



## Luisana Garcia is latest “Golden Ticket” Winner

Story By Raychel Peters, photo by Tyaun Marshburn

Miss Luisana Garcia was the latest lucky finder of the Runner’s “Golden Ticket”. She found it in Issue #15.

Luisana’s mom, Lily Garcia Maldonado, shared on Facebook, “My daughter brings me the news paper and she won the golden ticket.”

Luisana and her mom Lily

stopped by the Runner last week to present the “Golden Ticket” and pick up their award, and chose a Target gift card.

Congratulations to all our lucky “Golden Ticket” winners thus far and thank you to everyone for your enthusiasm reading the Runner. Please be on the lookout for Issue 17 and our next “Golden Ticket”.



## President signs Proclamation to protect Arizona Sacred Ancestral Grounds



President Biden addresses Tribal Nations during the proclamation signing on August 8.

Photo by Chairman Robert Miguel, story by Raychel Peters

August 8, 2023, President Joe Biden met with Arizona Tribal Leaders to sign a proclamation under the 1906 Antiquities Act that will establish the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument.

Baaj nwaavjo (BAAHJ – NUH-WAAHV-JOH) which means “where Indigenous peoples roam” in the Havasupai language, and i'tah kukveni (EE-TAH – KOOK-VENNY) which means “our ancestral footprints” in the Hopi language, reflects the significance of the Grand Canyon area.

The monument will conserve nearly 1 million acres of the Grand Canyon landscape that is sacred to many Tribal

President continues to Page 3

## Elder Center First Visit to OdySea Aquarium

Story and photo by Tyaun Marshburn

On Wednesday August 9th, the Ak-Chin Elder Center employees, Marissa Antone and Sonia Narcia accompanied four Elders on a field trip to the OdySea Aquarium, located at the Arizona Boardwalk in Scottsdale, AZ.

The group enjoyed the turtles and alligators. Although, they declined to pet the sting rays, they liked watching the workers feed the sharks.

On the way down to the OdySea voyager, which is the only rotating aquarium in the world, they passed through the great barrier reef tunnel. They were in awe of the sea life swimming overhead.

For most of them this was their first time going to the OdySea Aquarium. This is also the first time the Elder Center took a field trip to OdySea Aquarium.

Before leaving the group enjoyed lunch at Pangaea Grill.



Ak-Chin Elders enjoy a day at the Arizona Boardwalk. Top: Charlene Quilt. Bottom l-r: Rechanda Manuel, Malinda Pete and Connie Santiago

## National Photography Day



The old windmill in Ak-Chin is a popular scene to photograph. (Chairman Miguel)

Story and photos by Tyaun Marshburn

In honor of National Photography Day, on August 19th, Runner staff with the help of a few community members, put together a collage of some of our favorite places and photos taken around Ak-Chin Indian Community.

The first National Photography Day took place August 19th, 2010. Photographers shared their photos in an online gallery that was able to be viewed across 100 countries.

Community Member Evelina Lopez, Ak-Chin Chairman

Photography continues to page 2

## Ak-Chin Early Childhood welcomes students to new school year

Story by Raychel Peters, photos by Armonda Santiago



Izaah Smith concentrates on lining up all his animals around the maze during class at Ak-Chin Early Childhood Education. Story and more photos on page 5.

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Photography continued from Front

Robert Miguel and Ak-Chin Vice Chairman Lemuel Vincent shared what areas are special to them and why.

Ak-Chin Vice Chairman, Lemuel Vincent said, “Currently, the place that I would consider most prominent to me is the place I report to work, the Ak-Chin Administration building. Reason being is because of the road I had to travel on in getting to this point in my life. A road compiled of disappointments, negative adversity and personal endeavors. Every time I come into my office; I am reminded of what it took to get here. It is a second chance in life that will not be taken for granted but acknowledged as a true blessing.”

Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel says the windmill is his favorite place on the reservation because when he’s there he feels a direct connection with his ancestors. “I like to come here and clear my mind; really driving around everywhere in the community, it reminds me why I do what I do, it’s all for the community.”

Community Member Evelina Lopez recalls a memory she has of the Mission school, “I only attended the school for a year before it was closed down. I remember a teacher got sick then the school was closed.”

Runner Graphic artists Rebecca Rosoff and Diana Carlyle voted the pecan trees as their favorite place. Rosoff said, “It’s so beautiful, when you’re in front of it; it feels like you’re not in the desert.”

Runner Photojournalist Alexa Key and I also shared photos that we have captured around the community that are significant to us.

This weekend, get in touch with your inner photographer and take lots of pictures.

If you have any places that are meaningful to you that you want to share, please send them to [runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us) and tell us why it’s special to you.



2023 Thunderbird fire taken Monday July 31



Kids watching 2022 Masik Tas Bull Bash event.



Dog posing with an issue of the Runner, hoping there's a lucky golden ticket inside. Photo by Alexa Key.

