



## Ak-Chin celebrates two milestone retirements



Maria Garcia, seated in center, is surrounded by friends and coworkers at her retirement party on , held at Ak-Chin Gym, on September 14.

Story and photo by R. Peters

Maria Garcia began her work journey with Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino, from its opening day. "She was an original!" shared daughter Connie Miguel.

She then moved over to the Ak-Chin Indian Community in March of 2010, to work as a custodian in the Judicial Complex. She was "very nervous, but happy because Missy was by her side."

Growing up, Maria worked as an agricultural laborer, while helping to raise her siblings, as well as a young mom raising her family.

Maria would like to thank the Community for her job at Harrah's and the Ak-Chin Indian Community. She is forever grateful for all the love, support and friendships

that she has established.

Here are a few shared sentiments from her coworkers;

*I've known Maria for 21 years, we met at Harrah's along with a few other custodians. About five years ago we met again. Maria is a hard worker and not only is she my co-worker, she is a very great friend of mine. I enjoyed working with her and hearing so many stories. I wish her the best and thank her so much for all she has done for us! Vera Pablo*

*I would like to wish Maria well on her Retirement and to THANK YOU! for your 12 years of excellent service in our Custodian Department. It has been a great pleasure to work with you throughout the*

*years from Harrah's Casino then to the Community. Your dedication and hard work will be missed. Now it is time to Enjoy your Retirement Maria! I will miss you Greatly!! Missy*

*Mrs. Maria Garcia, My wonderful dear friend, it was a pleasure knowing you and working with you. Now you can relax, rest and catch up wit your favorite T.V. channel and movies. "HAPPY RETIREMENT!" Blessings and Love. Your friend Dora H.*

Maria looks forward to spending time with her family and going to visit her siblings in Mexico and California.

Congratulations Maria and well wishes to you on your retirement!



Story and photo by J. Peters

Candace Allcott receives token of gratitude at retirement party, for her "Kindness, Compassion, Dedication and Hard Work from the Ak-Chin Elders."

On September 22, 2022, Ak-Chin Elder Center staff held a special luncheon for Elder Care Supervisor Candace Allcott, who has been a major functioning piece in the Ak-Chin Indian Community since 1993. She is retiring after dedicating 25 years of helpful and lifesaving services to the Community.

Candace started her career with the Community in 1993, as a volunteer for Ak-Chin Fire Department, moving to a full-time position from 1994 to 2007. She was well known among the membership, dedicated to

the call, whenever help was needed.

When asked about her tenure she shared there were so many special memories, both good and bad.

One vivid memory that sticks out for Candace at the fire department, "I'd have to count 9/11/2001 as the most memorable for the Fire Department. Our shift was on at the Fire Station. Cecil, Flora, and I. I was never so proud to be a firefighter/ medic and never so horrified at the same time."

Candace continues to page 2

## Ak-Chin hosts 2022 Culture Teacher Gathering

Story and photos by R. Peters with contributions from K. Morago



Language Coordinator Velacita Lopez and emcee Gabriel Lopez provide closing remarks at the Culture Teacher Gathering, held at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Event Center, September 16.

September 16, traditional language educators and teachers from surrounding tribes gathered at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Events Center for the 2022 Culture Teacher Gathering, hosted by Ak-Chin Language program.

The Gathering, which was Emceed by Ak-Chin Ranger, Gabriel Lopez, began with a welcome from Ak-Chin Vice-Chairman, Lemuel Vincent, followed by a prayer from Councilmember, Delia Carlyle.

Ak-Chin Language staff honored all teachers with a song and slide presentation that featured former staff and community members; Sylvia Rubalcaba, Genevieve Miguel and Holly Antone, all who've passed away. These women were very passionate about their community, language and culture.

Three breakout sessions were held in sectioned areas of the Event Center.

Each session included presentations focused heavily on ways to teach and learn traditional language and culture, whether it be in a classroom, online or through immersion, (in language preservation) which is when a teaching approach brings learners directly in an environment.

Antonio "Gohk" Davis, member and headstart cultural specialist of the Gila River Indian Community, shared an interactive session "Teaching Our A'alga" that focused on finding age appropriate material to create activities and stories that could be adapted into the O'odham language.

He relied on sensory and discovery teaching to keep

young students engaged.

Gohk was very resourceful in creating a classroom group activity for making Chechmaith (tortillas) where he provided materials to create playful and useful props, using felt, paper plates, construction paper, crayons, markers and cardboard.

For Mary (Malia) Garcia, O'odham Education Specialist for the Salt River (Cultural Resources Department) O'odham Piipash Language Program, once her session began, "Psum Hekit O'odhamaj" English ceased to exist as only O'odham was spoken. Assisting in her presentation was Salt River member Diane Cashoya.

In groups of three and four, attendees were invited up to chairs set up in three rows – first row, one chair, second row, three chairs and third row, one chair. Once seated, Malia would select someone and ask them who was seated in front of, beside and behind them. It was a fun exercise, since some did not speak O'odham fluently.

As attendees took turns, it got easier for everyone to respond to the questions and be introduced to fellow attendees. Malia, Diane and O'odham speakers in attendance offered support, and by the end of the session, all had learned a new

set of O'odham words.

Dr. Stanley Rodriguez, Instructor at Kumeyaay Community College in California, presented the Master-Apprentice Language Learning Program, a successful immersion program working for the Kumeyaay people.

Dr. Rodriguez began his presentation of why it is important to speak our languages. "Our language is our birthright," and "our language defines us as a people," he said sharing a power point in both the Kumeyaay and English languages.

