



Ak-Chin Boys’ Basketball coach, Thomas Carlyle was honored and recognized during a surprise retirement party with former players. L-R: Adam Sanders, James Lopez, Raymond Whitman, Byron Deloney-White, Johnny Perkins, Isaiah Peters, Frankie Carlyle, Jose Miguel Jr., Isaac Carlyle, Coach Thomas Carlyle, Isaiah Osife, Marco Jensen, Isaac Miranda, Adrian Montana, Justin Van Sickle, and Daniel Narcia.

Coach Carlyle Retires After Twenty Dedicated Years

Story by Robert Miguel, photo by Diana Carlyle

At the request of a former teacher and basketball coach for Maricopa Middle School twenty years ago, he accepted the request without hesitation, in hopes of learning more from a coaching standpoint than what it was to be coached as a player.

As a player, you are taught plays to run, technique in positioning yourself in certain situations, style of play, when to press, and when to call time-outs, just to name a few.

But as a player, you

sometimes wondered why coaches think the way they do and what their minds go through during certain circumstances.

For former Maricopa Middle School and High School player and now retired Ak-Chin basketball coach, Thomas Carlyle, he got the opportunity to begin his coaching career as a freshman in high school coaching the B Team, a version of Junior Varsity (JV), at Maricopa Middle School, which is now called Maricopa Wells Middle School.

The opportunity came when Maricopa High School teacher and coach, Jack Toohey was offered him that chance in 1993.

“That was the first time I ever coached, and it was for just that season, it was pretty cool and I enjoyed it,” Carlyle said.

“Following that season, Mr. Toohey left the program and stopped coaching, so it kind of ended for me coaching within the school.”

After stepping away from coaching for a

Brush Fire Burns 40 Acres Of Ak-Chin Wetlands

Story and photos by Robert Miguel

On Wednesday, August 19th, the Ak-Chin Indian Community encountered a thunderstorm, with the usual, high winds, thunder, rain, and lightning, expected during the monsoon season.

We’ve experienced this a number of times, normal, right?

This time we experienced

something different, just before midnight, a lighting strike from the thunderstorm hit the wetlands within Smith Wash.

The strike started a small fire, which eventually grew to where flames and smoke could be seen for miles.

The Ak-Chin Fire Department received a

call after midnight and responded immediately.

The Ak-Chin crew worked the early morning hours to contain the fire, which they were able to successfully accomplish.

But later in the day, high winds were able to reignite smoldering areas of the wetlands, and the fire began to develop once again.



A fierce fire burns through the wetland areas on the northern boundary of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. The fire began from a lightning strike during a thunderstorm that came through the area, August 19.

Coach Carlyle continues to Page 5

Brush Fire continues on Page 5



Abraham Jose Competes in Cooperstown Dreams Park Tournament in Cooperstown New York

Story and photos submitted by Marla Antone

My son Abraham Jose had the opportunity to travel to New York, home of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, this summer, with his AZ Scorpions 12U baseball team. They participated in the Cooperstown Dreams Park tournament, where there were over 100 teams entered.

If you don’t know about Cooperstown, NY, you’re probably thinking tall buildings, big billboards, streets packed with people and food carts on every corner, but in fact Cooperstown was the complete opposite.

There were no tall buildings, only tall trees, with hills of green grass covering every inch of the ground beneath you, and plenty of open space, a little peaceful town that relaxed you. But that didn’t last long, because I think I was stressed out from the

first game that started, till the last game ended; games were that intense.

Before I get into the outcome of the tournament, we have to talk about “Pin Trading”, oh you haven’t heard? Teams would get pins with their team logo and trade them with other teams in the tournament.

There were all kinds of pins; big pins, small pins, pins with characters, pins that even had moving parts. So, pin trading is a must when you go to Cooperstown, actually pin trading began before we even entered the facility.

While we waited for the gates to open into Cooperstown Dreams Park, the team met up at a pizza place just across the street and of course we weren’t the only team there. As cars packed their way into the parking lot, players were

already trading pins with other teams, coaches, umpires and even the restaurant employees.

You could see thousands of team pins that the owner stuck inside the walls of this building and he even plastered them into the tables. From that day, we knew besides baseball, that pin trading would be a very intense experience.