ELDER MENU AUGUST  
BREAKFAST & LUNCH

18 Sausage Burrito, Salsa, Turnover, Yogurt & Fruit | Red Chili, Indian Tacos, Ice-Cream

21 Biscuit & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit w/ Cottage Cheese | Ground Beef Taco Salad, Sour Cream, Guacamole, Salsa, Fresh Pineapple

22 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Raisin Bread, Fried Apples & Yogurt | Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes, Butternut Squash, Oatmeal Cookies

23 French Toast, Boiled Eggs, Fruit | Crusted Tilapia or Baked Chicken, Black Beans, Carrots, Peaches w/ Cottage Cheese

24 Breakfast Salad, Biscuit, Avocado Slices, Oranges | Red Chili Stew, Potato Salad, Pinto Beans, Chumuth, Strawberries & Cream

25 Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Hashbrown Casserole, Toast, Fruit | Egg Salad Sandwich, Mixed Vegetables, Coleslaw, Apple/Orange

28 Chicken Fried Steak, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit w/ Cottage Cheese| Chicken Cordon Bleu, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Spring Salad, Wheat Roll, Pears

29 Grilled Cheese, Boiled Eggs, Fruit Salad, Yogurt | Bean Tostadas, Lettuce, Tomato, Zucchini, Grapes

30 Cereal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit | Spaghetti, Salad, Texas Toast, Jell-O Cake

31 Potatoes w/ Chorizo, Beans, Tortilla, Fruit w/ Cottage Cheese | Tuna or Chicken Sandwich, Cottage Cheese w/ Tomato, Watermelon

Menu Subject To Change Without Notice



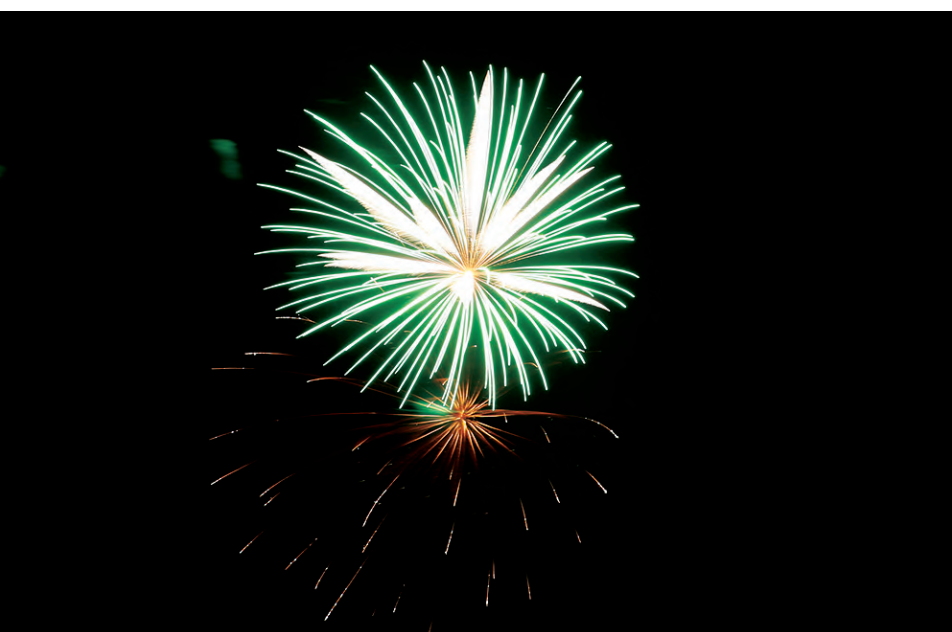
Ak-Chin administration building is a favorite place for Vice-Chairman Lemuel Vincent.



Miss Evelina Lopez' significant place in Community.



Pecan Tress- Voted a favorite place by Runner staff.



Ak-Chin's 4th of July Fireworks captured by Alexa Key.

COME BY AND VISIT AK-CHIN'S FIRST PRE-SCHOOL CLASSROOM

PLEASE JOIN US!  
IN CELEBRATING THE  
HISTORIC BIA AGENT HOUSE  
11TH ANNIVERSARY  
AUGUST 28, 2023  
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.  
& 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.  
LITE FOOD WITH CAKE & ICE CREAM  
FOR BOTH TIMES  
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE  
HIM-DAK MUSEUM AT 520-568-1350





Newspaper of the  
Ak-Chin Indian Community  
©2023

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy.  
Maricopa, Arizona 85139

#### OFFICE HOURS

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
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FAX: 520•568•1376  
E-MAIL:  
runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us

#### Ak-Chin O'dham Runner

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#### Ak-Chin Tribal Council

Chairman: Robert Miguel  
Vice Chair: Lemuel Vincent  
Council Members:  
Lisa Garcia, Gabriel Lopez  
and Cecil Peters

#### Regular Contributors:

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

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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

2023 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**

#### NEXT DEADLINE

Don't forget the  
DEADLINE for the  
**September 1 - 14, 2023**  
issue is due by  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH**

Please submit all  
announcements, wishes, etc.  
no later than  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH**

Material submitted after the  
**AUGUST 25TH DEADLINE**  
cannot be guaranteed  
placement. If appropriate  
and relevant, it will be  
included in the next issue.

# Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Sip 'N Shop

Story and photo by Raychel Peters



*There were many vendors set up for those who had the chance to come out and browse, while in the cool and classy indoor environment.*



*Top photo: Ladies enjoy browsing over a vendors carved crafts and equine artwork.*

*At left: Sip 'N Shop Sponsors; Oxifresh Carpet Cleaning and Integrity Carpet Repair have fun networking with other vendors at the August 12 event.*

*Photos by John Stapleton*

*President continued from Front*



*Tribal Leaders from Yavaipai Apache Nation, Navajo Nation, Colorado River Indian Tribes, Hopi Tribe and San Juan Paiute Tribe get picture with Governor Katie Hobbs (black shirt/red pants) as well as Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel (second from right) during the proclamation signing event with President Biden.*

Nations.

economies."

