Volume XXXIX, Issue 14

Santiago completes Marine Basic Training



PFC Taylor Santiago, United States Marine Corps

completing thirteen-week bootcamp training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Diego, Ak-Chin's Taylor Santiago, is proud to join the ranks of, "The Few, The Proud, The Marines".

Maricopa, Arizona

Santiago continues to Page 6

She is the first female Marine from community to graduate from MCRD, San Diego, which was an all-male recruit bootcamp, until it was integrated in 2021.

Taylor, who's

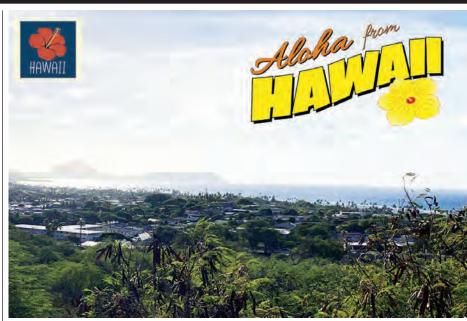
Interview by Stella Miguel and Elizabeth Antone Photo By Robert Miguel

daughter of Marcos and Veronica Santiago, returned home for a brief ten-day visit to be with family and friends before having to report to Camp Pendleton for more training.

She was kind enough to stop by the Ak-Chin O'odham Runner, where she was interviewed by Jr. Reporters, Stella Miguel and Elizabeth Antone.

When and where did you graduate from **bootcamp?** I graduated on June 27th in San Diego.

What motivated you to join the Marines? It all goes back to my greatgrandfather Richard Carlyle; he was in the Army and I also have



Ak-Chin Graduates embark on a tropical journey to Oahu, Hawaii during the month of July to take in the sights, such as the beautiful scenery above, while enjoying some sun and fun in Waikiki.

Photo by Angelo Luz, story and more photos on Page 8

July 18 - 31, 2025

2025 4th of July Community Festivities



Community members enjoy the 4th of July fireworks, poolside at Ak-Chin Recreation.

Every year, you can expect a "GREAT" 4th Carson DePaola (1st Base) and Elijah Peters (2nd Base) are in their ready of July celebration from position for the Maricopa Coyotes during the Piestewa games in Mesa. Ak-Chin Indian Community, and this year was no different as an estimated 800 people rambled onto Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center

to celebrate grounds 2025's Independence

During the same time, over 50 people decided to take in all the pool fun activities sponsored by the Ak-Chin Recreation Department at their 4th

Story and photos by Runner

of July Pool Celebration.

At the Entertainment Center, the early evening occasion may not have seemed to be an ideal event to attend, with the triple digit heat, apparent as those who were there early, quickly looked for shade and liquids to consume to battle the heat. But after seeing all that was available, they were more than happy to stay for all the fun.

While awaiting the main attraction of all 4th of July celebrations; "the fireworks"; there was plenty of fun and food to be had.

Community Ak-Chin Events and Ak-Chin Circle provided a great atmosphere and offering of hot dogs, hamburgers, watermelon and music for those in attendance.

A bouncing castle and a huge waterslide were available for children who were seeking some fun. As the temperatures began to get a bit cooler

Independence Day continues to Page 7

Ak-Chin Athletes Play in Piestewa Games

Story and photos By Robert Miguel

During the weekend of July 11-13, teams and individual participants from throughout the state of Arizona traveled to the Arizona Athletics Grounds in Mesa to compete in the 2025 Lori Piestewa National Native American Games.

The games featured tournaments for baseball, basketball, fast-pitch softball, slow-pitch softball, powerlifting and wrestling.

Ak-Chin had great representation at the games as five players participated with the Maricopa Coyotes baseball team, one team playing in the girls' basketball tourney, one team in the co-ed softball

bracket and one player participating with a team from another community.

Taking to the field for the Coyotes, who were competing in the Triple (Freshman-Senior) division, were; Horacio Corella, Elijah Peters, Edward Rocha, Carson DePaola and Myles

The five played key roles as the Coyotes were able to go 2-0 in pool play before start of bracket

In the first round, the Yotes were able to dispatch the Desert Dingers 8-5, they followed up the win with another victory against Naabaahii B with a score

The 2-0 record nabbed them third place in power play, which placed them against the number six seed, the FMT Rebels in bracket play.

The bracket play game was a nail biter and a pitcher's duel with no room for error. With the game tied 1-1 in the late innings, the Rebels were able to muster up one run, eliminating the Coyotes 2-1. Despite their exit, Maricopa finished respectfully in the twelve-team bracket.

the Girls Varsity bracket, twenty-one competed, teams including the Ak-Chin girl's squad, which have been playing consistently preparation

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ Ak-Chin's Superstar, **Abraham Jose continues** to Strive for Greatness



Abraham Jose and his Scorpions Team have finished their 11U baseball season in May.

The AZ Scorpions fell short of the total number of Championship rings they won last season, but

they still earned their fair share.

When

A. Jose continued on Page 8

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2 Elder News PAGE 3 Community News

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PAGE 4 Backpack Distribution PAGE 9 Announcements

Attention Elders TRAVELING ANYTIME SOON? **Get your REAL ID!**

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If you plan to travel soon, be sure to obtain your REAL ID. If you need any assistance with the process, please don't hesitate to call the Elder Center at 520-568-1760. We're here to help you!

The information below is provided by the Arizona Department of Transportaion website.

REAL ID is a driver's license or identification card that meets federal security standards established by the REAL ID Act.

- It's needed to board federally regulated commercial aircraft, access federal facilities (like military bases or federal courthouses), and enter nuclear power plants.
- It's marked with a star (or golden bear and star in California).

In Arizona, you'll need:

- Proof of birth: One primary document (e.g., certified birth certificate, U.S. passport, Permanent Resident Card).
- Two documents proving Arizona residency: These documents must be from different sources and include your name and current address (e.g., utility bills, bank statements, insurance policies).
- Social Security Number: You'll need to provide your complete Social Security number.

How to get your Arizona Travel ID (REAL ID):

- 1. Gather required documents: Refer to the list above.
- 2. Start the application online: You can begin the process at AZMVDNow.gov.
- 3. Visit an MVD office or approved third-party provider in person: You'll need to bring your documents and review your application. While walk-ins are accepted, appointments are recommended to potentially save time.
- 4. Schedule an appointment (optional, but recommended): Use the AZMVDNow.gov website to schedule your visit.
- Pay the fee: The Arizona Travel ID costs \$25.
- 6. Receive your card: Your new Arizona Travel ID will be mailed to you within 10-14 days.

