Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXIX, Issue 11

June 6 - 19, 2025

Tigurity Tree Tigurity

It's rare that they spend the time they'd like to be with one another, but for one moment last week; Ak-Chin's Pamela "Hutch" Vincent, Lanita "Lucy" Lopez, and Jasmine "Jazzer" Carlyle-Miguel, were excited to be with one another at the Opportunity Tree Banquet.

Banquet brings three members together

Story and photo By R. Miguel

One of the greatest moments you could probably capture is when you attend an Opportunity Tree Banquet, where specialneeds clients are enjoying good moments of entertainment and food

On the afternoon of May 30th, the Opportunity Tree facility in Casa Grande hosted such an event for over fifty-plus special needs adults ranging from eighteen years of age and older who were invited to participate in the annual banquet where four sponsored Day Programs

Banquet continued on Page 5a

united and had a PARTY!

Programs participating in the banquets included Phoenix, Avondale, Casa Grande and Maricopa. The group's mascot, the "Fire Stormer" was on hand to help hand out awards to the teams for their accomplishments during the year.

Following a brief intermission to serve a lunch of rice, beans, tostadas and tacos, the party really got going as the DJ blasted a variety of hit songs from various artists, which excited clients who then quickly invaded the dance floor

and put in their own dance moves. Others who weren't on the dance floor, simply enjoyed their moment visiting with other clients that they rarely see.

One of the special moments that the Ak-Chin Indian Community could be very happy with, was when community members Lanita "Lucy" Lopez, Pamela "Hutch" Vincent and Jasmine Carlyle-Miguel were together for the first time. The three exchanged pleasantries and a group photo.

While making the drive

Ak-Chin Celebrates with Class of 2025





Story by Runner Staff

Every May, students from preschool to grade school, middle school to high school, and all levels of higher education will be recognized and rewarded

for their respective accomplishments.

Many will just move to the next level of their educational journey, while others will prepare for a celebration milestone they just achieved; participating in ceremonies throughout various schools and

Top photo (by Ashley

Gardner (left) earned

her AS, while Jennifer

her ABUS from Central

Smith (right) earned

Arizona College.

was recognized

with Honors as she

from Central Arizona

College. (Submitted

received her AAS

Photo at left: Haylee Delma,

photo)

facilities.

Vincent): Laila

Class of 2025 continues to Page 1b

Adam Alejandro (Middle Row, Far Right) and 9UP team Ironsquad post game with 9UP team Tuscon Riot at Chase Field in Phoenix to end the baseball season.

Maricopa Ironsquad make Chase Field

Story and photos submitted by Samantha Alejandro

On Wednesday May 14, 2025, Adam Alejandro, Ak-Chin member and team player of the 9U Maricopa Iron Squad Boys Travel Baseball team made their appearance on the iconic Chase Field in Phoenix against the Tucson Riot.

Adam, who is the son of Pablo and Samantha Alejandro, has been

playing with his team and most players since little league; having traveled all over from Maricopa.

One great focus the team has is sportsmanship and creating connections with the teams they play against, not only does this prepare the boys for every game, but allows them to build their selves along with their teammates up.

The game was sponsored by Playbook Sportz and allowed the boys to dish out their best skills against one another to end the season.

Congratulations to Adam in this accomplishment that will shape his baseball career, we can't wait to hear more about

Ak-Chin Police rally for Special Olympics with Bowling Tourney

Story and photo by Runner Staff

As the Special Olympics events throughout the State took place in April and May, the Ak-Chin Indian Community continued to participate and do their part in recognizing and

supporting the annual games.

The Ak-Chin Police Department coordinated Ak-Chin's leg in the Torch Run, which took place on Thursday, April 21st. The run/walk and bicycle ride began at Highway 84 near Interstate 8 and concluded through State Route 347 and to the Ak-Chin Community, where it was handed off to the

Bowling Tourney continues to Page 5a



Over twenty nine teams came out to compete in the Ak-Chin PD Special Olympics bowling tournament at Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center. Team Warriors (I-r): Jacolby King, Alyssa Dickerson, Jennifer Boehm and Jacob Dickerson, were named the champions.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2a Elder News
PAGE 3a Community News

PAGE 4a A+ Charter Short Film
PAGES 1b-4b Graduation Celebrations

Maricopa Ironsquad continued to Page 4a

We are overwhelmed by the support that has been given to our mother. Thank you so much for lifting her up during a recent health scare.

Ak-Chin Indian Community

Mother is 88 years old and in good health. However, she recently fell inside her houseandneededhospitalization(severaltimes)andhadashortnursinghomestay.

When she returned home, she was frail and needed assistive equipment to limit her pain level and the risk of another fall. Our family suddenly realized that we needed help, and that our mother's recovery needed a teamwork approach.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community has graciously given her the professional assistance required for her physical rehabilitation and continued recovery.

Today, mother's pain level has subsided, and she is back at the Elder Center with her friends; just what the doctor ordered!

Thank you to the Ak-Chin Indian Community's leadership for supporting programs that care for our elderly. The Ak-Chin Clinic, Elderly Center, Purchased Referred Care, Injury Prevention Program, Homemaker Services, Housing, and Maintenance staff all went above and beyond to provide her compassionate and exceptional care.

We are humbled and sincerely thank you and everyone else for your prayers.

Sincerely, MNarcia's Family





In Honor and Respect for **Bart Smith**

12/23/1966 -04/17/2025

My name is Leslie Carlyle-Burnett. It has been my great privilege to work closely with Bart Smith for over two decades. I wish to share with the Community Bart's unwavering dedication to the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

In 2001, Bart and I were both hired to help establish what would become the Ak-Chin Indian Community's Planning Department. Bart was hired as the Senior Planner, and I the Assistant Planner. Together, we were given the monumental responsibility of laying the groundwork for our community's future, the beginning with creation of the Ak-Chin Community's zoning ordinance.

What none of us could anticipated the time was that this effort would ignite a powerful era of growth transformation one that continues to unfold before our eyes.

Bart dedicated himself fully to this work, never seeking recognition spotlightor the only the results.

Each morning, Bart would arrive at our his small white car, its distinctive white ball

on the antenna visible from afar. He would sit down at his desk and immediately dive into emails, plan reviews, and drafts—sometimes working into the late hours, often in darkness with the office lights off. I used to call him "the bear in the den," so focused and undisturbed, fully immersed in his mission.

