

Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXVIII, Issue 8

April 25 - May 2, 2024

Members participate in 2024 Men's Final Four events



Jennifer Boehm (left) proudly hoists the Ak-Chin Flag during the opening ceremonies at the NCAA Men's Final Four championship game at State Farm Stadium, April 8. Story by Runner staff, photo submitted

Ak-Chin Indian Community was again part of the Phoenix Local Organizing Committee for the 2024 NCAA Men's Final Four events that took place April 5-8, in downtown Phoenix.

Community raffles were held for the opportunity to attend the Men's Final Four Fan Fest at the Phoenix Convention Center, as well as tickets to the championship game.

Select young athletes participated in the Men's Final Four Dribble Fest, where thousands of youth ages 18 and under dribbled a one-mile course through downtown Phoenix.

On April 8, Purdue and UConn battled it out in front of nearly 75,000 fans, at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, for the national title crown. Among those fans in attendance about 40 of them where Ak-Chin members, who were drawn for tickets and a once in a lifetime experience.

Ak-Chin Community member, Jennifer Boehm was selected to represent the community during the opening ceremony of the championship game.

"ASU reached out to me and offered me the opportunity to represent the Ak-Chin Indian Community and Arizona State University at the NCAA Men's Championship Game by holding the Ak-Chin flag during the opening ceremony." Jennifer shared.

"For the first time, the NCAA wanted to honor the indigenous community and the land on which they held the tournament by seeking indigenous students from the local universities to represent all 22 Arizona tribes. When ASU inquired about a representative, Ak-Chairman Robert Miguel mentioned my name as an option and I was lucky to be chosen."

Before the game members who won tickets also received VIP passes to the Men's Final Four Tip-Off Tailgate which took place on the Great Lawn at State Farm Stadium, from 2 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Members had exclusive access to a VIP tent at the tailgate. Inside the tent were complimentary food and drinks, along with couches and tables for tailgaters to sit at as they waited for the game to draw closer.

However, the tent was only a small part of the tailgate and luckily members weren't restricted to inside the tent, they were able to wonder



Emily Peters with mom Martina, brother Aiden and dad Brandon Peters.

Emily Peters recognized at MHS Senior Night

Story and photos by Raychel Peters

On April 10, the Maricopa Lady Rams softball program honored eight seniors during their senior night game, among them was Ak-Chin senior, Emily Peters.

Maricopa played Valley Vista that night, and run-ruled them in the 5th inning, winning 18-5, with Emily hitting a triple in the 3rd inning.

Emily has played varsity for

the Lady Rams for four years, where she predominately played centerfield.

During the Senior Night Recognition, all seniors were announced, while their memories and plans were read aloud to the crowd.

Emily shared, "After High School I'm planning to attend the University of Arizona to major in environmental

Emily Peters continues to page 4



Army Corps of Engineers see firsthand wash issues in the Community



Area in the Ak-Chin Farms, where the Vekol wash has been affected by erosion. Ak-Chin EPD made a pit stop at this location during the tour.

Story and photos by Jordan Rodriguez

On Monday March 25, 2024, Chairman Robert Miguel hosted, Colonel Andrew Baker, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (US ACE/ Corps) 64th Commander and a delegation from the Los Angeles District, along with representatives from Senator Sinema's, Senator Kelly's and Congressman Crane's offices.

The Colonel is the US ACE decision maker that approves requested projects and their funding. This visit was spurred

from previous conversations and tours that have been ongoing between the Corps staff and the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

In 2023, the Community applied for and received a permit from US ACE.

This permit approved the Community to conduct maintenance 200 feet north and south of every wash crossing within the Vekol and Smith washes. The maintenance was to be supported and conducted by Public Works/Sanitation and Environmental Programs. But, due to the federal grant funding from the U.S. EPA provided to Environmental Programs, the Community needed to conduct an Archaeological Survey within the washes.

In March 2024, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was advertised with a due date the end of March. Once a contractor is selected, the

U.S. ACE continues to page 6

Event attendees stopped at a booth to receive information along with goodie bags.

Ak-Chin hosts Week of the Young Child

Story by Jordan Rodriguez, photo submitted by Education Department

The Ak-Chin Indian Community teamed up with the Pinal Early Childhood Coalition to host an event focused on early learning and the educators who support the positive development of young children.

This event, held on April 10th, at was strictly for families with children from ages birth to five years of age and also participate in fun activities.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community was just one of the locations to host this year's Week of the Young Child. This yearly event is to focus on the early stages of younger children and their development. Also, to help let the parents of Pinal County know of the services provided to families of young children.