The White House reported, "This designation, which marks the fifth new national monument established by the President, honors Tribal Nations and Indigenous peoples by protecting sacred ancestral places and their historically and scientifically important features, while conserving our public lands, protecting wildlife habitat and clean water, and supporting local

Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel was in attendance during the historic moment, "I was extremely honored to be invited by the Biden Administration to attend this special moment... I was excited to feel the positive energy and joyful emotions shared by my brothers and sisters in leadership from the northern area of Arizona, which benefited them."

Chairman also shared, "The proclamation designated the fifth national monument of his presidency and unveiled new climate resilience funding for national parks during a

visit to lands surrounding one of the seven natural wonders of the world, the Grand Canyon The designation protects the area from potential uranium mining."

The proclamation is a further testament to the Biden-Harris Administration's engagement with Tribal Nations around traditional homelands and sacred sites.

## Recycling:

Do you know what the most common contaminants in recycling are?



### Most Common Contaminants:

Keep these common contaminants OUT of your recycling bin.



**No Recyclables in Plastic Bags**  
Empty Recyclables directly into your bin and leave the plastic bag out.



**No Food & Liquids**  
Compost Instead! Otherwise it belongs in the trash.



**No Electronics & Small Appliances**  
Donate if in good condition or schedule a bulky item pickup, if available. Check earth911.com for a local drop off site.



**No Textiles, Bedding, Rugs & Carpet**  
Donate these items if they are in good condition. Large quantities may require special disposal.



**No Tangles, Holiday Lights, Hangers & Extension Cords**  
They wrap around equipment and can shut down an entire facility! They all go in the trash



**No Plastic Bags, Film/Sheeting & Flexible Film Packaging**  
Take plastic bags back to local retailers to keep them out of the recycling stream. Visit Plasticfilmrecycling.org to find a drop-off location near you.



**No Paper Napkins, Plates, Cups & Tissues**  
Compost if possible, and remember to recycle the cardboard tube.



**No Polystyrene Foam**  
Foam and Plastic containers are not recyclable curbside. Find drop-off programs for items like foam packing peanuts at earth911.com.



**No Tires, Auto Parts & Scrap Metal**  
(Not in recycling or trash.) All can damage equipment and are safety hazards. Contact your local scrap recyclers or retail tire stores for recycling options or check earth911.com for a drop-off center near you.



**No Concrete, Wood, & Construction Debris**  
Can damage equipment & are safety hazards. You may be able to schedule a bulky item pickup-otherwise throw it in the trash or order a roll off bin by contacting Waste Management customer service.



**No Yard Waste & Wood**  
Compost or put in your yard waste cart, if available. Otherwise it belongs in the trash.



**No Non-Recyclable Plastic**  
Not everything that is plastic is recyclable! Recycle only food & beverage bottles, jugs and tubes.

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When contaminants are found in a load of recycling, depending on the contaminants, the whole load could get rejected and sent to landfill instead of being recycled. Through purposeful and deliberate recycling practices, recycling can be completed in more effective manners.

**The biggest change, starts with the smallest step.**  
Any questions on recycling please reach out to Brandy, bnelson@ak-chin.nsn.us

JUL 12 2023 @ 8:20 AM

IN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT  
AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY  
COUNTY OF PINAL, STATE OF ARIZONA

In Re: The Marriage Of:  
GRACE PABLO  
Petitioner,  
and  
ANTOINE KENNEDY  
Respondent.

CASE NO.: CV-2023-015-DV  
CIVIL SUMMONS

THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY TO:  
ANTOINE KENNEDY

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Civil Action has been filed against you in the Court of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

(x) YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO FILE A FORMAL WRITTEN ANSWER in the said matter within a period of 20 days if you are served within the boundaries of the Ak-Chin Indian Community; 30 days if you are served outside the boundaries of the Ak-Chin Indian Community; further you must send a copy of your written answer to:

Grace Pablo  
45421 W. Ralph Street  
Maricopa, AZ 85139

After you have been served and the written answer period has lapsed, the Tribal Court shall set a date for a hearing of this matter, and you will be notified of the time and date that you will be required to appear.

( ) YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to appear before this Court in the above entitled matter this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 at \_\_\_\_\_.

IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUMMONS a judgment, be default will be entered against you and the opposing party shall be awarded the relief demanded in this matter.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of Ak-Chin Indian Community Court in the State of Arizona this 12th day of July, 2023.

Deanna Rascon, Court Administrator  
of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Court



# Biden-Harris Administration Announces Grant to Improve Road Safety on Tribal Lands

Story and photo by Alexa Key



Farrell Road, the main thoroughfare that runs east-west through Ak-Chin Indian Community, shows deterioration from overuse and flooding.

(Press Release from Federal Highway Administration) Thursday, July 20, the Biden-Harris Administration announced \$20.9 million in grant awards for 88 Tribal communities to improve road safety and reduce injuries on Tribal lands.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data, "Transportation-related injuries and fatalities affect Native American and Alaskan Native populations at greater rates than other demographic groups."

These grants open many opportunities for Tribal communities to improve their roads and overall well-being of its members.

"The grants we're announcing today will

improve the lives of everyone who lives and travels on Tribal lands," said Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt.

Though only a select few tribes have been given these grants, it does provide hope for other Tribal Nations for future federal funding.

Arizona Tribal Nations like Colorado River Indian Tribes and Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians have already started receiving these roadway grants in order to improve their overall livelihood.

However, many of these grants are given to communities that have high rates of safety issues involving roadways – that is not the case in Ak-Chin Indian Community.

"Ak-Chin has very

minimal accidents and the data on roadway safety is so low because we don't have many safety issues in our community," said Pamela Dallas, Contracts and Grants Manager in Ak-Chin.

To further assist the 574 federally recognized Tribes, the FHWA has developed Transportation Funding Opportunities for Tribal Nations.

