



## Ak-Chin celebrates 2021 Masik Tas and Christmas



This beautiful Christmas tree, adorned with colorful ornaments and lights was a main feature at the Ak-Chin Community Christmas/Masik Tas event. The event took place at Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation on December 20. Photo by J. Peters (More photos on page 4.)

## Caesars Sportsbook Opens at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino



Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Senior Vice President and General Manager Michael Kintner (left) and David Snock, Vice President of Western Operations for William Hill (right), celebrate the first bet at the Caesars Sportsbook at Harrah's Ak-Chin with Caesars Rewards members Joseph & Billie Butkiewicz of Ahwatukee.

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino guests can now place their bets on their favorite sports teams as the Casino has opened Caesars Sportsbook at Harrah's Ak-Chin. Located adjacent to Live Keno, the sportsbook features a temporary setup of four self-service betting kiosks and two betting windows, set to be expanded at a later date. Betting windows are open

**Sportsbook continues to page 5**



Story and photos by R. Peters

Saturday, December 18 downtown Phoenix was filled with excitement and anticipation as the Desert Financial Fiesta Bowl Parade presented by Lerner and Rowe strolled through Central Phoenix. Among its participants was Maricopa High School Marching Band.

Two of the Community's young spirited members were excited participants that day, Celeste Gloria who plays percussion for MHS Band and Daria Garcia, for color guard.

Early Saturday morning, the

Ram band made their way to the parade. Once they arrived the group began practicing their routine.

At one point during the practice they were joined by members of other high school marching bands and a little competition transpired.

Drummers from the different schools challenged one another to a friendly drum off. Other band members circled the drummers, offering their support and encouragement; getting the day started on a great beat.

Soon after the parade began and MHS Band took its place on the route, ready to perform before friends, family and a live televised recording. MHS took pride as they performed "The Maricopa Fight Song", "Battle Hymn" and "Cadence". Young Daria shared her overall experience at the Fiesta Bowl Parade, "I would say the most exciting moment about the parade was seeing and meeting people from other school marching bands. She was also impressed to see "all the different college mascots and Arizona teams' mascots as well as other school marching

**Parade continues to page 2**



These SUPER-HEROINS enjoy posing with the props at the 2021 Ak-Chin Employee Bash. (Story and photos by R. Peters)

## 2021 Employee Bash offers SUPERHERO event for all

On Thursday, December 16, all Ak-Chin Community and Farm employees were treated to an evening of fun and food at Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center.

Ak-Chin Indian Community shared its gratitude to all employees with a special evening of "Super Hero" fun, complete with a special movie premiere of "Spider-Man: No Way Home" with three different show times, as well as Arcade Games/Laser Tag and Bowling.

Registration began at 5pm, with employees and up to four guests receiving wristbands for the evening participation.

Upon registration, temperature checks and masks were required for entry. Employees who were unable to attend due to on-call, shift or quarantine received a gift for missing the bash.

A delicious holiday spread was provided for employees and their guests, with turkey, ham and all the trimmings. Desserts were Super Hero themed, as were decorations throughout the venue. Costumed Super Heroes were also on hand for face painting and balloon fun.

Employees enjoyed mingling amongst family and coworkers. Young ones enjoyed the entertainers, which also in-

cluded a visit with Santa. Added events included an Ugly Christmas Sweater Sing-Off which was held upstairs in the Luxe Lounge.

Five employees signed up to participate for the Karaoke-style sing off. Each participant was asked to have at least three songs ready to perform.

After everyone sang their first song the crowd was asked to provide applause in judging honors.

The first round eliminated two participants and the remaining three performers came up to sing their second song. After the crowd judged the second

**Employee Bash continues to page 5**



# Elder Christmas Party Drive-Thru



Above, Santa greets elders Irene Arredondo and Sylvia Gutierrez during the Elder Christmas Party Drive-Thru on December 22.

Wednesday, December 22, Elders were invited to participate in a Christmas Party Drive Thru at Ak-Chin Elder Center. Due to the pandemic programs

were not allowed to provide gatherings such as before Covid, so the Elder Center came up with a genius idea to have a drive thru Christmas Party.

Elders were able to pick up their breakfast and gifts, which were provided from the Elder Center. Ak-Chin Him Dak and Ak-Chin Runner were also on

hand to provide gifts for elders.

Santa and his elves, social distanced Christmas Cheer while the elders stopped by for all their goodies.