The first day was team check-in, registration, uniform pick up, team photos and coaches meeting. So, imagine 104 teams and their families arriving at the facility; players carrying their baseball equipment, parents pulling wagons with players necessities for the week, coaches pulling in ice chests, cooling fans and equipment, then finding their way through the 104 bunk houses to see where they would call home for the next week.

The second day was the start of pool play. How the tournament works is each team played five pool play games. Depending on wins or losses and runs given, determines where a team will sit in the single

elimination bracket.

AZ Scorpion’s first opponent of pool play would be Florida Gatorball, where inning after inning was scoreless, until finally in the fifth inning, AZ Scorpions scored a run, then two, soon we were up 5-0.

With the momentum on our side, Abraham was up to bat, as he walked up to the plate, rain drops slowly started coming down, we waited a little bit then suddenly it started to pour down on the field. The game was stopped and we all waited underneath the dugouts.

The rain continued to come down, so the umpires put a delay on the game and players were escorted back to their bunk houses. Families were now rushing towards the parking lots, wondering why they just didn’t call the game, since we were in the fifth inning and were home team.

Unfortunately, that wasn’t the case, as we were told the general policy of games would be played rain or shine. Luckily, the game was only pushed



Abraham Jose goes into a wind up during tournament play in Cooperstown, New York.

back an hour and teams were called back to the field. AZ Scorpions continued where they left off and finished the game with the win, 11-4.

A great way to start pool play, their next game wouldn’t be until the following day, so the team made their way back to the bunk houses.

The next day was a team from Georgia, USA Scout Elite Purple. As we got to the field, we see Abraham warming up to pitch. As I

find a seat in the “family dugout” I’m trying to watch the game and film at the same time. Tony, along with the other dads, start scouting the other players.

If you asked me that was one of the best games AZ Scorpions played in the tournament. Abraham and Georgia’s pitcher were great on the mound, and both teams showed how strong their defense was on the field. The first one to score was Georgia, with a homerun in the second inning, and of course

Abraham continues to Page 5

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Story and photo by Robert Miguel

As attendees sat and conversed, the aroma of tomato sauce, garlic bread and salad, filled the dining room of the facility.

The slurping of spaghetti could be heard, as well as comments of how good the garlic bread tasted.

Following dinner, a cup of



L-R: Gibson Romo, Jessica and Dwayne Dean enjoy their delicious spaghetti dinner and conversation at the Ak-Chin Elder Center.

ice cream was offered for the finale, which everyone took advantage of.

Everyone in attendance was offered plates to go as there was plenty of food prepared for the evening dinner.

department plans an evening dinner, and all elders are encouraged to attend with a guest.

Although, the next dinner outing has not been announced, I'm sure everyone is eager to learn about what the next dinner menu awaits them.

A photograph of a museum room with wooden floors. In the foreground, there is a small wooden desk with a yellow chair. On the desk are some books and papers. In the background, there is a red wooden bench, a tall wooden display case with glass doors, and a large informational panel on an easel. A small wooden table with two framed pictures is also visible. The room has white walls with a decorative border and a doorway on the left.

At left, the Mission School classroom is polished and shined for its 11th Anniversary Celebration, held on August 27.

On Thursday, August 27th, the Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum and the Ak-Chin Community celebrated the 14th Anniversary and 11th Anniversary of the Historic Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Agent House and Historic St. Francis Mission School, with a light meal and gifts for visitors who attended.

Attendees were able to view historical photos, memorabilia, furnishings and documents at both historical sites. Also available to view were; historic utensils, a Folgers coffee glass container, holy saint figures, old bottle caps and metal board games.

The items that were on display and photos that hung on the walls, were a clear indication of how the life and times of the Ak-Chin Indian Community from past decades lived.

Visiting the Mission School gave attendees a glimpse of what education settings were like for Ak-Chin children back in the 60's. It was also used as a meeting place, as well as for gatherings such as; community Christmas plays, parties, and as we approach Halloween, at one time, a make shift haunted house.

One of the more interesting photos and history of the Mission School, was highlighting Father Antonine Willenbrink, who served

Historic Anniversaries continues to Page 6

With Sincere Gratitude.

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, sympathy, love, and support everyone has extended to our family during the loss of our Beloved Mother, Velacita “Costella” Lopez.

