Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXIX, Issue 4

February 21 - March 6, 2025

Ak-Chin Him-Dak and Cultural Resources staff at Carmen Narcia surprise retirement gathering, (I-r): Dannon Peters, Elaine Peters, Florinda Peters, Jeannette Peters, Evelyn Justin, Carmen Narcia, Bianka Mata, Christian Alvarez and Joseph Ugalde.

Happy Retirement Carmen!

Carmen Narcia retires after 20 years of dedicated service with Ak-Chin Cultural Resources

Story submitted by Elaine Peters, Him Dak Museum Director, photos by Raychel Peters

Carmen (Peters) Narcia will be missed by not only the Cultural Resource & Him-Dak staff, but by all her colleagues who throughout the years has worked to protect our ancestral sites, the return of their remains to tribal communities for reburial, including the protection of sacred sites, as well as environmental causes.

Her early work experience for the community started, as many young community members did, working out in the fields, chopping weeds in the cotton fields to earn school money and driving a tractor, along with her cousins and siblings. It was hard work, however it was well worth it, to help her family.

Carmen started working with the tribe as a clerk at the old farm's office back in the midseventies after graduating from Bacone College in Oklahoma and continued to work at tribal headquarters for a number of years. Later she took on a number of jobs, while raising her children.

Carmen Retirement continues to Page 2



From left: Chizzum Justin, Phil BigThumb, Geneva BigThumb, Charles Justin, Ryan Justin, Michael Camelat, Tami Justin and Pate Justin. Everyone congratulates Michael Camelat for winning the Trailer Roping at Rope's Round-Up, Monday, February 17.

Community steps to support Rope's Round-Up

Story by Raychel Peters, photos by Runner Staff

Coping with the loss of a loved one is heart-wrenching to say the least. They say eventually it will get easier; not sure it really ever does. But trying to remember the good times they had here on earth... a special moment with them smiling and laughing or a loving conversation, then maybe you start to feel better, being able to remember them in a good

Rope Tanner Justin, born September 11, 2001, to Ryan and Tami Justin, had just won a big team roping event with his uncle Phil Big-Thumb in Sells, AZ. He was living his best life as a young cowboy, great student and all-around

from his family, way too soon, in a car accident, February 11, 2024.

Those closest to Rope, have had a most difficult time trying to move on.

His dad Ryan, who was also in a life-threatening accident just a few months before Rope's, has been the backbone of the family, continuing to work through the pain to support his family.

Rope's mom, Tami took a break from teaching so she could be there for her husband. Together they have kept one another strong for their family, their daughter Pate and son Chizzum.

Over time, Rope's family began to heal, and with the help of a bigger circle of family and friends they were able to come together to create a great way to honor and remember their young son and brother with a befitting memorial event, "Rope's Round-Up".

February 14-17, 2025, a fourday rodeo was dedicated to Rope, because of his love for rodeo, along with a co-ed softball tournament, for his love of baseball.

The rodeo featured an Open Women's Rodeo, Open Jr. Rodeo, Open Rodeo and Trailer Roping events, over President's Day Weekend, at Ak-Chin Circle Arena.

Valentine's Day **Get-Together** at Preschool

Story by Kristen Villegas, photos by Runner Staff



Preschool kids and staff sharing the excitement after the balloon drop, at this year's Valentine's Party.

The season of love was not missed by many departments as a number of them produced activities exciting opportunities for the members, residents and employees of Ak-Chin to share their feelings with one another.

If your youth attends the Ak-

Preschool Valentine continues to Page 4

Chin Preschool, they were more than likely part of the Valentine's Day Party on February 14th, 2025 at 10 AM; making other parties pale in comparison as these kids had the time of their lives.

The celebration had crafts, games and even a dance for

Ak-Chin enjoys 2025 WMPO



Ak-Chin members and employees enjoy a moment on the infamous 16th Hole at Waste Management Phoenix Open, February 4.

Story and photos by Raychel Peters

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino provided another great opportunity for many community members and employees to enjoy a day or two at the 2025 Waste Management Phoenix Open.

Many opportunities were available to win a pair of tickets

2025 WMPO continues to Page 8

to one of the suites, tickets to the Coors Light Bird's Nest concerts, and GA tickets.

WMPO 2025 was held during the week of February 3-9, at TPC Stadium Scottsdale, and celebrated its 90th annual event and hailed as the 5th oldest tour on the PGA.

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athlete, when he was taken

During her service to the community, Carmen has helped in preservation programs of both cultural ways and language And classes. has tremendous knowledge of traditional him-dak (our way of life) of our people.

Carmen has always respected her elders and worked with them understand their concerns and willingness to voice those concerns addressing preservation of land and the environment.

the

Resources Specialist, she represented Ak-Chin at meetings with both federal and state agencies issues affecting cultural resources, historic properties as well as archaeological sites on federal and state lands.

Cultural

We will miss working with Carmen, knowledge and insight on policies and laws that effect our lands was so important and was a resource when questions arise on O'odham him-

Carmen, have a great retirement and we hope you will be visiting us, as well as we will be reaching out to you, when we need your advice and wisdom!