Elders and Elder staff would like to thank everyone who participated and hope to continue the good cheer for 2022!



Left: Councilwoman Delia Carlyle meets with Santa to go over her wish list. Photos by J. Peters



Above, Elder staff go above and beyond to create the great drive thru event for all Community elders. (Runner photo) Below elder staff sort out gifts and work with Santa to ensure everyone on his list receives their gifts. (Photos submitted by Candace Allcott).



## Elder January Breakfast/Lunch Menu

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>21</b><br/>Biscuit &amp; gravy, sausage links, scrambled eggs, cottage cheese &amp; pears, juice   White Beans w/Spinach, Beef Stir Fry (D), Brown Rice, Butternut Squash, Cherry Crisp</p> <p><b>24</b><br/>Oatmeal, boiled eggs, cinnamon raisin toast, yogurt, milk   Chicken Hominy Bake, Normandy Vegetables, Salad, Mandarin Oranges</p> <p><b>25</b><br/>Pancakes, sausage</p> | <p>links, scrambled eggs, chocolate milk   Ham Macaroni &amp; Cheese, Peas, Wax Beans, Rice Pudding</p> <p><b>26</b><br/>Breakfast casserole, toast, grapes, juice   Chili Beans, Chili Meat (D), Yellow Squash, Beets, Corn Bread, Apples</p> <p><b>27</b><br/>Chorizo &amp; egg burrito, cliff bar, sliced apples, juice   Bar-B-Que Ribs, Plain Ribs (D), Baked Potato, Green Beans, Apricots</p> | <p><b>28</b><br/>Cream of wheat, boiled eggs, biscuit, cereal, milk   Chicken Sandwich, Corn on Cob, Asparagus, Cake</p> <p><b>31</b><br/>Spinach, egg, &amp; cheese biscuit sandwich, cottage cheese &amp; pineapples, juice   Spaghetti, Salad, Rolls, Apple Rings, w/ Cottage Cheese</p> <p><b>** Some items may change without notice **</b></p> |
|---|--|--|

### Parade continued from Front

bands/color guard."

Daria enjoyed being able to participate, even though it was very tiring, "Overall, after the parade, I was very tired from marching, but it was all worth

it in the end. Now I can say and tell others, 'I marched in the Fiesta Bowl parade with the Maricopa High School Marching Band and Color Guard!'"

The 2022 PlayStation Fiesta Bowl was held on Saturday,

January 1, 2022 with No. 5 Notre Dame taking on No. 9 Oklahoma State. Kick off was set for 11am MST at the State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. This would be the first time both elite programs would meet. The Cowboys defeated the Irish, 37-35.



Left: Daria Garcia and Celeste Gloria pause for a picture before Fiesta Bowl Parade. Above: Family and friends wait to see Daria and Celeste in parade.

## Attention to: All Community Members, Non-members and Residents

**Past Due Fines**

If you are delinquent on your fines, or if you are unsure if you have any fines.

**Please contact the courts at earliest convenience to avoid the following penalties:**

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

**Past Due fines will be sent to Valley Collection Agency**

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

- You may come to the court to make payment arrangements and you must be consistent on your payments.
- You may come to the court to dispute the matter and request a hearing.

Address: 45525 W Farrell Rd, Maricopa, AZ 85139 \* Phone: (520) 568-1385 \* Fax:(520) 568-1386

**\*NOTICE\***

**2022 Agricultural Lease Payment**

**In compliance with SRPMIC Emergency Declaration Directives for COVID-19, the 2022 Agricultural Lease payment to landowners will be made by mail, direct deposit, or SRPMIC Pay Card only. There will be no in person payout.**

On **Friday, January 21, 2022**, Agricultural Lease Payment checks will be mailed to your address on file or, if you have elected to use direct deposit, disbursement will occur to the financial institution on file with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community ("SRPMIC") Finance Department. Incorrect information will cause a delay in receiving your payment. To update your address or direct deposit information, or to sign up for direct deposit, please contact:

SRPMIC Vendor Maintenance, ph: (480) 362-7729  
(staff is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Arizona time)  
The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 17, 2021.  
Please call as soon as possible.

**Pay Card disbursement will be placed onto your SRPMIC Pay Card on Friday, January 21, 2022.** To sign up for a SRPMIC Pay Card for your lease payment or to add your lease payment to an already issued SRPMIC Pay Card, please contact the SRPMIC Finance Department at (480) 362-7620. The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 17, 2021.

