Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXIX, Issue 22

November 20 - December 4, 2025

# Ak-Chin Girls take to the Court for MHS

Story and photos by Robert Miguel

The Maricopa High School Girls' Basketball teams, both Varsity and Junior Varsity, kicked off their season with a home game against the Saguaro Cougars on Wednesday, November, 19th at Maricopa High School.

For the first time in years, the girl's team had six players from the Ak-Chin

basketball

Ak-Chin Girls continued on Page 6

Community participating on both teams, with Sophomores Sophia Peters and Stella Miguel and Junior Audrina Peters scheduled to take the floor first.

Stella was the only one to play the opener for the Lady Rams as Sophia and Audrina sat out due to injuries. Stella was able to start at shooting guard during the opener.

Despite falling behind early, the Junior Varsity squad played hard and kept the game close the first two quarters of the games, only down by two points as the teams headed into the locker room at the half.

The Cougars were able to jump out to a quick



Ak-Chin Veterans from I to r: Elaine Peters (Marines), Raychel Peters (Marines), Renee Boehm (Air Force), Jason Garcia (Army/National Guard), Darren Peters (Marines), Davis Garcia Sr. (Marines) James Boehm (Air Force) and Cecil Peters (Army/National Guard).

# Veterans Day 2025 at Southern Dunes

Story and photos by Runner Staff

On November 11, about a dozen Ak-Chin Veterans and their guests gathered to share a meal and camaraderie at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club.

A brunch buffet was set up in the Hemapda Ki, "The Gathering Place", with an assortment of breakfast and lunch items, as well as desserts and refreshments.

Julia Gusse, Air Force Veteran and Legislative Liaison for the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services was invited to share information about programs and services for Veterans.

She pointed to the changes with current administration and its effects on Veterans, including the deletion of DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Programs, which also resulted in the removal of the 22 Tribal Flags from the Veterans Administration hospital

in Phoenix, earlier this year.

Julia played a vital role in securing the flags, which are now being staffed at Governor Hobbs office, in her rotunda, where they will remain while Hobbs is in office, and hopefully thereafter.

Gusse also pointed out the passing of the last Navajo Code Talker, and how important it is "to continue that legacy and continue to educate Veterans Day continued on Page 5

# Gloria Honored during Senior Night

School Varsity and Junior Varsity teams: L to R: Sophia Peters

Miguel (Varsity), Audrina Peters (JV) and Nyaila Miguel (Varsity).

Stella Miguel (JV), Johanna Peters (Varsity), Auciana

players participating on Maricopa High



Maricopa High School Senior and Ramband member, Ronin Gloria was recognized at a MHS football game, along with eleven others. Ronin was supported by parents Julio and Guadalupe Gloria.

Story by Robert Miguel, photo by Victor Moreno

Ak-Chin member and Maricopa High School senior, Ronin Gloria, was recognized as a senior and member of the MHS band at a football game.

Ronin during his four year high school career, played percussion his Freshman year, with his sister Celeste Gloria on the band.

He took a two year hiatus during his Sophomore and Junior years before rejoining the band his Senior year, playing the guitar in the Pit. A self-taught and accomplished guitarist, Ronin plans to continue his musical career in music.

Ronin is the son of Julio and Guadalupe Gloria and the grandson of Janice Miguel.

# O'Odham Bingo

Story and photos by Kristen Villegas

The Ak-Chin Language department is implementing new programs, such as Parenting in O'odham and the introduction of O'odham Bingo for the community members to engage and learn the O'odham language.

According to Mario Molina, Ak-Chin Education Director, who also oversees the Language department, "The Community knowledge language, but at different levels of what we consider fluent. Learning the language

is often challenging based only on time provided for learning and opportunities to learn the language.

Our focus is to provide time and opportunities to help our community feel confident in learning and using our language in everyday settings.

Learning the language has a different importance for all learners but as a program, our intent is to teach the language so that the language can be used in a manner that impacts our way of living and being O'odham."

Molina added, "How we live and think is important because much of the culture and heritage has been passed down orally, in our language. Learning the language helps to keep our culture and heritage intact and allows us to pass it along as it was told to many of our elders and families."

Offering a program like O'odham Bingo has not only brought in a crowd, for the October 15, 2025 session; it was a full house with RSVP spots filling up instantly at the Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation gymnasium.



Flora Howerton was one of the big winners as she receives her prize from Doria Garcia, during O'Odham Bingo at the Elements Center.

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Jeannette Peters of the Him-Dak Museum, gives Lorenzo Mejia a prized raffle gift during

## Community Elders enjoy **Thanksgiving Luncheon**

Story by Evelyn Justin and photos by Kristen Villegas

Annual Elder Him Thanksgiving Luncheon 2025 Story submitted by Evelyn Ak-Chin Justin, Him-Dak Museum Technician

The Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum hosted the Annual Elder Thanksgiving Luncheon on Thursday, November 6th at the Ak-Chin Circle Elements Center. We had 84 attendees that signed up for this event; guests started arriving at 10:45am, they signed in and they received raffle tickets for raffle prizes.

The Thanksgiving luncheon was buffet style, the menu consisted of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, stuffing, string beans, green salad and rolls. For dessert, pumpkin and apple pies were served with whip cream.

While everyone was enjoying their luncheon they were entertained by a live band "The Juanio's Boys", they played assistance throughout this

chicken scratch music and sang a variety of songs, we even had some elders go out and dance to a couple of songs!

During the event we held a raffle for gift bags, and towards the end we held a raffle for table centerpieces that were donated by Ak-Chin departments.

Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum, Art and Archives staff, would like to thank all individuals and departments for their participation in donating table centerpieces and gifts for this event. Your participation made this event a successful one.

Thank You to Riva Quintana, Sales & Events Coordinator for the Elements Center, and her staff for helping and serving the guests, everything came out wonderful & the food was delicious! We would also like to thank the Library staff, Youth Council, The Runner, and Housing for their event! We greatly appreciate you!!

To "The Juanio's Boys", thank you again for providing this year's entertainment, the music was GREAT! Everyone enjoyed it!

Thank you to the following Departments who donated wonderful centerpieces, and a special gift for the raffle: Ak-Chin Circle, AP Accounts, Archives, Capital Projects, Central Plant, CSM-Nicole Carlyle-Coester, Cultural Resources, Delia Carlyle, Enrollment, Environmental Programs, Finance, Department, GIS, Housing, Human Resources, Library, Planning, Police Department, Preschool, Public Works & Sanitation, Purchasing, Purchased Referred Runner, Tribal Council, Tribal Gaming Agency, Wastewater, Water Operation and Youth Council.