You have helped us community presentations, museum exhibits,

2025 Valentine Tea

Party with Him-Dak

projects, language sessions, serving as our elder liaison, traditional food presentation and revitalizing efforts in traditional pottery making, as well as working with our youth. You never said no, you were welling to help in sharing your knowledge of the tribe's culture and history and this has been an important contribution for the community and

Respectfully - Him-Dak

for future generations.



Bingo at the Elder

Valentine's Day Lunch

Elders enjoy Valentine's lunch and activities at Elder Center, February 14.

The spirit of love and friendship filled the air at the Elders Valentine's Day Lunch, where good food, great company, and a little friendly competition for a heartwarming celebration!

Our beloved elders gathered at the Elder Center, decked out in festive heart-shaped glasses, sparkly beads, and the everpopular boingy heart headbands—because they celebrate in style! They enjoyed a delicious homemade meatloaf lunch, followed by a sweet treat of strawberry shortcake.

After the meal, the fun continued with a lively game of Bingo, complete with exciting prizes!

The room buzzed with laughter and playful competition as numbers were called, and lucky winners cheered.

Whether winning or just enjoying the game, everyone had a great time.

It's always a joy to see



Bingo cards and prizes line the table. Photo by Leslie Carlyle-Burnett

Story and photo by Raychel Peters

Thursday, February 13, Ak-Chin Him-Dak staff invited elders to the Historic BIA House for a sip of tea and fun.

our elders come together,

sharing meals, stories,

and plenty of laughs. If

you haven't joined us at

the Elder Center yet, we'd

love to see you at the next

gathering! The more, the

merrier—because nothing

beats good company, a

great meal, and a fun

Happy Valentine's Day to

our amazing elders—It is

a joy having you with us!

game of Bingo.

The day began with a light lunch of finger sandwiches, salads and assortment of teas. Vekol prepared all the food, as well as delicious sweets of apple and chocolate mini-pies.

Games were also enjoyed, such as; Tea Tray Memory Game, Valentine Word Scramble, Guess that Song and Bingo.

Prizes were awarded to all winners. Afterwards, gift bags with puzzles and flowers were given to all elders in attendance.

A very special treat was with gifts, flowers and seeing Him-Dak and Cultural Resource staff surprise Carmen Narcia, as they showered her

balloons, to wish her well on her retirement.



Elders play Bingo at the Him-Dak Valentine Tea Party.

FUNCTIONAL FITNESS For Elders Let's BE STRONGER, as we get older JOIN US!! Where: Elements (At Ak-Chin Circle) Time: 10:00am - 11:00am When: Tuesdays & Thursdays

TUESDAY WEDNESDAY **THURSDAY MONDAY FRIDAY**

- * Breakfast Served from 7AM to 8:30AM
- * Lunch Served from 12PM to 1PM. (Menu Subject to Change)
- * For Transportation, call Georgia at 520-568-1760
 - * Movie Questions? Call the Elders Center at 520-568-1760

2/26

Toast, Fruit

Hot Dogs, Mixed

- * Wednesdays: Elder Games at Rec. 9AM-10AM or 5PM-6PM
- * Thursdays: Elder Chair Yoga 9AM-10AM

Scrambled Eggs,

Casserole, Bacon,

Toast, Grapes w/

Squash Casserole, Wild Rice, Romaine

Cottage Cheese

Hashbrown

2/27

2/21 Cream of Wheat. Boiled Eggs, Toast,

Fruit

2/28

Fruit

3/7

Chicken Enchiladas, Zucchini, Carrots, **Peaches**

Cream of Wheat,

Lentil Soup w/

Spinach, Carrots, Moon Bread, Fresh

Mandarin Oranges

Boiled Eggs, Toast,

2/24

Ham & Eggs, Potatoes, Toast, Fruit

Red Chili Stew, Butternut Squash, Peas, Chumath, Bananas/ Apple

2/25 Tex-Mex Scrambled, Refried Beans, Tortilla Chips, Salsa & Sour Cream, Fruit

Goodwill Shopping -Leaving at 9 AM

Grilled Chicken Over

Caesar Salad, Avocado, **Fresh Cut Fruit**

Pinto Beans, Chicken Dumpling, Carrots, Cornbread, Tropical Fruit

3/6 Cream of Wheat,

Salad, Whole Wheat/

White Roll, Grapes

Boiled Eggs, Toast, Ground Beef Tacos, Avocado Slices, Fruit & yogurt Egg Salad Sandwich,

Breakfast Pizza,

Chips, Fruit Cups

3/3 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana

Baked Chicken, Broccoli, Yellow Squash, Cowboy Cookies

Chorizo & Egg Scrambled, Avocado Slices, Tortilla, Fruit Salad

Spaghetti, Romaine Salad, Texas Toast, Watermelon

3/5 French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Mix Berries

Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs,

Vegetables, Cole Slaw,

Chips, Brownie/Plu

Fruit

Lettuce/Tomato/ Cheese, Brown Rice, Corn on The Cob, **Fresh Pears**

Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community © 2025

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Maricopa, Arizona 85139

OFFICE HOURS

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

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'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. If you have suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, please 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

2025 Subscription rate is \$43.00. If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$43.00 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 March 7 - 20, 2025 issue is due by FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc.

no later than FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH Material submitted after the

FEBRUARY 28TH DEADLINE cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be

included in the next issue.

