



## Department Exploration for Preschool Students

Story and photos by Runner Staff



Day one of department visits has preschool students from 3-year old and 4-year old classes pose with goodie bags, decked in yellow and are joined by AK-Chin Courts staff (L-R) Dalena Crawford, Susan Peters, Custodian Heidi Hinz, Deanna Justin and Mathilda Reyna Miguel; this would conclude the trip for the day.

Ak-Chin Preschool wanted to switch up their scheduled learning with a different approach, this being a week-long series of visits with the departments within the community to get insight into their roles.

The series of trips and visits with Ak-Chin employees was conducted by Ms. Mary Narcia.

### Monday, March 3, 2025

To start, the kiddos were taken on a brief tour inside their school to the kitchen at 9:15AM, where they learned the ins and out of the job with Mr. Terry Zicafoose.

He took the group through the back door so they could check out the walk-in fridge

and freezer, then the kids had a look at the pantry and around the kitchen area seeing how the industrial washer works. One key take-away from the tour was the excitement the crowd felt when they saw how much macaroni was in the pantry.

After, the youth and preschool staff made their way to the Ak-Chin Justice Complex where they would meet up with Courts staff.

Here they were shown both courtrooms and were presented with information from staff members; Deanna Justin, Reyna Miguel, Dalena Crawford and Susan Peters; regarding the process of in-session court.

Prosecutor Quinn Shumway

also shared a bit about his job; what he does to help the defendants. During this trip to the courts the kids were shown the holding cell, the location of one of the many panic buttons and the judge's gavel.

At the end of this visit, Court staff gave the group a parting gift of goodie bags and posed for photos in front of the Justice Complex.

### Tuesday, March 4, 2025

It was at 10 AM when Ranger Harry Grizzle, IV and Federal Wildlife Officer Angelo Gonzales of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service gave a presentation at the Preschool on wildlife near and in the community, sharing the importance of their careers and answering questions the youth

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## Ak-Chin Regional Airport continues to provide Air Opportunities

Story and photos by Robert Miguel



Two small engine planes with pilots, prepare for take off during a pilot licensed training at Ak-Chin Regional Airport which sits on the Ak-Chin Industrial Park lands.

A commercial airport landing in Ak-Chin may not happen anytime soon, but who knows, in decades that may be a possibility.

Imagine, American Airlines, Southwest, Delta and United possibly providing departure and arrival services for the

Maricopa-Ak-Chin area. It would be another amenity and service added onto one of the fastest growing areas not only in Arizona, but the southwest United States.

Today, Ak-Chin has the foundation in place for this potential with the Ak-Chin

Regional Airport (ARA), an airport that was originally constructed in 1999 as the Phoenix Regional Airport and owned by private proprietorship. The airport sits next to Ak-Chin's Industrial Park area, which allowed the community to purchase the land and airport when Phoenix

Airport continues to Page 6



Leah Alejandro (front row middle) along with choir group Voce prepare to sing the one of the three song; later in the night all choir groups will join for one song.

## Spring Singing at McClintock High

Story and Photos by Kristen Villegas

As the weather warms up; the mood changes from cold and gloomy to light and cheerful; we can expect exciting seasonal surprises.

The McClintock High School Choir helped bring the season change with a Spring Choir Concert on February 26, 2025 known as Anthology, where all choir groups showcased songs from all over the world

and spanning a variety of languages.

Freshman, Leah Alejandro sang with choir group Voce, meaning sung with half to medium volume. The songs they sang were "Mairi's Wedding"; a song written in Gaelic and originating from Scotland, "Mama Wawa"; a Myanmar nursery rhyme in Burmese, and "Crowded

Spring Singing continues to Page 4



Adam Perillo, from Kimley-Horn presents on the Airport Master Plan at the February Community Meeting.

## February Community Meeting

Story and photo by Raychel Peters

Ak-Chin Tribal Council welcomed about 20 Community Members to the Monday, February 24, 2025 Community Meeting, held at the Ak-Chin Water Reclamation Facility Conference room.

Chairman Gabriel Lopez welcomed everyone to the 6 pm meeting, then asked for an opening prayer, which was

shared by community elder Janice Anderson. After the prayer, the meeting continued with a presentation on the Economic Development Zone Master Plan Update.

Tim Costello, Ak-Chin Airport Manager and Adam Perillo, Professional Landscape Architect with Kimley-Horn shared a projection viewing of the

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Chair Volleyball will be one of the main events at Ak-Chin Recreation's Inaugural Senior Games, March 25-26. Story and photos by Runner Staff

# Arizona to California Elders to take part in Ak-Chin Games

The Chicken Throw, Corn hole Toss, Basketball Throw, Cup Pong, Stackers, Paper Crunch, Oompah Loompa and Chair Volleyball are not necessarily the types of games that you would label as Olympic style competitions. In fact, tossing a chicken may get you in trouble with the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, or PETA, and as far as the Oompah Loompa, you might need approval from Willy Wonka.

For clarity, the chickens that will be tossed are rubber chickens and the Oompah Loompa is a team game which has two volunteers placing a 4-5 foot round ball on the shoulder of participants, who then have to make the finish line, without dropping the ball.

These are the types of events that elders from throughout Arizona and California will be participating in during the 1st Annual All-Indian Ak-Chin Senior Games at the Ak-Chin Recreation Department.

Inspired by elder games and

tournaments throughout the past couple of years in surrounding communities, in particular the Quechan Senior Games in Yuma, the Ak-Chin Recreation Department decided to move forward with one of our own.

"We are thrilled to be hosting the first annual event here in Ak-Chin. This event has been a long-held vision truly inspired by discussions with our dedicated Elder Coordinators and Health Education Coordinators," said Ak-Chin Program Coordinator Sonya Martinez.

"We saw the success of events like the Quechan Senior Games and recognized the opportunity to create something similar here in Ak-Chin, leveraging our central location in Arizona to kick-start our Active Senior Program."

Once the decision was made and an announcement was sent out, the Recreation Department received an astounding response, as slots were filled within a 24-hour period.

34 teams with a total of 174 individuals will invade the Ak-Chin Community on Tuesday, March 25th and Wednesday, March 26th competing individual and team titles.

What has excited the Recreation staff thus far, has been the committed from a few new teams participating in Ak-Chin for the first time. Four teams from the Ak-Chin Community have been added onto the roster of teams participating.

Some members from the Ak-Chin teams have been practicing with Elder and Recreation staff, in preparation for the upcoming games.

At one of these practices that I was able to attend, the intensity, focus and drive for victory was evident as there were no visible signs of smiles, verbal encouragement or handshakes/fist bumps, and this was just practice.

Scheduled on day-one, Tuesday, March 25th, will be the opening ceremonies, which will include teams parading into

Fall Prevention for Elders provided by The Injury Prevention Program

## FUNCTIONAL FITNESS For Elders

Let's BE STRONGER, as we get older

### JOIN US!!

Where: Elements (At Ak-Chin Circle)  
Time: 10:00am – 11:00am  
When: Tuesdays & Thursdays

Questions? Call or email Teri De La Cruz at: (520) 568-1087 or TDelacruz@ak-chin.nsn.us

the Ak-Chin gymnasium. That will be followed by individual games and pool play for Chair Volleyball.

On day-two, Wednesday, March 26th, the championship games will be played with the awards ceremony closing out the tournament.

