



Ak-Chin's Evelina Lopez tosses her ring in hopes to lasso it around an orange cone during the Elder Games at the Hanam Ke:k Recreation Center.

Ak-Chin Elders compete in HOPP Games in T. O.

Story and photos by Runner Staff

It was early, 5:30 am to be exact, Thursday morning, September 17th as Ak-Chin Elderly staff picked up their first elder, and then a second, a third, fourth, fifth and sixth.

Once everyone was picked up, the group made their way to the Tohono O'odham Nation to participate in the Healthy O'odham Promotion Program (HOPP) 2026 Senior Games.

On the sixty-minute drive to the games, which took

HOPP continues to Page 2a

place at the Hanam Ke:k Recreation Center near the Archie Hendricks Caring Home, the bus was extremely quiet, as six Ak-Chin elders, had their game faces on and were focused on brining home the gold.

Upon arrival, team Ak-Chin met with other elders from Gila River and the Nation, registering for their designated games, and chit chatting with others they knew.

Following a light breakfast, Hanam Ke:k

staff gave brief comments and instructions on the agenda and games for the day, and then the games began!

The six Ak-Chin elders then separated and prepared themselves for the games they each signed up for.

At one game station, Evelina Lopez could be seen, giving her best in the Stick Ball-Golf Swing, while Connie Narcia tossed as many bags possible into a target in the Beanbag Toss.



Participants begin their run from the starting point of the Super Hero Run/Walk towards the route in the western area of the community.

Super Hero Walk brings out Plenty of Participants

Story and photos by Megan Quintero

Ak-Chin Health Education hosted their annual Super Hero 5K and 2-mile run/walk on the morning of Saturday September 19th the Ak-Chin Service Center. There were about 95

participants in attendance, as participants were allowed to choose between the 2-mile walk or the 5K timed run.

Once everyone finished up with their registrations,

they were also provided raffle tickets to place in designated boxes for raffle prizes. The walk/run began around 7am. The morning started off with a cool small breeze along with a slight scent of freshly watered grass, and birds singing.

The sun shined brightly over the runners and walkers, as they started their walk/run by the Ak-Chin Service Center and

Ak-Chin Community Celebrates Native American Recognition Day

Story and photos by Kristen Villegas, and Waylon Antone, Him-Dak Art Program Coordinator

Celebrating the vivid culture, language, traditions, and histories of the Indigenous people in the United States; Native American Recognition Day honors what makes Indigenous communities proud and unified.

Our Annual Native American Recognition Day (NARD) event was held on Saturday September 29, 2026. The day started off with registration for the fun walk/run at 7:30 am held across the street, west of the Ak-Chin Circle.

This year was met with a great turnout of attendees along with artisan merchants, food/drink

vendors, giveaways, live performances, cultural demonstrations, and activities for the youth, like bounce houses and games.

Before participants began making their way towards Antone Park, Chairman Gabriel Lopez shared a prayer with all participants. The run/walk started by the Rodeo grounds on N. Narcia St. and the finish line ended at Milton "Paul" Antone Park on N. Smith Rd.

As the runners and walkers made their way to the finish line, the Ak-Chin Health Education Department was waiting with snacks and drinks

to help replenish their body from the run/walk.

The runners and walkers also received a free t-shirt that was provided by the Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum. Designed by Waylon Antone, the shirts displayed an image of a vato, with a desert habitat surrounding in yellow and blue.

At the arrival of the last walkers, Him-Dak staff awarded medals and gift cards to the top 3 finishers for both male and female divisions.

In the men's division we had Albert Santiago cross the finish line first, followed by and Luis



The "Eagle Dance" was performed by a dancer from the Yellow Bird Dancers during the NARD celebration at Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park.

NARD continues to Page 5a

Harlee Jose enjoys a Great Season Playing Softball

Story and photos submitted by Marla Antone

Talk about coming out of nowhere, that's what Harlee did literally!

You probably have read a story or two about my son Abraham Jose, with

his baseball adventures.

Well, let me introduce you to his younger sister Harlee Jose. She is the youngest of our four children.

And because all her older brothers; Marciano, Adriano, and Abraham played baseball, you know she was dragged to all their practices, games, tournaments, tryouts, etc.

She wasn't interested in watching games, as she carried a bag with her dolls to keep her company. As she grew older her bags were now full of markers, pencils, pens, and a notebook.

Tony and I didn't think she would be interested in any sport other than dance. She loved to dance around the house, in the stores, at games, anywhere and everywhere.

So, we eventually got her in dance classes, which



Harlee Jose is Ak-Chin's newest All-Star!

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HOPP continued from Front



Rechanda Manuel tosses her dart in hopes of hitting a bulls eye in the Dart Throw as Connie Narcia looks on.



Connie Narcia shows steady form and focus as she tosses her bean bag in the Bean Bag Toss competition.