Unbeknownst to him, what he was building extended beyond policy and guidelines—he was forging a future for Ak-Chin Indian Community.

Bart wasted no time. Even his lunch breaks were filled with document reviews and planning discussions. Our first major challenge—the creation of the zoning ordinance and supporting documents was a difficult task.

With guidance from attorneys and invaluable feedback from community members and key employees, Bart led the charge, revising draft after draft, ensuring every line served the best interests community. our

Bartwasalsoinstrumental developing the zoning map, carefully humble trailer office in preserving key areas of land—sacred spaces that serve as reminders for in motion after 20 years.

岠

future generations of our ancestors' connection to this land. Bart knew every inch of the Ak-Chin Indian Community and wanted to protect the land as much as possible.

As the Planning department grew responsibilities and expanded, Bart was the steady heart of it all.

When rapid growth Maricopa nearby threatened encroachment upon the Ak-Chin Indian Community and the threat to its sovereignty, as the Senior Planner Bart stood resolute, expertly navigating complex processes with the Bureau of Indian Affairs intergovernmental and processes with the City Maricopa.

Since those early days, nearly every major development within Ak-Chin Indian the Community bears Bart Smith's Imprintwhether the it's Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Police Department and Courts, the Preschool, Health and Human Services, the Wellness Center, Service Center, Recreation Center, Library, Education Department, or the Elder Center expansion and the longplanned Government Building, now once again

continued on page 3a

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

* Breakfast Served from 7 AM to 8:30 AM

* Lunch Served from 12 PM to 1 PM.

* For Transportation, call Georgia at 520-568-1760

> * Movie Questions? **Call the Elders Center at** 520-568-1760

* Thursdays: Elder Chair Yoga 9 AM - 10 AM

> (Menu Subject to **Change without Notice)**

FRIDAY 6/6 Potato casserole,

Scrambled Eggs,

Toast, Fruit Salad

Potato Soup & Salad, Apple Sauce

Potatoes with

Chorizo, Refried

Beans, Tortilla/

6/13

6/9 Ham & Eggs, Potatoes, Toast/ Avocado Slices, Fruit

Chicken Florentine w/Spinach, Yellow Squash, Cantaloupe 6/10 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit

Chili Beans, Chili Meat (D), Yams/ Potato, Corn Bread 6/11

Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrown Casserole, Bacon, Scone/Fruit Salad

Baked Chicken, Mixed Vegetable, Wild Rice, Apples/Oranges

6/12 Breakfast Sandwich, Hashbrown, Mix

Egg Salad Sandwich, Cole Slaw, Pickle, Grapes

Berries & Yogurt

Avocado Slices, Fruit

Steak, Baked Potato, Spring Salad,

Father's Day Lunch

Chocolate Cake

6/20 Cream of Wheat,

Tostada, Lettuce/ Tomato/Cheese, Brown Rice, Carrots,

6/16 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit

Chicken Tortilla Soup, Cheese Quesadilla, Avocado, Pineapple

6/17

Breakfast Sausage Casserole, Toast, Avocado Slices, Fruit Salad

Ham Sandwich, Macaroni Salad, Chips, Fruit Cocktail 6/18

Chicken Fried Steak, Scrambled Eggs, Biscuit, Fruit with Cottage Cheese

Ground Beef & Zucchini Burrito, Corn on The Cob, Cookies/Banana

6/19 Center Closed



Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana Chicken or Bean

Jell-O



Watermelon is a refreshing summer fruit with health benefits. It contains vitamin K, which is essential for bone health. It is a good source of fiber, which adds in digestion. Blood Sugar Control: Watermelon is low on the glycemic index, meaning it does not raise blood sugar levels rapidly. This can be beneficial for people with diabetes or prediabetes.



🧝 Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 🕞 Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Maricopa, Arizona 85139

© 2025

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 Photojournalists: Kristen Villegas, Ashley Vincent and Robert Miguel

Graphic Artists: Eliza Santiago and Diana Carlyle

Ak-Chin Tribal Council Chairman: Gabriel Lopez

Vice Chair: Delia Carlyle Council Members: Dennis Antone, Lisa Garcia,

and Cecil Peters

Regular Contributors: Ak-Chin: Education, Elders, EPD, Health Education, Him-

Dak, Library and Recreation The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner is published on the first and third Friday of

each month (unless otherwise noted).

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

and subscribers.

All information and original work contained in this newspaper is copyright and may not be reproduced without written permission from:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements and wishes may be phoned in, faxed or e-mailed.

ARTWORK, LETTERS, STORIES

The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner is a Community Newspaper and encourages Community involvement.

If you have artwork, photos,

poems or a great story that you would like to share, please contact us so we can include it in "YOUR" newspaper. If you have suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, please 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.

clarity, grammar and good taste. All submissions should be received as typed or non-cursive writing. Please do not submit UPPERCASE or formatted paragraphs.

We reserve the right to edit

return address and brief description. Pictures with no address will remain on file. Allow 2 weeks for return.

Submitted pictures need a

SUBSCRIPTION RATE 2025 Subscription rate is

\$43.00. If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$43.00 check/money order to: Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy. Maricopa, Arizona 85139

payable to: **Ak-Chin Indian Community** NEXT DEADLINE

Make check/money order

DEADLINE for the JUNE 20 - July 3, 2025 issue is due by FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than

FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH Material submitted after the

cannot be guaranteed

placement. If appropriate and relevant, it will be included in the next issue.





Hearing Notice Ak-Chin Indian Community

Planning and Zoning

Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Hearing regarding the following cases at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at the Justice Center Conference Room.

Case: SD-03-25 Ak-Chin Wellness Center:

Project Applicant/Health Education Director, Marc Matteson, is requesting Site Development Plan Permit approval to construct a new Wellness Center on the north east corner of Court Street and Ak-Chin Parkway. The project consists of:

- 38,800 Square foot Wellness Center building; and • East facing main entrance with shade canopy; and
- Shaded event patio; and
- Pedestrian connection to the future Desert Willow
- subdivision; and 129 Parking spaces; and
- Full landscape package for the exterior of the building.