Enjoying an early Thanksgiving luncheon at Ak-Chin Circle Events and listening to the Juanio's Boys was a special treat for these ladies, seated from I-r: Candi Chavez, Isabella Luna, Rechanda Manuel, Charlene Quilt and Melinda Pete.







Pictured above was just a sampling of all the gifts and treats that elders received during the Elder Thanksgiving Luncheon. Clockwise: everyone had their eyes on this beautifully painted pumpkin centerpiece, created by Ak-Chin Artist Dwayne Antone. Numerous centerpieces were on display and then raffled to elders in attendance. Meanwhile, these cute handmade keepsakes created by Ak-Chin Him-Dak staff were gifted to everyone to remember the special occasion.

## **ELDER CENTER UPDATES**

EXTENDED CLOSURE NOTICE

THE ELDER CENTER WILL BE **EXTENDING OUR CLOSURE** UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

WE WILL NOTIFY YOU WHEN THE ELDER CENTER BUILDING WILL REOPEN.

TRANSPORTATION AND MEALS WILL OPERATE AS THEY HAVE BEEN DURING THE CLOSURE.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR **UNDERSTANDING AT THIS TIME.** 

**ELDER THANKSGIVING DISTRIBUTION/DRIVE-THRU** 

10 AM TO 3PM AT ELDER CENTER

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR **CONCERNS, PLEASE GIVE US A CALL** AT (520) 568-1760.



## **Attention Enrolled Ak-Chin Indian Community Elders**

If you wish to travel to wonderful destinations, for example, Hawaii 2026, you need a Travel ID or the REAL ID.

- 1. The Arizona Travel ID is designed to meet federal identification requirements for air travel and other purposes.
- 2. All Arizona residents can apply for a Travel ID. This includes citizens, permanent residents, and individuals with legal status in the U.S.
- When applying for a Travel ID, you must provide specific documents, including:
  - Proof of identity (a birth certificate or
  - Proof of residency (a utility bill or bank statement with your name and address).
  - Social Security number verification, which can be done via a Social Security card or a tax document.
- 4. You can apply for a Travel ID at any Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) office. It's recommended to make an appointment to avoid long wait times.
- The fee for obtaining a Travel ID in Arizona is typically around \$25, but it's advisable to check the latest fee schedule on the ADOT website.
- 6. The Travel ID is required for domestic air travel, to enter federal facilities, and for other identification purposes that require a compliant ID.

Please call the Elder Center at 520-568-1760 if you have questions or need assistance. We are happy to assist you in obtaining the required ID for Air Travel.

Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community © 2025

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Maricopa, Arizona 85139

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. MONDAY - FRIDAY PHONE: 520 • 568 • 1375 FAX: 520 • 568 • 1376 E-MAIL:

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Regular Contributors:

and Cecil Peters

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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All information and original

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 have suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, please let the Kunner Statt 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 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, Arizona 85138

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

NEXT DEADLINE

Don't forget the DEADLINE for the December 5 -18, 2025 issue is due by WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26TH

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26TH

Material submitted after the **NOV. 26TH DEADLINE** cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in

the next issue.



Governor, Stephen Lewis-Roe participants who attended the Phoenix Suns /Mercury camp.

## Suns & Mercury **Hold Clinic In Laveen**

Story & Photos By Robert Miguel

On Saturday, November 15th, over two hundred youth ascended onto the Gila River Boy's & Girl's Club in District 7 (Komatke) to participate in the Orginative Youth Basketball Clinic, which was presented by the Phoenix Suns/Phoenix Mercury Foundation and the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA).

For four hours, youth, aged 8-17, from various Native communities throughout Arizona, were able to go into over ten stations to learn basketball skills; from dribbling, shooting, rebounding and team building. Sessions also included the proper foods and diet needed to sustain a healthy body during the season.

Staff, from the Phoenix Suns/ Phoenix Mercury basketball, were on hand to give information on some of the injuries that can be attained while playing basketball. Head and neck trauma were also discussed, with the proper necessary steps that need to be taken when suffering that type of injury.

Following visits to the various stations, team games were held with winners being recognized.

One of the featured agendas was a visit from Gila River Governor, Stephen Lewis. Governor Lewis addressed the campers about continuing to work hard on the court and in the classroom. He stressed the importance of never giving up on your dreams of becoming who you want to become and

if your dreams do not come true, it just means that there is another direction in life for you to become successful.

While addressing the group, Governor Lewis was sporting the new Devin Booker shoes, which Booker autographed for the Governor.

Raffle prizes were given out to campers, which included Suns and Mercury gear and tickets to the Phoenix Suns vs Atlanta Hawks game. The event also had a visit from the Phoenix Suns Gorilla and Phoenix Mercury mascot, Scorch.

At the conclusion of the camp, other gifts were given out from ITCA and the Jonathan Nez Foundation, which included healthy foods; from cucumbers, oranges, bananas, beans and rice. Nez is the former President of the Navajo Nation.

The event was also organized by Shawn Martinez, Senior Director of Live Presentation at the Phoenix Suns Arena. Martinez, a member of the Navajo Nation, helped inspire the Orginativ series, which honors Arizona's 22 Tribes and helped to develop the City Edition Uniforms and the Orginativ platform.

For his work, Martinez has been recognized and awarded the Arizona American Indian Excellence in Leadership "Man of the Year" and the National Basketball Association (NBA) Value of the Game Award.



and how to address them. Ak-Chin's Jaxon Justin (center).



Campbell goes through dribbling techniques during the camp.

Ak-Chin's Tatum

A total of 240 youth, ages 8 to 17, enjoyed a wonderful afternoon with the Phoenix Suns

Foundation. Other skills taught, were shooting,

rebounding and

teamwork.

## Harrah's Celebrates **Native American Heritage Month**

Story submitted Erica Oliver - HDS Manager, photos by Kathleen Miguel

recognition of Native American Heritage month, Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino hosted its 7th Annual Native Heritage Event American in the ballroom at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino on Sunday, November 2025. 16.

Since 2019, HDS Manager, Erica Oliver, has coordinated the public event. HDS is Harrah's Development System leadership training and development program available to qualified Ak-Chin tribal members who are employed at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino.

The initial purpose of the Native American Heritage Event was to build awareness of the diverse cultures of the four southern tribes of Arizona. These tribes are the Ak-Chin

Indian Community, the Tohono O'odham Nation, the Gila River Indian Community, and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The annual event has been building successful in cultural awareness, and bringing beautiful energy traditional group as each celebrates its culture through singing and dancing.

