

AK-CHIN'S VERY OWN STRONG MEN PROVE THEIR STRENGTH IN STRENUOUS CHALLENGE

Story and Photos by J. Peters



Darrian Justin, Nikolai White and Ralston Justin compete in Strong Man Strong Woman Challenge.

The morning of June 22nd competitors flocked to the Sacaton fairgrounds to compete in the 2nd Annual Gila River Wellness Center's Strong Man, Strong Woman Challenge. 25 men and 25 women would test their strength and endurance in a set of highly backbreaking

obstacles.

Ak-Chin's very own Nikolai White, Darrian Justin, and Ralston Justin became the first participants from the community to compete in the Gila River Strongman challenge; proving to themselves and their families

watching in the stands that all their hard workouts had paid off.

Training hard at Billy's Powerhouse in Ak-Chin and the Gila River Wellness Center for this event, the three men continued to motivate one another. On

Strong Man continues to page 5a

Ak-Chin gains three new ASU Certified Public Managers

Submitted photo



Newly Certified Public Managers Lorinda Antone, Marc Matteson and Sandra Shade.

Ak-Chin Indian Community celebrated along with its newest Arizona State University Certified Public Managers; Lorinda Antone, Marc Matteson and Sandra Shade on Tuesday, June 25.

All three completed the necessary courses required for the August 2018 CPM Online Program, Cohort 1960, through the Bob Ramsey Executive Education,

which is the only nationally accredited provider of the CPM credential in Arizona.

The three were responsible to complete weekly assignments that averaged 10 hours per week, submit all assignments by designated due dates and actively engage in the learning process. In order to earn the ASU Certified Program Manager designation, participants

must complete at least 80 hours of structured learning activities addressing the CPM competencies.

Antone is a manager for Ak-Chin Environmental Protection, while Matteson is the Health Education coordinator and Dr. Shade is Ak-Chin's Planning director. They join the ranks of previous managers/directors of Ak-Chin CPM Alumni.

CPM continues to page 3a

Native talent showcased at 17th Annual NABI Tournament

Story by C. Picciuolo and Photos by Runner Staff

The 17th annual NABI Tournament kicked off on Sunday, June 23 as players and coaches gathered at the UltraStar Multi-Tainment Center and Elements Event Center at Ak-Chin Circle for a college and career fair, Nike N7 presentation and the opening ceremonies with a parade of teams and their tribal flags.

128 teams represented tribes

from all over the US, Canada, New Zealand and Samoa in a battle for a chance to square off on the court at Talking Stick Resort Arena for silver and gold division championships on Saturday, June 29.

The week leading up to the big day was full of unforgettable experiences for the talented youth. International delegations

NABI continues to page 1b



Graduates enjoy amazing adventures in Oahu

Story by J. Perillo and Photos submitted



Twelve recent high school graduates from the Community were given the opportunity of a lifetime along with two chaperones as they began their extravagant journey to the island of Oahu, Hawaii, on June 17.

Leaving in two groups they met up with their drivers at the Ak-Chin Enrollment/Youth Council parking lot to be whisked away to Phoenix airport for an early departure. Group 1 had chaperones Della Delowe and Estella White, along with Jalen Garcia, Isaiah Narcia, Mario Ortega, Jarred Antone and Hunter Louis. Group 2 included; Raven

Humeyumptewa, Allissia Bandin, Bianca Valenzuela, Candice Antone, Mariah Carlyle, Alexis Alvarez and Stacy Smith.

During their eight-day, seven-night trip the Ak-Chin group went to many interesting places. One particularly special to all Arizonans should be the USS Arizona Memorial. Although the name may suggest the memorial is in Arizona, it is actually in Honolulu. The reason for the name being that it was built over the remains of the sunken battle ship, the USS Arizona, which is where more than half of the Americans lost their lives

Hawaii continues to page 3a

Elders receive visit from Italy group during NABI



Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel receives a plaque of appreciation from the town of Campagna, Italy.

Story and photos by R. Peters

It was a very active day in the Community on Sunday, June 23, as NABI teams from near and far were making their way to UltraStar’s Elements Event Center to check in for the week long Native American Basketball Invitational.

But before all the basketball buzzing began, an intimate occasion was held at Ak-Chin Service Center with Community elders and students from Italy.

Weeks prior to NABI,

GinaMarie Scarpa, President and CEO of NABI and her team were busy coordinating all the events and schedules. At one-point Gina and her team realized what a great opportunity they had to bring the Italy students to the Community.

“I mentioned to Ann Antone that my cousin Luciano from Campagna, Italy was bringing the students from his Musical High School to do a mini concert tour in Phoenix the same week of NABI,” exclaimed Gina. “It was



After a mini-concert at Ak-Chin Service Center on Sunday, June 23, Ak-Chin elders gather with musicians from Campagna, Italy for a group photo. Also in photo is Ak-Chin Council and NABI officials.

then Ann thought it would be a great idea for them to visit the elders and do a mini concert. To her credit it was a wonderful idea! I reached out to my husband and the only day available was Sunday, the day of check-in in our Parade of Flags.”

So, Ann, who is NABI’s Development and Tribal Grants Specialist, worked with Ak-Chin Elder Center and Community Events to set up the meeting with

Community elders and the Italy group.

The students played beautifully for the elders, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy the music and visit.

Afterwards, Gina’s cousin and staff presented a plaque to Chairman Robert Miguel. They also handed out scarves depicting their small town of Campagna, as well as a small trinket inscribed “A Chiena a Campagna” translated to

mean “when the river floods.”

When looking it up on Wikipedia it is described as a festival held annually where the streets of Campagna become flooded and everyone refreshes themselves by throwing buckets of water over themselves.

After the mini-concert was over and everyone had a chance to meet and mingle, the Italy group was taken to UltraStar for the NABI

Opening Ceremony, another great idea sparked from Gina’s team.

“...Brooke our summer intern took it further and said we should include the Italy and Mexico youth in our Parade of Flags as our International Grand Marshals and create a cultural exchange with our (youth) playing in NABI. I can’t take any credit for what all transpired-I have a great team!” GinaMarie shared.

Ak-Chin elders spend lunch week with NABI basketball teams

Story and photos by K. Morago

The Ak-Chin elders have enjoyed visits from NABI teams in the past. Team Alaska

and Team New Zealand have visited prior. The opportunity to meet the young men and young women playing in NABI expanded to an entire

week.

On Monday, June 23, the elders enjoyed lunch

with the New Zealand teams at the Service Center. The teams shared cultural dances,

— Elders continues to page 1b



Ann Marie Antone greets Lillian Shade during the noon meals with NABI teams.



Ak-Chin elder Frances Stephens places a shell necklace on a Samoan guest on June 27.



Irene Arredondo, Leslie Carlyle-Burnett and Evelyn Garcia learn a Poi dance from the New Zealand ball teams here for the annual NABI tournament.



CORRECTION

The Runner incorrectly identified Francisco “Cisco” Mattia in the previous issue. We apologize for the error and inconvenience it may have caused.

Thank you to J. Frank Fregoso for the photos of the Ak-Chin elder fishing trip to Payson.

San Juan Feast brings June blessings

Story and photos by K. Lopez

It was another blessed year to celebrate the San Juan Church Feast on Saturday, June 22, 2019 in the Ak-Chin Community. The Miguel family ladies spent all day preparing food and decorating the church, dance floor, and vato area, just as they have done for years past.

The feast started off with a traditional baptism, but first Matachina dancers from Guadalupe who out of respect danced to bless the grounds of San Juan Church. After the baptism a rosary procession was recited led by the Matahina dancers; everyone said their prayers and blessing.

Lunch was served as buffet-style and the ladies were serving the line. The meal served was traditional; chili stew, potato salad, beans, cabbage stew, yeast buns and ce:mait (tortillas) along with cake and cold drinks.

While guests were enjoying the food, entertainment took place throughout the day. Matahina dancers danced some more to thank the family for inviting and letting them be a part of the feast. Four Tribes Youth Council (Tohono O’odham Nation, Ak-Chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community and Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community) came together to sing songs as young women danced. Our last entertainment was the San Juan Kuawaila children dance group that did a giveaway for the audience.

As evening set in it was time for people to show off their moves as chicken scratch music was played by T.O. Mumsigo from the Tohono O’odham Nation. At nine o’clock the San Juan saint was returned to the church, followed by a celebration of fireworks.

— San Juan continues to page 6a



A social round dance at the San Juan Feast on Saturday, June 22.



Verlene Antone with her great grand-daughter Janaya Lopez who was baptized in the San Juan Church.



The Ak-Chin Kuawaila Dance Group



LEFT: The saint is brought in during the evening San Juan Church procession. RIGHT: Members of the Ak-Chin Youth Council dance.



MENU

Friday July 5

Ground beef /zucchini, spinach salad rolls, cookies

Monday July 8

Meatloaf, mashed potato, green beans rolls, tropical fruit

Tuesday July 9

Black eyed peas, beef & gravy (D) creamed spinach, mixed vegetables blueberry cobbler

Wednesday July 10

Sandwich bar, pea salad Jell-O, grapes

Thursday July 11

Beef & broccoli, wax beans mixed fruit

Friday July 12

Grilled chicken, kale salad, carrots, apple slices

Monday July 15

Pork chops, red potato (D), yams Caesar salad, pears

Tuesday July 16

Soft tacos, tomato salad, corn on cob, tropical fruit

Wednesday July 17

Salad bar, potato soup crackers, Jell-O

Thursday July 18

Baked ham, scalloped potato, green beans, rolls peaches

A sandwich can be provided for those who may not like a menu item



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements and wishes may
be phoned in, faxed or e-mailed.

ARTWORK, LETTERS, STORIES

The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner is
a Community Newspaper and
encourages Community involvement.

If you have artwork, photos, poems
or a great story that you would like
to share, please contact us so we can
include it in "YOUR" newspaper.

Also, if you have suggestions or
comments about "YOUR" newspaper,
let the Runner Staff know that too.

All submitted letters MUST be signed
by the author and are limited to 200
words. Authors must also include their
name, address, and phone number.
Names can be omitted by request.
Anonymous submissions
will not be accepted.

We reserve the right to edit all
submitted material for clarity,
grammar and good taste.
All submissions should be received
as typed or non-cursive writing.
Please do not submit UPPERCASE
or formatted paragraphs.

Submitted pictures need to have a return
address and brief description. Pictures
with no address will remain on file.
Allow 2 weeks for return.

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DEADLINE

Don't forget the DEADLINE for the
July 19 - August 1, 2019
issue is due by

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019.

Please submit all announcements,
wishes, etc. no later than

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019

Any material submitted after the
JULY 12TH DEADLINE

Cannot be guaranteed placement.

But, if appropriate and relevant,
Will be included in the following issue.



Hawaii continued from Front

during the Japanese attack on
Pearl Harbor.

On the tour there was first
a movie on Pearl Harbor to
provide background in case
anyone wanted to know what
the memorial was dedicated to.
After that, they took a boat ride
to go see the actual memorial
itself, a small white building
which contains a wall of all of
the names of the marines and
soldiers who lost their lives in
the bombing.

If you look closely you can see
an oil slick nearby sticking out
of the water, which belongs
to the actual ship that you can
see if you look at it from above
the water. They also toured
Punchbowl cemetery.

Another place they went was
Germaine's Luau, located on
Oahu's western beachfront. This
was certainly a mouthful as their
whole day was action packed
with all sorts of activities. The
day first began with cultural
presentations accompanied by
island music. After watching
dances along with some other
entertainment, the kids got to eat
at an all you can eat Hawaiian
buffet, which had American
food choices as well.

The Hawaiians introduced the
conch shell, the Imu ceremony,
and the kalua pua'a (roasted pig)
from an earthen oven. Possibly
one of the most memorable
sights was watching the fire
handlers throw flaming sticks up
and catch them with their bare
hands; certainly, one interesting
way to end the day!

The last big tour of the trip
was an all-day outing to the
Polynesian Cultural Center,
where the Pacific island people
did their best to enhance,
entertain, and educate those
that come to watch. From New
Zealand to Tonga, the PCC has
areas that represent what it is
like to actually be on the islands.

These islanders demonstrated
their traditional dances, arts,
crafts, and even songs which
they normally would do in their
respective cultures and islands.
This was a great insight to see
what the islands are like.

Before returning from a well-
deserved trip, the graduates
made sure to get pictures and
souvenirs for their family as
well as themselves.

Della Delowe had this to say
about the trip: "It was CRAZY
beautiful!! But they can keep
their humidity; I thought I was
going to fall out. Ha-ha. But
seriously I am very grateful
to have had the chance to
experience this trip with all the
graduates especially my son.
We experienced things I never
thought we would ever get a
chance to. The students were a
great group to be with. They all
were very respectful and well
behaved, which I appreciated
so much. One thing I'll
always remember, 'WHERE'S
MARIO?!'".

