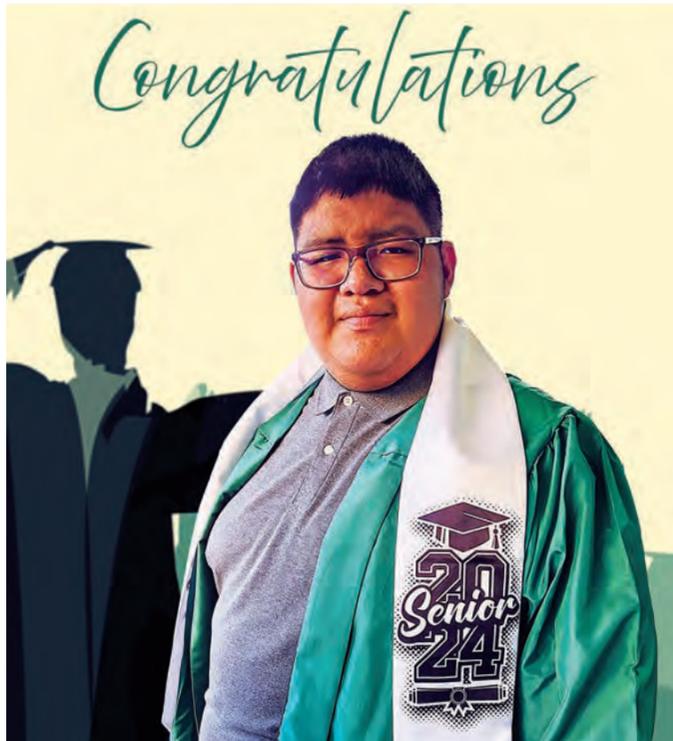




Above, Ak-Chin cheerleaders line-up and greet 2024 NABI Girls Division Champions Arizona Rezbombers as they celebrate their 68-40 victory over Oklahoma Legendary Elite at Foot Print Center in downtown Phoenix, Saturday July 27.

## Ak-Chin recent high school graduates

Story by Ashley Vincent



### Aiden Antone

Photo submitted by Wilson Antone

On Wednesday, July 10th, Aiden Antone graduated from Primavera Online High School. His graduation was held at the Arizona Financial Theatre in Phoenix, with a class of over 600. Aiden is the son of Wilson Antone and Mary Manuel, and

the grandson of Martin Antone Sr. and Carol Antone.

As far as his after-graduation plans, Aiden is still weighing his options with one of them being, attending Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado.

## NABI 2024 highlights

Story by Runner Staff, photo by Kristen Villegas

It was nice to see our boys and girls once again participating in the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) games this year. We were also represented by a new group of girls, our Ak-Chin Cheer team.

Before NABI week began, we hosted our relatives Team Aotearoa Maori, from New Zealand, who made their way to the community once again to share their culture and our court before NABI.

### SUNDAY, JULY 21

Team Ak-Chin and Team Aotearoa Maori of New Zealand joined each other on the court at Ak-Chin Recreation's gym for a friendly

scrimmage before the week of NABI games began.

Both boys' and girls' teams scrimmaged against each other, playing a full game. After the games, all the teams were able to socialize with one another over lunch that was provided by Ak-Chin Recreation. Each table had a mix of Ak-Chin

NABI continues to page 7

## Runner Interview with Chairman Robert Miguel



At left, Teagan Delma, Runner Summer Youth Worker conducts interview with Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel.

Story by Runner Staff, photo by Ashley Vincent

Chairman Robert Miguel was interviewed by Runner summer workers Auciana Miguel and Teagan Delma on July 8, 2024. They asked him questions regarding his time on council and his thoughts as Chairman.

As we head towards the end of the year, elections are right around the corner. Soon, we will be voting in a new Chairman, as Robert Miguel, our current chairman, will end his long-term service for the community with 11 years of experience on council.

Chairman Miguel has had an extensive work history prior to his chapters as Ak-Chin's Chairman and council member; beginning with Ak-Chin Farms, Parks and Recreation, Community Service and 17 long years with the Runner.

behalf of the community, to strengthen relationships with congressmen and senators from the State of Arizona and throughout the Country.

### What are some of the hard decisions you must face in this position?

The process of making things happen is easier said than done; not everything is dependent on what I say. I am fortunate to have other members of council help answer/decide the decisions that are needed to give the best opportunity for our people and the development of our community. There are plenty of times when every decision that will benefit the community doesn't happen right away. There is a process and it requires patience as we navigate through the best paths to give us an outcome.

There are plenty of continued needs within the community, such as improved services within housing, healthcare, and education just to name a few. You would like to snap your fingers and make these things happen, but it is a work in progress and it takes time, eventually these issues will be tended to, with a potential positive solution. Leaders before me have struggled with this as well, some unfortunately were not ever able to see all the decisions they made to help benefit the community come about until years later. Keep in mind, the decisions made by council members are always to benefit the community, we want to

### What is it like to serve on the Ak-Chin Tribal Council?

It's special because I'm representing the people of my community. It has allowed me to learn how to continue to serve people and do as much as I can to make their lives better; this takes continued efforts by going to meetings and learning from others.

Speaking of attending meetings, being on tribal council requires plenty of traveling to meet with important people like congressional leaders; from congressmen and senators who are the utmost leaders who can support and advocate for your community's needs. It's what former Ak-Chin leaders have done from our beginnings for the resources we currently have, such as water.

I've been fortunate enough on

Chairman continues to page 2



### Angelo Luz

Photo by Ashley Vincent

Angelo Luz graduated from Elevated Academy on Wednesday, June 26th, with a class of 17.

to present their diploma to them, which was a unique core memory that will last a lifetime.

Being that the class was not as large as most schools, the parents or special person of each graduate was able

Angelo was also honored during his graduation as he was the first ever recipient of the "Ethan Legacy Scholarship."

Graduates continues to page 4

## 1st Day of School



Photo submitted by Nicole Delma

Young students like these two swiftly make their way to catch the school bus for their first day of school. Maricopa Unified School District started its school year on July 24.

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see members thrive more than anyone else can imagine.

**What made you decide to run for Chairman?**  
It was a big step in my life. The number of responsibilities that fall on you can be challenging and you are the voice of the community. I was encouraged by a fellow

member and council members to run for the position of Chairman, as they felt I was ready for the role. Just having a continued strong interest in helping people, especially our people was key to my decision. Whether I was ready or not, I knew that my ultimate goal was to lead my people in the

Chairman role. I have to admit that I struggled somewhat in the position during the beginning, but with support and encouragement from members, in particular elders, I knew that I had the capability to grow and improve, which I've felt that I have done. During my childhood,

I was raised by my grandparents, my grandfather Jonas Miguel also had the opportunity to serve as Chairman in the 70's. He had a strong impact on my decision to pursue the role of Chairman because I saw how my grandfather was able to advocate for Ak-Chin and try his hardest in making it a better place for all its members.

highlight. I've been able to testify a number of times on behalf of the community and Indian Country. Every year, Tribal Leaders are invited to Washington D.C. to address their issues, concerns, and get support for their respective communities before Congressional Leaders.

Chairman continued from Front... gave me the courage to continue to speak as the moment was happening. It can become nerve racking once the television cameras are turned on. I never for one second felt nervous, I just went with the flow.

On the flight back home, I remember feeling a wave of emotions and began crying and had to put my sunglasses on. I realized at that time, that I did something for my people at a national level, and it made me feel good because I was able to do that.

Not all memorable moments were as grandiose as meeting with three presidents and speaking before congress. During a travel to Idaho to speak at an event, I remember having a meal at Pizza Hut.