This year's event was opened with a blessing provided by the event host, Fred Lopez of the Tohono O'odham Nation, followed by the traditional song and dance groups: Kaij Mek Ne'edam kc Keihindam, Keli Akimel Hua Modk Cudkdam, Bird Singing and Dancing by the River, and the San Simon Traditional Dance Group.



The Santa Rosa Bird Dancers perform during Native American Heritage Celebration at Harrah's Ak-Chin.



Aerobics sessions were held in the grass area of the

### Ak-Chin Circle during the "Walk For Gratitude" event. **Gratitude**

Story and photo by Raychel Peters

November 13, 2025, Ak-Chin Health Education Department hosted its annual "Walk for Gratitude" event.

Held on the lawn, outside Ak-Chin Circle Elements Conference grassy area, for all Ak-Chin Indian Community elders and employees, 55+.

Once participants registered, they were able to select a comfy robe/wrap, as well as a goodie bag with health incentives and a

DIY snack tray. An assortment of healthy snacks were set out to select and save in the snack tray.

An omelet station was also set up with many healthy options.

Everyone was encouraged to take a stretch of the legs, with a lap around the lawn.

Chair yoga was another options to get in a good stretch before continuing on with the day.



Attendees shared a meal before starting the rounds of O'odham based bingo and the prizes were all the more enticing for a win.

The next session was held for Community elders during their lunch, at the service center on October 29, 2025. The elders seemed to enjoy the game the most, as the competitiveness could be felt in the air.

The most recent session fell on Wednesday,

November 19, 2025, held at the Ak-Chin Circle's Elements Center, which proved to be a big success for the Language department as members came to try their best to get a "Tova" (turkey) as this round of O'odham Bingo was based on Thanksgiving.

All sessions thus far have been educational and entertaining, with members learning their language and receiving great gifts.

Left: Youth
Council
Coordinator
Sheila PabloBandin along
with members
of Youth Council
check BINGO
marks for
participants.

look forward to more learning opportunities for the Community," Mario concluded.

Another O'odham Bingo is

"We think the event

was a great start and we

Another O'odham Bingo is being held for Community elders on Wednesday, November 26, at 9:30 am at the service center.

The last session of O'odham Bingo will take place in December, so be on the lookout for date, time and location.







Story and photos by Runner Staff

Team ASU gather bright and early to make the trek up South Mountain's Pima Canyon Trailhead. Forks up!



It's that time of year when the state divides before the Territorial Cup takes place between Arizona State University (ASU) and the University of Arizona (UofA).

We have the Duel in the Desert Chair Volleyball tournament hosted by Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation coming up soon with many department teams anticipated to participate, to show their support for their favorite hometown

Recently, the Parks and Recreation added another opportunity to continue to duel, with the Family Hikes; Battle of the

schools.

on two separate Sundays.

The first hike was on November 9, 2025 for the ASU crew; held at the Pima Canyon Trailhead in Phoenix; with 15 taking the South Mountain with ease.

The second hike was held the following Sunday, on November 16, 2025 in Tucson at the Tumamoc Hill Trail.

Though the weather was gloomy it offered a nice change and beautiful scenery while making that 3 mi. trek, which 12 U of A-ers enjoyed.

Recreation Assistant Candice Antone declared,

hikes had a great turnout because everyone enjoyed getting out into the city and seeing other families taking part in the experience as well. These two trails were a test run to see how many people would participate, and I think we

"I think both

had a solid amount of interest to help us plan for next year."

With positive participation and great locations, Ak-Chin Rec most likely will be looking to add these events and more for next year.

"This is just the beginning." Antone adds, "I'm looking forward to organizing more trails and giving our community more opportunities to explore Arizona's beautiful landscapes.

Thank you to everyone who joined and supported these hikes."

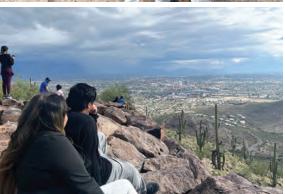


Hikers from both the ASU and UofA Family can't help but enjoy the nice weather and beautiful scenery.









# Season opening for Mini Basketball

Story and photos by Runner Staff

Another sport done, with more to come as the newest season of basketball makes its stop in Ak-Chin.

The youth from age groups 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12 have been practicing on Tuesdays through Thursdays to prepare for their first game on Saturday, November 22, 2025. Through the practice the kids have been learning to dribble, shoot and rebound the ball in their respective groups.

Keep an eye out for upcoming highlights from the games and the upcoming schedule. Good luck this season kiddos!





## S-Kubjuv Ju:dam take 3rd place



On November 15, 2025, the S-Kubjuv Ju:dam Memorial Team took the trip to the San Lucy District of the Tohono O'odham Nation for

the Himdag Tas, where they took 3rd place in the toka tournament.

The field proved to be a challenge with the powdery dirt, but the girls persevered and made placements receiving toka inspired medallions. Congratulations Ju:dam!

You can catch them playing in the Masik Tas Traditional games on December 20, 2025.



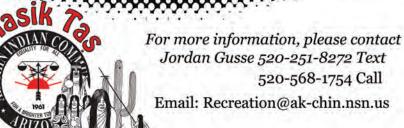
## AK-CHIN MASIK TAS ANNUAL ALL INDIAN MEN'S & WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

**December 12-14, 2025** 

Registration Opens: October 31, 2025

Men's





Julia Gusse, US Air Force Veteran.

youth and the next generations after us, about what it means to respect our Veterans."

She remembered how her

family reacted to her joining the military and their thoughts on how Veterans, especially the Vietnam Veterans were treated.

She then focused on how Native American and other minority Veterans are hesitant to request services or submit a claim for benefits, as she stressed, "as Veterans we have earned that right."

"Many of our Veterans don't know about the PACT Act", Gusse added. PACT, which is the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act, also known as the Honoring our PACT Act of 2022, expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances.

President and Council member Cecil Peters pointed out that we do have Community Veterans who served in Afghanistan and Iraq, and may have been exposed to burn pits.

Ak-Chin Veterans Group

Julia talked about working with others in Arizona to help Veterans who were in the DACA program, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, and are being deported because they did not become U.S. citizens while they were in the service.

DACA, is a U.S. immigration

policy that provides temporary protection form deportation for certain undocumented immigrants who came to the country as children. She highlighted Governor

Hobbs and the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) Homes for Heroes grant program. The grant is a \$2 million Homes of Heroes statewide initiative to provide support services to address Veteran homeless Ak-Chin Veterans thanked Julia

for coming out and sharing her knowledge and information on Veterans programs. Before working with the ADVS, she worked in D.C. for the Biden Administration, and was a former City Council member for Maricopa.