Another addition to the event will include the opportunity for Ak-Chin members to showcase their talents and entrepreneurship as vendors spaces will be available outside the gymnasium for members to

sell their goods.

"We invite everyone to come and witness the energy and camaraderie of the Ak-Chin Senior Games," Martinez said.

"It's a fantastic opportunity to support our elders, celebrate active living, and enjoy a day of fun and competition. Whether you're participating or cheering from the sidelines, you're sure to have a memorable experience. We're looking forward to a fantastic turnout and a truly special event!"



Ak-Chin Elders (l-r): Lena Cypriano, Connie Orona and Wynema Miguel go through a stretching exercise as they prepare for the upcoming Senior games.

# Elder Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
<p>* Breakfast Served from 7 AM to 8:30 AM</p> <p>* Lunch Served from 12 PM to 1 PM. (Menu Subject to Change)</p>		<p>* For Transportation, call Georgia at 520-568-1760</p> <p>* Movie Questions? Call the Elders Center at 520-568-1760</p>		<p>* Wednesdays: Elder Games at Rec. 9 AM-10 AM or 5 PM-6 PM</p> <p>* Thursdays: Elder Chair Yoga 9 AM-10 AM</p>	<p>3/7 Breakfast Pizza, Avocado Slices, Fruit &amp; yogurt</p> <p>Egg Salad Sandwich, Chips, Fruit Cups</p>
<p>3/10 Scrambled Eggs, Potatoes, Sausage, Toast/Apples</p> <p>Black Eyed Peas, Beef W/ Vegetables, Butternut Squash, Moon Bread, Apple Sauce</p>	<p>3/11 Veggie Scrambled Potatoes, Toast, Avocado Slices, Grapes w/ Cottage Cheese</p> <p>Smothered Pork Chops, Creamed Spinach, Wild Rice, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Mandarin Oranges</p>	<p>3/12 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit</p> <p>Turkey Wrap, Pea Salad, Chips, Jell-O/Apple</p>	<p>3/13 Chicken Fried Steak, Scrambled Eggs, Biscuit, Peaches w/ Cottage Cheese</p> <p>Chicken &amp; Rice, Zucchini, Chumath, Peaches</p>	<p>3/14 Breakfast Burrito, Salsa &amp; Sour Cream, Scone, Fruit Salad</p> <p>Potato Soup, Salad, Whole Wheat/White Roll, Cherry Crisp/ Banana</p>	
<p>3/17 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana</p> <p>Roast w/ Vegetables, Mashed Potato, Green Bean Casserole, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Pistachio Cake/Orange</p>	<p>3/18 Potato Casserole, Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Fruit &amp; Yogurt</p> <p>White Beans, Chicken Fajita, Carrots, Mon Bread, Fruit Cocktail</p>	<p>3/19 Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Mix Berries</p> <p><b>MOVIE DAY</b></p> <p>BBQ Ribs/Plain Ribs, Baked Potato, Salad, Fresh Cut Fruit</p>	<p>3/20 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana</p> <p>Frito Pie, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese Vanilla/Chocolate Pudding</p>	<p>3/21 Chilaquiles, Scrambled Eggs, Refried Beans, Fruit Salad</p> <p>Tuna/Chicken Salad, Over Shredded Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomato, Crackers, Tangerines</p>	
<p>3/24 Breakfast Sandwich, Hashbrown, Fruit &amp; Yogurt</p> <p>Spinach Fettuccine, Romaine Salad, Texas Toast, Watergate Salad</p>	<p>3/25 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit</p> <p>Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potato, Corn, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Pineapples</p>	<p>3/26 Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrown/Casserole, Sausage, Scone/Fruit</p> <p>Butternut Squash Soup, Chef Salad, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Jell-O</p>	<p>3/27 Breakfast Quesadilla, Salsa &amp; Sour Cream, Grapes w/ Cottage Cheese</p> <p><b>Angel Home Health Presentation w/Erin Kariuki</b></p> <p>Red Chili Stew, Green Bean, Chumath, Apples</p>	<p>3/28 Biscuits &amp; Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit Salad</p> <p>Split Peas, Chicken Soft Tacos, Mediterranean Vegetable, Cantaloupe/ Honey Dew</p>	
<p><b>3/25-26 Ak-Chin Senior Games at Recreation Department</b></p>					



# Congresswoman Sharice Davids visits Chairman Lopez

Story and photo by Runner Staff



Kansas Congresswoman Sharice Davids is presented a traditional necklace by Ak-Chin Chairman Gabriel Lopez during a recent visit to the community.

Since being sworn into office as the United States Representative from Kansas's 3rd Congressional District in 2019, Sharice Davids, has made it a priority to visit tribal lands throughout the United States, listening to each's top priorities and concerns and advocating as much as possible at Capitol Hill in Washington D.C.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community has been a community that Congressman Davids has visited on numerous occasions the past few years.

*Congresswoman Davids continues to Page 6*

*Community Meeting continued from Front*

Chin Airport Master Plan along with plan development ideas from previous discussions and meetings with community members.

Tim explained the original community land boundaries in the far eastern part of the community; including the Santa Cruz Commerce area and Hickman's, as well as land purchased over the years that includes the Bunger property and Airport.

He then talked about what the land is currently being utilized for and the Master Use Plan that has been under development for the Airport property.

Adam then presented on a couple of "land plans" that have been created to include more commercial options for the Master Plan. With the growth of Maricopa to the east, these options have very creative opportunities for the community.

Adam pointed out, "You all have done a lot with this property," in reference to all the studies that the community has done in the area, including environmental and transportation studies, as well as work with the drainage, water and sewer systems.

He then talked about the zoning options, to include an industrial one option for future runways with an aviation and roadway component.

He also shared how it could be rezoned in areas for more commercial land use. "It's a lot of property... but if we change the zoning and allowed other things to be done there, then it opens up some possibilities."

With all the

growth happening, "development in Maricopa has taken place west of this site and it can't go any further... so Maricopa has to build east, but it can only grow so far" Adam shared.

He then explained how the Community could maximize on the growth opportunities north and east of the airport, by creating an outlet of shops, restaurants and hotels to accommodate the "rooftops (new houses) ... we feel as though instead of everyone leaving their home north of this and driving west over to 347... they would drive south to this piece of property."

Adam also shared a few visuals of what the development character could look like, utilizing designs currently in the community as well as a streetscape character scenario with walkways and bike paths.

Questions were asked about a market analysis of the area, and whether dining options so close to the agricultural elements would be desirable.

After the presentation, Council members present, including Chairman Lopez, Vice-Chairman Delia Carlyle and Councilmembers Dennis Antone and Cecil Peters provided Council Updates.

Updates included: Council participation in the Sells Parade, along with Chief Garcia; Monday morning meetings with the COM, CSM and Treasurer; Updates with DC lobbyists with new administration; meeting with Congresswoman Sharice Davids; PRC update meetings; meetings with finance advisors; meeting with PRC and Self-Governance; meeting

with Health and Human Services, COM and Sanitation-Public Works on Burial Policy; EPA meetings with tribal leaders in Las Vegas on grants affected by the President's executive orders; work session on administration building; memo on Tribal ID cards and updating information on file with Enrollment; Burial Policy and Committee update; Master Water Management Plan and Water Policy Committee update; 3 Listening Sessions/round-table discussion on an Aging Plan; FY27 IHS Budget Formulation Session in DC;

After Council finished with their updates the discussion was opened up for community member questions.

