



## University of Arizona Unveil New Library Sign Dedicated to Ak-Chin Indian Community



Ak-Chin councilmembers, elders, youth and language staff gather for a photo around the new library sign at the University of Arizona that was dedicated to Ak-Chin on May 8.

Story by Jordan Rodriguez, photo submitted by Gabriel Lopez

Opened in 1977, the main library on the campus of the University of Arizona has been a staple for students, faculty, and visitors.

With amenities such as virtual reality, study rooms for both individuals and groups, and building workshops, the library brings in over one-million visitors making it one of the most visited buildings on campus.

Since its opening nearly 50 years ago, it has always been referred to as the Main Library, that is until May 8, when the University of Arizona main library sign was dedicated to the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

Ak-Chin was well represented at the unveiling ceremony, with community elders, tribal council, youth council and the language department in attendance.

Library sign continues to page 2

The initiative behind the sign dedication and unveiling was incorporated by the Linguistics Department along with the Native American Advancement & Tribal Engagement (NAATE) Department of the University of Arizona.

The two entities developed the Native Languages of Arizona Campus Sign Initiative to heighten the visibility of Arizona's Native Nations and Native languages on the U of A campus.

This is a campus-wide initiative to create a sense of belonging for Indigenous students, staff, faculty and Community members.

Levi Esquerro, Senior Vice-President of NAATE and Jacquelyn Valenzuela, Tribal

Engagement Liaison of NAATE reached out to Ak-Chin regarding this initiative. This process was started about 2 years in the making.

"It is an honor to have the Community's name dedicated to an area within the University as a symbol for our members that have attended, members that are attending and members that are thinking about attending the school," stated Ak-Chin Vice Chairman Lemuel Vincent.

"The library is an area that one can learn the many different aspects pertaining the 22 native tribes within Arizona, as well as the 574 tribes in the United States. Aspects entailing the many diverse cultural identity of each tribe."

An area such as the library symbolizes the never-ending aspects of learning. It is a place



Torch Run participants check-in and prepare for their run.

## Ak-Chin PD host Law Enforcement Torch Run

Story and photo by Jordan Rodriguez

The Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run is a fundraiser for the Special Olympics of Arizona. Anyone was welcome to participate in the two-and-a-half-mile run/walk/bike ride sponsored through Ak-Chin.

Runners started at the Ak-Chin Circle and would hurry their way over to the finish line at Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park, where a meal was waiting for them immediately after they completed the race.

Law Enforcement Torch Run (also known as LETR) is the largest fundraiser for the Special Olympics across the globe.

In Arizona, law enforcement agencies raise over one million dollars per year that goes directly to the Special Olympics of Arizona to create increased opportunities for athletes. Through LETR, which raises awareness and financial support for Special Olympics worldwide, law enforcement

Torch Run continues to page 3

## US Bureau of Reclamation tours Ak-Chin's water reservoir



Ak-Chin Farm Manager Damian Murrieta speaks with Gary Gold from the Bureau of Reclamation.

Story and photo by Jordan Rodriguez

On May 9, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation paid a visit to the Ak-Chin Indian Community. Although, the purpose of this visit was mainly educational, the group learned about where the Central Arizona Project (CAP) water enters the community and how it is transferred from the community's reservoir.

After stopping by the reservoir, the Bureau representatives visited some of the fields, looking at the sprinklers in operation and ended their day at Ak-Chin's potato shed,

where all were impressed with the farm operation and Ak-Chin farm manager, Damian Murrieta.

This is the seventh tour given this year, a number that will only continue to grow.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community prides itself on being open to not only the city of Maricopa and the state of Arizona, but more importantly showing our government whether it be state or federal what this community does and the bright future we have.

Reservoir tour continues to page 3



Above, moms gather for a photo at Ak-Chin Elder Center after enjoying Mother's Day activities and lunch, on May 10. (More photos on page 2)

## Mother's Day activities at Ak-Chin Elder Center

Story and photos by Raychel Peters

On May 10, the Ak-Chin Elder Center provided an excellent morning activity to begin their Mother's Day celebration.

"Mom"osas and crafts were offered to all moms who made it in for the delicious breakfast drink. Craft projects were also

offered to those who stayed for craft time.

The moms could work on painting a stenciled design on canvas bags, beading, coloring or puzzles.

At lunch, moms were treated to

a delicious Toscana soup that was just about as tasty as the one served at Olive Garden, along with bread sticks, salad and cake.

After lunch, elder staff handed out gift bags to all the moms who attended.

# Cinco de Mayo celebrated at Elder Center

Story and photos by Raychel Peters

Friday, May 3 the Ak-Chin Elder Center was adorned in Cinco de Mayo themed decorations for a lunch fiesta.

Tajin and Chamoy seasoning and Mexican sweet bread. They even offered bottles of Coca Cola, like the ones you get in Mexico.

Staff really went out of their way to decorate the lunch area with Spanish décor on the tables and walls, even the mascot turtle had on a mariachi hat.

While munching on the delicious meal elders also enjoyed a game of Loteria.

They created a zesty menu that included; homemade salsa, chips, and guacamole for appetizers, followed by chili rellenos, Spanish rice and beans.

Similar to Bingo, players must mark their cards when an image is shown from the deck of cards, once someone gets four images in a row either diagonal, vertical or horizontal then they shout out "Loteria".

For dessert they handed out fresh fruit with offerings of

Winners were able to select from Mexican themed prizes that were offered.



Top photos: Cinco de Mayo goodies and decos were set up on every table. Gary and Janice Anderson watch and listen for their Loteria game cards to be called.



At left, elders were treated to "Mom"osas for Mother's Day. Connie Cypriano shows us her painted canvas bag she created during the Mother's Day special craft activity.



At left, Rechanda Manuel and Connie Cypriano play swatter toss, while Ruby Smith, Wynema Miguel and Lena Cypriano enjoy a game of Jenga.

## Elder Games at Recreation

Story and photos by Raychel Peters

For the past five weeks about 10 elders have been actively participating in games and physical activities hosted by Ak-Chin Health Education and Parks & Recreation staff.

Every Wednesday the elders go to Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation gym to enjoy an hour-long program full of fun activities and exercises.

These games and exercises involved problem-solving, cognitive reasoning and exercising their motor skills. The activities which were

geared towards getting the elders ready for any future Elder Olympic events included; walking laps around the gym, basketball toss, chicken throw, obstacle course, swatter toss, table hockey, ring toss, pong, min disc-golf, connect 4, Jenga, cornhole toss, stackers, giant uno and checkers.

One game I found enjoyable to watch was the swatter toss, where two people would sit opposite one another at a table with fly swatters and swat a balloon back and forth. Elder favorites included Jenga,

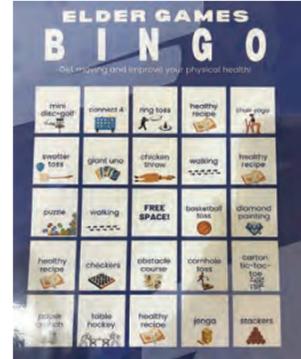
chicken toss and pong.