A family, which consisted of a grandmother and her three grandkids, sat near me and I overheard the children asking their grandmother for

Chairman continues to page 5

## Functional Fitness for ELDERS



**Ak-Chin Service Center**  
Time: 10:00am – 11:00am  
Tuesdays & Thursdays

### Remaining 2024 Schedule

Aug 13	Sep 10	Oct 08	Nov 07
Aug 15	Sep 12	Oct 10	Nov 12
Aug 20	Sep 17	Oct 15	Nov 14
Aug 27	Sep 24	Oct 22	Nov 19
	Sep 26	Oct 29	Nov 21
		Oct 31	(Walk for Gratitude)

Fall Prevention for Elders provided by The Injury Prevention Program  
Questions??? Call Teri De La Cruz at (520) 568-1087

**Ak-Chin**  
Parks & Recreation

We are transforming our

# GYM

UNDER RENOVATION

We're excited to share that our gymnasium is getting an upgrade to enhance your experience! We'll be ready to welcome you back in September, so stay tuned for more updates. In the meantime, feel free to use our pool & weight room, and other programs will remain open as scheduled by Parks and Recreation. See you there!

WHATS IN STORE

- New Bleachers ✓
- Court Painting ✓
- Court Repair ✓
- Gym Painting ✓
- New Court Design ✓

Any questions contact us  
[recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us)  
(520) 568-1740

CONTACT US

AK-CHIN HEALTH EDUCATION PRESENTS...

# 2024 GLOW RUN

THURSDAY AUGUST 22ND 2024 @ 6:30 PM

AK-CHIN RECREATION CENTER

Please join us for a night of fun and fitness with a 2-mile walk or run!

REGISTER BY SCANNING QR CODE.

ONLINE REGISTRATON CLOSES AUG. 20TH.

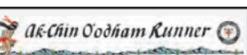
ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE GLOW ACCESSORIES, DINNER, ENTRY INTO OUR RAFFLES, AND T-SHIRT.

\*\*EVENT IS OPEN TO AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS, THEIR FAMILIES, RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES & THEIR FAMILIES.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT AK-CHIN HEALTH EDUCATION AT (520) 568-1085 OR MGUY@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

# Elder Calendar

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>*Breakfast Served 7 AM to 8:30 AM</p> <p>*Lunch Served 12PM to 1 PM</p>				<p>8/2 <i>Breakfast Pita Packets, Fruit with Cottage Cheese</i></p> <p><i>Chicken Salad Sandwich, Tomato/Cucumber Salad, Chips, Jell-O</i></p>
<p><b>Menu Subject to Change Without Notice</b></p>				
<p>8/5 <i>Spam &amp; Eggs Potatoes Tortilla Banana</i></p> <p><i>Staff CPR Class</i></p> <p><i>Cabbage Stew, Carrots, Biscuits, Mandarin Oranges</i></p>	<p>8/6 <i>Cereal Boiled Eggs English Muffin Apples</i></p> <p><i>Grand Canyon Trip Presentation 12 noon</i></p> <p><i>Pinto Beans, Pork Chop (D), Butternut Squash, Cornbread, Pineapple</i></p>	<p>8/7 <i>Scrambled Eggs Bacon Ricotta Toast with Fruit</i></p> <p><i>Staff 1st Aid Class</i></p> <p><i>Movie Day</i></p> <p><i>Baked Chicken, Broccoli, Brown Rice, Apple Sauce</i></p>	<p>8/8 <i>Cream of Wheat Boiled Eggs Toast Fruit</i></p> <p><i>Meatloaf, Mashed Potato, Green Bean Casserole, Grapes</i></p>	<p>8/9 <i>Ham &amp; Cheese Croissant Scrambled Eggs, Fruit Salad</i></p> <p><i>Potato Soup &amp; Salad, Tropical Fruit</i></p>
<p>8/12 <i>Oatmeal Boiled Eggs Raisin Bread Fruit</i></p> <p><i>Ground Beef &amp; Bean Burrito Corn, Salad, Churros</i></p>	<p>8/13 <i>Biscuits &amp; Gravy Scrambled Eggs Peaches &amp; Cottage Cheese</i></p> <p><i>Tilapia or Chicken, Cole Slaw, Mixed Vegetables, Sliced Apple/Orange</i></p>	<p>8/14 <i>Potato Casserole Scrambled Eggs Toast Fruit &amp; Muffin</i></p> <p><i>San Xavier Day Trip &amp; Lunch, Leaving at 7 AM</i></p> <p><i>Ham Sandwich, Pea Salad, Fresh Cut Fruit</i></p>	<p>8/15 <i>Pancakes Scrambled Eggs Bacon</i></p> <p><i>Ground Beef Tacos, Yellow Squash, Zucchini, Jell-O</i></p>	<p>8/16 <b>EGG DAY</b> <i>Cream of Wheat Boiled Eggs Toast Fruit</i></p> <p><i>Elder Grand Canyon Trip Deadline to Sign up</i></p> <p><i>Chicken Alfredo, Romaine Salad, Texas Toast, Pudding</i></p>



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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

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

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

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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 the August 16 - September 5, 2024 issue is due by FRIDAY, AUGUST 9TH

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than FRIDAY, AUGUST 9TH

Material submitted after the AUGUST 9TH DEADLINE cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in the next issue.

# Ak-Chin Summer Youth Celebration

Story and photos by Ashley Vincent



R-L: Ak-Chin firefighter James Boehm, summer worker Elizabeth Antone, library clerk Aaliyah Begay and summer worker Antonio Rodriguez enjoy the arcade games.

On Friday July 12th, Ak-Chin Human Resources hosted a luncheon in celebration of the various department summer youth workers.

Summer youth workers were accompanied by department coworkers to

join in on the fun. Everyone was able to play some rounds of bowling and given game cards to play in the arcade. Lunch consisted of pizza, wings, salad, and a variety of cookies prepared by the cooks of Ak-Chin Circle.

It was a fun-filled afternoon as the youth workers were able to enjoy their last day of summer work, relaxing and spending time with their peers.

Ak-Chin Human Resources department is appreciative of all of the directors who were able to partake in having a summer worker(s) in their department and hope they will be able to do it again next summer.



Nyaila Miguel enjoys the pizza buffet at Ak-Chin's Summer Youth Celebration.

# WIOA Summer Youth Banquet

Story and photo by Kristen Villegas



Eliza Santiago, summer worker for the Ak-Chin O'odham Runner, enjoys the WIOA Summer Youth Awards Banquet.

Gila River Indian Community took the opportunity to congratulate this year's summer workers in a carnival-esque banquet that included speakers, awards and lunch.

During the banquet, three programs showcased all the exciting endeavors they experienced this summer from film creation with Film 101; handcuff games with the Cadet Program and traveling

through the medical field with the Scrubs Program. The banquet closed with the awards portion, that recognized seven of Ak-Chin's youth, including; Kylie Gardner, Amarissa Garcia, Haedin DePaola, Laila Gardner, Eliza Santiago, Maverick Santiago and Kylee Machado. The banquet ended with the much-anticipated meal from Famous Dave's.

# HDS Program Graduates and Promotions

Story and photos submitted by Erica Oliver, Harrah's Development Systems Program Manager



L-R: Jarred Antone, Erica Oliver and Celiyah Antone.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community is cashing in on the leadership investments of the work experience and personal development opportunities provided to Ak-Chin Community members through the Harrah's Development System (HDS Program).

Jarred and Celiyah Antone, are two of the HDS Program's latest program graduates.