Robert Miguel throws a strike during his first of three attempts in the Hit The Target - Ball Throw.



Connie Orona shows other elders how to throw and smile as she attempts to hit a bulls eye in the Dart Throw.



Ruby Smith has perfect form at putting in her efforts to place the mini-ball into a net at the Stick Ball Golf station.

Ruby Smith was at another station attempting to place rings (hula hoop size) onto a large orange cone, and Rechanda Manuel took her soccer talents to another station, where she had four tries to kick a ball into a net, in the Soccer Kick competition.

Connie Orona tried her luck at

throwing frisbees into a hula hoop from a distance of 20 feet.

Meanwhile, Robert Miguel showed his old pitching form as he successfully knocked over an upright cone target from twenty-five feet away in the Hit the Target-Ball Throw.

All six participated in the eight games that were set up, which also included the Hand/Eye Reflex Drop Stick Challenge and Dart Throw.

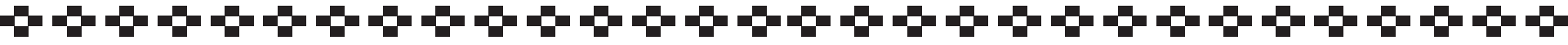
Although, no one was able to come away with a gold, silver or bronze medal following competition, Team Ak-Chin,

had fun participating in the games and representing the community well.

Following a traditional meal of chicken soup with yeast buns, salad, and tortilla, it was time for the drive back home.

On the drive back home, el-

ders and staff were able to listen to Tohono O’odham’s radio station, KOHN radio, as they were listening, they recognized KOHN’s main disc jockey Fred Lopez’s voice. Lopez was the Master of Ceremonies for the games.



Dolly Parton fans from left-right; Rechanda Manuel, Ak-Chin Elder Program Director, Leslie Carlyle-Burnett, Connie Narcia and Mildred Mendoza, sport their pink sparkly cowboy hats during an elder dinner in honor of the late Dolly Parton.

It’s A Dolly Parton Dinner!

Story and photos by Robert Miguel

What a theme to celebrate, as the Ak-Chin Elder Program provided a monthly dinner in honor of “Dolly Parton”, the beloved and late legendary country music star, for the month of September.

As elders who attended, sat in the multi-purpose room, videos and interviews of the late country music singer were featured. Some videos and hit songs included; “Jolene”, “Here You Come Again”, and “I Will Always

Love You”.

Following brief conversations and a blessing by Ak-Chin Elder Program Director, Leslie Carlyle-Burnett; who was dressed in Dolly-inspired country western gear; a delicious dinner was served to all that included a blend of pot roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, with a dinner roll and a variety of refreshments.

Throughout the dinner and early evening, elders were glued to the big screen where Dolly Parton videos continued. Some elders also donned cute pink western hats and bandannas,

compliments of the elder program.

At the conclusion of the dinner, ice cream and apple or cherry pie slices were offered. To go plates of the pot roast dinner were given out for elders to take home, as well as left over slices of pie. During the past couple of months, the Elder Program staff have been hosting monthly dinners and outings. Elders from the community are encouraged to come out and participate in the various activities planned.

Look for an announcement in the Runner of the next scheduled dinner.



Elders spent an evening watching interviews and videos of Dolly Parton.

October Elder Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Breakfast served from 7 AM to 8:30 AM Lunch Served from 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	Exercise w/ Health Ed - Wednesdays Only at 9:30 AM Bible Study w/ Johnny Stephens @ 11 AM, Fridays Menu/Calendar Subject to Change Without Notice	10/2 Chorizo & Egg Burrito, Cereal, Banana Egg Salad Sandwich On, Whole Wheat Bread, Tomato/ Cucumber Salad, Pears	
	10/5 Departure for Albuquerque New Mexico Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit Chicken Noodle Soup W/Peas, Carrots, Potato, Romain Salad, Grapes	10/6 Biscuits & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Peaches w/Cottage Cheese Squash Casserole, Romain Salad, Whole Wheat/White Rolls, Apple Sauce/ Pineapple	10/7 Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Mix Berries Elder Halloween Craft 10:30 AM Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Cantaloupe/Honey Dew, Fruit Cup (D) If you are attending the Hawaii Trip, please attend Informational Meeting, 5 pm	10/8 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Apples Pinto beans, Baked Chicken (D), Butternut Squash, Corn Bread, Peaches	10/9 Tornados, Refried Beans, Yogurt Parfait Baked Chicken, Corn on Cob, Green Beans, Rolls, Apples/ Oranges	10/10 Returning from Albuquerque New Mexico
	10/12 Breakfast Burrito, Salsa & Sour Cream, Scone, Fruit Sandwich Bar, Whole Wheat/White Bread, Green Leaf/ Tomato Onion, Pea Salad, Pickle/ Tomato Juice, Apples/Oranges	10/13 Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Banana Ground Beef Taco, California Vegetables, Brown Rice, Brownie/ Lemon bars, Pears	10/14 Scrambled Eggs w/ Vegetables, Cheesy Potatoes Tomato Soup, Whole Wheat Grilled Cheese, Vegetable Soup (D), Turkey Sand (D), Romain Salad, Watermelon	10/15 Waffles, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Fruit Salad Bean Tostada, Chicken Tostada (D), Spanish Rice, Corn, Peaches	10/16 Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit Fish or Chicken Tacos, Steamed Cabbage, Broccoli, Churros, Nectarine	