Ak-Chin Elder Center worked together with Health Education and Recreation to build this program and at the end of the activity elders would receive incentives based on their completion of a bingo-style card that tracked their activities for the week.

Wednesday, May 15, 2024 completed this first program of activities, although both Health Education and Recreation said they plan to create another program for the fall.



Elders take a few warm up laps around the gym before starting on their bingo games.



Library sign continued from Front

where many resources can be obtained to educate one's self in order to better process a positive path in their journey in life.

"The Library, I feel, incorporates the same values the Community incorporates to our membership," said Vice Chairman Vincent.

"In the sense that equal opportunity is offered for one to utilize the resources needed to obtain a more sustainable path of embetterment."

Being that this is an initiative of native languages in Arizona, there are other tribes that have had and will have different

areas dedicated to their community as well.

The community has always made it a priority to get involved with and promote higher education institutions and thanks to this partnership with the U of A, will continue to do so. The university has taken steps to include cultures throughout our state.

While walking around campus you will see a melting pot of nationalities, which is why the U of A felt the importance of having a representation of all cultures, whether it be a sculpture, paintings, or signs, campus makes sure everyone is included.

"To be able to share the culture of our state is a special thing," said Dean of University Libraries Shan Sutton.

"This library will now only continue to grow the bond between the University and the Ak-Chin Indian Community. We look forward to the future and maintaining a relationship."

With six libraries on campus, it is a tremendous honor to see the Ak-Chin name on the sign of the main library and quite fitting. Naming a place of gathering on campus after a community whose main mission is to bring people together.

# Elder Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY								
<p><b>*Breakfast Served from 7 AM to 8:30 AM</b></p> <p><b>*Lunch Served from 12 PM to 1 PM</b></p> <p><b>*Chair Yoga is located in Elder Craft Room Tuesday and Thursday 9 AM to 10 AM</b></p>	<p><b>*Chair Volleyball Questions? Call the Recreation Department at 520-568-1760</b></p> <p><b>*Movie Questions? Call the Elder Center at 520-568-1760</b></p> <p><b>*For Transportation Call Georgia at 520- 568-1769</b></p>	<p>5/17</p> <p>Biscuits &amp; Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Peaches &amp; Cottage Cheese</p> <p>Ground Beef Tacos, Shredded Lettuce, Tomato, Mexican Rice, Pinto Beans, Cranberry/Raisin, Oatmeal Cookies</p>	<p>5/20</p> <p>Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, English Muffin, Apple Sauce</p> <p>Lima Beans, Pork Chops, Broccoli, Carrots, Moon Bread, Fruit Cocktail</p>	<p>5/21</p> <p>Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrown Casserole, Bacon, Scone &amp; Fruit</p> <p><i>Goodwill Shopping</i></p> <p>Baked Chicken, Creamed Spinach, Corn on Cob, Wheat/White Rolls, Vanilla/Chocolate pudding</p>	<p>5/22</p> <p>Chorizo &amp; Egg, Refried Beans, Tortilla, Grapes w/ Cottage Cheese</p> <p><i>Movie Day</i></p> <p>Egg Salad Sandwich, Tomato w/ Cottage Cheese, Pickles, Grapes</p>	<p>5/23</p> <p>Quinoa Bowl, Avocado &amp; Spinach, Fruit Salad</p> <p>Bar-B-Que Ribs, Plain Ribs, Green Beans, Red Potato, Fresh Cut Fruit</p>	<p>5/24</p> <p>Omelet, Avocado Slices, Toast, Fruit &amp; Yogurt</p> <p>Hot Dogs, Corn on Cob, Baked Beans, Ice-Cream</p>	<p>5/27</p> <p>CENTER CLOSED DUE TO MEMORIAL DAY</p>	<p>5/28</p> <p>Cream Of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast/Fruit</p> <p>Turkey Wrap, Green Leaf/Tomato, Lentil Quinoa Salad, Wax Beans, Pineapples</p>	<p>5/29</p> <p>Waffles, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Mixed Berries</p> <p>Ham, Macaroni and Cheese, Roman Salad, Peas, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Pears</p>	<p>5/30</p> <p>Veggie Quesadilla, Refried Beans, Avocado Slices, Fruit</p> <p>Chicken Broccoli Stir-Fry w/ Red Bell Peppers, Fried Rice, Egg Roll, Oranges</p>	<p>5/31</p> <p>Potato Casserole, Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Turnover &amp; Fruit</p> <p>Pork Chops, Collard Greens, Sweet Potato/Potato, Whole Wheat/White Roll, Apple Sauce</p>

**AK-Chin O'odham Runner**  
 Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community © 2024  
 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Maricopa, Arizona 85139

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
 MONDAY - FRIDAY  
 PHONE: 520•568•1375  
 FAX: 520•568•1376  
 E-MAIL: runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us

**Ak-Chin O'odham Runner**  
 Editor: Raychel Peters  
 Photojournalist: Jordan Rodriguez  
 Graphic Artists: Diana Carlyle and Rebecca Rosoff  
 News Assistant: Delila Villegas

**Ak-Chin Tribal Council**  
 Chairman: Robert Miguel  
 Vice Chair: Lemuel Vincent  
 Council Members: Lisa Garcia, Gabriel Lopez and Cecil Peters

**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.

All information and original work contained in this newspaper is copyright and may not be reproduced without written permission from:  
 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**  
 2024 Subscription rate is \$37.75. If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$37.75 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**

**NEXT DEADLINE**  
 Don't forget the DEADLINE for **June 7 - 20, 2024** issue is due by **FRIDAY, MAY 31ST**

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than **FRIDAY, MAY 31ST**

Material submitted after the **MAY 31ST DEADLINE** cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in the next issue.



**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
 Capital Projects

**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (CONSTRUCTION) DESERT WILLOW SUBDIVISION (60) HOMES PROJECT**

The Ak-Chin Indian Community (hereafter called the "Owner") invites all General Contractors to submit proposals on a Construction Contract. This Construction projects consist of (60) Homes:

60 homes that are fully designed and have completed the Communities Planning and Zoning process. The 60-home infrastructure, and rough grading is complete with utility stubs for water, Sewer, Electricity, Data and Natural Gas to ea. home site. The 60-home project is comprised of 50 - 3-bedroom homes 2,374S.Ft. and 10 - 2,650sq. ft. 4-bedroom homes with garages. The homes are wood framed with post tension concrete slabs, and concrete tile roofs. Exact number of 3 vs. 4 bedrooms subject to change.

**A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING & SITE WALK is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. (MST) on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, located at the EPA Water Reclamation Facility Conference Room at 46200 W. Ralph St., Maricopa, AZ 85139.**

The RFP Packet and information will be provided via thumb drive to those in attendance.

