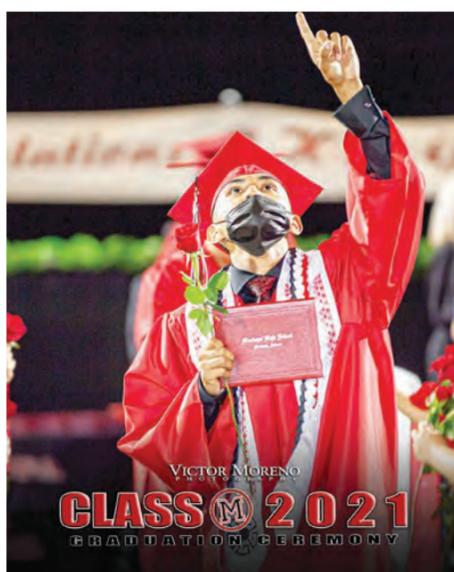




## Ak-Chin students enjoy 2021 graduation ceremonies

Story by R. Peters



Left: Joe Miguel, Yvonne Santa Cruz and Patrick Garcia enjoy a moment after receiving a blessing at Our Lady of Grace church in Maricopa. (Photo by R. Miguel) Middle: Marco Jensen looks up and points to the sky after receiving his diploma from Maricopa High. Right: Jaelyn Justin fist-bumps Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel and Maricopa Wells Middle School Principal Thad Miller after receiving her diploma. (Photos by Victor Moreno)

To say we've come a long way since March 2020, is such an understatement, especially for those who have had to make numerous adjustments this past year. Students in particular, have had to bounce back and forth, from being home schooled, returning to in person learning, and then the roller coaster quarantine that kept them out of school and stuck at home for what seemed like forever.

They also missed out on socializing with their friends, and the opportunity to participate in school activities, clubs and sports, which may have also hindered a possible scholarship. Some even experienced COVID on a personal level, and some also had family tragedies due to the pandemic. It was a very rough

year for our students. But now, it is time to gather together and celebrate their achievements.

The Community is extremely proud and honored to say "CONGRATULATIONS" to the many Ak-Chin students who worked so hard to be able to participate in their graduation ceremonies. In all, we had over fifty students recently and receive diplomas for promotion and graduation. A long list of eighth graders will soon be joining the high school ranks and over 20 high school students turned their tassels and will soon be looking towards a bright future, with diploma in hand.

Ak-Chin Advisor-Tutor, Matthew Tess had the opportunity to attend the

graduation ceremony for Community member, Jilayne Miguel.

"I attended the Betty Fairfax ceremony at the Veteran's Coliseum in Phoenix on May 20th and the Phoenix Union Native Graduation Celebration on May 15th. The Native Graduation Celebration was very well done. It was good to see Phoenix Union recognize their Native students in a private ceremony (outside of the individual school celebrations)." Matt shared.

"Our very own Jilayne Miguel even spoke during the ceremony. As for Betty Fairfax, it was good to see students graduate in-person again. Due to the graduation being "invite only", the Coliseum had screens set up in

the parking lots for extended family."

Matt was also on hand to witness our eighth graders promote at Maricopa Wells Middle School on May 24th and Desert Wind Middle School on May 25, at the Maricopa High School football Field.

"It was a good ceremony to celebrate the promoting 8th graders and a lot of comments about the relationship between Maricopa Unified and Ak-Chin over the years... One thing that stuck out the most was the retirement of David Foster; a teacher who had an extensive impact not only on the students he taught but, on the staff, as well."

May 26 was the big day for

all seniors graduating from Maricopa High School. It was extra special for our Native students as well, as Ak-Chin Language Program and former Vice-Chairman Gabriel Lopez were asked by Ak-Chin Student Counselor Teresa Valisto, to provide a blessing and sing a song, earlier that day.

Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel also participated in the Maricopa high school and middle school ceremonies, speaking to the students about their future and success. He was on hand to give diplomas to all Ak-Chin students.

Many graduates paid tribute to a loved one during the ceremony, like Reginald Delores who had pictures of his late mother Paulina Delores

Graduation continues to page 3



Kids enjoy soaking up some sun and fun at Ak-Chin pool. (File photo)

On March 26, 2020, the Ak-Chin Indian Community issued a declaration entitled "Declaration of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Proclaiming a State of Emergency Due to the COVID-19 Outbreak."

In addition to the March 2020 Declaration, many Orders of the Chairman were issued. On June 17, 2020, the Chairman ordered a limitation on large events and mass gatherings of no more than (10) people, which was amended on July 1, to include and establish a curfew.

Even though the Community of Ak-Chin

is smaller than many of the other Arizona tribes, adhering to the strict limitations and restrictions was very challenging, especially for our elders who relied on face to face communication, while others utilized phone technology and social media to keep in contact. Another Order that struck hard with the youth was the Order issued on April 8, 2020 directing the closure of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Parks and Recreational Facilities. The Chairman implemented another Order on March 1, 2021, amending the June 17, 2020 order to prohibit

wakes and establish new and additional Ak-Chin Cemetery and Burial Procedures. This Order was extremely devastating to those who lost family members during the peak of COVID, as funerals were kept to a minimum and wakes were forbidden.

With questions from the membership on reopening and lifting restrictions and the significant progress that has been made with COVID testing and the abundant availability of the COVID vaccines, Ak-Chin Council is now moving forward to slowly and safely open up the Community.

## Opening up Ak-Chin

Story by R. Peters

"Right now, the Community has moved in lifting certain orders that were in place during the height of the pandemic." Chairman Robert Miguel shared.

Council, the Ak-Chin Incident Management Team and staff from Gila River Health Care have been instrumental in providing information and recommendations for a safe reopening that is in the best interest of the Community's health.

One of the first things Council addressed was ending the Partial Closure for Community departments, which had been extended for several months. On May 17, 2021, employees were to return to work at Phase I or 50% status. They also provided a return to work policy for their departments. Many departments have had staff working on a regular basis, such as fire, police, Vekol Market, Sanitation and Elder Program.