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

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

You can void any of the above collections by the

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

HAS ONE (1) VACANCY FOR THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

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. 5. Prepare for and attend all meetings of the Commission except as
- provided otherwise in the Commission's Bylaws. 6. Conduct themselves according to the Codes of Conduct of the
- Commission.

REQUIREMENTS: 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 Council

ATTN: Victoria A. Smith 42507 W. Peters & Nall Road Maricopa, AZ 85138



Deadline to submit letter of interest is Friday, February 28, 2025 by 5:00pm.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ON THE ELDER'S CENTER EXPANSION "FF&E PURCHASING SERVICES" The Ak-Chin Indian Community

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

(hereafter called the "Owner") invites all Firms to submit proposals on a Consulting Services Agreement. FF&E Purchasing Services consist of the following;

The FF&E purchasing services will

Capital Projects

ensure that FF&E requirements are being coordinated with all team members throughout the project, that the FF&E budget is maintained, savings are realized, and installation takes place correctly and completely for seamless turnover to operations and the client. FF&E management often overlooked but is beneficial on hospitality projects of all sizes and saves the client time and money.

The FF&E Purchasing Agent will oversee the FF&E process from start (budget and design) to finish (turnover to Operator) and ensure that the related work adheres to the documents and meets the Owner, Brand, and Operator's quality standards.

It is required in participating in the FF&E Purchasing Agent proposal process that the participating FF&E Purchasing Agent be currently licensed as a vendor in Arizona.

A MANDATORY VIRTUAL Pre-Bid MEETING is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. (MST) on February 27, 2025. To attend this meeting, please send an email to FHowerton@ak-chin. nsn.us; a meeting invite will be sent shortly after. An RFP Packet and documents will be emailed separately to those registered, before the meeting. This meeting is considered mandatory, and in this meeting the project scope will be discussed. If you do not attend

this pre-bid meeting your proposal will NOT be accepted.

Deadline for any questions

regarding this project will be

10:00 p.m. (MST) on March 4, 2025. Proposal questions should be directed to Flora Howerton FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us. Also, Cc: Larry Joe, at LJoe@ak-Owner will receive

Competitive Bid Proposals until 2:00 p.m. (MST) on March 6, 2025 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.

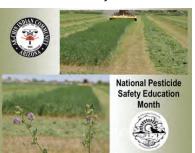
The Owner reserves the right to reject, any and all bids. However, the Ak-Chin Indian Community at its discretion may postpone said action for such time as the Tribal Council may designate, as the interest of the Community may

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of Bids

without consent of the Owner.

National Pesticide Safety Education Month

Submitted by Theodore Puetz, Pesticide Control Specialist, Ak-Chin Indian Community Environmental Programs



Yes, it is National Pesticide Safety Education Month! What does this mean to you? February is a great time for combining pesticide safety with your Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan. This can be the easiest and most effective way to take control of invading pests. IPM (Integrated Pest Management) is using the IPM planning tools to reduce and or eliminate the exposure to pesticides in your home.

Integrated Pest Management La'as Haicu Đođakam Hialwui



exposure and improve safety

February is a good month to review your pest control actions of last year and how to take preventative measures going forward to insure better control and cost savings. Asking yourself; " was the pest you were trying to control stated on the label? By identifying the pesticides now, you will also make your home safer by finding the crucial information on the label and store them according to the label precautions... ie. "Keep Out of Reach of Children".

What to look for? 1) Pesticidal Claim – a statement about

what the product claims to kill or repel. Disinfectants may state on the label "Kills 99.9% of germs" or kills bacteria and viruses

2) Warning Statement: "Keep out of



children may not use or have access to, or be exposed to pesticides. These statements can be "Danger, Warning or

3) EPA Registration Number: This means EPA has reviewed this product and has legally registered it as a pesticide. You can be assured the label claims are correct if used according to the Label.



EPA registration numbers, if approved, will always be found on the Pesticide label attached to the container as above.

Where to look?

Be sure to start with your home's living spaces: Kitchen - under the sink, in the pantry, and in the bathroom storage areas as well. Be sure proper PPE (personal protective equipment) such as chemical resistant gloves and goggles are available to use.



garden areas and outside the living spaces of your home.



Remember, old expired pesticide containers can be claimed at the next Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event. Now is the best time to prepare and have

them ready for disposal. February preparations can also provide an important advantage over the pests trying to invade your home. Starting your IPM

(Integrated Pest management) planning

now can significantly reduce the need for

pesticides around your home now and later in the year. It is all part of the spring cleaning or "Pest Proofing" your home*

"PEST PROOFING" for a healthier and less pesticide dependent home environment!