Deadline for any questions regarding this project will be **5:00 p.m. (MST) on Friday, June 14, 2024**. Proposal questions should be directed to Flora Howerton at [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us). Also, Cc: Project Manager, Casey Turgeon at [cturgeon@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:cturgeon@ak-chin.nsn.us).

The Owner will receive Proposals until **2:00 p.m. (MST) on Friday, June 28, 2024** 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.

The Owner reserves the right to reject, any and all pre-proposal. 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 proposals shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of Proposals without consent of the Owner.



**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
 Capital Projects

**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN-BUILD "DESERT WILLOW APARTMENT COMPLEX"**

The Ak-Chin Indian Community (hereafter called the "Owner") invites all General Contractors to submit proposals on a Design Build Contract. This project consists of the following:

The project includes development of 20 dwelling units. There is a total of 3-single story buildings approximately 22,090 sq.ft. Building #1 will consist of 1-(1) bedroom unit and 7-(2) bedroom units. Building #2 will consist of 2-(1) bedroom units and 4-(2) bedroom units. Building #3 will consist of 2-(1) bedroom units and 4-(2) bedroom units. The proposed Housing Project is 1.9-acres of vacant site located west on N. Manuel Avenue. The apartment complex has completed the communities planning and Zoning requirement process and is in the construction documentation design phase at approximately at 80-90% design completion.

The community is inviting experienced design-build contractors that have vast experience in multifamily development to team up with the existing Architect and Civil engineer to institute a constructability analysis of the project and work with the Team to complete the final Construction documents and specifications.

**A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING & SITE WALK is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. (MST) on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, located at the EPA Water Reclamation Facility Conference Room at 46200 W. Ralph St., Maricopa, AZ 85139. The RFP Packet and information will be provided via thumb drive to those in attendance.**

Deadline for any questions regarding this project will be **5:00 p.m. (MST) on Friday, June 14, 2024**. Proposal questions should be directed to Flora Howerton at [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us). Also, Cc: Project Manager, Casey Turgeon at [cturgeon@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:cturgeon@ak-chin.nsn.us).

The Owner will receive Proposals until **2:00 p.m. (MST) on Friday, June 28, 2024** 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.

The Owner reserves the right to reject, any and all pre-proposal. 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 proposals shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to the opening of Proposals without consent of the Owner.

## Hearing Notice

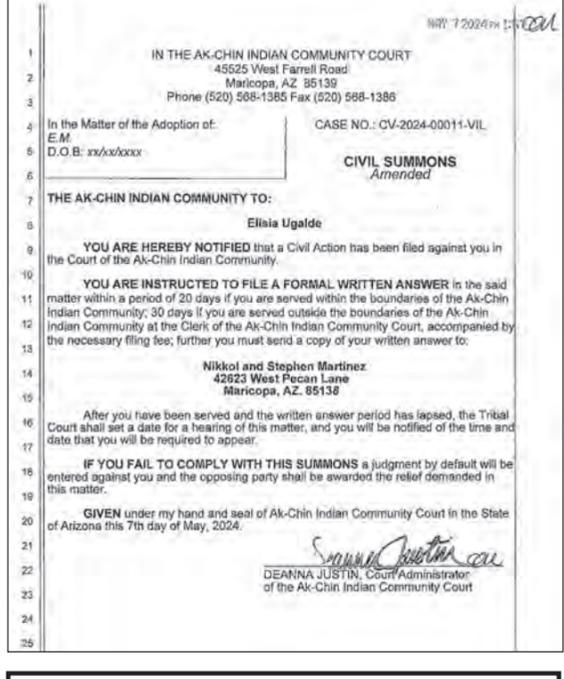
### Ak-Chin Indian Community Planning and Zoning

**Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Hearing regarding the following case at 6 p.m. on Tuesday May 28, 2024, at the Justice Center Conference Room.**

**CASE: SD-02-24: Desert Willow Apartment Complex:**  
 Project Applicant/Housing Director, Grace Pablo, is requesting Site Development Plan Permit approval to construct a new residential subdivision on approximately 1.9 acres of land in the R4 Residential Zone. The site is generally bounded by N Manuel Ave and the proposed Desert Willow Subdivision.

The project consists of:

- Twenty (20) dwelling units;
- Building #1 will consist of 1-(1) bedroom unit and 7-(2) bedroom units. Building #2 will consist of 2-(1) bedroom units and 4-(2) bedroom units. Building #3 will consist of 2-(1) bedroom units and 4-(2) bedroom units
- Twenty-seven (27) parking spaces, four (4) of which are ADA;
- Roadways, utilities, stormwater drainage, landscaped areas, street signage, and public open space.
- Public amenities will include 2 ramadas and bench seating in landscaped public open space areas; and
- A laundry room with 2 washers and 2 dryers.



**Reservoir continued from Front**

The Bureau of Reclamation manages, develops, and protects water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner for the American public.

They continue to develop strategies to manage and deliver water more efficiently and effectively to customers in order to help satisfy the many needs of irrigation, municipalities, power and the environment and serving as a technical resource for water users and planners.

**Torch Run continued from Front**

lends an important hand in celebrating the greatness in all people, especially individuals with intellectual disabilities.

100 percent of all money raised for the LETR goes directly to the Special Olympic Athletes in Arizona and other supporting programs, of that 100 percent, 95 percent of that money immediately goes to support programs and athletes.

The Ak-Chin PD will also be hosting their annual bowling fund-raiser on May 19, at Ak-Chin Circle Ten Pins Down bowling alley with proceeds going to the Special Olympics of Arizona.

Contact Michelle Granados at 520-568-1215, [mgranados@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:mgranados@ak-chin.nsn.us) or Davis Garcia at 520-568-1222, [dbgarcia@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:dbgarcia@ak-chin.nsn.us)



**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
 Capital Projects

**AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONSTRUCTION "VILLAGE REGIONAL DRAINAGE PROJECT"**

The Ak-Chin Indian Community (hereafter called the "Owner") invites all General Contractors to submit proposals on the Village Regional Drainage Project. The project consists of the following:

The scope of service includes but not limited to the following improvements: Re-configuration and regrading of existing detention basins slopes, new drainage channels to capture storm water runoff, storm pipe roadway crossings, and pipes connecting existing basins, large open channels north of Eco-Museum Road, large detention basins north of Eco-Museum Road as well as north of the existing Cemetery, headwalls, dry wells, sidewalks, re-configure Peters Ave hammer-head asphalt pavement, and riprap protection as necessary. Potholing is required using hand digging, to locate existing utilities at proposed new pipe and swales crossings. Any existing utilities that will conflict with the project will require adjustments and/or relocations. Existing roadway or sidewalk cut to install new underground pipes will be replaced in-kind.