A few questions were asked about benefits and claims, tuition and taxes, to which Julia provided answers or requested more information so that she could follow up at a later time.

"If there is anything I can do to help you, to help this community, and any community get these services for our Veterans let me know." Julia stated. "You earned these benefits, there's no reason why you shouldn't be taking advantage of them."

After the luncheon was over, a golf outing was set up for any of the veterans and their guests to participate.

Ak-Chin Veterans would also like to thank Ak-Chin Southern Dunes for their overall hospitality and the Ak-Chin Tribal Council for the opportunity to honor and celebrate Veterans Day 2025.

On Saturday, November 15th, Julia organized an event in the city of Maricopa that featured former Navajo Nation President, Johnathan Nez and Colorado Congressman, Jason

During a meeting at Helen's restaurant with citizens from Maricopa, primarily Veterans of the Armed Forces, the two answered questions that pertained to continued lack of resources and funding for Veterans.

Veteran from the Navajo Nation, voiced her frustration of the government shutdown and how it has affected her dilemma of falling behind on her bills; not knowing when she'll get a check again.

that they would continue to be a voice of all Veterans, regardless of party affiliation. Nez is looking to unseat

Both, Nez and Crow, assured

Arizona Congressman Eli Crane, who represents Arizona's 2nd Congressional District, in the upcoming elections.



Robert Miguel (left) with Colorado Congressman, Jason Crow and former Navajo Nation President, Johnathan Nez.

## Trash to Treasure

### Make Cute Pumpkins from Old Socks



Transforming forgotten, old or even holey socks into festive pumpkins is a fun and practical DIY project. With simple materials and a bit of creativity, anyone can create decorative pumpkins in a matter of minutes.

#### What You'll Need:

- Old socks (any color or pattern) or any fabric
- Jute twine or regular twine • Tissue paper, old plastic
- bags, or other soft stuffing Hot glue gun and glue
- sticks

Step-by-Step **Instructions:** 

Prepare and Stuff the Sock 1. Take a clean, old sock and cut off the foot part if desired, depending on the size of pumpkin.

2. Firmly stuff the sock with tissue paper, plastic bags, or any other soft, clean filling. Press down to make it evenly round and plump.

Form and Tie the Pumpkin 3. Gather the open end of the sock and tie it tightly with jute or twine. Double knot it to secure the stuffing inside. Do not cut the twine yet, leave a long tail for the next steps.

4. Shape the stuffed sock into a squat, pumpkinlike ball by adjusting the filling and stretching fabric as

Create Pumpkin Sections 5. Use the long end of the twine to create pumpkin-like ridges. Wrap the twine from the top (stem area) to the

bottom of the pumpkin and back to the top, pulling firmly to indent the surface. Repeat this process 6-8 times, spacing the segments evenly for a realistic pumpkin effect.

6. Continue winding the twine around the pumpkin, sections, until you're happy with the look. Do not cut the twine yet.

Make and Attach the Stem

7. Begin wrapping the

remaining twine tightly

around the gathered top of the sock to form a stem. Keep wrapping until the stem is the desired thickness and height. 8. Use hot glue to secure the end of the twine at the base and top of the stem, ensuring

the twine doesn't unravel. You may cut off any excess sock material above the stem before gluing, if needed. Finishing Touches 9. Adjust the 'pumpkin' to

ensure the segments are distinct and everything is securely glued. Optionally, a leaf or small piece of felt can be added for detail, but the pumpkin is finished with just these basic materials.

Helpful Tips Sturdier socks and more stuffing make a rounder, plumper pumpkin. The more twine sections make, the more realistic the pumpkin looks.

For variation, use colored patterned socks to match your décor or make a pumpkin patch in different



Complete this project? Please email photos to **Brandy** Nelson BNelson@ak-chin.nsn.us at Environmental Programs.



AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY **Environmental Programs** 

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR

#### THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ANALYST TO THE REGIONAL TRIBAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (RTOC) The Ak-Chin Indian Community (hereafter called the "Owner") invites all individuals

to submit proposals for the Environmental Policy Analyst to the RTOC. The project consists of the following: To provide support to the Tribal Co-Chair and Tribal Caucus; work with Tribal

representatives and EPA personnel in the development and maintenance of rules, regulations, guidance and policy protective of Tribal interests; and to keep the Tribes in Region 9, through the RTOC Tribal Caucus, informed of pending issues and rules, regulations, guidance and policy documents promulgated by EPA (and other agencies as appropriate and/or directed), to ensure to the greatest extent possible that the Tribal Caucus and individual Tribes within the Region are able to respond timely and appropriately to protect and advance Tribal concerns.

Region 9 Office in San Francisco, California and three meetings are held on Tribal lands within the Region 9 area (Arizona, California and Nevada). Additional meetings will be scheduled, if necessary, contingent upon available funds. The following are tentatively scheduled meetings: October 2025 - Salt River Indian Community, Scottsdale, AZ; February 2026 - Fort Mohave, NV; May 2026 - Soboba, CA; August 2026 - San Francisco, CA; October 2026 TBD; February 2027 - TBD; May 2027 -TBD; August 2027 - TBD. The project funding comes from the fiscal year 2026 & 2027 US EPA General Assistance

At a minimum, the RTOC meets four times a year. One meeting is held at the US EPA

Program (GAP) – RTOC grant, with requirements in providing "Fair Wages". A RECOMMENDED PRE-BID meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. (Arizona Time) on

November 25, 2025, by WebEx. To register for a WebEx invitation email <a href="mailto:Fhowerton@">Fhowerton@</a> ak-chin.nsn.us, by noon (12:00 p.m.) on November 24, 2025. The RFP will be provided electronically shortly after registering. The Owner will receive Competitive Bid Proposals until noon (12:00 p.m. Arizona

Time) on December 9, 2025 at the Tribal Purchasing Department located at 42507 West Peters & Nall Road Maricopa, Arizona 85138 or via email at Fhowerton@akchin.nsn.us. 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, Indian Individuals, 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 email 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 require.

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

### **NOTICE**

Trash will be picked up as usual, on Monday, November 24th and Friday, November 28th.

However, there will be no recycling picked up on Thursday, November 27th. Service will resume the following week.

Thank you!