Every program that participated was asked to provide an interactive activity for the children and it was a success! The celebration was held at Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park.

From dancing in bubbles to making coffee filter butterflies, they enjoyed the bounce houses to the amazing hot dogs and hamburgers. It was a fun-filled afternoon with raffle prizes and giveaways at the



Happy Birthday to our Elder Center Expansion Project 1st Quarter Elders Presentation

Story by Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, photo by Raychel Peters



Brian Reed, Vice President of preconstruction services for A. R. Mays Construction, holds up an approved layout for the Elder Expansion.

On April 11, 2024, Ak-Chin Capital Projects department was on hand to unveil to the community elders an eagerly anticipated presentation regarding the forthcoming expansion of the elder facility.

The collaborative effort behind this initiative involved the dedicated contributions of many elders, including Terry Enos (bað), Linda Sue Jose, and Martin Antone, Sr., alongside the expertise of AR Mays architects, and the guidance of Elder Center Director, Leslie Carlyle-Burnett.

The inception of the design process dates back to 2017, with meticulous planning and deliberation continuing through 2018. Despite initial plans for construction to commence in 2019, following necessary meetings and Council approvals, unforeseen challenges the presented by the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated a delay in the project timeline.

On the appointed day, April 11, 2024, at noon, the Capital Projects team convened with the elders to provide comprehensive insights into the proposed design for the expansion. This session served as an invaluable opportunity for the elders to offer their feedback, suggestions, and any desired alterations to the design team.

recommendations All put forth by the elders will be



March, on April 12, at the Ak-Chin Elder Center. Birthday girls Mildred Narcia, Evelina Lopez and Rechanda Manuel. Elder cooks created a delicious lunch of green chili cheese tamales, with rice and beans for the celebration and made each one a personal strawberry white cake. Afterwards, everyone joined in to sing Happy Birthday.



Elders enjoy Diamondbacks vs Yankees game

Story by Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, photo by Raychel Peters

Ak-Chin Elders enjoy Arizona Diamondbacks vs New York Yankees game at Chase Field Story by Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, Elder Center Director, photos by Raychel Peters

On April 3, 2024, a wave of excitement swept through the elders of our community as they gathered for a special outing; attending the Diamondbacks vs. Yankees But let's not forget about the

games?"

With a resounding "Yes!" the director eagerly embraced the idea, recognizing it as a golden opportunity to engage the elder gentlemen, a demographic often overlooked in our activities. And so, plans were set in motion for an epic day at the ballpark.

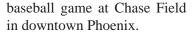
ultimately fell short, losing to the Yankees 6 to 5. But the game was far from boring each inning brought nail-biting suspense and thrilling plays, keeping everyone on the edge of their seats.

unforeseen Due to circumstances, Norman was not able to attend the game. However, his spirit was present in the cheers and chants of his

Expansion continues to page 3



Please call the Museum to reserve your spot or for any questions. 520-568-1350



This unforgettable experience was set in motion by a phone call from spirited Elder Norman Vincent, Jr., a staunch Yankees supporter, who reached out to the Elder Center director months in advance with a simple question, "Do we take elders to baseball

ladies! Among the attendees were a group of enthusiastic female baseball fans, ready to cheer on their favorite teams alongside their male counterparts. With over elders in attendance, 16 stadium buzzed with the anticipation and camaraderie.

Although, the Diamondbacks put up a valiant effort, they

fellow elders as they celebrated the Yankees' victory.

We truly thank, Norman for his initiative, which has paved the way for more exciting outings in the future, proving that a day at the ballpark is just the beginning of the fun adventures the Elder Center has in store. And we hope he can join us for our next outing!

	<u>zan</u>	<u>SUO</u>	PNI	
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	ast Served from 7 AM to nch Served at 12 PM to	4/25 Breakfast Pizza, Avocado Slices, Fruit Salad, Cottage Cheese	4/26 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Apples	
And in case of the local division of the loc	a is located in the Elder		Movie Day	Men's BBQ 12 noon Elder Center
Tuesday and Thursday 9 AM to 10 AM *Chair Volleyball Questions? Call the Recreations Department at 520-568-1760 *Movie Questions? Call the Elder Center at 520-568-1760 *For Transportation Call Georgia 520- 568-1769			Split Peas, Beef w/ Vegetable (D), Carrots, Moon Bread, Nectarine	Mother Earth Day At Ak-Chin Elements 10am to 3pm Potato Soup & Chef Salad, Whole Wheat or White Rolls, Jell-O/
4/29 Bacon & Egg Sandwich, Potatoes, Toast, Muffin & Fruit Eggs 6am to 4pm Turkey Barely, Vegetable Soup, Romain Salad, Mixed Berries	4/30 Potatoes with Chorizo, Tortilla, Avocado, Turnover & Fruit Eggs 6am to 4pm Red Chili Stew, Potato Salad, Pinto Beans, Grapes	5/1 Breakfast Burrito, Salsa & Sour Cream, Fruit Salad Chicken Cordon Blue, Creamed Spinach, Carrots, Yogurt w/ Strawberries	5/2 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana Spaghetti, Romain Salad, Texas Toast, Plums	Banana 5/3 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana Chili Rellenos, Spanish Rice, Pinto Beans, Fresh Cut Fruit, Mexican Sweet Bread

