

Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXVI, Issue 2

February 4 - 17, 2022

## Ak-Chin Council hosts first Community Meeting of 2022



2022 Ak-Chin Tribal Council, seated I-r: Vice Chairman Lemuel Vincent and Chairman Robert Miguel. Standing I-r: Councilmembers; Lisa Garcia, Octavio Machado and Delia Carlyle. Story by Runner Staff, file photo

January 31, 2022, Ak-Chin Tribal Council held their first virtual Community Meeting of 2022, with membership obtaining access to attend online.

The meeting started around 6pm with opening remarks and a prayer from Chairman Robert Miguel. Chairman reminded everyone about the last meeting held in 2021. He also provided a brief update on the current status of Covid in the Community, as well as commending everyone for testing and doing their part to help family members and keep the Community safe. Chairman then introduced the presenter for the evening.

The agenda listed one presentation by Purchase Referred Care Manager, Connie Miguel. Mrs. Miguel gave the community a couple of PRC updates for the month of January. The presentation started with a few technical issues, but soon Connie was able to proceed. A PowerPoint presentation was made available for everyone to see during the meeting with assistance from Council Secretary, Vicki Smith.

Connie began by pointing out updates for the month. She first explained that Gila River approved referrals from 07/01/2021 - 12/31/2021 have been transferred to the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

What that means is any patients that were seen at Gila River and had a referral issued to Gila River Purchase Referred Care department and were approved through Gila River Purchase Referred Care department, they were transferred as of January 1, 2022 to Ak-Chin.

Moving forward, any services rendered from that approval of the authorization, the billing should be issued to the Ak-Chin Indian Community instead of Gila River.

She provided an example of

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an approved referral letter from 2021 with services provided in January 2022. She also explained that they did an outreach to the providers notifying them of the change of the new billing to be sent to Ak-Chin as of January 1.

"We issued a letter to each of the providers that had an approval for those months of 2021, and the letter was provided and mailed to their billing department to advise them that all services as of 1-1-2022 be mailed to the Ak-Chin Purchase Referred Care department."

Connie provided an example of the letter sent out to providers of all purchased approved referrals.

Connie then provided an update on the letters that her department also sent out to the patient, which is addressed to the member and explains the management of the program through Ak-Chin Purchase Referred Care and records

Meeting continues to page 2







Chairman Robert Miguel, at left, along with Steve, his wife Rosie and Connie Miguel, at Steve's retirement luncheon on January 18. Photo by R. Bowen

Ak-Chin Farms held a luncheon on January 18, to celebrate the retirement of Steve Coester.

Held at Ak-Chin Circle Elements Event Center, Steve was surrounded by family, friends and co-workers as they all took the opportunity to wish him well on this deserving occasion. Ak-Chin Chairman Robert Miguel and Councilmember Lisa Garcia were among the speakers for the event.

Chairman Miguel talked about Steve's 37 years of service to the community and how he has helped build the farm to be a successful operation. "Steve Coester was not only a hard-

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working Farm Manager, but always had the best interests of the Farm and Ak-Chin Indian Community in mind. He was able to continue the success of our farming enterprise and built true relationships with contractors, enterprises and others which created a greater identity and recognition to the farm."

"We've had a number of visitors and guests who've visited the community the past few years, and one of the most popular requests were for a tour of the Farm with Steve. I actually had a couple of communities who reached out to me to see if they could sway Steve away from Ak-Chin and become their Manager."

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Above, farmers listen to a presentation from a Brandt representative during a field session out on Ak-Chin Farm on January 25, 2022. Story and photos by R. Peters

## 2022 Next Level Planter Clinic held at Harrah's

January 25-27, over 500 farmers from across the country attended the Dowdy Crop Innovations (DCI) Next Level Planter Clinic at Harrah's Ak-Chin Event Center.

Clinic instructors Randy Dowdy and David Hula, who are known throughout the farming community as two of the highest-yielding crop growers in the world were the main presenters. Both men travel the country sharing what they have learned with other farmers, helping them take their farm to the Next Level of yield and profitability.

When speaking with David Hula he shared goals of the Planters Session, "It's all about learning and we're trying to (ensure) growers get a chance to work together and network across the country so growers from south can help guys in the north, and neighbors that don't know each that live in the same state, can help themselves. With the common goal, to try to make more bushels, so we can hopefully make more revenue...because we've got to feed the world."

Each day there were two groups that rotated, half would attend outdoor demonstrations and classes held in the fields of Ak-Chin Farms, while the other group had the opportunity to attend hourly presentations, as well as visit the exhibitor booths inside The Event Center. Only Next Level growers were allowed to attend the event.

