will cause a delay in receiving your check. To update, please contact SRPMIC Vendor Maintenance Office at (480) 362-7729.

Payments Less than \$15.00
All direct deposit payments will be deposited into your bank account regardless of the amount. If you currently receive a check, but would like direct deposit, complete an ACH request in Finance three (3) weeks prior to the payout date. Checks less than \$15.00 are not printed for payout date, however, you may request a check and it will be processed within 7-10 business days.

Questions? Contact the SRPMIC Finance Leasing Payment Office (480) 362-7730.
**Agricultural lease payments will be made based upon former payments received and cleared through banking institutions by January 6, 2020.*



DECEMBER COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2019

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	30	31				

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, 10:30-11:00AM. Children 0-5 ONLY. OVERDRIVE TRUCK - No sign up required, Children under 8 yrs must be accompanied by an adult.

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



DECEMBER 11TH
Movie Day

DECEMBER 12TH
Oasis Bingo 12:30pm

DECEMBER 17TH
Caregiver Christmas Party

DECEMBER 18TH
Elder Center Closed for Elder Christmas Party
NO Breakfast, Lunch and Transportation
Elder Christmas Party Elements at Ultra Star 5:30pm to 9pm

DECEMBER 19TH
Elder Check Day
Lunch Catered

DECEMBER 20TH
Center Closed Masik Ta:s

DECEMBER 23RD
Christmas Eve Lunch

DECEMBER 25TH
Center Closed

DECEMBER 26TH
Movie Day

LIBRARY



DECEMBER 10TH

Preschool Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm
Elder Coloring 9:00am-10:00am

DECEMBER 11TH

KRAFTZ 12:00pm-4:00pm
GAME HACKER 4:15pm-6:00pm

DECEMBER 12TH

Preschool Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm

DECEMBER 14TH

Library Closed for Masik Tas Carnival

DECEMBER 16TH

*Wrap & Chat 12:00pm - 5:30pm

DECEMBER 17TH

Preschool Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm

DECEMBER 18TH

Baby-Time 10:00am-10:45am
KRAFTZ 12:00pm- 4:00pm
GAME HACKER 4:15pm-6:00pm

DECEMBER 19TH

Preschool Storytime 11:00am-12:00pm
Library Closes @ 5pm
*Polar Express at the Preschool 6:00pm-8:00pm