Bianca Valenzuela also shared
some moments in Hawaii:
"Hawaii was amazing! It was
cool and breezy, cloudy a
couple of days. Memorial was
beautiful...Polynesian Cultural
Center tour guide talked about
their past, language... liked
seeing dances on the boat...
every show was amazing...luau
had good food... I liked when
the two guys pulled (pig) out of
pit and seeing them dance too!"



CPM Graduates continued from page 1a

Lorinda Antone took the opportunity
to share her journey through the
CPM Program. "Accomplishment
of the ASU Certified Public
Manager program has further
enhanced my management skills
to fulfill the goals, objectives &
Mission of the Ak-Chin Indian
Community. The CPM program
enhanced my knowledge of public
service, leading by example, self-
development, critical thinking,

ethics, cost benefit analysis and so
much more. Go Devils!!"

Dr. Sandra Shade also shared, "My
career has been in the public service
to Native American communities.
The attainment of a Certified Public
Manager (CPM) designation will
further enhance my skills and
abilities to help our Community
as we continue to move forward
towards greater economic self-

sufficiency. The highlights of the
program is that it allows one to learn
about organizations as a system, use
critical thinking skills, appreciative
inquiry, and collaboration to
effectively manage within an
organization."

Congratulations to these three
dedicated individuals!

CREATIVE LEARNING

4a

July 5 - 18, 2019

Children complete 1000 Books Before Kindergarten



Kobe Santiago, Caleb Ugalde, Jessica Zabawa, Anjelica Antone, and Aurelia Peters before they go to their celebratory screening of Toy Story 4.

June 25th the Ak-Chin Library celebrated a group of children for accomplishing a big achievement that will install lifelong literacy skills that have shown to be very beneficial for academic success. Handing out awards and medals then treating the children to a pizza party and a screening of Toy Story 4, 10 children had successfully completed reading 1000 books each before the start of the new school year.

It is very vital for children to grasp these reading abilities at an early age. Studies have shown that one in five children have difficulties learning to read, this can be avoided with simply reading with children as much as possible.

As a congratulations to all who finished their 1000 books, children and parents were treated to a day of fun for all their hard work and effort they put into the hours of reading time. These dedicated parents are taking the steps to enriching their babies' future. Being able to read 1,000 books with your child is a huge accomplishment. The library appreciates the

continuous effort.

If parents would like more information regarding the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" please call the Library at (520) 581-1818. Their goal is to get more children to participate in this year's program. Parents/Guardians with children between the ages 0 to 5 years, don't hesitate to sign up for the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten".

3-4 year old class

Allison Retiz
Jessica Zabawa

4-5 year old class

Viviana Rascon
Kobe Santiago
Caleb Ugalde
Aurelia Peters
Sarah Delma
Sofia Iniestra
Anjelica Antone
Stacie Antone

GED Program Celebrates 4th Graduate of 2019

Article & Photo Submitted By: Desiree Guarino, Ak-Chin GED Instructor

On Wednesday, June 12th, Ashley Manuel attempted and passed her final GED exam section, mathematics, earning her GED. Ashley is the 4th Ak-Chin GED graduate of 2019 and the GED program's 51st graduate since 2013.

Ashley began the GED program in early 2018 and passed the majority of subjects within the same year. She then returned to complete math in 2019. After catching up on skills that needed review, Ashley and GED Instructor, Desiree Guarino, used the same preparation strategy for math that proved successful with the prior graduate. Ashley felt confident going into Rio Salado College on testing day, and received email notification of her passing score on the ride

back to Ak-Chin. Upon learning she had passed math and earned her diploma, Ashley stated that she now sees that she had the ability to do this all along. She expressed an interest in furthering her education, possibly going into the culinary field.

Once again, it is clear that Ashley's GED journey was unique. While some students complete the program within a few days or weeks, others may need several months or even years. However, as long as the goal is set, and students continue working towards completion, they will eventually reach graduation day.

Where will your GED journey take you? Come on into the Education



Ashley Manuel, displaying her diploma.

Department to find out! For more information, stop by the GED office Monday through Friday, and get started on your GED journey!

Current GED Class
Days/Times: **Mon-Fri:**
10:00A-12:00P
M, T, TH, F: 2:00P-5:00P
Wed: 4:30-7:00P
GED Office: 520-568-1284

Mateo Rodriguez recognized at Chase Field for academics

Photo and story by J. Peters

Mateo Rodriguez, son of Jennifer Boehm-King was recognized by the Diamondbacks outstanding student program on Tuesday, June 25th in a pregame ceremony prior to playing the LA Dodgers.

Mateo has been an honor roll student for the last three years at Legacy Traditional and on Principles Pride (straight A's) for the last 2 quarters of second grade. For his excellent work he was rewarded free tickets to the game and received a Diamondbacks shirt as well.



Mateo Rodriguez & his mom Jennifer Boehm-King walk Chase Field and wave to family in the stands.



Mateo's family show their love and support for him as they all went to watch him walk Chase Field, before enjoying the D-Backs vs LA Dodgers on June 25th.

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July 2019

Strong Man continued from Front

Saturday, the men were ready to take on the challenges that were in store for them. All three were placed to compete in the heavyweight division, and were put to the test with the 452-pound yoke bar carry, tire flip weighing in at 450 pounds, the 150-pound and the 250-pound stone carry (medicine ball), and arm over arm pull.

Categorized into different weight classes each competitor had to go through a series of challenges. The Yoke Bar Carry is a large metal frame with a crossbar. The bar can be adjusted to accommodate the height of each competitor. At each corner of the yoke bar frame a set of weights can be placed adding more intensity to the carry challenge.

Keg Lifts are self-explanatory, competitors had to lift and carry a half-filled keg of water, the water level made the carry more challenging as the liquid would swish back and forth causing the keg to shift its weight throughout the carry.

For the Stone Carry everyone had to carry a very heavy medicine ball and run across the field and then had to hoist the ball on top of



Ralston's mother Michelle "Missy" Justin and grandmother Carol Lopez watch and cheer on him on.

a stand. For the Tire Flip, a large tractor tire typically weighing between 400 and 600 pounds on average was to be flipped up, dropped, lifted and repeating until they reached the finish line.

The Arm over Arm pull is where they must pull a rope that is attached to a heavy object, pulling



Nikolai White dead lifts a 3,000+ pound car.

the object down the course as fast as possible with their feet firmly planted against a solid base.

Nikolai, Darrian and Ralston all carried the same amount of weight through the challenge. Family and friends sat in the stands cheering them on, giving them a push of encouragement to complete each task.



Darrian Justin Keg lift.



Ralston Justin carries a hefty 430 pounds during the Yoke Carry.

The most impressive challenge of the morning had to have been the car deadlift, which was something new to the Ak-Chin team. All competitors were given the opportunity to deadlift a car weighing over 2,000 pounds. Nikolai took the challenge and lifted the car a total of 9 times his first round and 5 times his second round of lifts.

Winners and placements were announced at the end of the challenge, and Nikolai was awarded the 1st place trophy for the Heavy Weight Strongman Challenge, crushing the competition by placing first in almost every category, with second in the car deadlift.

REMINDER

The next Runner submission deadline will be

FRIDAY JULY 12th

BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION

This year the Backpack Distribution will be separate from the Back to School Bash.

The Backpack Distribution will be on the following date:

Monday July 8, 2019
6pm-8pm at the Service Center

Forms can be picked up from Maria Carlyle-Zepeda and Diana Carlyle or you can request a form via email:
Deidra Carlyle - DECarlyle@ak-chin.nsn.us
Diana Carlyle - DRCarlyle@ak-chin.nsn.us
Maria Carlyle-Zepeda - MCarlyle-Zepeda@ak-chin.nsn.us

The form **MUST** be signed by the parent/guardian to receive the backpack.

There is a separate form for the non-member resident student (s) to be filled out. Non-member resident student (s) **MUST** be on a housing lease, verification and signature from a Housing Representative is required to receive a backpack. (Verification from Housing is needed prior to the Backpack Distribution dates)



JULY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JULY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31				

UPCOMING EVENTS
Community Gathering Held at the Service Center, 6- 9PM
Community Meeting Held at Ak-Chin Service Center, 6-8PM

ELDER CENTER INFORMATION
Elder Center-520-568-1760
Center Hours Monday-Friday 8 AM to 5 PM
Breakfast 7:30 AM to 9 AM
Lunch 12 noon

Transportation-520-568-1760 or 520-568-1769
Please Call Before 4 PM

Eggs Delivered every Tuesday.
Eggs pick up Wed-Fri 8 AM-3 PM
After Hours 520-858-5043


Elder Shopping and Errands are provided every Monday and Friday at 1 PM. If you need transportation for Shopping and Errands on any Other day, please call Transit Department. 520-568-1630

LIBRARY INFORMATION
*Needs to be signed up to be in program. Call 520-568-1675 for more information. Elder Coloring-Takes place at the Elder Center
Japan Pop – Transportation to and from library is required. You must be 10 years or older to participate.
Baby Time! – every Wednesday, 10:30-11:00am. Children 0-5 ONLY.
OVERDRIVE TRUCK – No signup required, Children under 8 yrs must be accompanied by an adult.

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday – Friday – 8AM-6PM
Saturday-12PM-4PM
Sunday-Closed

RECREATION INFORMATION
For more information on Rec Center events please call the Rec Center @ 520-568-1740

****Calendar Subject to Change****



EDUCATION

MHS:
JULY 8TH
Student Check-In (Last Name A-D) 12pm-4pm & 5pm-7pm

JULY 9TH
Student Check-In (Last Name E-K) 12pm-4pm & 5pm-7pm

JULY 10TH
Student Check-In (Last Name L-Ra) 12pm-4pm & 5pm-7pm

JULY 11TH
Student Check-In (Last Name Re-Z) 12pm-4pm & 5pm-7pm

JULY 12TH
Student Registration Walk-in's 8am-1pm

SBE:
JULY 18TH
Meet the Teacher Night 6pm-7pm

MES:
JULY 18TH
Meet the Teacher Night 6pm-7pm

MUSD:
JULY 22ND
First Day of School for MUSD Schools

Sequoia Pathway Academy:
JULY 18TH
Meet the Teacher

JULY 22ND
First Day of School

Legacy Traditional School:
JULY 16TH
Back to School Night

JULY 22ND
First Day of School

GED Schedule

Monday - Friday 10:00am-12:00pm
Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/ Friday 2:00pm - 5:00pm
Wednesday 4:30pm - 7:00pm



ELDER CENTER

JULY 1ST
Elder Shopping & Errands 1pm

July 2ND
4th of July Pine Wood Derby & Picnic with Sells & Sam Xavier 11am

JULY 3RD
BINGO

JULY 4TH
Center Closed

JULY 5TH
Elder Shopping & Errands 1pm

JULY 8TH
Elder Shopping & Errands 1pm

JULY 10TH
Movie Day

JULY 19TH
Elder Check Day
Elder Shopping Day 1pm

JULY 22ND
Elder Shopping & Errands 1pm

JULY 23RD
Goodwill Shopping Day

JULY 25TH
Movie Day

JULY 26TH
Elder Shopping & Errand 1pm
Craft with Library



LIBRARY

JULY 1ST
Mad Science Mondays 1pm-2pm

JULY 2ND
Dark Readings 1pm-2pm

JULY 3RD
Baby Time! 10:30am-11am
Healthy Snacks 3pm-4pm
Library Closes at 5pm

JULY 4TH
Library Closed

JULY 5TH
Elder Crafts 11am-12pm
Karaoke Party 1pm-3pm
LEGO Robots 4pm

JULY 6TH
Japan Pop 12pm-2pm

JULY 8TH
Mad Science Mondays 1pm-2pm

JULY 9TH
Dark Readings 1pm-2pm
Elder Coloring 9am-10am

JULY 10TH
Baby Time! 10:30am-11am
Sewing Circle 1pm-3pm
Healthy Snacks 3pm-4pm
Game Hacker 4pm-6pm

JULY 11TH
Comic Book Club 1pm-2pm

JULY 12TH
Karaoke Party 1pm-3pm
LEGO Robots 4pm

JULY 13TH
Japan Pop 12pm-2pm

JULY 16TH

Summer Reading End Party*

JULY 17TH

Baby Time! 10:30am-11am
Healthy Snacks 3pm-4pm
Game Hacker 4pm-6pm

JULY 19TH

Elder Crafts 11am-12pm
LEGO Robots 4pm

JULY 20TH

Japan Pop 12pm-2pm

JULY 22ND

Back to School!