Both Jarred and Celiyah worked as Harrah's Ak-Chin summer youth workers for two years prior to joining as a full-time HDS employee. Once they both met the program requirements of obtaining their high school diplomas and reached 18 years of age,

they applied and were selected into the program. Upon completion of their training rotations within the casino, Jarred chose to intern in the Slot Performance department and Celiyah chose Slot Operations for her internship.

Jarred is now a full-time Slot Technician and Celiyah is a Slot Host Lead.

The job skills training, exposure to leadership opportunities, and team building experiences provided by the HDS program, have helped pave the way for Jarred and Celiyah to realize their potential and choose a career that allows them to apply the skills and

experience gained from their participation in the program to benefit the casino enterprise.

The HDS program at Harrah's Ak-Chin is designed to develop leaders within the Ak-Chin Indian Community by providing job skills training and leadership development opportunities to qualifying tribal members, enabling them to advance into key positions within Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino.

HDS Program Manager, Erica Oliver oversees the program, along with the HDS Supervisor, Dawn Fuentes.

Dawn recently joined the HDS leadership



L-R: Erica Oliver and Dawn Fuentes

team in June of this year. Under Erica and Dawn's leadership, the Harrah's Ak-Chin HDS Program continues to move in a positive direction, serving the members of the Ak-Chin Indian Community down the path of personal and professional development.

Prior to accepting the role of HDS Supervisor, Dawn had been in her Slot Performance Internship. Dawn completed her training and rotations phase within the program.

As the HDS Supervisor, Dawn brings with her an eight-year tenure of leadership experience from her participation on the Ak-Chin Youth Council, serving in the capacities of Youth

Council President and Treasurer. Dawn's educational background includes an Associate of Arts in Media Communications, a Bachelor of Science in Business Management, and a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice.

The Harrah's Development System has provided job skills, leadership training, personal and professional development to former and current program participants, fostering a culture of continuous learning and growth, benefitting the program participants, the Ak-Chin Indian Community, and Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino.

# Harrah's Ak-Chin Summer Youth Program changed to the Harrah's Ak-Chin Community Youth Program

Story and photos submitted by Dawn Fuentes, Harrah's Development Systems Supervisor



Thanks to the proactive and collaborative efforts of the Harrah's Ak-Chin Human Resources team, the Ak-Chin Tribal Gaming Agency,

and the support of the Community Council, the Ak-Chin tribal youth now have the opportunity to participate in year-round employment

opportunities to include the students' summer, fall, winter, and spring breaks.

Work experience

consists of jobs in the casino's non-gaming departments, which include Hotel, Housekeeping, Facilities, Warehouse, and the Food & Beverage Outlets.

The Harrah's Ak-Chin Community Youth Program is an extended branch of the Harrah's Development System (HDS Program), which is geared to offer job skills training and leadership development opportunities to Ak-Chin tribal members. HDS Manager, Erica Oliver, and the new HDS Supervisor, Dawn Fuentes oversee both

the HDS Program and the Community Youth Program.

The seven-week Community Youth Program exposes the participants to work experiences, educational, informational, and cultural learning experiences.

Community Youth Participants attend new hire orientation and receive an onboarding experience from HDS Manager, Erica Oliver, as well as department onboarding, orienting them to their roles, and going

Community Youth Program continues to page

Graduates continued from Front

The Ethan Legacy Scholarship was organized and created in honor of an Elevated Academy student that was set to graduate this year, but sadly lost his young life before he could do so.

His mentor Ariel Harlow, along with fellow partners JC Koffy and Uriah Grissum all worked together to make this scholarship happen.

The goal was for Ethan to be remembered in a way that students can look up to and learn about Ethan and the impact he made on others, not only his classmates, but teachers and mentors as well, by being a dedicated student, his leadership abilities, and being a hard worker.

The scholarship will be awarded yearly to three students, one from three separate campuses, Elevated

Academy, Eastpointe High School, and Accelerated Learning Center High School whom all will receive an amount of \$2,000 that will help fund their secondary education after graduation.

Angelo was awarded this scholarship for his "vision, dedication, resilience, and hard work," stated during the ceremony.

Angelo is the son of Lorice Manuel and Fabian Flores, and grandson of the late Roxanne Vincent.

He will be starting his college journey this fall at Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona.

Congratulations to Aiden and Angelo! We would like to wish them both, and all of the 2024 graduates best of luck on their future endeavors!

# Education Department Hosts Ice Cream Social

Story and photo by Ashley Vincent

The Ak-Chin Education Department held an ice cream social featuring a presentation for the newest sixth graders of the community on July 19.

Parents were able to meet with advisors and have any questions answered before the new school year

began, such as tutoring dates and schedules, as well as receive tips to help their students have a successful school year.

The Education staff offered a variation of fresh fruit paletas and toppings for the attending families to enjoy during the presentation.



# Ak-Chin Library Teaches Coding



Story and photo by Ashley Vincent

The Ak-Chin Library held their second Code Club meeting of the year on Saturday, July 20th.

A couple of young members showed up

ready to continue learning some coding from the previous class.

For those that are wondering what "coding" is, it is basically a

command base where instructions are made for computers to follow. It can be used to build websites, apps, games, anything really, technology wise.

The library uses a program called Scratch, developed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which is free and available at Scratch.MIT.edu for anyone interested in learning how to code at home.

During this session the participants were able to fix games that were "broken," meaning they had to figure out why a game was or was not

moving a certain way and which combination of codes were needed in order for the game to work properly.

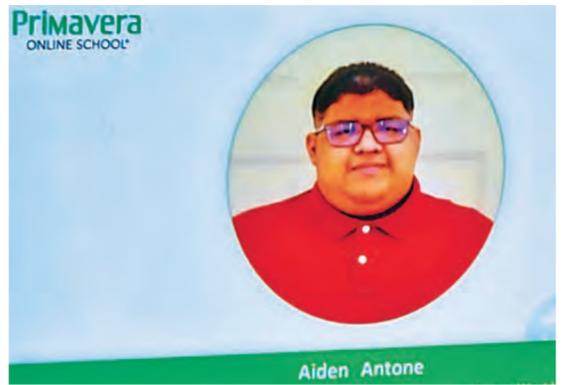
Even if a character they created wanted to walk a straight line or turn a certain direction, there are a combination of codes needed in order to do so, which makes this club so interesting because you are able to learn these different variations.

The next Code Club meeting will be held this Saturday, August 3rd at noon, and is open to members and residents 8 years and up.



Above, Aiden Antone is recognized and awarded during graduation ceremonies.

At right and below, Angelo Luz receives scholarship and support during his graduation.



# Ak-Chin Fire Department Celebrates Summer Youth Worker Family Day

Story and photos submitted by Jennifer Boehm, Ak-Chin Fire Captain

On July 11, Ak-Chin Fire department celebrated their summer youth workers with a Family Day, inviting family members to see what their students learned over the summer.

Summer Youth workers Antonio Rodriguez

and Elizabeth Antone were able to show their families firefighting skills they learned while on their summer job.

"We did a family day for the youth workers to show off what they learned this summer including emergency

medical response, CPR, how to don firefighter gear, fire suppression and hose management." Jennifer Boehm, Ak-Chin Fire Captain shared.

The event was held from 6pm-8pm at the Ak-Chin Fire Station and included dinner.



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# Ak-Chin Education Programs Provide Summer Learning and Fun



Ak-Chin Education Programs Provide Summer Learning and Fun



soda. The grandmother explained to the children that they didn't have enough for the drinks, but this did not seem to upset the children, they were just happy to be with their grandmother.

I took this opportunity to go up to the family and asked the grandmother for a favor. I asked her if I could pay for their meal, this excited everyone and they were encouraged to order more food and drinks.