DECEMBER 20TH - 21ST

Library Closed for Ak-Chin Masik Ta:s

DECEMBER 24TH

Elder Coloring 9:00am-10:00am

DECEMBER 25TH

Library Closed Christmas Day

DECEMBER 31ST

"Noon Year's" Eve Celebration 11:00am-2:30pm

JANUARY 1ST

Library Closed New Year's Day

JANUARY 3RD

LEGO ROBOTICS 4:15PM-5:30PM

PARKS & REC



DECEMBER 6TH - 8TH
Masik Tas Basketball Tournament

DECEMBER 9TH

Open Gym 8am to 2pm
Gym Closed 2pm to 4:30 pm
Open Gym 4:30 pm to 9pm

DECEMBER 10TH

Elder Chair Volleyball Tournament

DECEMBER 11TH

Open Gym 8am to 2pm
Gym Closed 2pm to 4:30p
Open Gym 4:30 pm to 9pm

DECEMBER 12TH

Open Gym 8am to 2pm
Gym Closed 2pm to 4:30 pm
Youth Basketball 5pm to 6:30 pm

DECEMBER 13TH

Open Gym 8am to 5pm

DECEMBER 14TH - 15TH

Open gym 11am to 3pm

DECEMBER 16TH

Open Gym 8am to 2pm
Gym Closed 2pm to 4:30 pm
Open Gym 4:30 pm to 9pm

DECEMBER 17TH

Open Gym 8am to 2pm
Gym Closed 2pm to 4:30 pm
Youth Basketball 5pm to 6:30 pm

DECEMBER 18TH

Open Gym 8am to 2pm
Gym Closed 2pm to 4:30p
Open Gym 4:30 pm to 9pm

DECEMBER 19TH

Open Gym 8am to 2pm
Gym Closed 2pm to 4:30 pm
Youth Basketball 5pm to 6:30 pm

DECEMBER 20TH

Ak-Chin Masik Tas GYM CLOSED

DECEMBER 21ST

Ak-Chin Christmas Celebration

DECEMBER 22ND

Closed Gym

DECEMBER 23RD

Open Gym 8am to 9pm

DECEMBER 24TH

Christmas Eve

DECEMBER 25TH

Christmas Day

DECEMBER 26TH

Open Gym 8am to 5pm
Youth Basketball 5pm to 6:30 pm

DECEMBER 27TH

Open Gym 8am to 5pm

DECEMBER 28TH - 29TH

Open gym 11am to 3pm

DECEMBER 30TH

Open Gym 8am to 9pm

DECEMBER 31ST

New Year's Eve

Happy Holidays

O'odham Neok

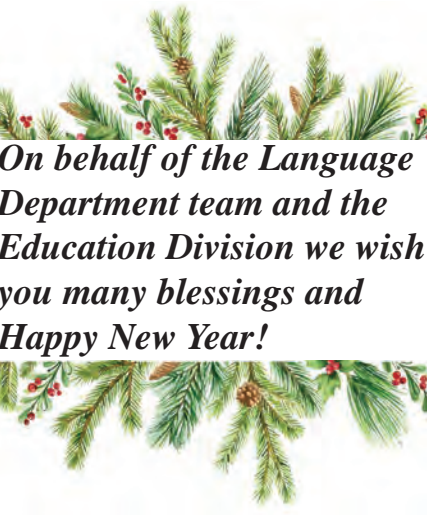
Christmas and New Year's in O'odham

As Christmas and New Year's Day approaches, the Language Department is happy to provide you with some simple greetings and replies that you can use with your family and friends.

To help you pronounce the words using the Ak-Ciñ orthography, please refer to the characters and symbols provided below.

O'odham Letter/Symbol	English Sound	Sounds like
Đ/đ	Th	The
Ş/ş	Sh	Shoe or Shoot
Ñ/ñ	Neyah	Neyah
D/ɲ	Neo	Neeyoh
C	Ch	Church or Chicken
L	Rolling letter l	Letter
A	Ah	Author or authorize
E	Uh	Ahhhh
I	EE	Eel
O	Ohn	On, Lawn
U	Ooh	Ooo or Boo
Ai	I	I or eye
E'i	Uhee	Gooley
O'i	Oee	Koi Fish or Coin
Ui	We	We or Week

<i>Your initial greeting to a single person</i>	Hello, how are you? O'odham: <i>S-ke:k Taş Şapi Masma (Good Day, single person)</i>	Hello, how are you? O'odham: <i>S-ke:k Taş Şapi Masma (Good Day, single person)</i>
<i>Your holiday greeting to a single person</i>	Merry Christmas O'odham: <i>S-ekik Klismas</i>	Happy New Year O'odham: <i>S-ekik Vecij Aida:g</i>
<i>Your reply to a person's holiday greeting</i>	Thank you, Merry Christmas to you O'odham: <i>Sapo S-ekik Klismas Am Wi</i>	Thank you, Happy New Year to you O'odham: <i>Sapo S-ekik Vecij Aida:g Am Wi</i>
<i>Your holiday greeting/reply to a group</i>	Merry Christmas to all O'odham: <i>S-ekik Klismas Ves Am Wi</i>	Neyah Happy New Year to all O'odham: <i>S-ekik Vecij Aida:g Ves Am</i>
<i>Your statement when leaving someone's presence</i>	I will see you again	O'odham: <i>Đova Ep O:m Ñe'i</i>



On behalf of the Language Department team and the Education Division we wish you many blessings and Happy New Year!



Language staff teaching Christmas and traditional songs to the kids.