JULY 23RD

Elder Coloring 9am-10am

JULY 24TH

Baby Time! 10:30am-11am
Healthy Snacks 3pm-4pm
Game Hacker 4pm-6pm

JULY 26TH

LEGO Robots 4pm

JULY 27TH

Japan Pop 12pm-2pm



PARKS & REC

JULY 4TH
4th of July Event
Milton Antone Park 6pm-9pm

JULY 19TH-21TH
Luis & Mercedes Memorial Basketball Tournament

JUNE 26TH
Tribal Council Chair Volleyball Tournament

Young bald eagle released back into the wild celebrates freedom July 4

3-year-old eagle undergoes surgery to repair broken leg, released at Horseshoe Lake



PHOENIX — After a graceful half-mile flight across Horseshoe Lake, the 3-year-old bald eagle released back into the wild by Arizona Game and Fish Department and Liberty Wildlife was free once again.

It was a fitting conclusion for the bird that was found in February at a Queen Creek dairy suffering from a shattered femur. Left untreated the bird would have certainly died, yet four months later, a small group of onlookers watched in excitement as this national symbol glided low across the water’s surface, declaring its independence just days ahead of the July 4 holiday.

“As an agency, we strive to conserve and protect all of the state’s wildlife, but participating in something like this ahead of the Fourth of July is something special,” said AZGFD raptor biologist Kyle McCarty. “This eagle now has another shot at survival and in a couple of years, when it becomes of breeding age, it may go on to bolster Arizona’s growing bald eagle population. For us, every eagle counts.”

In 2016, a few miles downstream along the Verde River, McCarty placed numbered metal bands around the bird’s legs when it was a nestling. This past winter, the bird was presumably healthy and flourishing until recently when it somehow shattered its left leg and was found on the ground.

X-rays taken at Liberty Wildlife showed the lower part of the bird’s leg was a shattered mess, requiring a 45-minute surgery to place a metal rod and screws to repair the damage.

“It was a pretty severe break and took longer to heal than we had expected, but with time and great care from our medical team, including volunteer veterinarian Dr. Stephanie Lamb, the leg was repaired and he’s able to grasp well with it,” said Liberty Wildlife biologist Laura Hackett. “He is the 105th bald eagle that Liberty Wildlife has been able to help return back into the wild in its 38 year history.”

The bird spent the next four months recovering

at Liberty Wildlife and on June 24, biologists placed a hood over its head and eyes, and booties placed over its long, sharp talons to help calm the bird. Dr. Lamb steadied the bird as McCarty and fellow AZGFD raptor biologist Jennifer Presler strapped a GPS transmitter to its back to help track its movements.

“The use of a GPS transmitter presents a special opportunity because many younger birds do not survive past their first year,” McCarty said. “A 3-year-old-bird will potentially be able to tell us a lot about which areas are important for pre-breeding eagles. We’ll also be afforded the chance to learn about their breeding habitat should the bird and transmitter survive another year or two.”

Last week, the transmitter tracked the young eagle 22 miles north of the Horseshoe Lake release site. By Sunday, June 30 it flew south along the Verde River, returning to the Bartlett Lake area where it hatched and took its first flight, known as fledging.

Arizona’s bald eagle population has flourished since 1978, when only 11 pairs were counted within the state and the species was listed as endangered. Today there are an estimated 75 adult breeding pairs.

Last year, the number of breeding areas expanded statewide and a record 87 young hatched, with 70 reaching the milestone of their first flight. AZGFD biologists are in the middle of their annual survey for the current breeding year and results will be available later this fall.

For more information about what Arizona Game and Fish Department does to manage the state’s 800-plus native species, including bald eagles, visit www.azgfd.gov. To learn more about what Liberty Wildlife does to rescue and rehabilitate wildlife, visit www.libertywildlife.org.

Those wanting to support AZGFD’s mission to conserve and protect Arizona’s wildlife can sign up for a Conservation Membership package by visiting www.azwildlifehero.com.

San Juan continued from page 2a

Vendors were selling sweets, hot dogs, hamburgers, menudo, and pickle Kool-Aid slushies. It was a great turn out for this year’s San Juan feast and it was a great feeling to see everyone smiling, laughing, and dancing away.

The annual San Juan Feast was special in a number of ways. Last year the feast did not move forward as planned due to renovation which showcased a newly up to date church after completion. A big thank you is warranted to Norbert Peters Sr., David Peters Sr., and Fabian Santiago for re-constructing the entire church. Also thank you to those who were able to provide financial and other needs to help the renovation.

The Feast was blessed and even had a more special meaning to this year(s) celebration as one of the original pioneers, Evelina Lopez, blessed the ceremony with her presence. The Miguel family was emotionally thrilled and excited to have Evelina who is the sister of the late Mathilda Miguel, the pioneer who helped spearhead the celebrations dating back to the 70’s.

Evelina’s presence reminded the family of how special the Feast has been for years now. From when our grandmother (Mathilda), the late Pauline Vincent (Mathilda and Evelina’s sister), and other late family and community members were able to unite and give a great celebration to the membership and for those who visited.

We would like to thank all those who came to celebrate with us. To the family; Miguel, Lopez, and Joaquin, thank you all for your continued drive to move the San Juan Church Feast into the next decades. I know our family members who’ve passed on are very proud of us. – Robert

NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING

July 29th
at 6pm
Ak-Chin
Service Center



TRANSITBUSSTOPPROJECT

To all residents who currently reside at these addresses, if your address is listed within Greasewood or Farms Home Divisions, please contact Nicole Carlyle-Coester at ncarlyle-coester@ak-chin.nsn.us Phone 56 1017 or Kim Vincent at Transit department KVincent@ak-chin.nsn.us Phone 56 16.

The purpose is to obtain names of residents that will be impacted by the Transit Bus Stop Project. A Transit Bus Stop outreach meeting will be scheduled once all names have been obtained to provide information on this project.

Respectfully,
Nicole Carlyle-Coester,
Community Services Manager

Greasewood Division
16 N . Hohokam St.
16 N . Hohokam St.
104 N . Hohokam St.
1745 N . Miguel Ave
448 W. Juan St.
4489 W. Juan St.
440 W. Juan St
4490 W. Pablo Ave.
440 W. Ralph St.
4508 W. Vincent Ave
4508 W. Vincent Ave
4510 W. Vincent Ave
4510 W. Vincent Ave
4549 W. Ralph St.

Farms Division
1045 N . Farm Ln
107 N . Farm Ln
418 W. Pecan Ln
418 W. Pecan Ln
42113 W. Peters and Nall Rd.
4218 W. Peters and Nall Rd.

NEW LIFE Ak-Chin Church

Where the full gospel is preached

Schedule of Services

Sunday School for adults and children
10:00 a.m.
Morning and evening church service is at
11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
in the Ak-Chin Service Center Complex

*Do you need a ride to church?
Call our bus driver
602-476-9591*

*If you need prayer,
please contact one of the pastors
Johnny Stephens 520-705-3052
Carlos Marin 520-560-2679*

Neighborhood Meeting
July 10, 2019 – 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Community Room, Justice Complex

ANTONE AVENUE UPDATE

Light Refreshments Served

COMMUNITY NOTICE

On June 19, 2019 Council approved a Resolution amending Article VI of Title 5 of the Revised Ak-Chin Law and Order Code of 2000 (Code). Article VI of the Code addresses Maternity and Paternity Proceedings.

The primary change to the provisions in Article VI was an amendment to permit an adult to file a petition to establish the adult’s biological parent in the Community Court. Copies of the Code containing the updates may be viewed at the Ak-Chin Indian Community Library. Please feel free to contact the Law and Order Code Committee with any questions.

Lena Kalkbrenner, J.D.
Law and Order Code Committee, Legal Contractor
Ak-Chin Office: 520-568-1189LKalkbrenner@ak-chin.nsn.us

St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Mission
16657 N. Church St. Maricopa, AZ 85139
Ak-Chin Indian Community

JULY 2019 Schedule

Sunday Mass at 12 noon

July 7 – Fr. Antony Tinker
July 14 – Fr. Antony Tinker
July 21 – Fr. Antony Tinker
July 28 – Fr. Antony Tinker

ANNOUNCEMENTS
July 14, TBA
Inter-Tribal Kateri Circle Feast Day- St. Mary’s Basilica

July 17-21
St. Kateri Tekakwitha Conference- Sharonville, OH

July 27, 10am
CCOE Meeting- St. Catherine of Alexandria- Santa Cruz

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

ATTENTION:


*****Tribal Members*****
Please make sure your mailing address on file with the Enrollment Office is current.

This will ensure future mailings from Ak-Chin Indian Community


**Change of Address**

Change of Address forms are located at the Enrollment Office. (Old Fire Department)
For information please call (520) 568-1029 or 1074.

Healthy Parenting Education and Support Group



Ak-Chin Health and Human Services



When: Please call to arrange start date.
Where: Conference Room (48227W. Farrell Road Maricopa, Arizona 85139)
Contact: Health & Human Services at (520) 568-1093)

The goal of this group is to help establish a support system for Community Families and offer additional tools and techniques for parenting.* Community members, Residents, and Employees are welcome to participate!** For more information contact: Lynne Houston-Volden (Child and Family Therapist) at Health and Human Services. 520-568-1066

*A Certificate of Completion is issued when a participant actively participates in and completes the entire series of topics.
**Individuals not employed by the community, not residents or community members may be given special permission, contact Lynne Houston-Volden for details.

Ak-Chin youth attend Gila River Youth Conference



Ak-Chin youth play 3on3 outside UltraStar.



TOP: Native actor Tatanka Means speaks to youth in theater one. RIGHT: Zaida Soliz tries her hand in bead work at Elements Event Center.



Photo by C. Picciolo

R I G H T : Gila River member Marvin Thomas is awarded Elder of the Year, while Marlena Whitehair received Female Youth of the Year.



Photo submitted by Bertha Thomas

Story by K. Morago, photos by Marla Antone

As NABI was wrapping up in the Community, youth from the Gila River Indian Community made Elements at UltraStar their home for several days hosting the annual Akimel O’odham Youth Conference in Ak-Chin this year.

Nearly three hundred youth from all seven districts, including members of the Ak-Chin Youth Council participated in the themed “Mental, Spiritual, and Physical Wellness Conference,” held June 28-29, 2019. The conference also serves as the Akimel O’odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council Election with youth

nominated or declaring for office, including giving speeches to their fellow youth.

Keynote speakers this year were Tatanka Means and Tanaya Winder. Tatanka is best known as a Native American actor, comedian and speaker. Tanaya is also a motivational speaker who received degrees from Stanford University. Both shared memorable and inspiring remarks to the youth in attendance.

The conference had a variety of workshop topics. Ak-Chin youth attended a yoga presentation and beading.



ABOVE: Youth Conference participants learn basic yoga. LEFT: GRIC Governor Stephen Roe Lewis talks with youth during the waila dance. The Pick-Up Kings performed.



They also participated in the 3on3 basketball, which

they won. Participating were Calvin Antone, Mylauni Antone and Jose Miguel, Jr. Other topics included cultural

awareness, financial literacy and suicide prevention.

On the second day a presentation of awards took place. Gila River youth honored Reuben Ringlero,

Citizen of the Year; Kelcey Mosley, Leader of the Year; Marvin Thomas, Elder of the Year; Marlena Whitehair, Female Youth of the Year and Steven “Lee” Nasewytewa, Male Youth of the Year.

A waila dance concluded the conference. The Pick-Up Kings, featuring Ak-Chin’s Wilson “Milo” Antone performed in the Elements ballroom til midnight.

Harrah’s Event Center adds upcoming shows

Lifehouse and Clint Black added to summer/fall line-up

Lifehouse and Clint Black are the latest performers scheduled to perform at The Events Center at Harrah’s Ak-Chin. Lifehouse, the 9’ s pop band with a string of hits such as “Hanging By a Moment,” will perform one show on Friday, September 21. County music multi-platinum recording artist Clint Black is bringing his “Killin’ Time” 8th Anniversary Tour on Friday, October 11. Both shows start at 8:00 pm.

A few tickets remain for

tonight’s concert of The Mavericks and Los Lonely Boys. The Friday, July 5 show is not to be missed with both bands playing their hits.

In August, Harrah’s welcomes hip-hop/rap sensation Bell Biv DeVoe. They perform for one show Friday, August 9. Tickets start at \$50.

On September 6, Great White and Slaughter grace the stage, bringing their 8’ s and 9’ s hard rock anthems for an 8^{pm} show. Tickets

start at \$50.

Tickets for the Friday, September 20 Lifehouse show start at \$50.

Country music artist Josh Turner will perform on Saturday, September 28. Tickets start at \$00.

Tickets for Clint Black’s Friday, October 11 show are on sale now. Tickets start at \$4.50. Tickets can be purchased on-line at www.ticketmaster.com or at the Harrah’s box office.

UltraStar hosts toy drive during Toy Story 4 movie opening

Story by R. Peters, submitted photos

Anyssa Justin, Ak-Chin UltraStar Theater Supervisor coordinated a great opportunity for the community during the premiere opening for Toy Story 4, by hosting a Toy Drive.