It is a brochure that provides information on new highway programs created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, as well as existing highway and bridge transportation funding programs.

For information regarding these grants, please visit highways.dot.gov for the official press release.



## Art Program holds Crepe Paper Flower, Wreath Making Class

Story and Photos by Alexa Key

Beginning August 1, the Ak-Chin Him-Dak Art Program is providing paper flower and wreath making classes. However, these flowers have a bigger purpose in the near future.

If you're interested in learning how to make crepe paper flowers, now is the time to learn with fellow community members. There are many different colors you can make along

with a great staff to learn from. Jeannette Peters, Elaine Peters and Florinda Peters are currently leading these classes and offer great guidance and fun conversation along the way.

Though you will learn the skills of crepe paper flower making, many of these flowers are for the purpose of a special day. All Souls Day, November 2, is a day of

remembrance for those who have passed. It's also a way to celebrate their lives. Many of these flowers will be placed on wreaths, which will then be placed on graves at the Ak-Chin Cemetery to remember those who have departed.

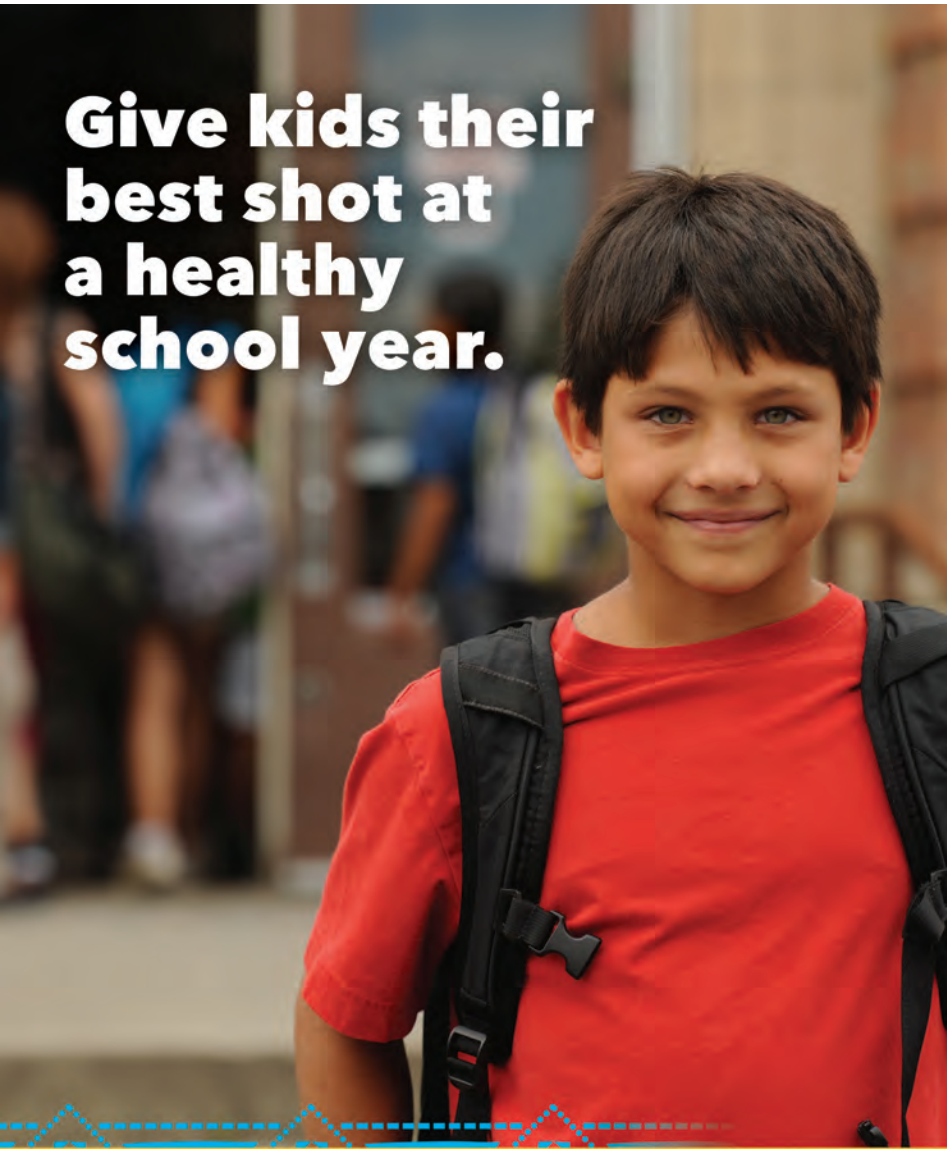
Classes are held every Tuesday from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Him-Dak Art Building. Classes will end on October 17.

## Garcia Family reaches 1000 Books Goal



Angelita (left) and Adrian Garcia, Jr. (right) are super excited as they completed Ak-Chin Library's 1000 Books thru Kindergarten Reading Program, which earned them a trip to Build a Bear Workshop.

Mom Lone Ladd-Garcia wanted to give a shout out to promote the Library's program and kudos to her children. "I'm proud of them," Lone shares, "We made the poster board to keep each other accountable for getting it done... It's been working nice."



### Give kids their best shot at a healthy school year.



### Make sure their vaccinations are up to date.

Contact your local Indian health care provider for more information, visit [www.insurekidsnow.gov/find-coverage-your-family/getting-covered-go-back-school/index.html](http://www.insurekidsnow.gov/find-coverage-your-family/getting-covered-go-back-school/index.html), or call 1-877-KIDS-NOW.