**Payments less than \$15.00.** All direct deposit and Pay Card payments will be disbursed regardless of the amount. For checks less than \$15.00, landowners will need to contact the SRPMIC Finance Department and request that a check be mailed. Such checks will be processed 7-10 business days following the request after January 21, 2022.

**Questions?** Contact the SRPMIC Finance Leasing Payment Office (480) 362-7730.  
\*Agricultural lease payments will be made based upon farmer payments received by January 3, 2022.





Newspaper of the  
Ak-Chin Indian Community  
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16600 N. Maricopa Hwy  
Maricopa, Arizona 85139

#### OFFICE HOURS

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

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and Octavio Machado

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Education, EPD, Health  
Education, Him-Dak, Library,  
Health & Human Services,  
Recreation & MUSD.

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Ak-Chin O'dham 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'dham  
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

2022 Subscription rate is  
\$33.75. If you would like  
to receive the "Runner" by  
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16600 N. Maricopa Hwy  
Maricopa, Arizona 85139

Make check/money order  
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#### DEADLINE

Don't forget the  
DEADLINE for the  
February 4-17, 2022  
issue is due by  
**FRIDAY JANUARY 28TH**

Please submit all  
announcements, wishes, etc.  
no later than  
**FRIDAY JANUARY 28TH**

Material submitted after the  
**JANUARY 28TH DEADLINE**  
cannot be guaranteed  
placement. If appropriate  
and relevant, it will be  
included in the next issue.

# Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Donates \$10,000 to F.O.R. Maricopa

(MARICOPA, Ariz. – Dec. 20, 2021) – Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino has long made the commitment to support nonprofit organizations throughout Maricopa. Through its community outreach program, H.E.R.O., Harrah's Ak-Chin recently donated \$10,000 to F.O.R. Maricopa.

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino has been a strong supporter of F.O.R. Maricopa since its inception. Founded in 2003, the organization is a private 501c3 organization that provides food, opportunity and resources to the Maricopa community.

"We are grateful for H.E.R.O and the entire Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino team," said Wendy Webb, executive director. "Their continued support of our



Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Senior Vice President and General Manager Michael Kintner presents a \$10,000 donation check to F.O.R. Maricopa Founder and Executive Director Wendy Webb.

programs and generous donations over the years have helped us continue to provide resources for those in need throughout Maricopa."

According to Michael Kintner, senior vice president and general manager of Harrah's Ak-

Chin Resort & Casino, "F.O.R. Maricopa has an immediate and significant impact on our Maricopa community. We are grateful for their efforts and looking forward to continuing our partnership in the years to come."



Ak-Chin Recreation department held their annual Christmas House Lighting Contest, inviting all community members and residents to join in on the spectacular fun. This year's competitors were creative in their set up and designs, as five Christmas themes were to be judged. Recreation staff and judges took a ride through the community on December 21st, making their stops at the decorated houses who signed up. From fun dancing Santas to beautiful delicate nativity scenes, the contestants had a lot of Christmas nostalgia to share.

#### Griswold:

1<sup>st</sup> Place- Lemuel Vincent  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Geraldine Vincent  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Florinda Peters  
Winter Wonderland:  
1<sup>st</sup> Place- Lilian Shade  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Grace Pablo  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Dwayne Antone

#### Santa's Workshop:

1<sup>st</sup> Place- Sandra Shade  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Florine Vincent  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Lucy Jerry

#### Gingerbread:

1<sup>st</sup> Place- Reyna Miguel



## THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY HAS THREE (3) VACANCIES FOR THE AK-CHIN GAMING COMMISSION

All interested individuals are eligible to apply; however Ak-Chin members will be given first preference.

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

**QUALIFICATIONS: The Community Council is seeking individuals with the following qualifications:**

1. Must have knowledge or possess the ability to learn the Ak-Chin Gaming Compact, Code and Harrah's/Ak-Chin Casino Resort Management Agreement.
2. Demonstrate the ability to understand and apply the Ak-Chin Gaming Compact, Code and Harrah's/Ak-Chin Casino Resort Management Agreement, and the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.
3. Must have the ability to learn and understand the Federal, State, and Community regulatory processes pertaining to the Tribal Gaming Agency and Harrah's Casino Resort.
4. Must possess a valid Driver's License.