For weeks leading up to the premiere Anyssa and her US team created themed boxes at US for donations, and then on the day of the premiere, June 22, they enacted another great opportunity for people to donate and receive a goodie bag for their efforts.

They also provided a coloring station where patrons could make their own “Forky” stand and Woody gumball canister. There was also a raffle and chance to win a Mr. Piggy bank, as well as a costume contest.

Buzz Light Year and Woody were in the contest, as was Little Bo Peep and a few of the new characters. Everyone who participated received a bowling coupon. The Anderson family went all out as they entered the contest, and pretty much dominated. Mrs. Ashlea Anderson, dressed as Duke Caboom went toe-to-toe with a miniature Buzz. In the end it was declared a tie and they each won a VIP theater rental.



ABOVE: The Anderson and Manuel families dressed for the Toy Story costume contest.

RIGHT: Anyssa Justin with the Toy Story “Forky.”



The UltraStar lobby with moviegoers making Forkys at the craft table.

Ak-Chin Pavilion’s Santana show rocks crowd

Story by K. Morago, submitted photos

It has been six years since the partnership between Ak-Chin Indian Community and Live Nation established Ak-Chin Pavilion. For Ak-Chin members lucky enough to catch a show, and sometimes even Ak-Chin employees, it can be a memorable experience like no other.

On Saturday, June 22, Ak-Chin Pavilion welcomed legendary Mexican-American guitarist Carlos Santana. Opening the show was The Doobie Brothers.

Santana has performed at the pavilion before, but this show was special. Called the “Global Consciousness Tour 2019” his setlist covered fifty years of classic Santana music which is a fusion of Spanish, blues, jazz and rock and roll music.

Ak-Chin fans were in the house to witness the guitar virtuoso, and his surprise special guests.

After opening his show performing “Soul Sacrifice,” and “Jingo,” and other favorites, he brought Native American guitarist and Grammy Award winner Micki Free to the stage to join him for the song “Hope You’re Feeling Better.”

Micki, who was discovered by KISS front man Gene Simmons years ago, had his guitar skills in full view of the Ak-Chin Pavilion crowd. An accomplished guitarist in his own right, Micki plays rock, blues and electric blues music. Santana’s wife, Cyndy Blackman-Santana is a former bandmate of Micki’s and performed on drums during the show.

When you thought the show couldn’t get any better, who walks on stage but Rob Thomas, a solo artist and also the lead singer of Matchbox Twenty. Together, the three performed “Voodoo Child.”



After the Ak-Chin Pavilion show, Armonda runs into Santana lead singer Andy Vargas who took a quick photo.



Armonda Santiago-Campos meets musician Micki Free during the Santana concert at Ak-Chin Pavilion on June 22.

After that performance, Micki and Rob left the stage so the show could continue. Micki actually joined the energetic crowd to watch the rest of the Santana show.

Performed next were hits, “Black Magic Woman,” “Gypsy Queen,” and “Oye Como Va.” His next song featured the accordion for “Breaking Down The Door.”

There was plenty of anticipation and hope for the possibility of a Rob Thomas return to stage. He did, joining Santana for “Maria, Maria.” “The entire crowd sang every word,” Ak-Chin member Armonda Santiago-Campos shared.

As the crowd cheered for an encore, drummer Cyndy led into the song “Are You Ready”. Then Rob returned for the song, “Smooth”, the hit single he musically collaborated with Santana back in 2013. The final song of the night was “Love, Peace and Happiness.”

What the crowd may or may not have known was that Rob Thomas was in town a day early. He performed his own show the following Sunday night at Comerica Theatre.

“Carlos Santana gave a memorable concert,” Armonda said. She was able to meet Micki Free during the show when he was in the crowd. “Everyone enjoyed their time at the non-stop show,” she added.

Ak-Chin Pavilion has a summer concert series of great performances. Please visit the concert calendar on page 12a or visit www.livenation.com for more information. You can also see past concert photos on their social media page at <https://www.facebook.com/AkChin.Pavilion/>.

Captain Duckworth speaks at NABI Educational Summit

Photo and story by J. Perillo



Captain Ed Duckworth shares his pilot experience with NABI youth during the summit.

On June 27 NABI players and coaches went to the Elements Event Center to listen to Captain Ed Duckworth speak about becoming a pilot and all the benefits that come with it. He started by saying he flew not for the money, but because of how fun it was.

A little later however, he began teaching because he took aviation classes in college and he wanted to help kids find places where they can learn to fly. Just to name a few of his titles, he is a basic instructor, an ATP instructor, and an advanced ground school instructor.

A big problem he pointed out is that nowadays there is a shortage of pilots and the number has dropped significantly since the 90's. He explained how the majority of pilots are his age; meaning 40% of all airline pilots will be retired

in the next decade. Due to the small number of available pilots, the demand has gone up along with the pay. In fact, the shortage of pilots is so bad that there is a whole bonus just for signing to an airline.

He informed the kids, "It's one of the careers where people will be after you." To become a pilot, he explained that first you go through training to get your private license and through working your way up you can get your commercial license or even an instructor rating, which allows you to teach others to fly.

Of course, to fly you need to meet certain requirements such as being at least 18 when you start, having either a GED or a diploma, straight vision with or without glasses, proficient English (reading and writing), and

finally you need to pass a background check which is where he says most people fall into trouble.

Although a clean record is necessary, he shared with the players how many parents come and tell him how flying turned their kid's lives around. As a sort of motivation to stay out of trouble, Captain Duckworth mentioned the benefits to becoming a pilot for an airline; family can fly free until they turn 26 years of age, you can work as little as 10-12 days a month, and you can earn up to \$400,000 a year.

After his speech players went up to him asking questions, taking pictures, and getting his business cards. All in all, he seemed very interested in helping everyone out and attracting the attention of any future Native American aviators.

Language Summer Program comes to a close



Students in the Language Summer Program test their wamich (popover) making skills for last day treats.



These two young ladies are preparing to fry dough.



A pan full of deliciously perfect round and brown popovers sit, just waiting to be smothered with honey.

Ak-Chin's Language Program came to an end on Thursday, June 27, but not before the class got the chance to enjoy one more delicious meal prepared by their own hands.

The popovers shown at left were probably topped with mouth-watering red chili, or made into Indian tacos for all to enjoy! Below the class takes time to thank Ak-Chin Transit for getting them to and from classes and field trips.



Justin Perillo's June Highlights

Story by J. Perillo

My name is Justin and I am going to be a junior in high school this year. This is my second year working at the Runner and from what I know it is the best place to work at for a summer job.

Most people have told me they do not want to work at the Runner because they do not want to be in an office all day, but that could not be further from the truth.

Depending on the assignment you could go anywhere from Casa Grande to as far as Tempe. Just make sure you do not wear white shoes on the job, my Air Forces had to learn that the hard way.

My daily tasks consist of conducting interviews, writing stories, and taking pictures. I find the teamwork aspect of the Runner to be very interesting because everyone is constantly working on something different such as taking pictures, editing pictures, typing stories, or handling banners and handouts, but if one person does not pull their weight the whole paper falls apart.

Another thing I liked is that everyone who works at the Runner is really funny and they all seem to love what they do. Writing stories is cool to me because everyone has written or typed something at one point in

their life, but to see it go on paper and out to every person in the community is really unique .

When you pick up the newspaper on your driveway you probably do not even think twice about who had to deliver it or who had to write it, but so much work goes into it that after working at the Runner you'll never read the newspaper the same way again.

My favorite task is taking pictures because it means you get to go all over the community and see a wide variety of people that you may have never met. Not only that but all the events and games you go to are free since you are there covering them.

Also, if you like food put in your application now because just from the time I have been working here I have already gotten lots of very delicious meals from a lot of really nice people.

Maybe I am just weirdly into cameras, but learning how to use a camera and all of its features is much more entertaining than it sounds. I thought it was pretty tight when I got to use a fisheye lens and a macro lens on top of the building by UltraStar.

Perhaps the best part of this summer has been meeting Ed

Duckworth. If you have not heard of him, he is a captain at American Airlines and he flies planes from anywhere as small as a stunt plane to anything as large as a commercial plane that carries hundreds of passengers.

The reason this guy sticks out to me the most is because he makes hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, but even with all that money the main reason he does it is because he finds it fun.

That blew my mind when I heard him say that because before hearing him speak I would have taken any job if it made over \$100,000 a year whether I enjoyed it or not but after listening it made me view money from a whole new perspective.

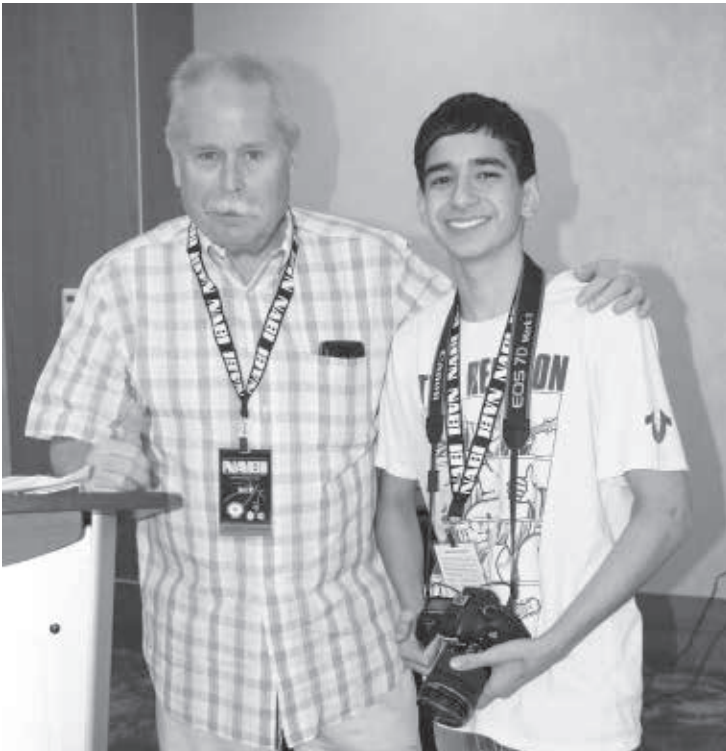
When he first got into flying he said he only saw it as a passion, not a career. Although he's met many famous people in his life, I feel like that's just the tip of the iceberg and he's got more experiences than he can remember.

In my opinion, all of the benefits that come with being a pilot go unnoticed because honestly who do you know that gets to travel all over the world with their family and get paid for it, just the traveling-the-world part sounds amazing to me.

Hopefully in the near future I can work with Ed to get my private and then commercial license because to be able to fly any type of plane that exists seems really cool; in other words, it's like a chauffeur who can drive an 18-wheeler, a racecar, and a manual.

My main goal is to fly a plane in general just because not many people get to do that in their lifetime and I'm trying accomplish everything I possibly can in mine, whether I happen to be good at it or not.