# N.A.R.D.

• NATIVE AMERICAN RECOGNITION DAY •

← "Keeping our Ak-Chin i:mik Strong" →

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

AT MILTON "PAUL" ANTONE MEMORIAL PARK  
8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

- FUN RUN/WALK  
(START & END ON SMITH RD. WEST OF GYM, SIGN UPS AT 7:30AM START AT 8AM)  
PRIZES AWARDED FOR 1ST/2ND/3RD PLACE RUNNERS
- DANCE GROUP PERFORMANCES
- ARTIST DEMONSTRATIONS
- INFORMATION BOOTHS
- FOOD VENDORS
- ARTS & CRAFT VENDORS
- BOUNCY HOUSE
- FACE PAINTING



For more information please contact the Him-Dak Museum Office at 520-568-1350



Early Childhood continued from Front



Early learners spend the day enjoying exercise activities, socializing and working on their fine motor skills.

As preschool officially started this week, students and parents find themselves preparing for new adventures and back to school schedules.

Even extended family members were on-hand to make sure their young students took their first day of school selfies and ready to catch the bus.

Monday, August 14, Ak-Chin Early Childhood Education welcomed new and returning students to their program.

Tuesday, the Runner was able to visit and capture a few pictures of our young students during their first week of school.

Preschool staff shared how the students were filled with excitement and emotions! The students came in wide-

eyed and ready to explore their classrooms, while the amazing teachers introduced them to their first educational experience.

“Our Preschool Program currently consists of 4 classrooms, two 3-year-old classrooms and two four year.” Stephanie Valdez, Early Childhood Education Manager, shared.

“We are all looking forward to an amazing school year and building positive relationships with the families we serve as we educate our future leaders.”

“First day of school was an emotional day, we had few that cried wanting their parents, every child was excited with all the toys that were in each center, we had quite a



few children that didn’t know the meaning of sharing but as the day went on, they were able to share and play together. Overall we all had a great time getting to know each other.” Mrs. Pollie and Ms. Mary shared.

“Our first day of Preschool was an Awesome Day, to see familiar faces and new faces! Our day went very well. We believe our students enjoyed themselves very much. Students were very eager to start playing in the various centers that we have available for them. Together we will have an Amazing school year full of friendships, laughter, creativity, problem solving, sharing and teamwork! Shared Ms. Francine/Mrs. Marcela, 4-year-old teachers.

# Ak-Chin Indian Community and Aotearoa-New Zealand Māori Cultural Exchange (Part 2)

Story and photos by Raychel Peters

While there, they visited Disneyland, and played two exhibition games. Then they took the six-hour road trip and arrived in the Community late Saturday evening.

This was a first time ever visit to the United States for all of the New Zealand NABI players, as well as some of the staff. They were eager to hear and learn about the culture and our him-dak (way of life) on the reservation.

“It (cultural exchange) was also driven by the youth of New Zealand and the interest of life on a reservation,” Lopez shared, “how our youth are keeping or holding on to the language and culture, (and) issues Native American Youth are facing in mainstream society.”

Councilmember Lopez reached out to Ann Antone, Ak-Chin Recreation Director to set up a morning basketball session for all players, as the Aotearoa Māori wanted to work on basketball drills, in preparation for NABI. Ann was excited to hold the morning event and see Nardi, as they had also met and built a friendship through NABI.

Both boys’ and girls’ teams welcomed one another on the Ak-Chin



court, as they bonded together, sharing plays and practicing drills.

A gift exchange took place between both groups, as Ak-Chin players and



coaching staff offered shell necklaces with hand-made medallions created by Ak-Chin Language staff member Felicia Vincent. The Aotearoa-Māori gifted candy and crafts.

After some pool time fun and games, everyone enjoyed a traditional meal provided by the Miguel family.

Afterwards the Cultural Exchange continued to Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center, Elements Conference room, where both indigenous groups provided many cultural exchange opportunities.

Afternoon presentations focused on cultural exchange and history of both tribes.

Both groups presented visual presentations to share their history, language, celebrations and ceremonies.

Many break out sessions also followed, including

a session about O’odham male and female roles in society, as it was another interest of our indigenous overseas relatives.

Gabriel reached out to two

well-respected couples in the Community to share. “I asked two male elders and two female elders if they would speak on their perspective of the male and female roles. Erno Lopez and Lawrence Antone spoke with the young men and Carole Lopez and Sally Antone spoke with the young ladies.”

Ak-Chin Youth Council provided a few icebreakers. Afterwards the gathered the women outside for a toka demonstration. Meanwhile the men played a traditional game, gins.

The Māori then shared many of their songs and dances, including the Ka Mate Haka dance.

Carole Lopez and sister Norma Vincent along with other traditional singers provided many traditional songs and a social dance and gift-away dance.

The youth from New Zealand were touched by the give-a-way dance, and in turn they offered items from their homelands and also team jerseys as part of their give-a-way in our dance.

All of this could not have happened without the blessing of community leadership, language staff, youth council, community toka teams, Ak-Chin circle staff, community elders; Erno and Carole Lopez, Lawrence and Sally Antone, San Juan Chov’/Miguel family for providing the traditional luncheon.

Sparks of Possibility Conference

A Focus on Indian Education Conference

September 12-13, 2023

Desert Willow Conference Center

4340 E. Cotton Center Blvd.

Phoenix, AZ 85040

Great speakers! Engaging workshops: K-12 education, indigenous history and culture, health and well-being, social justice, cultural competency, federal education funding, & more!

Adults and 7-12 grade students.