We would like to Thank everyone who visited, prayed or called her during her hospital stay. Know your presence and kindness brought great comfort to our mother. We would like to Thank Chandler Regional Hospital, Hospice of the Valley – Friendship Village and J. Warren Funeral Service for the Care and Dignity you showed our mother during her admission and after her passing. We are truly grateful for the continued support and love we've received since her passing from her and our Friends, Colleagues/Co-Workers the generosity has brought us great comfort and strength.

We would also like to Thank the following individuals/departments that helped with Velacita's Services: Florentina Ruelas and St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Mission, Ak-Chin Community Council, Health and Human Services, Ak-Chin Police/Security Department, Sanitation/Public Works, The Runner, Gabriel & Salinda Lopez, Larry Lopez, Nathan Lopez, Irma Lopez, Travis Lopez, Rhonetta Enriquez, Carole Lopez & Family, Norma Vincent & Family, Lerline Peters, Dean Peters, Glenn Francisco, Carmen Narcia, Lawrence & Sally Antone, Nathan & Lusan Enos and Family, Wilma Antone-Frausto & Family, Dennis Antone and Escort Runners, The Anegam Choir/Prayer Group, Margie Juan & Prayer Group, Leland Thomas, Antonio & Joseph Davis and Traditional Singers, Ba:ban Keihena Group, Ak-Chin Women Toka Team, Jesus Corella, Doria & Daria Garcia, Ruben & Sylvia Soliz, Robert & Connie Miguel, Mario Molina & Family, Soliz Family, Felicia Vincent & Family, Terri Ysaguirre & John Nieto, Our dad, Danny Soliz, Sr. and Ida Soliz, The Miguel Family. Everyone who we missed that donated food, water, flowers and other goods, know you are all appreciated.

Thank you,
Vanessa Soliz & Family
Mary Anna Diaz (Soliz)
Danny Soliz, Jr. & Family



Location: Art Building (Hin-Dak Museum)

Session Begins: August 11, 2026

Session Ends: September 17, 2026

When: Every Tuesday & Thursday from

When: Every Tuesdays & Thursdays from
11:00AM to 1:00PM

4:30PM to 7:00PM (Members, Residents, Employees of the Ak-Chin Indian Community)

4.501 M to 7.501 M (Members & Residents of the Ak-Chin Indian Community)

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

Transportation Provided

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September Elder Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Breakfast served from 7 AM to 8:30 AM Lunch Served 12 noon to 1 PM Craft Room is OPEN from 8 AM to 3 PM For Transportation Call Georgia at 520-568-1760 Call After Hours 24/7 520-858-5043			Chair Yoga – Tuesdays & Thursdays at 11:15 AM Elder Center Exercise w/ Health Ed Wednesdays Only at 9:30 AM – Elder Center Bible Study w/ Johnny Stephens @ 11 AM, Fridays Menu/Calendar Subject to Change Without Notice		9/4 Chilaquiles, Scrambled Eggs, Refried Beans, Fruit Salad Bar-B-Que Pork Sliders, Potato Salad, BWWaked Beans, Root Beer Float/Apple	
	9/7 Labor Day Holiday Center Closed 	9/8 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Apples Potato Bar & Salad, Fresh Cut Fruit	9/9 Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Mixed Berries Ham Mac & Cheese, Carrots, Peas, Rolls, Peach Cobbler	9/10 Biscuits & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Peaches with Cottage Cheese Split Peas, Chicken Dumpling (D), Yams/Potato, Apple/Orange	9/11 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fresh Fruit Ham Sandwich, Cole Slaw, Chips, Pears	
	9/14 Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes, Toast, Apples Chicken Mushroom, Spinach Bake, Wild Rice, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Tropical Fruit	9/15 Potatoes with Chorizo, Refried Beans, Tortilla, Fruit Salad Lasagna, Zucchini/Yellow Squash, Romain Salad, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Lemon Cake	9/16 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana Black Eye Peas, Ground Beef & Corn (D), Cauliflower, Moon Bread, Mandarin Oranges Albuquerque, NM Informational Meeting @ 5:00 PM - Elder Center	9/17 Senior Games Hanam Kek Recreation Center Leaving at 6:30 AM Veggie Scrambled, Grilled Cheese, Avocado Slices, Fruit with Cottage Cheese Pork Chops, Mashed Potato, Green Bean, Whole Wheat/White, Rolls, Apple Sauce	9/18 Breakfast Burrito, Salsa & Sour Cream, Yogurt Parfait Green Chili Cheese, Tamale, Rice, Beans, Jell-O	
	9/21 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Apples Cabbage Stew, Carrots, Biscuit, Pineapples	9/22 Green Chili Burrito, Fruit Salad, Muffin Baked Chicken, Brown Rice, Corn, Peaches	9/23 Omelet, Avocado Slices, Toast, Fruit & Yogurt BLT Sandwich, Pasta Salad, Chips, Jell-O Dolly Parton Theme Elder Dinner Night @ 5:00 PM – Elder Center	9/24 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana Pozole, Cabbage/Onion, Rolls, Mexican Empanadas	9/25 Center Closed 	