👮 Ak-Chin Oodham Runner 💮 **Ak-Chin Environmental Programs** thoughtfully considered Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community **Earth Day Celebration** © 2024 final 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Friday, April 26, 202 Maricopa, Arizona 85139 development process. Ak-Chin Circle Elemen **OFFICE HOURS** For those elders who 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. **Event Center** Two (2) Hours of Administrative Leave 10:00AM-3:00PM were unable to attend the MONDAY - FRIDAY ed for Community Employees PHONE: 520•568•1375 meeting, but wish to view FAX: 520•568•1376 the design and share their E-MAIL: input, we encourage them runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us to contact the elder center. Special arrangements will Ak-Chin O'odham Runner be made to accommodate **Editor: Raychel Peters** their visit, as we value Photojournalist: Jordan Rodriguez welcome and their JOIN US FOR: Graphic Artists: perspectives. Diana Carlyle and Rebecca Rosoff Food & Drinks

Through open dialogue and collaboration, we remain committed to creating a space that not only meets the practical needs of our elder community but also reflects their vision and aspirations for the future.

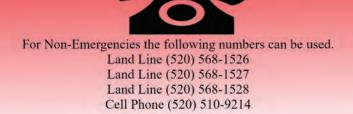
Emergency numbers to contact the Ak-Chin Police Department

Live Entertainment

Raffle & Giveaways

Pics with Earthy Enos

In case you are unable to reach the Ak-Chin Police Department through the main phone number (520) 568-1200. Please utilize the following information for Police|Fire|EMS services. Please remember for Emergencies DIAL 911



ATTENTION **Community Members Past Due Fines**/ Restitution

If you are delinquent on your fines/restitution, or not sure if you have an outstanding balance. Please contact the courts at (520) 568-1385 at your earliest convenience to avoid the following penalties:

- Withholding of Annual Distributions ٠
- Garnishment of Wages for those working within the Community

You can void any of the above collections by the

In Loving Memory of Leona M. Carlyle-Kakar

"There are warriors and the then there are warriors. There are leaders and there are leaders. Arizona has lost another." - Shayne Del Cohen

It is with a sad heart that we share in the loss of our beloved mother, grandmother and aunt, Mrs. Leona M. Carlyle-Kakar who passed quietly on Sunday, April 14, 2024.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all of our family, friends and community for your heartfelt condolences, sympathies and support

as we mourn the Matriarch of our family.

Thank you for giving us the time to console and for taking the time to call, comfort, and pray for us in our time of need. We appreciate each and every one of you that came to help us prepare her home, prepare a meal, reach out through phone calls, email and stopping by to give hugs and lending a hand wherever needed. You all truly gave us the peace and strength during our most difficult times.

Special

acknowledgements to: J. Warren Funeral

Services, St. Francis of Assisi Church-Ak-Chin, Fr. Antony Tinker, San Juan Church and Miguel Family, Joe Enos, Steve and Flower Ruelas, Miss Pickle Looper, Terri and John, Lawrence and Sally Antone, Lerline Peters, Kristina Morago, Waylon

Antone, Lusan and Nate Enos, Dean Peters, Jenny Holsen, Bernadette

White, Farrell-Parks Family, Pearce Family, Dunn Family, Daugherty Family, Chance Family,

Ak-Chin Community Government and Farms, Ak-Chin Elder Center, Ak-Chin Fire and Police, Ak-Chin Runner, Ak-Chin Sanitation/Public Works, Ak-Chin Health and Human Services, Vekol Market and all the vap'kal who came along for the last ride.

We would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to Jeanette Jicha and everyone at Ak-Chin Clinic, Dr. Mital Patel and Dignity Health Cancer Institute, Esperanza, Rhonda, Sylvia, Jennifer, Jessica, Pastor Bill and Thema Care-Hospice.