Newspaper of the
Ak-Chin Indian Community
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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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**AK-CHIN INDIAN
COMMUNITY**

NEXT DEADLINE
Don't forget the
DEADLINE for the
October 16 -
WNovember 5, 2026
issue is due by
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

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

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



Swimmers swim to the finish line during the "Noodle Race" of the Rez Splash event hosted by the Recreation Department.

Rez Splash Is A "Splash"

Story and photos by Robert Miguel

Community members, residents and guests were invited to the Ak-Chin Recreation Department on Friday, September 25th from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm to participate in the RezSplash event, which was in recognition of Native American Recognition Day (NARD).

During the fun-filled day at the pool, children and adults were able to enjoy swimming, games, activities and plenty of snacks. Games included a Treasure Hunt in three various areas of the pool, which were the red, yellow, and green zones. Noodle swim races were also held within the three colored zones of red, yellow and green.

Following games, prizes were handed out to the top three finishers. After the awards distributions, everyone enjoyed their time in the

pool, while music blared through the speakers. As the Recreation department summer season comes to an end, staff are continuing to schedule other events and activities, and are also encouraging everyone to come out and enjoy the aquatics/activities before the pool comes to closure.

The Ak-Chin Indian Community celebrates NARD during the fourth week of September with events such as the Ak-Chin Him-Dak Native American Recognition Day Celebration, which takes place at Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park. The day is also recognized as a holiday for the community, therefore community departments, with exception of a few, are closed.

RezSplash made its debut celebration this year!



Parents watch over their children as they participate in the "Scavenger Hunt" during the Rez Splash event.

St. Francis of Assisi Mission

Ak-Chin Indian Community

Feast Day Celebration

Saturday, October 17, 2026

Schedule
10:00 am – Mass with Celebrant Pastor Elijah DeLello
11:00 am – Opening Procession
Gila River Matachina Dance Group
12:00 pm – 1:45 pm – Traditional Lunch

Entertainment
MC-Robert Miguel
2:00 pm – Sif-Oidak Seniors Maple Ribbon Dance Group
3:00 pm – Keli Akimel Hua Modk Cudkdam
4:00 pm – Ba'Ban Keihina Group
5:30 pm – Closing Procession – Mumsigo Band
6:00 pm to 12:00 am – Mumsigo Band
7:00 pm to 11:00 pm – T.O. P'apkolo'ola Dance Group
9:00 pm – San Juan Kualiya Dance Group

Arts/Crafts/Food Vendors Welcome
\$30.00 donation to reserve a space

For more information, please contact:
Marilyn at 520-568-1000, Lerline at 520-518-1393,
or Joan at 602-402-4671

EVERYONE WELCOME
NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS ALLOWED

Ak-Chin Indian Community Election

Election Day:
November 21, 2026

Official 2026 Candidates
for This Year's Election

Brian Derek Manuel Jr.

Cecil Peters

Dawn Ashley Fuentes

Deidra Carlyle

Dennis Antone

Lemuel Vincent

Robert Miguel

Application for Absentee Ballot: Any eligible voter who wishes to vote early or who expects to be absent from the reservation or who expects to be physically unable to go to the voting place may request an absentee ballot by either appearing in person or sending a letter to the Community Election Board at 42507 W. Peters & Nall Road, Maricopa, Arizona 85138.

Absentee Ballots will be available at Tribal/Farm Headquarters Office beginning Monday, September 28, 2026 through Monday, November 16, 2026 (In-Person request) between the hours of 8:00am to 5:00pm.

All requests must be made personally, not through a second or third party. All persons shall identify himself or herself using the name under which he or she is enrolled when requesting an absentee ballot. All absentee ballots must be received by 5:00pm on the day of the deadline.

For questions or to request an absentee ballot, please contact Vicki Smith at (520) 568-1000.

AK-CHIN ELDER PROGRAM

ELDER

HAWAII TRIP

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

AK-CHIN ELDERS THAT WILL BE ATTENDING THE 2026 ELDER HAWAII TRIP, THE ELDER PROGRAM WILL BE HAVING A MEETING TO GET YOU SET UP AND READY FOR YOUR FUN AND EXCITING TRIP.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE
ON: OCTOBER 7, 2026
WHERE: AK-CHIN ELDER CENTER BUILDING
TIME: 5PM



Maricopa Wells Sports end for Fall Break

Story by Kristen Villegas



Submitted Photo: Abraham Jose

For students of the Maricopa Unified School District, they've completed the first quarter and headed into fall break. And with this break, the sports for the season have also come to an end until the next school year.