Newspaper of the
Ak-Chin Indian Community
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Maricopa, Arizona 85139

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MONDAY - FRIDAY
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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.

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from:
Ak-Chin O'odham Runner
42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd.
Maricopa, Arizona 85138

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Announcements and wishes
may be dropped off,
phoned in, 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.

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.

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Maricopa, Arizona 85138

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**AK-CHIN INDIAN
COMMUNITY**

NEXT DEADLINE
Don't forget the
DEADLINE for the
September 18 -
October 1, 2026
issue is due by
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

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

Material submitted after the
SEPTEMBER 11TH DEADLINE
cannot be guaranteed
placement. If appropriate
and relevant, it will be
included in the next issue.



Ethan Maldonado and teammate Amaya Youvella go after a loose ball during a split squad game at the Ak-Chin Recreation Department gymnasium.



Ariel Lopez goes up in an attempt to block the shot of Mauricio Contreras-Valles during split squad basketball play at the Ak-Chin Recreation Department gymnasium.

Ak-Chin Hoopsters Play In Front Of Home Crowd

Story and photos by Robert Miguel

After opening their season in the Friendship Youth Sports League (FYSL) at Salt River Indian Community a couple of weeks ago, the second and third grade Ak-Chin basketballers, took to the court on Saturday, August 22nd on their home courts here in Ak-Chin.

geared to getting them to play against one another in split squads at home, it also gave a chance for the parents, family and fans that are not able to travel during the middle of the week to Scottsdale, to see their young one's play.

teams from mini to elementary Ak-Chin aged ballers took to the court. There was plenty of "oohs" and "awws" and cheering overall as spectators hailed on their players and teams with each basket missed and made.

score a basket, not realizing that they were shooting at the other team's basket. All in all, it was a great Saturday for all to come and witness some fun hardcourt action.

Look for all teams to continue action throughout the month of September in Salt River (Scottsdale) and Ak-Chin!

The opportunity was not only

The gymnasium was nearly filled on both sides, as all

A time or two, players rebounded and ran the other way to try and



Daniel Lozano holds onto the ball as tight as he can as Jonathan Enos attempts to rip the ball away from him.



Ak-Chin Mini-Basketball Players, from left to right; Kai Nez, Christopher Narcia, Neveah Jensen, Daniel Lozano, Genevilyn Miguel, Romeo Jensen, Draven Nash, Kody Carlyle, Sadie Rivers, Jonathan Enos, and Roman James.



Ak-Chin 2nd & 3rd Grade Players - Left to Right: Reilly Perry, Angelita Garcia, Oliver Peters, Ethan Maldonado, Andrew Enos, Andrea Lopez, Alexandria Lopez, Gabriel James, Adrian Garcia, Aaron Peters, Amaya Youvella, Kaleb Rivers, Logan Tittes, and Jonah Dickerson.



Ak-Chin 8-12 Year Old Players,- Back Row left to right: Ariel Lopez, Jose Lopez, Mauricio Contreras-Valles, Connor Martinez, William Delman, Kaylem Nez, Joaquin Dickerson, Lindsay Antone, and Coach Jacob Dickerson. Front Row left to right: Oliver Peters, Layle Santiago, Jaxson Justin, Yondell Antone, and Kooper Kenet Sosie.



Language staff made cookie dough during a baking session.

Mesquite Baking

Story and photo by Megan Quintero

Wednesday, August 19, the Ak-Chin Language program staff held a small baking session at the Ak-Chin Service Center around 6pm.

that were going to be used during the process to all participants. Participants then went on to start mixing the ingredients and making their dough for the cookies.

Before the presentation Language Specialist Mrs. Lerline Peters shared a prayer before getting started.

Some found that using their hands to knead the dough helped get a better feel of the dough and was better than using their whisks and gloves. Some compared making the cookie dough to making chumuth (tortilla) dough.