Randy Dowdy shared in a video at growersclinic.com, "We discuss yield maps, soil samples, tissue samples, how to set up a planter, how to set

up a combine, when to spray, what to spray, how to spray, products to buy. We cover it all and we teach them everything we know."

There were twenty vendors set up inside The Events Center to showcase equipment and products. Key sponsors were also provided 1-hour time slots to give presentations throughout the day.

Field demonstrations were held outside on Ak-Chin farmland, where 18 acres were set aside, reserved for demonstration crops in various stages of planting and harvesting.

Ak-Chin provided irrigation and even planted the crops for the different sponsor demonstrations. Ak-Chin also provided three planters and tillage equipment to

Clinic continues to page 8

that indicate the patient has an approved referral for the following specialty. It names the specialty outside Gila River Healthcare and explains that a letter to the provider is asking to bill Ak-Chin Indian Community PRC department for any services as of January 1, 2022.

Secondly, the referral authorizes when the referral will expire for that specialty.

Thirdly, as a reminder to the provider if there are any services rendered outside the approved facility it must obtain a preauthorization to the Ak-Chin Indian Community for authorization of payment.

If the specialty recommends service after the approved date, the member should schedule an appointment with Gila River Healthcare for a new referral, if possible.

It is highly recommended to request a new referral within 30 days, as it will allow for Ak-Chin's PRC to process the referral in a timely manner.

Connie pointed out that many specialists know if that continuance of care will be needed within that 30 days of expiration. If we receive those renewals 15-30 days prior to expiration date we can process it to the provider in a timely manner to ensure to there will be no interruption in care to the member.

The last update Connie shared was the hiring of new Benefits Coordinator, Amanda Maldonado. Ms. Maldonado will be responsible for receiving the initial referral from Gila River and verifying alternate resources, such as AHCCCS, Medicare, Kids Care, etc.

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She will begin to assist the members if they are eligible for any of these programs and will also be able to assist with the application process, and provide status of the application.

Amanda will be able to assist at times with making it an urgency, by calling AHCCCS and asking them to put in a rush approval due to the medical condition or the emergency that has been submitted.

Connie ended, "This month has been very productive for the Purchase Referred Program." She also said that since the program is brandnew they would like to share updates on a monthly or bimonthly basis.

After Connie completed her presentation she opened it up for any questions, concerns or feedback from the community.

There were a few questions asked about how records will be kept and shared, referral denials and program for dental and orthodontia.

Council Updates were provided and included information on the following: Covid testing and immunization events, Covid reports from other tribes, zoom meetings with state, local and federal government, meetings with state representatives,

housing incident, minimum wage change, temporary dental benefits, department budget approvals, new scholarship program, sports betting at casino and offcommunity, environmental codes, department meetings, water litigations, capital projects, PRC, future PSA's, technical capabilities, home

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technical capabilities, home quarantines in community, information on omicron and delta variants, election year and voting methods, consultations, burial assistance and Southern Dunes highlights.

After Council was finished with their updates Chairman opened up the meeting for questions from the membership. There were questions many asked pertaining to; immunization and testing events, Ak-Chin status, employee Circle merits, court hearings, IMT roles, responsibilities and emergency plan, police audit/review and recording/ reporting, services for special needs, Maricopa incident, update on Council Code of Ethics, procedure for council investigation requests, Covid vaccine incentive for minors, appointment and IMT resolution.

After the member questions ended, Chairman once again thanked everyone for joining the meeting. No raffles were offered and meeting ended at approximately 815pm.

The next Community Meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2022. For information on how to join the meeting you can call 520-568-1000.



#### 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



### Supply Goods Distribution Drive- Thru Thursday - Feb. 10th, 12-4pm Friday - Feb. 11th, 3-7pm

 Distribution will be at the Service Center and is for Ak-Chin Member and resident households who reside on the reservation and for Member households who live off the reservation.

Supplies are for each household and not for each member.

- Members must show proof of residence with current address (i.e. utility bill, insurance card, Driver License and/or tribal ID with current address).
- Individuals who are picking up items for a Member **MUST** have a letter of authorization from the Member naming the individual who is picking up the supplies. This allows the Community to have a record of who picked up their supplies.
- Community households living on or off the Reservation who are unable to pick up their supplies on Feb. 10th or 11th, please contact Flora Howerton at (520)
   568-1043 to arrange a pick up.



#### Stop the Spread of Germs Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.





Pick-up Route

FARRELL RD.