Project Applicant/Harrah's Director of Facilities and Surveillance, April Tawney, is requesting Site Development Plan Permit approval to expand the Harrah's Hotel property. The project consists of: • 18,000 Square foot Casitas building; and

Case: SD-04-25 Harrah's Casino Expansion - Casitas and Pool:

- 2 new pools and hot tubs; and
- Shaded lounge seating areas, cabanas and fire pit; and
- Pedestrian connection to the existing Hotel and Casino; and
- Full landscape package that ensures privacy for the guests.

ATTENTION Community Members Past Due Fines/Restitution

If you are delinquent on your fines/restitution, or not

sure if you have an outstanding balance. Please contact the courts at (520) 568-1385 at your earliest convenience to avoid the following penalties: Withholding of Annual Distributions

Garnishment of Wages for those working within the

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

You may come and make a payment arrangement

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

Bart continued

In addition, the planning and zoning of the Industrial Park, the creation and planning of the Airport, Ak-Chin Circle, the Southern Dunes Golf Course. Each of these spaces and initiatives began on Bart's desk.

Bart loved the Ak-Chin Indian Community with his whole heart. True to his humble nature, he rarely sought recognition.

While others posed for photos at groundbreaking ceremonies,

Bart was quietly back at his desk,

focused on the next project. That

was Bart: a man driven not by

praise, but by progress. Now, as the Community Operations Manager, Bart many oversaw of these departments and projects he helped bring to life. His leadership only deepened, and

Throughout my 10+ years in the Planning Department, I witnessed Bart's unwavering dedication firsthand—facilitating meetings, making decisions, and guiding us through difficult challenges.

his legacy only grew.

When it was time to do the hard, often unseen work, Bart rolled up his sleeves and engaged directly. He didn't stand apart while others worked; he led by example. That is true leadership.

He faced this immense pressure amid skepticism, criticism, and doubt. His expertise was questioned, his work scrutinized, and his job was threatened. Yet, Bart never held a grudge.

Anchored by integrity

strength of character, he remained steadfast, without loudness or resentment. Instead, with quiet courage, he continued to press forward. He understood the bigger issues, the long-term

And because of his unwavering focus on the future, we see the fruits of his labor in the resilience and growth of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

Between my work in the department Planning and currently as the Elder Center Director, Bart was not just my boss for over twenty years; he was my mentor, confidant, and my dear friend. Bart was a true example of leadership. What he built, what he protected, and what he planned—these efforts are enduring.

Bart's vision protected our past, built our present, and will continue to guide us into the future. I am confident Bart left this world knowing he had done well, done right by the Community he served.

My deepest condolences to Bart's family. Bart was a son, brother, father, and uncle. He came from a good solid family. He was a friend to so many.

I know I can speak for most; Bart will live on in our memories, in our hearts, and in the future, he helped shape within the Ak-Chin Indian Community.

Written by: Leslie Carlyle-Burnett Supported by the family



AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE AND ANCILLARY FACILITIES EXPANSION PROPOSAL (CMAR)

The Ak-Chin Indian Community (hereafter called the "Owner") invites all General Contractors with **previous experience** in working with renovating high-end Golf course facilities to submit proposals on a CMAR Agreement. This project consists of the following;

The project consists of a phased delivery of: a 23,678 sq. ft clubhouse renovation/expansion, a 1,264 sq. ft. halfway station, inclusive of a quick serve food venue and restrooms, an 8,632 sq. ft. expansion and renovation of the existing cart barn, inclusive of employee breakroom, bathrooms, and storage, a parking lot expansion, relocation of a putting practice putting green, and construction of an event lawn. The selected CMAR will be brought into the project at the DD level drawings level and will perform a detailed overall project budget, inclusive of Contractor-related items and ownersupplied items. Work with the OWNER reviewing plans provided by Meyers & Associates (Architecture Firm), pre-construction services to provide constructability comments, value engineering comments, and a DD level and CD level cost estimate, and GMP's.

A MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled at 1:00 p.m. (MST) on Monday, June 16, 2025, at the Southern Dunes Golf Course Banquet Room located at 48456 AZ-238, Maricopa, AZ 85139. This meeting is considered mandatory, and in this meeting, the project scope will be discussed. If you do not attend this pre-bid meeting, your proposal will NOT be accepted.

The deadline for any questions regarding this project will be 5:00 p.m. (MST) on Monday, June 23, 2025. Proposal questions should be directed to Flora Howerton at FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us. Also, Cc: Project Perry Vettraino, at PVettraino@ak-chin.nsn.us.

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

This invitation is unrestricted; however, preference will be given to Indian Organizations and Indian Owned Enterprises in accordance with the Community Procurement Procedure. Request for Proposals ("RFP") instruction/information package and related information

may be obtained from the Ak-Chin Indian Community Purchasing Office by electronic mail at FHowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids. However, the Ak-Chin Indian Community at its discretion may postpone said action

for such time as the Tribal Council may designate, as the interest of

the Community may require. No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent

to the opening of Bids without the consent of the Owner.

June 6 - 19, 2025

Ak-Chin Teams enjoy great Coach Pitch and Little League Season

Story and photos by Kathleen Miguel



What a great season it's been for our T-Ball and Coach Pitch teams here in Ak-Chin! From learning the basics to making big plays, our young athletes had a season full of fun, growth, and great memories. We saw tremendous progressfrom first-time batters finding their swing to teammates cheering each other on with true team spirit.

Our Coach Pitch team continued playing in the Salt River Friendship Youth League summer. This was a opportunity wonderful for our players to keep

Philippine Mars cruises through Pinal County



The Philippine Mars, is at its final home in Tucson, Arizona.

Story and Photos by Kathleen Miguel

Scrolling through Facebook, an interesting post caught my eye, and as I am the curious one, I looked into the post and saw that a piece of history would soon be coming through our small town of Maricopa; a boatcraft named, MARTIN JRM MARS, aka Philippine Mars.

This giant seaplane or flying boat was used to fly cargo by the US NAVY in World War II, and also helped in the Korean War as a medical air transport.

From the late 1950s till It is final days, it was used as a waterbomber to carry 7,200 gallons of water that would help put out wildfires in British Columbia and the US. It is one of the last two still around to this day.

final flight from British Columbia, Canada, to make Lake Pleasant, AZ, to be dismantled and transported piece by piece to Tucson. On May 11, the final piece was ready for its long-awaited journey.