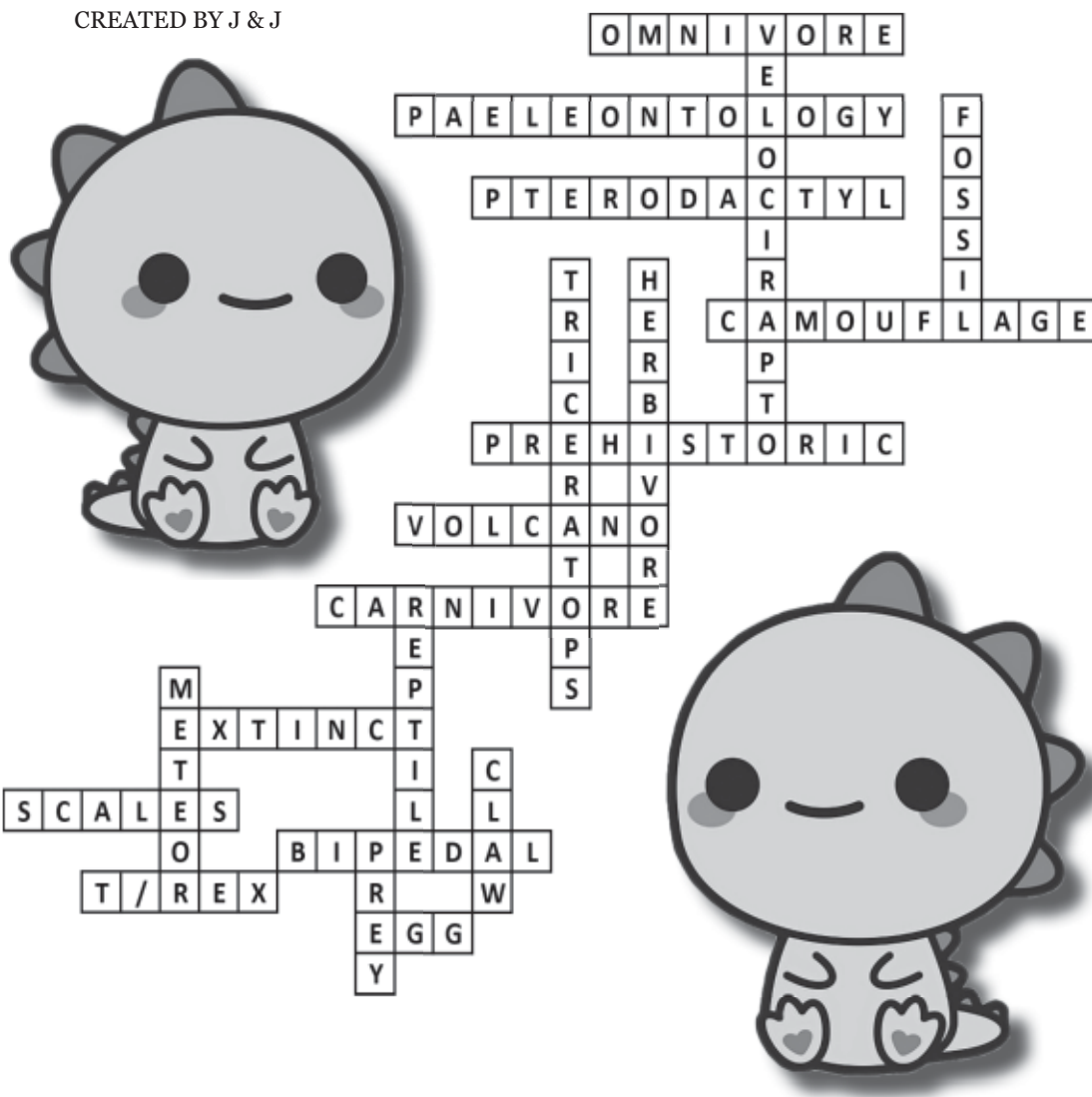
If I can make it my career that would be a dream come true, but if I can't at least I get to say I flew a plane.



Captain Ed Duckworth with Justin Perillo.

Dino Dilemma answers

CREATED BY J & J



Future players prepare with Jr. NABI



June 24-25, Jr. NABI dominated the Copper Sky Recreation Center Complex in Maricopa; a camp to better prepare the incoming freshmen athletes for the next level of their basketball careers. The camp was powered by Jr. Suns and Jr. Mercury leagues.

NABI teams that are participating in this year's tournament were required to invite one graduating 8th grader or incoming freshmen to participate in the Jr. NABI camp. With the help of special guest coach Brad Greene from UC Irvine Men's Basketball, Native student athletes worked on conditioning, passing,

shooting and dribble drills, defensive and offensive foot work, rebounding skills and in game tactics from morning until noon.

The camp embraces basketball life values, teaching the athletes to incorporate the sportsmanship, selflessness, teamwork, communication, health and wellness fundamentals that are essential to life and the game.

This is the 3rd year Jr. NABI has been involved with helping the youth improve and thrive in their athletic futures.

N7's Sam McCracken speaks at Summit

Starting off the first session for the 1st annual NABI Educational Youth Summit was none other than General Manager and Visionary of Nike N7 Sam McCracken.

Mr. McCracken grew up in Montana, farming on the Fort Peck/ Sioux Reservation and then moved to California with his mother when he was teenager.

Sam started his career in Nike about 22 years ago,

working in a warehouse for the company. Having a background in distribution, and working for Nike in Oregon, in the foot warehouse unloading shoes to be put away is where he received a call asking if he would like the opportunity to be the chairman of Nike Native American Employee Network.

News spread of Mr. McCracken's new position, landing an article in his local

paper back in Montana. From there a health coordinator from his tribe got in contact with McCracken to get Nike to help promote physical activity in their community. That idea has now snowballed into what N7 is today, a fund that is committed to generating a positive experience in any sport or form of physical activity for Aboriginal and Native American youth in North America.

What inspires Mr. McCracken's work in the Native youth, making sure that there is a foundation set for them to understand how important physical activity is for Native people. Since 2009 the N7 Fund has gifted 6 billion dollars in grant funds to inspire and enable sports participation for American Indians across the country.



NABI Teams get the N7 Experience



With all the exciting opportunities provided throughout the week of NABI, June 26th became an instant highlight for all the athletes in the tournament as they were able to give the new N7 shoes a test run.

N7 Nike's Native American division of products geared directly towards Native tribes had just released their 2019 summer collection that featured a particular shoe called the Nike Zoom Heritage N7. This shoe was designed by Tinker Hatfield, a designer who has created the looks of a variety of famous Nike athletic shoes over the years. Mr. Hatfield had based the design of the Zoom Heritage N7's on the fast-paced high energy nature of "rez ball".

Taking place at Maricopa's Copper Sky facility, Nike held the first N7 experience for the athletes to come and test run the new Zoom Heritage shoes. The athletes eagerly funneled into the gym to try on the new gear.

Once shoes were laced NABI athletes took to the floor, as N7 had held a special contest. This contest challenged them to see how many baskets they could make at a designated section of the gym floor where numbers 1-4 were laid out letting the shooter know how many points they would earn if they made a basket at those certain positions.

If one made 45+ baskets they would receive a Nike gift card valued at \$0, for those who made 20+ baskets won a N7 drawstring bag, and for 10+ baskets they won a N7 hat. The participants cycled in and out all getting their turn to wear the shoes and win prizes during the N7 Experience.



N7 Dare to Rise Event features artist Steven Paul Judd

Story and photo by K. Morago
In bold letters the words "Dare to Rise" filled displays and the front of the Nike Factory Store at the Phoenix Premium Outlets on



Native artist Steven Paul Judd set up a pop-up, giving away free stickers at the Nike Factory Store on the Gila River Indian Community during the N7 collection unveiling June 26.

Wednesday, June 26

Move closer to the display, and see a directional arrow to the words "until we all win."

For several hours that evening, it was a win-win to all who shopped the store that evening. Unveiled was the 2019 Nike N7 shoes and athletic wear, including an appearance of Native artist Steven Paul Judd who created Rez Ball designs to celebrate the N7 given out in sticker format.

The pop-up event attracted NABI players, coaches and families. It also introduced other shoppers to the N7 brand. On racks in a central display were a men's white

hoodie (\$5), women's black sweatshirt (\$) and other apparel featuring the Nike swoosh with intricate geometric patterns and designs.

Four types of N7 shoes were on display. The Nike Air Zoom Down Rock N7 Men's shoe which is black with a gold swoosh (\$00), the Nike Zoom Heritage N7 Men's basketball shoe high top (\$0), the Nike Air Max 20 N7 Men's and women's shoe (\$6.00). For the women, a throwback with the Nike Cortez n7 Women's shoe. It is white leather with turquoise highlights with the swoosh featuring the black patterns.

Other apparel available include a Nike Sportswear Men's N7 Bowerman t-shirt (\$) up to \$1, a Nike Women's N7 High Neck tank top (\$) available in white or black and Women's N7 Leg-a-see High waisted tights (\$5). Also, in the collection is a Nike N7 training gym sack (\$0). Turquoise with black details and yellow drawstring. It does have a zippered front pouch.

The N7 Collection supports Native American communities. To learn more about Kiowa - Choctaw artist Judd, visit his Instagram at @stevenpauljudd Instagram.



Congratulations! Life Center Patients & Staff

A FIRST FOR LIFE CENTER DIABETES, ENDOCRINOLOGY, AND WELLNESS!

During the Month of May 2019, all 3 locations have exceeded its Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Indian Health Services (IHS) A1C goals.

WHY CONTROL A1C?

Almost any part of your body can be harmed by too much sugar. Damaged blood vessels cause problems such as:

- Kidney disease or kidney failure, requiring dialysis
- Strokes/Heart attacks
- Vision loss or blindness
- Weakened Immune system, with a greater risk of infections
- Erectile dysfunction
- Nerve damage, also called neuropathy, that causes tingling, pain, or less sensation in your feet, legs, and hands
- Poor circulation to the legs and feet
- Slow wound-healing and the potential for amputation in rare cases

<https://www.webmd.com/diabetes/how-sugar-affects-diabetes#2>

WHAT IS A1C?

It's a blood test that measures your average blood sugar level over the past 2-3 months. It's like a "memory" of your blood sugar levels and shows how well you're controlling your blood sugar levels over time.

*Life Center works with patients on setting goals while considering medical history and other factors.

How A1C relates to estimated average blood sugar

A1C Results	Estimated Average Blood Sugar
12%	298 mg/dL
11%	269 mg/dL
10%	240 mg/dL
9%	212 mg/dL
8%	183 mg/dL
7%	154 mg/dL
6%	126 mg/dL

The American Diabetes Association recommends an A1C of less than 7%.

**37.6%
Life Center
Patients
are 8% or
Lower**

Life Center Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Wellness looks forward to continued success serving Gila River Health Care Patients.

LIFE CENTER DIABETES, ENDOCRINOLOGY & WELLNESS

Let's Ask Dr. Roopa



Facts About Type 2 Diabetes:

TYPE 2 DIABETES IS THE MOST COMMON FORM OF DIABETES.

In the human body, the Pancreas produces insulin to keep the blood glucose levels under control. In simple terms, Insulin acts like a "doorman" to let the glucose enter the cells and get utilized to make energy. In Type 2 diabetes your body produces insulin, but it is not used properly. This is called **INSULIN RESISTANCE**.



Insulin resistance develops due to many reasons like in people with family history of Diabetes, weight gain around the abdomen or belly area or even consumption of food with high sugar.

During the initial years of having Diabetes, the pancreas works hard and tries to make extra insulin to make up for the insulin resistance. But, eventually over time the pancreas gets tired from overworking and you will need help from medicines to keep the blood glucose levels under control.

What Happens If Blood Sugar Levels Are High?

Blood glucose increases when glucose is unable to enter cells readily. This can cause problems immediately and also over a long course of time. The immediate problem is that the cells without enough glucose in them may not be able to produce enough energy. So they notice more fatigue and lethargy.



Over time, high glucose levels will irritate the blood vessels that carry the blood. These blood vessels will develop blockages.

The thinner blood vessels or arteries like those supplying the eyes, kidneys, and nerves are the first ones to be blocked.

These arteries will not be able to supply blood or oxygen to these tissues causing damage which could be permanent.



This is how diabetes can affect the:

- eyes - causing vision impairment (blindness or glaucoma)
- kidneys - kidney failure (requiring dialysis)
- nerves - neuropathy (pain in feet and hands)

In some men, it can also cause erection dysfunction.

With further time progression the large arteries like those supplying the heart, brain, extremities also get blocked, causing heart attacks, strokes and leg amputations.



People with diabetes can develop weakened immune system causing a greater risk of infections and poor wound healing due to the improper blood supply. It can also worsen mental activity (mentation) and memory. Thus high glucose in the blood can affect the whole body.



What Should One Do To Bring The Blood Sugars /Glucose Down?

People with type 2 diabetes can control their blood glucose with healthy eating, being active and working on losing weight. Weight loss will decrease insulin resistance and improve insulin use in the body. In addition to lifestyle changes, you may also need to take some oral medications or shots and insulin to help you decrease your blood glucose levels to normal target.



GRHC's Life Center is a clinic specialized in helping you manage diabetes.

There is a whole team to help you to get your Diabetes under control:

- **Diabetes Counselors** offer emotional support and answer your concerns
- **Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN)** help you with diabetes education and nutrition counseling.
- **Exercise and wellness** will guide you through physical fitness through simple exercises to improve your strength.
- **Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and me the Endocrinologist** will help manage the medicines and readily available to answer your questions and concerns.
- **Diabetes Prevention Program** will help those with borderline diabetes or prediabetes so that they avoid diabetes in the near future.

Preventing diabetes and living healthy with diabetes is possible.

Call Gila River Health Care Life Center (520) 562-7940 to schedule an appointment, or send your questions to: ASKDROOPA@GRHC.ORG

DT Comedy Show brings big laughs to UltraStar

Story and photos by C. Picciuolo

The UltraStar Comedy Series presented the 6 year anniversary DT Comedy Show at UltraStar Multi-Tainment Center at Ak-Chin Circle on Saturday, June 29. The show was hosted by comedy veteran Big Rob and featured Ashley Rose, DT Trujillo, Clayton Perkins and headliner Short Bus.

The crowd was wildly entertained by the eclectic comedy and Big Rob's skits with the DJ, who apparently played the wrong intros for the comedians, which became a running gag the rest of the show. Big Rob

had the crowd roaring with jokes about Maricopa, "I'm a big Facebook guy. Y'all got Facebook down here in Maricopa?"

Ashley Rose started off the show with raunchy humor joking about her messy children and having to date again. She talked about using a dating app and the guy she was talking to asked her where she lives. When she said North Peoria, he sent back a waving hand emoji and unmatched her.