Maricopa Wells Middle School has just completed their volleyball and baseball seasons.

As posted in a recent Runner issue, there are four Ak-Chin girls playing with the Panthers volleyball team, those being 8th graders; Dalia Antone, Emily Antone, Zoe Gardner, and 6th grader Jessica Zabawa.

For Baseball, two Ak-Chin boys took to the field; 8th grader Abraham Jose and 7th grader Caleb Ugalde.

Lastly, for Cross Country, 7th grader Sarah Delma has been competing with Maricopa Wells with most meets being held on Saturdays for the month of September.

Her season is just shy of being over as she has two meets coming up in October.

Great work to our Ak-Chin Athletes!

We hope to hear more about our student's participation in the upcoming sports and other extracurricular activities.



Submitted Photo: Sarah Delma



Zoe Gardner

Jessica Zabawa

Saddleback Elementary Awards Jeremiah Antone

Story and photo submitted by Bojana Uzelac, Ak-Chin Student Advisor

Ak-Chin's Jeremiah Antone received the PBIS ticket (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports ticket), it is giving to the students who display respect, responsibility, and safety.

Congratulations Jeremiah, keep up the good behavior!



Come Build at LEGOMania

Story by Kristen Villegas, photo by Naomi Bishop, Ak-Chin Indian Community Library Manager

Left: How much taller can it get? See Jacob Santiago build his one of a kind LEGO tower using multicolored pieces.

LEGOMania was one of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Library's monthly programs for September and allowed those participants to express their creativity using LEGO pieces.

Held on September 9 and 23, it was nice to see the great builds our community members created.



Interested in all that the library has to offer? Upcoming at the library are Crochet Classes every Friday in October at 5 PM beginning on October 2, Book Club every Monday at 5 PM starting October 5, Computer Skills Classes for Adults on October 6 and 20 at 4 PM and much more. Be sure to check out October's calendar and for questions, contact the Ak-Chin Library at (520) 568-1675.

All for Family Game Night

Story and photos by Kristen Villegas



The Don't Touch that Color game was a bit more challenging the longer the game went on, but overall was a great game to start the night.

If you were hoping to get out of the house and enjoy a bit of competitive fun, the Ak-Chin Indian Community Library was the place to be for the Family Game Night on September 16.

There were plenty of games to choose from, but first everyone enjoyed the complementary snacks and drinks.

colors, the goal is to touch an opposite color to the one called. Sounds easy right? But it was proven to be challenging as the speed of the colors called increased.

Next, patrons enjoyed games of Jenga, Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza, Uno and much more; it was no surprise that everyone had a good time.

The night started with a round of Don't Touch the Color, which is played with sheets of colored paper being placed on the table. A person will randomly call out different

Interested in upcoming programs the Ak-Chin Library has to offer? Please check out the monthly calendar placed in the Runner for what the library has scheduled next!



Above: An intense game of Jenga is played between Jacob Santiago and Robin Vincent, Ak-Chin Library Aide. Below: This duo chose to challenge themselves to the newest puzzle the library has.



Introducing New Computers for the Community

Story and photo by Kristen Villegas



Following the receiving of a grant by the Native American Basic Grants (NAB) program, the Ak-Chin Indian Community Library recently acquired new computers for library patrons.

Catered to preschool aged kids to twelve-year-olds, the computers offer more learning opportunities for the ones using them as they offer 250+ educational modules; expanding on subjects like reading, math, science and

coding. These new computers offer a safer alternative to regular computers, where interested patrons can explore at their own pace, and games, of course.

Whether it was the growing interest in using computers or the inevitable transition to online learning, community kids have been expressing their excitement to the newest addition to the library.



Luis Chavez, and Jaxson Justin for the men. Keare Davis came in first for the women's division, followed by Lisa Chavez, and Felippa Peters.

Clayton Antone was the DJ, making announcements keeping the crowd informed and playing music for the day. There were also various demonstrators for the NARD event.

There was Alana Oliver (Silversmithing) showing her beautiful jewelry, Dwayne Antone (Acrylic Painting) who had several amazing paintings presented, Rufus White (leather tooling/crafts) with various nice handmade leather items presented, and Bernice L. Monte (Tohono O'odham Baskets) with beautiful baskets, earrings and necklaces.

Lining the north fence near Farrell Rd. were craft vendors; Ariel Lyons specializing in 3D printing, Morning Rain Creations, Jessica Robertson, Maho Creations, Gishey Rose Creations, Artemia's Beadwork, Angela Gilmore, GRIC Arts & Crafts, and Charlene Yazzie.