20

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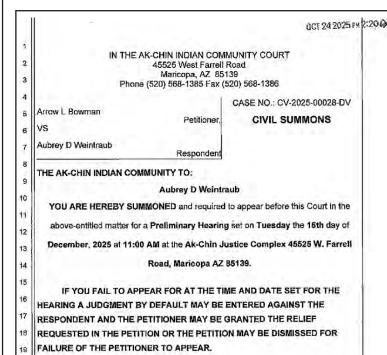
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25

Ak-Chin Sanitation/Public Works





GIVEN under my hand and seal of Ak-Chin Indian Community Court in the State of

Arizona this 24th day of October, 2025.

MHS continued from Front

Auciana Miguel

double-digit lead to start the third quarter and never looked back.

Maricopa continued to

fight, but fatigue factored into their struggles in the fourth quarter. As the final buzzer sounded, the Lady Rams succumbed to defeat.

and players coaches optimistic were improvement as they knew that they could've played much better.

the

setback,

Despite

During the Varsity game, Auciana and sisters Nyaila Miguel started at the guard and center



positions, while Johanna Peters was able to come off of the bench.

A much established and experienced Saguaro squad jumped out to a quick lead in the first quarter and never trailed, although the Lady Rams had multiple opportunities to score and keep the game close. The Cougars lead continued to grow with each quarter.

zero, of the season.

Despite the losses by cheering them on.



Nyaila Miguel



Stella Miguel

both the Varsity and Junior Varsity squads, the When the final seconds highlight was the support Maricopa they received from family suffered their first defeat and friends, in particular, the Ak-Chin girls who had plenty of supporter



Ak-Chin Librarian, Linda Brill, oversees students and their project during Dog Man Read-a-thon in celebration of Children's Book Week.

## **Get Caught Reading**

Submitted By Naomi Bishop, Ak-Chin Library Manager

Get Caught Reading was Community received hats, colored and drew of November 5, 2025.

The Ak-Chin library hosted a family Dog Man Read-a-thon in celebration of Children's Book Week

(Nov. 3-9).

Children's book week is a national celebration of books for young people and the joy of reading.

This year Ak-Chin Indian

posters from Scholastic and the Children's Book Council to encourage readers to create and share their own mini comics inspired by Dog Man and Cat Kid Comics Club.

Fifteen participants attended the read-a-thon and together they read 500 minutes in an afternoon. Readers created Dog Man

the theme for the afternoon a free activity kit and Dog Man comics, and played Dog Man Bingo.

> This was a fun filled Following a brief walk, afternoon to celebrate the new Dog Man book that was released on November

It's not too late to come visit the library and participate in the Dog Man activities and get caught reading.



11th.

Above left: Ms. Linda Brill, Morgan Miller and Riley Perry enjoy their "Dog Man" hats.

Above right: Students attending the "Get Caught Reading" event take time out to read a book as they relax.

Below: Plenty of "Dog Man" books were available to read during the



## **Runner Staffer Speaks** to students at U of A

Story by Robert Miguel, submitted photo

Driving up to Tucson early morning, November 13th, I have to admit, I was somewhat excited to share my time in leadership and as a photojournalist for my community with students from the University of Arizona.

Wondering and preparing my presentation while driving up was priority, I didn't really ask staff, who coordinated my visit, what topic they wanted me to share nor did I have a prepared script.

just sharing and speaking from the heart, advice given to me by two Tribal Leaders, my late grandfather, Jonas Miguel and the late great Leona Carlyle-Kakar.

I've had the honor and

privilege of speaking for

the past eleven years on

behalf of my community

at various occasions, but

never to a classroom full

I went with the agenda of

of college students. As I pulled up to the U of A campus in Tucson, I was greeted by good friend, Levi Esquerra, the University of Arizona Special Advisor of Native

American Advancement

and Tribal Engagement.

Levi was able to give me a brief tour of the campus and explained the various departments and programs that they offered Native American students from around the country.

We visited the official Team Gift Shop, where we were able to view various official merchandise of school. I was offered a U of A shirt to wear, but had to decline, as my loyalties lay to the team in Tempe.

we entered into the School of Journalism, where I was introduced to Dr. Josh Anderson and Dr. Jan Boyles.

The two gave me a brief tour of the building and then it was immediately to

the classroom, Advanced Reporting, taught by Professor Patty Machelor.

Following an introduction, I immediately shared position as photojournalist prior to getting into leadership.

Working

information and news from a small community was and is completely different than news that needs to get out on a daily

Students were excited to hear of my duties back then as far as how we developed the paper, from using the dark room to develop photos to continuing to still deliver the paper house to house.

One of the questions

students were interested in, was the respectful way of covering news on Native American communities, as they've realized through testimony by colleagues and other news media personnel, that it is somewhat difficult to receive or get news information that is newsworthy from Tribes for mainstream media outlets who want to report.

Most of the questions following, pertained to my experience as a Tribal leader and my advocating my community during Washington D.C. visits meeting Congressional leaders.

The second class, Food Journalism, taught by Professor Kendal Blust, was primarily identical as the first class, spending time on leadership experiences, but with food

I was able to share of growing up in the community, watching my grandparents, family members and others from the community gather and cook traditional meals from wild spinach, corn, cactus, cattle, rabbit and other food resources that they were able to gather and consume.

Following

I was also able to speak of how the Vekol Wash was able to provide a number of means for consumption.

presentations, I was able

to meet with students

both

individually they as asked questions that weren't asked during class due to interest of time. Following the two classroom sessions, a tour of the Podcast and Broadcast studios were given, before lunch. The presentation and

visit went so well, that a request to return on Thursday, November 20th for another class presentation and video interview was proposed. The University of Arizona

was one of four speaking engagements that Ak-Chin Photojournalist and Former Ak-Chin Chairman Miguel was able attend.

Back in September, I was one of five speakers, four from the City of Maricopa that included; Edward Farrell (Maricopa's first Mayor), Thad Miller, (Maricopa Wells Middle School Principal), Frank Boyce (Business Owner) and Tom Dugan (Business Owner) who were invited to speak with students at Santa Cruz Elementary, appearance was dubbed, "Hall of Fame"

Also in September, a visit to Kuentz Elementary in San Antonio, Texas, where I was asked to speak to over two hundred students, of my time in leadership, Native American culture and tradition and growing up

speakers.

in Ak-Chin.

Last month, Jim McCain (son of late Senator John McCain) and I were Co-Chairs of the Turquoise, Black, and White Gala at the Heard Museum.

The Gala was sponsored by the Hesperus Group.



Runner Photojournalist and Former Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel, speaks to students from the University of Arizona.