**Requirements:** All interested individuals must submit a Letter of Interest detailing why they are interested in serving on the Ak-Chin Gaming Commission. Community employees must submit documentation from their supervisor allowing them to serve on the Ak-Chin Gaming Commission. In your letter of interest, please note which Board, Commission or Committee you currently serve on, and when your term expires. All interested individuals must be able to successfully complete a background check and obtain an Ak-Chin Tribal Gaming License.

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

Deadline to submit letter of interest is Friday,  
January 28, 2022 by 5:00 pm.

## Healthy Kids & Families

Ak-Chin Indian Community

### COVID TESTING DATES

**February 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
5 pm - 7 pm

**March 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
5 pm - 7 pm

**March 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**  
5 pm - 7 pm

Ak-Chin Multipurpose Justice Complex, Maricopa, AZ 85139

COVID-19 GENERAL INFORMATION

GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE (520) 550-6079

GRHC.ORG/HUB

2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Elaina Enos  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Stephanie Vincent  
Ak-Chin Circle that included: Movie pass, Bowling, Drink and Popcorn.

**Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place- Candi Chavez  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Beatrice Romo  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Cheyenne Vallejos  
A huge CONGRATULATIONS to this year's winners and a giant THANK YOU to all our participants!

We were so happy to see so many amazing decked out house displays throughout the Community.

A special Thank You to Henry Garcia and the Runner!  
All non-placing participants received a family package to the

## ATTENTION

Ak-Chin PARENTS and GUARDIANS

If you have a student-athlete from Ak-Chin participating in an upcoming event and would like them to be featured in future editions of the Runner, please let us know!

Email: runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us  
Phone: (520)-568-1375



Masik Tas/ Com. Xmas continued



This little girl happily makes her way around the rink.



Chairman Robert Miguel in his "Snow Beast" sweater served as MC for the night's event.



As tons of children made their way to the skating rink, parents help them fasten up their laces.

Right: Passengers enjoy their ride around the park on the Polar Express.



Below: contestants fry their popover dough during the last stretch of the contest.



For some stepping onto to rink was an easy job and for others not so much. That night was full of ups and downs.



Davis Garcia takes a heavy swing at this chunk of wood



Everyone waits for refreshments and a visit with Santa.



Menudo contest winners L to R: 2nd Elaina Enos, 1st Yolanda Miranda and 3rd Alexandra Carlyle.



These girls make their own dough.



Popover contest winners L to R: 2nd Harlee Jose, 1st Elaina Enos and 3rd Mylauni Antone.



# LEGO ROBOTICS

RETURNING SOON IN 2022

FIRST AND THIRD FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH

If you have questions, contact us at: [library@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:library@ak-chin.nsn.us) or 520-568-1675

Please fill out the form for more information: <https://forms.gle/RwSHSvRGxyfBdxaj6>

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY

*Spots are limited!*



Wood Chopping contest winners L to R: 2nd Tony Jose, 1st Davis Garcia, and 3rd Adriano Jose.

## GAME HACKER

Are your kids interested in coding? Would they like to give it a try?

We're starting a new session of Game Hacker in person for 2022. To hold a spot, fill out the form at: <https://bit.ly/3d2VzQu>

If you have questions, contact us at [library@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:library@ak-chin.nsn.us) or 520-568-1675

*Spots are limited!*

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY

## CHRISTMAS

word search puzzle

Words may be horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

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TREE  
GINGERBREAD  
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## Employee Bash continued from Front



Rodney Huffaker and family; Alexander, Michelle, and Claudia. Rodney shared, "We enjoyed the bash this year, being able to bring kids was a definite plus."



L-R: Armonda Santiago, Michelle Andaverde, Victor Andaverde and Stephanie Andaverde get ready to strike it up in bowling.

round, two performers moved on to the final round.

Top three winners of the evening went to Richard Lopez from Ak-Chin Child Development who placed third; Grace Pablo from Ak-Chin Housing took second and John McCullough from Ak-Chin Human Resources won the sing-off with his rendition of "Brown-Eyed Girl".

John shared a few comments from the evening.

"This was my first Christmas party with Ak-Chin. Sadly, I only know everyone here through COVID

since that has been the bulk of my time here. I get so many employees that are surprised that I don't recognize them but I only know most of them with masks on. I was very happy to see that Ak-Chin values their employees and allowed us to come together at a very special time of the year. We have been through a lot these past 2 years and enjoying each other's company during Christmas was amazing. I have been to many Christmas parties that were out of control. This one was very relaxed and family oriented. I am very thankful that I have been given such a great opportunity to work with an amazing Community!