Language staffer Jesus "Buddy" Corella then went on to start the presentation called "Introduction to Viohok (Mesquite Bean)," which went over the ingredients used to make the cookies.

The evening was filled with laughs, good conversation and some good-looking cookies! Be sure to sign up for the next baking class!

Language staff passed out the ingredients and supplies

SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

NARD

NATIVE AMERICAN RECOGNITION DAY

At Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- Fun Run/Walk
(Starts west of the Ak-Chin Circle, corner of N. Narcia St. and W. Tobi Dr., Parking in Ak-Chin Circle Parking lot. Sign ups at 7:30am start at 8:00am)
- *Prizes awarded for 1st/2nd/3rd place Men & Women Runners
- *Shirts Limited to the first 100 participants
- Dance Group Performances
- Artist Demonstrations
- Information Booths
- Food Vendors
- Arts & Craft Vendors
- Bouncy House

For more information please contact the Him-Dak Museum Office at 520-568-1350

Story and photos by Kristen Villegas

Large sign-ups were also available on-site for all.

Shared through email, Health Educator Martina Guy provided, “Thank you all for joining us for the first event back from the summer break! I hope you stayed cool, got a good workout, and enjoyed the glow accessories and prizes. We look forward to seeing you all again at our next event! Save the date for September 19th for the Super Hero Run.”



Story and photos by
Ak-Chin Library Staff

A man wearing a black cap and jacket is sitting on a stool, playing an acoustic guitar. He is smiling and looking towards a group of children. A young boy in a grey t-shirt is standing in front of him, reaching out towards the guitar. Behind him, a girl with long dark hair is also looking at the man. In the background, another child is sitting on the floor, and a teacher or another adult is partially visible. The room has green patterned wallpaper and a wooden shelf with books.

Decorating a notebook with stickers, washi tape, and other decorative items was the project for the August 26th Crafternoon event. Designing a notebook can be fun because you can add as much as you want with no limitations but space. Just check out the ones created!

Story and photos by Kristen Villegas

They still have plenty of games to come; next home games are September 10, 16, and 21 all starting at 4:45. Come out and show your support for these Ak-Chin athletes.

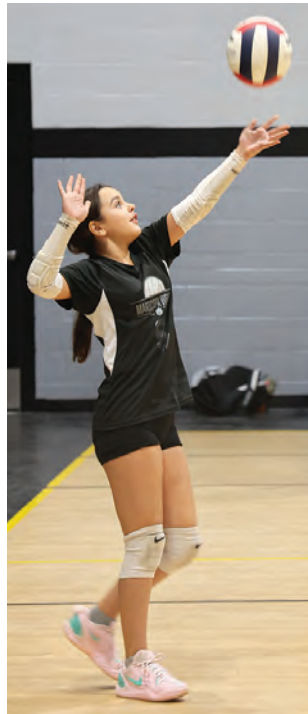


Photo above is courtesy of Bianka Mata: Dalia Antone and Emily Antone sport numbers 20 and 19 on the MWMS Panthers Volleyball team.





CALL US:
(520) 562-3321



Gila River
HEALTH CARE

VISIT US ONLINE:
GRHC.ORG



PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING



Call us, for more information,
Public Health Nursing
(520) 550-6042

Save The Date!!

WELLNESS FAIR

September 24, 2026

10 am - 12 pm

District 4 Service Center

CLOSURES


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

**CLOSED
LABOR DAY**
**Monday,
September 7, 2026**

**Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
Pharmacy Hours**

Saturday, Sept. 5 th	8:00am - 8:00pm
Sunday, Sept. 6 th	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Monday, Sept. 7 th	CLOSED

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 Tuesday, September 8, 2026.
If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the
Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.


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

**CLOSED
NATIVE AMERICAN
RECOGNITION DAY**
**Friday, September 18th
Saturday, September 19th**

**Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital
Pharmacy Hours**

Friday, Sept. 18 th	CLOSED
Saturday, Sept. 19 th	8:00am - 8:00 pm
Sunday, Sept. 20 th	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

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, September 21, 2026.
If you need immediate assistance, please call 911 or visit the
Emergency Department at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.