Robert Miguel of the Ak-Chin O'odham Runner, with Dr. Josh Anderson and Professor Jan Boyles at the University of Arizona Journalism Building.

## HR Benefits Fair has great turnout and Aloha!

Story and photos by Runner Staff

Pulling up to the Ak-Chin Human Resources building looked a little different, maybe even a bit odd for a November 13; as the HR team hosted this year's Benefits Fair with a vibrantly floral luau theme, for Ak-Chin Farms

and Community government employees.

The 400 people who attended this year's drive-thru fair definitely felt the Aloha vibes, as they received an abundance of information to assist with

luau-style setting. Joan Jackson-Deal, Human

their health and benefits, in a

Resources Director shared the goals for this year's fair. "Each year we hold the Open Enrollment Benefits Fair in order to distribute the Annual Benefits Guide and requested legal documents that must be provided."

Joan also highlighted:

- To make employees aware of the Open Enrollment dates. During this time employees can make changes to their benefits needing without Qualified Life Event.
- To announce any changes to benefits that will occur in the new year.
- We aim each year to make the Fair a memorable event that will focus employees on the importance of the Open Enrollment period. In the past our themes have been western, the rockin' 50's and this year the event was Luau themed.
- Food is always served, with this year's meal Hawaiian containing luau type foods. We also distributed 400 goodie bags that contained Hawaiian themed give-aways.

Ak-Chin HR team is all about Aloha at the Benefits Fair.

- Employees were also able to receive a chair massage during the event.
- Attending employees are entered into prize drawings. This year a massage chair, treadmill, a toaster/air fryer were some of the prizes that were provided to winners.
- A highlight of our yearly event always includes HR staff being dressed in theme. We would like to acknowledge HR Supervisor, John Mccullouch for donning a grass skirt for the event. Unfortunately, he drew the line when it came to performing the hula dance for our drive thru guests.
- Special thanks to Vekol for providing a tasty meal, Sanitation for aiding in

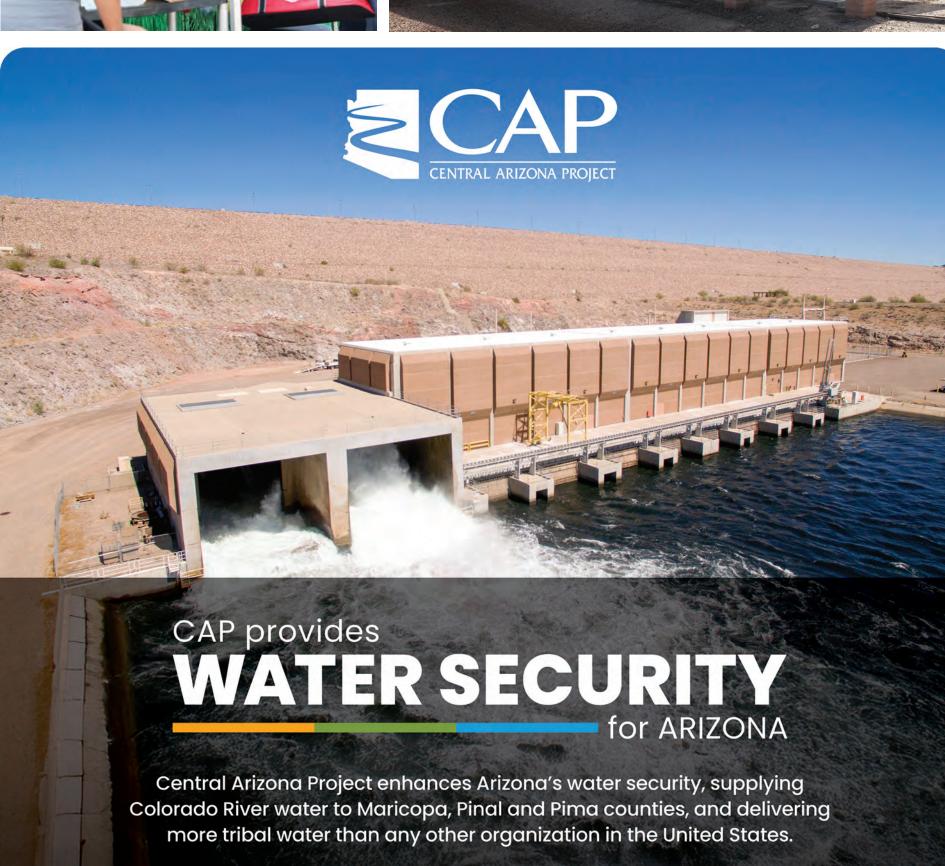
the set up and tear down and Events for supplying music, tables and chairs.

Mahalo to the HR team for creating another great event for all employees to enjoy, and congratulations to all those who won one of the great prize drawings offered.









YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

Learn more at KnowYourWaterNews.com

### **CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:**

- Accounts Payable Technician
- Communication Officer (part-time)
- Communications Officer
- Court Security Guard
- Deputy Clerk II
- Detention Officer Certified
- Detention Officer Certified (parttime)
- Detention Officer- Non Certified
- Plant Electrician
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation Technician
- Police Officer (non-certified)
- Police Officer (certified)
- Security Guard
- Security Systems Technician

#### 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.

# for kids ages 3 and up

Come in and listen to amazing stories along with a fun craft! Guardians must be present with their child.

Wednesdays @10am



Happy 28th birthday, we love and

appreciate you more than words

can say! I pray God blesses you with many more. Happy 28th birthday, we

love and appreciate you more than words can say! I pray God blesses you with many more.