In February, it made its

Tuesday, May 13th, at 10:45 pm, I headed out to Ralston and 238 with my father and my son. We sat by the train tracks waiting to see this giant boat craft. As time passed, two vehicles came and parked, then more vehicles came.

reporter InMaricopa started interviewing people to pass the time, one of them being my son, Connor Martinez.

Although it was way past his bedtime, it was a good excuse to witness something as cool as this; he has an interest in big machines, with At 2:30 am, I got an update information he absorbed hours before, he was able to remember the name, how tall it was, what war it was part of and what it was used for.

InMaricopa reported they had got a notification from ED3 stating that the boatcraft was going to take an alternate route. So, my family and I turned around and drove to sit at the end of Farrell Rd. where it meets with Hidden Valley Rd. to wait.

More time passed and I started checking Facebook for updates from an Aircraft Media company called Boneyard Safari that was following the whole journey, as well as Google Maps for traffic, and to my surprise, it hadn't left Buckeye yet. Midnight came, and it was still coming.

Soon, it was almost 1 in the morning! Moving at 25mph, it was halfway to Gila Bend, and I thought surely it was going to

take some hours to get to Maricopa.

I decided to go back to our apartment, and thought to myself that I was just going to give up. But, I was not going to give up at all, and I wasn't going to rest till I saw this giant machine.

that it was getting to Rio Bravo/Hidden Valley Rd. I jumped up, woke up my son and told my dad, and back to the end of Farrell we went. 3 something in the morning and it was finally COMING!!!!

Seeing all the lights in the distance, we were excited. Personally, it was an amazing experience, as I have family from both sides that served in World War II, and to see something from that era was special to me.

As of May 16th, it arrived at the PIMA AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM, to be reassembled to its original state and be on display for years to come.

I encourage everyone, big/small, old/young to take time and visit the PIMA AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM in Tucson, Az, to see these giant machines. Who knows, maybe one day one of our young will be operating something like this.



Philippine Mars travels down Rio Bravo/Hidden Valley Rd., May 14.

make new friends, and Coach Jacolby King. enjoy even more of the game they love.

of this team and all the progress they have made. It's been inspiring to see so many new players step up and face challenges headon. (We've) cherished every moment spent with these incredible kids this year. A heartfelt thank you to the parents and guardians for being their unwavering support; your encouragement means the world to them." Coach

developing their skills, Alyssa Joaquin and

"Thank you dedicated

to our coaches, "(We) are truly proud families, and supporters

who made this season possible with time, energy, and encouragement." Jordan Gusse, Ak-Chin Recreation Coordinator.



Maricopa Ironsquad continued from Front

your achievements on the field!

he has an Instagram page @adamthejuice23 and his team page is @ If you'd like to keep up

with Adam's growth, ironsquadbaseball; show him and the team some support for all they





Film Festival Debut

Story & Photo by R. Miguel

Attending the A+ Charter short film festival from left to right: Jaxson Justin Stella Miguel, Robert Miguel, Daniel Estrada and Dee Estrada.



Schools.

effort

The movie trailer project

emerged from an ongoing

traditional assessments.

After experimenting with

several video formats

over the past four years,

Mr. Dye introduced

movie trailer format this

year to engage students

in a fast-paced, visually

compelling way. The

adobe bricks projects

were driven by student

interest in enhancing

their campus and learning

techniques. Both projects

were completed over the

course of approximately

Originally designed to

create adobe bricks for

include the completion

of a mini golf course, the

crafting of functional and

artistic structures from

reclaimed wood, and

even the engineering of a

While video projects

expanded

campus planters,

construction

hands-on

eight weeks.

project

reimagine

to

Six short clip videos that were produced and directed by A+ Charter students were shown on the big screen at the Ak-Chin Entertainment Center prior to the end of the school year. Staff, students, and parents were invited to view these clips, that were titled the First Annual Archers Film Festival, which featured two studentled initiatives to create a historical movie trailer and an adobe bricks campus beautification project.

A total of sixty-six freshman trailers. outdoor and improvement projects

at A+ Charter Schools.

projects

Dye, a dedicated history

teacher with five years

The

were overseen by Mr. Jason

sifting machine.

setting, the Ak-Chin

Circle Entertainment.

The project reflects an evolution in how students at A+ take ownership of their learning spaces and apply practical problemsolving skills. The idea to host the Archer Film Festival in a movie theater was born from the students themselves.

Motivated by their creativity, collaboration, and pride in their work, they envisioned seeing their historical movie on the trailers big screen and thanks to the unwavering support of A+ leadership and our community partners, that vision became a reality.

"We extend our deepest gratitude to Ak-Chin Entertainment Circle Center and David Trujillo their generosity, coordination, and belief in our students," said Laura Lopez-Reiter who is the Program & Administration Support Specialist at A+ Charter.

"Their support instrumental in this transforming student dream into a memorable and professional showcase of learning. These projects reflect the spirit of A+ Charter School, where students don't just learn, but are empowered to build, lead, and inspire."

Ak-Chin's Stella Miguel, who was a Freshman at A+ Charter, was one of the students who participated in the short film presentation. She helped with production, creation and directed one of the six films that were shown at the Entertainment Center.

students participated in the dynamic, Project-Based Learning (PBL) experiences, with thirtynine students, composed sophomores collaborating on the historical movie's Twenty-seven students, also freshman and sophomores, worked the adobe bricks space project. were developed within the framework of the high school history curriculum

have been integrated into the history curriculum for the past four years, this year marked the firsttime student work was

professionally showcased

into a movie theater



PARKS CLOSURE

PLEASE RESPECT ALL FENCING FOR SAFETY





Contact Us: \$ 520-568-1740

recreation@ak-chin.nsn.us

Banquet continued from Front

back home to Ak-Chin, Pamela shared comments attending about banquet.

Jazzy and I saw some of my friends I haven't seen in a long time," she said.

"I liked seeing Lucy and

"I hope that I can go to the next party that they have so I can see all of them again."