**A Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting & Site Walk is scheduled for 9:00 A.M. (MST) on Thursday, May 23, 2024, located at the Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum Conference Room located at 47685 N. Eco-Museum Rd., Maricopa, AZ 85139. This meeting is considered mandatory if you wish to submit a bid, and the project scope will be discussed.**

Deadline for any questions regarding this project will be **5:00 P.M. (MST) on Friday, May 31, 2024**. Proposal questions should be directed to Flora Howerton at [FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us) and CC to PM [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 Monday, June 17, 2024**, 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 will be available, on a thumb drive, at the Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting & Site Walk.

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

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

# 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.

# CLASS OF 2024 Congrats!



Alexa Norris



Emily Peters



Haedin De Paola



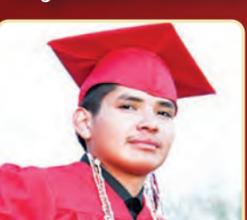
Mylauni Antone



Nicolas Olivas



Ray Pena



Snyder White Jr.



Taylor Santiago



Maricopa High School



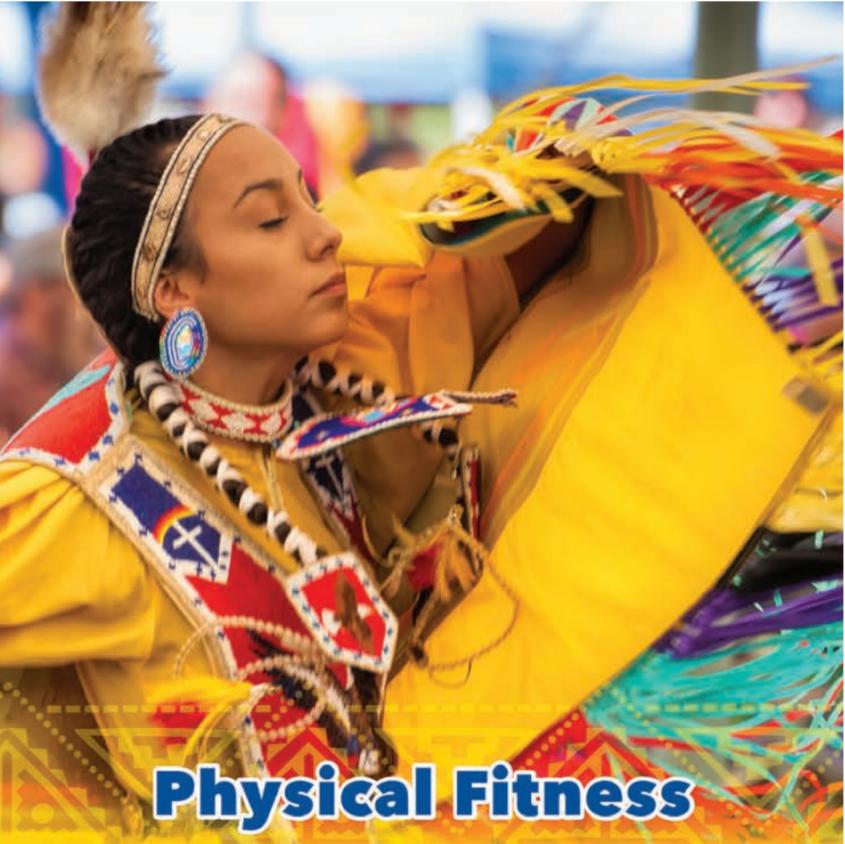
Aiden Antone  
Primavera Online School



Alandra Rivera  
Sequoia Pathway Academy



Jadon Valenzuela  
Marcos De Niza High School



## Physical Fitness

Whether it's gardening, connecting to our land by walking, swimming, or powwow dancing, being active will make you feel better, give you more energy, improve your mood and even help you to sleep better.

Be sure to enroll in a health insurance Marketplace plan to cover your overall health care needs.

For more information, contact your local Indian health care provider, visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), or call 1-800-318-2596.

For fitness tips, visit: [IHS.Gov/ForPatients/HealthTopics/PhysicalActivity](https://www.IHS.Gov/ForPatients/HealthTopics/PhysicalActivity)



# Congratulations Class of 2028



## 8th Grade Promotion

Maricopa Wells Middle School



Dante Peters



Elijah Peters



Elizabeth Antone



Hope Vallejos



Kellen Hoffman



Marcus Delores



Nakotah Antone



Naomi Pena



Nyalia Miguel

Congratulations to all our community graduates!  
From the Runner



Leah Alejandro  
Connolly Middle School



Stella Miguel  
A+ Charter School

## Making the most of a lunch break

Story and photo by Rebecca Rosoff



A lot can be accomplished over a lunch break with the right motivation. For Ak-Chin Indian Community's members, residents and employees, an opportunity to sweat and burn calories is now available on Wednesdays.

Lunchtime Fitness, presented by Ak-Chin Health Education, offers a full body workout condensed into 30 minutes. On May 1st, the second week of

the program, eight participants showed up to willingly be put through rigorous exercises.

Marc Matteson, Diabetes Program Coordinator, lead the group through a variety of physical activities including jogging over mini-hurdles, squats, weighted ball lifts and holds, CORE activities that target the central area of the body including supermans, cobras and planks, and warm-up/

cool down stretching.

Matteson shared that, "The idea is to keep people moving for the half hour and be able to get a workout in with their busy daily schedules. Not everyone has the time to go to a class or gym before or after work. If we can help by working it into their normal work day during a lunch break that is the goal. If attendance is consistent enough, we would like to add another day during the week."

For now, Lunchtime Fitness will continue to be offered on Wednesdays between 12:15pm and 12:45pm at the Ak-Chin Park's and Recreation Gymnasium.

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, there will be no trash picked up on Monday, May 27, 2024.

Instead, trash will be picked up on Tuesday, May 28, 2024.



# Library presents Scholastic Book Fair and Second Ever Puppet Show



Preschoolers gather around to watch the puppet show.

Story and photo by Jordan Rodriguez

For the second time ever the Ak-Chin Library hosted a puppet show for the preschool to come and enjoy on May 9.

Going forward, the library will have one in the spring (May) and one in the fall (November).

The library had to push it up a week for the four-year-olds to see because May 9 was their last time coming to the library for the year.

Both puppet shows were drawn from a children's book. Puppet shows can be challenging for the library as they have a lot of puppets, but not always the ones they need.

Also, there are no props, so the puppeteers make them as they go along. Robin Vincent and Aaliyah Begay are both

very artistic and are doing an excellent job handling this task.

Not only did the parents enjoy the show, but more importantly the kids had a blast. In the future the library hopes to open the puppet shows up to the Ak-Chin community, not just the pre-school.

"The Library's Puppet Stage has been dark (no puppet shows) since we opened," said Library Manager Melanie Toledo.