Council has graciously

allowed Administrative Leave pay for all full-time community employees since January 2021. They also paid Community, Harrah's and UltraStar (now Ak-Chin Circle) employees with Admin Leave, when the community first closed, from March to May, 2020.

Council has also rescinded the order directing the closure of Ak-Chin Parks and Recreational facilities, as well as "allowing community gatherings, full wakes and funerals to continue, normal curfew hours and enterprises opening at 100% just to name a few." Chairman stated. "All of this is to move forward of course with safety guidelines that are still in place. This is not the full opening that we were accustomed to prior to the pandemic, that familiar opening will not occur until we receive recommendations and guidance from the CDC and other sources that the community has

continued to work with thus far."

With the reopening of Community departments, Ak-Chin Recreation has announced the pool is open as well as the facility by appointment only. The Him-Dak Museum Arts Program and Ak-Chin Child Development have announced summer classes. Ak-Chin Circle is opening more movie theatres and extending their hours. Harrah's and Ak-Chin Circle have also advertised for future entertainment.

Council has been very diligent in keeping the Community safe, and asks for the Community to do this same.

"I understand the urgency of wanting to move forward with opening at 100%, but the community and membership have done a tremendous job of abiding to and understanding policies, guidelines and procedures in place for over a year now."

Opening continues to page 8

# Nutrition Education Program comes to end

Submitted by: Candace Allcott, ElderCare Worker Supervisor



Above, a nice insulated bag, portion plate, magnetic meal planner, pedometer and cutting board were some of the incentives received for completing the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. EFNEP was offered through the Ak-Chin Elder program and University of Arizona Cooperative Extension.

(May 25) This week marks the end of this year's Nutrition Education Program.

Elders and Caregivers who participated will receive a graduation certificate and a parting gift!

The last couple of years the Elder Center has partnered with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension to provide their Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. (EFNEP)

This year we had over a dozen Elders who participated and completed all 8 weeks of the course.

Each week Elders received an education packet which included a test. The test was returned each Friday for credit.

Elders who returned the test received a prize. A few of the items they earned included

a set of measuring cups and spoons, a meat thermometer, and a snack cup and sandwich spreader.

We would like to thank the Elders who participated. This assists the Center in fulfilling the nutrition education requirements for our grants. Next month we will be concentrating on getting our Caregivers recertified in CPR and First Aid. Watch for a notice and call in to sign up. Classes will be limited with Covid restrictions and precautions.

Depending on the level of interest, we will hold them weekly or bi-weekly until we get all our unpaid Caregivers and Grandparents raising Grandchildren certified. If you are a paid caregiver you can sign up on a reserve list and we will contact you if we have room for an extra participant.

## COMMUNITY MEETING Monday, June 28, 2021



**SCAN & EDIT OLD PHOTOS**

Ak-Chin Indian Community Library  
For Any Questions  
Contact The Library at  
(520)568-1675  
Or Email  
WAntone@ak-chin.nsn.us

**REMOVE**

- Cracks
- Scratches
- Age spots
- Pen marks
- Stains

Before After

**EDIT**

- Color
- Image size

Before After

## Elder June Breakfast-Lunch Menu

- 4. French Toast, bacon, fruit, chocolate milk \ Tuna Fish or Chicken Patty Sandwich, Broccoli, 3 Bean Salad, Pears
  - 7. Cream of Wheat, boiled eggs, toast, cereal, milk \ Lima Beans, Chicken Bake (D), Asparagus, Corn, Rolls, Pineapples
  - 8. Bacon, scram eggs, potatoes, biscuit, banana, juice \ Red Chili Stew, Peas, Carrots, Chumath, Mandarin Oranges
  - 9. Biscuit & gravy, sausage patty, boiled eggs, fruit, juice \ Pork Chops, Scalloped Potato, Wild Rice, Bread, Watermelon
  - 10. Chorizo & egg burrito, sliced apples, chocolate milk \ Squash Casserole, Brown Rice, Salad, Rolls, Pineapples
  - 11. Pancakes, sausage, strawberries & blueberries, juice \ Chili Dogs, Corn on Cob, Pasta Salad, Ice-Cream
  - 14. Sausage & egg burrito, banana, juice \ Pizza, Wings & Salad, Tropical Fruit
  - 15. Oatmeal, boiled eggs, English muffin, yogurt, cereal, milk \ Split Peas, Ground Beef (D), Beets, Zucchini, Pop Over, Apple Crisp
  - 16. Chorizo & egg Quesadilla, diced potatoes, fresh salsa, sliced apples, juice \ BLT Sandwich, Wax Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Apple Rings w/Cottage Cheese
  - 17. French Toast, sausage patty, strawberries & blueberries, juice \ Chicken Stir Fry Vegetable, Fried Rice, Egg Rolls, Jell-O
  - 18. Chicken fried steak, scram eggs, biscuit with gravy, chocolate milk \ Ribeye Steaks, Baked Potato, Carrots, Green Beans, Rolls, German Chocolate Cake
  - 21. Sausage, scram eggs, diced potatoes, toast, grapes, juice \ Fish or Chicken Sandwich, Broccoli, Carrots, Cookies
  - 22. Bacon & egg burrito, sliced apples, juice \ Ground Beef Tacos, Black Beans, Spanish Rice, Berry Fruit Mix
  - 23. Cream of Wheat, boiled eggs, bagel with cream cheese, yogurt, cereal, milk \ BBQ Chicken, Sweet Potato, Yellow Squash, Plums
  - 24. Ground beef & egg breakfast tacos with lettuce & tomato, potatoes, salsa, banana, juice \ Carne Asada Burritos, Corn, 3 Bean Salad, Apple, Oranges
  - 25. Biscuits & sausage gravy, bacon, grapes, chocolate milk \ Black Eyed Peas, Moon Bread, Normandy Vegetable, Peaches
  - 28. Oatmeal, boiled eggs, cinnamon raisin toast, yogurt, cereal, milk \ Chicken Salad on Lettuce, Tomato, Cole Slaw, Fresh Cut Fruit
  - 29. Pancakes, sausage, scram eggs, grapes, juice \ Potato Soup & Salad, Rolls, Pears
  - 30. Bacon, scram eggs, diced potatoes, toast, banana, juice \ Tri-Meat, Subs, Chips, Pasta Salad, Ice-Cream
- \*\* Some items may change without notice\*\*

### Supply Goods Distribution Drive Thru

## Saturday, June 5, 2021

- Distribution will be at Service Center from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM and is for Ak-Chin Member and resident households who reside on the reservation and for Member households who live off the reservation.
- Supplies are for each household and **not for each member.**
- Members must show proof of residence with current address (i.e. utility bill, insurance card, Driver License and/or tribal ID with current address).
- Individuals who are picking up items for a Member **MUST** have a letter of authorization from the Member naming the individual who is picking up the supplies. This allows the Community to have a record of who picked up their supplies.
- Community households living on or off the Reservation and are unable to pick up their supplies on Saturday, June 5th, **please contact Flora Howerton at 520-568-1043** to arrange a pick up.

### FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTION

**Saturdays from 8 am – 11 am**

**Mountain View Community Church**  
50881 West Papago Road

APR 16 2021 AM 9:56

IN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT  
COUNTY OF PINAL, STATE OF ARIZONA

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY Plaintiff, Case No.: JV-2021-00007-TP  
Vs. AMANDA GREEN, Defendant. NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: AMANDA GREEN

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED setting:  
Review Hearing set for Wednesday the 16th day of June, 2021 at 9:30 AM at the Ak-Chin Justice Complex 45525 W. Farrell Road, Maricopa AZ 85139.

DATED this 16th day of April, 2021

By: *Brittany Dalton*  
Deputy Clerk

APR 9 2021 AM 10:56

IN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT  
COUNTY OF PINAL, STATE OF ARIZONA

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY Plaintiff, Case No.: JV-2020-00031-TP  
Vs. KRISTEN ANTONE, Defendant. NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: KRISTEN ANTONE

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED setting:  
Review Hearing set for Friday the 9th day of July, 2021 at 9:00 AM at the Ak-Chin Justice Complex 45525 W. Farrell Road, Maricopa AZ 85139.

DATED this 9th day of April, 2021

By: *Brittany Dalton*  
Deputy Clerk

APR 16 2021 AM 9:56

IN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT  
COUNTY OF PINAL, STATE OF ARIZONA

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY Plaintiff, Case No.: JV-2021-00008-TP  
Vs. WHITNEY JUSTIN, Defendant. NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: WHITNEY JUSTIN

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED setting:  
Review Hearing set for Wednesday the 16th day of June, 2021 at 9:15 AM at the Ak-Chin Justice Complex 45525 W. Farrell Road, Maricopa AZ 85139.

DATED this 16th day of April, 2021

By: *Brittany Dalton*  
Deputy Clerk

# Ak-Chin Health Education has a strong presence for May the 4<sup>th</sup>



Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community ©2021

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

**OFFICE HOURS**  
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
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FAX: 520\*568\*1376  
E-MAIL:  
runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us

**Ak-Chin O'odham Runner**  
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Photojournalist:  
Justine Peters  
Graphic Artists:  
Diana Carlyle and  
Rebecca Bowen

**Ak-Chin Tribal Council**  
Chairman: Robert Miguel  
Vice Chair: Lemuel Vincent  
Council Members: Delia Carlyle, Lisa Garcia and Octavio Machado

**Regular Contributors:**  
Ak-Chin: Cultural Resources, Education, EPD, Health Education, Him-Dak, Library, Health & Human Services, Recreation & MUSD.

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

The "Runner" is delivered to all residents and departments of the Ak-Chin Indian Community, as well as surrounding community businesses, interested groups and subscribers.

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Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

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

**ARTWORK, LETTERS, STORIES**  
The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner is a Community Newspaper and encourages Community involvement.

If you have artwork, photos, poems or a great story that you would like to share, please contact us so we can include it in "YOUR" newspaper. Also, if you have suggestions or comments 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 a return address and brief description. Pictures with no address will remain on file. Allow 2 weeks for return.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATE**  
2021 Subscription rate is \$33.75. If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$33.75 check/money order to:

Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

Make check/money order payable to:  
Ak-Chin Indian Community

**DEADLINE**  
Don't forget the DEADLINE for the June 18 - July 1, 2021 issue is due by **FRIDAY, JUNE 11TH**

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than **FRIDAY, JUNE 11TH**

Material submitted after the **JUNE 11TH DEADLINE** cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in the next issue.

For two weeks members and employees from all galaxies were invited to participate in Ak-Chin Health Education's Second Annual "MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU" virtual events.

Once signed up they recorded their walk/run distance and time using a fitness app, then sent a screen shot of their event results for proof of their virtual participation, to Martina Guy-Peters, Health Education.

Martina sent out a thank you to everyone, "for continuously aiming to put forward your best effort; whether it be waking up early before work to complete walk, or working on improving your walk and run times. **THANK YOU!** Your hard work truly shows."

Martina then tallied up all the results and shared all top finishers:

## 2021 May 4th Events TOP FINISHERS

**OVERALL 10K MALE:**  
1. Chris Hayes 1:00:57  
2. Kaleb Vavages 1:08:32  
3. Rayford Vavages 1:08:32

**OVERALL 10K FEMALE:**  
1. Cecily Peters 57:09  
2. TeriLynne Kisto 57:37  
3. Alyssa Dickerson 59:28

**OVERALL 5K MALE:**  
1. Adrian Fierro 22:54  
2. Juan Luis Rodarte 27:35  
3. Steve Peters 29:47

**OVERALL 5K FEMALE:**  
1. Danel Peters 29:11  
2. Britny DeGeest 31:17  
3. Aleina Estrada 31:37

## TOP 5K FINISHERS AGE CATEGORIES:

**12 & Under**  
Adriana Hernandez 1:05:48  
Zachary Garcia 1:00:56

**13-18**  
Bailee Arviso 33:36  
Adam J Bowman 54:43

**19-29**  
Danel Peters 29:11  
Steve Peters 29:47

**30-39**  
Britny DeGeest 31:17  
Adrian Fierro 22:54

**40-49**  
Tamarita Ned 33:36  
Juan Luis Rodarte 27:35

**50-59**  
Shauna-Rae Brown 47:27  
Dale Hinz 1:13:29

**60+ -----**  
Lawrence Wells 57:09

**KIDS 1.5 MILE 3 & UNDER**  
1. Julian Rodarte 20:29  
2. Jonah Dickerson 23:24  
3. Elena Helpingstine 23:42

**4-8 GIRLS**  
1. Areceli Fierro 15:18  
2. Ariel Lopez 20:03  
3. Claudia Rodarte 20:29

**4-8 BOYS**  
1. Jose Lopez Jr. 16:15  
2. Mason Bowman 17:47  
3. Joaquin Dickerson 23:24

**9-12 GIRLS**  
1. Isabella Fierro 14:16  
2. Sophia Languren 20:29  
3. Angela James 22:48

**9-12 BOYS**  
1. Antonio Rodriguez 14:34  
2. Mateo Rodriguez 18:40  
3. Alex Nelson 20:53

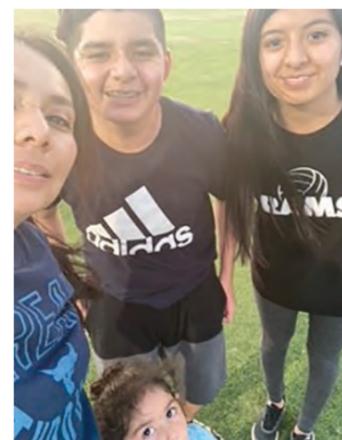
Once all times were recorded and awards and incentives were ready, Martina sent another email letting everyone know how and when to pick up their

goodie bags. Bags included awards for placement winners, a Star Wars themed t-shirt and stickers, snacks and a breakfast voucher for Vekol Market.

For those who submitted their information in time, they were entered into a raffle for more great Star Wars themed gifts. Raffle items included; Star Wars backpack, beach towel, art kit, slow cooker, protein shaker, Bluetooth speaker, tumbler, chalk set and socks. A variety of gift cards were also raffled.

"Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2nd Annual May the 4th Be With You Events! This event was so much fun to host." Martina shared.

"Health Education would like to thank Vekol Market for providing food to our participants, Waylon Antone for the artwork for the t-shirts, and the continued support and participation of all participants. Everyone did an amazing job completing their walk/run! We look forward to hosting our next event... Stage Run... please look out for information soon."



## Graduation continued from Front

on his graduation cap. Tommy Jensen, acknowledged his late grandfather Justin Romo, Sr. as he raised his hand and pointed towards the sky. Laila Gardner also decorated her cap in honor of her late uncles, David Peters, Sr., Norbert Peters, Sr., and her cousin Norbert Peters, Jr.

Although, the ceremonies were not as long as those in the past, with strict restrictions on gatherings and limitations on guests, graduates were still able to physically enjoy the live ceremonies, with friends and family looking on. Virtual viewings were also available for many of the ceremonies, for those who were not able to attend.

Many of our students celebrated their graduations out of district. Unfortunately, the Runner did not attend, although many family members graciously shared photos. Thank you to all who submitted photos. We are still hoping to receive photos from ceremonies that we did not get in this issue. We don't want to miss anyone so please send photos and information to us, so we can celebrate your graduate's special day in the Runner. Photos and information

can be emailed to: [runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us)

We would like to acknowledge and thank Mr. Victor Moreno and Mr. Gabriel Lopez for sharing many of the photos you see in this issue. We would also like to thank Education staff members Teresa Valisto, Matthew Tess and Tera Thornton, Ms. Armonda Santiago, and Chairman Robert Miguel for taking pictures, providing names, and pointing us in the right direction to find students and obtain photos.

Hats off to our 2021 graduates, and respectful nods to our 2020 graduates, who unfortunately, had to settle for a virtual ceremony, drive-by diploma pick up or joined in with this year's ceremonies.

Each and every one of our students deserves a huge round of applause, congratulatory hugs, pats on the back and gifts galore, for being such strong and determined young minds. Kudos to all the parents, grandparents and guardians as well, education and parenting were twice as tough this year.

You all truly deserve to fully enjoy your summer with family, friends and plenty of safe celebrations!!

# 2021 High School Graduates

## Grad Wishes



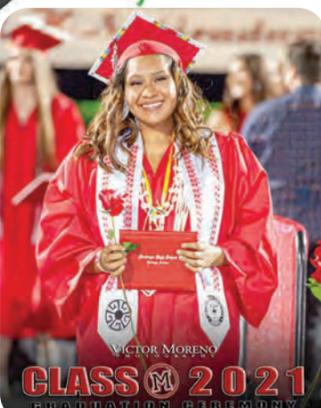
Marie Antone  
Maricopa High School



Desiree Bernal  
Maricopa High School



Reginald Delores, walks the stage proudly with his cap dedicated to his mother.  
Maricopa High School



Elaina Enos  
Maricopa High School



Laila Gardner, displays her cap in memory of his past uncles & cousin.  
Maricopa High School