For the Kumeyaay tribe, fluent speakers are on the decline, and to create more speakers, the teaching process had to meet the tribe's needs. He explained that in most language learning, like Spanish and French, it is in school structured format and involves reading, writing and speaking the language. The focus of the Kumeyaay program is creating learning environments that involved teaching through activities and immersion.

In this type of setting, they "leave English behind," and work toward real communication in their language by staying focused and speaking. Modeled in part to the US military's Foreign Language Center in Monterey,



Caroline Montana-Antone was the keynote speaker at the Gathering. She stressed creating an environment for the O'odham Neok.

California, Kumeyaay teaches youth the language in the summer up to six days a week and for almost eight hours. Language classes are offered at the tribal college during the school year.

Dr. Rodriguez shared how teaching your language can be difficult and frustrating, "because in the end what you want to do is develop a group who can communicate through language... Teachers, you speak the language, you are the library of knowledge."

Michael Enis, member and educator from the Tohono

Gathering continues to page 2



Above, Candace Allcott (right) and Director Leslie Carlyle-Burnett hold up Candace's customized blanket.

After a few years off, Candace came back to help the community once again, as a driver for the Elder Center.

She promoted to Elder Care Supervisor and took her work with the elders very seriously.

Her time, patience and creativity with the Elder program provided a welcoming and caring environment.

Her unique qualities did not go unnoticed and Elder Center Director Leslie Carlyle-Burnett

Candace continued from Front did not let her forget that.

During the luncheon, emotions ran high as Leslie awarded Candace with a plaque, customized blanket and a heartfelt goodbye.

Mrs. Allcott got to spend one last lunch with her elder friends that she has cared for after all these years. Tears and smiles were shared throughout the day at the center.

Candace also shared some of her favorite memories at the Elder center.

"The 1952's Christmas party was one of my favorites. Dancing with Gibson and seeing George and Phyllis dancing together. Watching Connie Narcia sing and enjoy the music so well. I have a great video of that!"

She also shared how she loved seeing "Stella and Elena and all the sisters enjoying Elvis!"

Candace is planning to spend as much time with her grandchildren and continue to work on her gardening project and quilts. She jokingly added that she has to also supervise husband Allen, who recently retired as Ak-Chin Fire Marshal.

"It has been an absolute honor to work here with the Elders. I always thought the Fire Department would be my biggest honor and what I was most proud of, but it didn't come close to being here with the Elders. They will always be important to me. I feel so privileged to have (been) allowed to serve them and learn from them. There are so many special memories."

Gathering continued from Front



Gohk Davis provides interactive ways to teach young O'odham language and culture, during his session on "Teaching Our A'alga".

O'odham Nation presented "Sharing and learning the O'odham language and himdag using resources both past and present."

He showed everyone how to utilize technology to complete a traditional quiz and survey online, by downloading a game-based learning app, Kahoot.

Michael also showed photos of his community and talked about songs, dances and traditional games from long ago, as well as moving forward after Covid and becoming a virtual learner. He also showed photos of students learning about traditional foods, cooking and seasonal harvesting.

He ended with a video on O'odham Elders & the O'odham Language - History and Stories of Tohono O'odham Districts for AZ Humanities, on Vimeo, and another online survey, asking, "Should modern technology be a teaching tool in learning O'odham himdag?"

Once all sessions completed, everyone was invited back to the main ballroom to enjoy lunch and keynote speaker, Caroline Montana-Antone.

Caroline, a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation, has worked tirelessly to revitalize the O'odham Neok since 1954. She began as a clerk typist/material developer for Tohono O'odham (San Simon School Title VII language program. She then worked as a Language Consultant/Coordinator for the Salt River Indian Community and Culture Resource Manager for the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

Caroline spoke passionately about creating "our own speakers" as she inspired everyone in the room to move forward on the journey to building an environment for traditional language and culture. She talked about her upbringing and early education, and how her grandfather told her that she had a bigger job, which she learned later was to help bring back the O'odham neok.

Caroline said at first, she didn't realize that not everyone was able to speak their native language fluently. As she shared a lesson from college where she had to learn how to communicate with a foreign language student. "We had no idea what each other said, but we communicated." That experience helped her be more patient and understanding of others to "put myself in that place that I didn't know."

"It was something I grew up with and easy for me... I learned my language because I had that environment, I had my mother, my father, my grandfather, my relatives all talk O'odham and I learned...so we have to create that environment in our communities."

She credits the elders, members and administration at Salt River for creating the language classes, being teachers and supporting the programs.

"It wasn't me, it was the elders who selected the people to work. It takes dedicated staff, administration support - young people if you end up on council, remember that. When you look at doing something for your language, saving your



Ak-Chin preschool teacher, Miss Pollie during Ak-Chin Health Education exercise presentation at the Culture Gathering. Photo by K. Morago

language, continuing your language, you have to look and create the environment."

She pointed out how the English language is everywhere in the U.S. and in Mexico they all learn their language and "they maintain their language, they have that environment. That's what we need to do. We need to do that to continue our O'odham Neok."

Caroline continued to encourage everyone to do more, serve on language panels, find out about language grants that provide services for the students and being vocal about the needs in your communities.

She also shared her passion on culture resource, "that also is your history, your past, your record of your past, record of all the things that is happening on your land."

Before Caroline finished, she shared one last thing, "I quit working, because I hit a wall."

So, I want to ask you, beg you, take your cancer screenings, men and women... You guys are very important to me because you're carrying on what I cannot do anymore...that's important to me that you do that, (and) you take care of yourself."