HUMAN RESOURCES



Explore Careers at:
GRHC.org/Careers
(520) 562-3321 Ext. 1342



Clinical & Non-Clinical Positions

Physicians

Nurses

Administrators

Support Staff

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988

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



JOB OPENINGS

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:

- Child and Family Therapist (part-time)
- Deli Clerk
- Communication Officer
- Lab Tutor (part-time)
- Maintenance Technician
- Plant Electrician
- Plant Electrician & Instrumentation Technician
- Police Officer (non-certified)
- Police Officer (certified)

Open to Enrolled Ak-Chin Members Only

- General Worker (Temp Worker)
- Museum Technician
- Oral Historian (part-time)

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.

Book Club

Join us Monday evenings 5-6pm
September 14th, 21st, and 29th!

We'll be reading:



Call or email the library to reserve your spot
(520) 568-1675 or library@ak-chin.nsn.us

Programs and events open to Ak-Chin members, residents, and employees. Minors under 16 must be accompanied by an adult over 18.



Employee Birthdays 9/4 - 9/20

9/4

Tommy Jensen,
Central Plant
Bianka Mata,
Him-Dak Museum

9/5

Mario Campos,
Maintenance
Karen Fierro,
Him-Dak Museum
Cody Morris,
Fire

9/7

Clayton Antone,
Transit

9/8

Duane Antone,
Him-Dak Museum

9/9

Robert Beechum,
Sanitation
Michael Garza,
Fire

9/11

Stefanie Brideschge,
Police
Mary Narica,
Preschool
Francisco Viegas,
Sanitation

9/12

David Alvarado,
Police
Marcela Batopis,
Courts
Nolberto Medina,
Police

9/14

Laureano Rivera,
Tribal Gaming Agency

9/15

Theodore Puetz,
EPD

9/17

Anthony ManzoLopez,
Police

9/19

Andres Flores,
Tribal Gaming Agency
Robert Miguel,
Runner
Sonia Shepard,
Elderly

9/20

Matt Shepard,
Fire

September is Library Card Sign Up Month!

To celebrate, you can earn a prize by signing up for a library card or simply renewing your existing one!

FAMILY Game Night

ENJOY A FUN NIGHT OF
SNACKS AND BOARD GAMES
WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

September 16th
4pm-6pm

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OPEN TO
AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, AND EMPLOYEES.
MINORS UNDER 16 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN
ADULT OVER 18.

CALL: (520) 568-1675 OR
EMAIL: LIBRARY@AK-CHIN.NSN.US



LEGO MANIA!

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF
LEGO BUILDING AT THE LIBRARY!

SEPTEMBER
9TH AND 23RD 2PM-5PM

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OPEN TO
AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, AND EMPLOYEES.
MINORS UNDER 16 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
OVER 18.

CALL: (520) 568-1675 OR
EMAIL: LIBRARY@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

RESUME & JOB SEARCHING

WORKSHOP

Print out a resume, find
resources, and get started with
finding a job.

September 10th 3-4pm
September 21st 10-11am

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS,
RESIDENTS AND EMPLOYEES
MINORS UNDER 16 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
OVER 18.

CALL US: (520) 568-1675 OR EMAIL US: LIBRARY@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

Employee Updates

Correction



Jose Miguel Sr.
Sanitation



Happy birthday,
my Kingston. I am
so proud of the
young man you
are growing into.
Always remember I
am in your corner
no matter what.

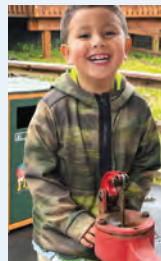
Enjoy this huge milestone and
never lose your amazing sense of
humor. Love you

Amirah Joaquin,
2nd birthday,
September 3rd
Happy 2nd Birthday
Princess, we love you
SO much! We can't
wait to celebrate you!



Happy Birthday to Yaa-Yaa,
Chech and Ollie
Love your family

Kelvert Joaquin,
5th birthday,
September 10th
Happy 5th Birthday
to our sweet, funny,
smart boy. We love
you SO much, we
can't wait to celebrate
you!



Happy Birthday to
my grandson Joseph Jr.,
and to my granddaughters
Mary and Stephanie
Love, Grandma

Happy Birthday Bob (pt. 1)
We hope you have fun
celebrating the beginning
of your birthday month!
From the Funnier Runner Gang



ZUMBA

September.01.2026
September.08.2026
September.15.2026
September.22.2026
September.29.2026

Ak-Chin Service Center

Tuesdays - 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Questions?? Please call Health Education at: (520) 568-1080
*Open to All Ak-Chin Community Members, Ak-Chin Community Residents, Employees and Employee Family Members

WIC

Tuesday, October 06, 2026

8:30a-2:30p

Ak-Chin Service Center

WIC foods include:

Yogurt, fresh fruits & vegetables, baby foods and
other favorites such as milk, peanut butter, cheese,
cereal and eggs

Do you qualify for WIC?