The Opportunity Tree is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization

"Advancing Native Americans into

Health Professions through career

exploration and academic enrichment"

Engage in a week-long summer program designed to serve tribal youth and adults interested in Health

Professions. Explore careers in

Medicine, Nursing, Public Health,

Veterinary Medicine, and other

unique fields. Location: University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ Lodging and meals provided to participants

APPLY NOW

Applications due: June 13, 2025

Participants accepted: June 20, 2025

RSVP required: June 27, 2025

For application information contact Jordan

jupshaw@arizona.edu

dedicated to enhancing the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilites across Arizona since 1963.

Committed to excellence, the Opportunity Tree provides comprehensive range of services that includes SEEDS Employment Services, Life Enrichment Fulfillment (DTA) adult day programs, Tree Fort youth after-school & programs, and

American Indians into Health Professions

Summer Program

Community Living (Group Homes) services.

The Opportunity Tree operates across four communities Arizona spanning two counties which includes; Avondale, Phoenix, Casa Grande, and the city of Maricopa.

Annually, the program connects over 1,000 individuals with an array of service opportunities, ensuring a range of care that spans generations.

Youth

(High school Juniors & Seniors)

July 21-25, 2025

Adults

(Ages 18+)

July 28 - August 1, 2025

Workshops

Presentations

Campus Tours

Skill Development

Digital Literacy

Cultural Engagement

Check in: July 20

Check out: July 26

Check in: July 27 Check out: August 2

PD Memorial Walk

Story and photos by Runner Staff

On Thursday, May 15th, Ak-Chin Police Department held a run / walk in celebration of National Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Many the from community were able to participate in the twomile marathon, which began from the Ak-Chin Judicial Multi-Purpose building, looping Court street and hitting the midpoint near the Language department, where runners and walkers made a U-turn and headed back the same route. Upon completion,

individuals were greeted by Police Chief, Manuel Garcia, who gave each person a medal for their participation, of the Ak-Chin Police Department official logo.

Peace Officers Memorial Day falls on May 15th of each year to pay tribute to the brave local, state and



Justin, Brittney Justin, Diana Garcia, and Johnathan Justin (stroller).

federal peace officers who have died or been disabled in the line of duty.

Falling in Police Week, the day is marked with a memorial event in Washington D.C., candlelight vigil, and speeches commemorating officer's past and present.

Police Officers Memorial began formally

began in 1963, several months after President John F. Kennedy signed the bill into law in October of 1962. In President Kennedy's proclamation relating to the events in May 1963, he began by stating that "law enforcement officers have played an important role" since "the beginning of this Nation."



being recognized for their

efforts, everyone had a

great time enjoying one

another's company and

being able to participate in

After a small mix up with

the scores, PD officials

Bowling Tourney continues from Front

next agency.

To continue their Police support, the Department sponsored coordinated annual Special Olympics Bowling fundraiser which took place at the Ak-Chin Entertainment Center on Sunday, May 18.

Twenty-Nine teams took to the lanes and did their best to capture a spot in the top three. Despite only three teams

announced the bowling tournament winners. First Place finishers were

a worthy cause.

the Warriors; Second Place went to TGA/Goby and Third Place was awarded to AKC.

The day ended with a raffle for a number of great prizes.

"I would like to thank all of you who came out to support and participate in this year's Special Olympics Bowling Fundraiser," Davis Garcia, Ak-Chin Police Sergeant shared.

"I hope everyone had a good time and enjoyed themselves."

INDIAN TRUST SETTLEMENT

Are you an Heir of an Individual Indian Money Account Holder?

\$38 MILLION IS AVAILABLE TO PAY HEIRS. THE DEADLINE TO FILE A CLAIM IS JUNE 30, 2025.

A \$3.4 billion dollar settlement was approved in a class action lawsuit, called Cobell v. Salazar, that claimed individual Indian land, funds and other assets were mismanaged by the federal government. \$38 million is available to pay heirs and awards could be significant.

Personal Representative; or · A federal probate order that directs

Documentation showing the appointment

of an estate Executor, Administrator, or

distribution of trust funds or trust lands.

A copy of a tribal, or state, or federal probate order is needed to establish whether the Settlement Administrator can pay the heir(s) directly for the estate's Settlement award.

If you do not have a tribal or state probate order but a personal representative or executor has been named for the estate, funds may be released to the representative or executor and they will be responsible for distributing the funds according to the wishes of the deceased Class Member.

> You must act quickly. The deadline to file is

June 30, 2025.

After the deadline, all remaining funds will

be distributed to the Cobell Scholarship Fund, which is managed by Indigenous Education, Inc.

LEARN MORE

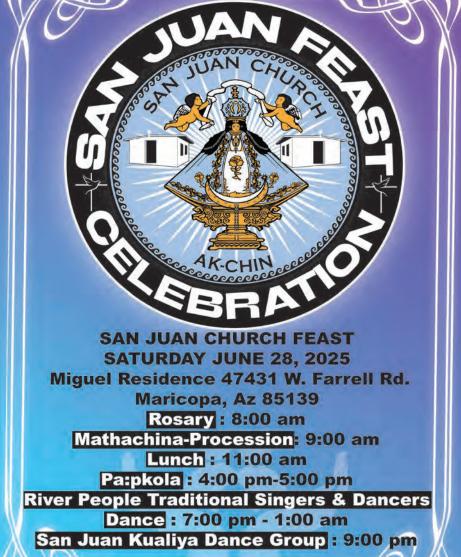
CobellSettlement.com

800-961-6109

Indian Trust Settlement c/o Kroll Settlement Administration P.O. Box 5324 New York, NY 10150-5324



Cooperative Extension SALT Center



Music By: South Image

Who is eligible? You are eligible for a money award if you are

an heir of one or more of the over 17,000 Individual Indian Money (IIM) account holders whose Cobell settlement awards were not distributed. You must submit a claim form with proof that you are an heir. Claim forms can be submitted online or can be downloaded and mailed to the administrator by June 30, 2025. More details are available on the website.

Here's what you need.

Heir eligibility proof includes any of the following:

estate heirs; or

A state or tribal probate order identifying

- A last will and testament approved by a probate order; or
- · A small estate document from an approved state in accordance with small estate procedures; or



We are GRHC! Where Care Meets Community.



PATIENT NOTICE



51st Avenue Pavement Preservation Project

The Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) advises drivers to plan ahead for weekday lane closures and possible delays in both directions of a 4.5-mile segment of 51st Avenue, located in the Laveen area and on the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC), beginning Thursday, May 22 through late June 2025, for a pavement preservation project.