Questions from the membership included: current burial procedures and significant areas in cemetery; Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center concerns; Dialysis Center update and transportation issues for dialysis patients; Community Board and Committee policy standards-enforcement; Rabies concerns-clinic, Spay & Neuter clinics and concerns; Police and Security concerns with noise and traffic; growth concerns-encroachment with Maricopa-schools, services; language and culture education; Department presentations/updates; agriculture concerns-food, eggs.

After community member questions ended, a raffle was held and lucky winners received N7 gear and goodie bags with traditional foods.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 31, 2025.



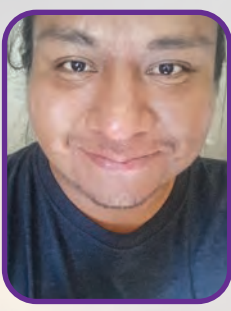
**Fernando Smith, Jr.**  
9/16/71 - 01/20/25

*On behalf of our family, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to those who have helped us with the wake and funeral services for our dad, Fernando Smith Jr. All your kind words and support through this time was greatly appreciated.*

*Thank you to all of the singers and musicians who came out to share songs, thank you to Felicia for making necklaces for us, and a special thank you to our auntie Carole Lopez and family for helping us get everything ready.*

*We apologize to anyone we may have forgot to mention, but you are appreciated and again we thank you all!*

*With love,*  
Shannon, Michelle, Jason, and Stacey Smith



**Anthony J. Lewis**  
July 7, 1990- January 23, 2025

*We the family of Anthony Lewis would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all who came to the hospital or just spent time with us.*

*For all the prayers, words of encouragement, phone calls, and condolences. To those who donated supplies, food, drinks, cooks, and all who contributed in preparation of the services and during the services.*

**Thank you to: Ak-Chin Fire/EMTs; Banner Casa Grande Medical Center; Chandler Regional Medical Center; Ak-Chin Community Council; Ak-Chin Police Department; Gila River Police Department; Ak-Chin Sanitation/Public Works; Ak-Chin Health & Human Services; Ak-Chin PRC; J. Warren Funeral Home; Casa Blanca Assembly of God Pastor George Yucupicio & Choir; Bernadean Lewis & Verda Lewis; Pastor Corwin Vega, Jr.; Jonella Peters; Karin Smith; Rose Garcia; Candi Wilson; Linda Smith; Clayton Acosta; Delia Carlyle & Family; Delores Rodriguez & Family; Marilyn Thompson; Arlene & Blaine Manuel; Mildred Narcia; Anthony Narcia, Sr.; Lorenzo Mejia; Bernadette Carra; Debra Benally & Family; Jackie Zillioux; Pastor Epifano & Hermalinda Penagua; Evelyn Garcia; Rechanda Manuel; Euphrasia Mike; Lisa Garcia; Carmen Deleon; Leslie Lewis-Manuel; Sonya Bencivenga; Nikkol Martinez; Leta Yaberry; Mario Luz; Davidson Ugalde, Sr.; Blas Valles; Lino Valles, Jr.; Yolanda Miranda; Wayne Delowe; Harlen Delowe; Gerald Wilson, Kevin Patrick; Jeffrey Manuel; Dyami Jackson; Jedidiah Smith; Joseph Ugalde, Jr.; Calvin Antone; Lucas Antone; Samson Pinheiro; Andrew Pinheiro; Dawson Allison; Corey Allison;**

**Music & Encouragement- Mike Johanning; John Antone; Lloyd Brown; Patrick & Ned Osife; Marilyn Lopez & Caleb White; Gila River Kingdom Builders; Corwin Vega, Jr. & Dan; Gospel Road; Sacaton Presbyterian Church; White Dove Church; Lighthouse Church; Dyami Jackson; Dominic "Patcho" White; Nicholas Narcia.**

*We apologize if we may have forgotten to mention anyone. Please know that we greatly appreciate you and thank you from the bottom of our hearts.*

**Leo Lewis, Jr. & Family  
Patricia Thomas & Family  
Maxine M. Antone & Family  
Nicole Allison & Family  
Leenette Lewis & Family  
Amanda Green & Family  
Charity Lewis**

**Ak-Chin O'odham Runner**  
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Announcements and wishes may be phoned in, faxed or e-mailed.

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

If you have artwork, photos, poems or a great story that you would like to share, please contact us so we can include it in "YOUR" newspaper. If you have suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, please let the Runner Staff know that too.

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**NEXT DEADLINE**  
Don't forget the DEADLINE for the March 21 - April 3, 2025 issue is due by **FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH**

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than **FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH**

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# Pesticide Safety Event

Story and photo by Ashley Vincent



Puetz, Pesticide Control Specialist and Roman Orona, Environmental Programs Manager.

It was open to the first 30 people that wanted to learn about what pesticide safety entails, which was but not limited to, how to read pesticide labels, especially when using them at home, and the type that is used around the community.

EPD provided a light lunch for everyone as well as swag bags and raffle prizes at the end of the presentation.

On Friday, February 28th, the Ak-Chin Environmental Department held a Pesticide Outreach Event at the Water Reclamation Facility. The event was headed by Theodore

# “Love for Learning” Parent Night

Story by Estrella Reyes-Helpingstine, Middle School Advisor, photos by Kristen Villegas



New and veteran staff of the education department make introductions to parents and guardians during the first parent night for the spring quarter, with special guest and fun raffles throughout the event.

A Night of Connection and Growth at the “Love for Learning” Parent Night

On February 19, the Ak-Chin Education department, parents and students gathered at Elements for an inspiring and impactful “Love for Learning” Parent Night.

The event brought together parents, principals, and education staff to celebrate the importance of fostering a love for learning, both at home and in the classroom.

One of the evening’s highlights was the heartfelt speech by Jim Larney from ASU American Indian Student Support Services. Jim shared powerful insights about the importance of staying committed to education, overcoming obstacles, and never allowing challenges to stand in the way of achieving your goals.

His words were a motivating reminder to parents and students alike of the power of persistence and dedication.

We also want to express our gratitude to the school leaders who joined us to show their support and dedication to the students and families. A big thank you to principals Rachel Reese and Nate Wong from A+ Charter School, Amy Sundeen from Leading Edge Academy, and Deana McNamee from Maricopa High School for attending and engaging with families.

Throughout the evening, parents had the chance to connect with their student advisors to share valuable insights, and explore resources to further support their children’s education.

We are incredibly grateful for the support of our parents, staff, and community leaders as we work together to nurture a love for learning in every student.



# Waila Class At Library

Story and photos by Ashley Vincent



Nine eager students take direction from Damon Enriquez; making this the biggest turnout for the waila class.

The Ak-Chin Library kicked off the month of March with a waila class instructed by Tohono O’odham musician, Damon Enriquez, who also instructed the first two classes and will continue throughout the next classes.

Damon spoke with the students about his background and how music has helped him in his lifetime, he also gave a brief history lesson about waila music and how it has evolved over the years and still continues to evolve today.

C major scale for the day, at the end of the class they all combined what they learned and played the scale on their instrument with Damon instructing them. They got a feel of what it sounds like when they play together and are in sync with one another.

Mr. Enriquez has been playing music for over 40 years, he currently plays with waila band, D Faktion Nyne, which is a family band that consists of Damon and his children, they’ve played all over the TO Nation as well as many places outside of the Nation.