"Previous staff lacked enthusiasm to put on puppet shows. Linda (Brill) was the first to bring puppet shows to the Community. I am excited Linda has taken on the role as the Director of the Library's Puppet Theater and training

current staff to be puppeteers."

After the show the kids were able to walk through the Scholastic book fair, also held at the library. The book fair is open to everyone, including the Maricopa community, and gives kids the opportunity to shop and pick out their own books, encouraging this generation to pick up books for enjoyment and educational purposes.

"The Education department shops the fair for incentives for students in their tutoring program," said Librarian Linda Brill. "Which helps to make the fair a success."

The proceeds from the book fair go to the purchase of books for the library and Reading Enrichment program.



Elementary students practice spelling on the last day of tutoring.

## Education Department Continues to Make an Impact

Story and photo by Jordan Rodriguez

On May 3, the Ak-Chin Education Department congratulated students on successfully completing elementary school. Students were treated to pizza and other snacks for their accomplishments.

More than just a celebration, this party was to also prepare the students on what lies ahead of them in middle school. What the education department calls the transition party gives the students some pointers on how to prepare and succeed in their new schools/grade.

A new environment with new faces and new teachers can be difficult to juggle at first, which is why the Ak-Chin Education Department felt the need to prep these middle schoolers for what awaits them in middle school. Making sure students have an understanding of what is important and necessary,

while also teaching them where to go when they need assistance, whether it be inside of the classroom or outside, is imperative.

Throughout the year the Education department also provided tutoring for students at all grade levels.

After school students would visit the education department and would be able to ask questions about their homework or just work on practice lessons that the teachers provided.

All the teachers are proud of all the students that came this year and made the effort to grow their knowledge. The education department believes providing this service is extremely important to the community as it creates more educational opportunities for our students.



## YOUR WATER. YOUR FUTURE.

Central Arizona Project created CAP University to provide free educational sessions in a continued effort to increase awareness and knowledge of CAP and the Colorado River.

# Jadon Valenzuela honored at Native American Program Senior Banquet

Story and photos submitted by Savannah Boyd, MSW, Ak-Chin Education Student Counselor



The Tempe Union High School District (TUHSD) Native American Program held their annual Senior Banquet on Thursday, May 2nd at Marcos de Niza High School for all Native American graduates of TUHSD.

The high schools included

under TUHSD are Corona del Sol, Desert Vista, Marcos de Niza, McClintock, Mountain Pointe, Tempe High, and Tempe Union Online.

Among the graduates recognized, one graduate Jadon J. Valenzuela, an Ak-Chin member will be graduating

on Thursday, May 23rd from Marco de Niza High School.

During the banquet, a blessing was offered by Dr. Michael Little Crow, Math Professor at Arizona State University, a cultural performance by the Akimel O'odham/Pee-Posh Youth Council.

Keynote Speaker was Council Member David Antone from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, and a student speaker, Miss Cailinn Allen from Mountain Pointe High School.

Jadon was presented with a handmade stole from the Native American Program Parent Committee Members and Staff. Jadon plans to continue his education at South Mountain Community College.



The Reading Enrichment students waiting to be called to the stage.

## The Magic of Reading!

Story and photos submitted by Linda Brill, Ak-Chin Librarian

Thursday, April 25th was an exciting time for the Ak-Chin Library Reading Enrichment students!

They were treated to an evening of accolades and fun at Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center Elements event center.

The theme was "The Magic of Reading!" Ak-Chin Library staff wore magician capes and the centerpieces were magician hats with rabbit ears, playing cards, paper flowers made from old book pages, and a construction paper flower on the end of a magic wand complete with a picture of a Reading Enrichment student.

The evening began with a kid-friendly buffet dinner. After dinner, Lemuel Vincent, Ak-Chin Vice-Chairman, spoke to begin the evening's presentations.

Councilmember Lisa Garcia

then talked about her personal experience with the success of the Reading Enrichment program.

Melanie Toledo, Library Manager, shared her personal journey on learning to read, and the importance of learning to read. Mrs. Roxie then spoke about each student as they received a framed certificate and a cape.

Last but not least Robin Vincent spoke about each student's personality as they were presented with a personalized certificate.

With that portion of the program finished, everyone moved into an adjacent room to watch the magic of Eric Giliam.

He included several students in his magic, and they had a great time! Everyone went home with full bellies, gifts, and smiles on their faces.



(Top left): The Library Staff

(Top right): Everyone enjoyed the puzzles and Uno games.



(Bottom left): Eric Giliam makes a balloon dog for Hunter Narcia,

## Ak-Chin Health Education - May the 4th Run/Walk

Story submitted by Martina G. Peters, Ak-Chin Health Educator, photos by Raychel Peters

We had a total of 93 participants join us for the morning event. Of the 93, we had a total of 23 timed 5K participants.

Health Education always offers raffle prizes at each of the events. Every participant that arrives and participates at our events are given 3 raffle tickets with the chance to win prizes.

At this event we had Star Wars themed merchandise such as a Death Star tea pot, Star Wars pancake maker, Star Wars sandwich maker, some water toys/balloon packages, and not to mention a few \$30 gift card

selections to Fry's, Amazon, and Marshalls.

We do change up the prizes every time and offer a selection of 10-12 prizes. So please join us at one of our next walk/runs for a chance to be entered in one of our next raffles.

The Health Education staff would like to thank Ak-Chin Farms for utilization of farm roads for our routes, Ak-Chin Public Works/Sanitation for setting up our barricades, route maintenance, and for mosquito fogging and Ak-Chin Police Department & Ak-Chin

Fire Department for being on standby for the safety of our participants.

We would also like to thank Vekol Market for always working with us to provide food for our participants and Waylon Antone for t-shirt designs.

We appreciate all the support and help we receive for our events. A special thank you to all of our participants. Thank you for taking the time to join us for fitness on a Saturday morning! We cannot wait to see you all at our next event which will be Glow Run in August.

Male Overall Winners: 1) Antonio Rodriguez 26:03, 2) Lorenzo Holcomb 27:09, and 3) Rayford Vavages 27:48

Female Overall Winners: 1) Alyssa Estrada 26:57, 2) Sarah Zabawa 27:12, 3) Cecily Peters 30:21

Age 0-10 Ariel Lopez (female), Jose Lopez Jr. (male)  
 Age 11-17 Antonio Rodriguez (male)  
 Age 18-29 Alyssa Estrada (female)  
 Age 30-39 Sarah Zabawa (female), Willard Delma (male)  
 Age 40-49 Rayford Vavages (male)  
 Age 50-59 Yolanda Miranda (female), Lorenzo Holcomb (male)



## Ak-Chin Recreation hosts Meliñ S-hođam Wua'i Tournament

Story and photos submitted by Jordan Gusse, Ak-Chin Recreation Coordinator



1st Place - Rez Bombers

Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation hosted the NABI Endorsed Meliñ S-hođam Wua'i (Run Hustle Shoot) High School Boys' and Girls' basketball tournament from May 3-5.