This moment stuck with me, because it reminded me that I was continuing to practice the spirit of the Ak-Chin people, people who love to help and see people happy.

When I travel, I try to go out of my way to help anyone. For example, if I see a homeless person, I'll get them food and say a prayer for them. This is something I've been doing for the past 11 years.

**Can you name at least one favorite person you have met?**

The late Leona Kakar. I say with great admiration, Leona to me was a great leader and the best Ak-Chin has ever had. I learned so much from her. When I first got on council, I was in the office next to hers, so this gave me the opportunity to spend time with her before she retired. She taught me so much and told me great stories of my grandparents, Ak-Chin's history and how to be a leader.

Of course, I can't forget about my grandfather Jonas, my three brothers; Norbert Peters Sr. (bađ), David Peters Sr. (bađ), and Cecil Peters; as well as Milton "Paul" Antone (bađ), childhood buddy Stanley Antone, and my entire Miguel family, from my mom, uncle Ben and all the others.

**Have you accomplished the goals you set to achieve during this 4-year term?**

The goals I made are still in progress. I have been grateful to continue the goals of the past leaders of the community, because as said before it takes time and patience to accomplish goals. One long-term goal that was shared from past councils was to protect our water and I have held true to that. But there are always topics and issues that need attention, so for the most part I feel like there is more to achieve and more for the next leaders to fight for.

Goals will always be set and accomplishing them

will take time. I just want to make sure that I helped the next group of leaders stay on the path of what was given to me.

I'm a piece of the puzzle in our continued efforts to provide and give our people the best that we can.

**How often do you travel?**

I've traveled a number of times during my 11 years on Council. The first two years I had the opportunity to be guided on travel from the late Terry Enos and Vice-Chairman William Antone. These traveling opportunities were to get me acclimated and familiar with some of the organizations we were involved with, from the National Congress of American Indians (NCIA), National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA), to Self-Governance.

As I became Chairman, I was invited to speak at various conferences throughout the United States, representing our community, telling our story from farming and gaming. I traveled also to not only represent my community, but to speak and advocate for other tribes throughout the United States. For the past 9 years, I've only traveled when invited to speak at conferences, sessions, and to testify before Congress, on behalf of my community.

I have been fortunate that my voice and opinions have been identified as a leader of interest, who could not only represent Ak-Chin, but Indian Country overall. My fellow tribal leaders in Indian Country have selected me to sit on national boards and organizations, and to speak at local, state, national and global conferences and events.

**What was it like planning for Masik Tas?**

The Community Events handles most of the events. They give Council information regarding the event. For example, what type of rides will be there, what events are planned for the celebration and what to expect. I get feedback from the community members in return.

This role is also shared with other members of Council. The community's Masik Tas Celebration has grown tremendously, and is talked about throughout the State.

**What improvements**

**have you seen in the community since you have been on council?**

I see the community working together more; in the process of making things better for everyone. There have been improvements in our healthcare, improvements in the different departments in the community, more programs accessible to a number of people, great assistance to Ak-Chin's youth, etc.

With this improvement I understand there will be more to come as the younger generations get into the workforce, bringing the simple way of life into the modern world.

**How do you balance your home-life with your work schedule?**

That's a hard question. When you are in a position of leadership, it's hard to balance. It's hard being away from my family and at times I felt alone, because I was trying to do good for my people but I couldn't help feeling the way I did.

But in the end, it was necessary for me that I continue to work hard for my people. My youngest daughter was three when I first got on council; Stella is now 14. I had missed milestones regarding her growth, but she and my family understood what the position required. They were very supportive as they adjusted to my schedule and being away from home. They all understood what I was doing, and that was being a public servant to Ak-Chin and the people.

When you do have moments to spend with your family, you take full advantage of them and cherish them while you can. I enjoy just being home with my family and enjoy doing things they love to do. In the end, I want my kids to see the person I am and how important it is to help the people around you.

**What are your plans after your four-year term?**

I want to take a couple of weeks off to recharge and relax, catch up on sleep. After that, I have been offered a number of opportunities that I want to take the time to consider.

I'm not too sure on the route I will go, but I will figure it out. I am fortunate enough that there are people who would love to work with me and that have considered me for potential positions within

their businesses/firms.

But again, I will weigh the opportunities and options and see where it leads me.

**What is some good advice that someone gave you?**

Failure is a part of success; if you're afraid to fail, you'll never succeed. Meaning, you are going to make mistakes in life and you have to learn from those mistakes to make yourself better to reach success. It is also important to be yourself, and in being yourself, you will be/do great, which I try to live by.

**What advice can you share with others about serving their community?**

Know your community; from knowing your land base, knowing the history of our community, what your people are about and who they are. Go and visit them and listen to their issues and concerns, especially with those who are not visible at community gatherings, they too have a voice and need to be heard.

Also, to be consistent and tell Ak-Chin's story. If you want to connect with your past and history and feel the presence of former members who are no longer with us, go out and visit the farm, their spirit is out there. Farming is who we are.

**What have you learned about the community and its members during your time on council?**

We have community members who are very smart and self-driven in providing a bright future in their endeavors and for their community. That passion for bettering yourself is evident with our community employees who've gained upper management status from being directors and supervisors within respective departments, or even for those gaining employment for a better way of life for themselves and their family.

This passion and drive that we have as Ak-Chin members is truly displayed with the accomplishment of community member, Sandra Shade, who is now, Dr. Sandra Shade. Sandra is the first Ak-Chin member to gain the Dr. title following the completion of her Doctoral Degree. The exciting part is that we have others on the cusp of gaining this status.

I'm super excited and proud of the direction that our members and

community are heading. Truly, For A Brighter Tomorrow!

**What advice would you give about the upcoming election?**

Your vote counts. If you don't vote and a candidate who you may have a difference of opinion with is elected, then you may acknowledge that you may have played a role in not getting your candidate into office.

In the past couple of years, I've witnessed a number of young community members register to vote, which is great. Your vote and voice, truly does matter.

**What advice would you share with those who are interested in serving on council?**

When you are eligible and if you have an interest, do it! Being a Tribal Leader is one of greatest honors I've ever had in my life. The opportunity to advocate and represent your community and even Indian Country on a county, state, national, and global level is the opportunity to continue to close the gap between tribes and the government, who for centuries have been lacking in providing the services that we deserve and are obligated to receive.

Overall, I know that there are great leaders out in our community who will continue to take us to a bright future. But two things I can give you; know your community, and be yourself.

**What have you learned about yourself during your time on council?**

When I was first elected onto Council 11 years ago, I was advised to sit back and learn as much as I can during my first year, which I did. I got familiar with what the community was involved in and an overall sense of how the departments were functioning from the Community Operations Manager (COM).

When I was first approached to potentially seek the position of Chairman, I was somewhat reluctant due to still being early within my term and still trying to grasp being a Councilman.

Chairman continued from page 2. But, with persuasion and encouragement by others, I decided to acknowledge the support of the majority of Council whom put me in my position as Chairman. Although, still a little green, I put forth the effort to grasp a quick learning curve to do the best that I could for my community.

I said to myself and to the people, "if you give me time, I promise to give you the best that I can," and I believe strongly did. I have to admit that I have seen myself grow immensely in engagement, decision making, advocacy, and representation, just to name a few.

One major goal or accomplishment in my life, was to someday live the life of my grandfather, Jonas Paul Miguel, in a leadership role, as he was Tribal Chairman at one time for the Community. I want to thank each and every one of you for allowing me to live this dream and follow in his footsteps.