The pavement preservation project will take place within MCDOT right-of-way and help extend the life of the roadway and improve the driving surface. Allow extra time for travel in the area, as a pilot car will escort alternating directions of travel in the area. Please watch for work crews, obey all traffic control signs and slow down in the work zone.



JUNE 15th **ELDER ABUSE**AWARENESS DAY

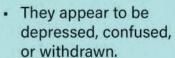
WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT?

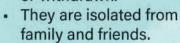
As older adults become more physically frail, they may find

it increasingly difficult to care for themselves, stand up to bullying, or defend themselves if attacked. They might also experience diminished vision, hearing, or cognitive abilities, which can make them more vulnerable to abuse and neglect. Elder abuse encompasses various forms of harm, including physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, financial exploitation, and neglect by those who are supposed to care for them.

If you suspect that an elderly person is at risk due to a neglectful or overwhelmed caregiver or if they are being financially exploited, it's essential to speak up. Everyone deserves to live in safety, dignity, and respect!

WATCH FOR THESE SIGNS OF ABUSE:

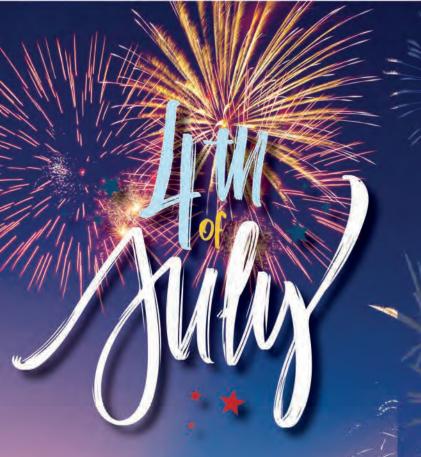




- They have unexplained bruises, burns, or scars.
- They seem dirty, underfed, or dehydrated and may be over-medicated or under-medicated or not receiving necessary medical care.
- They have bedsores or other preventable conditions.
- There are recent changes in their banking or spending patterns.
- They report being left or abandoned in an unfamiliar location.



For more information, please contact: SANE Clinic at 520-562-5151 or email sane@grhc.org



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

CLOSED Friday, July 4th Saturday, July 5th

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

Normal business hours will resume Monday, July 7, 2025.
If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

View news, information & events

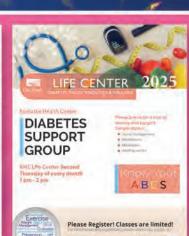
- Life Center
- Behavioral Health Services
- May Calendars
- and many more!

Scan OR code to view!











CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:

- Communication Officer (part-time)
- Communications Officer
- Compensation Analyst

Deli Clerk

- Detention Officer Certified (parttime)
- Firefighter/Medic
- Lab Tutor (part-time)
- Plant Electrician
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation Technician
- Police Officer (non-certified)
- Prosecutor
- Substance Abuse Therapist

Open to Enrolled Ak-Chin Members Only

- General Worker (Temp Worker)
- Museum Technician (2)
- Oral Historian
- Student Counselor (9-12)

www.ak-chin.nsn.us

To review the full job description and apply visit 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

Elderly Kashmir Miller, Police

Jesus Espinoza Parks & Rec Dwayne Yazzie, Education

6/13

6/8 Hermalinda Mavis, I.S

John McCullouch Jr. **Human Resources** 6/16

6/10 Thomas Hoetzlein. Fire Ashley Vincent, Runner

SUN

Daniel Antone, Security



theme "Color Our World" and submit it for a chance to get your bookmark made and shared with the whole community.

Just head over to the Ak-Chin Indian Communtiy Library, pick up your sheet, and draw your best design!

Deadline to submit designs June 30th *Open to all ages *One entry per participant

FAMILY PLANNING

FAMILY PLANNING

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

MEDICAL MOBILE CLINIC

ALL SERVICES ARE CONFIDENTIAL

Call or Text us at (520) 371-0132

*** The Mobile Unit is NOT Handicap

MOBILE Medical Clinic

Wednesday,

June 11, 2025

9:00a - 2:30p

Vekol Market

Parking Lot



Take home 5 days of free meals provided by St. Mary's Food Bank for anyone under 18 years of age. Come by the Ak-Chin Indian Community Library to pick up grab and go meals starting May 27th.

Monday - Friday: 11am-1pm Saturday: 12pm-2pm 46521 W. Farrell Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85139



Grab & Go Kids Meals open to the public Help us cut back on plastic and bring a reuseable bag Program ends July 22, 2025

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









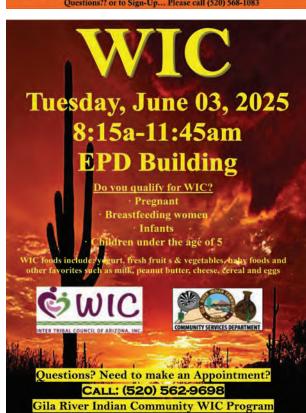
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025 AK-CHIN EPD BUILDING (46200 W. Ralph Street) 2 PM - 4 PM



Food Service Workers

Volunteer •Interested Community Members





Employee Updates



Bailey Martinez Events Planner Events



Candice Antone RecProgram Assistant Parks & Rec



RecProgram Assistant Parks & Rec



Jesus Corella-Esquer Maintenance Tech Parks & Rec



MON





over 18

J.						
rary Hours ri: 9am-6pm pm-4pm osed	Reading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm	3	4	5 Storytime @10am	Feading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm Create with Cricut 4-6pm	7 Storytime & Play Day 1-3pm
а	9 Reading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm Manga Monday 3-5pm	10	п	Storytime @10am	Reading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm	14 Father's Day Craft 1-3pm
HAPPY FATHERS DAY	16 Reading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm	17	18	HAPPY JUNE TEENTH Closed	20 Reading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm	21 Storytime & Play Day 1-3pm
72	Reading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm Manga Monday 3-5pm	24	25	26 Storytime @10am	27 Reading Buddies 3:30-5:30pm	28
29	30	GRAB & GO FREE KIDS MEALS 18 & UNDER MONDAY-FRIDAY: 11AM-1PM			rograms and e Ak-Chin memb and emp Minors under accompanied	ers, residents bloyees 16 must be