While winning the competition was fantastic, being able to serve the people of the Ak-Chin Indian Community is its own reward!"

Grace Pablo enjoyed the Bash, "Karaoke, of course was my favorite part."

Richard was a little nervous during the sing-off. "The contest was a little nerve wracking as it was only my second time competing. It was good to see that we have some very talented singers among our employees and I hope they do more karaoke contest(s)."



John also sang "In Case You Didn't Know" Brett Young and "Have You Ever Seen the Rain" Creedence Clearwater Revival.



Grace sang; Journey "Who's Crying Now", Mary Wells "Two Lovers" and Pointer Sisters "Fire".



Richard sang, "Death of a Bachelor" Panic at the Disco and "I Believe in a Thing Called Love" The Darkness.

## Light Up the Village Department Contest Winners

Ak-Chin departments were asked to decorate a tree within the Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park to be displayed from December 10, 2021 -January 3, 2022.

All trees were judged by Ak-Chin's members and residents who attended Ak-Chin's Masik Tas/ Christmas Celebration Event.

Congratulations to all of our winners and A Special Thank You to all of our participants, we were blown away by all the creativity and talent.

Ak-Chin Parks and Recreation




1<sup>st</sup> Place: Team Safety, Central Plant, EPA, Airport and Security



2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Fire Department



3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Education Department



### Notice of Change in Transit Services

Effective Immediately, The Transit Department will no longer be offering our circular routes until further notice. This change affects the two routes that travel to designated stops within Ak-Chin and Maricopa at various locations at pre-determined times.

The Transit Department will continue focusing on offering On-Demand curb to curb services. On-Demand is a fantastic service that provides curb to curb Transportation. You do not need to be a community member to ride and Transportation is always free. If you need Transportation please do not hesitate to call and schedule. We will be happy to provide you with Transit services. Please see additional advertisement for details regarding Demand Response services.

Thank you for your understanding.  
Allison Butler  
Transit Manager

Questions or feedback? Please contact the Transit Department  
Call: 520-568-1630, 520-568-1635  
Text 520-340-0382  
Email: [abutler@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:abutler@ak-chin.nsn.us)



## COMPLIMENTARY ON-DEMAND SERVICE

PROUDLY SERVING  
AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

On-Demand Service is safe, reliable, efficient and clean. Call our office and inform us when you need Transportation. Ak-Chin Tribal Transit will pick you up and take you to your desired destination for free. On-Demand response services are available within the Ak-Chin Indian community and most commercial and government addresses in Maricopa. You do not need to be a community member to utilize our services. Please keep our professional staff in mind to meet your Transportation needs.

Popular Destinations:

- Local Businesses
- Shopping centers
- Work
- Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino
- Many food destinations

\*All reservations must include either a pick-up or drop-off location within the Ak-Chin Indian community.

Please keep us in mind for your transportation needs.  
Need a ride? Call: 520-568-1630 Text: 520-340-0382  
Demand-Response Service Schedule: Monday-Friday from 7:00AM to 5:45PM.

### SPORTSBOOK continued from Front:

Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. – 11 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. – 11 p.m. Kiosks are open 24/7.

With every bet, sports fans can earn Tier Credits and Reward Credits through the industry-leading loyalty program, Caesars Rewards, unlocking unique experiences within the Caesars portfolio of properties and partnerships.

In addition to in-person wagering, the Caesars Sportsbook app offers unmatched mobile wagering for eligible sports fans, while also integrating Caesars Rewards. Bettors can explore a wide range of live markets and odds – including for every local team – along with customized offerings, a wide range of betting lines and flexible limits.

"We are thrilled that our valued Harrah's Ak-Chin guests now have the opportunity to place a bet on their favorite sports team here at the Casino," said Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Senior Vice President and General Manager Michael Kintner. "Whether at one of our kiosks, at our betting windows or through the Caesars Sportsbook mobile app, sports bettors can now enjoy an elevated sports betting experience with Caesars Sportsbook at Harrah's Ak-Chin."

For more information about Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino, visit [www.harrahsakchin.com](http://www.harrahsakchin.com). Must be 21 or older to gamble. Know When To Stop Before You Start.® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-NEXT STEP. ©2021, Caesars License Company, LLC.