Expansion continued from page 2

and integrated into the design, ensuring that their voices are fully represented in the

 Rock Painting & Make-A-Planter Educational Booths & Much More!

about "YOUR" newspaper, let the Runner Staff know that too.

News Assistant:

Delila Villegas

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.

The Ak-Chin O'odham

Runner is published on the

first and third Friday of

each month.

The "Runner" is delivered

to all residents and

departments of the Ak-Chin

Indian Community, as well

as surrounding community

businesses, interested groups

and subscribers.

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from:

Ak-Chin O'odham 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'odham

Runner is a Community

Newspaper and encourages

Community involvement.

If you have artwork, photos,

poems or a great story that

you would like to share,

please contact us so we

can include it in "YOUR"

newspaper. Also, if you have

suggestions or comments

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

2024 Subscription rate is \$37.75. If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$37.75 check/money order to: Ak-Chin O'odham 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 May 3 - 16, 2024 issue is due by FRIDAY, APRIL 26

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than FRIDAY, APRIL 26

Material submitted after the **APRIL 26 DEADLINE**

cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in the next issue.

following:

- You may come and make a payment arrangement and must be consistent.
- You may come to the court and dispute the matter and request a hearing.

THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY HAS TWO (2) VACANCIES FOR THE PLANNING & ZONING **COMMISSION**

Vacancy for Ak-Chin Community Members only

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

Duties & Responsibilities of the Planning and Zoning Commission:

- 1. Prepare plans for the Ak-Chin Indian Community, which are directed toward the best development of the Community.
- 2. Make and recommend policy to the Community Council in areas of physical and social development.
- 3. Evaluate and recommend necessary rules and regulations as provided by Ak-Chin law.
- 4. Hear and make recommendations to Community Council, but not limited to, applications for Special Use Permits, Preliminary and Site Development Plans, Zoning Amendments, and General Plan Amendments.
- Prepare for and attend all meetings of the Commission except as 5. provided otherwise in the Commission's Bylaws.
- 6. Conduct themselves according to the Codes of Conduct of the Commission.

REOUIREMENTS:

Must be an enrolled Community Member. All interested parties who desire to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission must send a letter of interest to the Tribal Office. Enrolled Community employees must submit documentation from their supervisor allowing them to serve on the Ak-Chin Planning & Zoning Commission. In your letter of interest, please note which Board, Commission or Committee you currently serve on, and when your term expires.

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

> Deadline to submit letter of interest is Monday, April 29, 2024 by 5:00pm.

We so appreciate everyone who was able to attend her services, those who traveled near and far to share a memory and her many accomplishments, and to those who shared on social media as well.

1

All our love and appreciation - Leona M. Carlyle-Kakar Family

	FEB 21 2024 PH 2: 25 CA				
9	IN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT				
2	45525 West Farrell Road Maricopa, AZ 85139				
3	Phone (520) 568-1385 Fax (520) 568-1386				
4	CHANCE PATTEN CASE NO.: CV-2024-00004-PM Petitioner,				
5	Vs CIVIL SUMMONS				
7	ANGELICA SALAS-VARGAS Respondent,				
8	THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY TO:				
10	Angelica Del Carmon Salas-Vargas				
11	YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Civil Action has been filed against you in the Court of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.				
12 13 14 15	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 at the Clerk of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Court, accompanied by the necessary filing fee; further you must send a copy of your written answer to:				
16	CHANCE PATTEN 8416 S. CALLE BATOUA GUADALUPE, AZ. 85283				
18	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.				
19	IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUMMONS a judgment by default will be				
20	entered against you and the opposing party shall be awarded the relief demanded in this matter.				
21	GIVEN under my hand and seal of Ak-Chin Indian Community Court in the State of Anizona this 21st day of February, 2024.				
23	Some Question m				
24	DEANNA JUSTIM, Court Administrator of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Court				
26	of the participant management and your				
26					

Teagan Delma runs at Hohokam Invitational

Story and photos by Ashley Vincent

Delma, Junior Teagan at Maricopa High School, competed at the Hohokam Invitational hosted at Westwood High School

on Friday, April 12th, 2024. With 86 other runners in her category, Teagan finished her 800m run with a time of 3:19:00.



WOYC continued from Front

booths.

"This event was a great success and having it here in the Ak-Chin Indian Community was amazing, with 37 adults and 39 kids in attendance," Injury Prevention Specialist Teri De La Cruz said.

Twelve programs came to provide their information, including: First Things First, Pinal Early Childhood Coalition, Enhancing Early Childhood, Ak-Chin Injury Prevention,







Ak-Chin members of all ages celebrating Child at multiple events throughout the week.

and entertainment Molina sponsor Healthcare with tribal a day of crafting and representative Cassandra Pena.