Scattered amongst the vendor's booths was Ak-Chin Indian Community Youth Council, Library, and Language; who encouraged all to stop by for free giveaways and to learn about their departments.

Near and in the baseball field food/beverage vendors were; O'odham Squeezed Lemmonade, Rez Dillz, Lemme Lemonade U, Christina Millard with popovers, Yana Bean Ko:vi, and Melanie Antone with breakfast burritos.

The first performers at 9:00 am were the Wa:k Traditional Singers & Dancers, coming from the San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation, sharing songs and dancing, telling the stories of the mountains, weather and the

communities of the O'odham lands.

Next was the Yellow Bird Dancers, a Native American Family performing arts group. The group presented a kaleidoscope of dances, songs and stories with their performances.

The third group that performed were the Kaig Mek Keihindam from the Tohono O'odham Nation, the performance was for blessings and rain, they also had items that signified and represented the himdag (way of life). The group had about 25 performers and was noted that they also had 5 generations in their group.

The last performers that ended the day were the Two Rivers Band, they provided waila music for the last hour. This was also a treat too for people taking down their tents as the day was hot but that good waila music gave them that much pep in their step to give them energy and follow the rhythm as they packed things away.

The Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum Staff would like to Thank all the Wa:k Traditional Singers & Dancers, Yellow Bird Indian Dancers, Kaig Mek Keihindam Dancers, Two Rivers Band, Alana Oliver, Dwayne Antone, Rufus White, Bernice L. Monte, All the Information booths, Arts and Craft Booths and Food vendors, DJ Clay, Chairman Gabriel Lopez, Police Department, Security, Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation, Health Education Department, Marty's Trophies, L&R Promotional, Custodial staff, Vekol Market, Public Works, all the runners and walkers and everyone who attended.

Our apologies to anyone else that we left out that helped us with our Annual NARD event and We hope to see you next year for our Annual Native American Recognition Day Celebration!



Halloween House Decorating Contest

~ Open to all homes within the Ak-Chin Community ~

DEADLINE TO SIGN-UP IS OCTOBER 23TH.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ENTER THE CONTEST, PLEASE SUBMIT NAME AND HOME ADDRESS TO THE RUNNER.
PHONE: 520-568-1375 OR EMAIL: RUNNERNEWS@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

PRIZES AWARDED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:
-BEST OVERALL THEME
-BEST LIGHTING & EFFECTS
-SCARIEST THEME
-CUTEST THEME

**Ak-Chin Indian Community Veterans,
Community Events, Parks & Recreation**

★★★

PRESENTS

**Ak-Chin Veteran's
Recognition Day Celebration
November 7, 2026**

Please Stand By

★ ACTIVITIES & EVENTS ★
COMING SOON!

For more information about this event, please contact
Ak-Chin Parks & Recreation at 520-568-1740.

Young Scientists in the Making

Story and photos by Megan Quintero



On Thursday September 24, the Ak-Chin Early Childhood Program preschool students participated in a small “science fair” that was held in the multi-purpose room of the preschool.

Each class worked on their projects prior to showing the other classes.

Both the three- and four-year-old classes all met in the multi-purpose room to show off their science experiments.

The first class to start off was Ms. Mary’s class, where they showed the other classes how to make something quite similar to elephant toothpaste.

Next up was Mrs. Pollie’s class where they demonstrated the lava monsters they made.

Mrs. Billie’s class then presented bouncing bubbles to the other classes.

Mrs. Francine’s class was the last class to present, and they showed

the other classes how to make magic milk.

As everyone thought the showing of experiments were over, Mr. Terri and Ms. Emma had an experiment up their sleeves!

They showcased their dancing popcorn experiment!

As the classes wrapped up for the day the young scientists were treated to ice cream for all their hard work.

Hello Fall Break!

Story and photos by Runner Staff

It is that time of year where the weather gets cooler, the days feel shorter, and the kiddos are released from school for a two-week period.

Fall break is here and community students are either home, at the Events-Interession, or at the Him-Dak Art Program.

With both programs beginning on September 28, the kids are being entertained with activities of all kinds, organized by multiple departments.

The Ak-Chin Community

Events department have had a busy week packed with visits from Language, Courts, Education, Library, Cultural Resources, Health Education, Central Plant, and Parks and Recreation.

Highlights of activities included: learning traditional songs and dances with Language; making slime with Education staffers; and making puppet of Pete the Cat along with a sing-a-long Storytime with the Library.

At the Him-Dak Art Program the week began

with crafts and visits from Cultural Resources, where they played a couple rounds of bingo and provided prizes for the winners.

Health Education visited and did some exercises with the kids to get them moving.

The Language program taught the kids some of the social dances and the meaning of the songs they went over.

There is more fun to come during the Fall break sessions, stay tuned for more.



Best themed trunk wins a prize!