Happy Birthday to my daughter Carmen Love, Mom

Happy Birthday to my granddaughters Morgan, Maria, Aurora, and Destinee and grandsons

**Brandon and Marcus** Love, Grandma

Happy Birthday to our #1 Goddaughter Jasmine Ann Miguel We count our blessings for God granting us you Jazzer! We love you and

hope you have a great birthday! Love

Goddaddy and Godmama

Happy Birthday Morgan OMG! We can't wait to finally celebrate your special day with you...lol! Love your family

## AK-CHIN TRIBALTRANSIT

**2025 Transit Schedule Changes** 

## TRANSIT SERVICE

**CHANGES** 

**Transit Maintenance, November 26th** Thanksgiving Day, November 27th **Native American Heritage Day,** 

**November 28th** 

Masik Tas, December 19th \*\*Event Only transport will be provided\*\*

\*\*Christmas Eve, December 24th

Transit Closed at 11:00am\*\* Christmas Day, December 25th

Christmas Holiday, December 26th

New Year's Day, January 1st, 2026





T-SHIRTS FOR PARTICIPANTS **TOK RACE STARTS @ 9:00 AM 10K CHECK-IN BEGINS @ 8:15 AM** 2 MILE STARTS @ 9:30 AM 2 MILE CHECK-IN BEGINS @ 9:05 AM

Richard Lopez,

**ECE** Steve Tiemann.

Finance

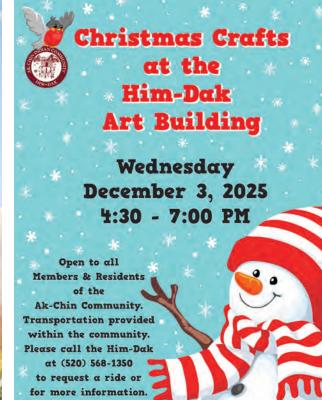
12/1

Luis Coronado,

Police

Richard Lopez,

ECE



## **Employee Birthdays** 11/21 - 12/4

11/21

Autumn Gonzalez, Police Dan Rivera, Police

11/22 Michelle Carpenter, Fire

11/23 Jennifer Capell, ECE

11/24 Kailey Zicafoose, **ECE** 

11/26

Marciano Joaquin, Sanitation Brandon Peters, Community Government

11/27 Luis Coronado,

Police

Raven Vallejos

**Aurora Peters** 

Kendra Smith

Rebecca Stephens-

Rodas

**DECEMBER 2** 

**Victor Vincent** 

**Lindsey Valles** 

**Duane Antone** 

Clarence Enos

Candice Antone

**Marcus Peters** 

Dale Narcia

**DECEMBER 3** 

Arlene Manuel

**DECEMBER 4** 

**Archer Anderson** 

Valerie Velasquez

Analita Laborin

**Bren Valisto** 

Destinee Peters

**12/3** Luis Coronado. **Police** hard Lop ECE

**12/3** 

Luis Coronado, **Police** Richard Lopez, **ECE** 

12/4

Luis Coronado, Police Richard Lopez, **ECE** 

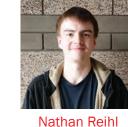
## **Employee Updates**



D'only Michael Deli Clerk Vekol



Lisa Begay Lab Tutor Education



Jaelin Guerin

Cashier Stocker

Vekol

Nathan Reihl **Gaming Supervisor** Tribal Gaming



**Brian Manuel Gaming Supervisor Tribal Gaming** 



**Eduardo Martinez** Senior Gaming Agent Tribal Gaming

## Birthdays 11/21 - 12/4

#### **NOVEMBER 21**

**Ezequiel Santiago** 

#### **NOVEMBER 22**

**Faith Batopis Morgan Peters** 

#### **NOVEMBER 23**

Carmen Narcia Sterling Zappia **Lemuel Vincent** Monique White Jasmine Carlyle-Miguel Maria Peters

### **NOVEMBER 24**

**Brian Ruelas** 

**NOVEMBER 25** 

#### Ciera Lopez

**NOVEMBER 26** Miguel Moreno-Kaniatobe

Marciano Joaquin

**Brandon Peters** 

#### **NOVEMBER 27**

Joe Miguel Jr.

Larisa Rascon, Karen Kaniatobe Joaquin Dickerson Richard Joaquin Kobe Santiago

### **NOVEMBER 28**

Michael Enos Nicholas Narcia

### **NOVEMBER 29**

Tashina Salcido Matilda Balderrama Victor Andaverde Lee Smith

#### **NOVEMBER 30**

Michael Luz Julio Gloria, IV Kylee Carlyle Kateri Lopez Taylor Santiago Lina Batopis

**DECEMBER 1** Kayla Valisto

Library Hours Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm Sat: 12pm-4pm

Ak-Chin members, residents and employees

Minors under 16 must be

accompanied by an adult

30.8	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Light Up the Village Closed at 5pm	2	3 Storytime @10am	4	5	6
	8	9	Storytime @10am	11	12:	13
**	15	16 Winter Wonderland	17 Storytime @10am	18	19 Masik ta:s Closed	20 Closed
<u>a</u>	22	23	24 Storytime @10am	25 Merry Christmas	26 Closed	27 Closed
789	29	30	31	1	Programs an	d events o

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

New year

НАРРУ

NEW YEAR

Closed



Harrah's Development System (HDS) staff and employees helped coordinate the Heritage Celebration.

Lunch, which consisted of red chili, beans, potato salad, and strawberry shortcake, was prepared by the HDS Associates & Interns.

The event is held in November every year. If you were not able to attend, please plan on joining us next year!

National Native American Heritage celebrated Month is November, every including in 2025. It is a time to honor the traditions, languages, and

contributions of Native American and Alaska Native communities.

In 2025, events and activities will take place from November through the 30th, aimed at raising awareness and celebrating Native American heritage.

The month is also marked by various initiatives and messages from leaders, including a presidential message recognizing the significance of Native American contributions to the nation.



Salt River Indian Community, perform a traditional the Gila River Indian Community, perform the



dance during the Heritage Celebration at Harrah's basket dance.







Purchase a game card (up to \$20) and we will match that amount

DOES NOT INCLUDE BONUS CREDITS



Ak-ChinCircle.com



Royalty representing the San Simon Traditional Dance Group, address the crowd.





## **NOVEMBER 2025**

WEDNESDAY

REWARDS

CAESARS



### HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2025

**DINNER SWEEPSTAKES,** FREE SLOT PLAY & GUARANTEED GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY



# **ELECTRONIC GIFT CARD**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025 PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS • 10AM - 7PM FINALE DRAWING • 7:15PM



**SATURDAY** 





**MONDAY** 

MONDAY NIGHTS ARE GAME NIGHTS!



**TUESDAY** 



WHEEL IN THE WINS FOREVER YOUNG LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT



**THURSDAY** 

10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER



**FRIDAY** 

WHEEL OF FORTUNE LIVE!











HOLIDAY ESSENTIALS ON US GRATITUDE TREATS FOR THE TROOPS!



FOREVER YOUNG LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT



10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER



**LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT** 











LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT

10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER





ELECTRONIC GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT



SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING



BE INSTANTLY ENTERTAINED





LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT



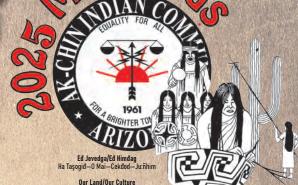
HOLIDAY SOCKS & BLANKET SET GIVEAWAY **LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT** 







## Ak-Chin Indian Community 025 MASIK TAS CELEBRATION masiktas.ak-chin.nsn.us



Ak-Chin Circle Arena | 16000 N. Maricopa Rd.