Ak-Chin Child Development also had a fun-filled week of activities, including Music Monday, where the daycare, 3-year-old and 4-year-old classes enjoyed musical games like limbo and musical chairs. Tasty Tuesday allowed the young students to serve their own breakfast and enjoy

the Week of the Young



was "Work Together"

at home day. Artsy

Family Day brought

students and parents to

the Ak-Chin Feast House

for an evening meal,

Indian Tacos and cake

Development staff were

served over 200 Indian

Tacos." shared the staff.

Ak-Chin Ba'ban Keihina

dessert.

song and dance.

busy cooking,

Dinner

for

provided

Friday

included

Child

"We

Thursday

decorating.

dancers and singers, accompanied by Dennis Gohk Antone, and Joe Davis who sang traditional songs. Many were up and dancing for the giveaway dance and social round dance. The evening ended with more dancing and music as Molina Music played chicken scratch.

INVITATIONAL TRACK MEET

AS HOHORAMS HOHORAMS HOHORAMS

MS HO

(bad) and Isabel Sisto.

AMS HOHOKAMS HO

MS HO

M

AMS HO





Ak-Chin HS Students celebrate academic success



From left to right: Juan Trejo, 9th, Maricopa, Jadon Valenzuela, 12th, Marcos De Niza, Owen Santiago, 9th, Maricopa, Haedin De Paola, 12th, Maricopa, Mikayla Matuz, 9th, A+ Charter, Arianna Bandin, 10th, Desert Vista, Kylie Gardner, 10th, Maricop, Auciana Miguel, 10th, Maricopa

Submitted by Savannah Boyd, Ak-Chin Education **Student Counselor**

On Tuesday, 3/12/24, high school students from both Maricopa High School and out of district schools went to Firebirds Wood Fired Grill in Chandler, AZ to celebrate their academic success for the 3rd quarter by having a delicious incentive dinner.

Students were able to choose from sirloin, honey garlic chicken, or prime rib served with salad, mashed potatoes,

fresh vegetables, and at the end a yummy chocolate cake.

Several other students were eligible to attend, unfortunately other obligations came up and some could not make the dinner.

Education is hopeful to continue this incentive dinner to recognize students their for academic success.

April is National Alcohol Awareness Month.

Emily Peters continued from Front



Emily Peters (center with black cap) is surrounded by her family after her senior night softball game on April 10.

science."

Both, dad Brandon and Martina Peters attended UofA.

Emily also shared her favorite memories while playing with the Lady Rams, and recognition to those who supported and coached her.

"My favorite softball memory was going to all the tournaments and messing around after games."

"My time playing softball for Maricopa High School has been really fun. We've won tournaments, made playoffs, and overall helped grow support for the MHS softball team. I've gotten the chance to play with some really amazing and talented girls.

My teammates have become my best friends and have showed me much love throughout my 4 years on varsity softball.

The coaches are nothing but supportive and they really love to see us succeed as a team. I'm so blessed to have experienced everything this program has to offer and will continue to cherish the memories it gave me."

Emily also expressed her thanks to her family.

"I would like to thank my family and friends for showing up and supporting me every step of the way. A very big thank you to my parents for being my biggest motivators throughout my softball career and for showing me how to persevere through all the biggest challenges in life. Thank you :)"

Emily the is granddaughter of Marlene Garcia and Martha Guy, and greatgranddaughter of Evelina Lopez, who were all there to celebrate her senior night, along with a nice big group of family members.

Alcohol dependence is a major health concern. There are many ways to get help and healing for us and the ones we love. We deserve to be healthy and happy.



If you have Medicaid or are insured through the Marketplace, you may qualify for treatment options.

For more information, contact your local Indian health care provider, visit HealthCare.gov/coverage, or call 1-800-318-2596



Chief of the Office of Native Affairs and Policy visits Ak-Chin Library

Story and Photo by Jordan Rodriguez



Ak-Chin Library staff welcome Bambi Kraus to the community

The community had the pleasure of welcoming Bambi Kraus to town, Chief of the Office of Native Affairs & Policy with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

On April 8, Kraus stopped by the Ak-Chin Library and received a tour by Library Director Melanie Toledo.

More specifically, the FCC has recently updated its E-Rate Program for Schools and Libraries to clarify how Tribal Nations can participate in this important program that helps ensure that schools and libraries can obtain high-speed Internet access and telecommunications at discounted rates.