Simple "pest proofing" elements to focus on includes the following:

Inside

Reduce the Clutter Re-evaluate Storage needs Regular cleaning Waste disposal Check water Leaks

Barrier to Entry Door Sweeps & Seals Screens

Sealing Cracks

Yard clean up

<u>Outside</u>

Trim and remove wood Trash Disposal Roof check (entry points)

* Pest Proofing Contributions from Dr. Shaku Nair, Dr. Shujuan Li and Dr. Dawn Gouge - University of Arizona

At this point in time, the stage is now set to implement your strategies of a sound IPM plan to include the following:

1) Regular inspection and monitoring for pests.

- 2) Accurate pest identification Utilize pet friendly traps in potential
- suspected entry points- (repair weatherize) 4) Keep food, water and harborage away
 - from your home Taking notes on what is working and where to improve
 - Use targeted applications of pesticides only when needed
- Share your plan with your family and 7) let them know you care



Ak-Chin students, attending this year's Arizona State University Recharge Conference at the Tempe Campus. Back row (L-R): Kaelyn Miller, Evan Miller, Johnny Perkins, Xavier Garcia, and Marcus Delores. Front row (L-R): Uriyas Antone, Terry Santiago and Narin Lopez.

Arizona State University (ASU) held its annual RECHARGE Conference on Friday, January 31st, at the ASU West Campus in Glendale. Students from the surrounding schools in the Valley and as far as Yuma and White Mountain attended the conference. tribes represented were Apache, Navajo, Tohono O'odham, Gila River,

and Ak-Chin.

Eight Ak-Chin middle and high school students attended the conference to learn more about the resources available for Native students on their campus. The students heard from different individuals during the opening session of the conference, including keynote speaker, actress and model Zoey Reyes, known for portraying "Krista" in the Netflix film "Rez Ball."

speech to all the students, Ms. Reyes told them, "Believe in yourself. If you believe it, it will become true. If you feel you have no support, it's all around with your ancestors, so embrace it. We can all shine bright and do anything we can

After the keynote address, students attended two breakout sessions in morning, which included topics such as "Career Explorations, ASU American Indian **Student Support Services** (AISSS), Indigenous Career Futures: Resume Cultural Professionalism, Mental Health of Modern-Day Tribal Warriors" and several others.

After students attended a resource fair, they enjoyed a meal provided by ASU from Jimmy John's. The afternoon sessions consisted

breakout sessions for middle school students to learn about college readiness, the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades about ASU, and the 12th grade to learn more about ASU Admissions.

Johnny Perkins, 12th grade, attended the Career Indigenous Futures session and stated, "It was cool, I learned about different examples of resumes and what to put on a resume."

Xavier Garcia, 11th stated, grade, increased my knowledge attending the conference with what I already knew and I learned a lot about resumes and what we can include on them."



Valentine's Get-Together continued from Front

youth; a photo booth provided by the Runner was also made available with the party-fueled children using lovethemed props for their pictures.

At approximately 11:30 AM preschool crowned Valentine's Day Jr. King and Jr. Queen; followed by the crowning of the King and Queen who shared a dance for everyone's enjoyment.

Throughout these events, the kids lost none of their energy and were anticipating the main event; the balloon drop. Gathered under the heart decorated plastic tarp; staff gave a countdown from 3 ending with the falling of multi-colored balloons.





Valentine's Day

Activities





~~~~~~~~~ **Mediums & Mocktails:** Valentine's Edition

Story by Kristen Villegas, photos by Marcus Stephens

beautiful, its intricate



details

If painting is your thing, you should make the Mediums & Mocktails sessions part of your checklist when they are available at the Ak-Chin Library.

This program has been a hit with the adult age group; Library staff Robin Vincent makes the environment inviting and comforting. These themed paint and sips are catered to the changing seasons and holidays; definitely a diverting experience every time.

During the session on February 14, attendees were given the task of completing their heart-shaped. wooden boards with colorful bundles of roses and vines/stems.

Food and the mocktail, Love Potion # 9, was provided throughout the program.



distinct to the person.

were daunting The Ak-Chin Library has for all; Robin walked programs to peek anyone's everyone through their interest. Be sure to check concerns with ease making out their library calendar for upcoming events.

each variation the more Training Program COMING THIS Hosted by Ak-Chin Police Department Don't let this shot pass you by—training details are

coming your way soon!

~~~~~~~ Make & Take Project

Story and photos by Kristen Villegas



Handmade crafts are one be creative and make a you love them; making them all the more personal and special.

On February 12, 2025, the Ak-Chin Library coordinated an art craft for the public, which included creating one-ofa-kind Valentine cards. If you just wanted to

way you can show your card, the library had a sweetheart how much basket full of valentine pieces, which would be delivered to the Elder Center for our Elders.

> The Ak-Chin Library organizes unique programs for generations, be on the lookout for the upcoming available sessions through them.