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Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the track and wash your bands

AK-CHIN FEASTHOUSE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY



Happy to announce this project will be starting 2/9/22 All construction of project will take place within fenced area No traffic will be impeded, and will flow as normal.



#### 4-

Sausage links, scrambled eggs, hash brown, toast, banana, chocolate milk | Chicken Sandwich, Broccoli Slaw, Mixed Vegetables, Cookies/Apples

#### 7-

Oatmeal, boiled eggs, biscuit, cottage cheese & peaches, milk | Chicken Stir Fry w/ Vegetables, Fried Rice, Egg Rolls, Strawberry Parfaits, Plums

#### 8-

Breakfast casserole (bacon, egg, bell peppers, onion, spinach, potatoes, cheese) sliced apples, toast, juice | Meatball Soup w/Vegetable, Brown Rice, Moon Bread, Apple Sauce

#### 9-

Bacon & egg burrito, cliff bar, yogurt, juice | Pinto Beans, Sliced Beef w/Onions (D), Carrots, Peas, Corn Bread, Jell-O-Oranges

#### 10-

Chorizo & eggs, beans, tortilla, grapes, chocolate milk | Zuppa Toscana Soup, Caesar Salad, Bread Stick, Mandarin Oranges

#### 11-

Biscuit & gravy, bacon, scrambled eggs, sliced apples, juice | Squash Casserole, Wild Rice, Salad, Watermelon, Mix Fruit (D)

#### 14-

Chicken fried steak, biscuit, gravy, scrambled eggs, hash brown, banana, juice | Lasagna Roll Up, Zucchini-Yellow Squash, Carrots, Salad, Rolls, Strawberry Cake-Apple

15- Hamburger & scrambled eggs with cheese, diced potatoes, toast, grapes, juice | Smothered Pork Chops, Mashed Potato, Green Beans, Fruit Cocktail

#### 16-

Biscuit & sausage gravy, scrambled eggs, sliced apples, juice | Cabbage Stew, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Biscuits, Plums

#### 17-

Sausage & egg burrito, fig newton, yogurt, juice | Battered Cod or Chicken, Peas, Beets, Cantaloupe, Mix Fruit (D)

#### 18-

Cream of wheat, boiled eggs, cinnamon raisin toast, cereal, banana, milk | Indian Tacos, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese, Rice Krispies-Apples

\*\* Some items may change without notice \*\*







When in public, wear a mas over your nose and mouth.

mask Do not touch your e uth. nose, and mouth.

20 seconds.

touched objects and surface



Balancing and YOUR BODY



For questions about the Injury Prevention Program please call or email Teri De La Cruz at 520-568-1087 TDeLaCruz@ak-chin.nsn.us

## Functional Fitness

16000 Maricopa Rd.

### Let's help Prevent a Fall

### or an Injury

Find ways to strengthen muscles, Improve balance and Improve Mood & Energy

How Exercise Can Help You Avoid a Fall EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

10:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M.



Call Injury Prevention for more information 520-568-1087

Ak-Chin Oodham Runner 📀

Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community ©2022

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

#### OFFICE HOURS

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

#### Ak-Chin O'odham Runner

Editor: Raychel Peters Photojournalist: Justine Peters Graphic Artists: Diana Carlyle and Rebecca Bowen

#### Ak-Chin Tribal Council

Chairman: Robert Miguel Vice Chair: Lemuel Vincent Council Members: Delia Carlyle, Lisa Garcia and Octavio Machado

#### Regular Contributors:

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

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

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

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Maricopa, Arizona 85139

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

#### Retirement continued from Front

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Chairman went on to talk about how Steve was always working, even when he was supposed to be on vacation.

"During his retirement party, I playfully framed an unofficial Restraining Order (OR) from the Community and presented to him." This was all in good fun to tell Steve it was time to enjoy life away from the farm.

Councilmember Garcia thanked Steve for his years of service and shared stories of experiences with Steve throughout the years.

The mic was then offered for any guest to share stories and experiences Other with Steve. speakers included Ak-Chin Farm Manager Damian Murrieta, Don Tow, retired Ak-Chin Farm Supervisor, Steve's son Brian Coester and Marvin wife Rosie, Wuertz, President of River Co-Op Gin, Amy Courson with Strickland & Strickland Law and Gary Theobald with R&G Potato.

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All of the speakers shared great stories and experiences while working with Steve at the farm.

Steve worked for Ak-Chin Farms for 37 years. He started out as a supervisor managing the laser leveling of the fields and building new ditch pads to open new ground to farm.