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**HUB**



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(520) 550-6079



GRHC.ORG/HUB

STAY SAFE & STAY HEALTHY



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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**Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital . . . . . (520) 562-3321 Ext. 1495**

**Komatke Health Center . . . . . (520) 550-6000 Ext. 6060**

**Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center . . . . . (520) 796-2600 Ext. 2697**

**Ak-Chin Clinic . . . . . (520) 568-3881**

## Dose 1, 2 & 3 Eligibility:

GRIC and Ak-Chin Indian Community tribal enrolled members and their household members, all federally recognized tribal members, GRIC essential employees and their household members, and community enterprise employees and their household members. All individuals 5 years and older. Parent or guardian consent is required.

## Additional Dose 3 Eligibility:

### If you received PFIZER OR MODERNA

- You are eligible for a booster if you are:  
16 years of age or older (PFIZER)  
18 years of age or older (MODERNA)
- When can you get it:  
Six (6) months after your second shot of the Pfizer or Moderna

### If you received JOHNSON & JOHNSON

- You are eligible for a booster\* if you are:  
18 years of age or older
- When can you get it:  
Two (2) months after your first shot  
\*Pfizer or Moderna only

## WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT OMICRON FAQ Infection And Spread

### How easily does Omicron spread?

At this time, it is not known how easily Omicron will spread compared to Delta COVID-19 variant. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Omicron variant likely will spread more easily than the original COVID-19 virus strain.

### Will Omicron cause more severe illness?

More data are needed to know if Omicron COVID-19 infections (especially reinfections and breakthrough infections in people who are fully vaccinated) cause more severe illness or death than infection with other variants like Delta.

### Will vaccines work against Omicron?

With other variants, like Delta, vaccines have remained effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalizations, and death.

### I've been vaccinated, can I still catch the Omicron variant?

Current COVID-19 vaccines are expected to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths due to infection with the Omicron variant. Breakthrough infections in people who are fully vaccinated can occur with all covid variants.

### Will treatments work against Omicron?

Scientists are working to determine how well existing treatments for COVID-19 work will against this new variant. Based on the changed genetic make-up of Omicron, some treatments are likely to remain effective while others may be less effective.

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255**

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



AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

# 2022 Reading Challenge!

How it works...

- Choose a book from the prompts.
- Log into the READsquared App, log the book, and write a short review that also says which prompt you selected.
- If you complete all 40 prompts you will earn an award!

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

Open to All Ak-Chin Indian Community Members, Residents, Employees & their Immediate Families.  
Contact us at: library@ak-chin.nsn.us or 520-568-1675

Winter Reading  
12/28/2021-3/22/2022

Download the ReadSquared app or  
Scan the QR code to sign up

READ SQUARED

Program open to Ak-Chin Members, Residents, Employees & their immediate families.

## Employee Birthdays

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Jan. 1<sup>st</sup></b><br>Timothy Nanstiel, TGA  | <b>Jan. 11<sup>th</sup></b><br>Octavio Machado, Council                                       | <b>Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup></b><br>Leonard Allen, EPD<br>Kris Narcia, Security Guard<br>Judy Curry, Education |
| <b>Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup></b><br>Johnny Ramirez, EPD  | <b>Jan. 13<sup>th</sup></b><br>Elizabeth Chavez, Elderly<br>Teri De La Cruz, Health Education | <b>Jan. 26<sup>th</sup></b><br>Beatrice Romo, Parks & Recreation<br>Thomas Carlyle, Sanitation            |
| <b>Jan. 5<sup>th</sup></b><br>Christopher Beginski, Fire & Safety<br>Andrew Jimenez, Sanitation<br>DelRoy Narcia, Security Guard | <b>Jan. 14<sup>th</sup></b><br>Michael Heronema, Security Guard<br>Teresa Valisto, Education  | <b>Jan. 28<sup>th</sup></b><br>Felicia Vincent, Cultural  |
| <b>Jan. 6<sup>th</sup></b><br>Jose Miguel, Sanitation<br>Henrietta Rubio, Law & Order  | <b>Jan. 15<sup>th</sup></b><br>Veronica Armadillo, Maintenance                                | <b>Jan. 29<sup>th</sup></b><br>Genevieve Miguel, Him Dak Museum   |
| <b>Jan. 7<sup>th</sup></b><br>Gabriel Pablo, IS<br>Wayne Allison, Law & Order  | <b>Jan. 17<sup>th</sup></b><br>Celest Soliz, Law & Order                                      | <b>Jan. 31<sup>st</sup></b><br>Carlton Carlyle, EPD   |
| <b>Jan. 9<sup>th</sup></b><br>Jennifer Hill, Law & Order   | <b>Jan. 20<sup>th</sup></b><br>Joe Medina, Maintenance  |   |
| <b>Jan. 10<sup>th</sup></b><br>Gilbert Celaya, Law & Order   | <b>Jan. 21<sup>st</sup></b><br>Vera Pablo, Maintenance  |   |

## READING IS SNOW MUCH FUN!

Winter Reading YOUTH 2021-2022 (Dec 28 - Mar 29)

Reading program starts 12/28/2021 and ends on 3/22/2022.