Important Notes:

- If you don't want a REAL ID: You can still get a standard driver's license or state ID, but it cannot be used for domestic air travel or accessing federal facilities.
- Alternative forms of identification are accepted: These include a U.S. passport, passport card, and certain DHS trusted traveler cards.
- Contact ADOT for specific questions: If you have questions about specific documents or the application process in Arizona, visit the Arizona Department of Transportation website.

Remember: Always check with your state's driver's licensing agency or the TSA website for the most up-to-date requirements and procedures, as they can change.

Please don't hesitate to call the Elder Center at 520-568-1760. We're here to help you!

lders enjo Pool Rarty for lependence

Story and photos by Runner Staff

A fun change-up for the 4th of July was introduced to Ak-Chin Elders with an adults-only pool party, on July 3rd, where community elders were treated to a relaxing day at Ak-Chin Recreation's pool.

Elder Center provided patriotic hats and glasses for everyone to stay cool, and Ak-Chin Recreation staff made sure there was plenty of shade to keep everyone comfortable.

A catered lunch from Ak-Chin Southern Dunes food truck was set up just outside the pool, where they served up hot dogs and hamburgers with sides and desserts, Recreation also set up a sno-cone stand that offered many flavors, including sugar-free options.

The party officially kicked-off when

the "hound dog" himself, Elvis entered

the pool area. Many elders enjoyed the

meet and greet with Elvis, also asking to take photos with him. Once Elvis had made his rounds, he

stripped down to some red, white and blue swim trunks and made his way

down the water slide, losing his Elvis doo in the water.

Elder staff were also decked out in their best red, white, and blue attire Just before it was time to end the party. a friendly competition took place between elder staff; Director Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, Elderly Care Worker Marissa Antone and Elderly Care Driver, Danny Soliz. It was a quick onelap freestyle race, with Leslie proving you're never too old to compete and have fun!

Elder staff would like to thank Ak-Chin Recreation Director Ann Antone and her staff for putting together a great-safe event for all to enjoy. "It was well-managed and flowed really well, even with two events going or simultaneously," Leslie shared.

She also shared, "It was a successful party, and we all had a really fun time: food was delicious!"

Elder staff are hoping to do at least one more fun event before the summer is over.







Top photo: Elders and Elder staff enjoy a nice day by the pool, relaxing and munching on hot dogs and hamburgers.

Top right photo: Elder staff have a friendly race to see who can swim a lap the fastest. Left photo: Elvis "Bob" Miguel creates a big splash as he slips on down the slide.

* Breakfast Served from 7 AM to 8:30 AM

- * Lunch Served from 12 PM to 1 PM
 - * For Transportation, call Georgia at 520-568-1760

7/22

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY 7/18

Bread Pudding,

Mixed Berries

* Movie Questions? Call the Elders Center at 520-568-1760

* Thursdays: Elder Chair Yoga 9 AM - 10 AM

(Menu Subject to Change without Notice)

7/24

Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana

Chicken Wrap, Cole Slaw, Fries, Fresh Peaches

Chicken Tortilla Soup, Cheese Quesadilla, Fruit

Scrambled Eggs,

Scrambled Eggs, Bacon,

Toscana Soup, Romaine Salad, Bread Sticks, Apple

Chips, Flan

7/21

7/28 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit

Ham & Eggs, Potatoes,

Italian Sub, Pasta Salad,

Toast, Fruit/Yogurt

MONDAY

Beef Fajitas, Spanish Rice, Pinto Beans, Watermelon

7/29

Breakfast Pizza, Avocado Slices, Fruit Salad, Muffin

TUESDAY

Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs,

Sausage, Fruit Salad

Red Chili Stew, Green

Beans, Chumath,

Pineapple

Cobb Salad, Butternut Squash Soup, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Plums

7/30

7/23

Cheese

Chicken Fried Steak,

Fruit with w/Cottage

Beef & Broccoli, White

Rice, Egg Rolls, Jell-O Cake

Scrambled Eggs, Biscuits,

Biscuits & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit & **Cottage Cheese**

Movie Day

Cookies

Sausage w/Red&Green Peppers, Sauteed Cabbage,

7/31

Breakfast Bowl, Pita Bread, Muffin, Fruit Cup

Baked Chicken, Sweet Potato/Potato, Peas, **Tropical Fruit**

7/25

Salad

Hashbrown Casserole, Bacon/Toast, Fruit

Sauce

🧝 Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 🕝 Newspaper of the

© 2025 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Maricopa, Arizona 85139

Ak-Chin Indian Community

OFFICE HOURS

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News Assistant: Kathleen Miguel Jr. Reporters: Elizabeth Antone, Stella Miguel and William Martinez

Ak-Chin Tribal Council Chairman: Gabriel Lopez

Vice Chair: Delia Carlyle Council Members: Dennis Antone, Lisa Garcia, and Cecil Peters

Regular Contributors:

Ak-Chin: Education, Elders, EPD, Health Education, Him-Dak, Library and Recreation

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 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, Arizona 85138

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 e suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, please let the Runner Staff

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

42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, Arizona 85138

Make check/money order payable to: AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

NEXT DEADLINE
Don't form

DEADLINE for the August 1-14, 2025 issue is due by FRIDAY, JULY 25TH

announcements, wishes, etc. no later than FRIDAY, JULY 25TH

Please submit all

Material submitted after the <u>JULY 25TH DEADLINE</u>

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

the next issue.

2025 Employee Hot **Dog Eating Contest**



Contestants of the Employee hot dog eating contest hosted by Ak-Chin Events Departments try their best to take the W from one another.

Story and photos by Runner Staff

July 18 - 31, 2025

SAN JUAN CHURCH FEAST

SATURDAY JULY 26, 2025

Maricopa, Az 85139

Rosary: 8:00 am

Mathachina-Procession: 9:00 am

Lunch : 11:00 am

Pa:pkola : 4:00 pm-5:00 pm

River People Traditional Singers & Dancers

Dance: 7:00 pm - 12:00 am

San Juan Kualiya Dance Group : 9:00 pm

Music By: South Image

Flower Wreath Making Classes

PLEASE JOIN US EVERY TUESDAY

STARTING AUGUST 5TH TO OCTOBER 14TH

4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

HIM-DAK ART BUILDING

OPEN TO AK-CHIN COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS

WHO WOULD LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE FLOWER WREATHS

FOR ALL SOULS DAY.

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

PLEASE CALL BEFORE 4:00 PM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 520-568-1350

FUNDRAISER

WIN THE GRAND PRIZE!