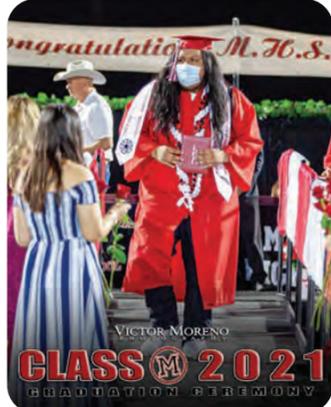
Kerrianna Justin  
Maricopa High School



Jessie Kisto  
Maricopa High School



Kateri Lopez  
Maricopa High School



Derek Manuel  
Maricopa High School



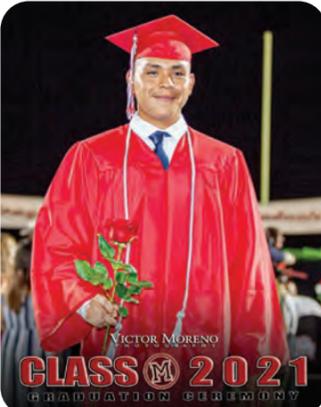
Jilayne Miguel  
Fairfax High School



Jose Miguel Jr. & Noahli Antone  
Heritage Academy



Cayden Peters with his family  
Sequoia Pathway Academy



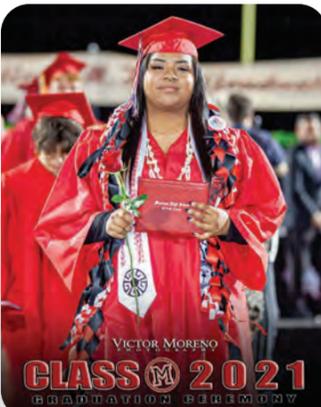
Isaiah Peters  
Maricopa High School



Evone Santiago  
Maricopa High School



Jolie Smith  
Leading Edge Academy



Zaida Soliz  
Maricopa High School

### Language Department visits with Native Graduates at MHS

Photo and story submitted by Language Department



On May 26, 2021 Mr. Gabriel Lopez and the Ak-Chin Language Staff (Felicia Vincent, Velacita Lopez, Lerline Peters) received a request from Ak-Chin Advisor Teresa Valisto, to provide a Blessing and sing a traditional song for the 2021 Maricopa High School Native Graduates.

Before the Blessing, Mr. Lopez and Lerline Peters, shared some encouraging words of a

job well done.

Being online was a challenge for the students, but with all the encouragement, praise from family and friends, it helped them to accomplish their goal in life. Never give up, always push yourself and you will succeed.

Congratulations, "We Are Very Proud Of All Of You."



To: Zaida "My Pretties" Soliz & Christian "My Pumpkin" Soliz

I know this year was tough on everyone but you both worked hard to make the grades so you can move to the next level in your lives. One has the world to explore and another on to High School make them your best years. They will fly by quickly. Congratulations to you both. Lu'lu'u & Ga'Ga'a is so Proud of you two.

Proud Lu'lu'u & Ga'Ga'a, Velacita Lopez

To: My Niece Kateri "Terri & Auntie Turtle" Lopez

Last one of the Lopez Girls on your Ba;ba;a's side to Graduate. Auntie is so proud of you. In all that you strive for I always knew you had so many hidden talents, you just needed to dig deep into your soul to find it and more to come. Congratulations Kateri Laine Lopez

Proud Auntie, Velacita Lopez

To: All the Graduating Class of 2021

S-cekdo  
Mac Am Si Ves Has Em Eliã

E: Ai Mamã O: Ba'ic Hi'hi

From: The Language Program- Velacita Lopez, Lerline Peters, Felicia Vincent

Congratulations to our GRADS!!



Congratulations Mr. Dante, you made me very proud of you. We did it all by ourselves and we will continue to achieve your goals. Love Mom



Dannon, oh the places you continued to go... Little Bird, we're so proud and grateful for all the academic and athletic achievements you have completed throughout your journey! Goal after goal, you worked hard for each little step of success, and had quite a bit of fun along the way too. Time for a little break, you deserve it!!! Love, Dad and Mom



Percy, you've worked hard to stay on top of all you needed to do to get to this special day. We are so happy to see that you have the determination to keep moving forward... time for a little break for you too. Have a fun summer and remember to always have "super-duper" fun in everything you do!! Love, Bapa and Luma

Congratulations Laila, Jolie, Saleena, Cayden, Isaiah, Myles, Jaelyn, Chizzum and Johnny on your graduation/promotion!!! Love, Uncle/Goddaddy Cecil, Auntie/Godmama Raychel and family



Congratulations Laila on your HS graduation! We are so proud of you!! Love, Grandma, Mom, Dad, Sisters and family

Congratulations Maxine on finishing school, you worked so hard on this and we are all so proud of you! We know your Mom, Gram, & Papa are especially proud of you for never giving up. We love you Max!

Love, your family

Congratulations Marie on finishing school, you worked so hard on this and we are all so proud of you! We know Gram & Papa are especially proud of you for never giving up! We love you Marie!

Love, your family



Sequoia Pathway Academy  
Skye Gonzalez

-Skye, we are so proud of you! You persevered and proved to yourself that you can do anything you put your mind to. Many thanks to your teacher, Mrs. Garcia, for giving you the tools for success. Keep being amazing throughout your educational journey and watch your dreams come true!

We love you - Momma and Mommy



To my Beautiful daughter Desiree Bernal congratulations class of 2021 Maricopa High School. You can achieve whatever you want in life as long as you believe. And we believe in you! Congratulations, Desiree. You know what makes your graduation extra special? It's having watching you grow up, having so many good memories of you and knowing all the challenges you've worked through to get to this day. I'm so proud of you. You've come a long way since you were that frightened little girl on your first day of kindergarten. Look at you now! We are so proud of you.

Love mommy and Marky



Congratulations to Daria Garcia on your 8th grade Promotion from Desert Wind Middle School!

We know it was a bit tough the past three years to get thru all the challenges of middle school and we are so proud of you to see that you overcame all of that and finished with a smile on your face knowing you are capable to do anything to accomplish your goals. Next step now is High School. Now, there is no need to "grow up" too quickly :0) but enjoy your high school years as we all know that them years will go by quick. Just know you made us very proud because you are our "baby" and as always, we will be there to guide and support you on what your heart is set on. We love you very much! And again Congratulations!

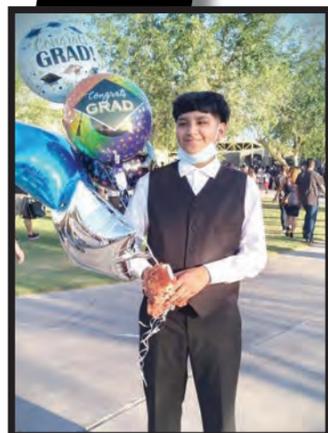
With love from: Mama, Dad, your brothers, sister, nieces and the rest of the family

*The Runner would like thank Victor Moreno and Gabriel Lopez for all their help in capturing these precious moments*

# Middle School Promotions



MWMS Promotee Victor Galvan. Photo by Victor Moreno.



Joseph Pilone promotes from Maricopa Wells Middle School. Submitted Photo.