Caroline lost a brother and niece to cancer, and she has been in remission five years, as of July.

Ak-Chin Language would like to thank all staff for their hard work, education staff, participants, presenters, and Phu from Harrah's casino.

The Gathering consists of the four sister tribes, Ak-Chin, Gila River, Salt River and Tohono O'odham Nation.

The purpose of the Gathering is to provide language educators new ideas to help teach in their own classroom, and learning O'odham from the different ways each community teaches.

Gila River will be hosting next year 2023.

# NOTICE

Ak-Chin Indian Community  
2022 Tribal Council Member Election  
Candidates:

- Ann Marie Antone**
- Lisa Garcia**
- Gabriel Lopez**
- Octavio Machado**
- Yolanda Miranda**
- Cecil Peters**
- Fred Salas**

2022 Tribal Council Member Election will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at the Ak-Chin Gym, from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm.

## Absentee Ballots Request

Absentee Voting:

1. Any eligible voter who wishes to vote early or who expects to be absent from the Reservation on any election day, or who expects to be physically unable to go to the voting place on such day, may request an absentee ballot by either appearing in person to the Registrar (**Vicky Smith or Mercedes Rivera**) or by sending a letter to the Community Election Committee at 42507 W. Peters and Nall Road, Maricopa, Arizona 85138. A person requesting an absentee ballot shall identify himself or herself using the name under which he or she is enrolled with the Community.
2. The applicant for an absentee ballot shall complete and sign the application before a Notary Public. The Notary Public before whom the applicant completes the application shall impress his or her seal on the application. Any person unable to sign the application shall sign his or her mark and have the application signed by a witness. Applications for absentee voter ballots may be mailed or presented in person to the Community Election Committee.
3. In-person requests for absentee ballots shall be accepted by the Registrar (**Vicky Smith or Mercedes Rivera**) until five working days preceding Election Day. Mailed requests for absentee ballots shall be postmarked no later than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to Election Day.

Additional questions, please contact:  
**Vicky Smith at (520) 568-1020 or Mercedes Rivera at (520) 568-1031**  
Questions may be emailed to the Ak-Chin Election Board at [akchinelectionboard@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:akchinelectionboard@ak-chin.nsn.us)

**Flower Making Session**

**In Person or Take Home**

Program runs from:  
August 2nd - October 18, 2022

In Person is every Tuesday  
Time:  
4:30 - 7:00 pm  
Place:  
Him-Dak Art Building  
(Transportation provided within the Ak-Chin Community, please call before 4:00 pm.)

For take home bags, please call the Him-Dak to schedule a pick up or drop off time.

Open to all Ak-Chin Community Members and Residents, who would like to make crepe paper flower wreaths for All Souls Day.

**520-568-1350/1354/1355**

## Elder October Breakfast-Lunch Menu

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>7 Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, English Muffin, Grapes with Cottage Cheese   Hamburger, Ranch style beans, French Fries, Brownies, Lemon Bar (D)</b></p> <p><b>10 Rice Pudding, Boiled Egg, Toast, Cantaloupe   Beef and Vegetable Soup, Corn on the Cob, Brown Rice, Fresh Cut Fruit</b></p> <p><b>11 Scrambled Egg, Sausage, Hashbrown Casserole, Toast, Peaches   Grilled Chicken, Butternut Squash, Asparagus, Wheat Rolls, Apple Sauce</b></p> <p><b>12 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Egg, Toast, Mix Fruit   Vegetable Lasagna, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Apples,</b></p> | <p><b>Oranges, Fruit Cocktail</b></p> <p><b>13 Pumpkin Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Fruit   Bar-B-Que Ribs, Plain Ribs (D), Green Beans, Carrots, Pineapple</b></p> <p><b>14 Sausage Cheese &amp; Egg Burrito, Pears, Granola Bar   Zuppa Toscana Soup w/ Sausage, Potato &amp; Kale, Romaine Salad, Bread Sticks, Cupcakes</b></p> <p><b>17 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Raisin Toast, Fruit   Split Peas w/ Ham, Beef &amp; Barely Soup (D), Sweet Potato/Potato (D), Brown Rice, Ambrosia Salad</b></p> <p><b>18 Breakfast Casserole, Avocado, Toast, Apples  </b></p> | <p><b>Salad Bar, Potato Soup, Wheat Rolls, Jell-O</b></p> <p><b>19 Chorizo, Scrambled Eggs, Beans, Tortilla, Strawberry Turnover, Fruit   Fish or Chicken Sandwich, Green Leaf, Tomato, Lima Beans, Beets, Mandarin Oranges</b></p> <p><b>20 Bacon &amp; Cheese Potatoes, Boiled Eggs, English Muffin, Honeydew   Squash Casserole, Wild Rice, Romaine Salad, Rolls, Pistachio Cake</b></p> <p><b>21 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana   Butternut Squash Soup, Grilled Chicken Salad, Garlic Bread, Fruit Salad</b></p> |
|--|--|---|
- \*\* Menu items subject to change\*\***

# Native American Recognition Day 2022



September 24, walkers and runners came out to enjoy a beautiful morning and the 2022 NARD fun run/walk hosted by Ak-Chin Him Dak.

Everyone who participated received a free shirt and continental breakfast.