FRIDAY, 8 AUG AT 12 PM

EPD Conference Room

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO LORI ALLEN

Tickets for Purchase at Ak-Chin Environmental Programs

Ticket Prizes
8th AUGUST 2025

50/50 Raffle

1 Ticket For \$5

6 Tickets For \$20

TICKET

1 Ticket

Want a chance to win some amazing

prizes? Enter our Raffle Contest

today!Our Raffle Contest is your chance

o win big while supporting a great cause.

TICUM.

TICKET

6 Tickets

Miguel Residence 47431 W. Farrell Rd.

On July 3rd, the Ak-Chin Community Events team hosted the ever-popular Employee Hot Dog Eating Contest. A onehour leave was granted for all employee contestants and spectators to attend the contest, held inside Ak-Chin Recreation gym.

Ak-Chin's version of Coney Islands' Nathan's Famous Hot Dog eating contest was well received, as plenty of employees from the Community and interested individuals made their way into the gymnasium to watch eight contests devour as many hotdogs as they could possibly wolf down in 2 minutes.

As the green light was given departments cheered on their respective staff member competitors as they jumped right in and started consuming dogs and buns as fast as they could.

At the five-minute mark of the ten minutes that were given, the top four started to separate themselves from the others. Five munched and munched to the finish line, in what was a photo finish to the end, with Robin "Dog Devourer" Vincent of the Ak-Chin Library, taking the title, downing nine dogs.

Three others; Mahkai "Hot Dog Hog" Ball of the Ak-Chin Circle,

Chris "Glizzy Queen" Crone of Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation and Johnny "Flaco" Ramirez of Central Plant, each scarfed down eight apiece.

Rounding out the competition field were; Phillip "Game Boy" LeSasa of Harrah's (five dogs), Bernett "Dog Eater" Lopez (six dogs), Dennis "The Bun Invader" Antone (five dogs), and Timothy "Timmy the Destroyer" Tilbury (disqualified for hurling).

For Robin Vincent's victory, the championship trophy, will now sit at the library for the year. Until then, competitors will begin their training and tactics for the next hot dog battle.



Robin Vincent holds the Employee Hot Dog Eating Contest plaque. Soon his name will be added to the list of winners.



Johnny Ramirez of Ak-Chin's Central Plant raises the arm of 2025 Hot Dog eating champion, Robin Vincent, after winning the Ak-Chin Employee Hot Dog Eating Contest, July 3.

Bob "Elvis" Miguel and Xavier

"Top Dog" Garcia face-off to have a costume contest competition of their own.

Hot Dog Eating Champion.

Ak-Chin Lifeguards cheer on

Lucas Fltzgerald aka "Glizzy

Queen" and also last year's

CARLA J CARLYLE 16558 N. Church St. Maricopa, Az 85139 Phone: (480) 235-6415 cjcarlyle1103@gmail.com

Carlyle-Kakaı IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OFTHE STATE OF ARIZONA

CREDITORS Case No.: CV2025-023-PB

appointed Personal Representative of the above PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

against the Estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice if notice is given by publication or, if the creditor is known to the Personal Representative, within sixty (60) days after the mailing or delivery of the notice In The Matter Of The Estate Of: Leona Mary whichever is later, or the claim will be forever barred. Claims must be presented by delivering or mailing a written statement of the claim to the Personal Representative at the following address: IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PINAL NOTICE TO 16558 N. CHURCH ST, MARICOPA, Az 85139 or by commencing a proceeding against the Personal Representative in the above entitled court within In the matter of the Estate of: LEONA MARY the time limited for presenting the claim. DATED CARLYLE-KAKAR, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY this 16 day of JULY, 2025. CARLA JAYNE CARLYLE By GIVEN that CARLA JAYNE CARLYLE has been /s/CARLA JAYNE CARLYLE CARLA JAYNE CARLYLE

Story and Photos by Runner Staff

Fairies and Friends at Parks and Recreation

Story by Kristen Villegas; Photos and Information by Sonya "Sonny" Martinez Parks and Recreation Program Coordinator

Those who are familiar with the Girl Scouts might know them for selling cookies in front of many stores in Maricopa and all over the country.

The Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation held a Fairies and Friends Party on July 9, 2025; which was an introduction to the Girl Scout program and allowed for interested prospects the opportunity to interact with one another with fairy themed crafts.



The group of girls and ladies created fairy pretzel wands, shared with sparkly lemonade

and engaged in games would create essential bonding time.

Why Ak-Chin? Well, the Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council makes it their goal to make the Girl Scouts easily available for all young ladies and with the help of their If you are interested Tribal Affairs Team; they're able to bring this program to many tribal communities to build trust and partnerships that are lasting.

Scouts The Girl allow the youth to learn about life skills,

entrepreneurship, STEM and the outdoors through programs designed create supportive environments, teamwork building and friendships. It allows for the girls to use their creativity and imagination to make ideas into reality.

learning information, visit the Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council website www.girlscoutsaz. Shannon Hadley, shadley@girlscoutsaz. org or 480-828-2737, is a key contact for

Hopefully

every Ak-Chin

part in this

the countdown

to school in-

session is just

school supplies

will be in high

took

and

student

incentive,

around

corner

demand.

End of Summer Youth

Worker Celebrations

Summer youth workers gathered together for one last photo to end the 2025 Summer Youth Program: L-R Top Row: Mark Pablo, Terry Santiago, Elijah Narcia, Xavier Garcia, Auciana Miguel, Kylie Gardner. Second Row: Kellen Hoffman, Arie DeLeon, Antonio Rodriguez, Owen Santiago, Dante Peters, William Martinez, Nyaila Miguel, Stella Miguel, Keira Attakai. Third Row: Shane Antone, Michael Enos, Carson DePaola, Myles Peters, Mateo Rodriguez, Kaelyn Miller, Larisa D. Rascon, Arianna Bandin. Bottom Row: Draven Soliz, Johnny Perkins, Ryleigh Delores, Neveah Johnson, Baya Olivas, Brian Ruelas.

For forty-one youth employees from the Ak-Chin Community, the prospects to absorb first-hand from respective departments and enterprises of the services they provide the community, was a great learning experience.

This opportunity may someday give them the inspiration to identify a field of profession that they may want to pursue to help bring back their talents and vocation to the community.

For six weeks, youth employees were placed in departments such as; Recreation, Runner, Preschool, Museum, Library, Education, Fire, Community Government, Community Events, Central Plant, Water Operations, Maintenance, Housing, Tribal Gaming Purchased Refer Care.

About ten youth workers opted to work in various departments at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort, and six students from the community were under the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) grant via the Gila River Indian Community.

As many completed their assignments at the various community departments, a luncheon party was celebrated at the Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center, on Thursday, July 10.

At the celebration, youth employees were able to enjoy bowling and arcade games, while dining on pizza and wings.