Questions? Call: (520) 568-1675 or Email: Library@ak-chin.nsn.us



We love you so much

papa's. Times going by so fast and it's looking like it's not slowing down anytime soon for you. You're the final piece to our puzzle and we couldn't be more grateful for you Bubbas - Mom, Dada, Sisters, brothers

Happy Birthday to my grandsons Cameron, Xandrian, Benjamin, Joseph III, and Myles Love, Grandma

Ryan- just a tad late... Love your family

Manuel Ortega

Daniel Antone

JUNE 17TH

Clorenda

Humeyumptewa

Raul Ruelas

Kali Wind

Mauktho Sehongva'

Jose Anelia Jacuinde

JUNE 18TH

Myles Peters

Shanna Narcia

Happy Birthday

Birthdays 6 **JUNE 6TH JUNE 16TH**

Uriayzz Antone Marie Thomas

Ramona Kaniatobe Cameron Villegas-White

JUNE 7TH Marco Thompson Marissa Antone Zylen Silas-Antone

JUNE 8TH

Mylauni Antone

Xandrian Miguel

JUNE 9TH

Marvin Lewis

Jason Smith Consuelo Alvarez

JUNE 10TH

Ashley Vincent Holly Kaniatobe

JUNE 11TH

Benjamin King

Alex Bowman Joseph Zabawa III

JUNE 13TH Richard Villegas Samuel Justin

JUNE 14TH

Amorie Narcia

Ralph Martinez **Brenley Hackney**

JUNE 15TH Saul Ruelas

Cecil Miguel Jr.

JUNE 19TH

Kellen Hoffman Josefa Lewis Michelle Smith

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino **Celebrates 2025 Caesars** Founders Award Recipients and Team Members for Caesars **Entertainment Years of Service**

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino honored its 2025 Caesars Founders Award Recipients at its Years of Service Gala on May 8. From left: Founders **Award Honorees** included Meghan Flanigan, Philip Munoz, Phyllis Woodall, Mark Narcia, Rachael Reed, Laura Berry, Denise Martinez, Kimberly Wiebe, Roldan Lapinid

(MARICOPA, Ariz. – **15, 2025)** Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino hosted its annual Caesars Entertainment Years of Service Event at The Events Center on May 8. In addition to acknowledging 85 Team Members with tenures from 5 to 30 years, the occasion also celebrated the 2025 Caesars Founders Award recipients.

The 2025 Caesars Founders Awards recognize outstanding achievements and exceptional contributions of exemplary Team Members.

This year's awards recognized individuals who regularly and consistently delivered best-inclass service to Harrah's Ak-Chin guests and internal Team Members while demonstrating Caesars core values in three categories:

- Blaze the Trail: Team Member exemplifies leadership, integrity and ownership
- All-In On Service: Team Member exemplifies fun, service and connection
- Together We Win: Team Member exemplifies inclusion, care and teamwork



"Celebrating members at the annual Founders Awards and Years of Service event is truly special," said Michael Kintner, Senior Vice President and General Manager.

"It's inspiring to recognize the unwavering dedication of those who have been with us since our opening.

This occasion not only honors long-term commitment but also shines a light on the extraordinaryaccomplishments of our team members who consistently go above and beyond to make guests feel welcome and valued.

The Founders Award winners exemplify excellence, and I'm immensely proud of their contributions."

The 2025 Founders Award honorees are:

Blaze The Trail

- Laura Berry, Audio Visual
- Philip Munoz, Slot Performance
- Rachael Reed, Security

All-In On Service

• Meghan Flanigan, Executive Administration

Together We Win

• Mark Narcia, Hotel

- Kimberly Wiebe, Casino Cashiering
- Roldan Lapinid, Beverage • Denise Martinez, Chop,

• Phyllis Woodall, Wardrobe

Block & Brew

In further recognition of his commitment to leadership, integrity and ownership, Munoz was selected represent Harrah's Ak-Chin as its Regional Winner in the Blaze the Trail category and will go on to compete for a companywide distinction at the national level.

Members from Team the past year who have reached significant Caesars Entertainment employment milestones were recognized during the event as well:

- 43 Team Members celebrating 5 years
- Members Team
- celebrating 10 years Members • 2 Team
- celebrating 15 years Members • 6 Team celebrating 20 years
- Team Members celebrating 25 years
- 9 Team Member celebrating 30 years

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino to **Host Community Blood Drive**

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino is hosting three blood drives. The events are open to the public and appointments are strongly encouraged.

When: June 23, Sept 8 and Dec 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Where: The Bingo Hall at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino | 15406 Maricopa Road | Maricopa, Ariz. 85139

"It is essential to support the community in which we live and work," said Samantha Gulick, Director of Marketing and Operations for Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino. "Our annual blood drive provides our team members and the community with a meaningful opportunity to give back. The simple act of donating blood can make a significant difference for hospital patients within our community and, when needed, for others across the country. That's truly remarkable."

Since becoming a community partner in 2000, Harrah's Ak-Chin has hosted 88 blood drives, registered 1,986 donors, collected 1,582 donations, and potentially helped more than 4,746 individuals in need of blood.

To make an appointment, contact Ashmi Nafiz (anafiz@ caesars.com) or Cinthya Diana Soto (<u>csotoperez@caesars.com</u>) or visit donors.vitalant.org and enter Blood Drive Sponsor Code: Harrah.

appreciation pack from the Harrah's HERO committee. They will also be entered into a

Bloods donors will receive an

drawing for a chance to win one of the following:

- One-night stay at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino
- \$100 gift certificate for Chop, Block & Brew
- \$30 gift certificate for Agave's Restaurant





JUNE 2025

CAESARS REWARDS



SUNDAY

SUNDAY FUNDAY SHOPPING



MONDAY

REWARD YOURSELF & SHOP WITH REWARD CREDITS AT THE GIFT SHOP



TUESDAY

YOU KNOW THE DRILL BY AUSTIN TOOLS™ GIVEAWAY



WEDNESDAY

SUMMER PLAY FEST **FOREVER YOUNG**



THURSDAY

10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER



FRIDAY

16000 N. Maricopa Rd. Maricopa AZ 85139

SUMMER PLAY FEST



SATURDAY

T-APP IN!



SUNDAY FUNDAY



REDEEM REWARD CREDITS FOR FREE SLOT PLAY!