This program is designed for kids age 0 to 17 to encourage life-long reading habits.

For every 100 points you will earn a prize that can be picked up at the Library.

Each minute of reading is equal to one point.

The goal is to read and log your minutes and reach 1,000 minutes before March 22, 2022 to earn the final prize!

## Snow is falling... books are calling...

Winter Reading ADULTS 2021-2022 (Dec 28 - Mar 29)

Reading program starts 12/28/2021 and ends on 3/22/2022.

This program is designed for adults ages 18 & up to encourage life-long reading habits.

500 points you will earn a prize that can be picked up at the Library.

Each minute of reading is equal to one point.

If you read for 1,000 minutes, you will complete the program and earn a final prize!



## Wishes

Happy 5th Birthday to my Ezri Apolonia ❤️  
I'm so thankful and grateful for you my baby, and I can't wait to tell you what your big birthday surprise is! I love you forever my big girlsh. ❤️

Happy Birthday to my granddaughters Jessica, Estaylenn and Saraih and to my grandsons Edward, Jonathan, Joshua, Mateo and Ian.

Love,  
Grandma



Wishing you a

**2022**

SAFE HAPPY NEW YEAR!

from the staff at the Runner

# January 2022

Happy Birthday!

|  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>1st</b><br>Duane Narcia   | <b>10th</b><br>Jason Luz  | <b>18th</b><br>Sanya Enos<br>Nathaniel Enos<br>Dominique White<br>Richard Joaquin IV  | <b>27th</b><br>Chelsey Mike<br>Lydell Delowe Jr.<br>Anthony Rogers<br>Mario Santiago   |
| <b>2nd</b><br>Jolene Campbell<br>Azlynn Carra  | <b>11th</b><br>Euphrasia Mike<br>Octavio Machado<br>Bradley Miguel<br>Persephanie Antone<br>Edward Rocha<br>Mylaunah Robles | <b>19th</b><br>Rosalino Ormsby<br>Perla Corona  | <b>28th</b><br>Richard Quintero<br>Felicia Vincent<br>Anariee Carra<br>Aniyaa Carra  |
| <b>4th</b><br>Jaianna Pilone<br>Stephen Narcia<br>Skyler Luna<br>Alexandra Osife           | <b>12th</b><br>Celiyah Antone   | <b>20th</b><br>Adriana Narcia<br>Jonathan Peters<br>Joshua Peters<br>Joe Medina<br>Roland Narcia<br>Phoenix-Michelle Alejandro<br>Juan Medina<br>Bernadine Romo | <b>29th</b><br>Patricia Perillo<br>Genevieve Miguel<br>Paulette Kisto<br>April Smith<br>Lucas Antone<br>Byron White<br>Irene Smith<br>Spencer Antone |
| <b>5th</b><br>Joseph Pilone<br>DelRoy Narcia   | <b>13th</b><br>Amarissa Garcia<br>Ezri Miguel<br>Ella Lewis<br>Viviana Rascon   | <b>22nd</b><br>Francisco Kaniatobe<br>Marie Lewis<br>Estalynn Lopez<br>Leah Castro  | <b>30th</b><br>Micah Coble<br>Horacio Valles   |
| <b>6th</b><br>Yolanda Melero-Moroyoqui<br>Joseph Narcia<br>Jose Miguel Sr.<br>Heaven Coble | <b>14th</b><br>Karli Hoffman<br>Kimberly Smith<br>Teresa Valisto  | <b>23rd</b><br>Maite Ortega<br>Saraih Peters<br>Amber Antone<br>Kris Narcia<br>Danielle Shade-Theel   | <b>31st</b><br>Celeste Gloria<br>Carlton Carlyle Sr.<br>Mateo Rodriguez  |
| <b>7th</b><br>Brandon Smith<br>Gabriel Pablo<br>Kevin Villegas                             | <b>15th</b><br>Carmella Ortiz<br>Jakob Thomas   | <b>25th</b><br>Jaime Salcido  |  |
| <b>8th</b><br>Ethan<br>Humeyumptewa<br>Ashley Manuel<br>Jessica Zabawa                     | <b>16th</b><br>Eduardo Santiago<br>Verdina Aguilla<br>Karly Campbell<br>Dallaz Jackson-Narcia                               | <b>26th</b><br>Freddie Salas<br>Beatrice Romo<br>Thomas Carlyle   |  |
| <b>9th</b><br>Paden Marsh<br>Jose Balderrama<br>Leo Thomas<br>Jennifer Hill                | <b>17th</b><br>Ryder Narcia<br>Logan Tittes<br>Dawn Lewis<br>Stacey Yarberry  |   |  |