On July 9th, 2025, the Gila River Indian Community held an awards banquet for their summer youth workers that participated in the WIOA program, held at the District 5 Service Center, each worker was able to bring two guests of their choice.

The day was filled with motivational speeches from various speakers including **GRIC** Governor Stephen Roe Lewis and Lt. Governor Regina Antone.

Everyone spoke of their personal experiences within the workforce program and praised the youth for participating as this experience can help their future careers.

There were also demonstrations and presentations from the GRIC FD Cadet Program, the Creative Studio Program, and the Summer Scrubs Program.

Ak-Chin member Aleah Oliver participated in the Summer Scrubs Program, based in the Gila River Community, which is great gateway into having a career in the medical field.

The event ended with a presentation of awards for all of the youth. Ak-Chin summer youth worker William Martinez was also in attendance to represent Ak-Chin and

For those who were assigned to Harrah's, they continue to be employed with celebration scheduled during the completion.

accept his award.







Top: After sharing the exciting memories from the Summer, Aleah Oliver and peers of the Scrubs Program introduce theirselves to WIOA celebration goers.



William Martinez had the pleasure of attending both celebrations. Ak-Chin members also mentioned in the WIOA Program were Auciana Miguel, Joanna Peters, Tyler Peters, and Teagan Delma.



BackpacksandSupplies **Checked Off the List**

Story and Photos by Kristen Villegas



The 2025-2026 school Environmental year is creeping in Programs Department's Water Reclamation Facility.

> The turnout was a huge success from community, and the distribution helped check items off the already long school necessities list for families. Ak-Chin Housing Enrollment departments were also available to provide assistance



hand out bookbags and supplies to all student members, residents and descendants of Ak-Chin members on the dates

with classes beginning

in just a few days;

scholars from all over

ready themselves for

the upcoming academic

season. The Ak-Chin

JOM Committee teamed

Community Events to

of July 9, 12 and 15,

2025. The distribution

with Ak-Chin

was held at the Ak-Chin



Submitted by Naomi Bishop, Ak-Chin Library Manager



Congratulations to Aaliyah Vincent and William Delma for winning the best design of the "Color Our World" Ak-Chin Library summer reading program bookmark contest! The library received over 30 entries and two winners were selected.

Bookmark entries will be on display in the library and the two winning designs will be printed as bookmarks for the community. The last day to pick-up prizes for summer reading is July 31st.

Ak-Chin Child Development

Accepting applications for Preschool 2025-2026 SY Deadline is July 28th, 2025

Experience

Our office is open 8am-5pm Monday-Friday Register now! First day of Preschool is August 11th, 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 Indi-

- an Community
- 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 Community boundaries and is enrolled with another federally recognized Native American Communi-
- 5. Child of a parent who is an employee of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.
- 6. Non-member children based on availability.

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

Transportation provided for children living within the Ak-Chin Community

Health and Safety Protocols in Place

Ak-Chin Child Development offers:

Health/Developmental Screenings

Disability Services (Through M.U.S.D.)

*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

A High Quality Early Education

Kindergarten Readiness

boundaries.

Pick up a 2025-2026 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 Rec-

(returning students only need the current Im-munization 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.



2025 Transit Schedule Changes

NO TRANSIT SERVICES

Labor Day, Monday, September 1st

Native American Day, Friday, September 26th

Please make alternate arrangements for transportation on these dates.

Thank you!!

Community Members & Transit Riders:

Please be advised that the Transit Department will be undergoing an in-service closure for the following dates and times.

AK-CHIN TRIBALTRANS

August 12th thru 15th, 2024

Last Ride Accommodated: 8:45 AM

Closure Period: 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

During these times, our transportation services will be temporarily suspended. We will resume accommodating requests at 3:30 PM each day.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding and patience.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Transit Department Staff

Maricopa Unified School District Enrollment 2025-2026 Enrollment is Open!

The following documentation is required

to enroll your student(s). To expedite the enrollment process, please upload the documents to our secure registration • Certified copy of the child's Birth

- Certificate Immunizations Records for the child
- (all shots need to be current and up to date before starting) Proof of Residency (copy of water/
- utility bill or mortgage/lease, etc.) Parent Identification card (Driver's
- license, State issued ID or Passport) • Withdrawal Form from previous
- school Legal guardian or legal custody papers (if the parent/legal guardian is

Only those who are listed on the Birth Certificate are able to enroll the child, unless a court document giving you legal guardianship or a notarized letter giving

not on the birth certificate)

you educational rights is provided.

Foster Homes enrolling students need to provide a Notice to Provider from Department of Children Services giving temporary custody.

Group homes enrolling students placed by a state agency should provide a letter (on letterhead) that includes: Student Name, Date of Birth, Student Address, Parent Address, Designee for Educational Rights, and Notification for Maricopa Unified School District to pursue a Certificate of Educational Convenience.

To start the online enrollment process,

- you will need: Access to a desktop/laptop computer or mobile app
- An email account
- Check the Boundary Map for your



2025 - 2026 School Year Calendar

Jan 19 - MLK Day

July 4th Holida			*25	ULY	J		
July 401 Honds	s	F	Th	W	T	M	S
July 14 - New 7	5	4	3	2	1		
	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
July 16 - Return	19	12	17	16	15	14	13
July 23 - First	26	25	24	23		21	20
July 25 - First			31	30	29	28	27

				10.00		
13	14	15	16	17	12	19
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10	11	12	13-	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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23 24 25 July 14 - New Teachers 1st Day

July 16 - Returning Teachers' 1st Day

July 23 - First Student Day of School

Feb 16 - Presidents' D

Feb 16 - Pres	idents' Day

Feb 16 - Pro	esidents' Day

	Peb 16 - Presidents' Day			

pt. 1 - Labor Day	Mar 6 - End of 3rd Quarter (43)	
pt 26 - End of 1st Quarter (47)	Mar 9 - 20 Spring Break	

Sept. 29 - Oct. 10 Fall Break		
	April 3- Good Friday	

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Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 Winter Break

Middle School: 240 PM - (Every Wednesday)

Dec 19 - End of 2nd Quarter (46)

May 25 - Memorial Day

May 22- Last Student & Teacher Day

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Important **Dates to** Remember:

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT:

Maricopa Elementary – July 21, 530p – 7p Curriculum Night – August 19, 5p-630p

Butterfield Elementary – July 21, (A-M 5:30-6:15 / N-Z 6:15-7) Meet the Principal – July 24, 6p-7p

Pima Butte Elementary – July 21, 5:30p – 7p

Saddleback Elementary – 6p – 7p Curriculum Night – October 9, 6p – 7:30p

Santa Cruz Elementary – July 21, 5:30p – 7:30p

Santa Rosa Elementary – July 21, 5:30p – 7p New Family Night – July 17, 5p – 5:45p