Some of the first instruments included a hand drum, guitar, and a violin, there wasn’t any electric involved until the 1980’s, at that time only one amp was used for all of the instruments.

Damon posted a short clip of his students playing on his social media pages, he added, “I’m super proud of these youngsters, and I’m looking forward to more good things from them.”

From the last waila session, the class grew by a few more students eager to learn their respective instrument, which was awesome to see.

Enriquez encouraged all of the students to keep practicing when they can and to play their own style, the way they want to play, that is what makes the music unique.

As of now there is no set date for the next class, but the library will be posting a flyer when the time is near. For anyone who wishes to learn, everyone is welcome, contact the Ak-Chin Library at 520-568-1675 for more info.

The students learned the

Spring Singing continued from Front



Table”. The group’s tone was effortlessly harmonious, making for a beautiful sound and the night was filled with a unique look into various genres from all over.

Good job Leah, we look forward to hearing more about your achievements. Leah Alejandro is the daughter of Pablo and Samantha Alejandro.

**AK-CHIN EVENTS**

Ak-Chin Gym: 46753 W. FARRELL RD. MARICOPA, AZ 85139

## K-12TH GRADE SPRING INTERSESSION

**FUN & CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR BOYS & GIRLS 5-17 YEARS OLD**

MARCH 10TH TO MARCH 21ST

8 AM - 4 PM

OPEN TO AK-CHIN COMMUNITY MEMBERS, RESIDENTS & EMPLOYEES CHILDREN

- ✓ Breakfast, Lunch, Snack Provided
- ✓ Transportation in the community provided
- ✓ Water Days
- ✓ Field Trips

Registration Forms Available at the Ak-Chin Gym or Email: [events@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:events@ak-chin.nsn.us)

\*Space is limited

More Information 520-568-1072
[events@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:events@ak-chin.nsn.us)

## 2025 HIM-DAK SPRING ART PROGRAM

March 10 - March 21

**K-12th Grade (For Members and Residents)**

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

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

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Grade Groups: K-1st, 2nd-4th, 5th-8th, 9th - 12th

We will have a morning and afternoon snack and lunch.

**No Transportation Provided**

For kid/s drop off and pick up, please enter on North side of Art Building

For any questions call:  
Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum at 520-568-1350 or  
Email Waylon at: [wjantone@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:wjantone@ak-chin.nsn.us)

# Memo

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



The Museum is updating its 1940 Base Roll Exhibit for the upcoming 2025 Him-Dak Museum Celebration in April. It is our goal to include a photo of all the members listed on the Base Roll wall. Photographs of individuals will assist our younger members to connect to their relatives, not just by a name, but by a picture of that individual. It would be nice to see a face that matched a name and we are asking for your help, to obtain these images.

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

The photos can be taken with your phone and send to the Museum email address or brought to the museum to be scanned. Scanning takes less than a minute and the photos are handed right back to you. The staff is also willing to come and pick up photographs, which will be returned right away or copy the photograph at your home.

We hope to build upon this important exhibit and continue to share with our community the importance of the base roll, which is used to determine current and future membership of the tribe.

We will probably not get a photograph for each person; however, it will still be nice to have those you wish to share to assist in telling the story of Ak-Chin.

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

Thank you,  
Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum Staff



## 1940 BASE ROLL

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Juan Antone<br>Lanasia (Palone) Antone<br>William P. Antone<br>Francis J. Antone<br>Mathilda Antone<br>Pauline A. Antone<br>Juan Antone<br>Felix Antone<br>Gerard Antone<br>Fannie Batopis<br>Malinda (Manuel) Batopis<br>Persilia Batopis<br>Celia Batopis<br>Mary M. Batopis<br>Hiram J. Carlyle<br>Richard D. Carlyle<br>Wilbert J. Carlyle<br>Leona M. Carlyle<br>Nancy Carlyle<br>Juanna Chollies<br>Logis Enos<br>Irene Enos<br>Rita M. Enos<br>Helen Enos<br>Savill Johnson<br>Chico Johnson<br>Velindle Johnson<br>Juan Lewis<br>Asiana (Palone) Lewis<br>Catherine Lewis<br>Agnes Lewis<br>Louis Lewis<br>Ambrose Lewis<br>Justine Lewis<br>Rosa Lewis<br>Jesus Loos<br>Gonzales Lopez<br>Rosina (Pablo) Lopez<br>Marjorie Lopez<br>Jose Lopez<br>Juliana Lopez<br>Ross Lopez<br>Juan Lopez<br>Dora Lopez<br>George Lopez | Jose Manuel<br>Elaria Manuel<br>Licenta (Norris) Manuel<br>Rema I. Manuel<br>Phillip Miguel<br>Felicita (Peervilo) Miguel<br>Jonas P. Miguel<br>Ralph Miguel<br>Lucinda Miguel<br>Clarence Miguel<br>Augustine Narcia<br>William Narcia<br>Davidson Narcia<br>Edward Narcia<br>Mildred Narcia<br>Elizabeth Narcia<br>Francis Narcia<br>Agnes A. (Norris) Narcia<br>Raymond Narcia<br>Madeline Narcia<br>Floyd F. Narcia<br>Roy Narcia<br>Dennis H. Narcia<br>Leonard H. Narcia<br>Gladys R. Narcia<br>Roger Narcia<br>Susie Narcia<br>Jose P. Norris<br>Jose M. Norris<br>Tilliana (Palone) Norris<br>Christine B. Norris<br>Margaret B. Norris<br>Patrick Norris<br>Ramona Norris<br>Juan A. Norris<br>Carmelita Norris<br>Mary Norris<br>Vasilo Pablo<br>Tonia C. Pablo<br>Phillipa C. Pablo<br>Angelina R. Pablo<br>Leonardo Pablo<br>Eliza (Lopez) Pablo<br>Alexander Pablo | Jose Pablo<br>Juan Palone<br>Jesus Palone<br>Juan A. Palone<br>Elist Palone<br>Frank Peervilo<br>Maria Peervilo<br>Vavages Peervilo<br>Jose Ramon<br>Juan Raphael<br>Maria Raphael<br>Lena Raphael<br>Annie Raphael<br>Xavier Raphael<br>Alice (Lopez) Reed<br>Annie (Lopez) Romo<br>Melissa M. Romo<br>Nina B. Romo<br>Charles J. Smith<br>Charles Smith<br>Juanna (Antone) Smith<br>Mathew M. Smith<br>Amos Smith<br>Michael A. Smith<br>Amelia (Andreas) Stephens<br>Rupert Stephens<br>Delphina M. Stephens<br>Lillian Stephens<br>Joseph Thomas<br>Joseph I. Thomas<br>Lena B. Thomas<br>Anthony L. Thomas<br>Harry G. Thomas<br>Herbert B. Thomas<br>Bernice M. Thomas<br>Edmund Thomas<br>Vera M. Thomas<br>Esther R. Thomas<br>Jose Vavages<br>James Vincent<br>Listiana Vincent<br>Jose Vincent<br>Marquerita Vincent<br>Lester B. Vincent<br>Lorraine G. Vincent |
|--|---|--|

AllHimDak@ak-chin.nsn.us



## Ak-Chin Cuties With Cheer Duties

Give Me An - A  
Give Me A - K  
Give Me A - C  
Give Me An - H  
Give Me An - I  
Give Me An - N

What does that spell?  
Ak-Chin!