DT was next up and talked about his new marriage. He

told a hilarious story about driving home after a party on his motorcycle with his wife. He's driving home on the back roads through Phoenix and hits a red light suddenly. "She swung forward and hits me in the back of the head. Bro, I don't have a helmet on! It's midnight, I'm in Phoenix, I'm seeing stars," he joked. Somebody pulled up and asked him if he was alright. DT replied, "That's why you don't play with matches!"

After DT, the next comedian was Clayton Perkins, who lives in Gilbert, AZ. Perkins was on Kevin Hart's "Hart

of the City" Phoenix episode and has opened for and toured with Katt Williams, Eddie Griffin, Bruce Bruce and Damon Wayans. Perkins had the whole crowd laughing from beginning to end. He joked that he is celebrating 42 years of marriage with his wife, but it's actually six years because, he says, "when you get married you start counting in dog years."

Short Bus, a veteran of the Arizona comedy circuit for almost 15 years, is wheelchair-bound and was the headliner. He started off his set twirling around in his



L-R: Clayton Perkins, Ashley Rose, Short Bus, DT Trujillo, and Big Rob.

chair and did a performance-art-esque intro using a different, politically incorrect

voice than his own while joking that he was banned from the Special Olympics

continues to page 12a

JULY						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 Kalene Santiago	2 Daniel Batopis Angie Warren	3 Fernanda Acunia-Pablo Valecita Enos Sierra Paddock	4 Dalia Antone Mathilda Miguel Yessenia Santiago Elisia Ugalde	5 Amanda Kaniatobe Louis Manuel, Jr. Jilayne Miguel	6 Flora Howerton Erno Lopez
7 David Garcia Lucio Martinez, IV	8 Jason Smith	9 Georgia Corella Jeremy Johns Chizzum Justin Yrene Zepeda	10 Stacy Antone Whitney Justin Anthony Lewis Kenneth Lewis Elizabeth Machado	11 Lyndsey Peters Anna Thomas	12 Iris Attakai Leeanna Jensen Gloria Martinez Evan Miller Mariah Stephens	13 Martin Antone, Jr. Joelyn Justin Dustin Miguel Mason Miguel Leeann Peters
14 Esther Alvarez Noahli Antone Jayden Hayslip	15 Jordan Stephens	16 Elaina Enos Linda Smith Danny Soliz	17 Jorge Alvarez, Jr. Taos Joaquin	18 Abraham Jose Silas Norris	19 Aniya Deleon Dorian Nosie-Romo Hannah Smith	20 Marisol Andaverde Aiden Antone Richard Carlyle James Lopez Briana Pena Havier Stephens, Sr. Robin Vincent
21 Dominic Lewis Kaycee Lopez Ja'Marrion Stevenson	22 Mark Narcia	23 Carlos Delores Connor Miguel Ulyceiz Ocanas	24 Alejandra Castro Milla Cuatt Samantha Martinez Doyleen Pablo Consuela Santiago Stephanie Valdez	25 Xendryk Antone-Silas Jamar Stevenson, Jr. Norman Vincent, Jr.	26 Sally Antone Teagan Delma Kylie Hill Tyler Mike Fabian Santiago	27 Lilly-anna Johnson Aurelia Peters Kaylan Peters
28 Cheryl Lopez Terrance Peters Luis Rodas Jeannie Stephens	29 Laila Lopez Sylvia Rubalcaba Jeanette Sanders	30 Ashlea Anderson Cecil Miguel Corrina White	31 Brenda Arellanes-Burgos Clyde Santiago Lino Valles, Jr. Kristen Villegas			

AK-CHIN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Language Coordinator
- Elder Care Worker (2)
- Slot Compliance Assistant (Tribal Gaming)
- Recreation Program Assistant
- Diesel Mechanic Assistant
- Maintenance Technician
- Deli Clerk full-time (Vekol Market)
- Police Officer – certified
- Archaeologist
- Transit Manager
- Substance Abuse Counselor

Open to Enrolled Ak-Chin Members and Current Employees Only

- Art Technician
- Cultural Resource Specialist

APPLICANTS CAN NOW APPLY ONLINE!

Visit Ak-Chin Indian Community website (www.ak-chin.nsn.us) and click Job Openings to review or apply for an open position. If you are claiming Indian Preference, proof of tribal enrollment **MUST** be submitted at the time of application.

EMPLOYEE UPDATE

Mario Molina
Education Division Director
Education

Mathilda Miguel
Security Guard
Security

Veronica Armadillo
Custodian
Maintenance

Pamela Thompson
Director
Health & Human Services

Happy Birthday to my baby brother Erno
Have a Blessed day.
Your brother Joe

Happy Birthday to my daughter Flora
Love, Mom

Happy Birthday to my granddaughters
Lyndsey and Leeann
Love, Grandma

Happy Birthday
Spanky, Chizzer, Shweets,
Lyns and Sister
Love your family

Some of the reasons to quit smoking are very small.

Amanda, age 30, Wisconsin

Amanda smoked while she was pregnant. Her baby was born 2 months early and weighed only 3 pounds. She was put in an incubator and fed through a tube. Amanda could only hold her twice a day. If you're pregnant or thinking about having a baby and you smoke, please call 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC.gov/tips

BUCKLE UP!

Every Person, Every Seat, Every Time.

The Facts

- American Indians and Alaska Natives are more at risk for getting injured or killed in a car crash than other Americans.¹
- Three out of every four passengers who died in car crashes on reservations were not wearing seat belts at the time of the crash.²
- Seat belts reduce the risk of serious injury and death in a crash by about half.³

Help Keep Yourself and Your Loved Ones Safe

You can help keep yourself and your loved ones safe by:

- Wearing a seat belt every time you ride in a car.
- Buckling up the right way.
 - The lap belt goes across the hips, below the stomach.
 - The shoulder belt goes across the middle of the chest and over the shoulder.
 - Never put the shoulder belt behind your back or under your arm.
- Always wearing a seat belt even when the car or truck has air bags.
- Never riding in the bed of a truck.
- Never using a seat belt to buckle more than one person at a time.



Big Rob

DT continued from page 14

for using performance-enhancing drugs.

Short Bus dealt with a heckler who made it difficult for him to deliver jokes. “A heckler is sometimes fun and can bring something to the show. The problem with tonight’s heckler, is she wouldn’t let me get to the punchline of the joke. But, you know what, I’ve been doing this for almost 15 years. It’s something



Ashley Rose

we deal with on a regular basis. Everyone else was great. Being out here in Maricopa, a lot of the community came out and was really supportive and I’m just glad to be here.”

Much of his humor is derived from his ability to laugh at himself. “Obviously, I come out acting ‘mentally-challenged’ and I don’t do it to be mean to ‘disabled people,’ I do it because as soon as my wheels hit that stage, I’m being



DT Trujillo

judged. People are thinking, ‘Is it OK to laugh at this guy? Does he talk funny?’ For me, I don’t act that way and make that joke to be mean. I do it because I have to break that barrier. I think a lot of times, I’m already at a disadvantage before I get on stage than a normal, able-bodied comedian. But I still have to be true to myself.”

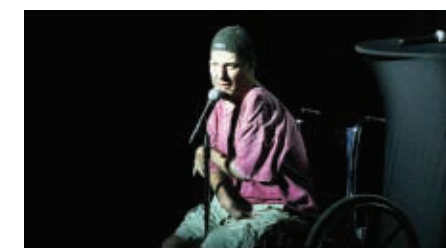
Perkins talked with the Runner and took a moment to recognize the venue. “I think that Ak-Chin



Clayton Perkins

(UltraStar Multi-tainment Center) is the best stage in town. I mean, It’s a movie theater. The people that live out here, I’m sure they need stuff to do, and they come out and have a good time. People come out here to laugh,” he said.

Big Rob agreed. “Maricopa is an underestimated very low-key town that people don’t know about. We have the best laughs, I love this. I’m traveling all over the country and on different stages every week.



Short Bus

Coming back here, without a doubt, I feel like I’m home. The Ak-Chin community is the best.”

Rose had never performed in this part of Arizona until this night. “This is the first time I was out this way (Maricopa) and it was great, the crowd was very good. They were very receptive,” she said.

The next show is slated for September, 2019 with a date TBD.




Monday Through Friday Fixed-Route Schedule.*
*Although we'll make every effort to maintain this schedule, unforeseen factors may cause slight changes to the pick-up and drop-off times. Please arrive early at your bus stop to accommodate for potential deviations. You may call ahead to check the status of your bus and pick up location.

MORNING SCHEDULE		EVENING SCHEDULE	
MONDAY - FRIDAY		MONDAY - FRIDAY	
Location	Time	Location	Time
Juan at Hohokam WB	7:25 AM	Apartment EB	5:00 PM
Miguel at Ralph WB	7:26 AM	Farrell at the Elderly EB	5:01 PM
Ralph at Hohokam WB	7:27 AM	Vekol Market EB	5:02 PM
Narcia at Vincent WB	7:28 AM	Farrell at the Gym EB	5:04 PM
Farrell at Enos WB	7:29 AM	Farrell at BIA House EB	5:05 PM
Farrell at Antone Park WB	7:30 AM	Farrell at Justice Center EB	5:06 PM
Farrell at Church	7:32 AM	Ultrastar EB	5:08 PM
Farrell at Carlyle WB	7:33 AM	Harrahs West EB	5:08 PM
Farrell at Elderly WB	7:34 AM	Harrahs South EB	5:09 PM
Apartment EB	7:35 AM	Peters & Nail at Milo EB	5:12 PM
Farrell at the Elderly EB	7:36 AM	Ak-Chin HQ/Farms EB	5:13 PM
Vekol Market EB	7:38 AM	Barley at Pecan EB	5:14 PM
Farrell at the Gym EB	7:39 AM	Farm at Peters & Nail WB	5:15 PM
Farrell at BIA House EB	7:40 AM	Juan at Hohokam WB	5:21 PM
Farrell at Justice Center EB	7:41 AM	Miguel at Ralph WB	5:22 PM
Ultrastar EB	7:43 AM	Ralph at Hohokam WB	5:23 PM
Harrahs West EB	7:43 AM	Narcia at Vincent WB	5:24 PM
Harrahs South EB	7:44 AM	Farrell at Enos WB	5:25 PM
Peters & Nail at Milo EB	7:47 AM	Farrell at Antone Park WB	5:26 PM
Ak-Chin HQ/Farms EB	7:50 AM	Farrell at Church	5:27 PM
Barley at Pecan EB	7:51 AM	Farrell at Carlyle WB	5:28 PM
Farm at Peters & Nail WB	7:52 AM	Farrell at Elderly WB	5:29 PM

Demand-Response Service Schedule: Monday-Friday from 8:15am to 4:45pm.*
 Need a ride? Call: 520-568-1630 Text: 520-340-0382

Demand-response services are available within the Ak-Chin Indian Community and most commercial and government addresses located within a five-mile radius of Community boundaries. Without exception, ALL RESERVATIONS MUST INCLUDE EITHER A PICK-UP OR DROP-OFF LOCATION WITHIN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY. Our demand-response service is a reservation based system which operates on a first-come first-served basis. We recommend that you make your reservation at least 2 hours in advance of your requested pick-up time. You may make a reservation up to 7 days in advance. Last minute requests may be accommodated if the schedule permits but may not always be available. The following information will be required when making a reservation: Name, phone number, pick-up address, drop-off address and requested pick-up time. Reservations may be made Monday through Friday, from 8:00am to 5:00pm. You must be 15 years or older to make reservations for our demand-response service.



NOW HIRING

- Experienced Line Cook
- Experienced Server
- Experienced Bartender
- Experienced Nightclub/ Sports Bar Server

Interested candidates may apply at
 UltraStar AkChin.com
 or pick up an application at
 UltraStar's box office.



FREE CHIPS N' SALSA
 A BETTER WAY TO ENJOY HEAT!

ARROYO GRILLE AT AK-CHIN SOUTHERN DUNES IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

(520) 426-6832 ARROYOGRILLE.COM

ARROYO GRILLE AT AK-CHIN SOUTHERN DUNES IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

DINNER \$39++

DATENIGHT

WEDNESDAYS - SATURDAYS IN JULY

2 SALADS 2 SELECT
 CHEF PREPARED
 ENTREES
 1 SHARED DESSERT
 DISHES TO DO

*Not valid with any other specials, offers or discounts. Tax and gratuity extra. Offer valid through 7/27/19.