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

MEET THE TEACHER/OPEN HOUSE:

Maricopa Wells - Tuesday, July 22, 4:30-6:00

Desert Winds- Thursday, July 31, 5:30p – 7:30p

High School: Maricopa High:

Freshman First Day July 21, 12p-3p

First Day of School -- July 23

Desert Sunrise High: Meet The Teacher July 29, 5p – 7p

Virtual Academy

Grade 6 – 8 Monday, July 21, 5p

High School: 12:30 PM - (Every Wednesday) End of Quarter Early Release Schedule: 11igh School 12:30, 1:10 (MES & SBE) or 1:35 (BFE, PBE, SCE, SRE), Middle Schools 2:10

Elementary: 1:10 (MUS & SBE) or 1:35 (BFE, PBE, SCE, SRE) PM (Every Wednesday)

Professional Development - Wednesday Early Release

12,17-19 & 5,20-22

Parent Teacher Conference

High School Finals (Early Release)

All Sites Fall TBD & 1.28-30 (Early Release)

Grade 9 – 12 Tuesday, July 22 5p First Day of School: July 23

Piestewa Games continued from Front the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) later in July.

In the first round, Ak-Chin continued to see improvement in their play, scoring more points than they have this season.

Despite a loss to the Lady Magic, the girls were excited and optimistic as they headed into the second round. Fatigue and stiffer competition in the Hagoteele Apache's, the ladies from Ak-Chin took another one on the chin, but stayed in good spirits as they awaited bracket play the following day.

Playing short-handed and with minor injuries, Ak-Chin succumbed to defeat against a tough Hooligan Girls squad in bracket play, eliminating them from competition.

John Zabawa represented Ak-Chin in the 9-12 age group as he manned

shortstop and took to the mound for Team Empire, a squad from Mesa, also representing the Navajo Nation.

With Zabawa as a key and instrumental player, Empire was able to post a 2-0 record in pool play with first and second round wins against the Outsiders (11-1) and the Flagstaff Underdogs (8-5).

The two wins placed them as the number two seed in power play, earning them a third-round matchup with The Goat.

Empire was unable to outscore a tough Goat team, eliminating them from tournament play. The division had twelve teams competing.

Despite a valiant effort,

The Ak-Chin Warriors participated in the coed softball division, as fourteen teams took to the field during the all-night tournament. In a hardfought battle, the Gorilla Gang upended the Ak-Chin Warriors late to pin a first round loss.

The Warrior's second round pitted Ak-Chin against Mixed Tribes, where they went back and forth before the Warriors fell to a one-point defeat.

In the third round, the Warriors redeemed themselves and played ball the way they were accustomed to, drubbing SCAT 20-0.

In their final game of the tournament, Ak-Chin was unable to keep pace with Buck Em, yielding to defeat and elimination from the games.

Although it wasn't the outcome that they'd hoped for, representation in a prestigious tournament and honoring a great Native American woman was a highlight.



Ak-Chin Warriors: I to r: Jolie Peters, Alyssa Dickerson, Emily Peters, Brandon Peters, Shannon Peters, Jacob Dickerson, Susie Gurein, Lindsey Valles, Isaiah Peters, Jennifer Boehm, Waylon Antone, Mike Peters and Jacolby King.





John Zabawa hits a I to r. Horacio Corella, Elijah Peters, Myles single to right field. Peters, Edward Rocha and Carson DePaola.



uncles who were in the

Army. Raychel Peters was in the Marines, so it kind of inspired me. I've always like had it in the back of mind growing up to maybe someday enlist, so when the time came, I went ahead and did it.

Can you share your experience going through training? It's a big difference, like the lifestyle is really different... It's challenging, but the end goal was rewarding because I became more disciplined. Idon't like waking up in the morning, but I do like that I wake up in the

What did you miss the most about home? Just having your own privacy, your own bed.

morning so I can get my

day started. I'm just a

better person overall I

think.

How was it for you every day, how was it different? Every day, you don't get to decide what you're going to do, they decide what you're going to do...You have no sense of time... they control everything you do... you just have to follow their orders. Every day it was wake up at 5:00 am and lights out at 8:00 pm. In the

morning, there is a roll

call count and then you

get dressed for the day.

How was the food? I loved the morning chow, mainly the French toast and pancakes.

Did you do a lot of hard workouts? Yes! It was pretty challenging. There's the Confidence Course. If you look it up online, there's some pretty crazy obstacle courses that you had to do. But at the end, it's pretty exciting. It's a confidence course, which obliviously builds your confidence when you complete it. Like if you're afraid of heights, they'll make you do it and it helps with not being afraid of heights.

Were they hard on **you?** *Yes!* (with a laugh). They really are, but it's for the best at the end. The Marine Corps has standards and you want to meet that. 13 weeks. Are you planning to go

back in after this first time? Right now, I'm looking to do another contract after this first contract ends. (Taylor currently signed up for a 5-year contract). After this ten-day leave, I go back in; it's Marine Combat Training or if you're in Infantry, then it's Infantry Training. Right now, we haven't

received our assignment

yet, we won't know until I

return. But after MCT we

can make some selections

on choices that we would like to be stationed at, but it doesn't necessarily mean we're going to be given that choice, they decide overall. When I do return to camp and an assignment of either MCT or Infantry is given to me, I will be there for twenty-five days.

After your twenty-fiveday training, then what happens? That'll follow with your School House and your Job Training. That'll then follow with assigned Duty your Station. What other things did

you like about being at **bootcamp?** *I was happy* that I was able to cut my time from twenty-eight minutes to twenty-three *minutes in my three-mile* run. But the good thing is that I know I can do better. Did you make any

friends? Your whole Platoon is your friends, especially your Rack Mate. I had the same Rack Mate for the last seven/eight weeks. If you're given an

option of where you want your Duty Station to be, where would it be? I want to go overseas. I hear Guam was good from some of the instructors I've had.

How many people were Forces are good. in your Platoon? We

Stinknet (Globe Chamomile) in **Arizona: Identification & Safe Removal**



monsoon season, this invasive plant is so dangerous to our beautiful Sonoran Desert.

What is Stinknet?

Stinknet (Oncosiphon piluliferum), also known as globe chamomile, is an invasive annual plant from South Africa. It thrives in disturbed and open soils, particularly after wet winters, forming dense carpets of yellow, globe-shaped flowers (early spring to summer).

Why It's a Concern in Arizona

Native plant displacement: Its rapid growth smothers desert wildflowers and natives, reducing biodiversity. Fire hazard: When dried, it transforms into

a "ladder fuel", highly flammable, carrying fire into shrubs and trees.