Throughout my 11 years, I have been given advice from other tribal leaders and communities from all over the country. The praise I received regarding Ak-Chin is wonderful, but I feel I am a small part of the reason the community is doing well.

I give the praise to the people around me and the members of the community who helped get me this far and have inspired me to advocate for them. You may have not supported me, but you still mattered to me!

You each entrusted me in doing all I can to try and make your lives better.

Sapo

The Runner would like to thank Chairman Miguel and Vice-Chairman Vincent for taking the time from their busy schedules to answer the questions from our summer workers.

We would also like to thank Auciana and Teagan for their professionalism and hard work while conducting these interviews as their last big assignments for the Runner this summer.



Legal summons form from the Ak-Chin Indian Community Court, Maricopa, Arizona. Case No. PN-2024-00014. Plaintiff: AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY, Defendant: DESIREE CARRA. Dated July 22, 2024. Signed by Deputy Clerk Susan Peters.

Advertisement for Ak-Chin Farms soliciting bids for cotton harvest contracts for 2024, 2025, and 2026. Includes details on acreage, insurance requirements, and a deadline of August 20th, 2024. Contact: Ak-Chin Farms Manager, 42507 W. Peters and Nall Rd., Maricopa, AZ 85138.



# Summer Science at the Library

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



Ak-Chin Library hosted two different groups for science activities this summer. The Education Department's Summer Program students visited the library for experiments using the

scientific method. They made raisins dance (no pictures), transformed CDs into hover crafts, and produced oobleck with color and glitter.



The Reading Enrichment students completed the same experiments and also tested objects for buoyancy and made their own boats. They tested the boats to see how much weight they could hold.



Then for our last day we explored Newton's three laws which are:



1. An object will not change its motion unless a force acts on it.
2. The force on an object is equal to its mass times its acceleration.
3. When two objects interact, they apply forces to each other of equal magnitude and opposite direction.



performance expectations of the program.

In addition to the work experience gained by the participants, they receive exposure to leadership development opportunities through participation in weekly Toastmasters meetings, which helps strengthen their impromptu and public speaking skills.

The participants also attend bi-weekly HDS department meetings with the HDS Associates and Interns, providing updates on their work experience, and sharing new skills they have learned.

The youth participants all worked hard in their departments, learning new job skills, and participating in the program events.

At least three times out of the year, the HDS

department participates in an off-property community service food packing event at Feed My Starving Children in Mesa.

This year, HDS Supervisor, Dawn Fuentes, coordinated one of the trips to occur during the summer, which provided the Community Youth an opportunity to experience the food packing event while participating alongside HDS Associates, Interns, and Graduates.

This summer, the Community Youth, HDS Associates and Interns attended off-property tours of the Community's Ak-Chin Regional Airport, and the Ak-Chin Farms enterprises.

A craft and luncheon event were also scheduled with the Ak-Chin Elders.

The last day of the

summer program consisted of pizza, wings, and bowling at the Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center.

Each year, the number of Harrah's Ak-Chin Community Youth Participants continues to grow.

Out of the current number of HDS Graduates, Interns and Associates, there have been many who participated in the Community Youth Program and have later returned to apply for a job as a full-time employee in the HDS program once they reached eighteen years of age.

This is a strong indication that the program initiatives and efforts continue to make a positive impact on the Ak-Chin youth and membership.



## REMINDER

The next Runner submission deadline will be

**FRIDAY AUGUST 9TH**



**THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY HAS ONE (1) VACANCY FOR THE AK-CHIN ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE OPEN TO AK-CHIN COMMUNITY MEMBERS ONLY**

**Reminder: Community Members can only serve on three (3) Boards, Commissions, or Committees maximum at any given time.**

### Duties & Responsibilities of the Ak-Chin Enrollment Committee

1. Preparing for and attending all meetings of the Committee.
2. Reviewing all enrollment applications.
3. Preparing enrollment applications for presentation to the Community Council.
4. Recommending to the Community Council approval or denial of applications for enrollment.
5. Developing recommendations to improve the enrollment process as needed.
6. Taking timely action on all enrollment applications and related matters.
7. Attending training sessions/meetings pertaining to tribal membership as appropriate.

**Requirements:** All interested parties who desire to serve on the Ak-Chin Enrollment Committee must submit a letter detailing why they are interested in serving on the Enrollment Committee. In your letter of interest, please note which Board, Commission or Committee you currently serve on, and when your term expires.

Enrolled Community employees must also submit documentation from their supervisor allowing them to serve on the Ak-Chin Enrollment Committee

Please send all letters of interest Attn: Ak-Chin Community Council Attn: Victoria A. Smith 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, Arizona 85138



Deadline to submit letter of interest is Monday, August 5, 2024 by 5:00pm.

**THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY HAS ONE (1) VACANCY FOR THE AK-CHIN ELECTION BOARD**

**OPEN TO AK-CHIN COMMUNITY MEMBERS ONLY**

**Reminder: Community Members can only serve on three (3) Boards or Commissions or Committees maximum at any given time.**

### All Election Committee members shall meet the following qualifications:

1. Not an elected official of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Council; and
2. Not a candidate, or the immediate family member of a candidate, for Community Council office; and
3. An enrolled member of the Community; and
4. At least twenty-one (21) years of age or older; and
5. Able and willing to perform all duties and functions, including being physically present during all elections.

**Requirements:** Must be an enrolled Community Member. All interested individuals who are employed with the Community must submit documentation from their supervisor allowing the employee to serve on the Election Committee. In your letter of interest, please note which Board, Commission or Committee you currently serve on, and when your term expires.

Please send all letters of interest Attn: Ak-Chin Community Council Attn: Victoria A. Smith 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, Arizona 85138



Deadline to submit letter of interest is Monday, August 5, 2024 by 5:00pm.

and New Zealand players, it was a great way for them to build friendships to last a lifetime.

After lunch, the New Zealand teams and their coaches shared a special tradition in their culture, a haka. A haka can be defined as a dance, but it is not like the type of dance we are used to seeing or doing. In sync with one another, their powerful chant made everyone in attendance stand still. In person you can feel the energy, pride, and respect the teams had, it was an honor to be present and witness a part of where they come from.

TUESDAY, JULY 23

AK-CHIN GIRLS VS DREAMVILLE (NEBRASKA):

9 am, Ak-Chin Girls played Dreamville at Central High School. Ak-Chin Girls showed tremendous effort in trying to defeat the Nebraska team, but were not successful. The second half Ak-Chin was locked in and was played their hearts out; but they were not able to claim victory over Dreamville, who won 47-23.

AK-CHIN VS AK STORM (ALASKA)

10 am, Ak-Chin Boys faced team AK Storm at the GCU Activities Center. The boys started out great and were able to hold the game down, but were not able to take the win from Alaskan Storm. Ak-Chin showed they have the drive to make it far; even through the loss, 57-39.

AK-CHIN GIRLS VS PINK THUNDER (NEW MEXICO)

4 pm, the Ak-Chin Girls were pumped up for their game against New Mexico's Pink Thunder. The game was held at GCU Antelope Gym and had a good crowd cheering for both teams. Ak-Chin stayed strong throughout. Unfortunately, Ak-Chin Girls were unable

to take the lead from Pink Thunder who won, 37-11.

AK-CHIN VS SOUTHERN SISIKAM (ARIZONA)

5 pm, Ak-Chin Boys played against fellow Arizona team Southern Sisikam. It was a close game as they battled all the way to the end. Ak-Chin had the lead for the last minutes of the game. Despite their defense, Ak-Chin fell short, losing by a buzzer beater with a final score of 45-43.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

AK-CHIN GIRLS VS REZBOMBERS (ARIZONA)

9 am game, Ak-Chin Girls played well-known Arizona Rezbombers. The Ak-Chin Girls had fight, but Rezbombers were superior in this game, and all previous games, as they would go on to blow away most teams in their pool by 100 pts or more.