**Ak-Chin O'dham Runner**  
 Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community ©2022  
 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy 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'dham Runner**  
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 Photojournalist: Justine Peters  
 Graphic Artists: Diana Carlyle and Rebecca Rosoff  
 News Assistant: Delila Villegas

**Ak-Chin Tribal Council**  
 Chairman: Robert Miguel  
 Vice Chair: Lemuel Vincent  
 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'dham 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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 Ak-Chin O'dham Runner  
 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

**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 a return address and brief description. Pictures with no address will remain on file. Allow 2 weeks for return.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATE**  
 2022 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'dham Runner**  
 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

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

**DEADLINE**  
 Don't forget the DEADLINE for the **October 21-November 3, 2022** issue is due by **FRIDAY OCTOBER 14TH**

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than **FRIDAY OCTOBER 14TH**

Material submitted after the **OCTOBER 14TH DEADLINE** cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in the next issue.

**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
 Capital Projects

## AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE COMMUNITY FIBER NETWORK UPGRADE PROJECT (DESIGN SERVICES)

The Ak-Chin Indian Community (hereafter called the "Owner") invites all Design Consultants to submit proposal on a Consulting Services Agreement. The selected company will supply a full design and cost estimate for the following:

- Conduit design, placement, specifications
- Fiber deployment design
- Recommendations in design for cable sizes and specifications
- Design locations of fiber enclosures and pull boxes
- Splicing/crossover schedule and design

The project funding comes from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), with requirements in providing "Fair Wages".

**A MANDATORY PRE-BID VIRTUAL meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. (MST) on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, by WebEx.** To register for a WebEx invitation email [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us). The RFP will be provided electronically shortly after registering.

The Owner will receive Competitive Bid Proposals until **12:00 p.m. (MST) on October 21, 2022** at the Tribal Purchasing Department located at 42507 West Peters & Nall Road Maricopa, Arizona 85138. Proposals received after the specified date and time will be rejected and returned unopened.

This invitation is unrestricted; however, preference will be given to Indian Organizations and Indian Owned Enterprises in accordance to the Community Procurement Procedure. Request for Proposals ("RFP") instruction/information package and related information may be obtained from the Ak-Chin Indian Community Purchasing Office, 42507 West Peters & Nall Road, Maricopa, Arizona 85138, and may be requested by electronic mail at [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us).

The Owner reserves the right to reject, any and all bids. However, the Ak-Chin Indian Community at its discretion may postpone said action for such time as the Tribal Council may designate, as the interest of the Community may require.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of Bids without consent of the Owner.

### AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY ONE (1) VACANCY FOR THE AK-CHIN HOUSING BOARD VACANCY OPEN TO AK-CHIN COMMUNITY MEMBERS ONLY

**Reminder: Community Members can only serve on three (3) Boards, Commissions, or Committees maximum at any given time.**

- The Ak-Chin Housing Board:
1. Ensures compliance with the housing programs, which include but are not limited to all Ak-Chin Community homes, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) homes and Tax Credit homes in coordination with the Community Council.
  2. Is responsible for preparing recommendations to the Community Council for approval or denial of Housing Board actions/decisions.
  3. Is responsible for ensuring that all established policies regarding lease compliance, resident issues and home care and maintenance are followed and enforced.
  4. Taking timely action on all Housing Board related matters
  5. Preparing for and attending all meetings and trainings of the Board.

**Requirements:** All interested parties who desire to serve on the Ak-Chin Housing Board must submit a letter of interest detailing why they are interested in serving on the Ak-Chin Housing Board. In your letter of interest, please note which Board, Commission, or Committee you currently serve on, and when your term expires.

Community employees must also submit documentation from their supervisor allowing them to serve on the Ak-Chin Housing Board

Please send all letters of interest Attn: **Ak-Chin Community Council**  
**ATTN: Victoria A. Smith**  
**42507 W. Peters & Nall Road**  
**Maricopa, AZ 85138**

**Deadline for letters of Interest is Friday, October 21, 2022 by 5:00 pm**

**AK-CHIN FARMS**  
 42507 W. PETERS & NALL ROAD · MARICOPA, ARIZONA 85138  
 (520) 568-1000 · FAX: (520) 568-1001

### AK-CHIN FARMS HAS TWO (2) VACANCIES FOR A REGULAR FARM BOARD MEMBER

- Qualification Requirements**
- 1) Must be able to regularly attend Farm Board Meeting, once a month, on the last Tuesday of the month and any special meetings set. The appointed term shall be for 5 years.
  - 2) Must familiarize yourself to the Farm Plan of Operations which govern and spell out the duties of a Regular Farm Board Member.
  - 3) The Farm Board consist of (3) Regular Farm Board Members (2) At-Large Experienced Farm Board Members, making a total of (5) Board Members. The Three (3) Regular Members of the Board shall be enrolled members of the Community or persons who are not members of the Community but who are employees; provided that, regardless of Community membership status, preference shall be given to persons who have agricultural experience and/or management experience.

All interested parties who desire to serve on the Ak-Chin Farm Board must submit a letter of interest detailing why they are interested in serving on the Ak-Chin Farm Board and your agricultural or management experience if any. In your letter of interest, please note which Board, Commission, or Committee you currently serve on, and when your term expires.

Community/Farm employees must also submit documentation from their supervisor allowing them to serve on the Ak-Chin Farm Board.

**All letters of interest may be mailed to:** Ak-Chin Farm Board  
 Attn: Farm Manager  
 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd.  
 Maricopa, Az. 85138

**Deadline for letters of interest: October 20, 2022**

### AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY Request for Proposal for Stock Contractor Services for Masik Tas Rodeo Events

The Ak-Chin Indian Community ("Community") is seeking services of a qualified and licensed stock contractor to provide animals for rough stock and roping events for the Community's Masik Tas Event scheduled on December 16 – 18, 2022. Contractor must provide stockmen that are knowledgeable and experienced in care, preparation, and retrieval of a variety of livestock throughout the event competitions. Must understand rodeo rules and how those effect the rodeo athletes. The Community will go into contract with the Stock Contractor Services for one (1) year with the option to continue for an additional two (2) years with the potential for a three (3) year contract.