Register Here:

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 16TH, 2026
Date: October 24TH, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm
Where: Milton "Paul" Antone Memorial Park
This is an outdoor event!
Contact (520) 568-1640
bmartincz@ak-chin.nsn.us

OCTOBER 24TH, 2026
MILTON "PAUL" ANTONE MEMORIAL PARK
46753 W. FARRELL RD. MARICOPA, AZ 85139
6:00 P.M.

TRUNK OR TREAT

CONTACT
(520) 568-1720
ALLEVENTSSTAFF@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

Friendship Youth League (FYSL) Tournament

Story by Robert Miguel and photos by Kristen Villegas

For the past few weeks, the Ak-Chin boys and girls basketball teams have been participating in the Friendship Youth Sports League (FYSL), which plays their games in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Community in Scottsdale.

As the season winds down, this year's end of the year basketball league tournament took place at the Ak-Chin Recreation Department on Saturday, September 26th, with five teams competing in the K-1st grade division, six teams in the 2nd-3rd grade division, and eight teams in the 4th-5th grade division.

So, a total of nineteen teams took to the hardwood in Ak-Chin, during the Native American Recognition Day (NARD) weekend.

The first set of games took place in the morning as it featured the K-1st

grade ballers.

Games were fun and exciting to watch, with plenty of traveling ball and friendly fouls. Despite these mini-violations, family and friends continued to cheer on their players and teams.

The Lil Ones, Native Clash, Gila River, Salt River Renegades, and WGATAP all battled in attempts to claim the title. WGATAP, of Salt River was able to pin losses on Gila River and community rival, the Salt River Renegades, to secure a first-place finish.

In the 2nd-3rd grade division, Gila River upended the Arizona Ballerz in the finals to capture the title.

Games also featured plenty of traveling, fouls and other violations, but loads support was heard throughout the afternoon.

Others competing in the division, included; Ak-Chin, Salt River Renegades, Ft. McDowell Woof Pack, and Native Clash.

The Ft. McDowell Lions needed three straight victories to capture the championship, knocking off Ak-Chin #1, Laces, and Gila River in the 4th-5th division.

Games were played with less violations, as players perfected their rebounding, dribbling, shooting, and good defense. Other teams featured; Next Level, Ak-Chin #2, Native Clash and Ft. McDowell.

With the conclusion of the tournament, the Friendship Youth Sports League concluded their final week of season, until next year. Congratulations to all teams for an exciting and wonderful season!



Chin Service Center and made their way around the preschool through the fields.

After the run/walk everyone then made their way into the service center for a light breakfast. As everyone ate breakfast the top finishers for the 5K were called to get their prizes, as were the raffle winners!

Raffle winners won gift cards and super



Wilma "Pollie" Antone sports her Incredible Hulk shirt, while her daughter, Desirae "Chicker" Antone, wears her Captain American shirt.

ANIMAL CONTROL FAMILY ACTIVITY

Story and photos by Megan Quintero



On September 17th, at 5 pm the Ak-Chin Animal Control Program held an animal-themed family activity event at the Ak-Chin Justice Complex.

The activity consisted

of painting your choice of any of the several wooden animal cutouts or painting any of the ceramic animals.

Most attendees enjoyed decorating multiple

wooden pieces.

During the session a light dinner and variety of drinks and snacks were provided for the families to enjoy!

BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU

Story and photos by Megan Quintero



Submitted by Marilyn Velasco

Ak-Chin's Health Education hosted its first ever Brazilian Jiu Jitsu class for community youth on September 17th at the Ak-Chin Service Center.

So far there are about 10 participants learning some new skills from Professor Lopez, who is a 3rd degree black belt, with decades of experience teaching

students.

The first couple sessions the kiddos first began with a few stretches and warm ups.

They also played what is called the 'tail game' and a game similar to Simon says, before learning to balance themselves, and practiced how to do a move called "around the world".

Classes are open to all Ak-Chin members and residents from ages 6 to 15, with classes happening every Thursday from 545pm to 630pm until November 12th at the Ak-Chin Service Center.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ak-Chin Health Education at 520-568-1080.

LEARN THE FUNDAMENTALS

TRAIN WITH PROFESSOR LOPEZ
3rd-degree black belt under Master John Machado

Health Education
Presents....

YOUTH BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU AT AK-CHIN

CONFIDENCE • DISCIPLINE • SKILL

AK-CHIN YOUTH AGES 6-15

START DATE -
SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

AK-CHIN SERVICE CENTER
48227 W FARRELL RD
THURSDAYS • 5:45 PM-6:30 PM

OPEN TO ALL AK-CHIN YOUTH MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS ONLY
QUESTIONS?? PLEASE CALL (520) 568-1080

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LIABILITY WAIVER
PRIOR TO CLASS

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(520) 562-3321



Gila River
HEALTH CARE

VISIT US ONLINE:
GRHC.ORG



We Are HIRING!

GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE

Where Care Meets Community

Join our mission to make a difference! We're seeking :

**Emergency Medical
Technicians (EMTs)**
(full-time)

Paramedics
(full-time and part-time)

Benefits of joining Gila River Emergency Medical Services (GREMS)

- Community sworn department
- State-of-the-art equipment and vehicles
- Comfortable station life
- In-house training
- In-house medical direction
- 9 ALS ambulance units
- 3 ALS Quick Response units
- 3 MIH-CP units
- Tactical Medic Team
- Special event medical operations
- All hazards IMT
- Honor Guard
- Exceptional benefits (full-time)
- 3/4 Schedule (overtime pay after 40 hours)

Explore Careers at:
GRHC.org/Careers

Human Resources
(520) 562-3321 Ext. 1342



October Health Update Newsletter

Download this month's issue for articles on GRHC Halloween events, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, October recipes, and more!



SCAN ME

Flu Shots Now Available

Walk-ins welcome or by appointment at any Gila River Health Care Primary Care Department. Available 8:00 AM - 5 PM.

Eligibility guidelines: Gila River Indian Community enrolled members and all federally recognized tribal members.



2026 -2027

Flu Shots Now Available

.....

- ☒ WALK-INS WELCOME
- ☒ BY APPOINTMENT
- ☒ ANY GILA RIVER HEALTH CARE PRIMARY CARE DEPARTMENT

Open
8 am - 5 pm

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital (520) 562-3321 Ext. 1495	Hau'pal (Red Tail Hawk) Health Center (520) 796-2697
Komatke Health Center (520) 550-6000	Pediatrics Department (520) 562-3321 Ext. 7337

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES: Gila River Indian Community enrolled members and all federally recognized tribal members.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988

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



district titles with bat
bags.

The state tournament was in July with Maricopa's first game against Queen Creek in Avondale.

Unfortunately, this would be a short tournament for Maricopa 10U as they lost their first game 0-8, won their second against Cactus Foothills 15-3 and couldn't advance losing against Camp Verde 9-2.

One game a day, maybe, was too much traveling for the team; nerves, or teams were just that much better. All I know is we couldn't have been prouder of the team to have made it this far.

Harlee's first year playing softball, she didn't know what would be in store for her, but putting in the hard work at practices, and with her dad and brother Abraham at home every day, paid off.

We're so excited to see what's to come next season.

Congratulations again to Harlee, for all your hard work and dedication you put in with your teams, we're so very proud of you, love mom and dad.



Week of Remembrance Honors Children, Survivors and Families of Indian Boarding Schools



L-R: Raychel Peters and Leslie Carlyle-Burnett don orange shirts for “National Day of Remembrance.”

To honor children, survivors, and families of the Indian Boarding School era, the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS), coordinated and organized efforts to bring awareness to Indigenous people that may have suffered when they were impacted by boarding school placement.

One of the awareness events included the Orange Shirt Day, in recognition of National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding School Survivors, on September 30th. Through word of mouth,

Ak-Chin members were encouraged to wear orange on this day, which a few did.

Just as it was for many Native American communities throughout the United States, Ak-Chin had plenty who attended boarding schools, one school in particular, was the St. Johns Indian School located in Komatke on the Gila River Indian Community.

The school was founded in the late 19th century by Catholic priests, to provide religious, academic, and industrial education.

Throughout the decades, testimony from boarding school attendees through interviews, revealed complete physical, emotional, and cultural abuse aimed at forcing the adjustment of Native American children for over one hundred and fifty years.

Testimonies included; Cultural Erasure, where children were forbidden from speaking their native languages or practicing tribal traditions.

To help bring continued awareness to the tragic encounters, in Arizona, the Heard Museum, in

collaboration with Native American Connections, presented the American Indian Boarding School Remembrance Day (Orange Shirt Day).

The event featured a panel discussion with former students LouVina Maho and Felicita Bonito Cromwell.

The event also featured a catered lunch with traditional Indigenous foods, a guided tour of Steele Park, where the former Phoenix Indian School once sat, and rare access to Memorial Hall.

Law Enforcement Seeks Help Identifying Scottsdale John Doe

By Dalton Walker
O’odham Action News
dalton.walker@srpmic-nsn.gov



- 3 Takeaways:**
- Area law enforcement is seeking the public’s help in identifying a male whose body was found two decades ago in a Scottsdale canal.
 - A new rendering has been released in hopes of jump-starting the investigation.
 - Testing revealed he is of Native American descent and may be from the SRPMIC or related populations.

Law enforcement officials in the Scottsdale area are working to identify a male whose body was found 21 years ago in a canal near the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The body was found on May 20, 2005, and recent advancements in forensic genetic analysis have provided new potential leads. Advanced DNA testing and genetic genealogy revealed that he is of Native American descent and may be from the SRPMIC. However, his identity remains unknown.