It's what these five used to scream during their young cheer career.

If you can guess the five, you may have the opportunity to cheer with them during their comeback tour!



Ak-Chin member Reynold Narcia picks up his dog following surgery at the spay and neuter clinic, held at Ak-Chin's Water Reclamation Facility last week.

## Spay & Neuter Clinic

Story and photo by Kristen Villegas

For all the pet owning members, the opportunity to get your furry friend spayed or neutered for free was available on February 27, 2025 located at the Ak-Chin Water Reclamation Facility.

A Drive-Thru Rabies Clinic was also present at the same location for those who had yet to get their animals the rabies vaccination.

According to Ranger Harry Grizzle IV, there were 12 dogs and 6 cats treated during the clinic, the limit (of animals treated) was conducted by points."

The Midwestern clinic was only allowed 50 points per surgery day,

which is varied by weight and age.

"We exceeded the point scale a little but fortunately the clinic still took all animals scheduled," Grizzle said. "The overall turnout was great! Everyone's animals were well behaved and recovered well from the clinic."

Scientifically, for a dog, during it's life breeding span, she could have approximately 508 puppies in a single life span, depending on the breed.

With 18 dogs spayed and neutered, the clinic prevented 9,114 dogs from being exposed to a life of uncertainty,

hunger, neglect abuse and pain and suffering and other unforeseen circumstances.

While the spay and neuter clinic was only accessible from 7 AM to 3 PM and the rabies clinic from 9 AM to 2 PM, which caused many to unfortunately miss the clinic opportunity.

Ranger Grizzle shared that he, the Department, and the clinic will look to plan other opportunities in the near future.

"All those who were not able to get into this last clinic, I will be getting more programs like this planned later on this year and in the future for Ak-Chin members," he said.

### SAVE THE DATE

**MARCH 22, 2025 | 8AM - 2PM**  
MORE INFORMATION TO COME

**CEMAIT/MODIILY 2025**

**HUHUGAM KI: MUSEUM**  
10005 E. OSBORN RD, SCOTTSDALE 85256  
(Southeast Corner of Longmore & Osborn)

huhugam ki: museum | 480.362.6320 | www.saltrivercrd.org | @saltriverCRD

5/2025

# March

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Library Hours Mon-Fri: 9am-6pm Sat: 12pm-4pm Sun: Closed						Waila Music 12PM
2	5	4	5 <small>STORYTIME 2:30 PM</small>	6	7	8
9	10 <small>MARIO DAY 3:30PM-5:30PM</small>	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 <small>STORYTIME 2:30 PM</small>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 <small>SCRIBBLE SHOWDOWN 4PM-6PM</small>	29
30	31					

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

Congresswoman Davids continued from Page 2

Recently, the Congresswoman met with Ak-Chin Chairman Gabriel Lopez. The two discussed a number of topics, but the major highlight was the concern of how the new administration may make potential decisions that would affect programs, funding and other resources that Tribal Nations highly depend on.

Currently, the Trump Administration has signed Executive Orders on a quantity of legislation that have been in place and have either released staff and have dissolved certain departments.

The direction at this time and recommendation by Congresswoman Davids, was for Ak-Chin and all other tribes to continue to function normally until informed of changes that will affect the community.

In 2018, Congresswoman Davids became the first Democrat to represent a Kansas congressional district in a decade.

She is also the first openly lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) Native American elected to Congress from Kansas, and one of the first two Native American

woman, besides former New Mexico Congresswoman and former Department of the Interior Director Deb Haaland to be elected to the United States Congress.

Davids, hopes to be able to come back again and visit a bit longer next time, as she would like to tour the community again. During past visits to the community, Congresswoman Davids was able to visit various departments and enterprises, the Ak-Chin Farms, and view some of the damaged areas through Vekol and Smith washes.

## ATTENTION Community Members Past Due Fines/Restitution

If you are delinquent on your fines/restitution, or not sure if you have an outstanding balance. Please contact the courts at (520) 568-1385 at your earliest convenience to avoid the following penalties:

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

**You can void any of the above collections by the following:**

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

Airport continued from Front

Regional Airport ownership decided to sell.

Purchasing and placing the land into trust was an opportunity and priority for the Ak-Chin Community at the time. It was easy to place

the land into trust due to the airport sitting adjacent to the communities' lands, therefore an increase to Ak-Chin's overall land base.

When the Ak-Chin Community purchased the airport back in 2006, it encompassed an area of approximately 406 acres, of which 244 acres are considered airport property with a 5,000 foot by 50-foot runway; parallel taxiway, apron, Fixed Base Operator (FBO) terminal building and fuel system.

As the years and decades have come, minor changes have occurred at the airport with future plans enhancing the area even more. Currently, the airport is mainly considered a refueling station for small engine planes who are making a trek from the west coast to the east coast or vice versa, and a training site for individuals looking to obtain their pilot's license.

The aviation gas service is a self-service system with gas prices far more affordable than the Phoenix market, which has a great amount of air traffic that fly in just for fuel purchases.

These that do fly in are considered piston-engine aircrafts that weigh less than 10,000 pounds.

"We have been fueling small helicopters as well as airplanes that are piston-powered for some time. The airport is open for public use, there are many flights with many different missions," said Ak-Chin Regional Airport Manager Tim Costello.

"Flight training is big in Arizona due to the generally sunny weather. We get flights that originate in the Phoenix area that come here, with some business travel. There are also recreational flights for sightseeing."

Manager Costello added that many of those that come to refuel are private small engine planes traveling from California to Florida.

When Ak-Chin

purchased Phoenix Regional Airport, the community still maintained the Phoenix Regional name until it officially changed it in 2013 to the current name it is identified by, Ak-Chin Regional Airport. The areas next to the airport are primarily vacant, but there is a master plan that contemplates a new wider runway and many hangers.

For future reference, almost all new businesses on the airport would need a building to operate from that is part hanger and part office.

"The airport has great potential for growth and business development," said Costello. "There is a master plan in development right now for the industrial park and airport. There have been several Community Meetings this past year, where this Economic Development Zone Master Plan has been discussed very specific to aviation aspects of the airport."

Early in its identity as the Ak-Chin Regional Airport, other services it provided, was training for Public Safety in personnel in the Air Evac field.



A small engine plane prepares to "touchdown" at Ak-Chin Regional Airport during flight and landing training courses.



**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
Capital Projects

## AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ON Pool Resurfacing Construction Project

The Ak-Chin Indian Community (hereafter called the "Owner") invites all General Contractors to submit proposals on a Construction Contract. The project consists of but not limited to the following;

- Interior pool finish demolition and resurfacing (10 years minimum warranty material)
- Deck lace finish removal and resurfacing
- Concrete cracks repairs
- Deck joints replacement
- Tiles replacement, water mark line and return drains, new depth markers
- Drains replacement
- Steps upgrade, to meet building code
- Remove the existing water feature and replace new water dome feature
- Replace damaged electrical conduit, install new wires and switches to the water slide pump.
- Pool Start-Up service

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled onsite for **March 11, 2025, 1:30pm, at Parks & Recreation Department located at 46753 W. Farrell Road, Maricopa, AZ 85139.** During this meeting the project scope and bid procedures will be discussed. It is recommended that all bidders attend this meeting to understand the scope of work and the bidding requirements, so they can submit a qualifying bid.