The Community is located 35 miles south of Phoenix in the northwestern part of Pinal County. The City of Maricopa is a neighbor to the Community. Rodeo events will take place at Ak-Chin Circle Outdoor Arena located off of Narcia Road and Ak-Chin Parkway behind Ak-Chin Multi-tainment Center and Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort to the east.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
 Full Proposal Requests will be available October 4, 2022. RFP may be picked up at the Purchasing Office at 42507 West Peters and Nall Road, Maricopa, Arizona 85138; or via email request to Flora Howerton, Purchasing Manager, at [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us).

Please email questions and clarity of the RFP by 4 p.m. on October 14, 2022. Response to questions and clarity will be sent out to all that requested a RFP within 24 hours of business day.

**SUBMISSION**  
 Deadline for submitting proposals is October 24, 2022 at 2 p.m. MST. Please submit Five (5) bound copies and one (1) unbound copy of your proposal labeled "Stock Contractor Services Proposal for Masik Tas". Proposals can be mailed or dropped off at the address listed below:

"Stock Contractor Services Proposal for Masik Tas"  
 Flora Howerton, Purchasing Manager  
 Ak-Chin Indian Community  
 42507 W. Peters and Nall Road  
 Maricopa, AZ 85138

Proposals will be privately reviewed by Owner. Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive informalities and irregularities and to accept any proposal considered advantageous to Owner.

The Community's Selection Committee will review and rate all submissions, and consult with the Community Council on the final selection. The Community's Selection Committee may select applicants for interviews. All candidates will be notified.

Proposals will be disqualified if instructions and content requirements are not followed.

# Maricopa Wells Middle School athletes complete the fall season

Story and photos by Runner Staff



Draven Soliz



Juan Trejo



Rope Justin

September 20th, 2022 the Maricopa Wells Middle School boys' soccer team played a well fought playoff game against Casa Grande Cactus Middle School.

Soliz, Rope Justin and Juan Trejo made effective contributions to the game. Their hard work and determination helped the team keep up with the Casa Grande players.

Played in Casa Grande, the game started off a little behind schedule but brought out a very proactive rivalry between the two teams. Maricopa Wells Panthers overall ended their soccer season with a loss to Cactus Middle School.

Ak-Chin athletes, Draven



Tuesday, September 20, Maricopa Wells Panthers traveled to Casa Grande to face off against Maricopa Winds Tigers for the girls' middle school championship game, held at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School.

The Panthers looked really good in their first game, taking the first set 25-16. Unfortunately, they were unable to keep that momentum, as the Tigers took the next two sets to win this year's championship.

Pate Justin, (3rd from right) Ak-Chin member and eighth grader for MWMS played well as the teams's setter. She is planning to join a club team to continue working on her volleyball skillset.

## Aubrey Lozano makes award winning art

Aubrey Lozano, Ak-Chin community member and Maricopa Elementary fifth grader, was one of a few students selected from Maricopa Unified School District to have her "donut pop art" featured in the Celebration of the Arts showcase, held at the MUSD district office, September 22.

on display at the district office. "The exclusive event showcased a wide array of media including graphited paint, ink, digital photography, ceramics, and graphic design." MUSD shared.

Aubrey is the daughter of Rachel and Daniel Lozano, granddaughter of Elaine Felix, Cecil and Raychel Peters, Leonard and Lisa Lozano, and great-granddaughter of Evelina Lopez and Leona Kakar.



# HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH



A	R	P	B	V	X	B	O	N	E	S	W	S	G
E	B	R	R	G	H	O	S	T	P	N	I	Y	P
U	Q	D	P	A	R	T	Y	S	E	N	T	U	V
Q	C	O	F	F	I	N	M	O	P	G	C	D	I
J	L	T	A	P	Y	E	D	F	F	O	H	J	P
M	R	Q	B	D	U	H	T	L	E	O	O	Z	X
O	Q	A	N	A	S	J	O	Y	F	J	G	K	Z
O	Z	A	I	T	X	W	H	G	I	P	B	W	Y
N	C	F	Q	I	E	H	W	Z	T	O	X	I	P
B	Y	E	Z	R	C	A	N	D	L	E	J	Z	O
A	J	N	E	C	A	S	T	L	E	J	F	A	T
T	V	W	Z	T	F	D	H	O	U	D	K	R	I
M	O	R	A	N	G	E	K	D	H	P	U	D	O
A	B	S	E	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	B	D	N



ORANGE  
WITCH  
BONES  
WEREWOLF



WIZARD  
GHOST  
PARTY  
BAT



COFFIN  
MOON  
CASTLE  
CANDLE



CANDY  
PUMPKIN  
SPOOKY  
POTION

## Students at Legacy Traditional School raise hefty donations at the 2022 Lions Fun Run!

Story and photos by J. Peters



Yael Ramirez (left) and Benji King (right) participating in the 2022 Lions Fun Run.

Friday September 30th, Legacy Traditional School held their annual Legacy Maricopa Lions Fun Run. The students raised over \$22,000.00 as of that Friday morning when the fun run took place.

AM, by class level, at which time students were released from class to participate in the fund-raising fun run. Students gathered in the school yard where three different stations were set up for students to prepare themselves for a short marathon run.

Students from the community participating in the Lions Fun Run were Kylee Carlyle, Benji King, Yael Ramirez, and Mateo Rodriguez.