Ak - Cín O'odham Ñeok Ki

Winter Storytelling with Michael Enis

From Tohono O'odham Nation

SATURDAY DECEMBER 28TH 2019
AK-CHIN VAILA SITE
6:00 PM
DINNER WILL BE SERVED
EVERYONE WELCOME

DONT FORGET YOUR CHAIR

For more info contact: Sylvia Rubalcaba (520) 568-1362 or Email : SRubalcaba@ak-chin.nsn.us

Merry Christmas from The Runner!

COWBOY LIFESTYLE NETWORK



The **Cowboy Lifestyle Network** is the Online Western Enthusiast Social Hub. A community that pursues the western lifestyle and lives the cowboy ideal.



www.CowboyLifestyleNetwork.com

Thank you to our 2019 Masik Tas Rodeo Sponsors



Cowboy Lifestyle Network
Designs by Kendra Williams
Waxie Sanitary Supply
UltraStar Multi-tainment Center



Designs by
Kendra Williams



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

December Employee Birthdays

20
Collette Susunkewa,
Prosecutor
Roni Zappia, Maintenance

21
Micky Moull, EPD

22
Heidi Hinz, Maintenance
Candida Upton,
Social & Health Services

23
Bartholomew Smith,
Government

24
Velacita Lopez, Cultural
David Peters, Vekol

26
Johnnie Traugher,
Law & Order

28
Bernardina Gonzalez,
Parks & Recreation
Julianna Orona,
Maintenance

29
Kathleen Miguel,
Maintenance
Mary Zepeda, TGA

30
Lee Miguel, Sanitation

31
Mercedes Rivera, Transit
Kevin Williamson, Education



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Connected Business
Enterprise Lifecycle Services

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Happy New Year to my parents!
I love you both and am grateful
for everything.
Thank you! xoxoxo forever
Johnny/G/Bud/J/Juan

Happy Birthday John,
You are a wonderful & amazing husband
& father...Thank you for who you are
and all that you do.
We love you!
Terri, Johnny & Ashley and Rocky ☺

Happy Birthday to Our
God-Daughter Miss Aubrey,
Happy Day, Happy Times, Happy Wishes!
May your birthday be as happy as ever! We
are so happy to be part of your life. May
God Bless you every day ❤️
Love, John & Terri

Heidi,
I hope your birthday is as sweet as your
cake and that this next year of life is filled
with as much joy and happiness as you
bring your friends.
With Love, Estrella

Happy Birthday Kendra Sue "Lola"
Hope you had a good one baby girl.
I love you. Love Mom Kimberly

Happy Birthday Bert Bert. Better behave.
Love Sister, Kimberly

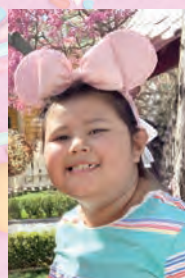
Happy Birthday "Rena"
Through all our ups and downs
you know I'll always love you.
Love Kimberly

Happy Birthday
"Nea Nea" Channel Antone
I'm so happy things are looking up for you.
I love you Big Girl
Only me Babalina-Beth

Happy Birthday and Belated Birthday to
my December family from MOOSKAS.
Love Ya'll

Happy Birthday "Flaka" Candida Upton
Hope you enjoy your day. Love you.
Love Barky

Happy Birthday to my grandsons Aiden,
David Jr., and Kyle, and my
granddaughters Jersey and Aubrey
Love, Grandma



Happy Birthday Miss Aubrey Renee
We hope you have the best birthday yet,
with lots of everything you love-LOL!!
Love, Bapa and Luma

Happy Birthday Velacita Lopez.
May you have a blessed day.
Thank you for all you do for us.
O'odham Neok Pion

Happy Birthday Tyler Peters.
You are growing so much. We treasure
each and every day you are with us.
We love you always.
(Vosk, Gaga'a, Danel, Steve)