- Pregnant
- Breastfeeding women
- Infants
- Children under-the age of 5



Questions? Need to make an Appointment?
CALL: (520) 562-9698

Gila River Indian Community WIC Program

Pilates With Vickie

Ak-Chin Service Center

Wednesdays, 6:00p-7:00p

September 02, 2026

September 09, 2026

September 16, 2026*

*The class on 16th held at Preschool

September 30, 2026

Questions?? Please call Health Education at: (520) 568-1080
*Open to All Ak-Chin Community Members, Ak-Chin Community Residents, Employees and Employee Family Members

MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS 9/4 - 9/17

SEPTEMBER 4
Bianka Stephens
Tommy Jensen

SEPTEMBER 5
Patricia Thomas
Philbert Narcia Sr.
Harrison Smith
Dawson Allison
Robert Santos Jr.

SEPTEMBER 6
Mila Aguilla
Marcelino Jacuinde

SEPTEMBER 7
Joseph Justin
Gabrielle Compton
Clayton Antone
Jorge Stephens
Matthew Manuel
Randall Narcia

SEPTEMBER 8
Alana Oliver
Darris Vincent
Sylvia Gutierrez

SEPTEMBER 9
Linus Johnson
Kingston Narcia
Azarie Carlyle
Eleazar Baptisto
Justin Zabawa, Jr.

SEPTEMBER 10
Kelvert Joaquin
Steven Narcia

SEPTEMBER 11
Alaysha Johnson
Mary Narcia

SEPTEMBER 13
Lisa Matuz
Tatum Campbell

SEPTEMBER 14
Romeo Jensen
Lucy Antone
Eva Romo
Ember Navarrette
ShaMarie Florez

SEPTEMBER 15
Stacie Antone
Krislyn Pablo

SEPTEMBER 16
Angela Manuel
Angelo Manuel
Graham Smith

SEPTEMBER 17
Josiah Thomas
Frederick Antone
Rosalie Perry
Stephanie
Smallcanyon

ART SPACE

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EVERY TUESDAY
4PM - 5PM

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OPEN TO
AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, AND
EMPLOYEES.
MINORS UNDER 16 MUST BE
ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT OVER 18

CALL US: (520) 568-1675 OR
EMAIL US: LIBRARY@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

Dolly Parton Experience at the Luxe

Story and photos by Megan Quintero

The Luxe Lounge at Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center was a full house on Saturday August 29th, for a tribute show of one of country music's biggest icons, the late Dolly Parton.

All tables and chairs were filled with guests singing their hearts out and the dance floor was jam-packed with others dancing the night away.

During the Country

Divas performance, they played some of Dolly's most popular songs such as "9 to 5," "Jolene," and "I Will Always Love You" along with many others.

Known as the "Queen of Country" and so many other titles, Dolly Parton has had a very successful career, as a young singer-songwriter, and actress in dozens of movies and tv shows.

Dolly Parton will be truly missed.

She also owned many diverse businesses and did lots of charitable work over the years, such as donating to disaster recovery, the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital and so much more.

The show kind of felt like a bittersweet moment, as the world learned of Dolly's passing just days prior to the tribute show.

Dolly Parton will be truly missed.



Top right: Crowd enjoying the show



Bottom right: Dolly Parton Impersonator wows the crowd.

MOVIES • RESTAURANTS • BOWLING • ARCADE • LASER TAG • GROUP EVENTS

SEPTEMBER EVENTS
Ak-ChinCircle.com

FOOTBALL IS BACK
HAPPY HOUR FOOD AND DRINK MENU ALL DAY ON NFL GAME DAYS
SEASON STARTS SEPTEMBER 9TH

- \$5 BLOODY MARYS
- \$5 MIMOSAS
- \$5 3 AMIGOS MARGARITAS
- \$7.50 22oz MICHELADAS ON ANY DRAFT BEER

MOVIE RELEASES

- 9/02 Fall 2: Deadpoint
- 9/02 The Runner
- 9/04 Tom and Jerry: Forbidden Compass
- 9/04 By Any Means
- 9/11 Don't Look Back in Anger
- 9/11 Practical Magic 2
- 9/11 The Uprising
- 9/18 Resident Evil
- 9/18 The Weight
- 9/25 Forgotten Island
- 9/25 Primetime