We hosted 11 boys' teams and 9 girls' teams with players from all over the valley and the country. The turnout was great as the stands were always packed and locked into the games.

Games were great and came



1st Place - Young Gunz

down to the wire and saw some amazing championship games.

For the girl's high school division, we saw the Rez Bombers (Navajo, Hualapai, Paiute, Shoshone, Samoan, Laguna Pueblo) take 1st place, the Diné Bombers (Navajo) 2nd place and the PHX Monarchs (Gila River, Sioux, Navajo) coming in 3rd place.

For the boy's high school division, we saw the Young Gunz

(Navajo, San Carlos, Apache, Gila River, Sioux) take 1st place, Salt River Ba'ag (Navajo, Seminole, Fort McDowell, Yavapai, Salt River Pima) take 2nd place, and BTB Boys (Gila River) take 3rd place.

We would like to thank all the participants and fans that traveled to the Ak-Chin Indian Community for a great weekend of basketball and we can't wait to see these teams back here for this annual tournament.

### Ak-Chin Child Development

**Accepting applications for Preschool 2024-2025 SY**  
**Deadline is July 29th, 2024**

Our office is open  
8am-5pm  
Monday-Friday  
Register now!  
First day of Preschool  
is August 12th,  
8:30am-2:00pm

**Ak-Chin Child Development offers:**

- A High Quality Early Education Experience
- Health/Developmental Screenings
- Disability Services (Through M.U.S.D.)
- Kindergarten Readiness
- \*Story time (Provided by Ak-Chin Library)
- \*Cultural Activities/Events (Provided by Language Program/Cultural Resources)\*
- \*Physical/Nutrition Education (Provided by Ak-Chin Health Ed. Program)
- \*Fire Safety Education (Provided by the Ak-Chin Fire Department)\*
- \*Field Trips/Fun activities throughout year\*
- Health and Safety Protocols in Place

**Enrollment is based on availability and children are selected in the following order:**

1. Child is an enrolled member of the Ak-Chin Indian Community
2. Child is a non-enrolled member, but he/she is the legal child of an enrolled member of the Ak-Chin Indian Community
3. Child is living within the Ak-Chin Indian Community boundaries.
4. Child is living outside of the Ak-Chin Indian Community boundaries and is enrolled with another federally recognized Native American Community.
5. Child of a parent who is an employee of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.
6. Non-member children based on availability.

Pick up a 2024-2025 Enrollment Packet at Ak-Chin Child Development.

Please bring in the following documents to be considered for enrollment

- Completed Application
- Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) if applicable
- Child's Certified Birth Certificate
- Child's Current Immunization Record

(returning students only need the current Immunization Record and a completed Returning Student application)

Only completed applications with required documents will be accepted. Children registering must be three (3) years old prior to September 1st of the current year.

If you have any questions please contact the Preschool at  
 48251 W. Farrell Rd.  
 Maricopa, AZ 85139  
 (520) 568-1700.  
 Ak-ChinChildDevelopment@ak-chin.nsn.us

# EMPLOYEE UPDATES



**Devonte Hopson**  
Firefighter/EMT  
FIRE



**Dwayne Yazzie**  
Truant Officer  
EDUCATION



**Gwenyvieve Leeson**  
Library Technician  
LIBRARY



**Jose Lopez**  
Groundskeeper  
PUBLIC WORKS SANITATION



**Richard Quintero**  
Deli Clerk  
VEKOL

## JOB OPENINGS

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

- Accountant (2)
- Before and After School Teacher
- Child and Family Therapist
- Communications Officer
- Compensation Analyst
- Detention Officer - Certified and Non-Certified
- Gaming Agent
- General Worker (Temp Worker)
- Groundskeeper
- Housing Program Counselor - Tribal Housing
- Lab Tutor (part-time)
- Maintenance Technician (4)
- Plant Electrician
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation Technician
- Police Officer- Certified and Non-Certified
- Security Systems Technician
- Substance Abuse Therapist
- Teacher (Child Care 1 - 3 yrs old, 2 positions)

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.

**Wishes**

Happy Birthday to my daughter Elaine  
*Love, Mom*

Happy Birthday to my granddaughters Amaya, Renee, Ariaah, and Jolie and my grandsons Oscar, Henry, Daniel Jr., Aaron Jr., and Joseph Jr.  
*Love, Grandma*

### Employee Birthdays May 17th - June 6th

<b>17-May</b> Mauricio Chairéz Velazco, Sanitation Ricardo Manzo, Central Plant	<b>20-May</b> Darrian Justin, Sanitation Frances Stephens, Community Government	<b>29-May</b> Nickalus Acosta, Police Marla Antone, Him Dak Museum Victor Diaz, Community Operations Elaine Peters, Him Dak Museum
<b>18-May</b> Amy Batopis, Early Childhood Rozenda Manuel, Retail Department	<b>21-May</b> Brian Schaublfn, Fire	<b>30-May</b> Jolie Smith, Vekol
<b>19-May</b> Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, Elderly	<b>23-May</b> Tera Thornton, Education	<b>31-May</b> Christopher Hayes, Fire
<b>24-May</b> Deidra Carlyle, Planning Victor Harer, EPD	<b>1-Jun</b> Tristin Martin, Police	
<b>26-May</b> Edith Munoz, Finance	<b>2-Jun</b> Pamela Dallas, Contracts and Grant Curtis Main, IS Virginia Zepeda, Sanitation	
<b>27-May</b> Brian Manuel Jr., Tribal Gaming Agency Colleen Milke, Community Government Maria Tavena-Thomas, Social Service		

Sorry, No Transportation Provided

June 3rd - July 5th  
(5 weeks)

## 2024 Him-Dak Summer Art Program

(For Members and Residents)

Location: Art Building  
(Please drop off kids north of the Art Building)  
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Mon.- Fr.)  
Ages: K-12th Grade (For Members & Residents)  
\*Registration is also available at the Him-Dak Museum  
\*Will have breakfast, snacks and lunch.  
The Him-Dak Summer Art Program is broken down into four grade groups:  
Grades K-1st, 2nd - 4th, 5th - 8th, 9th - 12th  
(Accepting the first 15 kids signed up per grade group)

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)

## Restorative Yoga w/Vickie

Ak-Chin Service Center  
6:00p - 7:00p

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

- May 16, 2024
- May 23, 2024
- May 30, 2024

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL HEALTH EDUCATION AT (520) 568-1080