Deadline for any questions regarding this project will be 2:00 p.m. (MST) on March 13, 2025. Proposal questions should be directed to Flora Howerton at [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us), with CC to Project Manager, Karam Abu-Hamdan at [kabu-hamdan@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:kabu-hamdan@ak-chin.nsn.us).

**The Owner will receive Competitive Bid Proposals until 2:00 p.m. (MST) on March 18, 2025** at the Tribal Purchasing Department located at 42507 West Peters & Nall Road Maricopa, Arizona 85138. Proposals received after the specified date and time will be rejected and returned unopened.

This invitation is unrestricted; however, preference will be given to Indian Organizations and Indian Owned Enterprises in accordance to the Community Procurement Procedure. Request for Proposals ("RFP") instruction/information package and related information may be obtained from the Ak-Chin Indian Community Purchasing Office, 42507 West Peters & Nall Road, Maricopa, Arizona 85138, and may be requested by electronic mail at [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us).

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

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days subsequent to the opening of Bids without consent of the Owner.

## Silent Seal Bid Vehicle Auction

March 22 -March 28, 2025

Viewing Location on SR347  
East of Hohokam Park

Vehicles are AS-IS

- Starting Bid price is marked on windshield of each vehicle
- One seal bid per vehicle to be dropped off at Tribal Headquarter Monday, March 24 to Friday, March 28 - from 8am to 5pm. **Last day to submit bid is March 28, 2024 by 5 pm.** Tribal Headquarters address is 42507 W. Peters and Nall Road, Maricopa, AZ 85138. If you submit more than one bid on the same vehicle, bids will be disqualified.
- Seal bid is to be placed in a 4"X 9" envelope or smaller sealed with the following legible written or typed requirements inside envelope:
  - Your Name
  - Current Phone Number
  - Vehicle # (# posted on Windshield)
  - Your Written Bid Price – **do not enclose cash, check or money order in envelope**
- Private opening of all seal bids will be on March 31, 2025.
- Highest bids will be notified by April 1, 2025 by phone with instructions to bring in cash or cashier check only to the Community's Purchasing Office by April 4, 2025. Make Cashier Check out to Ak-Chin Indian Community. **Checks, debit or credit cards are not accepted.**
- Purchased Vehicle must be removed by April 7, 2025.
- If highest bidder is unable purchase, it will go to next highest bidder and so forth.
- **The Ak-Chin Indian Community will not be responsible or liable after the purchase of vehicle and its removal.**



Department Exploration continued from Front

had for them. The delight from the group was apparent when they lined up and got to touch two deer heads, mountain lion fur and hold heavy antlers. As the group was making their way down the line, coloring pages, coloring books and candy were left for preschool staff to distribute at their discretion.

Stay tuned for the rest of the department tours that will be featured in the next issue!



## But First, Flag Football



Story and photos by Ashley Vincent

Flag football season is in full effect as the first game was held on Saturday morning, March 1st. Ak-Chin Recreation staff split the players into three different age groups with

the 3-5 year-old teams playing at 10 am, the 6-8 year-old teams playing at 10:30 am, and the 9-12 year-old teams playing at 11 am.

All of the players did a

great job, even with some first-time players, they all had fun and looked like naturals out on the field. The next games will be held Saturday, March 8th, starting at 10 am.

## Ak-Chin Helps Sponsor Car Seat Check-Up



In collaboration with the Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Highway Safety, and the Salt River Indian Community's Injury Prevention Program, the Ak-Chin Indian Community held a safety

car seat check-up and gave away free car seats to the public.

The event was well attended and deemed a "success."

Future opportunities

will be scheduled by all parties involved.

For more information on potential car seats that may be available, you can contact the Ak-Chin Injury Prevention Program at 520 568 1087.



## YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

Central Arizona Project (CAP) is a 336-mile system that supplies Colorado River water to central and southern Arizona, and delivers more tribal water than any other organization in the United States.



Gila River HEALTH CARE

We are **GRHC!**

Where Care Meets Community.



**PATIENT NOTICE: Laboratory Order Process Update**

In an effort to improve the quality of our patient care, we are changing the process of accepting external (non-Gila River Health Care) laboratory orders.

External orders for laboratory services will be completed after a patient care visit with one of our providers.

Please present your laboratory order to the Patient Registration desk, and we will be happy to assist you through our new, quick process.

If you have any additional questions, please contact us (520) 562-3321 Ext.1220.

Collection and processing of external laboratory orders are available during the hours below:

**Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital**

Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 6:15 pm  
Friday 8:00 am - 5:15 pm  
Saturday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Komatke Health Center**

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:15 pm  
Saturday & Sunday - Closed

**Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center**

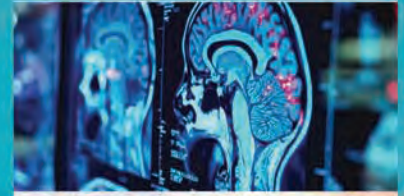
Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:15 pm  
Saturday & Sunday - Closed

**View our Health Update Newsletter for the month of March.**

In this edition  
**HEALTH UPDATES AND EDUCATION**

- Health updates and Education
- National Nutrition Month
- 20 Simple Nutrition Tips
- Life Center for Wellness

Scan QR code to view!



**Mayo Clinic Neurology Physicians to Serve Gila River Health Care Patients**

We are pleased to welcome the Mayo Clinic Neurology physician team to Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center, beginning on Friday, February 14, 2025.



**A Vibrant Celebration**

Agreement-making initiative under the Gila River Health Care Board initiated The Clean House and Blessing Ceremony brought together community members, healthcare professionals, and leaders to honor the foundation and step toward completing our tribal healthcare system. The event also offers New Employee Orientation, IT Training, and a collaborative workshop.

**Behavioral Health Services**  
GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE

SCAN HERE



**CHECK OUT OUR MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Access our monthly calendar online at [GRHC.ORG/BHS](http://GRHC.ORG/BHS). Call us for more information at (520) 610-2394 or email us [BHSprevention@GRHC.ORG](mailto:BHSprevention@GRHC.ORG)

**Behavioral Health Services invites you to join our educational programming in March 2025.**

**March**

- Active Parenting of Teens
- Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth
- Healthy Relationships
- Heroes Carry Narcan Booth
- Dangers of Meth
- Stress & Self Care
- Prevention Coalition
- Mental Health Awareness Line Dance
- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Active Parenting

**Scan the QR code to view more Gila River Health Care's Information, and Events!**

Scan me!



**PATIENT NOTICE MEASLES**

Confirmed cases of measles reported from Texas and New Mexico continue to increase. First death reported on 2/26/25

**What is Measles?**  
Measles is a very contagious disease caused by the measles virus. Measles begins with a high fever, cough, runny nose, and red watery eyes. A rash appears three to five days, starting on the face and spreading. Serious complications can include hospitalization, brain swelling, pneumonia, and death, particularly in children under 5 years of age, those with weakened immune systems, and pregnant individuals.

**Common Symptoms**  
High Fever  
Cough  
Runny Nose  
Red Watery Eyes  
Full Body Rash

**How Does Measles Spread?**  
An infected person can spread measles through coughing, sneezing, breathing, or talking. Others can catch the virus by inhaling contaminated air or touching surfaces, including their face. The virus can linger in the air for up to two hours, allowing transmission even after the infected person has departed.