AK-CHIN VS FULL COURT ELITE (NORTH DAKOTA)

10 am game, Ak-Chin came out strong and ready to play against the North Dakota team, Full Court Elite at the GCU Activities Center. Ak-Chin boys showed great teamwork and kept the score close in the beginning, by defensively locking down the other team, by halftime they lost their edge and let Elite run away with the lead. In the second half, they worked hard to come back and brought the score close, but the win was not attainable for Ak-Chin Boys, as the final score was 38-44.

THURSDAY, JULY 25

AK-CHIN GIRLS VS KAKOTOSIIS SOCIETY (CANADA)

3pm, first round of bracket play for Ak-Chin Girls played at the ARCH, and last chance to move forward against Kakotosiik's Society from Canada. After a hard loss, the girls were ready to

turn up their energy.

Coach Raymond Whitman was heard saying, "Stand up Ladies," throughout the game, which helped the girls in the first quarter. Defense was the biggest success for the girls as Kakotosiik Society struggled to score at times. Though Ak-Chin Girls gave it their all, they were not able to take the win, losing 15-44.

Better luck next year girls, great job!

Coach Whitman shared on the whole experience:

"Big thank you to you all for coming out and playing NABI! I'm super proud of each and every single one of you, it was a very fun and exciting experience! As the games went on, the level of determination and desire to win was ultimately inspiring! And a big shout out to our graduate Mylauni Antone. Thank you so much for coming out and making a big impact on the team with your hustle and effort on the court; it did not go unnoticed. I congratulate you and wish you the best in your next chapter in life as you move forward into adulthood! Also, to the ladies who joined our team last minute, I can't thank you enough for coming out to help us fill our team, and the level of skill you brought with you helped in so many ways! Thank you, ladies, I can't wait to get back in the gym and prepare for the next NABI. Lastly, a special thank you to Kyle Peters for all the help and work he's done for the team as well."

AK-CHIN VS AOTEAROA MAORI

At 7pm on Thursday, Ak-Chin faced the New Zealand team in bracket play to see who would be moving forward at Central High School. Ak-Chin Boys were locked in, offensively they were strong and did not let their guards down, as they worked at maintaining the energy in the second half,

but Aotearoa Maori was not ready to give up. The game was back and forth; with New Zealand eventually taking the win, 45-34.

At the end of the game, Aotearoa Maori performed their Haka in front of the crowd for our Ak-Chin boys' team, as a sign of respect for the great game. Ak-Chin thanked their Maori relatives and wished them luck moving forward. It was great to see both teams come together again and honor their diverse cultures.

Great work boys, we are rooting for you in the next season!

SATURDAY, JULY 27

NABI NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

The battle for who would reach the Championship began at 9 am, as the top 8 teams faced off in the Semi-Finals held at the Footprint Center; the girl's division games being held at 9 AM and 11:30 AM and the boy's at 10:15 AM and 12:45 PM. The girl's division included: Lady Dreams, Legendary Elite, Native Soldiers and the Rezbombers. The boy's division consisted of Lower Sioux, Northern Thunder, Akichita and Cheyenne Arapaho.

The Girls Division NABI Championship, began at 3 PM, and starred Arizona Rezbombers and Oklahoma Legendary Elites. The game was neck and neck for the first half with both teams giving a hard fight for the lead, but in the second half Rezbombers took control and won the championship with a score of 68-40. Sydney Benally was named the MVP of the game with a total of 21 points.

The Boys Division NABI Championship featured Minnesota's Lower Sioux and Oklahoma's Cheyenne Arapaho. Both teams went back and forth for a majority

of the game as defense from both sides was strong, before Oklahoma took the victory with a score of 56-50. Daniel Creeping Bear was named the MVP of the game with a total of 14 points.

Ak-Chin was visible for the finals as they showcased their new cheer team for the first time during the Championship face off. The girls were excited to cheer for the teams; they shared the spotlight with the Tohono O'odham Native All-Stars cheer team.

Kathleen Miguel (Recreation Program Assistant) offered her thanks and thoughts on this year's cheerleading team.

I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our director Ann Marie Antone, and her relationship with the CEO of the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) organization, GinaMarie Scarpa for providing the girls with this incredible opportunity.

Our deepest gratitude goes to Ashlea Anderson, Ak-Chin Community Member for volunteering her time to coach these girls. A big thank you also goes out to the parents and guardians for your unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to the cheer program.

Throughout the event, the girls took short breaks for snacks and Warrior Water provided by A.C. "Iron Man" Green he also treated them to an inspiring pep talk, ensuring they stayed energized and hydrated. One of the highlights of the day was witnessing a cultural exchange from our brothers and sisters, the Aotearoa Māori team from New Zealand. It was a beautiful moment of unity and shared heritage.

To cap off an already unforgettable day, the girls managed to sneak

in a group photo with MarJon Beauchamp from the Milwaukee Bucks. The smiles on their faces said it all - it was a day filled with excitement, inspiration, and unforgettable memories. For more information on the cheer program and what's to come please reach out to Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation via phone or email.

Ashlea Anderson, who was the cheer coach for Ak-Chin cheerleaders also shared.

The Ak-Chin Cheer Team finished up the summer season at the Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) on July 27, 2024. The twelve cheerleaders, ranging in age from six to eleven years old, cheered for the NABI tournament finals. The girls had about a dozen practices this summer; learning cheer basics, jumps and simple stunting for their final performance. NABI was a wonderful opportunity and learning experience for the team. The girls had a chance to live up the crowds as they cheered from the sidelines. Some of the highlights of the day were getting a behind the scenes experience at Footprint Center Arena, stepping onto the court to perform and representing the Community proudly before Tribal dignitaries and the crowd. The cheer squad was even invited to perform at events by sister Tribes and future Community events.

As a coach, my goal is to encourage our young girls to flourish as individuals and a team. I hope each girl on the squad understands how valuable and capable they are. It is more than learning cheers and shaking pompoms, it's building confidence and creating a sense of community. I am looking forward to the fall cheer season and growing our program. Let's go Ak-Chin!





Please remember that all smoking is prohibited at all Gila River Health Care campus locations.

grhc.org

# Reminder!

## SEPTEMBER CLOSURES

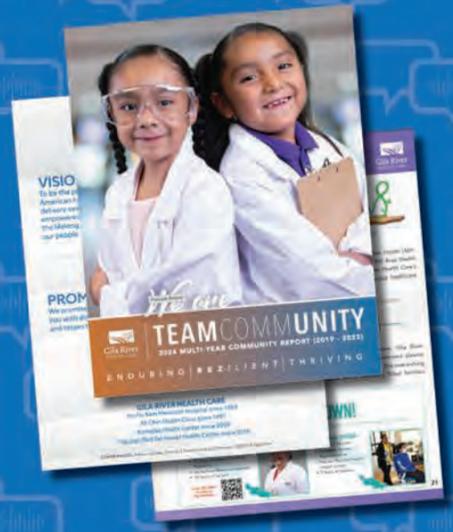
Gila River Health Care's Administrative Offices, Outpatient Clinics and Pharmacy will be

**CLOSED LABOR DAY**  
Monday, September 2nd

**CLOSED NATIVE AMERICAN DAY**  
Friday, September 20th

For any information on services open during the holiday, please call GRHC's main line (520) 562-3321.