## Birthdays May 17th - June 6th

<b>5/17</b> Jaxson Justin Amaya Rocha Daniel Thomas Lucianna Orona Renee Boehm	<b>5/23</b> Cecelia Norris	<b>5/29</b> Frederick Antone Elaine Peters David Stephens Carmen DeLeon Yvette Oliver Daniel Lozano, Jr. Marla Antone	<b>6/03</b> Kiandra Smith
<b>5/18</b> Emerson Antone Ashley Batopis Johnathan Enos Amy Batopis	<b>5/24</b> Deidra Carlyle	<b>5/30</b> John Deloney, Jr. Jeycee Zepeda Samantha Green Jolie Peters Isabella Antone	<b>6/04</b> Joseph Zabawa Jr.
<b>5/19</b> Johnnie Ormsby, Jr. Leslie Burnett	<b>5/25</b> Desiree Carra Delia Carlyle	<b>5/31</b> Ryan Justin Santos Aguilla Aaron Peters, Jr.	<b>6/05</b> Alyssa Wind Haedin De Paola Jessica White Mario Luz
<b>5/20</b> Darrian Justin Ariah Thompson	<b>5/26</b> Makenna Sope Elianna Mariano Zoe Susunkewa	<b>6/01</b> Cruz Machado Jr.	<b>6/06</b> Uriayzz Antone Marie Thomas Ramona Kaniatobe
<b>5/21</b> Lisa Alejandro	<b>5/27</b> Brian Manuel, Jr. Mason Bowman Colleen Norris Maria Thomas Jayden Antone	<b>6/02</b> Astraya Warren	<b>6/07</b> Marissa Antone Zylen Silas-Antone Marco Thompson
<b>5/22</b> Christian Thomas Oscar Blackwater-Peters	<b>5/28</b> Lorenzo Mejia Janice Anderson Mikelle Sope Henry Garcia		

2024

# May

Library Hours  
Mon-Fri 10a-7p  
Sat 12p-4p  
Sun CLOSED

Ak-Chin Indian Community Library

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Afterschool Meals Mon-Fri 3:30p-5p	5-6p Strings Lessons	4-6p Reading Enrichment	1 4-6p Reading Enrichment 5-6p Strings Lessons	2	3 Art Club 4-6p	4 12-4p May the 4th Perler Bead Craft
5	6 4-6p Reading Enrichment 5-6p Strings Lessons	7 4-6p Reading Enrichment	8 4-6p Reading Enrichment 5-6p Strings Lessons	11a-12p Storytime & Puppet Show!	10 4-6p Reading Enrichment	11 1p-3p Lego Club
12	13 4-6p Reading Enrichment	14 4-6p Reading Enrichment	15 4-6p Reading Enrichment 5-6p Strings Lessons	16 4-6p Reading Enrichment	17 4-6p Reading Enrichment Art Club 4-6p	18 10a-2pm WAILA Music Class Contact: Milo
19	20 5-6p Strings Lessons	21	22 5-6p Strings Lessons	23	24 Japan Pop 4-5:30p	25
26 HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY	27 CLOSED	28	29	30	31	

Summer programs coming in June!

Questions: 520-568-1675

## ZUMBA fitness

Ak-Chin Service Center  
Tuesdays 6:00p-7:00p  
May 21, 2024  
May 28, 2024

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

## Spring beanstack

into reading with

Download the beanstack app and log your reading minutes. Reach 1000 minutes before the spring season ends!

Starts March 20, 2024 | Ends June 20, 2024

Spring Reading participants and prizes are open to Ak-Chin Indian Community Members, Residents, and Employees only

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

# Pinal 40 Gala recognizes Claude Gipson with 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award

Story and photo by Raychel Peters



Claude Gipson (Photo courtesy of Pinal 40)

Saturday, May 4, Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino and Resort Ballroom was overflowing with members and guests of Pinal 40, for their 10th Annual Pinal 40 Gala.

The evening was a very special occasion for Pinal 40, as they were honored to celebrate longtime Arizona commodities broker and farmer, Claude Gipson.

Claude Gipson, a well-known agricultural trader in the valley was recognized that evening, via video, with many of his friends, family and vendors sharing his life's work and honest business ethics for the past 50 years.

Many credited him for his savvy business sense about farming and trading, while others spoke of how he overcame much adversity and discrimination to rise above and fulfill his dreams of becoming a successful businessman and building his life here in Pinal County.

At age 18, Claude made his way to Arizona, after

escaping a lynching in Texas. He was looking for a better way of life, and found it in Casa Grande, Arizona.

Although, he did have many difficult moments along the way, he persevered and kept moving forward.

Tim Robinson shared, "Claude Gipson came to Casa Grande, Arizona in 1951, an 18-year-old boy with an eighth-grade education and a 10ft cotton sack and a pair of knee pad and he set to work building his life here, picking over 600lbs of cotton a day by hand for 3 cents a pound."

Claude soon met another young man who was a hard worker like him and they became friends.

"I've worked for Claude Gipson for 55 years this year, and we've been very good friends, like brothers for a long-long time," Ulysses "Slim" Sharp shared.

Claude and Ulysses would later go into business together, with CG Com-

modities, trading in alfalfa, cottonseed and grains.

"With the help of Louis Maxcy and some others, he built that business into what became probably the most famous commodity trader here in this whole entire valley." Robinson added.

He also owned a restaurant with a few partners, called The Arches and started a towing business, but his friends say he loved the cattle business more than anything.

He was always early to work and pretty much worked seven days a week his whole life, shared his longtime secretary Carolyn Grezecka.

Claude was a generous man, who didn't hesitate

where they played cards.

"Claude was proud of that invitation for 2 reasons," Fitzgibbons shared. "#1 it said a lot about where our country had come over his lifetime, but it also told a personal story about how far he had come during his lifetime; from a near lynching in Texas to an invitation to the White House for an inauguration."

"Claude Gipson is the person you can look to and say if you work hard and set your mind to it, you can do just about anything that you want to do in this country." Bill McLean, his personal lawyer shared.

Claude has always helped people, just like Pinal 40. When Pinal 40 first started they wanted to honor

are acknowledging him and his hard work within the community."

Newly elected President Tony Salcido was elated to share in congratulating Claude on his award.

"It's a great honor to be able to be up here today to tell you thank you for all you've done and what you've showed many people through the years, that you worked in the industry, especially the seed industry... again thank you very much for letting us honor you today."

Claude was unable to accept his award in person, and so his daughter Rose Gipson was invited to accept on his behalf.

"Unfortunately, due to his health, he as you can see, was not able to attend this gala tonight." Rose shared.

"I just want to say the Gibson family is so elated and appreciate the Pinal 40 for choosing my father, Mr. Claude Gipson for receiving this award... We will always cherish (this event) and will never forget, ever in our lives. Thank you so very much from the bottom of our hearts. We love you, keep us in your prayers."

After Claude's award was received, the evening continued with an auction for many items that were up for bid, including a one-of-a-kind shotgun, pair of diamond earrings, trip to Scotland and a grip of tickets to numerous high-end sporting events in Arizona and a great vacation package from Harrah's.

All proceeds would be going to the Pinal 40 scholarship fund.