To register, go to [www.sunclanconsulting.com](http://www.sunclanconsulting.com). Click on Events.

Email [nadine@sunclanconsulting.com](mailto:nadine@sunclanconsulting.com) with questions.



St. Francis of Assisi Ak-Chin Roman Catholic Mission

16657 N. Church St., Maricopa, AZ 85139

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass at 12 noon

August 20th

Bishop Olmsted

August 27th

Fr. Antony Tinker

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

ELDER CENTER INFORMATION

Elder Center

520-568-1760

Center Hours

Monday-Friday

8 AM to 5 PM

Breakfast

7 AM to 8:30 AM

Lunch 12 - 1 PM

For Transportation call Georgia at 568-1769

520-568-1769

Please call before 4 PM

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Friday

9AM-6PM

Saturday Appointment Only

Sunday-Closed

Questions? Call Us!

520-568-1675

RECREATION INFORMATION

For more information on Recreation Center events please call

520-568-1740

TRANSPORTATION

520-568-1760 or

HEALTH EDUCATION

ZUMBA\*

Tuesdays

Aug. 29

Sept. 5 & 12

6:00 - 7:00 PM

@ Service Center

YOGA\*

Thursdays, Aug. 24 & 31

Sept. 7 & 14, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

@ Service Center

\*Classes open to Ak-Chin Members, their families, residents, employees and their families. Questions? Please call Health Education at (520) 568-1080

WIC

Tuesday, Sept. 5th

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Tuesday, Oct. 3th

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

@Service Center

HIM - DAK

BASIC BEADING SESSION\*

Wednesdays

Aug. 13th - Oct. 4th

4:30 - 7:00 PM

@Him-Dak Art Building

\*Open to all Ak-Chin Indian Community Members & Residents

CREPE PAPER FLOWER CLASS & WREATH MAKING\*

Tuesdays, Aug. 1st - Oct. 17

4:30 - 7:00 PM

@Him-Dak Art Building

\*Open to all Ak-Chin Indian Community Members, Residents & Employees. Transportation provided within the Community.

Call (520) 568-1350 before 4:00PM

LIBRARY

ROBOTICS\*

Saturday, Aug. 19th

9:00 AM - 12 NOON

@Library

SPOTS ARE LIMITED

\*Open to all Ak-Chin Indian Community Members, Residents, Employees and their immediate family. Transportation available in the community. Questions, please call (520) 568-1675

RECREATION

HOT WHEEL EVENT\*

Aug. 19th and 20th

Registration required

\*Must be community members; contact Recreation Center at (520) 568-1740 for more information

MINI VOLLEYBALL\*

GAMES BEGINS:

Saturday, Aug. 26th

\*Open to all Ak-Chin Indian Community Members & Residents, AGES 4-8

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL\*

GAMES BEGINS:

Saturday, Sept. 9th

\*For more information, please contact Kathleen at (520) 568-1744 or Email: KMiguel@ak-chin.nsn.us

1ST ANNUAL PUBLIC SAFETY OUTREACH GAME NIGHT WITH POLICE & FIRE\*

Saturday, Aug. 26th

5:00 - 7:00 PM

\*Age divisions: 6-10 and 11-17; For more information or to register, please cal Recreation at (520) 568-1740 or email: Recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us;

DIVE-IN MOVIE\*

Super Mario Bros.©

Saturday, Aug. 26th

8:00 PM

\*For more information or to register, please cal Recreation at (520) 568-1740 or email: Recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us



Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation Presents

SUPER MARIO

Bros.

DIVE-IN MOVIE

SATURDAY

AUG. 26TH

8:00PM

FOOD & DRINKS

For more information or to register please call Recreation at (520) 568-1740 or email: Recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us

What are your kids up to this school year?

We'd love to include them in an upcoming issue of the Runner!

Please send us pictures and information about any extracurricular activities that your kids are participating in such as sports, clubs, cooking classes and more.

Contact us today!  
RunnerNews@ak-chin.nsn.us  
(520) 568-1375

# Jiu Jitsu class a success, coming back in 2024

Story by Tyaun Marshburn, photos by Runner Staff

Team members from Los Gallos grappling club held Brazilian Jiu Jitsu sessions at the Ak-Chin Recreation Center during the month of July kids in the community.

Washington State Revolution Medalist and Grappling Industries Medalist.

Campa and Davila both hold green belts in Judo under Sensei Ben Goucher.

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu can be beneficial to kids in different ways, but a common reason people enroll their children in sessions is to combat bullying. Brazilian Jiu Jitsu teaches kids ways to defend themselves.

Before each session, kids removed their socks and shoes before going to the mats to do a quick recap on safety. After that the kids were taught the 4 rules of Jiu Jitsu:

1. Take your opponent to the ground
2. Get passed their legs
3. Get to a dominate position
4. Submission

The class was led by Nick Davila. Davila originally started in martial arts, but while in Washington Davila was exposed to Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and that is what sparked his interest in grappling. Davila has been an instructor for several or years.

Other benefits of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu are it improves body strength, mental focus and sharpens critical thinking skills.

Anthony Campa was another instructor during the session at the Ak-Chin Recreation Center. Campa's passion for grappling has been growing since the 9th grade. Some of his accomplishments include IBJJF Seattle Open Gold Medalist, Fight2Win Veteran, Bellingham Battle Grappling Medalist ,3x

Ak-Chin Recreation shared that the class is done for now, but will be resuming in 2024.



CAP

CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT

CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT

CAP's workforce is **dedicated to maintaining CAP's infrastructure** so that it remains reliable for present and future generations of Arizonans.

YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

KnowYourWaterNews.com



# Food Handlers Training



**Date: Wednesday August 23, 2023**

**Location: Ak-Chin Service Center**

**Time: 10am – 12pm**

**Who Should Attend??**

- Food Service Workers
- Interested Community Members
- Volunteers

**If there are any questions... or you would like to sign up, call us at (520) 568-1083**



# Healing From Grief Group

HHS Behavioral Health is now offering a group designed to help find a new path to normal.

Groups will help people express emotions, develop new coping skills, find comfort and support with others.

*Art can help us express what words cannot.*

*Sharing with others can help us feel connected again.*

**✦ August 23, 2023 - Art Based Group**

**✦ September 13, 2023 – Support Group Meeting**

**✦ September 27, 2023 - Art Based Group**

Groups will be held at TBD

**5:30pm – 7:00pm**

\*Reservations are needed for Art Based Groups to verify supplies are available for all attendees.



For questions or more information please contact HHS Behavioral Health Team at: 520-568-1090 or [LHouston-Volden@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:LHouston-Volden@ak-chin.nsn.us) ; [PTompson@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:PTompson@ak-chin.nsn.us)

# WIC

**TUESDAY, SEPT 05, 2023**  
**TUESDAY, OCT 03, 2023**

**WIC SERVICES HELD AT AK-CHIN SERVICE CENTER**

**8:30 am - 11:30 am**

**Do you qualify for WIC?**

- Pregnant
- Breastfeeding women
- Infants
- Children under the age of 5

WIC foods include: yogurt, fresh fruit s & vegetables, baby foods and other favorites such as milk, peanut butter, cheese, cereal and eggs

Questions? Need to make an Appointment?  
Call: (520) 562-9698 Gila River Indian Community WIC Program

## JOB OPENINGS

- Communications Officer
- Compensation Analyst

- Detention Officer - Certified
- Detention Officer - Non-Certified
- Economic Development Analyst
- Firefighter/Medic
- Firefighter/EMT
- General Worker
- Head Lifeguard
- Lifeguard
- Maintenance Technician (4)
- Police Officer- Certified and Non Certified
- Sr. Network Systems Specialist

[www.ak-chin.nsn.us](http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us)



## EMPLOYEE UPDATES



**Barbara Elliot**  
EMS Coordinator  
Fire Department



**Clayton Antone**  
Police Ranger  
Police Department



**Dannon Peters**  
Art Technician  
Him-Dak Museum



**Thomas Fields**  
Fire Chief  
Fire Department

## Wishes

Happy Birthday to my grandsons Juan, Michael Jr., Darren and Stewart and my granddaughters Michelle and Delila  
*Love, Grandma*

Happy Birthday to our Godsons Johnny and Frankie  
Hope your birthdays are great – just like you!  
*Love, Goddaddy and Godmama*

Happy Birthday Darren  
Have an outstanding birthday!  
*Love, the whole fam*

Happy Birthday Nancy  
Have a fun and enjoyable day!  
*Love, your family*

Happy Birthday Delila!  
*From the Runner*

## AUGUST 18TH - 31ST BIRTHDAYS

*August 18*  
**Juan Lopez**

*August 19*  
**Lisa Miller**

**Delora Vincent**  
**Owen Santiago**  
**Jasmine Kaniatobe**  
**Anthony Narcia Sr.**  
**Florine Vincent**  
**Amanda Narcia**

*August 21*  
**Sharon Pablo**  
**Doria Garcia**

*August 22*  
**Nancy Carlyle**

**Michelle Narcia**  
**Lorice Manuel**  
**Cruz Machado**  
**Reginald Delores**  
**Jonathan Justin**

*August 23*  
**Dorissa Garcia**  
**Jacoby Warren**

*August 24*  
**Michael Peters Jr.**  
**Jeffrey Manuel**

*August 25*  
**Janaya Lopez**

*August 26*  
**Denise Lewis**

*August 27*  
**Andrew Narcia**

*August 28*  
**Darren Peters**  
**Jacob Vincent Jr.**  
**Delila Villegas**  
**Stacey Smith**  
**Eleanor Anderson**  
**Stewart Peters**  
**Wilson Antone**



*August 29*  
**Emmeline**  
**Montero-Zamudio**  
**Frankie Carlyle**

*August 30*  
**Amiyah Deleon**  
**Amare Santiago**  
**Arnulfo Bandin**  
**Candi Chavez**

*August 31*  
**Misty Quintero**

## AUGUST 18TH - 31ST EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS

**20-Aug**  
**Nawal Bakheit-Apura,**  
*Contracts and Grants*

**21-Aug**  
**Daniel Mercado, IS**  
**Dale Vance, Fire & Safety**

**23-Aug**  
**Dorissa Garcia, Enrollment**  
**Brandy Nelson,**  
*Environmental Protection*

**24-Aug**  
**Jeffrey Manuel,**  
*Parks & Recreation*  
**Brenice Kaisem,**  
*Law & Order*

**26-Aug**  
**Lorenzo Holcomb,**  
*Law & Order*

**27-Aug**  
**Blanca Briones,**  
*Human Resources*  
**Michelle Garcia,**  
*Early Childhood*  
**Gary Carr, Maintenance**

**28-Aug**  
**Darren Peters, Fire & Safety**  
**Wilson Antone, Library**  
**Delila Villegas, Runner**

**30-Aug**  
**Candi Chavez, Sanitation**  
**Christopher Johnston, IS**



# Air Supply Performing Live at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino

(MARICOPA, Ariz.–Aug. 2, 2023)–Air Supply, an Australian pop duo formed in 1975 by Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock, is set to take the stage at the Events Center at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino on Friday, Nov. 3 for a captivating live performance.