Discounts for support depend on the level of poverty and whether the school or library is located in an urban or rural area.

they may have, as well as to learn about their success stories in serving their respective Tribal communities.

"It was exciting to visit the Ak-Chin Tribal community and the library and see firsthand the wonderful programs the library is providing to Tribal members of all ages," Kraus explained.

"For example, it was educational for me to see how the Ak-Chin Tribal Library operated during the pandemic and how tribal community members continue to use its resources postpandemic.

The FCC is greatly invested in learning how it can support community Tribal access to affordable communications services and I will share your story with my FCC colleagues in Washington, DC."

It is vitally important



Above, members enjoy the VIP tent at Final Four Tip-Off Tailgate. At right; Jennifer Boehm gets up close and personal with former Suns NBA player, Charles Barkley.

around and find that this pre-game event had much more to offer. Attendees were provided with free live entertainment, fan activities for all ages, a Ferris wheel, as well as other food and beverage concessions.

After enjoying all the tailgate had to offer, members then went into the stadium to watch the

UConn Huskies defeat the Purdue Boilermakers 75-60, becoming the first team to win back-to-back national championships since the Florida Gators in 2007.

Jennifer was grateful to be selected to represented her community and school at the NCAA Men's Championship Game, which was televised live. She is currently a graduate student at Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, studying Master of Legal Studies-Tribal Governance.

"This was a great opportunity to be a part of a celebration of Indigenous students and Arizona tribal nations. It was great

indigenous students from Arizona and make new friends. I had the honor of meeting fellow ASU alumni Kahara Hodges who sang the US National Anthem for the ceremony, she recently acted in the Indigenous film, Frybread Face and Me. The highlight of my night was meeting former Phoenix Suns Forward, Charles



Arizona Wildcat Fan for Life - Bren Valisto!!







Final Four continued from Front

The discounts range from 20 percent to 90 percent of the costs of eligible services. E-rate program funding is based on demand up to an annual FCC-established cap of just over four billion dollars.

The FCC has been visiting Tribal Libraries across the country gain better to а understanding of what needs and challenges

Federal that the Communications Commission meet with Tribal communities to learn firsthand the tribal success stories, needs, and challenges in the programs that the Commission offers to Tribal Nations.

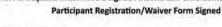
As Kraus is the head of the FCC's Office of Native Affairs and Policy, such visits are central to her work.



46753 W Farrell Rd, Maricopa, AZ 85139 **RSVP BY April 26th**



https://forms.gle/4zhasBAbz1FFMp6Q6



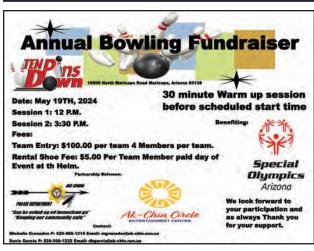
Distance: approx. 2.5 mi.

Destination: 16000 North John Wayne Parkway (Ak-Chin Circle)

Starting point: Ak-Chin Circle Field (walkers starting point) One lap around the Circle Field then head West on path South on Court Street, West on Ak-Chin Parkway, North on Smith Road, Take pathway west between ballfield and play ground to grass area. Arrive at Antone Park for a meal!

All bikers and runners must stay behind lead vehicle All bikers must wear helmets!

Contact Information: Michelle Granados email: mgranados@ak-chin.nsn.us Phone: 520-568-1215 Davis Garcia email: dbgarcia@ak-chin.nsn.us Phone: 520-568-1222



NG ALL HELP MOTHER'S DAY ROUND-UP



Cosmetologists to perform makeup looks IAIR STYLISTS

We are looking for hair stylists to perform simple yet beautiful hair styles for our hard-working mumas.



YAY OR NAY?

ARE YOU OR ANYONE ELSE YOU KNOW ANY OF THESE SPECIALISTS AND ARE THEY WILLING TO PROVIDE A LOVING SERVICE FOR OUR MOMS.



for all of our beautiful moms.

OSMETOLOGIST We are looking for experience

We are looking for experienced massage therapists to perform relaxing 15 min massages for our strong moms,

Contact Parks and Recreation with any information for any of these specialists who may be able to assist. (520) 568-1740 S recreation@akchin.nsn.us

Parent Meeting MAY 1st, 2024 Wednesdays 5:00PM -6:00 PM

EMAIL QUESTIONS TO RECREATION@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

Program ends with a performance at NABI championship game July 27th





conducted on the Vekol, Smith, Santa Rosa, and Santa Cruz washes. The maintenance will commence once the survey is completed and approved by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

After numerous meetings and tours with US ACE and with all the continuous development including the upgrades within the washes around the Community, it was now time to invite the newly appointed Colonel to come and visit the area. The Colonel was in Arizona visiting some recently approved US ACE projects and the timing was of the essence.