Questions? Call us: (520) 568-1675 Or Email us: Library@ak-chin.nsn.us

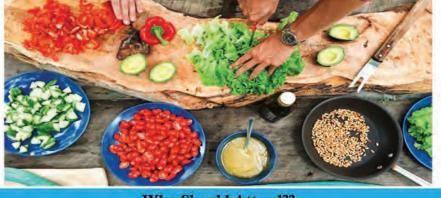
HANDLERS CLASS







WEDNESDAY, MARCH 06, 2025 **AK-CHIN EPD BUILDING** (46200 W. Ralph Street) 10AM-12PM



Who Should Attend?? Food Service Workers Volunteers •Interested Community Members



The Ak-Chin Health Education Department their annual Valentine's Day Walk on Thursday, February 13th, at the Ak-Chin Circle.

This year's distance was a 1.5-mile walk, which was broken down to two laps around the lawn of the Ak-Chin Circle. Although, the event started at 4 p.m., the staff gave a time frame until 5:30 p.m. for participants to start their laps around the lawn, so that everyone was able to join the fun.

A light meal was on hand for those that worked up an appetite, along with

cool Valentine swag and awesome raffle prizes for everyone that registered prior to the event day.

Ak-Chin Health Education, "would like to thank the staff at Elements for helping us with set up, the space,

and food for the 2025 Valentine's Day Walk event. It was the first time in a long time that we have held a walk at their venue and we truly enjoyed our time there.















AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

DRIVE-THRU RABIES CLINIC

THURSDAY—02/27/2025 **Water Reclamation Facility**

9:00AM - 2:00PM

Please stay in your vehicle with your pet at all times.

Dogs and cats must be 3 months (12 weeks) old before they can be vaccinated.

All dogs and cats should have their first rabies vaccination followed by a booster shot within the first year. Thereafter, they should receive a vaccination every three years.

All pet owners are responsible for their pets during the rabies clinic. A cat placed in a cage, burlap bag, or pillow case, is much easier to handle. Dogs should be leashed at all times during the clinic.



FREE CLINIC

No charge to get your pet vac-

SPONSORS

- **Ak-Chin Indian Community**
- **Ak-Chin Police Department Indian Health Service**
- **USDA APHIS-VS**

throughout the Ak-Chin Indian



WINNER!!

Congratulations to **Mercedes Salcido for** being the fastest person to recognize Ak-Chin's first youth basketball team, "The Arrows".

At right is the original picture with full team member names including coaches.

Keep an eye out in future Runner issues to see more throwback/ guess who pictures!



"The Arrows"

Top left-right: Delbert White, Nathan Enos,
Lee Joe Miguel. 2nd Row: Carlton Carlyle, Juan Jose Luz. Bottom Row: Charles Carlyle, Alvin Antone. Not shown are Manuel Garcia, Davis Garcia, Nicholas Narcia, Fabian Santiago, and Martin Antone, Norbert Peters, Fred Antone - Robert Miguel, Coaches.





MARCH 27 S-7PM

Program Services

- Summer Job Placement Work Readiness
- Career Interests
- College Tours

Questions?

Students **MUST** provide proof they have successfully passed their current school year & have the education credits for their grade.

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be 14-24 years old
- Must be an enrolled Ak-Chin member

Employment & Training Dept. (520) 562-3387/88



Co-Ed Flag Football Makes Debut In Ak-Chin

Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation co-ed flagfootball season officially kicked off on February 11th, with players ranging from 3 to 12 in

Practice is every Tuesday and Thursday starting at 5 pm for 3-5-year-



players. Games will start on March 1st, continuing every Saturday until the season is over.

Flag football is open to all members and residents of the community, as well as children of Ak-



for the 6- 12-year-old Chin employees. If you would like to sign up your child(ren), contact Ak-Chin Rec at 520-568-1740 for more







February 21 - March 6, 2025

Rope's Round-Up continued from Front

The event was filled with participants from near and far, many tribal communities in Arizona came out to honor Rope with their participation. Many family members went all-out to enter events, even if they had never participated before or were injured; everyone wanted to show their support and take part in "Rope's Round-Up".

There were also many volunteers and sponsors who stepped up to help the family ensure the event would be successful. It was heartwarming to see all the love and respect for young Rope and his family. Looking at all the numbers, there were more participants in "Rope's Round-Up" then for the Community's Masik Tas held last December.

Nine teams entered the softball tournament held at Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park, with two community teams comprised of family and friends playing the first game of the tournament, which was put on by Rope's baseball coach Tony Jose and his Native's team.

As the dust finally settled from "Rope's Round-Up" there were many shares on Facebook as well to give shout outs about the event, from and family friends, including Shawn Shirley, the rodeo announcer, to Penny L. Mix, rodeo secretary. Official event photographer, (a) Alvin Antone alvinantonephotography shared also many wonderful photos capturing all the emotion, excitement and action, on

Facebook and Instagram.