David Peters, Jr. & Kyle Peters.
Happy Birthday to my sons.
Have a blessed day.
We love you both always.
Love Your Family (Dad, Mom, Danel, Steve)



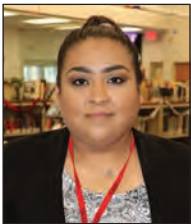
EMPLOYEE UPDATE



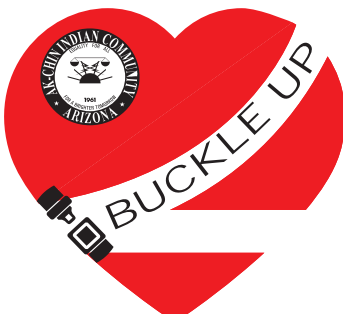
Allison Butler
Transit Manager
Transit



Bianca Chavez-Schrader
ECE Manager
Early Childhood



Susan Sanchez
Library Clerk
Library



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>



AK-CHIN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Archaeologist
- Custodian
- Maintenance Technician
- Police Officer – Certified

- Police Commander
- Breakfast Cook-Elder Program
- Accountant

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.

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 Aurora Peters Kendra Smith Rebecca Stephens-Rodas Kayla Valisto Raven Vallejos	2 Candice Antone Duane Antone Clarence Enos Dale Narcia Marcus Peters Lindsey Valles Victor Vincent	3 Arlene Manuel	4 Analita Laborin Destinee Peters Bren Valisto Valerie Velasquez	5 Drevyn Antone-Silas Justine Peters Erica Trejo	6 Virginia Castro Richard Joaquin, III Dena Romo	7 Evelyn Justin Danya Lopez Joseph Manuel Sarlya Miranda Monica Murrietta Omarion White
8 Odelia Stephens Xavier White	9 Corey Allison Angelica Antone Leo Lewis, Jr. Florinda Peters Terry Santiago	10 Alex Antone Alverna Flores Gloria Narcia	11 Desirae Antone Guadalupe Gloria Andrew Humeyumptewa Alejandro Maldonado, Jr. Malinda Pete	12 Zoe Gardner Gina Lewis Elvera Stephens	13 Tristianna Antone Arie Deleon Phillip Joaquin Joseph Kaniatobe Adeline Thomas	14 Channel Antone Deborah Baptisto Kiandry Jacuinde-Miranda
15 Janice Perez Angelica Salas-Vargas	16 Maxine Antone Maria Carlyle-Zepeda Raven Humeyumptewa Tyler Peters Lisa Vincent	17 James Compton Leslie Lewis-Manuel Lita Yarberry	18 Josie Hernandez Justin Humeyumptewa Ralston Justin Sarina Smith Bianca Valenzuela	19 Manuel Peters, III	20 Lanna Lewis Collette Susunkewa Roni Sue Zappia	21 Elijah Narcia Aiden Peters Eileen Pinheiro
22 Nicolas Olivas Volincia Pablo Manuel Rodriguez, II Candida Upton	23 Bartholomew Smith	24 Velacita Lopez David Peters, Jr. Kyle Peters	25 David Manuel, Sr. Serenity Villegas Danny Vincent Arrow Santiago	26 Andrew Pinheiro Angela Trenado	27 Orlando Lewis Erica Manuel	28 Bernadina Gonzalez Julianna Orona Jersey Peters Sabrina Sam Javier Zepeda
29 Abel Lewis Aubrey Lozano Kathleen Miguel	30 Bernadette Carra Christopher Lewis Renita Machado Lee Miguel, II	31 Mercedes Rivera-Lopez				

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.

Tracy Lawrence Makes a Mark in Ak-Chin Indian Community

Story and photos by K. Lopez



On the evening of December 13, 2019, Harrah's Casino had a great turn out for the show of Joe Nichols and country mega-star Tracy Lawrence. Joe Nichols was the opening act for Tracy Lawrence. For those who don't know Joe Nichols is an Arkansas native, whose playlists from chart-topping modern classics like "Brokenheartsville"



and "Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off". He is a three-time Grammy nominee, Billboard, CMA and CMT Award winner. Mr. Nichols put on a great show and warmed up the crowd pretty good for Tracy Lawrence.