The students ran through different rotations of karaoke and best friend runs and walks, keeping the students on their toes with different themed laps.

The big event started at 9

# REMINDER

The next Runner submission deadline will be

## FRIDAY October 14TH





Jump houses  
Facepainting  
and Lunch!

## CAR SEAT CHECK EVENT

Is Your Child In The Right Seat?

**Join Us**  
Saturday, October 15, 2022  
9:00 am -12:00 pm  
Milton Antone Park  
46851 W. Farrell Rd.  
Maricopa, AZ 85139

Sponsored by



2022

MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS



# HIM-DAK HALLOWEEN PARTY



WHERE: HIM-DAK ART BUILDING  
**19TH OCTOBER | WEDNESDAY**  
TIME: 5:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

For any questions call Him-Dak at: 520-568-1350



# ARE YOU PRACTICING SAFE SLEEP?

Follow the ABCs.  
**Alone. Back. Crib.**





GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE  
(520) 550-6079  
GRHC.ORG/HUB

# OCTOBER

## COVID / FLU VACCINE LOCATIONS



You may also visit a GRHC Primary Care Department for vaccines

Walk-in or schedule an appointment by calling (602) 528-1482



SCAN FOR VACCINE INFORMATION

**Red Tail Hawk Health Center**

**October 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**10 am - 2 pm**

**Red Tail Hawk Health Center**

**October 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**10 am - 2 pm**

SAFE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY

# VACCINE EVENT AND HEALTH FAIR

**Saturday, October 8th, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**  
**Hau'pal Health Center**

Visit health fair interactive exhibits and receive cool swag!

- Optometry
- Dental
- Life Center
- Podiatry
- Women's Clinic
- Pediatrics
- Managed Care
- Behavioral Health
- ALTCS
- Human Resources
- Benefits Coordinators
- Tribal Health Services (Genesis)
- Communications & Public Affairs Dept.
- Tribal Education
- Community Services Dept. (Elderly Services Program)
- Sacaton Boys & Girls Club
- Digital Connect Initiative

## New COVID-19 Omicron Doses (BA.4/ BA.5) Now Available

Approved on September 15, 2022

- The new booster will protect you and your family from the original COVID-19 strain and newer Omicron variants (BA.4/BA.5)
- Individuals ages 12 and up are eligible for the updated Pfizer booster
- Adults age 18 and up are eligible for the updated Moderna booster



Scan QR code for more vaccine information

### Vaccine Eligibility

Gila River and Ak-Chin Indian Communities enrolled members and those who reside in their households (regardless of tribal affiliation), all Federally-recognized tribal members, GRIC Essential Employees and their household members, and Community Enterprise Employees and their household members.

## Flu Vaccine Available



# KNOCKOUT!

*Flu this season!*

**GET YOUR FLU SHOT**

### Vaccine Eligibility

GRHC can only provide the flu vaccine to members of federally recognized Native American communities.



# FREE BOXED LUNCH TO THE FIRST 200 PARTICIPANTS

All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988

Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449

## 1000 Books thru Kindergarten

Ages 0-6 years old

Call to schedule a pick up time for your Sign Up bag!!  
520-568-1675

Read Prize Breakdown Below

For every 100 books Recive a DQ Gift card

Read 500 Books to receive a trip to Build A Bear Workshop!!!

Read 1000 Books and receive Grand Prize and a Party!!!

Program in open to Ak-Chin Community Members, Residents & Ak-Chin Preschool students

## 2022 Trunk or Treat

Friday - Oct. 28th  
6:00-8:30pm  
Milton Antone Park

Public Event  
Everyone Welcome

Music- Food- Games  
Costume Contest  
Pumpkin Carving Contest

- 10/1 Susan Peters, Courts
- 10/2 Delores Hernandez, Maintenance  
Nikkol Martinez, TGA
- 10/3 Diana Perez, Law & Order  
Victoria Smith, Government  
Earl Justin, Sanitation  
Justine Lopez, Maintenance
- 10/4 Amy Rodriguez, Housing Department  
Patrick Garcia, Courts  
Loc Nguyen, Law & Order
- 10/5 Corinna Velasco, Retail
- 10/7 Alyssa Pablo, Retail
- 10/8 Jon Spezzacatena, Fire & Safety  
Diana Carlyle, Runner  
Angel Antone, Parks & Recreation
- 10/9 Ann Marie Antone, Parks & Recreation
- 10/10 Adam Finken, TGA
- 10/11 Andrea Peters, Elderly
- 10/12 Kathy Shoemaker, Finance  
Adam Abel, Law & Order
- 10/13 Clifford Fullam-Kenealy, TGA
- 10/14 Olesya Nelson, Finance  
Ambria Valles, Social & Health Services
- 10/15 James Boehm, Fire & Safety  
Steven Ruelas, Maintenance
- 10/16 Angelina Soliz, Environmental Protection  
Bianca Chavez-Schrader, Early Childhood
- 10/17 Courtney Bagsby, Fire & Safety
- 10/19 Ninfa Wells, Elderly

## GAME HACKER

Are your kids interested in coding?  
Would they like to give it a try?

Join us for Game Hacker in person.  
**The 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month**  
from 4 to 5:30PM.

If you have questions, contact us at  
library@ak-chin.nsn.us  
or 520-568-1675

**Spots are limited!**

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY

## Game & Food Vendors Needed!

2022 Halloween Trunk or Treat  
Friday, October 28th; 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.  
Milton Antone Park

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS OCTOBER 21ST, 5:00 P.M.