"It was pretty awesome to see soooo many people out there for Round-Up," Rope's Ryan's cousin Michelle Garcia posted on FB, "all the people telling us what a good guy Ryan is, how they've been friends with him for so long. I'm happy they all came out to help celebrate his son, Rope's memory."

"Rope's Round Up is in the books. It was a huge success, thank you to the Stock Contractor's and personnel for all your hard work. Most of all thank you to the contestants for your participation for without you we wouldn't have Rodeo. Thank you to Ryan and Tami for hosting a great event. We appreciate you. Congratulations to the winners. See you next year." FB share from Penny L. Mix.

The Community gathered in such an amazing way, just as they did when Rope was laid to rest.

It was overwhelmingly humble to see everyone come out and help in so many ways, whether it was to volunteer their time and services, offering to help cook or help with the rodeo efforts, or stepping up to sponsor an event.

The family of Rope Tanner Justin is truly grateful to all who helped make "Rope's Round-Up" possible; all for this young man who left such an unforgettable impression on everyone he met during his lifetime.





















Memo

To: Ak-Chin Community Members From: Him-Dak Museum Staff



The Museum is updating its 1940 Base Roll Exhibit for the upcoming 2025 Him-Dak Museum Celebration in April. It is our goal to include a photo of all the members listed on the Base Roll wall. Photographs of individuals will assist our younger members to connect to their relatives, not just by a name, but by a picture of that individual. It

would be nice to see a face that matched a name and we

are asking for your help, to obtain these images.

If you have a photo or if you know of someone who has a photo of the member listed and wouldn't mind sharing it with the museum, it will be appreciated. All images will be accepted, whether it's close up or full body.

The photos can be taken with your phone and send to

the Museum email address or brought to the museum

to be scanned. Scanning takes less than a minute and

the photos are handed right back to you. The staff is also willing to come and pick up photographs, which will be returned right away or copy the photograph at your We hope to build upon this important exhibit and continue to share with our community the importance

of the base roll, which is used to determine current and future membership of the tribe. We will probably not get a photograph for each person;

however, it will still be nice to have those you wish to

share to assist in telling the story of Ak-Chin.

Please contact Jeannette Peters, Art Technician by email at jpeters@ak-chin.nsn.us or at (520) 568-1355.

Thank you, Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum Staff

1940 BASE ROLL

Floyd F. Narcia

Juan Antone Lanasia (Palone) Antone William P. Antone Francis J. Antone Mathilda Antone Pauline A. Antone Juan Antone **Felix Antone Gerard Antone Fannie Batopis** Malinda (Manuel) **Batopis** Persilia Batopis Celia Batopis Mary M. Batopis Hiram J. Carlyle Richard D. Carlyle Wilbert J. Carlyle Leona M. Carlyle **Nancy Carlyle Juanna Chollies Logis Enos Irene Enos** Rita M. Enos **Helen Enos Savill Johnson Chico Johnson** Velindle Johnson **Juan Lewis** Asiana (Palone) Lewis **Catherine Lewis** Agnes Lewis **Louis Lewis Ambrose Lewis Justine Lewis Rosa Lewis** Jesus Loos **Gonzales Lopez** Rosina (Pablo) Lopez **Marjorie Lopez** Jose Lopez Juliana Lopez Ross Lopez Juan Lopez **Dora Lopez** George Lopez Jose Manuel **Elaria Manuel** Licenta (Norris) Manuel Rema I. Manuel **Phillip Miguel**

Felicita (Peervilo) **Miguel** Jonas P. Miguel Ralph Miguel Lucinda Miguel **Clarence Miguel Augustine Narcia** William Narcia **Davidson Narcia Edward Narcia Mildred Narcia** Elizabeth Narcia Francis Narcia

Agnes A. (Norris) Narcia **Raymond Narcia Madeline Narcia**

AllHimDak@ak-chin.nsn.us

Roy Narcia Dennis H. Narcia Leonard H. Narcia Gladys R. Narcia Roger Narcia Susie Narcia Jose P. Norris Jose M. Norris Tilliana (Palone) Norris **Christine B. Norris** Margaret B. Norris **Patrick Norris** Ramona Norris Juan A. Norris **Carmelita Norris Mary Norris** Vasilo Pablo Tonia C. Pablo Phillipa C. Pablo Angelina R. Pablo Leonardo Pablo Eliza (Lopez) Pablo **Alexander Pablo** Jose Pablo Juan Palone Jesus Palone Juan A. Palone **Elist Palone** Frank Peervilo Maria Peervilo Vavages Peervilo Jose Ramon Juan Raphael Maria Raphael Lena Raphael **Annie Raphael Xavier Raphael** Alice (Lopez) Reed Annie (Lopez) Romo Melissa M. Romo Nina B. Romo Charles J. Smith **Charles Smith** Juanna (Antone) Smith Mathew M. Smith **Amos Smith** Michael A. Smith Amelia (Andreas) **Stephens Rupert Stephens** Delphina M. Stephens **Lillian Stephens Joseph Thomas** Josepha I. Thomas Lena B. Thomas **Anthony L. Thomas** Harry G. Thomas **Herbert B. Thomas** Bernice M. Thomas **Edmund Thomas** Vera M. Thomas