The great country singer Tracy Lawrence was up next to end the show. He began by singing some of his new songs from his new album "Made in America", which you can by online. Tracy's greatest hits like "Sticks and Stones", "Alibis" "Texas Tornado" and "Time Marches On" were a big hit at the Harrah's Casino. Tracy was such a big hit at Harrah's that he came back to the stage to sing two more songs. The crowd was so excited to be able to see the encore by Mr. Tracy Lawrence.

Ramon Ayala headlines at 2019 Masik Tas

Saturday evening on the main stage, Ramon Ayala and his band performed under the Ak-Chin skies. (Story and pics on page 7a). Opening up for Ayala was Ak-Chin Mumsigo, who kicked off the night with their twist on some good vaila music.

As their set came to an end Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel came on stage to thank Ak-Chin Mumsigo and asked the crowd to give them a huge round of applause for their hard work and dedication to their music and this year's Masik Tas.

Coming to the stage next the was the headliner of the 2019 Masik Tas, Ramon Ayala and his

bandmates. Gracing the stage Ramon and his band were given a hand-woven basket from Chairman Miguel to show the tribe's appreciation for Ramon's performance that night. Miguel asked for a roll call from Arizona, with many fans from all over including out of state and even out of country. The crowd moved closer to the stage and some getting their moves on the dance floor for Ayala's special performance, they kept everyone dancing and moving, despite the dropping temperatures that Saturday night. His most recognizable hits flooded the fairgrounds and residents, as he hit all the right notes on his famous accordion.



Top: Ramon Fans traveled from near and far to the community for the concert.



Left: Ak-Chin Mumsigo band opened for Ramon Ayala at the Saturday night concert.



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As you share family stories, share
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and affordable.

Healthcare.gov
1-800-318-2596





ARROYO GRILLE

At Ak-Chin Southern Super Golf Club
WEEKLY GRILLE SPECIALS
BEGINNING AT 5PM* *Subject to availability

WEDNESDAY
CLASSIC FISH FRY \$14

THURSDAY
KANSAS CITY STRIP
& FRIES \$15

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
PRIME RIB DINNER \$24

SHORT ON TIME? ORDER TO GO!

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EARLY BIRD BREAKFAST SPECIAL



TWO EGGS, SAUSAGE, HASHBROWNS FOR \$5.50 BEFORE TAX. MUST PRESENT COUPON TO SERVER. NO SUBSTITUTIONS. MUST ORDER WITH ANY OTHER SPECIALS. OFFERS FOR RESIDENTS. ONE COUPON PER TABLE. NO SPLIT CHECKS. DOES NOT INCLUDE ALCOHOL. NON-TRANSFERABLE. MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR DINING. OFFER EXPIRES 01/01/20

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TEN PINS DOWN

GLOW

INTO THE
NEW YEAR

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

CELEBRATE WITH THE FAMILY
10PM BALLOON DROP

RAFFLE TO WIN
BOWLING FOR A YEAR!

GLOWING DRINK SPECIALS

2020

NEW YEARS CELEBRATION

ROARING TWENTIES PARTY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

THE LUXE LOUNGE IS A 21+ OVER VENUE

LUXE LOUNGE

CHAMPAGNE & PARTY
TOAST AT MIDNIGHT & FAVORS





The Luxe Bus will
run from 8PM - 1AM

Call (520) 840-3159
for pick-up

GUESTS MUST
BE 21+ TO RIDE

UltraStar
MULTI-ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
Ak-Chin Circle



UltraStarAZ.com
16000 Maricopa Road, Maricopa, AZ 85139



Traditional Games - Parade - Community Day



continued from Page 5a

Longest Drive #7-Karen Fierro; Men's Longest Drive – Eric Watkins. Raffle winners had their choice of concert tickets, Phoenix Suns tickets and tickets to 2020 WMPO.