For more information, contact (602) 588-1034/1021 or email events@ak-chin.nsn.us  
This event is open to the public, everyone welcome!

## Gardening Club is here!

the club part anyways

More information contact the Library at  
library@ak-chin.nsn.us  
or 520-568-1675.

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services NAB-250364-OLS-21

## VETERANS DAY PARADE

Maricopa

Saturday, November 5, 2022  
9:00 am to 11:00 am

Parade Route: CAC to Leading Edge Academy:  
N Porter Rd between Bowlin and Adams Way

Luncheon to Follow  
for Veterans, their families, and First Responders  
11:00 am at Leading Edge Academy

For More Information Email: MaricopaParade@gmail.com

## Wishes

Happy Birthday to my granddaughters Andrea and Emily and my grandsons James, Isaiah, and Noah  
Love, Grandma

Happy Birthday Sharon  
Love your family

Happy Birthday Diana  
Hope your birthday is full of fun and excitement!  
From the Runner

Happy Birthday Nino Steve!!  
From your Goddaughters

## ROBOTICS

2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH  
FROM 4 TO 5:30

If you have questions, contact us at  
library@ak-chin.nsn.us  
or 520-568-1675

Due to number of kits  
**Spots are limited!**

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY

## OCTOBER 1ST - 20TH BIRTHDAYS

10/01 Joseph Antone Maynard James William Martinez Damien Smith Eugene Peters, Sr.	10/02 Elizabeth Valles Martin Castro Tanya Lewis Stella Makil White Jeaney Narcia Noemi Hernandez Nikkol Martinez Alison Miguel	10/03 Justine Lopez Elva Alarcon Earl Justin, Jr. Victoria A. Smith	10/04 Neveah Antone Amy Rodriguez Malcolm Johnson Gabriel Manuel	10/05 Dyon Aguilla Celia Medina Douglas E. Pablo	10/06 Ariana Bandin	10/07 Matthew Villarreal Fernando Arellanes-Burgos Alyssa Pablo	10/08 Evelyn Garcia Lee Smith Jr. Angel M. Antone Brittany Paddock Maria Maldonado	10/09 Ann Antone Jacob Trenado Berdina Arellanes-Burgos	10/10 Marco Jensen	10/11 Andrea Peters	10/12 Shanna F.R Narcia Xzalius Homer Delayna Antone Zachary Valles	10/13 Blessing Antone	10/14 Joe Jerry Erin Martinez-Yarberry Ambria Valles Rosa D. Lewis Eliza Santiago Sharon Carlyle	10/15 Holly Lawrence James Boehm Jose Migue,l Jr. Steven Ruelas	10/16 Michaellatino Santiago Angelina Soliz Charity Lewis Jalia Carra Emily Peters	10/17 Francisco Miguel Armonda Santiago Isaiah Peters Jesus Corella, Jr. Noah Brown	10/18 Feather Jim Carrianna Villarreal	10/20 Koda Osborne Joseph Vallejos, Jr. Julian Lewis Sarah Delma
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## JOB OPENINGS

- Police Officer (certified and non-certified)
- Detention Officer (certified and non-certified)
- Security Guard
- Sr. Network Systems Specialist
- Airport Operations Technician
- Senior Planner
- Economic Development Analyst
- Parks Maintenance Technician
- Community Events Planner
- Assistant Cook – Elder Services Program
- Cashier/Stocker part-time

Please visit our website at  
www.ak-chin.nsn.us, for Job Openings, to review the job posting and apply. If you need assistance, please call Human Resources at 520-568-1050.

# Annual salsa night filled with flavor and festivities

Stories and photos by R. Rosoff



Cuacualli Ballet Folklorico dancers perform

A good mix of chips, dips and entertainment were on tap this year at the annual Salsa Night Market held at Copper Sky Regional Park on Saturday, September 26. Maricopa's former Salsa Fest, a night traditionally dedicated to salsa aficionados, has grown to incorporate the Copa Night Market. This year's event drew in dozens of motivated salsa chefs and thousands of hungry taste-testers.

Between bites of salsa, attendees could peruse items from over 100 different vendors, try drinks and food from more than a dozen food trucks, and quench their thirst

in the dedicated beer garden area. Even cornhole enthusiasts had a chance to showcase their skills with the addition of a cornhole tournament. The merriment continued throughout the evening with the festive sounds of mariachi bands and the kaleidoscope of colors worn by talented dance performers.

Brian Hay was this year's most prolific winner with first-place awards for Best Amateur-Hot, Amateur-Best Overall and Ultimate Hot. One of Ak-Chin's employees, Xavier Rojas, won 2nd place for Amateur-Hot.



Above: Santa Cruz Valley Union High School Mariachi and the Ollin Yolitzli Mariachi and Ballet Folklorico

NOW PLAYING	
<b>LYLE, LYLE, CROCODILE</b> Monday - Thursday: 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00 Friday & Saturday: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 & 10:30 Sunday: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00	<b>BROS</b> Monday - Thursday: 5:30 & 8:15 Friday: 7:30 & 10:15 Saturday: 4:40, 7:30 & 10:15 Sunday: 4:40 & 7:30
<b>AMSTERDAM</b> Monday - Thursday: 12:30, 3:30 & 6:30 Friday & Saturday: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30 & 9:30 Sunday: 12:30, 3:30 & 6:30	<b>AVATAR (RE-RELEASE 2022)</b> Monday - Thursday: 11:30am, 3:00 & 6:30 Friday & Saturday: 11:30am, 3:00, 6:30 & 10:00 Sunday: 11:30am, 3:00 & 6:30
<b>SMILE</b> Monday - Thursday: 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00 & 7:45 Friday & Saturday: 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45 & 10:45 Sunday: 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00 & 7:45	<b>THE WOMAN KING</b> Monday - Thursday: 12:00, 3:30 & 6:30 Friday & Saturday: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00 & 10:00 Sunday: 1:00, 4:00 & 7:00
<b>ALL TIMES ARE PM UNLESS NOTED</b>	<b>BARBARIAN</b> Monday - Thursday: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00 Friday & Saturday: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 & 10:30