He then became the water master managing the sprinklers and flood irrigation on the farm. His final role on the farm was the Farm Manager where he was passionate and responsible for all aspects on the Farm.

Steve was crucial in the successful operation of sprinkler irrigation on the farm. Ak-Chin Farms was one of the first farms in AZ to install linear sprinkler irrigation systems.

It was Steve's passion and dedication to trouble shoot the sprinklers and make them work. Steve worked with engineers from the sprinkler manufactures to improve how the sprinklers operate and make them perform efficiently for the crops grown on the farm. The adoption of sprinkler irrigation early on has put the farm in a great position to efficiently utilize the irrigation water delivered to the farm.

Steve will receive a plaque thanking him for 37 years of work with the farm and a jacket with the farm logo on it once they arrive.

Damian shared, "I would like to wish Steve many great years of enjoyment with family and friends to come. I am thankful to have the opportunity to work with Steve on the Farm. Steve as you move to retirement know that the entire agricultural community is grateful for your dedication and contributions to AZ agriculture."

"Congratulations Steve on your retirement, you truly deserve it! Ak-Chin can never say enough or give you enough for what you've done for us. You are and always will

be family, my friend." Chairman added.

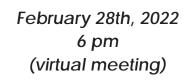
### ATTENTION Ak-Chin PARENTS and GUARDIANS

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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

### COMMUNITY MEETING



For questions or to sign up/view meeting, please email: events@ak-chin.nsn.us or call 520-568-1000.

#### Emergency numbers to contact the Ak-Chin Police Department

In case you are unable to reach the Ak-Chin Police Department through the main phone number (520) 568-1200. Please utilize the following information for Police|Fire|EMS services. Please remember for Emergencies DIAL 911.





The Ak-Chin Indian Community is seeking professional archeological firms to perform a comprehensive Archaeological Phase Program for gathering and surveying documentations related compliance the to with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the Arizona State Preservation Historic (SHPA). The Act Project Areas totals 126.3 approximately acres and are located throughout the Ak-Chin Indian Community ("The Community"). Archaeologist as the Principal Investigator must be qualified under an Arizona Antiquities (AAC) permit. Act The field supervisor overseeing the survey meet AAA must permitting standards.

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Ak-Chin Indian Community Archeological Services

i.e. shovel testing. Investigation must be fully justified in the draft and final reports.

A. Coordination: The consultant team will need to work with and coordinate the Community's Cultural Resources Office for the following:

a. Setup initial meeting to review and comment on project locations

b. Schedule site visits 5-days in advance with Cultural Resources Department

data to firmly determine if the project area is significant enough to warrant avoidance or mitigation.

A. Coordination: The consultant team will need to work with and coordinate the Community's Cultural Resources Office for the following:

a. Schedule site visits5-days in advance

b. Conduct a Phase II Report (i.e. records searches, field work, maps and tables)

c. Gathering data for U

should be considered in the following order of priority:

A. Research Design Proposal and Treatment Plan

B. Repository Agreement with Him-Dak Museum
C. Archaeological Resources Protection Act (APRA) Permit with
BIA (must obtain 5days prior to fieldwork)
D. Fieldwork: Surface and Subsurface

E. Final Report for SHPO review

Upon selection of consultants the Ak-Chin Indian Community will make available background studies, GIS shape files, aerial photography, water and sewer plans, and other available information to the selected consultant team. Limited survey information and topography is also available.

#### ak-chin.nsn.us.

The response should include a statement regarding the firm's approach to perform archeological services. Provide details of the firm's experience and identify the proposed project staff and their experience in SHPO submittals. Staff identified in the proposal must continue to work on the project for the duration of the project. Any changes in personnel are subject to approval from the Community's

#### 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 mail, please send a \$33.75 check/money order to:

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

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

#### **DEADLINE**

Don't forget the DEADLINE for the February 18-March 3, 2022 issue is due by FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

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

### Material submitted after the **FEBRUARY 11TH DEADLINE**

cannot be guaranteed placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in the next issue.

#### I. Background

The Community is funds using ARPA approximately for 13 (Thirteen) capital projects within the Overall attached Projects Map, where archeological services are to be performed within the project area. Majority of the projects are on disturbed lands. Various capital projects range from sewer/water improvements to fiber optic improvement to a warehouse. Services needed are in three phase and will depend up on the findings, if any from SHPO to what phase level is required within the project area.