This year's Masik Tas Golf Tournament Winners were: Team 5b (Ralph Gomez, Freddy Amaro, Tim Wakefield, Marcus Lopez) 57; Second Place: 1A (Chris Woolery, Tom McCullough, Zach Schmidt, Toby Crooks) 60; and Third Place: Team 11A (Thunderbirds) 60. All teams were awarded 2020 WMPO ticket options.

On Wednesday, December 11, the Elder Chair Volleyball took place (please see page 2 for story/photos).



The last weekend of Masik Tas was jam-packed with carnival rides, food, entertainment and rodeo events, beginning with an All-Indian Jr. Rodeo on Friday, December 13. Starting at 8am, the community was out to support its many up and coming young cowboys and cowgirls. Community members; Chizzum and Rope Justin both earned buckles for their participation.



Friday night also hosted the Bull Bash that began at 4pm, and included two brand new cowgirls to the Open Women's Steer Riding circuit; Ak-Chin Community members Amber Antone and Cecily Peters. Although they did not succeed in an 8-second ride, both seemed to enjoy the rush.



The 14-17 Wild Pony Race on Friday was won by Team Gilliwatts; Dominique White, Ralston Justin and Tristan Franco.

A vaila dance was also held on Friday night and featured some terrific two-stepping chicken-scratch bands; including O'dham Traditional Vaila Band who got the vaila going at 6pm. Gertie & the T.O. Boys were next on stage; many have said it was to be their last appearance, as Gertie will be retiring. Ak-Chin Mumsigo closed out the vaila dance around 10pm.



Saturday and Sunday lineups were also filled with more entertainment and rodeo events, with the carnival opening it all up at 10am. The All-Indian Rodeo began at 12p on both days and featured numerous events, with buckles awarded to all event winners, including All-Around Champion Cowboy and Cowgirl. The Wild Horse Race was also scheduled on both days, with prelims on Saturday and finals on Sunday. Team Ak-Chin took home third place honors.

On the mini-stage cultural entertainment included; Ak-Chin Bab'an Kehina Dance Group, the San Juan Kwaliya Dance Group, and many more cultural entertainment



included; Ak-Chin Bab'an Kehina Dance Group, the San Juan Kwaliya Dance Group, and many more cultural entertainment groups.

The All-Indian Rodeo began at 12p. and included all the standard events, as well as roping and the ever-popular Wild Horse Race.

Team Ak-Chin took third in this year's Wild Horse Race.

2019 Ak-Chin Masik Tas Committee would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all our participants and spectators.

Special Recognition to those who braved the parade in the rain; our judges Maricopa Mayor Christian Price, and parade announcers AnnMarie Antone and Raychel Peters, our rodeo staff including our Announcer Ray Champ, Timers and Judges, Rodeo Secretaries, and Stock Contractor.

THANKS TO EVERYONE THAT WAS INVOLVED TO MAKE IT A GOOD EVENT!!



12 Masik Tas Rodeo Event

All Indian Junior Rodeo (December 13)