Environmental Programs along with the US ACE Tribal Liaison discussed the feasibility for Colonel Baker to visit the Community and see firsthand the issues that the Community is facing within the washes.

Chairman Miguel said, "Having you come here to see the issues we are facing in our washes, is greatly appreciated and shows your commitment to Tribal Communities."

All those in attendance loaded up in a Transit van from the Water Reclamation Facility and headed to Vekol Wash and toured the area south of Farrell Road. The tour stopped at three spots along the wash to look at the bank degradation, invasion invasive species, of and immense amount of silt loading throughout this stretch of the system.

The tour then travelled a dirt road along the Community's

southern boundary and discussed the various crops and drinking water source along with other potential funding sources to assist in completing the project. The tour then headed north along the Smith Wash bank where again the issues for this wash were discussed and shown. The tour concluded where it began with some final discussions, handshakes, and photos.

U.S. ACE continued from Front

"I hope that we can become partners in resolving the issues within the washes, making them safe for our community, but also for those around us." Chairman ended.



Ak-Chin Members run in memory of Pat Tillman



Runners approach the finish line at the 2024 Pat's Run

Story and photos by Jordan Rodriguez

On April 13, over 28,000 runners from across the country, including dozens of members made the trip out to Tempe, Arizona to participate and raise money for the 20th Annual Pat's Run.

This race honors former Arizona State and Arizona linebacker. Cardinals Pat Tillman, who left the NFL to join the Army shortly after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. In 2004, Tillman would pass away in the line of duty, friends and family would find a way to keep his legacy alive, starting a race that covers 4.2 miles, finishing at the 42-yard line inside the Sun Devils football stadium.

The numbers four and two are so prevalent in this event because Tillman wore number 42 in The Foundation offers activeduty service members, veterans and spouses with academic scholarships allowing them to further their education and create better opportunities with academic scholarships.

The Tillman foundation adds 60 new scholars each year, the current number of Tillman scholars is over

Five Ak-Chin Departments Work in Conjunction for **Rabies Clinic**



Rabies Clinic team waits outside of Fire Department for their next visitor.

Story and photos by Jordan Rodriguez

The Ak-Chin Indian Community, Police Department, Fire Health Department, Services, USDA and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services teamed up to provide community members with a free rabies clinic for dogs and cats at least three months old.

However, this was not your ordinary clinic, it was a drive-thru. Meaning owners and pets who showed up did not need to leave their car and took no more than five minutes. Rabies shots are often overlooked by pet owners, which is why the community felt the need to provide these services.

Dozens of pet owners took advantage of the clinic

that took place on April 12, outside of the Ak-Chin Fire Department.

"This is the first time we're doing a drive-thru," said District Environmental Health Officer Vincent Garcia. "Usually, it's just a walk-up but we talked to the Chief and I said what do you think about a drivethru and he said absolutely we can try that, and he did a great job organizing this."

On top of receiving the vaccines pet owners would receive the proper paperwork from the vet as well as a goodie bag from the Police Department containing more information about the vaccine among other general information for pet owners.



his illustrious career at ASU. It also raises money for the Tillman Foundation's program. scholar

850, at 166 universities, with \$34 million invested to date.









Ak-Chin Child Development Accepting applications for Preschool 2024-2025 SY Deadline is July 29th, 2024



Our office is open 8am-5pm Monday-Friday Register now!

First day of Preschool is August 12th, 8:30am-2:00pm

Enrollment is based on availability and children are selected in the following order:

- Child is an enrolled member of the Ak-Chin 1. Indian Community
- 2. Child is a non-enrolled member, but he/she is the Legal child of an enrolled member of the Ak-Chin Indian Community
- 3. Child is living within the Ak-Chin Indian Community boundaries.
- Child is living outside of the Ak-Chin Indian 4. Community boundaries and is enrolled with another federally recognized Native American Community.
- Child of a parent who is an employee of the 5. Ak-Chin Indian Community.
- Non-member children based on availability. 6.



Transportation provided for children living within the Ak-Chin Community boundaries.

If you have any questions please contact the Preschool at 48251 W. Farrell Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85139 (520) 568-1700.