#### II. Project Description <u>– Scope of Work</u>

The selected consultant team will be expected to complete the following minimum Scope of Work:

#### Phase I

Consultants will investigate all land area project boundaries by conducting "pedestrian" surface collection and subsurface testing, c. Conduct a Phase I Report (i.e. records searches, field work, maps and tables)

d. Gathering data for submittal letter to SHPO in accordance to "SHPO Survey Report Standards"

B. Prepare Cover Letters, narratives, and supporting document for SHPO review to include:

a. Description of projects that includes the nature and extent of the proposed impacts, if anyb. Previously surveyed areas, if any

c. Maps of project areasd. Inventory Reports

e. Review letter and Phase I Report by Cultural Resources

C. Submit Cover Letter to SHPO along with Phase I final report

#### Phase II:

This phase will take place after responds from SHPO, if the area needs to be further exploration of a Phase II.

## Archaeological Testing and Evaluation

Consulting Team will revisit an existing or identified recently archaeological site identified during the survey and Phase I includes performing subsurface further investigations. Further testing of archaeological sites is in order to completely understand the potential of the site to produce significant archaeological data. The submittal letter to SHPO in accordance to "SHPO Survey Report Standards"

B. Prepare Phase II Report to SHPO should include

a. Further investigation on areas that are determined in Phase I for further investigation

b. Recommendation to avoid or minimize disturbance of the project areas

c. Describe testing need for further assessment, if needed

d. Describe methods other than excavation for mitigation

C. Submit Phase II Report to SHPO for review

There are circumstances where an archaeological site that's been identified during a Phase I can transition directly to a Phase III mitigation

#### Phase III:

If it is determine that the project area will require a Phase III Survey. Contract will go into an amendment to further define scope of work as listed below.

Data Recovery/ Mitigation

The consultant team will conduct a Phase III investigations to mitigate the impact of projects on archaeological resources determined to be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Alternative plans for eligible resources

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING

A MANDATORY PRE-BID meeting is scheduled for 1:30pm Thursday, February 3, 2022 by WebEx. To register for a WebEx invitation email <u>Fhowerton@ak-</u> chin.nsn.us, by noon on Wednesday, February 2, 2022. The RFP will be provided electronically shortly after registering. RFP will be available by emailing your request FHowerton@akto <u>chin.nsn.us</u> subject "Archeological Services" RFP.

#### IV. REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

The Community is seeking a proposal and a formal statement of qualifications from profession archeological services firms interested in being considered and evaluated for the project. RFP CD is available at the Ak-Chin Purchasing Office at 42507 West Peters and Nall Road, Maricopa Arizona 85138. Full RFP will be available by email upon request at fhowerton@

Project Team.

#### V. SUBMISSIONS

Submissions should be provided in a package clearly marked "PROPOSAL with ARCHEOLOGICAL SERVICES." Please submit five (5) bound and (1) unbound copies of your Proposal to the Purchasing Manager at the address listed below.

Flora Howerton Purchasing Manager Ak-Chin Indian Community 42507 W. Peters and Nall Road Maricopa, AZ 85138

Any questions regarding this project proposal must be submitted via email by 5 p.m. February 17, 2022 to Flora Howerton, Purchasing Manager (520) 568-1043. The deadline for submitting proposal is February 24, 2022 at 12 p.m. MST.

Proposal should include no more than fifteen (15) pages, excluding cover letter and dividers (not counted as a page). Resumes for team members should be included in an appendix to the submittal document and will not count toward the fifteen (15) page maximum. The name, address, email address and phone number of the key contact person shall be included in the cover letter.

#### February 4 - 17, 2022 ~~~~~~~~~~~~ 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy, Maricopa, AZ 85139 2022 Ak-Chin O'odham Runner DEADLINE WEEK (520) 568-1375 • Fax (520) 568-1376 AK-CHIN O'ODHAM RUNNER DEADLINE DISTRIBUTION DAY runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us **DEADLINE CALENDAR** CALENDAR RUNNER CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY JANUARY HERE YOU CAN SEE THE DATES OF OUR UPCOMING ISSUES FOR THE FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL M TU W TH F M TU W TH F M TU W TH F S M TU W TH F 2022 YEAR. #2 1 2 3 1 2 3 9 10 15 16 17 14 15 16 17 11 12 13 14 10 11 12 13 19 #3 19 #5 10 16 13 18 19 20 #1 22 20 22 23 24 26 20 21 22 23 24 26 17 18 19 20 21 22 28 29 30 31 25 26 27 28 25 26 YELLOW SQUARES SIGNIFY OUR 31 30 **DEADLINE WEEK** AUGUST MAY JUNE JULY S M TU W TH F S S S DISTRIBUTION DAY #8 #10 #12 4 2 1 2 3 4 2 3 4 5 1 2 14 11 9 10 11 10 11 8 12 16 17 18 19 11 12 13 14 21 #9 13 14 15 16 18 #11 16 #13 15 16 17 18 20 #15 BLUE SQUARES SIGNIFY A 15 12 10 14 COMMUNITY HOLIDAY 22 23 24 25 28 19 20 21 22 23 25 17 19 20 21 22 23 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 18 31 28 29 30 27 29 30 31 24 25 26 28 30 SEPTEMBER DECEMBER