Health risks: Releases a turpentine-like

odor; can trigger respiratory issues and contact rashes. Quick spread: Seeds remain viable for

years and can germinate multiple times in one season; a single plant can produce thousands of seeds.

Where It Spreads

Stinknet is common in Maricopa, Pinal, and parts of Pima counties, especially along I-10, residential lots, roadsides, and trailheads. It has even temporarily closed areas like Casa Grande Ruins National Monument due to dense infestations in 2024.

Identification & Early Detection

Leaves: Fern-like, carrot-like, pungent aroma when crushed. Flowers: Bright yellow, spherical "lollipops"

about 0.5-1 in across. Growing season: Germinates Nov-Mar;

flowers Jan-Jun depending on rainfall. At-risk habitats: Prefers disturbed or open soils in urban and desert environments.

Safe & Effective Removal Strategies 1. Manual Removal (The best results)

soil is damp so roots come out easy. Wear gloves and a mask to avoid skin or respiratory irritation. Bag and seal plants before disposal to

Pull plants before flowering, ideally when

prevent seed spread. Repeat removal as plants appear.

2. Mechanical Control

Hoe or weed-whack small plants before flowers appear.

Avoid disturbing flowering plants; broken stems release seeds or volatile oils.

3. Chemical Control

Pre-emergent herbicides applied in late fall can prevent seed germination.

started off with seventy-What was the hardest

six, and graduated with fifty-one. Were there any others

from Arizona who were there with you? Yes, there were three others. other **Native**

Any

Americans other than **you?** No, I was the only Native. So, were you able to

call back home? You get a phone call when you get to the depot, and that was when I first got there. It was just to let my parents know that I made it to camp. How was it to finally

see your family at graduation? It was great! Very emotional!

What was the first thing you did when you left from bootcamp with your family? Canes!

What advice would you give to the younger members or others who may consider joining

Marines?

branches of the Armed

part about bootcamp? Getting accustomed to everything.

Anything to share for those interested serving in the armed forces? Personally, I've always wanted to go Marines, because it was the toughest branch... I wanted to go all the way. What are you proud of

more than anything? I think physically I improved a lot, my PFT and CFT scores improved from the first time... that's

obvious, in the way that my scores came out and the way that my body changed physically. So, I'm proud of myself for

Once Taylor completes her training at Camp Pendleton she will report directly to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, to attend schooling for 7-9 months.

Prior to enlisting into the United States Marines, Taylor attended Northern Arizona University (NAU) in Flagstaff.



Taylor and her family; I-r: Amare Santiago, Veronica Santiago, Kobe Santiago, Taylor, Marcos Santiago and Evone Santiago.

resistance is common. Follow labe directions and consider hiring licensed applicators for larger patches. 4. Prevent Seed Spread

Post-emergent

Clean boots, tires, and pets after visiting infested areas. **Long-Term Prevention**

herbicides:

is effective on live plants; glyphosate

Limit bare soil by encouraging native plan cover and using mulch. Reseed with competitive natives to

discourage Stinknet. Maintain vigilance: revisit treated area

periodically. Support public awareness, share resource

and tips with neighbors.



ideal window. Use an integrated control approach, combining manual, mechanical and chemical methods.

Catch Stinknet early, before flowering is the







left - Desert Marigold, Creosote Bush (Greasewood), Ocotillo, Barrel Cactus, and Beloperone)

Replace with native plants and maintain consistent monitoring. Collaborative efforts between homeowner and agencies can curb its spread.

With coordinated action and community

involvement, Arizona can effectivel

protecting native Stinknet, species, reducing fire risk, and preserving healthy environments. For any questions, please email Brand

Nelson at <u>BNelson@ak-chin.nsn.us</u> a Environmental Programs.

pushing myself.

the sun set, more people over the Ak-Chin Community. Just about everyone who was One lucky trivia the their way to the main As each firework popped off, in attendance was awarded correctly answered to also and total their roots.

and the sun set, more people made their way to the main grass area and took their seats anticipating a great fireworks display.

Five minutes before the fireworks show began, the huge jumbotron display at Ak-Chin Circle began a countdown, which had many more who were sitting in the Amphitheatre area, race to the grass area to watch the display.

With patriotic music blaring over the speakers, colorful fireworks were then set off by the Ak-Chin Fire Department crew. Those in attendance were able to see the lights and sounds that hovered the skies over the Ak-Chin Community. As each firework popped off, "oohs" and "awes" could be heard throughout the area. After about 30 minutes, a fireworks finale ending was much appreciated by the crowd, with their thunderous ovation.

At the Ak-Chin Recreation's Celebration there was also plenty of hot dogs, hamburgers, watermelon, and sno-cones offered up for the hungry party goers.

The pool was refreshing and the staff on-hand kept the day lively with good music, games and raffles, which were held every 15 minutes. Just about everyone who was in attendance was awarded a raffle prize goodie bag; filled with awesome summer necessities which included big pool towels, sunscreen, googles, glasses and much more. There were also prize bags donated from the Phoenix Children's Hospital with water safety information and more pool accessories. The bags were awarded to those who found and turned in the floating fish in the pool.

A trivia raffle was held just before sundown, with winners receiving folding chairs, patriotic hats and an ice chest filled with even more summer goodies. One lucky trivia winner; who correctly answered the question of, "What is the correct way to fold the American Flag?" took home the grand prize of a sweet Barbeque Grill.

After all the raffles were handed out, the pool stayed open for those who wanted more swim time and to watch the fireworks from the pool.

Ak-Chin Community Events and Recreation staff did a wonderful job keeping their crowds entertained throughout the day.

Both events had a great turnout and offered plenty of food and fun for all to enjoy.































Left pic: Dinomite, the patriotic inflatable dino enjoys some poolside fun for the 4th. Right pic: Runner Jr. Reporter, William Martinez shares a view from the Phoenix Firework Show.



NATIVE AMERICAN
PERFORMERS,
ARTS & CRAFTS VENDORS,
DEMONSTRATORS
& FOOD VENDORS

FOR THE

OCOCO HIM-DAK/O/O/O/O

NARD

CCELEBRATION S

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

8 AM - 1PM

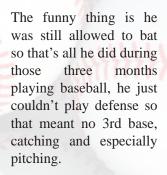
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ANNUAL EVENT OR HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 520-568-1350





ended, we were asked where Abraham would be traveling to in the summer since the past two years Abraham was fortunate enough to be selected on the team to represent Arizona at the USSSA All-State Championships.