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Esther R. Thomas

Jose Vavages

James Vincent Listiana Vincent

Jose Vincent

Marquerita Vincent

Lester B. Vincent

Loraine G. Vincent

OPENINGS

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:

- Animal Control Officer
- Accountant
- Aquatics Coordinator
- Asst Cook Detention
- Bus Driver- Early Child Education/ Preschool
- Case Manager Adult
- · Chief Judge
- Compensation Analyst
- Communication Officer
- Communication Officer part-time
- Deli Clerk Vekol
- Detention Officer (certified and noncertified)
- Detention Officer Certified part-time
- Electrician Maintenance
- Firefighter EMT
- Firefighter Paramedic
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation **Technician**
- Plant Electrician
- Police Officer (certified and noncertified)
- Substance Abuse Therapist
- Youth Council Coordinator

Open to Enrolled **Community Members Only**

• Temporary Worker

www.ak-chin.nsn.us

To review the full job description and apply visit www.ak-chin.nsn.us, Job Openings, and apply online. ALL positions close at midnight (12:00 p.m.) on the closing date. Great benefits. If you need assistance, please call the Human Resources Dept. at 520-568-1050.

Employee Birthdays 2/21 - 3/5

Randon Quasula, Maintenance

> 2/22 Leyla Salcido, Preschool

2/26 Bryant DeVon, Education

2/27 Terry Zicafoose, Preschool

2/28

Rebecca Alvarez, **Community Operations** Kathleen Cardenas-Ruiz, Community Government

Raymond Whitman Jr., Community Government

> Alyssa Joaquin, Vekol

3/3 Wilma Antone-Frausto, ECE Harry Grizzle IV Police

> 3/4 John Janzen, Capital Projects

Gabriel Lopez,

Happiest 15th Birthday Dante Peters

Already, dang boy you grew up way too fast for me. Enjoy your special day with us and yes you can eat cake. Thanks for always belping out and being my assistant. Me and Mauricio will always be here for you to guide you in life and speak for you. Even when you're asleep.

We love you glizzy. Mom and Oreo ears

Happiest 18th Birthday to my big baby Huey Maverick Santiago Enjoy your day with all of us at your big party.

We love you and thank you for being a big b<mark>rother and</mark> always having my back every time. I will still spoil you each day and I know I did a great job on raising you to be who you are. Love you to the moon and back, Mom

Happy Birthday to my granddaughters Kylie, and Emma and grandsons Junior, Alexander, Dante, Cayden and Cody Love, Grandma

> Happy Birthday Armanii and Ray Love your family

Employee Updates



Andrew Vonderheide Tribal Gaming Agency Harrahs Ak-Chin Casino



Julia Lopez-Ocano **Aquatics Coordinator** Parks & Rec



Kaycee Lopez Teacher's Aide Preschool



Dwain Clemons Deli Vekol



Accountant Finance

ZUMBA DANCE!

March.04.2025 March.11.2025 March.18.2025

March.25.2025

Ak-Chin Housing Lobby 48277 W. Farrell Rd. Tuesdays - 6:00pm -7:00pm

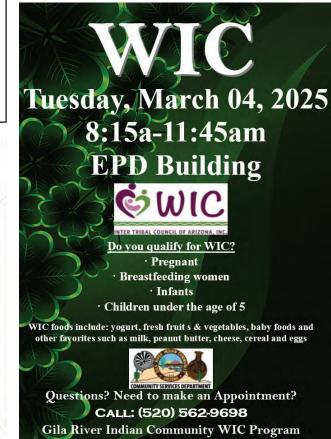




Questions?? Please call Health Education at: (520) 568-1080 to All Ak-Chin Community Members, Ak-Chin Community Residents, Employees and Employees









OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS & RESIDENTS OF THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY. TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED, PLEASE CALL THE FRONT DESK BEFORE 4:00 PM. @ 520-568-1350



Birthdays 2/21 - 3/6 **MARCH 4TH FEBRUARY 21ST FEBRUARY 27TH**

Calvin Can Sickle

FEBRUARY 22ND

Perris Jade White

FEBRUARY 23RD

Ryleigh Delores

Joshua Dominguez Joseph Narcia Octaviana Ormsby Victor Ortega

FEBRUARY 24TH

Keira Attakai Kylie Gardner **Junior Peters**

FEBRUARY 25TH Alexander Lopez

Corianna Vallejos

FEBRUARY 26TH Christian Castro Haviar (Alvarez)

Stephens Jr.