6-9 All Around Champion - Cole Whitehorse

10-13 All Around Champion - Rosalinda Ben

14-17 All Around Champion - Brandon Ben

Stick Horse Barrels

1 David Juan
2 Jayceon Anderson
3 Kaiden Yazzie

Stick Horse Race

1 Jayceon Anderson
2 David Juan
3 Kaiden Yazzie

Dummy Roping

1 Randen Ben
2 Jayceon Anderson

Sheep Riding

1 Mika Osegueda
2 Bear Cloud Osegueda

6-9 Goat Tail Pull

1 Rope Justin
2 Dustyne Yazzie
3 Aleigha Randall

6-9 Ribbon Roping

1 Cole Whitehorse
2 Taylor Thomas
3 Naci Charley

10-13 Ribbon Roping

1 Rosalinda Ben
2 Chizzum Justin

14-17 Ribbon Roping

1 Janae Jackson
2 Janae Todacheenie
3 Brandon Ben

10-13 Breakaway Roping

Rosalinda Ben

14-17 Breakaway Roping

1 Rawley Ben Jr.
2 Ty Vaile
3 Nelson Charley III

6-9 Barrel Racing

1 Taylor Thomas
2 Cole Whitehorse
3 Naci Charley

10-13 Barrel Racing

1 Riley Thomas

14-17 Barrel Racing

1 Arena Ben
2 Savannah Joe

10-13 Team Roping

1 Chizzum Justin

14-17 Wild Pony Race

1 Team Gilliwatts
Dominique White
Ralston Justin
Tristan Franco

14-17 Team Roping

1 Brandon Ben
2 Savannah Joe
3 Janae Todacheenie
4 Arena Ben
5 Brandon Ben

6-9 Calf Riding

1 Kellen Yellowhair
2 Cole Whitehorse
3 George Juan

10-13 Steer Riding

1 Aden Billy
2 Jonathan Toro-Montana

14-17 Bull Riding

1 Juan Bustamonte
2 Brad Moreno
3 Jaquez Antonio

Masik Tas Bull Bash (December 13)

Women's Steer Riding

1 Lori'elle Reyes
2 Jasmine Donahue
3 Deeondra Mereritt

Novice Bull Riding

1 Jaquez Antonio
2 Andrew Ruiz
3 Juan Bustamonte

Open Bull Riding

1 Latrell Long

All-Indian Rodeo (December 14-15)

All Around Champion

Cowboy - Evan Betony

All Around Champion

Cowgirl - Serena Dahozy

Bareback

1 Matthew Tuni
2 Evan Betony

Saddle Bronc

1 Jay Joaquin
2 Creighton Curley
3 Stade Riggs

Steer Wrestling

1 Julius Figueroa

Team Roping Header

1 Dwight Sells
2 Derrick Begay
3 Ed Hawley
4 Jay Guerrero
5 Brooks Dahozy
6 Shawn Shirley

Team Roping Heeler

1 Cameron Tsinigine
2 Victor Begay
3 Ty Romo
4 Terry Doka
5 Dwight Sells
6 Leonard Willams, Jr

Ladies Team Roping Header

1 Recinda Yazzie
2 Laci K. Begay
3 Recinda Yazzie
4 Jannon Hale

Ladies Team Roping Heeler

1 Jolene Yellowman
2 Serena Dahozy
3 Yolanda Nez
4 Jareth Hale

Wild Horse Race

1 Team Shotgun
2 Team Horsepower
3 Team Ak-Chin

Tie Down Roping

1 Michael Bates
2 Roy Begay
3 Braydon Boyd
4 Tom Young

Ladies Breakaway

1 Serena Dahozy
2 Lack K. Begay
3 Autumn Whitehorse

Ladies Barrell Racing

1 Kortney McReynolds
2 Faith Holyan
3 Fallon Doka
4 Jannon Hale

Bull Riding

1 Evan Betony
2 Cordell Smith

Century Team Roping Header

1 Reggie Sells
2 Carl Begay
3 Woody Smith
4 Karl Dennison

Century Team Roping Heeler

1 Victor Begay
2 Victor Begay
3 Howard Begay

4 Albert Nez

4 Tribes Team Roping Header

1 Clay Martinez
2 Simon Moyah
3 Oren Williams

4 Tribes Team Roping Heeler

1 Ty Romo
2 Jojo Gregorio
3 Michael Moffet



Ak-Chin players excel at MHS Basketball

Photos by Runner Staff

The Runner covered MHS Rams basketball over the course of two days on 12/13 and 12/17 to get a taste of how the teams are playing and catch a glimpse of Ak-Chin players on the girls and boys rosters.