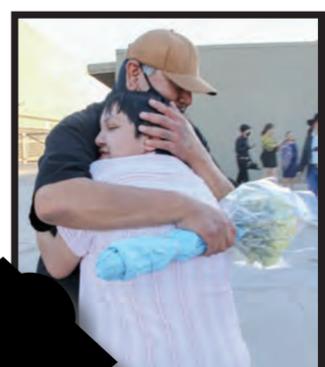
Desert Winds Middle School promoter Daria Garcia with family.



Casa Grade Middle School promotee Jeffrey Peters. Submitted Photo



2021 Maricopa Wells Middle School



Maricopa Wells Middle School promoters (L-R) Xzalius Homer (Submitted Photo), Madalina Delores with her father and Teagan Delma with her parents.



L to R: MWMS promotee Julian Lewis with his grandparents and Jedidah Smith with family.



L: Jamison Vincent with family after the MWMS promotion ceremony.



R: Matthew Manuel promoted from Maricopa Wells Middle School.



MWMS 8th grade promotee Alana Oliver.



Family and friends gather to celebrate their new high school class.

## Ak-Chin Child Development June 2021

### Happy Summer

**Staying Hydrated**  
During this time we should all keep hydrated, water is our best friend. Important roles of water

- Control body temperature
- Digesting food
- Eliminate waste in body

#### How much should my child drink?

- Children under 8 (depending on size, age, and activity) are recommended to drink 4-6 glasses of water.
- If your child is active they will need more than the recommended intake.

- Dry mouth, cracked lips, constipation, lethargy, dark urine, headaches, poor concentration, and thirst are all signs of dehydration

#### Tips

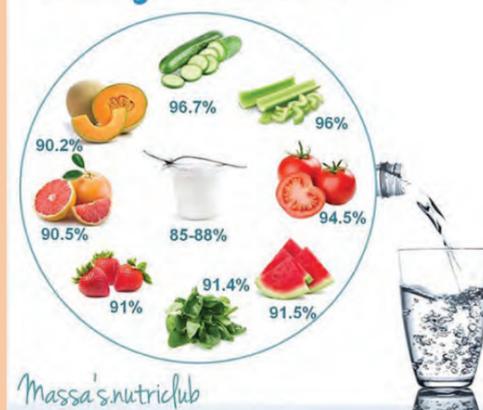
- Encourage your child to drink water/ offer water with meals

- Add slices of fruits to water (lemon, orange, strawberry, etc.)
- Let your child choose their own

water bottle/serve water in colorful glasses or cups

- Add ice cubes or put water in refrigerator to cool down
- Be a role model and drink water with your child(ren)!

### Eat your water



Congratulations to all 2021 middle school promoters

If you need additional resources about home activities, have questions or concerns or would like to talk to one of our teachers, please call us at 520-568-1700. We are here to help!

48251 W. Farrell Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85138  
Phone: 520-568-1700 Fax: 520-568-1701



COVID-19 Test Dates,  
Vaccines & More!  
Visit [GRHC.ORG/HUB](http://GRHC.ORG/HUB)

### COVID-19 VACCINE AVAILABILITY

# JUNE 2021 SCHEDULE

DATE:	LOCATION:	TIME:
June 5	Sacaton Boys & Girls Club	9 am - 3 pm
June 9	Sacaton Boys & Girls Club	9 am - 4 pm
June 12	D6 Service Center (Komatke)	9 am - 3 pm
June 16	Sacaton Boys & Girls Club	9 am - 4 pm
June 23	Sacaton Boys & Girls Club	9 am - 4 pm
June 26	Sacaton Boys & Girls Club	9 am - 3 pm
June 30	Sacaton Boys & Girls Club	9 am - 4 pm



## Save The Date

### SERVICES OPENING JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup>

For further information, please call GRHC at  
(520) 562-3321

*Reminder*

## JULY 4TH CLOSURE

Gila River Health Care's  
Administrative Offices and Outpatient Clinics  
will be

### CLOSED

### MONDAY, JULY 5, 2021

**nsc.org/heatstroke**  
**nsc.org/hotcars**

**CARS GET HOT ENOUGH TO KILL IN MINUTES.**

**MAKE IT A HABIT TO ALWAYS LOOK BEFORE YOU LOCK.**



ELAPSED TIME	Outside Air Temperature			
	75	80	85	90
0 minutes	75	80	85	90
10 minutes	94	99	104	109
20 minutes	104	109	114	119
30 minutes	109	114	119	124
40 minutes	113	118	123	128
50 minutes	116	121	126	131
60 minutes	118	123	128	133

Courtesy Jan Null, CCM; Department of Meteorology & Climate Science, San Jose State University



**IT'S NEVER SAFE**

**to leave a child unattended in a car...**

**NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE.**

**nsc.org/heatstroke**  
**nsc.org/hotcars**

**BUCKLE UP!**

Seat Belts and Car Seats Save Lives



Protecting Our Precious Gifts, so We can Watch them Grow

The Injury Prevention Program offers a variety of classes  
For more information please contact  
**Teri De La Cruz**  
520-568-1087 or TDeLaCruz@ak-chin.nsn.us

**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM**

**Ak-Chin Library Dial-a-Story**  
**Call 520-423-6980**



- Press 1 to hear **The Greedy Lion and the Clever Little Rabbit**
- Press 2 to hear **El león tonto y el conejo inteligente**



**\*Check The Runner for your insert to create your mini-book to read along when you call!**  
**\*Video on how to make your mini-book:**  
<https://youtu.be/aHw6h4OyxSI>  
**\*Listen to the stories in English and Spanish and add them to your Summer Reading minutes!!!**

This project is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

**VIDEO CREATION**

Turn your home videos and photos in to a video to share with family or on social media.

Memorial Video  
Slide Show  
Event Celebration



**Summer Reading 2021**

OPEN TO:  
**AK-CHIN MEMBERS**  
**RESIDENTS**  
**EMPLOYEES & THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY**

Scan the QR code to sign up



<https://akchinlibrary.azsummerreading.org/>

for more information contact the library at:  
520-568-1675  
akchinlibrary@gmail.com?