**Protect Your Family from Measles**  
The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine protects against measles. Getting vaccinated protects yourself, your family and your community from getting sick.

If you have symptoms of measles, call your healthcare provider and seek medical care.

**LIFE CENTER PRESENTS Family Diabetes Prevention Class**

9 am - 11 am

Classes held at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital

Bring the family to learn more about healthy eating and create an active lifestyle

CLASS UPDATE  
April 24, 2025  
July 19, 2025  
October 18, 2025

LIMITED TO 3-4 FAMILIES  
\*DEPENDENT ON FAMILY SIZE

For more information, call Life Center Diabetes Prevention at (520) 562-7940

**Healthy Habits Happy Families**

**MARCH CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital**

Monday: Weight Loss 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
Diabetes Basics 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Diabetes Prevention 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Tuesday: Diabetes Basics 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Wednesday: Emotional Support for Healthy Living 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Weight Loss 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Thursday: Weight Loss 8:00 am - 10:00 am  
Diabetes Prevention 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Full Body Care Class 6:00 am - 10:00 am

**Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center**

Monday: Diabetes Basics 10:00 am - 11:00 am  
Wednesday: Diabetes Basics 9:00 am - 11:00 am  
Thursday: Weight Loss 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Diabetes Prevention 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**Komatke Health Center**

Thursday: Emotional Support for Healthy Living 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Thursday: Weight Loss 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988

Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1-800-259-3449





# JOB OPENINGS

## CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:

- Accountant (2)
- Bailiff/Process Server
- Case Manager-Adult
- Communication Officer
- Communication Officer (part-time)
- Compensation Analyst
- Deputy Clerk
- Detention Officer (non-certified)
- Detention Officer Certified part-time
- Environmental Technician
- General worker (Temp worker)
- Lab Tutor (part-time)
- Parks Maintenance Technician
- Plant Electrician
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation Technician
- Police Officer (non-certified)
- Substance Abuse Therapist
- Teacher's Aide (3)
- Utilities Technician

### Open to Enrolled Community Members Only

- Cultural Resource Monitor
- Gaming License Technician
- Museum Technician
- Oral Historian
- Photo Journalist

[www.ak-chin.nsn.us](http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us)

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

## Greetings Community Membership,

Each year Community Leadership awards students graduating from high school with a trip to Hawaii. We need your help in identifying past and present graduates who have not had the opportunity to participate in this annual event.

Please contact Flora Howerton, Purchasing Manager at 520-568-1043 or email [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us) with names of individuals who would like to participate.

**Must be an Ak-Chin Enrolled Member and have a High School Diploma to participate in trip.**

## ATTENTION AK-CHIN YOUTH!

WIOA Program is recruiting students for the 2025 Summer Program

### Orientation Dates & Times

Located: Ak-Chin Education Department

**ORIENTATION STARTS AT 5PM**

MARCH 26 5-7PM

MARCH 27 5-7PM

\*Please be on time\*

### Program Services

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

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

### Eligibility Requirements

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

### Questions?

Please Contact the EA Dept. To determine if you may qualify for the WIOA program and to schedule an orientation appointment.

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

# WANTED

## PERFORMERS, ARTS & CRAFTS VENDORS, FOOD VENDORS, DEMONSTRATORS & INFO BOOTHS

FOR THE 33RD ANNUAL HIM-DAK CELEBRATION SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

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

*Happy Birthday to my grandsons Alexander, Marcus, Devin, and Narin Love, Grandma*

*Happy Birthday Stan! From the Turtle Gang*

*Happy Birthday Seda and Sonny Love your family*

### FIND 10 DIFFERENCES

## Restorative Yoga

With Vickie

March 05, 2025  
March 12, 2025  
March 19, 2025

**Ak-Chin Circle - Elements**  
Wednesdays 6:00p-7:00p

Questions?? Please call Health Education at: (520) 568-1080

\*Open to All Ak-Chin Community Members, Ak-Chin Community Residents, Employees and Employee Family Members

## Employee Birthdays 3/7 - 3/19

<b>3/7</b> Delbert White, Sanitation	<b>3/16</b> Genevieve Alvarez, Social Services Maxwell Hernandez, Community Operations Tracy Wind, Him-Dak
<b>3/9</b> Julio Gloria III, Elderly	<b>3/17</b> Karam Abu-Hamdan, Capital Projects
<b>3/11</b> Stephen Martinez, Vekol	<b>3/18</b> Diana Garcia, Planning
<b>3/12</b> Christine Dodwell, Tribal Gaming Agency Gabriella Potter, Finance	<b>3/19</b> Mathew Hearn, Fire
<b>3/13</b> Andrew Laba, Fire	
<b>3/14</b> Brenna Antone, ECE	
<b>3/15</b> Dwayne Antone, Sanitation	

## Birthdays 3/7 - 3/31

<b>MARCH 7TH</b> Emily Lewis Alexander Lopez Delbert White	<b>MARCH 15TH</b> Ana Blanchard Narin Lopez Dwayne Antone Joseph Green Jr. Anastasia Soke	Christian Alvarez Marie Ortega
<b>MARCH 8TH</b> Leighsa Miguel	<b>MARCH 16TH</b> Tracy Wind Mariella Norris Kalvin Antone	<b>MARCH 24TH</b> Yamiah Miguel Yaniah Miguel Jessie Williams
<b>MARCH 9TH</b> Jonathan Narcia Stanislaus Antone Charlene Whitman	<b>MARCH 18TH</b> Karlie Smith Kane Miguel	<b>MARCH 25TH</b> David White Sr. Jacob Santiago Mario Santiago
<b>MARCH 10TH</b> Mercedes Stephens Marcus Delores Irene Medina	<b>MARCH 19TH</b> Acsul Garcia	<b>MARCH 26TH</b> Evelina Lopez Kerwin Ugalde
<b>MARCH 11TH</b> Robert Stephens Jr. Angelisa Cuatt Devin Peters Mildred Narcia Breon Stephens Giuliana Sandoval Antonenke Alvarez	<b>MARCH 20TH</b> Gabriel Sierra James Sarah Carlyle Carlton Carlyle Jr. Jose Hernandez Daria Garcia	<b>MARCH 27TH</b> Benedict Miguel Celia Soto
<b>MARCH 12TH</b> Lisa Chavez	<b>MARCH 21ST</b> Joel Villegas Ozzy Garcia Eric Chavez	<b>MARCH 28TH</b> Maria Santiago
<b>MARCH 13TH</b> Samantha Castro Ameliano Jacunide	<b>MARCH 22ND</b> Nicole Vincent Manuel Garcia George Lewis Jr.	<b>MARCH 29TH</b> Monica Ruiz Megan Quintero Dannon Peters
<b>MARCH 14TH</b> Brenna Antone Crystal Maddox Davin Garcia	<b>MARCH 23RD</b> Mark Pablo Melanie Antone Deanna Rascon Brandon Antone	<b>MARCH 30TH</b> Allissia Bandin Aaliyah Balderrama
		<b>MARCH 31ST</b> Zaydyn Norris Maria Hernandez Robert Velasquez Shannon Peters Courtney Delores

## Employee Updates

Lori Allen  
Admin Tech  
Parks and Rec

Mariah Carlyle  
Rec Program Assistant  
Parks and Rec

Melany Ruiz  
Cashier  
Vekol

## AK-CHIN HIM-DAK MUSEUM

### EASTER CRAFTS WEDNESDAY APRIL 9TH ART BUILDING 4:30 - 7:00 PM

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

Saturday April 05, 2025

# SAVE THE DATE

More info. to follow

## 33rd Annual Him-Dak Celebration

"This is Us"

For any questions please contact the Him-Dak Museum at 520-568-1350

# A Record 200 Teams Comprised of Native Youth Are Set to Compete at the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) this July

The NABI Founder's Golf Classic in April supports the tournament's scholarship programs

**PHOENIX** – The Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI), presented by Resolution Copper, returns to Phoenix July 22-26, 2025, with a record 200 teams made up of boys and girls ages 14 to 19, representing Tribal communities from across North America. NABI is the largest all-Native American high school youth basketball tournament and includes a weeklong educational youth summit.

components like the NABI College & Career Fair and NABI Educational Youth Summit powered by Phoenix College, as well as being eligible to apply for the NABI College Scholarship fund.