# Carson Enright Wins Saguaro Amateur

Oregon State Freshman Battles All Day to One-Shot Victory

Carson Enright (Longboat Key, FL and a freshman on the Oregon State golf team) shot a final round three-under par 69 to finish at -10 to win the 2022 Saguaro Amateur at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes. Enright was good enough to finish one shot ahead of Angelo Marcon (San Francisco) who shot a final round 69 as well. Ethan Davidson (Simi Valley, CA) finished another shot back in third place. 36-hole leader Gunnar Broin (Chanhassen, MN) shot a final round 73 to finish at -7. Broin was one shot back heading into the 18th hole but finished with a double bogey. The race for the championship was tight all day, with Enright's largest lead being two shots and a lot of players within striking distance. Broin shared 4th

place with Jimmy Dales (Northville, MI) and Santeri Lehesmaa (Finland). A huge group of eight players finished four shots back in a tie for 7th at -6.

**ENRIGHT ON THE WIN:** "This win meant a lot to me. To be able to see the work I've put in on the putting pay off is awesome. Also it was very cool to be in a high pressure situation again."

**WEATHER and GOLF COURSE:** Cool overnight temperatures greeted golfers again this morning at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes with a 45 minute frost delay (60 minutes on day 2 and 80 minutes on day 1). It was spectacular the rest of the day on the championship layout at Ak-Chin Southern

Dunes with light winds and a high temperature of 66 degrees (third consecutive day). Ak-Chin Southern Dunes is hosting the 2022 Saguaro Amateur for the ninth consecutive year. It is one of the premier championship golf courses in Arizona and in amateur golf.

**FULL RESULTS** are attached as well as at [www.2022SaguaroAmateur.com](http://www.2022SaguaroAmateur.com) or 22SAGUARO as the GGID on the Golf Genius app.

**SI WINS TROON SAGUARO AMATEUR SERIES TITLE:** Kelvin Si of San Diego, is the 2021-22 Troon Saguaro Amateur Series Champion. Si was consistent all season long and edged out Josh McCollum (Upland, CA) who won last

summer's Silver State Amateur. It was incredibly close amongst the top players, with several players in the mix going down the back nine today. The full final results are at [www.2022tsas.golfgenius.com](http://www.2022tsas.golfgenius.com).

**TROON SAGUARO AMATEUR SERIES:** The Troon Saguaro Amateur Series is a world-ranked amateur tournament series of 10 events in 2021-22. The Saguaro Amateur is the tenth (and Championship) event of the 2021-22 series year. The full Series schedule and Player of the Year



Carson Enright, champion of the 2022 Saguaro Amateur at Ak-Chin Southern Dunes, holds his trophy.

standings are available at [www.SaguaroAmateur.com](http://www.SaguaroAmateur.com) as well as at [www.2022TSAS.GolfGenius.com](http://www.2022TSAS.GolfGenius.com). The 2022-23 Series kicks off this Friday with the inaugural Sonoran Amateur on the Devil's Claw course at Whirlwind Golf Club in Chandler, Arizona.

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*Happy New Year*

From the Team at Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center

**MOVIE RELEASES**

1/07 The 355  
1/14 Scream  
1/21 The King's Daughter  
1/21 The Tiger Rising

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the purchase of a movie ticket

**WEDNESDAY, JAN. 19**

**2022 PASS**  
SOFT DRINK & POPCORN PASS  
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Large Popcorn  
3oz Drink  
Nerds Gummy Clusters

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SUN, JAN 23 11AM-6PM

FRI, JAN 28 4PM-8PM  
SAT, JAN 29 11AM-6PM  
SUN, JAN 30 11AM-6PM

girl scouts arizona cactus-pine

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**JANUARY 2022**

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REWARDS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



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