**Game Night**

**AMONG US**

Join us the 2nd Friday of the Month at 4 pm to find the imposter among us.  
Text us @ 520-612-1013 to register.

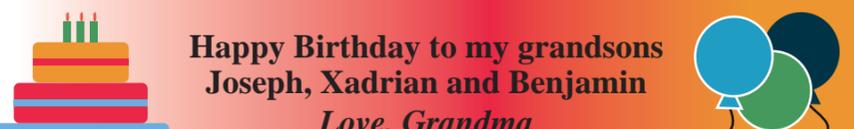
**EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS JUNE 1ST - 17TH**

6/2 Pamela Dallas, <i>Contracts and Grants</i> Virginia Zepeda, <i>Maintenance</i>	6/11 Alex Bowman, <i>Finance</i> Pamela Velasquez, <i>Education</i>
6/7 Kashmir Miller, <i>Law &amp; Order</i> Marissa Antone, <i>Elderly</i>	6/12 Jaime Diaz, <i>IS</i> Jesus Espinoza, <i>Maintenance</i>
6/8 Hermalinda Mavis, <i>IS</i>	6/13 Robert Martinez, <i>Sanitation</i> John McCullough, <i>Human Resources</i>
6/10 Thomas Hoetzlein, <i>Fire &amp; Safety</i>	6/16 Daniel Antone, <i>Law &amp; Order</i> Charles McCarty, <i>TGA</i>

**June Birthdays**

<b>1-June</b> Cruz Machado, Jr.	<b>14-June</b> Brenley Hackney Amorie Narcia Ralph Martinez	<b>23-June</b> Lillian Shade Charity Vincent
<b>2-June</b> Astraya Warren	<b>15-June</b> Saul Ruelas Cecil Miguel Jr.	<b>24-June</b> Adela Zabawa Autum Manuel Kevin Ormsby Nicole Narcia Salvatore Johnson Jr.
<b>3-June</b> Kiandra Smith	<b>16-June</b> Manuel Ortega Lupe Kaniatobe Daniel Antone	<b>25-June</b> Johnny Lopez Mary Rodas Anthony Antone
<b>4-June</b> Joseph Zabawa	<b>17-June</b> Anelia Jacuinde Mauktho Sehongva' Jose Raul Ruelas Clorenda Humeyumptewa Kali Wind	<b>26-June</b> Savanna Gonzalez Tylen Zepeda Rufus White Delores Rodrigues
<b>5-June</b> Mario Luz Haedin De Paola Alyssa Wind Jessica Quintero	<b>18-June</b> Shanna Narcia Myles Peters	<b>27-June</b> Esperanza Moreno Aiyana Narcia Gabriela Narcia Sheila Bandin Joseph Narcia, Sr.
<b>6-June</b> Uriayzz Antone Marie Thomas Ramona Kaniatobe	<b>19-June</b> Josefa Lewis Michelle Smith Kellen Hoffman	<b>28-June</b> Makaylia Allison
<b>7-June</b> Marco Thompson Marissa Antone Zylen Antone-Silas	<b>20-June</b> Julianna Smith Justin Zabawa Juanita Balderrama	<b>29-June</b> Janelle White Priscilla Allison John White Susan Guerin
<b>8-June</b> Xadrian Miguel Mylauni Antone	<b>21-June</b> Bridget Carlyle Sedra Dean Tanya Enos Linda Jose Curtis Dean Andreas Antone	<b>30-June</b> Esmeralda Santiago John Zabawa Martin Antone Sr. Ionni Flores
<b>9-June</b> Consuelo Juarez Jason Smith	<b>22-June</b> Baya Olivas Pamela Vincent Davidson Ugalde Jr. Pablo Alejandro Jr. Genisis Sandoval Bija Talkalai	
<b>10-June</b> Holly Kaniatobe Marvin Lewis Ashley Vincent	<b>13-June</b> Jeremy Carra Samuel Justin Richard Villegas	

**Happy Birthday to my grandsons Joseph, Xadrian and Benjamin**  
*Love, Grandma*





# 2021 SAN JUAN FEAST

47463 W. FARRELL ROAD  
MARICOPA, ARIZONA 85139

## TRADITIONAL MEAL DRIVE THRU

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021

10 AM UNTIL FOOD RUNS OUT - PICK UP ONLY

MENU: CHILI STEW, BEANS, POTATO SALAD, CHUMUTH

Opening continued from front

Chairman shared. "Please continue to stay safe and healthy and follow all steps in place."

Another question that has come to Council is the opportunity to

have dances in the community.

"At this time, Council has not allowed dances to resume, but may change in the very near future, which again will be dependent on our continued great numbers of testing and vaccinations."



**MOVIES**  
ak-chincircle.com/theater

**THE CONJURING: THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT**

**Monday - Thursday:** 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 6:30pm & 8:00pm

**Friday:** 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 6:30pm & 8:00pm

**Saturday:** 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 6:30pm & 8:00pm

**Sunday:** 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm, 5:30pm, 6:30pm & 8:00pm

**CRUELLA**

**Monday - Thursday:** 12:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:45pm & 8:30pm

**Friday:** 12:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:45pm & 8:30pm

**Saturday:** 12:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:45pm & 8:30pm

**Sunday:** 12:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:45pm & 8:30pm

**A QUIET PLACE PART II**

**Monday - Thursday:** 12:00pm, 12:15pm, 2:15pm, 3:15pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 7:45pm & 9:15pm

**Friday:** 12:00pm, 12:15pm, 2:15pm, 3:15pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 7:45pm, 9:15pm & 10:15pm

**Saturday:** 12:00pm, 12:15pm, 2:15pm, 3:15pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, 7:45pm, 9:15pm & 10:15pm

**Sunday:** 12:00pm, 12:15pm, 2:15pm, 3:15pm, 4:30pm, 5:30pm, 7:00pm & 7:45pm

**WRATH OF MAN**

**Monday - Thursday:** 12:05pm, 3:05pm, 5:35pm & 8:05pm

**Friday:** 12:05pm, 3:05pm, 5:35pm, 8:05pm & 10:35pm

**Saturday:** 12:05pm, 3:05pm, 5:35pm, 8:05pm & 10:35pm

**Sunday:** 12:05pm, 3:05pm, 5:35pm & 8:05pm

**SPIRIT UNTAMED**

**Monday - Thursday:** 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm & 9:00pm

**Friday:** 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm & 9:00pm

**Saturday:** 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm & 9:00pm

**Sunday:** 1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm & 9:00pm

MOVIES • RESTAURANTS • BOWLING • ARCADE • LASER TAG • GROUP EVENTS

# JUNE EVENTS

Ak-ChinCircle.com

**DAD'S BACKYARD** 1/2 lb. Char-grilled Angus Burger Topped with Sautéed Onions, Mushrooms, Cheddar Cheese, BBQ Sauce, & Fried Onion Rings.