Unfortunately, this year that wouldn't be the case, Abraham wasn't selected to attend, he actually wasn't able to try out due to an arm strain that occurred in October and since the tryouts for All-State were in December, Abraham was still on arm restriction and just missed the tryouts.



But after much needed rest, Abraham soon would be back on the mound. I still remember the day he started pitching again. He got called up to pitch in the 3rd inning during the USSSA MLK Tournament in January. Abraham doesn't show much emotion on the mound, whether he

strikes a person out or the batter gets a hit, Abraham continues to pitch with the same emotion... none, LOL!

But that day I could tell he was feeling a bit more excited as he stepped on the field. Cheers filled the stands from Scorpions families as they too were excited and happy to see number 27 warming up on the mound.

After the game ended, he walks to me with a huge smile and sits by me still excited and says, "Mom do you know what?" As I looked at him wondering what his story was this time,

"When coach called me up to pitch, I almost cried, well okay maybe a little, but I was just happy coach let me pitch."

Coach Steve wanted to make sure Abraham was good to start throwing again so he didn't start Abraham once he got off restriction. He explained to us, he would slowly work him back on the mound and so that's what he did.

Hearing Abraham tell me how he felt made me so happy, but reminded me of how much he loves the game. I didn't realize how anxiously he waited to start pitching again, but being away for that long I believe only ball players can understand that feeling or anyone being away from not doing something they love.

As I'm writing this I stop and think, maybe he didn't want anyone to know about what he told me that day, so let's just keep this between you and me.:)

I just think of how important it is to maybe step back once in a while from our busy lives and see what kids are feeling and where their joy is. I'm just happy we're able to provide that for Abraham all year round. Although, I'm sure Abraham felt like it was forever being on arm restriction, the wait and rest paid off as he came back strong.

This was proven at their next tournament, which was a Perfect Game Tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the tournament the AZ Scorpions team won Championship in the silver bracket, where Abraham had earned All-Tourney and MVP

honors for pitching the

championship game.

So, who knows how long his love will continue for baseball, but I'm glad we're able to provide that for him now. And not just Abraham, I read in the paper or hear parents of their stories of their children playing ball, just recently Adam Alejandro was in the Runner with his team, Iron Squad and wish him and his team the best of luck this coming season.

As for Abraham's summer, he's continuing to play baseball with Lil Natives. You'll hear more from them in the upcoming Ak-Chin Runner.

As for the All-State Abraham Tournament, was disappointed he wasn't able to try out, but he is happy that four other members of the AZ Scorpions Team were selected along with "Coach Steve" to represent Arizona 11U Majors in Indianapolis, IN. We wish them the best of luck!

The Runner staff would like to wish Abraham, Adam, and all of our young athletes the best of luck in their sports careers!







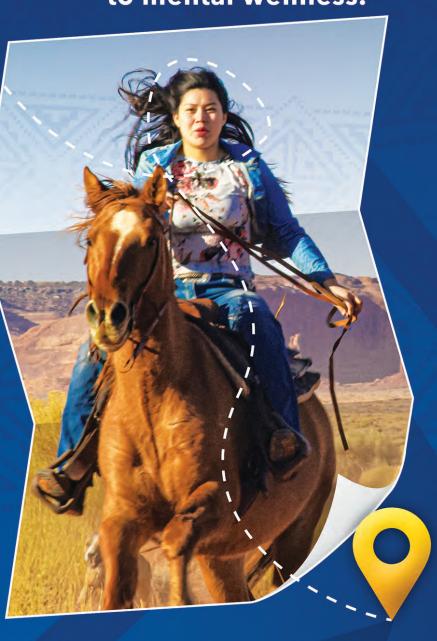




Hawaii Continued from Fron







Our culture is a source of strength as we navigate uncertainty. Need to talk with someone who can help you tap into that strength?

Contact your local Indian health care provider, visit **HealthCare.gov/coverage** or call **1-800-318-2596**.





On July 7th, eight Ak-Chin graduates and two chaperones invaded the tropical state of Hawaii for a week-long vacation in Waikiki, located in the city of Honolulu on the island of Oahu. The trip was an incentive from the Ak-Chin Community, which is a long running tradition for students of the community that graduate high school.

Alohilani Resort Waikiki Beach was home for the week with the beach just a few steps away. The trip was full of adventures as the group were able to attend different tourist attractions such as the Oahu Grand Circle Island Tour, Pearl Harbor, USS Arizona Memorial Tour, the Polynesian Cultural Center, and Germaine's Luau, which was a favorite for some.

When not on tours the group was able to stroll along the beaches or Kalakaua Avenue, where their hotel was, to check out popular places to shop and dine. After their weeklong trip in paradise, and two flight delays, the group returned home safely just after midnight on July 15th.

If you are an enrolled Ak-Chin Indian Community member that has graduated high school and have not yet participated in the senior trip sponsored by the community, please contact Flora Howerton, Ak-Chin Purchasing Manager at 520-568-1043 or FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us so she can sign you up for the next trip!





JOB OPENINGS

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:

- Communication Officer (part-time)
- Communications Officer
- Compensation Analyst
- Detention Officer Certified (parttime)
- Lab Tutor (part-time)
- Plant Electrician
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation Technician
- Police Officer (non-certified)
- Security Systems Technician
- Substance Abuse Therapist

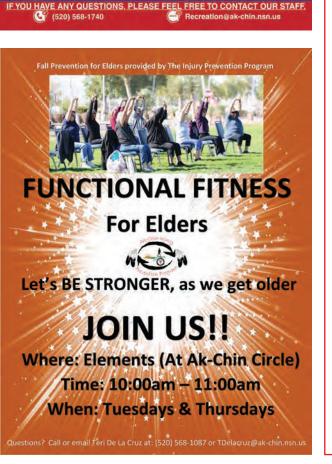
Open to Enrolled Ak-Chin Members Only

- General Worker (Temp Worker)
- Museum Technician (2)
- Oral Historian

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.





COLOR OUR WORLD Celebrate the end of summer reading with food, art, and reading! All are invited to enjoy an evening at the library to celebrate the new school year. Join us for a fun evening of drawing games, art trivia, and crafts! **End of Summer** Book Bash Ak-Chin Indian Community Library Thursday, July 31st 2025 5-7pm

July 18 - 31, 2025



Employee Updates



Jennifer Cappel Teacher's Aide Preschool



Jesus Espinoza Park Manager Parks & Rec



Jon-Naomi Boling Case Manager Health & Human Services

Birthday baby girl! We love you and wish you nothing but the <mark>b</mark>est,

Happy

even though you're the biggest brat ever. We are very proud of everything you're doing (school and work) keep up the good work and enjoy your birthday.