FORGOTTEN ISLAND
IN THEATERS SEPTEMBER 25

LABOR DAY 2026
Happy Hour
Theater and Bowling will be opening at 11AM

MONTHLY MOVIE MUST-HAVE COMBO
\$20
Includes: 1 Movie, 1 Popcorn, 1 Soda, 1 Nachos

CHEESE BURGER DAY
1/2 OFF
ALL DAY SEPTEMBER 10

FALL BREAK
Bowling & Theater Open At 11AM
\$7 Reg \$10

KARAOKE
THURSDAY'S HOURS 7pm - 11pm
Includes: Free Pool Tables, Touch Tones, Drink Specials, Food Menu

SEPTEMBER 26
DOORS OPEN AT 8PM
SHOW STARTS @9PM
CHRISTIAN WARREN

THE HOLIDAYS ARE COMING BOOK YOUR PARTY NOW
For more information Contact Rivaldi (520) 233, 2445 | RQuintana@Ak-ChinCircle.com

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YOUR WHOLE CHEESECAKE ORDER BOOK A PARTY TO PAIR WITH IT, TOO!

- SPORTS BANQUETS
- FAMILY REUNIONS
- WORK LUNCHESES
- POOL PARTIES

Receive \$10 off your whole cheesecake order. Must mention coupon when ordering. No substitutions. Not valid with any other specials, offers, discounts or Harrah's Rewards. One coupon per order. Does not include alcohol. Delivery limited to within Maricopa. Non-transferable. Offer expires 9/30/26.

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Harrah's AK-CHIN CASINO

SEPTEMBER 2026

CAESARS REWARDS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
\$700,000 SUMMER PLAYFEST \$100,000 FINALE EVENT MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2026 DRAWINGS EVERY 20 MINUTES - 11AM - 6:40PM 2026 JEEP® WRANGLER RUBICON 7PM FINALE	1 WRAPPED IN COMFORT GIVEAWAY	2 15X 15X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER TOUCHDOWN TAKEOVER FOREVER YOUNG	3 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	4 TEE UP AT THE AK-CHIN SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF CLUB	5 WEEKEND SPIRITS GIVEAWAY	
6 POOL PARTY TOBY KEITH TRIBUTE SUPER SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	7 SUMMER PLAYFEST \$100,000 FINALE EVENT	8 WRAPPED IN COMFORT GIVEAWAY	9 15X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER TOUCHDOWN TAKEOVER FOREVER YOUNG	10 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	11 DRINK OF THE MONTH	12 PURCHASE A DAY PASS FOR THE POOL!
13 SUPER SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	14 DOWNLOAD THE CAESARS REWARDS APP	15 WRAPPED IN COMFORT GIVEAWAY	16 15X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER TOUCHDOWN TAKEOVER FOREVER YOUNG	17 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	18 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE LOUNGE WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS	19 ULTIMATE LAUGHLIN EXPERIENCE SWEEPSTAKES FRY'S FOOD STORES® ELECTRONIC GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY
20 SUPER SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	21 FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK & X!	22 WRAPPED IN COMFORT GIVEAWAY	23 15X 15X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER TOUCHDOWN TAKEOVER FOREVER YOUNG	24 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	25 FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY	26 REWARD YOURSELF & SHOP WITH REWARD CREDITS AT THE GIFT SHOP
27 SUPER SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	28 START THE WEEK WITH DUNKIN'	29 WRAPPED IN COMFORT GIVEAWAY	30 15X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER TOUCHDOWN TAKEOVER FOREVER YOUNG	\$60,000 Table Games Side Bet SWEEPSTAKES SEPTEMBER 6 - OCTOBER 29, 2026		

Valid only at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino and must have a Caesars Rewards card and valid photo ID to participate. Management reserves the right to change or cancel these promotions at any time without prior notice. Must be 21 or older to gamble and take advantage of these offers. Know When To Stop Before You Start! Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-NEXT STEP or text "NEXTSTEP" to 53342. ©2026 Caesars License Company, LLC. See official rules at the Caesars Rewards Center for complete details.