Buckle to nt Winner

Flaggers Decision Final (MANAGEMENT MAY CHANGE ANY ROPING) Thursday, December 18th

**BOOKS OPEN AT 9AM** 

#9 Pick 1, Draw 2 for \$180.00 Enter 2Xs, Capped at a 5+

#11 Pick 1, Draw 2 for \$180.00 Enter 2Xs, Capped at a 6+

Cowboy Draw, Draw 3 for \$180.00 Enter 2Xs

All Ropings are 3-steer 100% Payback



# 

## Friday, Vecember 19th @ 9am

Sheep Riding (limit 20) **Dummy Roping (limit 20)** Goat Tail Pull (limit 20) Stick Horse Barrels (limit 20) Entry Fee: \$40

Calf Riding (limit 20) Ribbon Roping (1x) (limit 20) Barrel Racing (limit 20) Flag Race (limit 20)

Entry Fee: \$50 **ONE TIME ADMIN FEE OF \$20 PER CONTESTANT** \*\*Contestants must stay in their own age category. \*\*Ribbon Roping Muggers in the 6-9 & 10-13 age divisions only.

Safety Vest required for All Rough Stock events. Western Attire Enforced. Contestants must provide proof of age up request. No Exceptions.
No late entries, no phone entries, no refunds. \*Except with an acceptable doctors/vet note. Contact Rodeo Secretary 24 hours prior to start of rodeo. All payments must include rodeo entry form. To receive payout, contestants must show birth certificate. All Payouts voided after 30 days.

\*\*\*Team Roping & Ribbon Roping partner must be 18 years or older

Steer Riding (limit 20) Ribbon Roping (1x) (limit 20) Barrel Racing (limit 20) Breakaway (limit 20) Entry Fee: \$55

Team Roping 2X (limit 20) Entry Fee: \$110 per team

\*MAIL-IN & WALK IN **ENTRIES ACCEPTED** SEE INFORMATION BELOW

**Bull Riding (limit 20)** Ribbon Roping (limit 20) Barrel Racing (limit 20) Breakaway (limit 20) Entry Fee: \$60

Team Roping 2x (limit 20) Entry Fee: \$120 per team

Wild Pony Race (limit 6 teams) Entry Fee: \$180

MANDATORY CHECK-IN. All contestants must sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS Money Order or Cashiers Check accepted. Please make payable to Ak-Chin Indian Community-2025 Jr Rodeo \*\*No personal checks accepted.

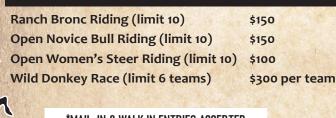
# December 19th @

\$500

\$500

\$500

\$500



\*MAIL-IN & WALK IN ENTRIES ACCEPTED SEE INFORMATION BELOW

ONE TIME ADMIN FEE OF \$20 PER CONTESTANT To receive payout, contestants must complete W-9 and provide a form of identification. **MANDATORY CHECK-IN** 

All contestants must sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS

All payments must include Rodeo Entry Form. Money Order or Cashiers Check accepted. Please make payable to Ak-Chin Indian Community-2025 Bulls, Broncs, & Donks \*\*No personal checks accepted

# December 20th & 21st



No phone entries, no refunds. Contact Delbert White: dwhite@ak-chin.nsn.us or 520-414-5515

**MANDATORY CHECK-IN** 

To receive payout, contestants must complete W-9 and provide a form of identification. All contestants must be 18 years old to participate and sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS

All entry money is 100% pay out along with added money Money Orders and Cashiers Checks accepted. \*\*No personal checks accepted\*\*

\$1000 **ADDED** MONEY

\*MAIL-IN & WALK IN ENTRIES ACCEPTED **SEE INFORMATION BELOW** 



Buckles to Event

Winners!

#### PERFORMANCE TIMES

Performances on Saturday & Sunday at 12pm Slack at 8am (if needed)

Money Order or Cashiers Check accepted. Please make payable to Ak-Chin Indian Community-2025 Open Rodeo \*\*No personal checks accepted.

No phone entries, no refunds. \*Except with an acceptable doctors/vet note. Contact Rodeo Secretary 24 hours prior to start of rodeo.

To receive payout, contestants must complete W-9 and provide a form of identification. All Payouts voided after 30 days.

Must be 18 years old to participate!

One time Admin Fee of \$20 per contestant. Team Ropers must pay for full team in ONE envelope with separate entry forms. All payments must include Rodeo Entry Form.

**MANDATORY CHECK-IN** All contestants must sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS

#### December 10th & 11st

pecereper rough & right						
Events	Fee	Added \$				
Bareback (limit 20)	\$150	\$1000				
Saddle Bronc (limit 20)	\$150	\$1000				
Bull Riding (limit 30)	\$150	\$1000				
Steer Wrestling (limit 30)	\$150	\$1000				
Tie Down Roping (limit 30)	\$150	\$1000				
Ladies Barrel Racing (limit 50)	\$150	\$1000				
Ladies Breakaway Roping (limit 50)	\$150	\$1000				
Senior Breakaway (limit 50)	\$150	\$1000				
Ladies Team Roping (2Xs) (limit 50)	\$300/Team	\$2000				
Team Roping (2X) (limit 100)	\$300/Team	\$2000				
Century Team Roping (2Xs)* (limit 50)	\$300/Team	\$2000				
4 Tribes Team Roping (3Xs)*	\$300/Team	\$2000				

**Buckles** to **Each Event** Winner!

\*Century Team Roper Participants must be 50+ \*4 Tribes Team Roper Participants must be enrolled member of Ak-Chin, Gila River, Tohono O'odham, or Salt River, must provide proof upon request. \*Will not count for All-Around/Only one highest placing money won in Team Roping will count toward All-Around.

## **ENTRY/WALK-IN/MAIL-IN INFORMATION**

**ENTRIES OPEN: November 4, 2025** ENTRIES CLOSE: December 5, 2025

> **ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY CLOSED DATE**

Walk-Ins **Ak-Chin Tribal Offices** Monday-Friday 8a-5p 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85138

**Mail-Ins Ak-Chin Indian Community ATTN: Masik Tas Rodeo** 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85138

#### Walk-Ins:

December 13th: 10am - 6pm **Ak-Chin Entertainment Center** 16000 N. Maricopa Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85138 \$20 late fee will apply