Love you always and <mark>foreve</mark>r, Mommy, Isaiah and Kylee



will always be uncle Kyle's favorite j/k. Love you, Auntie and

uncle Kyle



COLOR WORLD

ST. MARY'S FOOD BANK GRABNGO LUNCH

STORYTIME & PLAYDAY

and up Thursdays at 10am.

Join us for an afternoon of play and reading at

the library designed for young children ages 3

BACK TO SCHOOL BOOK BASH

Celebrate the end of summer reading with food, art, and prizes from 5-7pm on Thursday July 31st,

READING BUDDIES

Pick up 5 days of meals for kids under 18. Weekdays from 11am-1pm & Saturdays from 12-2pm. Ends July 22nd While Supplies last.

Children and teens ages 5-18 can come to the library and read with a Reading Buddy on Monday and Friday afternoons from 3:30-5:30pm.

OL CLOSED

MONDAY &

POOL OPEN: WEDNESDAY

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

PLEASE CONTACT OUR STAFF Call (520) 568-1740 or Email

Us: Recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us

Happy

Birthday

Kaylan,

We wish

you the best

you deserve

it. Always

THROUGH FRIDAY- 4PM TO 7PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY- IPM-7PM

TUESDAY

Happy Birthday Kristen Have a Great Day!! From the Funner Runner Gang

> Happy Birthday Spanky and Rich! Love your family

Employee Birthdays 7/18 - 7/31

7/18

Maintenance

7/19

Kimberli White,

ECE

7/20

Havier Alvarez Sr. Sanitation James Chance, Security Barbara Elliott,

Fire Brian Poulson, Fire

Perry Vettraino, Capital Projects Robin Vincent, Library

7/21

Kaycee Lopez, **ECE**

7/22

Andrea Chee,

Police

7/24 Stephanie Valdez, **ECE**

7/25 Martinez,

Housing 7/30

Mallory Justin, Vekol

7/31 Kristen Villegas, Runner



FORGET WHAT YOU CAN'T DO = LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN

PHYSICAL MOBILITY & MECHANICS CLASS

STARTING JULY 10 | EVERY THURSDAY @ 6PM

AK-CHIN RECREATION BUILDING | 1-HOUR CLASS

Struggling with tight hips, sore knees, aching feet, or a stiff back?

If you walk, stand, train, ride, work, or just exist-this class is for you. Whether you're new to movement or already training for a sport, event,

or personal fitness goal, your mobility is the foundation. Without it, every step forward is harder than it has to be.

This weekly class will help you:

- Understand how your body is designed to move Unlock tight joints and improve total-body range of motion
- Strengthen the movement patterns behind real-life actions
 - Boost athletic performance in your current training
 - Reduce discomfort and risk of injury from poor mechanics

Build intensity that's scaled to your current ability

This is not "just stretching." This is essential training for anyone who wants to: Ride better

- Run faster Move freely
 - Train harder
- Stand longer
- Age stronger

You'll leave each session knowing more about your body and how to move with power-not pain.

BEACAUSE FEELING CAPABLE AGAIN IS BETTER THAN FEELING SORE FOREVER

Led by Renee Boehm, B.S. Kinesiology | ACSM-Certified Personal Trainer Former Ak-Chin Firefighter and Paramedic | U.S. Air Force Training Program Manager Trainer at LifeTime Fitness & EOS Fitness | Over 7 years experience with all levels

Open to all physical levels | Intensity is relative. Commitment is key.

YOU CON'T MEED TO MEED UP. YOU MEED TO SHOW UP

JULY 20TH

JULY 18TH

Abraham Jose

Silas Norris

JULY 19TH

Aniya DeLeon Dorian Nosie-Romo

Hannah Smith

Marisol Andaverde Aiden Antone Richard Carlyle **James Lopez** Briana Pena

Havier Srephens Sr. Robin Vincent

JULY 21ST Dominic Lewis

Kaycee Lopez Ja'Marrion Stevenson

JULY 22ND

Mark Narica

JULY 23RD Bon Scott Alvarez

FREE TO CONTACT OUR STAFF

Carlos Delores Connor Miguel Ulyceiz Ocanas

JULY 24TH Alejandra Castro

Milla Cuatt Samantha Martinez Doyleen Pabol Consuella Santiago Stephanie Valdez

JULY 25TH Xendryk Silas-Antone Jamar Stevenson Jr. Norman Vincent Jr.

JULY 26TH Sally Antone Teagan Delma Kylie Hill Tyler Mike

Fabian Santiago

Lilly-Anna Johnson

Aurelia Peters Kaylan Peters

Cheryl Lopez

Terrance Peters Luis Rodas Jeannie Stephens

JULY 29TH Laila Lopez

JULY 30TH

Ashlea Anderson Juan Makil White Cecil Miguel Sr.

Corrina White **JULY 31ST**

Brenda Arellanes-Burgos

Clyde Santiago

Lino Valles Jr. Kristen Villegas

Birthdays 7/18 - 7/31 JULY 27TH JULY 28TH

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino is hosting three blood drives. The events are open to the public and appointments are strongly encouraged.

When:

Sept 8 and Dec 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Where:

The Bingo Hall at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino 15406 Maricopa Road Maricopa, Ariz. 85139

"It is essential to support the community in which we live and work," said Samantha Gulick, Director of Marketing and Operations for Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino.

"Our annual blood drive provides our members team and the community with a meaningful opportunity to give back. The simple act of donating blood can make a significant difference for hospital patients within our community and, when needed, for others across the country. That's truly

Since becoming community partner in 2000, Harrah's Ak-Chin has hosted 88 blood drives, registered 1,986 donors, collected

remarkable."

1,582 donations, and potentially helped more than 4,746 individuals in need of blood.

To make an appointment, contact Ashmi Nafiz (anafiz@caesars.com) or Cinthya Diana Soto (csotoperez@caesars. com) or visit donors. vitalant.org and enter Blood Drive Sponsor Code: Harrah.

donors Bloods receive an appreciation pack from the Harrah's HERO committee.

They will also be entered into a drawing for a chance to win one of the following:

- One-night stay at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino
- \$100 gift certificate for Chop, Block & Brew
- \$30 gift certificate for Agave's Restaurant

For more information, visit www.harrahsakchin.

Guests must be 21 or older to gamble. Remember to "Know When To Stop Before You Start.®"

a If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call 1-800-NEXT STEP. ©2025, Caesars License Company, LLC.









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SUMMER PLAY FEST **FOREVER YOUNG**



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SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING!



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TABLE GAMES MULTIPLIER MADNESS HERE'S THE SCOOP BY CHEF'S COUNTER™ GIVEAWAY





17



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