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 48456 WEST HWY 238 • MARICOPA

UPCOMING EVENTS



NOISE POLLUTION
 AK-CHIN TRIBUTE
DAMAGE INC
 METALLIC TRIBUTE

SATURDAY, AUG 17
 7 PM - 11 PM
 TICKETS: \$20



MICHAEL SALGADO
 WITH
 DAVID LEE GARZA Y LOS MUSICALES
 Y EL GRUPO EL REGRESO

SATURDAY, AUG 31
 7 PM - 11 PM
 TICKETS: \$30



EXTREME MIDGET WRESTLING
 BADDEST LITTLE SHOW

SATURDAY, SEP 7
 8 PM - 10 PM
 GA TICKETS: \$20
 RINGSIDE: \$30
 VIP: \$40

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE AT THE ULTRASTAR AMPHITHEATER
 TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE BOX OFFICE OR ONLINE



UltraStarAZ.com
 16000 Maricopa Road, Maricopa, AZ 85139
 Theater Info (520) 494-7827 • (520) 568-3456





GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2019
 EVENTS CENTER • NOON – 7PM

RECEIVE \$20 IN FRY'S GIFT CARDS

After earning 125 Tier Credits from 6AM to 6:45PM on July 6, 2019!

GUESTS INVITED TO RECEIVE FREE GIFT CARDS CANNOT EARN ADDITIONAL GIFT CARDS. Limit one redemption per person. Invite must be present to pick up gift cards. Supplies are limited. First come, first served. In the event that demand exceeds total supply, Harrah's reserves the right to issue Free Slot Play for the gift card amount in lieu of the gift cards. Actual items may vary. Offer is by invitation only and is non-transferable. Any Free Slot Play prizes must be accepted at a slot machine by 11:59PM on the Promotional Day and will expire 72 hours after deposit. Valid only at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino and must have a Caesars Rewards card and valid photo ID to participate. Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino is not responsible for damaged or malfunctioning gifts. All redemptions are final, no returns. Management reserves the right to change or cancel this promotion at any time without prior notice. Must be 21 or older to gamble and take advantage of this offer. Know When to Stop Before You Start.® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700 or 1-800-NEXT STEP. ©2019 Caesars License Company, LLC. See official rules at the Caesars Rewards Center for complete details.

2019

CONCERT LISTINGS

AK-CHIN PAVILION 

- July 21 – Beck and Cage the Elephant
- July 27 – Rockstar Energy Drink DISRUPT Festival w/ The Used, Thrice, Circa Survive, Sum 41, Sleeping with Sirens, and more.
- July 31 – Third Eye Blind & Jimmy Eat World
- August 3 – Rascal Flatts with special guests
- August 4 – KNOTFEST: Slipknot, Volbeat, Gojira and Behemoth
- August 5 – Blink-182 & Lil Wayne
- August 9 – Mary J. Blige with Nas
- August 10 – 311 w/ The Interrupters, Dreamers, and Bikini Trill
- August 16 – Chris Young & Chris Janson
- August 28 – Heart with Joan Jett & The Blackhearts, Elle King
- August 31 – Korn & Alice in Chains
- September 13 – Dave Matthews Band
- September 15 – Breaking Benjamin, with Special Guest Chevelle, Three Days Grace, Dorothy and Diamante
- September 19 - Florida Georgia Line with Special Guests Dan + Shay, Morgan Wallen, Canaan Smith
- October 3 - Meek Mill & Future



NEXT LEVEL

MYSTERY MULTIPLIER

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019
 6AM – 3AM • NEXT DAY

YOU COULD RECEIVE A

2, 3, 4 OR 5X

TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER!

Swipe your Caesars Rewards card at a designated Promotional Kiosk between
 8AM & 11:59PM to receive your

MYSTERY TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER!

Tier Credits earned on July 12, 2019 from 6AM to 3AM will be multiplied and added to
 your Tier Score® to help you get to the NEXT LEVEL!

TIER CREDIT BONUS ARE NOT MULTIPLIED. Offer not valid for Video Poker, non-gaming credits or Bingo. Only Tier Credits earned during Promotional Period apply. Missed swipes will not be rewarded retroactively. Promotional Period is from Friday at 6:00AM to Saturday at 3:00AM. For a 2X multiplier, if a participant earns 100 Tier Credits, they will have an additional 100 Tier Credits added to their account for a total of 200 Tier Credits. Maximum of 5,000 Tier Credits will be multiplied. Tier Credits may take up to 5 business days to appear in account. These offers are not redeemable for cash. Offer is by invitation only and is non-transferable. Valid only at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino. Management reserves the right to change or cancel these promotions at any time without prior notice. Must be 21 years of age or older to gamble and take advantage of this offer. Know When to Stop Before You Start.® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700 or 1-800-NEXT STEP. ©2019 Caesars License Company, LLC. See official rules at the Caesars Rewards Center for complete details.

NABI continues from page 1a

from Italy and Mexico came out for a cultural exchange and exhibition games. The Jr. NABI Basketball Camp was held from June 24-25 with special guest, former WNBA player and NABI Alumna Angel Goodrich. The Nike N7 Experience wowed players on June 26 at Copper Sky Recreation Center in Maricopa. Silver and gold finalists had a chance to walk during halftime at NABI Night with the Phoenix Mercury. The First Annual NABI Educational Youth Summit was held at Elements and Maricopa High School from June 24-26

“It was just fabulous. We had our Jr. NABI camp going,

20 basketball games, our college and career fair going on. All of this was going on during the week. We held our first annual educational youth summit with 6 presenters. It was just non-stop wonderfulness,” said GinaMarie Scarpa Co-Founder, President and CEO of NABI.

On the court, girls and boys pool play to reach the brackets were held at Maricopa High School Gyms 1A/1B, Ak-Chin Recreation Center, Vah-Ki Recreation Center, Leading Edge Academy and Maricopa Wells Middle School from June 24-26 with the brackets being filled in and played June 27-28



Ak-Chin boys and girls teams come together, holding the Ak-Chin Indian Community seal and flag while walking in the NABI opening ceremonies parade of teams.

Elders continued from page 2a

inviting elders to learn the Poi dance. Some elders learned the dance right in their seats. The young men shared a haka dance as well.

The Legendary Elite teams from Oklahoma visited on Tuesday, sitting with and enjoying lunch with elders. Introducing themselves one by one, the elders learned that several players have already received offers to play basketball at the college level.

Wednesday was set aside for the Team Alaska boys team but they

were unable to attend. Last year the team was followed through the NABI tournament for the Religion of Sports documentary. The team was mourning the loss of one of their players who lost their battle with cancer. His memory lives on with the “KeoStrong” t-shirts they wore.

Team Samoa visited the elders on Thursday, June 27. Bringing candy wreaths, they presented them to all the elders and elder staff present. Ak-Chin Council and elders gave the young ladies and their coaches shell necklaces with satin ribbons.

Sunday’s opening ceremony of International Grand Marshals; music students from Italy who were on hand after their performance earlier for Ak-Chin elders and



FROM LEFT to RIGHT: NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr., Councilmember Delia Carlyle, Maricopa Mayor Christian Price, Chairman Robert Miguel, Councilmember Lisa Garcia, NABI Co-founder Gina Marie Scarpa, and tribal guests during the Opening Ceremony at UltraStar.



NN Elite girls team makes a statement during the opening ceremonies by painting a red hand over their mouths, symbolizing the inability of missing and murdered indigenous women to speak for themselves.



Signs and banners welcomed NABI teams to Ak-Chin and the City of Maricopa. Banners on the light poles lined Farrell road to Vekol Market.

Team Mexico, comprised of Tohono O’odham members and indigenous ballers from Nogales and Hermosillo, Sonora Mexico.

an O’odham rendition of the National Anthem, followed by the Parade of Teams and their tribal flags.

The evening began with a posting of colors from Ak-Chin Police, followed by Ak-Chin Language, Little Mr. and Miss Ak-Chin and Gila River Royalty singing

The evening concluded with remarks from Ak-Chin, Maricopa and NABI leaders, followed by a meet and greet party, inclusive with dj, entertainment, dance contests and giveaways.



FROM LEFT to RIGHT: Jr. Miss Gila River Susanna Osife, Lerline Peters, Little Mr. Ak-Chin Stacy Antone, Little Miss Ak-Chin Sofia Iniestra, Felicia Vincent, Velacita Lopez and Miss Gila River Tyler Owens during the National Anthem.



Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel poses with the NABI teams from Oklahoma. Holding their home jersey, the group has several players who will be playing at the college level.

NABI brings education to the forefront with first annual youth summit

Story by C.Picciuolo and photos by Runner Staff

The First Annual NABI Educational Youth Summit was held at the Elements Event Center at Ak-Chin Circle and at Maricopa High School during pool and bracket play for players to become educated about a large variety of topics related to health, mindfulness, culture, and careers, to name a few.

This year marks a big change for the educational portion of NABI. In 2018 educational seminars had one speaker a day, with three speakers over three days. This year, the format changed to a summit and features 6 speakers. The teams have to attend at least two presentations per day.

“Last year, our three seminars were conducted by three NABI alumni. We had a

doctor, a lawyer and a sports marketing professional,” said Scarpa.

“We wanted to expand on the education component of NABI because that’s what NABI was created for, to create college opportunities and highlighting the opportunities for our kids. To add that summit, it truly made us more about education, and now that’s going to oversee the tournament.”

Day 1

Healthy and Whole is Inspire and Motivate Your Community

Medical Director of the Institute of Congestive Heart Failure at Abrazo Health Community Kris Vijay



Medical Director of the Institute of Congestive Heart Failure at Abrazo Health Community Kris Vijay talked

gave a powerful presentation at Maricopa High School about the prevention of non-communicable disease and taking care of your mind and body so that you may give back to the community.

Vijay discussed the Seven Personal Principles: mastering the mind, following a purposeful life, practicing self-improvement, living with discipline, respecting time, selfless service and embracing the present.

Due to his expertise, Vijay brought up joining Club 100, which is motivating people to keep their blood sugar under 100, systolic blood pressure closer to 100, LDL cholesterol under 100, triglyceride closer to 100, 100 calorie consumption per hour of awake time and exercising a minimum of 100 minutes per week.

“Life is ups and downs and you go through it with a certain idea in your mind. You have a certain goal in your mind, you want to be financially stable and have good relationships. In sports, you’re also driven and you want to get there,” said Vijay.

The Truth About Methamphetamine and Let’s Talk Pressure



The board at UltraStar Multi-tainment Center at Ak-Chin Circle lights up a warm welcome to the players attending the Youth Summit next door at Elements and MHS.

Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI) Case Manager Kayla-Rae Wakeland addressed the players and coaches at Elements about two different topics: methamphetamine abuse and the different types of pressure that teens face.

Wakeland also talked about which MSPI services are provided to the communities and what the funds can be used for. MSPI aims to reduce the incidence of methamphetamine abuse through prevention training, surveillance and intervention programs.

Other services MSPI has

to offer are: individual counseling, case management, youth mental health first aid training, H.O.P.E. suicide prevention workshops and an intensive outpatient program.

Wakeland also hosted the

Let’s Talk Pressure seminar. The youth watched a video about the different kinds of pressure and interacted with each other by leaving a sticky note guessing what kind of pressure a situation was. Wakeland practiced letting the kids practice saying no in



MSPI Case Manager Kayla-Rae Wakeland does an exercise with youth athletes about peer pressure.

continued from page 1b
certain social situations.

“Everyone sees pressure as peer pressure, but there are actually different types of pressure. There is direct pressure, which is someone telling you to do something and indirect pressure, when nothing is actually said to you, but because others are doing something, you feel pressures to do the same. So, just letting the kids know that there are just different types of pressure,” said Wakeland.

Day 2

Bank of America: Better Money Habits
Ms. Renee Allen from Bank of America hosted a seminar about understanding the benefits of money management, credit and college finances. Allen said that keeping money in a bank is important for safety reasons, convenience, a lower cost, security and being able to build your financial future. Youth learned about checking and savings accounts, and since most have probably never written a check, going over the basics of check writing was found to be an important message. Having a retirement account, mutual funds, bonds and stocks rounded out the discussion, along with advice about renting and buying property.

Sports Medicine: What is it and How Can Sports Lead to Healthcare Careers?
Sports Medicine Physician Dr. Nicole Stern, MD, FACP, a member of the Mescalero Apache Tribe, addressed the youth about the various paths for sports-related healthcare careers, including athletic training, physical therapy, chiropractor, and kinesiology. She encouraged

a career in medicine with the long-term goal of reducing healthcare disparities for American Indians and Alaska Natives. “We desperately need physicians, nurses, dentists, physical therapists, etc. for our native people. We continue to see a stagnant number of natives going into medicine and we want to reverse that trend. We feel by reversing that trend, we’ll be able to make an impact on the health conditions that affect American Indian Communities,” said Dr. Stern.

Generation Indigenous: My Path to Medical School
UC San Diego School of Medicine PHD student and member of the Pauma Band of Luiseñ Indians Alec Calac discussed the moments that led him to University of Arizona, his current school and career path. Alec showed a graph from the Association of American Medical Colleges that saw a 4% decrease in American Indian/Alaska Native medical school applicant pool, having only around 100 applicants in the 2017-2018 academic year.