The duo released their first single “Love and Other Bruises”, which immediately shot to the top of the charts. Following, they were invited to open for Rod Stewart, performing fifty shows in Canada and the U.S. in 1977 at the biggest named venues, including Madison Square Garden in New York.

“Lost in Love” was released in Australia in 1978, which landed them a record deal. The song became the fastest selling in the world and was named song of the year in 1980—achieving multi-million plays on the radio. Air Supply has become an

international success. They accompanied The Roots in a live performance on the Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon in 2011 and were proclaimed the Top 5 “Greatest Aussie Bands” of all time in 2020 by the Herald Sun alongside bands like AC/DC.

Delighting their fans both new and old, the journey of Air Supply continues with a live performance at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino.

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino proudly presents:

Air Supply

Date: Friday, Nov. 3, 2023

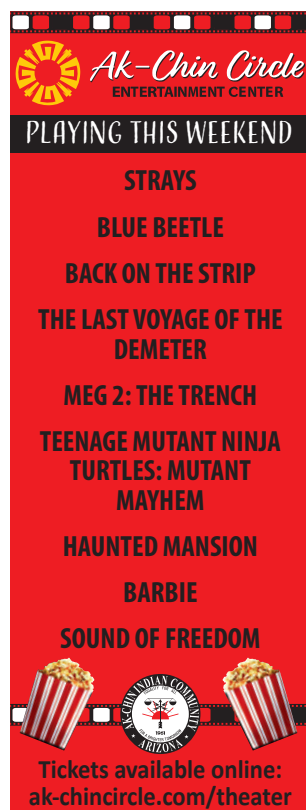
Doors: 7PM

Showtime: 8PM

Location: The Events Center at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino

Tickets: \$89.50; \$69.50; \$49.50

Ages: All Ages



# Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino; Caesars Entertainment Receive Local and National Award Recognition

(MARICOPA, Ariz. – Aug. 14, 2023) Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino has been recognized as one of Arizona's Most Admired Companies (MAC) of 2023 by AZ Big Media. In addition, Newsweek magazine's America's Greatest Workplaces has recognized Caesars Entertainment, Harrah's managing partner, as a Top 1,000 Employer in the United States for 2023.

“Harrah's Ak-Chin has a long-standing reputation for going above and beyond when it comes to providing customer service,” said Senior Vice President and General Manager Michael Kintner. “We are honored to be recognized and will continue to create an environment where employees and customers are welcomed and respected.”

A panel of human resources experts, gathered by Best Companies AZ, conducted the judging process for the MAC Awards. Recipients were evaluated and selected based on five pillars: Leadership Excellence, Workplace Culture, Corporate and Social Responsibility, Customer Opinion and Innovation.

As part of the recognition, Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino will be featured in the September issue of Az Business magazine and honored at the corresponding MAC Awards event at Chateau Luxe at 1175 E. Lone Cactus Drive, Phoenix, 85024, on October 5th from 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

America's Greatest Workplaces were selected based on a study of more than 389,000 reviews of

companies with 1,000 or more team members. Participants evaluated company image, corporate culture, working environment, work-life balance, training and career progression, compensation and benefits sustainability awareness and proactive management of a diverse workforce.

“We are proud to be a part of the Caesars Entertainment family,” continues Kintner. “As Arizona's first and only tribal casino to have an international management partner and as one of the largest employers in Pinal County, it's important that our efforts reflect the values of the Ak-Chin Indian Community and live up to the standards of one of the nation's greatest employers. Our employees and guests deserve it.”



**Harrah's**  
AK-CHIN CASINO

**August 2023**

**CAESARS**  
REWARDS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>10X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b> AUGUST 29, 30, 31 & SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY 8AM - 11:59PM - PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS		<b>1</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>2</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>3</b> CAESARS REWARDS MOBILE APP FREE SLOT PLAY	<b>4</b> INTERNATIONAL BEER DAY BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>5</b> DJ AT THE POOL
<b>6</b> BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>7</b> HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAY!	<b>8</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>9</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>10</b> CAESARS REWARDS MOBILE APP FREE SLOT PLAY	<b>11</b> BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>12</b> DJ AT THE POOL
<b>13</b> NATIONAL FILET MIGNON DAY BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>14</b> ARIZONA'S ONLY LOYALTY PROGRAM OFFERING YOU THE KEYS TO UNLOCK BENEFITS AT OVER 50 CAESARS REWARDS DESTINATIONS, COAST TO COAST!	<b>15</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>16</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>17</b> CAESARS REWARDS MOBILE APP FREE SLOT PLAY	<b>18</b> BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>19</b> YOU CHOOSE / HOT SEATS DJ AT THE POOL
<b>20</b> BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>21</b> FOR ALL THE WAYS YOU PLAY!	<b>22</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>23</b> PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>24</b> CAESARS REWARDS MOBILE APP FREE SLOT PLAY	<b>25</b> BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>26</b> DJ AT THE POOL
<b>27</b> BONUS COMP DOLLAR DAYS!	<b>28</b> LET'S BE FRIENDS!	<b>29</b> 10X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>30</b> 10X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER PARINI™ KITCHEN APPLIANCE ESSENTIALS GIVEAWAY	<b>31</b> 10X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER CAESARS REWARDS MOBILE APP FREE SLOT PLAY	<b>WIN A YEAR OF HOUSE PAYMENTS WITH CAESARS REWARDS</b> LABOR DAY WEEKEND	