REMEMBER WHEN EMAILING OUR SUBMISSION, PLEASE SEND TO RUNNERNEWS@AK-CHIN.NSN US OR FAX: 520-568-1376.



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#14



Join us the 2nd & 4th Friday of the Month at 4pm to see who can stay on the Rainbow Road! Text the Library @ 520-612-1013 to register.

**Keeping our Loved Ones** Close to Our



## Valentine Concert for **Couples & Singles**

O'Jon Enterprises, Maricopa Veterans Care (Project) along with AMPS Magazine Phoenix seeks to bring a day of love through music to Maricopa, AZ.

Arizona is invited to enjoy an evening of Latin & Smooth Jazz Outdoors on February 12, 2022, from 6-9PM. Dinner and a Drink is included with the purchase of ticket(s). Alcohol sold separately - Masks and social distancing is suggested. An Italian cuisine will be catered by Helen's Kitchen and Catering: http://helenskitchenmaricopa. com/.

To aid in this presentation of love, two of Arizona's most amazing bands have been invited to perform live.

Carmela y Más, Latin Jazz & Salsa Band

Carmela Ramirez is one of the most influential Producers in the greater Phoenix area. She is an award-winning performing artist who has used Arts, Culture and Community as her base for creative entertainment, community engagement and building bridges of understanding.

and smooth jazz remains the primary focus musically, they have an extensive repertoire that includes dance music and R&B. With such versatility they can either be background music for business functions, cocktail parties or the main attraction.

Their musical influences include Bony James, Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock, and Chick Corea. They have made their performance rounds at Harrah's, Southern Dunes Golf Club, Coppersky, The Elements and all throughout the Phoenix area. https://www. facebook.com/classytouchproductions.

As an extra added value live dancers with Grace the Stage. Sponsored by: Dances by The Indigo Ballroom http://www.theindigoballroom.com/ PH: (707) 346-1167 - E:mandilopez@ theindigoballroom.com

Everyone is invited to bring a lawn chair, friends, and an appetite!

Tickets can be purchased online https:// www.eventbrite.com/e/valentine-concertfor-jazz-lovers-tickets-172373663267 or at these Maricopa Locations:



This eight-piece Latin Jazz - Salsa band has graced many stages locally and internationally. A kaleidoscope of Afro-Cuban rhythms delivered in electrifying musical performances. https://carmelaramirez. com/.

#### A Touch of Class

A Touch of Class came to life in the fall of 2012. Although, straight-ahead jazz, funk

-Copa Craze:

20928 N John Wayne Pkwy, C3, Maricopa, AZ

-Honeycutt Coffee:

44400 Honeycutt Rd, 109, Maricopa, AZ -Maricopa Water & Ice: 20928 N John Wayne Pkwy, Maricopa, AZ

## Valentine's Day WordSearch



FEBRUARY

FOURTEENTH

CARD

DOVES

ROMANCE

ADORE

POEM

BELOVED

SECRET







HUGS

HEART

CHOCOLATE

KISS

DATE

ROSE



## COVID Testing, COVID & Flu Vaccines Available. Walk-in to one of our GRHC Primary Care Departments.

## ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES:

GRIC and Ak-Chin Indian Community tribal enrolled members and their household members (regardless of tribal affiliation), all federally recognized tribal members, GRIC essential employees and their household members, and community enterprise employees and their household members.

## **QUESTIONS:**





## THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022 AT 3 PM

Broadcasted on Gila River Broadcasting Corporation Gila River Indian Community's local GRIC TV station

Join via GRIC Facebook live stream.