Ak-ChinChildDevelopment@ak-chin.nsn.us

<u>Ak-Chin Child Development offers:</u>

- A High Quality Early Education Experience
- Health/Developmental Screenings
- Disability Services (Through M.U.S.D.)
- Kindergarten Readiness
- *Story time (Provided by Ak-Chin Library)
- *Cultural Activities/Events (Provided by Language Program/Cultural Resources)*
- *Physical/Nutrition Education (Provided by Ak-Chin Health Ed. Program)
- *Fire Safety Education (Provided by the Ak-Chin Fire Department)*
- *Field Trips/Fun activities throughout year*
 - Health and Safety Protocols in Place



Pick up a 2024-2025 Enrollment Packet at Ak-Chin Child Development. Please bring in the following documents to be considered for enrollment

- **Completed Application**
- Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) if applicable
- Child's Certified Birth Certificate
- Child's Current Immunization Record

(returning students only need the current Immunization Record and a completed Returning Student application)

Only completed applications with required documents will be accepted. Children registering must be three (3) years old prior to September 1st of the current year.

ARK'S AND RECREATION GYMNASIUM AK-CHIN P

AVAILABLE FOR MEMBER, RESIDENTS, & EMPLOYEES

Beginning April 24th, Every Wednesday 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM

46753 W Farrell Rd, Maricopa, AZ 85139 Questions? Call (520) 568-1082

COME ON IN





recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us

EMPLOYEE UPDATES

Angel Hoffman Water Operations **Utilities Tech**

(520) 568-1740



Avnel Hoha Housing Maintenance



Kebra-Omega Martinez Housing **Program Counselor**

Michelle Granados, Law & Order

Shauna Brown,

Jeffery Thornburg,

4/19 **Anaise Valles-Diaz** William Antone

4/20 **Steven Sam Celeste Delores Amelia Alvarez**

4/21

Renelda Pete **Anyssa Justin** Zaida Soliz

4/22

Vickie Tavena Ricky Attakai Jr. **Andrew Enos**

4/23 **Jonathan Dean Hunter Narcia**

4/24 **Martina Antone**

4/25

Duane Anderson Benjamin Chavez Irma Arellanes-Burgos Valerian Joaquin Jr.

4/26

Angelita Garcia Lorenzo Batopis Karen Gardner Juan Luz, Jr.

4/27

Gregorio Castro **Robert Stephens**

4/28 **Julianna Trenado Miguel Contreras-Valles Giselle Contreras-Valles**

Jesus Balderrama

4/29 Araya Pena **Douglas Pablo**

4/30

Natalie Romo **Aliyah Deloney Jordyn Miguel**

5/01

Vivian Lewis Richard Brady Marlene Garcia Antonio Rodriguez

5/02 **Selina Richiusa**

BIRTHDAL

Harrah's HERO hosts "Cause for Paws" event

Story and photos by Ashley Vincent



On April 19th and Harrah's 20th, Ak-Chin Casino's HERO Committee hosted a "Cause for Paws" pet adoption event at the front entrance of the casino.

The HERO committee partnered with the Valley Humane Society who brought out a variety of beautiful dogs whom were all available for adoption. There were a mix of female and male dogs, small breeds such as Chihuahuas, larger breeds like German Shepherds, fluffy dogs, not so fluffy dogs, the choices were endless.

Although different, everyone who stopped by wanted to take home. Unfortunately, during both days no dogs were adopted, but the Valley Humane Society did receive some donations from local residents that visited the event, as well as donations from a number of Harrah's employees.

The Valley Humane Society is a private non-profit 501(c)3 organization located in the city of Casa Grande. They are a no-kill shelter and accept nearly 2,000 (sometimes more) pets a year and rely solely on donations.

The VHS is open they were all types that Wednesday-Saturday,



Vanessa, Jasmine & Patrick, Valley Human Society Employees and Volunteers



520.426.6832 ARROYOGRILLE.COM RR@YO **APRIL 10% OFF DEAL**

Program they offer for

monetary donations.

P.A.W.

10 a.m.-4 p.m., and

Sundays by appointment

always welcomed as

well as short-term foster

families for puppies and

kittens. They have a

"BowWowMeow Thrift

and Consignment Store"

which also helps support

the shelter and is located

Grande, open Monday-

Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The HERO Committee

and the Valley Humane

Society will be partnering

up again for a second event at the Harrah's

Ak-Chin Casino later this year in November.

Until then, the VHS has a website and Facebook page where they post

updated pet adoption

news and events that

they will be hosting/

For anyone who is unable to adopt a pet but would like to donate, there is a list of ways to help on the Valley Humane Society website and information the

attending.

about

in

downtown Casa

are

only, volunteers

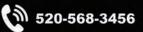








STARCLASS HOURS FRI-SAT 4PM - 11PM



RIGHT NEXT DOOR TO Harrans

16000 N. Maricopa Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85138