To learn more about NABI, please visit [www.nabination.com](http://www.nabination.com).

Registration is also open for the NABI Founders Golf Classic which will be held Monday, April 7, 2025 at Whirlwind Golf Club at Wild Horse Pass. The golf classic supports NABI's college scholarship program,

“Since 2003, we have awarded more than \$500,000 in college scholarships to NABI athletes,” said GinaMaria Scarpa, NABI CEO and co-founder. “Our youth and communities love basketball, and NABI uses it as a tool to inspire higher education goals.”

For NABI, basketball is way to engage and unite Native and Indigenous youth and inspire them to use their talents to pursue higher education. A record 200 teams will play more than 500 games in 16 gyms in the Valley, and NABI expects sell-out crowds once again this year. For the city of Phoenix, the economic impact of the tournament is estimated at \$3 million.

The semifinal and championship games will be played at PHX Arena, home of the Phoenix Suns and Phoenix Mercury. The championship games will be broadcast live on AZFamily Sports.

In addition to the excitement of the tournament, student athletes also participate in educational

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**APRIL 22**  
**Earth Day**  
 AT HARRAH'S AK-CHIN CASINO RESORT

Ak-Chin Environmental Programs  
 Annual Earth Day Event  
 April 22, 2025

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

**MARCH EVENTS**  
 Ak-ChinCircle.com

**Spring Break**  
**Movies Under the Stars**

**MARCH 10 - 20**  
 \* All Movies Start at 8:30pm. Concessions Available Inside  
 WATERSLIDE AVAILABLE FROM 5PM-6PM MONDAY-THURSDAY

WEEK 1	WEEK 2
MAR. 10 CAPTAIN UNDER PANTS	MAR. 17 THE CROODS
MAR. 11 THE BAD GUYS	MAR. 18 CHICKEN RUN
MAR. 12 KUNG FU PANDA	MAR. 19 MADAGASCAR
MAR. 13 OVER THE HEDGE	MAR. 20 THE BOSS BABY

**MOVIE RELEASES**

- 3/07 Sinners
- 3/14 Novocaine
- 3/14 Black Bag
- 3/21 Alto Knights
- 3/21 Snow White

**POP CORN LOVERS DAY**  
 MARCH 12  
 \$15

**MONTHLY MOVIE MUST-HAVE COMBO**  
 \$16

**FOOD TRUCK BATTLE**  
 MARCH 15 11AM-3:00PM

**WESTERN FINAL COUNTY BUSINESS AND CRAFTS EXPO**  
 SATURDAY MARCH 15 10AM-5:00PM

**St. Patrick's Day**  
 Corned Beef & Cabbage Soup  
 \$4 Cup, \$6 Bowl

**FLASHBACK SATURDAYS**  
 KARAOKE EVERY THURSDAY

**WINE OF THE MONTH**

Glass	Bottle	REGULAR PRICE
\$7	\$28	Glass \$9, Bottle \$32

**AVAILABLE NOW**  
 2025 POP CORN CARD  
 2025 SODA CARD

**Ak-ChinCircle.com**  
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ARROYO GRILLE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**WEEKLY SPECIALS**  
 WEDNESDAYS  
 CLASSIC FISH FRY \$14

THURSDAYS chef's special \$20  
 FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS prime rib \$32

Weekly Specials Served after 5pm • Quantities are Limited

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**MARCH DUNES DOG DEAL \$7**  
 SPRING BREAK BALLPARK SPECIAL

**SHORT ON TIME? ORDER TO GO! 520.426.6832**

Proudly owned by the Ak-Chin Indian Community

**HARRAH'S AK-CHIN CASINO** **MARCH 2025** **CAESARS REWARDS**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY				
SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING	<b>5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b> FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2025 PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS   8AM - 11:59PM	<b>THE LOUNGE</b> HAPPY HOUR TUESDAYS - THURSDAYS • 2PM - 8PM \$2 BEER SPECIALS & SWAG FRIDAYS IN MARCH • 7PM - 2AM	CANTINA NIGHTS REDEEM REWARD CREDITS FOR FREE SLOT PLAY!	2 SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING	3 MONDAYS NEED DUNKIN', TOO!	4 THE VOICE™ SPEAKER SET GIVEAWAY	5 LOTS O' LUCK FOREVER YOUNG	6 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER POT OF GOLD	7 \$2 BEER SPECIALS & SWAG AT THE LOUNGE CANTINA NIGHTS	8 CANTINA NIGHTS
9 SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING	10 TEE UP AT THE AK-CHIN SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF CLUB	11 THE VOICE™ SPEAKER SET GIVEAWAY	12 LOTS O' LUCK FOREVER YOUNG	13 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER POT OF GOLD	14 5X CANTINA NIGHTS 5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER	15 CANTINA NIGHTS RENT A CABANA ON YOUR NEXT STAY!				
16 SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 THE VOICE™ SPEAKER SET GIVEAWAY	19 LOTS O' LUCK FOREVER YOUNG	20 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER POT OF GOLD	21 Seven Stars® CANTINA NIGHTS SEVEN STARS® EXCLUSIVE	22 CANTINA NIGHTS				
23 Seven Stars® SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING SEVEN STARS® EXCLUSIVE	24 FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK & X!	25 THE VOICE™ SPEAKER SET GIVEAWAY	26 LOTS O' LUCK FOREVER YOUNG	27 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER POT OF GOLD	28 DIAMOND CANTINA NIGHTS DIAMOND PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER	29 DIAMOND CANTINA NIGHTS DIAMOND PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER				
30 DIAMOND SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING DIAMOND PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER	31 T-APPIN!	<b>SEVEN STARS® EXCLUSIVE</b> FRIDAY, MARCH 21 & SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025 PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS   8AM - 11:59PM	<b>DIAMOND PROGRESSIVE REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b> FRIDAY, MARCH 28 - SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025 PROMOTIONAL KIOSKS   8AM - 11:59PM	<b>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE LOUNGE</b> WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS						

Valid only at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino and must have a Caesars Rewards card and valid photo ID to participate. Management reserves the right to change or cancel these promotions at any time without prior notice. Must be 21 or older to gamble and take advantage of these offers. Know When To Stop Before You Start? Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-NEXT STEP or text "NEXTSTEP" to 53342. ©2025 Caesars License Company, LLC. See official rules at the Caesars Rewards Center for complete details.