Scan the QR code to Discover Our Journey! And to view our Gila River Health Care's Multi-Year Community Report (2019-2023)



Scan the QR code to read GRHC's Information, and Events!



## August 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Behavioral Health Services GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE
Request a Narcan kit at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital Emergency Department</li> <li>Komatke Health Center and Hau'pal Health Center Pharmacies</li> <li>Public Health Nursing</li> <li>Behavioral Health Services</li> </ul>			1 Stress & Self-Care 10:00AM - 11:00AM	2 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 2 Service Center 10:00AM - 12:00PM	3 Yoga for Prevention District 3 Service Center 10:00AM - 11:30AM	Access our monthly calendar at <a href="http://www.GRHC.org/BHS">www.GRHC.org/BHS</a> (520) 610-2394 BHSprevention@GRHC.ORG   Scan this QR Code to see up-to-date events/activities!  = In-person = Online = Mobile RV  CALL OR TEXT 988 FOR THE SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE Gila River Indian Community CRISIS HOTLINE: 1 (800) 259-3449     
5 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 1 Service Center 10:00AM - 12:00PM	6 Current Drug Trends 4:00PM - 5:00PM  Stress & Self-Care Deep Breathing District 5 Service Center 5:00PM - 7:00PM	7 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 5 Service Center 10:00AM - 12:00PM	8 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 3 Ocotillo & Seed Farm Road 7:00AM - 9:00AM	9 Sober Chat 10:00AM - 11:00AM  Drug Prevention Bingo Night District 7 Service Center 5:00PM - 7:00PM	10	
12 Active Parenting (General) District 3 New Beginnings Building 9:00AM - 12:00PM  QPR Suicide Prevention District 3 Service Center 11:00AM - 12:00PM	13	14 Stress & Self-Care 10:00AM - 11:00AM	15 Healthy Relationships District 5 Gas Station 7:00AM - 9:00AM	16 Gila River Prevention Coalition Meeting District 3 Service Center 10:00AM - 12:00PM  Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 7 Service Center 10:00AM - 12:00PM	17	
19 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 6 51st Ave. & Pecos Rd. 7:00AM - 10:00AM	20 Current Drug Trends District 3 New Beginnings Building 10:00AM - 11:00AM  Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 7 Service Center 10:00AM - 12:00PM	21 Tobacco/Vaping District 6 Shegoi Building 12:00PM - 1:00PM	22 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 7 Service Center 9:00AM - 11:00AM  Alcohol Awareness Obstacle Challenge District 4 Service Center 5:00PM - 7:00PM	23 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 6 Service Center 8:00AM - 10:00AM	24 Heroes Carry Narcan 1 Mile Walk/Run District 6 Service Center 7:00AM - 11:00AM	
26 Active Parenting (0-5 Years) 9:00AM - 12:00PM  Mental Health Awareness District 5 Service Center 3:00PM - 4:00PM	27 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 5 Gas Station 11:00AM - 1:00PM	28 Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) Location TBD 8:30AM - 4:30PM  SafetALK Training District 3 New Beginnings Building 9:00AM - 1:00PM  QPR Suicide Prevention 5:00PM - 6:00PM	29 Youth Mental Health First Aid District 3 New Beginnings Building 8:30AM - 5:00PM	30 Yes to Life! & Narcan Booth District 4 Service Center 8:00AM - 10:00AM	31 	

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988

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

# JOB OPENINGS

**Current Job Openings:**

- Police Officer (certified and non-certified)
- Detention Officer (certified and non-certified)
- Detention Officer Certified part-time
- Communications Officer
- Animal Control Officer
- Security Guard
- Communications Officer part-time
- Compensation Analyst
- Accountant
- Child And Family Therapist
- Substance Abuse Therapist
- Plant Electrician
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation Technician
- Security Systems Technician
- Environmental Technician
- Division Chief - Emergency Management
- Administrative Support Technician - Parks and Recreation

**Open to Enrolled Community Members Only:**

- Oral Historian
- Cultural Resource Specialist
- Cultural Resource Monitor
- Museum Technician (2)

**Open to Enrolled Community Members and Employees:**

- Library Technician - closing date 08/02
- Licensing Supervisor (TGA)- closing date 08/09

[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.

### EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS 8/2 - 8-15

<b>8/2</b> Jennifer Boehm, Fire	<b>Recreation</b> Rene Saspe, Ak-Chin Airport	<b>William Narcia, Police</b>
<b>8/4</b> Jason Wilhite, Fire	<b>8/8</b> Melanie Toledo, Library	<b>8/13</b> Gregory Porto, Fire
<b>8/5</b> Anthony Narcia, EPD	<b>Tracy Zimmerman, Capital Projects</b>	<b>8/15</b> Matthew Millo, Public Defender
<b>8/6</b> Janelle Mason, Community Gov.	<b>8/9</b> Jesse Aldridge, Fire	<b>Sergio Romero, Maintenance</b>
<b>8/7</b> Jacob Dickerson, Maintenance	<b>8/11</b> Allison Butler, Community Gov.	
<b>Julia Lopez-Ocano,</b>		

## FLOWER WREATH MAKING SESSION

EVERY TUESDAY STARTING  
AUGUST 6, TO OCTOBER 15, 2024  
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM  
AK-CHIN HIM-DAK ART BUILDING

OPEN TO AK-CHIN COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS. WREATHS ARE MADE FOR ALL SOULS DAY.

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED  
PICK UP AND DROP OFF WITHIN THE COMMUNITY  
PLEASE CALL 520-568-1350, BEFORE 3:30PM TO REQUEST TRANSPORTATION.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CAL 520-568-1350

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

## Birthdays 8/2 - 8/15

<b>AUGUST 2ND</b> Jennifer Boehm Wynema Vincent Jessica Narcia	<b>AUGUST 7TH</b> Joanne Stephens Alicia Gomez Haylee Delma Daniel White	<b>AUGUST 12TH</b> Joshua Zepeda Ava Quinonez Rocio Castro
<b>AUGUST 4TH</b> Jaxson Brown Nicole Delma Amelia Osife Nathan Enos Aliyah Vincent	<b>AUGUST 8TH</b> Raiden Sierra James	<b>AUGUST 13TH</b> Azalyana White Arrow Bowman King-Benzie Peters
<b>AUGUST 5TH</b> Esperanza Santiago Rachel Lozano Anthony Narcia Jr. Yondell Antone	<b>AUGUST 9TH</b> Joanna Peters Stephanie Vincent	<b>AUGUST 14TH</b> Tahlia Johnson
	<b>AUGUST 11TH</b> Jessica Corella Tommy Pablo William Narcia Christian Soliz	<b>AUGUST 15TH</b> Daniel Pablo



Come and Celebrate the  
**12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Historic BIA Agent House**  
August 28, 2024

Afternoon: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Evening: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Come join us for cake, ice cream, snacks and a tour of our Historic BIA House.

For more information call the Him-Dak Museum at (520) 568-1350

## Wishes



**Happy 4th Birthday to our Sadie Wren!**  
Mama, daddy and brother Love you so much!

**Happy Birthday to my granddaughters Jennifer, Rachel, Joanna and grandsons Jaxson, Christian & King-Benzie Love, Grandma**



**Happy Birthday Rach and Percy**  
Hope you both have super-duper birthdays!  
We Love You



**Congratulations Angelo!**

We are beyond proud of you and wish you the best of luck in college! Always remember that you can do anything you put your mind to as long as you're willing to work for it, just like you did for your diploma. We'll always be here to support you and root for you along the way!! Love you so much, your family

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE FIRE SERVICE? COME JOIN THE AK-CHIN FIRE CADET PROGRAM!