The evening entertainment also included up and coming country singer

Drake Milligan. Comedian Mark Cordes, was the MC for the evening.

Salcido also thanked the Ak-Chin Indian Community and Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino for being a top sponsor of Pinal 40, since its inception.

"Ak-Chin has been the #1 contributor to our organization. They were really a vital part in the launching of Pinal 40, during the first part of development of the organization. The Ak-Chin Indian Community has been our largest donors."

He also credited, former Ak-Chin farm manager, Steve Coester who was instrumental in getting these donations for Pinal 40.

Pinal 40 is an organization of committed members whose primary objective is "promoting Pinal County, its youth as well as farming and agriculture related businesses. Philanthropically, Pinal 40 and its membership focus on providing support and funding for youth and education through agribusiness related scholarships and support of local charities."

Their purpose is, "To engage in public activities which will promote and publicize Pinal County and attract visitors, businesses, and out-of-state capital: to engage in the sponsorship of events which will attract national publicity to Pinal County; to engage in youth sponsorship and scholarships with an emphasis on agricultural business interests; and to engage in any other activity which the membership deems suitable for this corporation for the growth and general welfare of Pinal County, its youth, and agricultural businesses, generally.



Pinal 40 President, Tony Salcido presents Claude's award to daughter Rose Gipson.

to lend a hand or help somebody in need. He was an honest salesman and well respected by all his peers.

Claude was a big supporter of Barack Obama and was very excited when he was elected president.

Claude even received an invitation to the inauguration at the White House. He framed the invitation and put it in his front room

Claude, but he didn't accept at that time.

They were glad when Claude finally allowed them to go forward in recognizing him this year.

"I think this is a great honor for him and I'm very proud of him." Carolyn Grezecka, who was Claude's longtime secretary. "I'm proud to have worked for him and I'm proud that other people

**30 Years of Play Harrah's AK-CHIN CASINO** **MAY 2024** **CAESARS REWARDS**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b> FRIDAY, MAY 24, SUNDAY, MAY 26 & MONDAY, MAY 27, 2024	<b>CINCO DE MAYO</b> GIFT CARD SUNDAYS MANAGING ON PROPERTY	<b>MINDAYS NEED DRINKIN, TOO!</b> KITCHEN APPLIANCE SET BY SERVAPPETTY GIVEAWAY & DRAWING	<b>10x</b> 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER BLAZING 777 WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b> 10K EARNING	<b>I TREAT YOURSELF AT THE BEST SHOP!</b> 10K EARNING	<b>RENT A CASINO ON YOUR NEXT TRIP!</b> LITTLE JOE & FRIENDS CONCERT
<b>MOTHER'S DAY SPECIALS AT OAK &amp; FOPS AND SHOP, BLOCH &amp; BREW</b>	<b>FREE REWARD CREDITS FOR FREE SLOT PLAY!</b>	<b>KITCHEN APPLIANCE SET BY SERVAPPETTY GIVEAWAY &amp; DRAWING</b>	<b>10x</b> 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER BLAZING 777 WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b> 10K EARNING	<b>TEE UP AT THE AK-CHIN SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF CLUB!</b> 10K EARNING	<b>AT BY USA TODAY CAESARS REWARDS LOYALTY PROGRAM</b>
<b>GIFT CARD SUNDAYS</b>	<b>MONDAYS NEED DRINKIN, TOO!</b>	<b>KITCHEN APPLIANCE SET BY SERVAPPETTY GIVEAWAY &amp; DRAWING</b>	<b>10x</b> 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER BLAZING 777 WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b> 10K EARNING	<b>PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS DRAWINGS</b>
<b>THE WINNERS</b>	<b>Memorial Day</b>	<b>KITCHEN APPLIANCE SET BY SERVAPPETTY GIVEAWAY &amp; DRAWING</b>	<b>10x</b> 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER BLAZING 777 WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG	<b>30 YEARS OF PLAY</b>	<b>30,000 SWEETSTAKES</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b> Every FRIDAY & SATURDAY from 8PM to 10PM

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

**SUMMER SIX PACK \$229**

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

**CHROME TOUR**

**Southern Dunes GOLF CLUB**  
EXPERIENCE TROON GOLF!

**480.367.8949 AKCHINSOUTHERNDUNES.COM**

**30 Years of Play Harrah's AK-CHIN CASINO** **MAY 2024** **CAESARS REWARDS**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>	<b>CINCO DE MAYO</b>	<b>MINDAYS NEED DRINKIN, TOO!</b>	<b>10x</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b>	<b>I TREAT YOURSELF AT THE BEST SHOP!</b>	<b>RENT A CASINO ON YOUR NEXT TRIP!</b>
<b>MOTHER'S DAY SPECIALS AT OAK &amp; FOPS AND SHOP, BLOCH &amp; BREW</b>	<b>FREE REWARD CREDITS FOR FREE SLOT PLAY!</b>	<b>KITCHEN APPLIANCE SET BY SERVAPPETTY GIVEAWAY &amp; DRAWING</b>	<b>10x</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b>	<b>TEE UP AT THE AK-CHIN SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF CLUB!</b>	<b>AT BY USA TODAY CAESARS REWARDS LOYALTY PROGRAM</b>
<b>GIFT CARD SUNDAYS</b>	<b>MONDAYS NEED DRINKIN, TOO!</b>	<b>KITCHEN APPLIANCE SET BY SERVAPPETTY GIVEAWAY &amp; DRAWING</b>	<b>10x</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b>	<b>PROGRESSIVE TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS DRAWINGS</b>
<b>THE WINNERS</b>	<b>Memorial Day</b>	<b>KITCHEN APPLIANCE SET BY SERVAPPETTY GIVEAWAY &amp; DRAWING</b>	<b>10x</b>	<b>30 YEARS OF PLAY</b>	<b>30,000 SWEETSTAKES</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>

**MEMORIAL DAY**

**Dollar 4 Dollar**

**MAY. 27**

**THIS MEMORIAL DAY**  
Purchase a game card (up to \$20) and we will match that amount  
\* does not include bonus credits.

**PLAY // WIN GameCenter**

**Ak-Chin Circle**  
ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

**Ak-ChinCircle.com**

**30 Years of Play Harrah's AK-CHIN CASINO** **JUNE 2024** **CAESARS REWARDS**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>GRILL GEAR SET GIVEAWAY</b> SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024	<b>SWISS COOLER SET GIVEAWAY</b>	<b>10x</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>
<b>GRILL GEAR SET GIVEAWAY</b>	<b>SWISS COOLER SET GIVEAWAY</b>	<b>10x</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>
<b>GIFT CARD SUNDAYS</b>	<b>MONDAYS NEED DRINKIN, TOO!</b>	<b>SWISS COOLER SET GIVEAWAY</b>	<b>10x</b>	<b>WIN YOUR WHEELS!</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>	<b>CAESARS NIGHTS</b>