YOU KNOW THE DRILL BY AUSTIN TOOLS™ GIVEAWAY



FOREVER YOUNG



10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER



SUMMER PLAY FEST



CAESARS REWARDS®



SHOPPING! FATHER'S DAY FREE SLOT PLAY



FACEBOOK & X!



AUSTIN TOOLS™ GIVEAWAY



FOREVER YOUNG



MULTIPLIER



SUMMER PLAY FEST



GIFT GIVEAWAY





A WINNING COMBINATION





FOREVER YOUNG



HOOPS DRAFT DAY

SWEEPSTAKES







INDULGE YOUR AGAVE'S RESTAURANT





WIN YOUR SHARE OF

WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS THIS SUMMER

Photos by Runner Staff, Education Staff, and Graduate Families



















Class of 2025 continued from Front

The Runner will once again have the distinct privilege and honor to celebrate and cover these ceremonies, that will definitely be full of unforgettable moments.

We were excited to attend the first of many celebrations for community scholars at Central Arizona College, Signal Peak Campus, May 16, 2025.

On May 20, 2025, Maricopa Elementary kinder held two ceremonies where many of our students promoted.

That evening, Ak-Chin was very well represented with 8th graders who promoted from Maricopa Wells Middle School.

May 21, 2025, twenty-Ak-Chin's four of youngest scholars all dressed in red gowns and mortar boards promoted from the Ak-Chin Child Development Program.

Later that day, Leading Edge would promote three of our middleschool students. That evening more ceremonies would be celebrated with our members, as Desert View in Tucson, and Maricopa's newest, Desert Sunrise held their high school graduations.

May 22, 2025 was very busy, with 5th grade promotions held Saddleback Elementary Maricopa Elementary, as well as an 8th grade promotion ceremony at A+ Charter

School.

That evening we had another large group of students walk the field at Maricopa Ram Stadium for their high school graduation, while another graduation was held at Vista Grande high school in Casa Grande.

We were also aware of a member who would be graduating from Las Vegas, on May 28, and at least one more graduating

in June.

We would like acknowledge the Ak-Chin Education department, who worked tirelessly alongside us to ensure we had every student's name and ceremony dates/ locations that they had in their ROI files.

We could not have been able to schedule and plan to attend these ceremonies without their help. We also appreciate sharing photos for those moments we

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

Eligibility requirements for the Scholarship Program:

The Scholarship Program deadlines are as follows:

Ak-Chin Scholarship Program contact:

Email: LDempsey@ak-chin.nsn.us Direct: (520) 568-1291, Cell: (520) 483-6954 Main: (520) 568-1280

You must be an Enrolled Member of the Ak-Chin Indian Community;

You must have received your High School Diploma or a GED Certificate;

You must have an approved Academic Plan of Study, a degree-seeking plan; and

Don't forget to apply for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Lenny Dempsey, Enrollment / Academic Advisor Physical Address: 46521 W. Farrell Rd, Maricopa, AZ 85139 Mailing Address: 42507 W. Peters & Nall Road, Maricopa, AZ 85138

AK-CHIN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Ak-Chin Indian Community Scholarship Program's purpose is to provide financia support for the promotion of education and employment of community members.

You must have an Official Letter of Acceptance from the institution you will be attending

missed.

We also appreciate all the parents who shared their student's photos with us to put in the Runner. We truly appreciate you all.

Although, we attended many of these events, and received photos and information as well, we know we were not able to capture all our graduates young scholars

during their celebrations.

So, we would like to take this opportunity to kindly ask the students and families to please reach out to us, so we can share your scholar's special moments in the Runner.

If you would like to share a story, pic and/or wish for your graduate, we would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact us at 520-568-1375 or send us an email at: runnernews@ ak-chin.nsn.us

Graduation Shout Outs



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2025 GRADUATE!

DARIA SHARISE DAVILEE GARCIA! With all vour determination and challenges you faced throughout your high school years, you did it all! We know it was not easy at times, but was all worth it and rewarding, right? Now to take a break to enjoy some time to yourself before you continue to strive for all you had set forth, such as your goals and dreams in life. As always, we will

continue to be your support, by your side and guidance when needed. We still can't believe that Dad's Highness, the last of the "Terror Squad" and BaBa'a's last grandbaby has completed high school...now to look forward to all the great-grandchildren to make us proud and happy with their future accomplishments! We love you for always

and again CONGRATULATIONS! Love: Dad, Mama, your brothers, sister,



Congratulations to Anaise Valles-Diaz on promoting from the 8th Grade! We are glad you accomplished another goal in life, now on to the next, which is the beginning of your high school years. The first year will be a bit tough, but just know it will be alright. Enjoy every bit of your time there, cause before you know it, you will be a Senior! Again, Congratulations and you have all the love and support behind you!

To: MiAnna Garcia, Amare Santiago, Alonsa Machado, Octavio Machado, Jr., Johnny Perkins and Christian Soliz Congratulations Graduates! Knowing you made vour families oh so proud of you!

From: "Skip", "Sha" and family

From: "Sha", "Skip" and family

Congratulations to all our Community Graduates! From the Runner

Jeffery Peters (son of Terrance Peters) "You've spent countless hours studying & made sacrifices to better yourself for the future. You've shown

so much determination & it's truly inspiring to see how far you've come."

I Love you to the moon and back. I can't wait to see where this new chapter in life takes you. I know you can conquer anything you set your mind to.



CONGRATULATIONS PERCY - YOU DID IT-SUPER-DUPER PROUD OF YOU!!! Wow!!! Our first baby grandson has finished high school! We know you had a few struggles along the way, but now you are done, done, done with high school and ready to relax for a bit! Keep doing great things and remember WE LOVE YOU!



CONGRATULATIONS OLIVER AND DANIEL JR. Yippee to OP and DJ!!! We are SUPER-DUPER PROUD OF YOU TWO!! Enjoy your summer and get ready for new adventures and learning! Love, Bapa and Luma

Congratulations to our Godson Johnny Perkins! Great job Johnny, we are very proud of you! Love Goddaddy and Godmama

Congratulations to Teagan! Way to go Teagan - so, so proud of you! From the Funner Runner Gang





KINDER & FIFTH GRADE PROMOTIONS

