**Burger & Brew**

Includes your choice of side: Fries, Sweet Potato Fries, Cottage Cheese, or Fruit.

Choose a Domestic Draft for \$3 or a Craft Draft for \$4

**Reserve Your Table Today (520) 233-2426**

**SUNDAY JUNE 20**

**MOVIE RELEASES**

- 6/04 Hero Mode
- 6/04 Spirit Untamed
- 6/04 The Conjuring 3
- 6/11 In The Heights
- 6/11 Peter Rabbit

**NEW SUMMER HOURS**

**BOWLING HOURS**  
MONDAY - THURSDAY 12pm - 9pm  
FRIDAY - SATURDAY 11am - 12am  
SUNDAY 11am - 9pm

**COSMIC Bowling \$12**  
SATURDAYS HEADLINE TIME  
2 hours of Unlimited Bowling & Shoes  
LAST CALL AT 10PM FOR COSMIC BOWLING

**National Martini Day**  
\$5 ALL DAY  
June 19

**PETER RABBIT 2 THE RUNAWAY**

**DT COMEDY SHOW**  
JUNE 26  
Tickets on sale June 1st \$10

**ASK ABOUT OUR THEATER RENTALS**  
PARTIES • MEETINGS • PRESENTATIONS • PROPOSALS • SPECIAL OCCASIONS  
Contact Riva Quintana (520) 233-2445 | Email: RQuintana@Ak-ChinCircle.com

**NEW SUMMER HOURS**  
**MOVIE THEATER HOURS**  
MONDAY - THURSDAY 12pm - 9pm  
FRIDAY 12pm - 12am  
SATURDAY 11am - 12am  
SUNDAY 11am - 9pm

**GAMER CAVE**

**GAMERS REJOICE**

For More Information Contact Riva Quintana (520) 233-2445 | Email: RQuintana@Ak-ChinCircle.com

Ak-ChinCircle.com /Ak-ChinCircle /akchincircle

**ARROYO GRILLE** 520.426.6832 | ARROYOGRILLE.COM  
PATIO VIEWS | DINE IN | ORDER TO GO  
48456 WEST HWY 238 IN MARICOPA

**JUNE FREE SMOOTHIE**

**ICE COLD FRUIT SMOOTHIE**

Receive a smoothie with a purchase of entree from main menu. Must present coupon to server. No substitutions. Not valid with any other specials, offers or discounts. One coupon per order, no split checks. Does not include alcohol. Non-transferable. Offer expires 6/30/21.

Proudly owned by the Ak-Chin Indian Community

**RANKED #6 BEST COURSE YOU CAN PLAY IN ARIZONA BY GOLFWEEK**

**SUMMER SIX PACK \$175**

25% OFF GOLF SHOP 20% OFF ARROYO GRILLE  
6 SUMMER ROUNDS OF GOLF #6 miniDunes ROUNDS  
6 CHROME SOFT GOLF BALLS 6 BEVERAGES

NEW FOR 2021 CUSTOM AUTO SUN SHADE

**AK-CHIN Southern Dunes GOLF CLUB**  
EXPERIENCE TROON GOLF\*

Proudly owned by the Ak-Chin Indian Community

480.367.8949 AKCHINSOUTHERNDUNES.COM

**Harrah's AK-CHIN CASINO JUNE 2021**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>MID YEAR'S EVE 4X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b> THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021 NEW PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS • 8AM - 11:59PM Visit a new Promotional Kiosk on Thursday, June 24, 2021 from 8AM - 11:59PM to swipe and activate your 4X Tier Credit Multiplier!	1 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	2 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	3 <b>CELEBRATE THE DAY WITH OUR NEWEST BEERS ON TAP!</b>	4 <b>REWARD CREDIT BONANZA</b>	5 <b>PLAN A SPACATION!</b>	
6 <b>REWARD CREDIT BONANZA</b>	7 <b>BOOK YOUR STAY TO COME AND PLAY!</b>	8 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	9 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	10 <b>#1 - IT'S TIME FOR FUN!</b>	11 <b>REWARD CREDIT BONANZA</b>	12 <b>SUMMER FUN GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY</b>
13 <b>REWARD CREDIT BONANZA</b>	14 <b>MYSTERY REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>	15 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	16 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	17 <b>RESERVE A PRIVATE CABANA DURING YOUR NEXT STAY!</b>	18 <b>REWARD CREDIT BONANZA</b>	19 <b>TOOL SET GIVEAWAY</b>
20 <b>FATHER'S DAY \$10 IN FREE SLOT PLAY REWARD CREDIT BONANZA</b>	21 <b>HEAT THINGS UP AT THE SLOT MACHINES!</b>	22 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	23 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	24 <b>MID YEAR'S EVE 4X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>	25 <b>MID YEAR'S EVE PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>	26 <b>MID YEAR'S EVE PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>
27 <b>MID YEAR'S EVE PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>	28 <b>VISIT THE LOUNGE TO TRY THE PEACH SPRITZ</b>	29 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	30 <b>Parini GRILL TO TABLE SET GIVEAWAY</b>	<b>MID YEAR'S EVE PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b> FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 26 & 27, 2021 NEW PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS • 8AM - 11:59PM Swipe at a new Promotional Kiosk from 8AM to 11:59PM each Promotional Day and activate your Reward Credit Multiplier!		