Kaylan Peters (Freshman) and Evone Santiago (Junior) both play on the squad. On 12/13, the girls Rams team hosted the Carl Hayden Community Falcons and controlled the entire varsity game. The Rams were up 13-7 at the end of the first quarter and did not allow a point going into halftime, up 24-7.

The second half was just as

dominant for the Rams, giving up only two points in the third and three points in the fourth quarter with a final score 50-12. Santiago led the team with 7 total rebounds and had three steals in the matchup.

The Maricopa boys varsity team didn't have the same luck on 12/7 as they lost to Marana 56-43 in a non-conference game, but they do have two leaders from Ak-Chin in Isaiah Peters (Junior) and Samuel Justin (Senior) who make an impact on the court.

Boys coach Paul Gretkierewicz spoke highly of both Ak-Chin boys players. "Isaiah is one

of our captains. He comes to practice everyday and his work ethic is an example on and off the floor. He brings a toughness and defensive presence to the floor and provides our team with great energy."

Of Sammy Justin, Coach said that similarly to Isaiah, he is a team player and does whatever role he needs to do to help our team be successful. "Sammy is a hard worker and leads by example. He gives us energy and a change of pace off the bench," he said.



Samuel Justin.



Kaylan Peters.



Evone Santiago.



Isaiah Peters.

Michael Peters Jr. wins two matches at wrestling meet

Photo by L. Peters



Michael Peters Jr. gets the win.

Michael Peters Jr. competed in a wrestling meet on December 11th. This was MHS wrestling team's first home match, Michael won two matches. He is a senior at Maricopa High School and competes in the 145 weight division. His next home match will be on January 23rd.

NEW LIFE Ak-Chin Church

Where the full gospel is preached

Schedule of Services

Sunday School for adults and children
10:00 a.m.

Morning and evening church service is at
11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
in the Ak-Chin Service Center Complex

*Do you need a ride to church?
Call our bus driver
602-476-9591*

*If you need prayer,
please contact one of the pastors
Johnny Stephens 520-705-3052
Carlos Marin 520-560-2679*

**New Year's
Men's & Women's
Basketball Tournament
January 3-5, 2020**

**Awards: 1st-3rd Place
Registration NOW open!
Deadline: December 23, 2019
Entry Fee: \$125**

For more information or to enter a team email: recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us

**New Years
Volleyball
Tournament**

January 11, 2019

**Awards: 1st Place- 3rd Place
Registration is now OPEN!
Deadline: January 3, 2020
Entry Fee: \$100.00**

To register or for more information Email
recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us or call 520-568-1740

St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Mission
16657 N. Church St. Maricopa, AZ 85139
Ak-Chin Indian Community

DECEMBER 2019 Schedule

Sunday Mass at 12 noon
*December 22 – Fr. Peter Teresa McConnell
December 29 – Fr. Ignatius Mazanowski*

Holy Days
Christmas – December 25, 11:30 am
Fr. Ignatius Mazanowski
Solemnity of the Mother of God –
December 31, 5:30 pm
Fr. Chris Fraser

ANNOUNCEMENTS
December 21, 10 am
CCOE Meeting – St. John the Baptist – Komatke

Baptisms are every 4th Sunday of the month and baptism classes are every 2nd Saturday of the month. If you are interested please contact Flower Ruelas at (520) 568-3700 or (602) 717-3761.

**Healthy Parenting Education
and Support Group**

Ak-Chin Health and Human Services

When: Please call to arrange start date.
Where: Conference Room (48227W, Farrell Road Maricopa, Arizona 85139)
Contact: Health & Human Services at (520) 568-1093

The goal of this group is to help establish a support system for Community Families and offer additional tools and techniques for parenting.* Community members, Residents, and Employees are welcome to participate!** For more information contact: Lynne Houston-Volden (Child and Family Therapist) at Health and Human Services. 520-568-1086.

*A Certificate of Completion is issued when a participant actively participates in and completes the entire series of topics.
**Individuals not employed by the community, not residents or community members may be given special permission, contact Lynne Houston-Volden for details.