Woodrow Marsh

Shyla Thomas

FEBRUARY 28TH

Rebecca Alvarez

Robert Narcia **Raymond Miguel FEBRUARY 29TH**

Cody Miguel

Traci Thomas

MARCH 1ST Olivia Vincent Maverick Santiago

Nolan Miguel

Ferrin Sope **MARCH 2ND**

Kristina Garcia

Sonja White **MARCH 3RD** Courtney Miguel Wilma Antone-

> Frausto Ardon Green

Deion Narcia

Mario Twohearts Madeline Van Sickle Armanii Carlyle **MARCH 5TH**

Gabriel Lopez

Dante Peters Cayden Peters **Sharalee Dominguez** Zapata Kerianna Justin Emma Narcia

Dannika Lewis **MARCH 6TH** Nakotah Antone Cody Narcia Jose Gutierrez Jr.

Domonique Lewis



We will be having our Art Program from March 10th - March 21st (2 weeks)

Registration is limited to the first 15 kids signed up per grade group.

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Grade Groups: K-1st, 2nd-4th, 5th-8th, 9th-12th We will have a morning and afternoon snack and lunch.

No Transportation Provided For kid/s drop off and pick up,

please enter on North side of Art Building







Photo at right: WM Phoenix Open welcomes everyone to their new gate entrance. Photo at right: A few Community Members-Employees were able to enjoy the COVE view on the 17th.

On Tuesday's outing, about 20 community members/employees were selected to come out and see what all the excitement was about at WMPO.

Once there, everyone had their chance to catch PGA Tour pros during the practice rounds, along with the R.S. Hoyt Jr. Family Foundation Dream Day Activities. Many also flooded to the Fan Shop to grab a tee, hat or other memorabilia signifying this year's event.

Ak-Chin group enjoyed a day at the LOGE on hole 16; getting the VIP treatment; with free food and drink. Known for its boisterous atmosphere and coliseumstyle viewing, the 16th Hole is always a great place to be during the WMPO. Many were also provided the opportunity to step inside the Cove on 17; a cozy little spot that overlooks the 17th hole and 18th tee box.

Everyone seemed have a great time and unforgettable moments at the 2025 WMPO; from the Wednesday Annexes Pro-Am, that included Jelly Roll, who not only made his debut on the TPC course, but also performed to a packed Coors Light Birds Nest venue later that evening, along with Treaty Oak Revival. Other celebrities who were on hand for the Pro-Am included; NFL MVP Aaron Rodgers, AZ Cardinals Receiver, Larry Fitzgerald, U.S. Women's Soccer phenom Carli Lloyd, MLB All-Stars Corbin Burnes, Zac Gallen, and Kyle Schwarber, Olympic God Michael Phelps and actorcomedian Rob Riggle.

Thursday Sunday spectators cheered for the favorite Pro golfers; including fan favorite Rickie Fowler, Justin Thomas, Scottie Scheffler, Jordan Spieth, Sahith Theegala and Hideki Matsuyama. On Friday cups went flying on 16 as Emiliano Grillo made history, when he sank a hole-in-one that rolled around the rim for a straight 155yard slamdunk!

Concert goers made their way to the Coors Light Birds Nest for the biggest

after-party in golf to enjoy the Thursday show with country superstar Luke Bryan, Friday rocked with Nickelback, Saturday's show ended with DJ/ Producer Tiesto.

2025 WMPO winner was Thomas Detry, with a 24-under par to win his first career PGA TOUR and \$1,656,000 in winnings.

Itwasanotherunforgettable experience... Can't wait to do it all again in 2026!





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FEBRUARY 2025

CAESARS REWARDS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Sunday, February 9, 2025

NOLA SUPER BOWL. H'S AK-CHIN ET'S PARTY

The Events Center at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino





TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025 PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS | 8AM - 11:59PM









REDEEM REWARD CREDITS FOR FREE SLOT PLAY!



COLOR ACCENT BAGS GIVEAWAY



LUCKY SWEEPSTAKES FOREVER YOUNG HOT SEATS AT THE TABLES



10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER



\$2 BEER SPECIALS & SWAG AT THE LOUNGE **CANTINA NIGHTS**



TEE UP AT THE AK-CHIN

SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF CLUB

CANTINA NIGHTS

CANTINA NIGHTS



EXPERIENCE THE ULTIMATE SUPER BOWL LIX PARTY **SUNDAY FUNDAY** SHOPPING!



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COLOR ACCENT **BAGS GIVEAWAY**



LUCKY SWEEPSTAKES FOREVER YOUNG HOT SEATS AT THE TABLES



10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER



\$2 BEER SPECIALS & SWAG AT THE LOUNGE



THEORY OF A DEADMAN CONCERT **CANTINA NIGHTS**



SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING!



A WINNING COMBINATION



5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER COLOR ACCENT BAGS GIVEAWAY



LUCKY SWEEPSTAKES FOREVER YOUNG HOT SEATS AT THE TABLES **5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER**





5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER CANTINA NIGHTS \$2 BEER SPECIALS & SWAG AT THE LOUNGE



CANTINA NIGHTS



5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING!





BAGS GIVEAWAY



FOREVER YOUNG HOT SEATS AT THE TABLES



10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER



\$2 BEER SPECIALS & SWAG AT THE LOUNGE



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