The segment will focus on the virus, vaccines, testing and how to access GRHC services

## Ak-Chin Indian Community COVID TESTING DATES

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

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

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

# Coming soon: a better Valley.

ADOT's I-10 Broadway Curve improvement project is in the works. When complete it will improve access to Sky Harbor, improve travel time and help support our growing economy. Stay #AheadOfTheCurve with traffic updates at i10BroadwayCurve.com or download

### "The Curve" app for your phone.





### An eleven-mile stretch of Interstate 10 between Loop 202 and I-17.

**Existing Freeway** 

2 HOV Lanes +6 General Purpose Lanes +Auxiliary Lanes
1 HOV Lane +4 General Purpose Lanes +Auxiliary Lanes
New Collector-Distributor Roads: EB 48th St to Baseline Rd WB Baseline Rd to SR143 & 40th St
New Lanes on SR 143 & US 60 (to connect to I-10 improvements)
New Pedestrian Bridges

Improved Sun Circle Trail Connection



## **EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS**

- 2/1 Anthony Giovanni, Fire & Safety
- 2/1 Wesley Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation
- 2/1 Christopher Cypriano, Maintenance
- 2/4 Francine Sanchez, Early Childhood
- 2/7 Matthew Tess, Education
- 2/8 Concepcion Miguel,
- Purchase Referred Care Manager
- 2/8 Jade Rodriguez, Law & Order
- 2/10 Julia Dickerson, Education
- 2/11 Jeannette Peters, Him Dak Museum
- 2/11 Kyle Chavez, Security Guard
- 2/11 Salinda Lopez, Human Resources



- 2/12 Grace Pablo, Housing Department
- 2/13 Griselda Fonseca Saldana, *Maintenance*
- 2/13 Justin Burke, *Fire & Safety*
- 2/14 Lori Leavitt, Fire & Safety
- 2/15 Diana Velazquez, Education
- 2/19 Debbie Soliz, *IS*
- <u>2/19 L</u>isa Garcia, *Council*
- 2/20 Aaron Apodaca, *Retail*
- 2/21 Randon Quasula, Maintenance
- 2/27 Jesse Tyrone Calugcugan, Law & Order
- 2/28 Kathleen Cardenas-Ruiz, Finance
- 2/28 Raymond Whitman, Transit
- 2/28 Rebecca Alvarez, IS

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THUNDERBIRD FIRE DISTRICT BENEFIT STEAK DINNER FUNDRAISER SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022

\$25.00 PER PERSON

#### \*\*RAFFLE PRIZES\*\* Wine box and more!

DONATED BY HARRAH'S AK-CHIN AK-CHIN CIRCLE ENTERTAINMENT CENTER AND OTHERS

For ages: 16 and Up

DIST

DINNER RESERVATIONS BEGIN AT 4:00 PM THUNDERBIRD FIRE STATION 12356 N. RALSTON ROAD • MARICOPA, AZ 520-251-3122



Happy Birthday to my daughter Jeannette Love, Mom

lishes

Happy Birthday to my grandsons Eugene Jr., Marlon and Jose, and my granddaughters Audrina, Michaela and Aleena Love, Grandma

Happy Birthday Papa, Fikki and Kesha Love your family

To: Mi Corazon Por Vida, How can I say Thank-You enough? Recently this road has been tough. Through everything you have been by my side,

UNTAUS

telling me everything will be Okay and Stay Positive. You have kept me strong, how can I say Thank-You enough. Even though you think "My Love is not too kind" Hope one day I can change your mind. Cuz it seems I can't Thank-You enough. Never Forget that I Love you and I can't Thank-You enough! Soooo, Happy 21 years being together and to 21+ more. Oh Yea and Happy Valentine's Day! Love Always, XOXO

Happy Valentine's Day to my Loves: Baby Jay, Auciana and Nyaila Thank-You for being there for Yo Momma! You Brats make my Happy and Proud. Please continue making the right choices! Love Always, Mom

Happy Valentine's Day to my amazing dudes Tony, Mateo, Isaac and Benji 🎔 Love you monsters to the moon and back - Love Auntie Beans

Happy Valentine's Day to all our sweethearts... love you all! Cecil & Raychel



FEBRUARY 1<sup>st</sup> Ian Narcia Christopher Cypriano Angelina Arellanes-Burgos Chyenne Anderson Adam Bowman

FEBRUARY 2<sup>nd</sup> Preciousrose Warren Jonah Dickerson David Manuel Jr.

**FEBRUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>** Elizabeth Antone

**FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup>** Latasha White

FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup> Dominique Nosie-Romo Charles Carlyle Benny Romo

**FEBRUARY 6<sup>th</sup>** Stella Miguel Audrina Antone **FEBRUARY 7**<sup>th</sup> Bercco Thompson Jr. Eugene Peters Jr.