“I would like to acknowledge the Ak-Chin Community for hosting NABI because it’s so important to engage tribal nations in this process and really provide a space to gather for Native American youth to discuss opportunities for Indian Country,” said Calac.

Measuring Yourself Against Your Dreams, Not Your Current Situation
Buu Van Nygren is the Director of Business Development at Navajo Engineering Construction Authority, and once ran for Vice President of the Navajo Nation. Nygren discussed the importance of giving



Ms. Renee Allen from Bank of America interacts with a girls basketball player about money management.



Dr. Stern and Alex Calac at the Ak-Chin podium at Elements.



Nardi Leonard gives a speech about New Zealand and her tribe.



Arlee Warriors have a Q&A with youth in the audience as Kevin Carroll looks on during their joint session.



Buu Van Nygren talks to the youth with dreaming big.



Youth interacts with Twila Cassadore in her talk about nutrition.

back to your community and pursuing higher education. He incorporated fundamentals of basketball in his speech, such as not being shy when you’re trying to score points and pass the ball.

“You look at where you want to be, the man or woman you want to become. If you can look towards that, you can build resiliency and strength. That is what is known in Indian Country: to be strong, determined and moving forward. I think that the Ak-Chin Community is doing that,” said Nygren.

Own YOUR Future!

“Ki te kahore he whakakitenga ka ngaro te iwi”

-Kingi Tawhiao Potatau

Without foresight or vision the people will be lost.

Maori Educationalist and head of delegation for the New Zealand team Nardi Leonard gave a passionate talk at the Maricopa High School Auditorium about the Maori people and how they balance lives in their country. Leonard showcased various sports such as netball and Maori athletes who excel at their craft. She drove home one particular point: the best way to predict your future is to create it. Afterward, she chatted with the New Zealand and Samoan teams and talked with the Runner about Ak-Chin. “The Ak-Chin Community epitomizes hosting. The warmth and the love from the Community, I can’t put it into words. It’s just been a blessing for us and we keep coming back every year. We love it,” said Leonard.

Day 3

We Are What We Eat

Twila Cassadore is a desert food forager from Bylas, AZ who has taken upon herself a tall task of keeping traditional diets, hunting, and nutritional intake alive in her Community. She displayed a fantastic video of Bylas Apache peoples practicing traditional hunting methods as they create spears and have fun catching packrats in bushes and cacti clusters. Youth who were attending gave a collective “ew” after seeing the animal being caught as Cassadore laughed and left everyone with some words of wisdom to remember who you are, where you came from and who you survived from. “I talked about indigenous nutrition. When I say indigenous nutrition, it’s reconnecting people back to the land from where they’re from and understanding the stories, their life ways and how to incorporate those into today’s way of living,” said Cassadore.

Katalyst for Change and the Warrior Movement

Motivational speaker and author Kevin Carroll stormed the MHS Auditorium with his fiery brand of communication, keeping the youth engaged in his talk about embracing the spirit of play and creativity to maximize their potential and sustain more meaningful personal growth. Carroll introduced the Arlee Warriors from the Warrior Movement on stage as the players and coach took turns chiming in about their platform to be a force for positive change in discussing the importance of sport and mental health. The Arlee Warriors want to bring hope to those who are contemplating suicide, an important topic for the native youth to take in.

continued on page 3b

Let the games begin!



Evone Santiago of the Ak-Chin girls squad sets up the play. The girls showed a lot of heart and improvement this year.

Ak-Chin member Noahli Antone from Angels Team, takes it up the court against Shooting Stars.



For five days teams, fans, and family traveled to the six different gyms; returning teams were high on the list for viewing, while new teams were making headlines; every day you could find exciting action, meet new people and surround yourself with a positive and rewarding atmosphere that filled all courts.

Although our Ak-Chin Boys and Girls teams did not make it to Saturday’s championship, they worked hard and earned much respect from the teams they played as well as the fans in the stands.

Ak-Chin Boys went 2-1 in pool play winning against Arizona’s Sand Devils and the New Mexico Sharpshooterz, while losing a close game to Meskwaki Nation from Iowa. Ak-Chin Girls were 1-2 losing to Rez Bombers from Arizona

and Arrow Creek from Montana. They had an exciting close win against NGA Hau E Wha from New Zealand. Both AKC teams were taken out in the first round of bracket play as the girls were slotted in the silver division, and the boys making it to the gold division.

Rose Walton, Executive assistant to Gina Marie Scarpa. “It was amazing. Just seeing all the teams come in, the delegates from Italy and Mexico, that was a nice addition. I was the supervisor for the three main gyms for Maricopa High School, Maricopa Gym B and Maricopa Wells Middle School. It was pretty eventful, especially the sellout teams and games and you never know where the teams will fall on the bracket. They were intimate, exciting games.”



Left: Alaska faces off against SnakeTown Boys. Alaska traveled far to play in the NABI tournament and competed with impressive play.



Above: Team Samoa fights for the ball against Mexico in an exhibition matchup.



Ak-Chin Boys with Chairman Miguel and Council member Carlyle after their last NABI game for 2019.



Ak-Chin Language Program shows their support with handmade signs during an Ak-Chin Boy’s home game.



AK-CHIN GIRLS NABI TEAM 2019

continued from page 2b



UC Irvine player Brad Greene talks to youth at MHS about how to make it to the NCAA.

youth to take in.

The Road to Being an NCAA Athlete
NCAA basketball player at UC Irvine Brad Greene spoke to athletes who have hopes for moving forward in their sports career. Green played at NABI from 2014-2015 and this is his second year helping with the foundation. Last year he worked with the Jr. NABI, and this year he pulled double duty speaking to both the younger and older crowds.



Retired NBA referee Tommy Nunez, Sr. shares his knowledge and stories about his career.

“Today, I’m talking about going to college and becoming a college athlete. I’m trying to inspire the next generation of basketball players because the numbers of Native Americans in college aren’t that good. Growing up in my native community alone (Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone) I didn’t have that many role models who played sports that went to college or even saw too many on camera,” said Greene.



Suns and Mercury Account Executive Maisey Gillies gives career advice to youth during her speech.

Enjoying the Journey
Tommy Nunez, Sr. is a retired NBA referee and current area supervisor for NCAA men’s basketball. Nunez is very approachable and put his arm on the shoulders of youth as he gave them advice. He talked about his career and highlights being a referee during the Michael Jordan era, saying he was one of his favorite players. Nunez also told stories about being a brown referee during a white-dominated time. “Watching rez ball is an honor. You run

and gun and just go for it. You guys play some great basketball. You all have potential. I’ve seen how you play out here,” said Nunez.

Beyond the Rez, Beyond the Basketball Player
Phoenix Suns and Mercury Account Executive Maisey Gillies inspired the young

players in the seats who came to listen to her talk about her childhood and how she got to where she is now. Gillies was up for a promotion and it came down to her and two others to take the NABI account and she ended up with the position. She also talked about her life on the reservation and deciding

to attend Arizona State University, showcasing a sports industry career beyond playing basketball. “I never thought I would be in this position when I was sitting in their seats 10 years ago. So, to me it’s such an honor for me to tell my story,” Gillies said.



Above: Mercury player Essence Carson made a surprise appearance.



Right: Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel, former WNBA player Angel Goodrich and NABI co-founder GinaMarie Scarpa ended the summit with a panel discussion.

“With a lot of the income that comes in from our ventures, we’re able to support things like NABI and the Super Bowl when the Patriots and the Seahawks played. We really got ourselves involved into sports. We know that entertainment is a key and so when you see a lot of the great sports events come through Arizona, most likely we’re sponsors, and we’re proud of that.”

-Chairman Robert Miguel



Top: Mexico boys squad shares the court with Ak-Chin boys along with coaches, delegates, chaperones and Ak-Chin Council Members.



Left: Ak-Chin boys player Jose Miguel, Jr. with Bronson Koenig, a Ho-Chunk Nation basketball player who has played in the NBA G League and had contracts with the Milwaukee Bucks and the Chicago Bulls.



Above: Crow Boiiz basketball team and coaches pose for a photo at Elements with their flag representing the Crow Tribe.

Left: International CA boys player is among the many visitors to Jalen's Sugar Shack Ice Cream Truck, which provided much-needed cool treats during a hot week.



Left: New Zealand and Samoa girls teams unite for a group photo on the MHS auditorium stage after a talk by Maori educationalist Nardi Leonard.

Right: Samoa traveled all over Maricopa and Ak-Chin as they played an exhibition game with Mexico, who was comprised of T.O. members and indigenous players from Nogales and Hermosillo, Mexico.



Mercury hosts NABI Night



Top: Ak-Chin Color Guard holds the flags up high while Tewakeedah Rain Spirit Martin sings the National Anthem. Color Guard L-R: Sgt. Lorenzo Holcomb, Ofc. Greg Perry, Ofc. Jesse Calugcugan, Ofc. Sheryl Grothe and Ofc. Shawn Pietrzak.

Right: Girls Unity player from Yakama Nation poses with Phoenix Mercury WNBA player Leilani Mitchell.



Top: Phoenix Mercury rookie Sophie Cunningham drains a well-guarded lay-up. Sophie won player of the game honors.



Eight silver and gold bracket teams walked across the hardwood during NABI night to celebrate.

Left: Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation boys squad.

Right: New Mexico Elite girls squad.



Above: Sweat Rocks boys proudly walk across the court during halftime as they waited for their turn to try to win gold the next day.



The kids being around the other kids, the excitement of the games, what they do to get here to play on an NBA/ WNBA court in this building is amazing. It’s intense going into the brackets. We had two young ladies who played in NABI for three years, twin sisters, they got accepted to Stanford. They got \$10,000 scholarships.

*-GinaMarie Scarpa
Co-Founder, President, CEO of NABI*

2019 NABI Boys and Girls brackets lead to championships



Ak-Chin Color Guard bring in the flags during the opening ceremony at Talking Stick Resort Arena. From left to right: Sgt. Lorenzo Holcomb, Ofc. Gregory Perry, Sgt. Autumn Gonzalez, Ofc. Sheryl Grothe and Ofc. Recruit Ricky Bunch.



NM Elite - GOLD DIVISION GIRLS CHAMPIONS



Ak-Chin Language program and royalty sing the National Anthem at TSRA on June 29.



The only dunk made during the championship games was made by a Sweat Rocks player.



Native All-Stars perform a routine.



Sweat Rocks - GOLD DIVISION Boys Runner-Up



Maricopa Mayor Christian Price (left) with NABI CEO Gina Marie Scarpa (right) for the presentation of the Phil Homeratha Leadership Award. Awarded to Team Alaska coaches Steve and Sharene Craft, they have brought teams to the tournament for ten years.



Shooting Stars - SILVER GIRLS CHAMPIONS



Red Storm - SILVER BOYS CHAMPIONS



SILVER DIVISION Runner-Up
LEFT:
PINK THUNDER
RIGHT:
THREE NATIONS



In a game that was live streamed by Gila River Broadcasting on YouTube, a FMD player passes the ball to his teammate at Talking Stick Resort Arena on Saturday, June 29. FMD went on to beat Sweat Rocks winning the NABI Gold Division Boys tournament.



Twins Leanna and Camilla Lewis, standing with great-grandmother Eugenia Apkaw were each presented NABI scholarships. Both plan to attend Stanford University.



LEFT: Unity - Gold Division Girls Runner-Up



The Phoenix Suns Gorilla.



Team Alaska coach Steve Craft and family members of Keoni Allralria accept a NABI blanket in his memory.

GATHER: FOOD, FUN & FAMILY

HEALTHY FAMILY HABITS START AT THE DINNER TABLE JOIN US AS WE PREPARE AND SHARE A DELICIOUS FAMILY STYLE DINNER

2 Gatherings: Tuesday, JULY 16th & Tuesday, JULY 30th
Ak-Chin Service Center
5:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Every family leaves full of good food, good times, and good (LEFT) laughs!

*Open to the first (2) Ak-Chin Community families to sign up. There will be additional opportunities throughout the year for additional families.

*Please contact Lynne Houston-Volden at (520) 568-1086 or Martina Peters at (520) 568-1085 for questions or more information.

Team Samoa visits Him-Dak EcoMuseum



Photo by Ann Marie Antone

As a part of the welcome to Ak-Chin for the NABI tournament, Community Events encouraged visits to both the Him-Dak EcoMuseum and Ak-Chin Language Program departments.

With identified four times, Team Samoa was the only team to visit the museum. Stopping by right after their visit with the Ak-Chin elders, they learned a little bit more about the Community.

Teams were also encouraged to follow Ak-Chin on their social media.

LEFT: Team Samoa outside the Him-Dak EcoMuseum on Thursday, June 27.