**THE INVITATION**  
Monday - Thursday: 7:00  
Friday & Saturday: 7:00 & 9:30  
Sunday: 7:00

**BULLET TRAIN**  
Monday - Sunday: 1:00 & 4:00

**DC LEAGUE OF SUPER-PETS**  
Monday - Thursday: 12:00 & 3:00  
Friday: 12:00 & 3:00  
Saturday & Sunday: 11:00am & 2:30

**JEEPERS CREEPERS**  
Monday - Thursday: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30  
Friday & Saturday: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30 & 10:00  
Sunday: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30

**Ak-Chin Circle ENTERTAINMENT CENTER**

**Ticket sales: ak-chincircle.com/theater**

**NO TRICK - ALL TREAT!**

**\$3 DOMESTIC DRAFT BEER**

Must present coupon to server. Not valid with daily or Happy Hour specials. Cannot be combined with other specials or offers. One coupon per table, no split checks. Valid for one visit daily. Non-transferable. Offer expires 10/31/22.

**ARROYO GRILLE** 520.426.6832  
ARROYOGRILLE.COM  
48456 WEST HWY 238

**20% OFF ROOM RENTAL & COMPLIMENTARY BEVERAGE STATION**  
Offer valid if event booked by October 31, 2022. Some restrictions may apply.

**A PURE PARTY EXPERIENCE**  
HOLIDAY PARTIES ■ REUNIONS ■ CORPORATE EVENTS ■ WEDDINGS

**ARROYO GRILLE** Expansive views, custom menu design and an exceptional food & beverage team are ready to throw you a great party for any occasion. Call today to reserve your event with us!

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**MOVIES • RESTAURANTS • BOWLING • ARCADE • LASER TAG • GROUP EVENTS**

**AK-CHIN CIRCLE ENTERTAINMENT CENTER**

**OCTOBER EVENTS**  
Ak-ChinCircle.com

**SATURDAY OCT. 29, 2022**  
9PM-2AM | NO COVER  
**LUXE LOUNGE LIVE**  
**The Outliers**  
**HALLWEEEN PARTY**  
COSTUME CONTEST & CASH PRIZE

**MOVIE RELEASES**

- 10/07 Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile
- 10/07 Amsterdam
- 10/14 Halloween Ends
- 10/21 Black Adam
- 10/21 Ticket to Paradise
- 10/28 Prey For The Devil

**TACO DAY** Tuesday, October 4th

**Fall Break** BOWLING & THEATER. Will open at 11AM DURING FALL BREAK. FALL BREAK ENDS OCTOBER 10.

**FUN DEAL** \$75

**SPIN SHOP** Oct. 15 & Oct. 29. 3:30pm - 8:30pm.

**MONTHLY MOVIE MUST-HAVE COMBO** \$16

**PERFORMING LIVE Sat. October 8**  
**GIRLS NIGHT OUT**

**FOOTBALL IS BACK!** \$4 Well Cocktails, 16oz Domestic Drafts. During NFL Football, Valid Sundays All Day, Monday & Thursday 5pm - Close.

**Ak-ChinCircle.com** /Ak-ChinCircle /akchincircle

**Harrah's AK-CHIN CASINO** **OCTOBER 2022** **CAESARS REWARDS**

**SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY**

**REWARD CREDITS TO FREE SLOT PLAY DAY!**  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2022  
12:01 AM - 11:59 PM • PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS  
MORE FREE SLOT PLAY MEANS MORE JACKPOTS!

1 SPA. POOL. REPEAT!

2 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

3 **DUNKIN'** DONUTS ARE A MONDAY'S BEST FRIEND!

4 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

5 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

6 SIGN UP FOR CAESARS REWARDS AND INSTANTLY WIN!

7 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

8 **JACKPOT!** WIN \$16989.60

9 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

10 **JACKPOT!** \$10,007.50

11 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

12 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

13 FIND US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & TWITTER!

14 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

15 REWARD CREDITS TO FREE SLOT PLAY DAY!

16 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

17 RENT A CABANA ON YOUR NEXT STAY!

18 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

19 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

20 DATE NIGHT AT OAK & FORK

21 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

22 **SPOOKY TIER CREDIT OR REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER**

23 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

24 **CAESARS SPORTSBOOK** FROM FIRST DOWN TO TOUCHDOWN, OUR CAESARS SPORTSBOOK IS READY!

25 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

26 **BTR** TRAVEL BAG GIVEAWAY

27 **JACKPOT!** \$28,000.00

28 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

29 **BINGO** BINGO IS HEATING UP!

30 BONUS REWARD CREDITS

31 **HAPPY HALLOWEEN** ENJOY A SAFE & SPOOKY HALLOWEEN!

**SPOOKY TIER CREDIT OR REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER**  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022  
PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS • 8AM - 11:59PM

Must be 21 or older to gamble and take advantage of these offers. Know When To Stop Before You Start® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700 or 1-800-NEXT STEP. ©2022 Caesars License Company, LLC. See official rules at the Caesars Rewards® Center for complete details.