FEBRUARY 8<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Baptisto Geneva Antone Marcos Olivas Jr. Deana Quinonez

**FEBRUARY 9**<sup>th</sup> Aiyana Campbell

FEBRUARY 10<sup>th</sup> Alexandra Carlyle Isaiah Osife Julia Dickerson Draven Soliz

FEBRUARY 11<sup>th</sup> Marlon Peters Kyle Chavez Mary Diaz Jeanette Peters

FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup> Destiney Delowe Erin Pete Grace Pablo Caleb Ugalde **FEBRUARY 13**<sup>th</sup> Koren Vincent Karin Smith

FEBRUARY 14<sup>th</sup> Johnny Stephens Valentina Narcia Michaela Peters DeliAnna Lewis Justin Perillo

FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup> Terry Aguilla Jr. Carole Lopez Aleena Antone Cheyenne Vallejos

**FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup>** Lanita Lopez

FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup> Mara Delores Jose Lopez

**FEBRUARY 18<sup>th</sup>** Annalise Manuel Edward Martinez FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup> Philbert Narcia Jr. Kerrin Miguel Lisa Garcia Jane Lopez Marcos Santiago Tyra Williams Jonas Miguel

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

**FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup>** Unique Santiago Maria Narcia Rechanda Manuel

**FEBRUARY 21**<sup>st</sup> Calvin Van Sickle

**FEBRUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>** Perris-Jade White

FEBRUARY 23<sup>rd</sup> Joseph Narcia Octaviana Ormsby Ryleigh Delores Joshua Dominguez Victor Ortega

Thd

FEBRUARY 24<sup>th</sup> Kylie Gardner Junior Peters Keira Attakai

**FEBRUARY 25<sup>th</sup>** Alexander Lopez Corianna Nevarez Vallejos

**FEBRUARY 26<sup>th</sup>** Christian Castro Havier Stephens Jr.

FEBRUARY 27<sup>th</sup> Woodrow Marsh Shyla Thomas

FEBRUARY 28<sup>th</sup> Raymond Miguel Victoria Smith Rebecca Alvarez Robert Narcia

**FEBRUARY 29<sup>th</sup>** Traci Thomas Cody Miguel Clinic continued from Front

use for demonstrations and educational purposes.

During the outdoor sessions, growers learned about crop protection, fertilizers, how to make the soil better; with the main goal of growing higher yield crops of corn, soybean and wheat. Sponsors like John Deere, Fendt, Pioneer Seed and Precision Planting were also on hand to showcase their new equipment and products.

In addition to the presentations inside Harrah's, held attendees enjoyed all meals included in the clinic, the opportunity to mingle and talk amongst one another, as well face-to-face meetings with vendors, obtaining educational resources and demonstrations from the various exhibit booths.

transportation Bus was also provided to transport attendees back and forth from the farm demonstrations to the indoor sessions at The Events Center.

When asked why they chose to hold their Planter Clinic at Ak-Chin, Next Level staffer Brian Mattix shared, "We wanted to have an event where we could go out and do field work."

He also explained that January-February would be the best time, because a lot of the farmers would be in the fields starting mid-March and April.

"So, we had a really small window to try to get everyone together and the problem is trying to find place to be in field setting that must be dry."

After doing much research they chose Arizona, and Maricopa specifically, as they held their first clinic here in February 4 - 17, 2022

2020, at Harrah's with their field events at the University Arizona Agriculture of Center.

When planning this year's Clinic Brian shared that they wanted to have the field events closer and when working with the Harrah's Events team, they suggested Ak-Chin Farms.

"We wanted something that had to be dry... and since you have irrigation we wanted to cover crops to plant into... so you guys fit the bill for all that." Brian also shared, "It's been a good experience working with Damian... and we're very happy."

The Next Level program is a 3-year commitment where hundreds of growers nationwide learn from two of the highest-yielding farmers in the world, Randy Dowdy and David Hula.

Each Next Level grower benefits from four 2-day farm camps every year, a dynamic software system customized to the industry, and a community of other growers to support them well beyond the program. There are 14 locations around the US that offer the farm camps.

Randy Dowdy and David Hula are also

featured on RFD-TV Next Level Farming. To find out more about DCI Next Level, you can find them on Facebook at DCI Next Level. or https://www. dowdycropinnovations.com/

Below, a beautiful charcuterie station with a hand carved logo of Next Level was set up during one of the dinner receptions. Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino provided excellent attention to detail and service during the Planter Clinic.





together at their Planter Clinic held at

Harrah's Ak-Chin The Events Center.









age of these offers. Know When To Stop Before You Start \* Ga 2 Call 1,900,522,4700 or 1,900, NEVT STED (02022 Case Must be 21 or older to gamble and t ny, LLC. See official rules at the Cae

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