INFO MEETING & SIGN UPS WILL BE HELD ON  
**FRIDAY AUGUST 16TH 6PM**  
**FRIDAY AUGUST 30TH 6PM**  
@ THE AK-CHIN FIRE STATION  
45401 W. FARRELL RD  
MARICOPA, AZ 85139

THE AK-CHIN FIRE CADET PROGRAM IS A HANDS ON EXPLORING PROGRAM THROUGH BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA/LEARNING FOR LIFE, OPEN TO YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN (AGES 14-20) INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT CAREERS IN FIREFIGHTING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES.

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS (520) 568-1300

## Gila River HEALTH CARE

### FAMILY PLANNING MOBILE MEDICAL CLINIC

**FAMILY PLANNING MEDICAL MOBILE CLINIC**

Services Provided:  
Family Planning Counseling and Education  
STD testing and treatment  
HIV testing and counseling  
Birth Control and Pregnancy education  
Well-Woman Exams  
Pap Smears and Breast Exams  
GYN Diagnosis and treatment  
Emergency Contraception  
Prenatal and Post-Partum Care  
Preconception Counseling  
Prevention Counseling and Education

**Thursday, Aug 22, 2024**  
**9:00a - 2:30p**  
**Vekol Market Parking Lot**

ALL SERVICES ARE CONFIDENTIAL  
Call or Text us at (520) 371-0132  
\*\*\* The Mobile Unit is NOT Handicap Accessible\*\*\*

## August 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	01	02	03
CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	Aqua Zumba 8 PM - 7 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM Aqua Zumba 8 PM - 7 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM Aqua Zumba 8 PM - 7 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	MOVIE DIVE-IN CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM Aqua Zumba 8 PM - 7 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	EXOTIC NIGHT 5PM-7PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL CLOSED	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CO-ED KICKBALL 6 PM - 9 PM Aqua Zumba 8 PM - 7 PM CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 9PM POOL OPEN 1PM-7PM	CLOSED GYM OPEN W.R. 8AM - 6PM POOL OPEN 1PM - 7PM

## ART SESSION: CERAMICS

COME CREATE!  
LEARN HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN CERAMIC PIECE FROM START TO FINISH

Location: Art Building (Him-Dak Museum)  
Session Begins: August 13, 2024  
Session Ends: September 19, 2024  
When: Every Tuesdays & Thursdays from 11:00AM to 1:00PM (Members, Residents, Employees of the Ak-Chin Indian Community)  
4:30PM to 7:00PM (Members & Residents of the Ak-Chin Indian Community)

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!

COME IN ANYTIME BETWEEN THE TIMES ABOVE/ WORK AT YOUR OWN PACE

Transportation Provided  
Pick Up and Drop Off within the Ak-Chin Indian Community  
For transportation please call: 520-568-1350 (Please call before 4:00 p.m.)

For any additional questions please call: 520-568-1350

## aqua ZUMBA

**Ak-Chin Recreation Center**  
**Thursdays 6:00p-7:00p**

**Aug 01, 2024**  
**Aug 08, 2024**  
**Aug 15, 2024**  
**Aug 29, 2024**

Aqua Shoes recommended! If you need help getting some... Give us a call!

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

# Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Announces Promotions on Operations Team

(MARI COPA, Ariz. – July 24, 2024) – Samantha Gulick and Nathan Kinstlinger, two long-term Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino team members, were recently promoted.

Gulick has been promoted to Director of Marketing and Operations. In her new role, she will continue to oversee all marketing efforts including advertising, public relations and outreach strategies that drive traffic and build brand awareness for the casino and will now also oversee all casino operations, including slots, table games, bingo and the sportsbook.

Gulick has been with Caesars Entertainment for more than 10 years, most recently as the Director of Marketing and Hotel Operations. She is an active participant in the company's HERO program a team member-based volunteer program in which Harrah's staff and their families make noteworthy and visible contributions to the community by donating their time, skills, expertise and compassion to dozens of volunteer projects throughout the community.

Gulick currently serves on the board of directors for the Chandler Chamber of Commerce.

Kinstlinger has been promoted to Director of Hospitality. In addition to overseeing all food and beverage, banquets and



Samantha Gulick



Nathan Kinstlinger

retail operations, he will also be responsible for hotel and spa operations.

Kinstlinger has been with Caesars Entertainment for more than 12 years, most recently as Director of Food and Beverage. His most recent position as Director of Food and Beverage highlighted his ability to elevate the culinary and service standards, setting new benchmarks within the industry.

In his expanded role, Kinstlinger will leverage his extensive experience to enhance the holistic hospitality offerings of Harrah's Ak-Chin, further solidifying the company's reputation for world-class service and guest satisfaction. Kinstlinger is an active supporter and volunteer with the organization's HERO program.

"At Harrah's Ak-Chin, we prioritize internal growth and

development," said Michael Kintner, senior vice president and general manager.

"These promotions and realignment of responsibilities underscore our dedication to nurturing talent from within and highlight both Sam and Nate's exceptional leadership qualities. Their contributions have been pivotal in driving our success and will continue to shape the future growth and evolution of Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino."

For more information about Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino, please visit [www.harrahsakchin.com](http://www.harrahsakchin.com). Guests must be 21 or older to gamble. Remember to "Know When To Stop Before You Start.®" If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, please call 1-800-NEXT STEP. ©2024, Caesars License Company, LLC.

## Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino AUGUST 2024 CAESARS REWARDS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER</b> MONDAY, AUGUST 26 – THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 2024 PROMOTIONAL KIOSK · 8AM – 11:59PM				1 WIN YOUR WHEELS! 10X EARNING	2 AGAVE'S CANTINA NIGHTS	3 GIFT SHOP TREAT YOURSELF AT THE GIFT SHOP CANTINA NIGHTS
4 SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING!	5 MONDAYS NEED DUNKIN', TOO!	6 STEVE AZAR™ LUGGAGE SET GIVEAWAY	7 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER PEGBOARD WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG	8 WIN YOUR WHEELS! 10X EARNING	9 AGAVE'S CANTINA NIGHTS	10 RENT A CABANA ON YOUR NEXT STAY! CANTINA NIGHTS
11 SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING!	12 REDEEM REWARD CREDITS FOR FREE SLOT PLAY!	13 STEVE AZAR™ LUGGAGE SET GIVEAWAY	14 PEGBOARD WEDNESDAYS 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER PEGBOARD WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG	15 WIN YOUR WHEELS! 10X EARNING	16 AGAVE'S CANTINA NIGHTS	17 TEE UP AT THE AK-CHIN SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF CLUB CANTINA NIGHTS
18 SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING!	19 FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK & X!	20 STEVE AZAR™ LUGGAGE SET GIVEAWAY	21 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER PEGBOARD WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG	22 WIN YOUR WHEELS! 10X EARNING	23 AGAVE'S CANTINA NIGHTS	24 AGAVE'S CANTINA NIGHTS
25 SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING!	26 5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER	27 STEVE AZAR™ LUGGAGE SET GIVEAWAY 5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER	28 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER PEGBOARD WEDNESDAYS FOREVER YOUNG 5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER	29 WIN YOUR WHEELS! 10X EARNING 5X TIER CREDIT MULTIPLIER	30 30 YEARS OF PLAY COMP DOLLAR DAYS WIN YOUR WHEELS! 30X EARNING FREE SLOT PLAY EXTRAVAGANZA CANTINA NIGHTS	31 WIN YOUR WHEELS! DRAWINGS CANTINA 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. ©2024 Caesars License Company, LLC. See official rules at the Caesars Rewards Center for complete details.