Now, that analysis is renewing efforts to identify the man. A rendering by well-known forensic sketch artist Carl Kop-

elman was released earlier this year by the [Ramapo College Investigative Genetic Genealogy Center](#), which is working with the Scottsdale Police Department and the Maricopa County Office of the Medical Examiner to identify the man. The rendering includes a wooden cross lanyard the man was wearing when his body was found.

The Salt River Police Department issued a [press release](#) in April along with the wooden cross, saying that the testing revealed genetic markers consistent with Pima descent. “This development suggests the possibility that the individual may have ties to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community or related populations,” the release read.

The man was between 19 and 34 years of age when he died. He was roughly 5 feet, 5 inches tall and weighed 130 pounds.

Anyone with relevant information or tips, no matter how small, is encouraged to call law enforcement. Scottsdale Police Detective Brady Bailey is the assigned investigator and can be reached directly at (480) 312-5762. Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling (480) 312-TIPS.

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY Capital Projects

September 24, 2026

PROJECT CONSTRUCTION NOTICE for WATER SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT 266 HOMES, AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS

Project Description:

This project will replace the water service lines between houses and the water mainline for 266 houses throughout the Ak-Chin Indian Community in Maricopa Arizona. The service waterline replacement will include new service tap connection to the water mainline and installing new water meters. The old service line will be disconnected and the old water meter will be removed. The disturbed areas within the construction limits will be resorted to original position.

Purpose of the Project:

This project will replace the old service lines with new more dependable water service lines and new water meters. The project will improve the water service quality to the houses by minimizing water line breaks and repeated repairs on the old service waterlines.

Safety Precaution:

During construction activities, residents should take extra precautions around the construction areas and keep clear from moving construction equipment.

Timeline of the Project:

The project started construction March, 2026, and will continue for 10 months. Open cut trenching across the roads in Greasewood and Farms subdivisions are ongoing. Water service lines for many houses were successfully replaced. Flyer notices will be distributed to the individual houses prior to starting construction on the houses’ new water service lines replacement.

Project Team:

Owner/Applicant: Carlton Carlyle Water Operation Manager Ak-Chin Indian Community Phone: (520) 568-1148	Design & Construction Engineer Marcus Felter Indian Health Service Western Arizona District Office Phoenix, AZ Phone: (480) 280-6341
---	---

FIXED ROUTE SCHEDULE

PICKUP TIMES		BUS SHELTER	LOCATION
10:15AM	2:15PM	4	WB -West of Carlyle Rd
10:16AM	2:16PM	3	WB- Elders Center
10:17AM	2:17PM		Apartments
10:18AM	2:18PM	2	EB-Elders Center
10:19AM	2:19PM	19	Farrell at Historical Bus Stop
10:20AM	2:20PM		Vekol Market
10:22AM	2:22PM		Joaquin St and Joaquin Dr
10:24AM	2:24PM	18	Lewis at Desert Willow Park
10:24AM	2:24PM		Desert Willow Apartments
10:24AM	2:24PM		WB Lewis at Smith
10:25AM	2:25PM		EB Gym on sidewalk at stop sign
10:25AM	2:25PM	7	Library and Gym on Farrell
10:26AM	2:26PM	8	Farrell at Thomas
10:26AM	2:26PM	10	Police Station/Courts
10:27AM	2:27PM	11	SB -Ak-Chin Circle
10:28AM	2:28PM	12	SB-Central Plant
10:28AM	2:28PM	13	EB Sudagi/South of Casino
10:34AM	2:34PM	17	Peters and Nall at Milo
10:35AM	2:35PM		EB- Ak-Chin Govt. Headquarters
10:35AM	2:35PM		Barley and Pecan
10:36AM	2:36PM		Farm and Pecan
10:38AM	2:38PM		WB-Ak-Chin Govt. Headquarters
10:43AM	2:43PM		Peters and Narcia
10:44AM	2:44PM		Pablo and Narcia
10:45AM	2:45PM		Pablo and Jose
10:45AM	2:45PM		Ralph and Miguel
10:45AM	2:45PM		Ralph and Milton
10:46AM	2:46PM		Ralph and Hohokam St
10:46AM	2:46PM		Ross and Hohokam St
10:47AM	2:47PM		Juan and Ross St
10:47AM	2:47PM		Juan and Hohokam St
10:49AM	2:49PM	14	WB Sudagi/ South of Casino
10:49AM	2:49PM	15	NB-Central Plant
10:50AM	2:50PM	16	Ak-Chin Circle (NB / West-Side / Rear)
10:53AM	2:53PM	9	Farrell Rd @ Bus Stop after Enos
10:54AM	2:54PM	6	WB - across from Milton Antone Park
10:54AM	2:54PM		Vekol Market
10:55AM	2:55PM	5	WB before PRC/ Transit
10:55AM	2:55PM	4	WB- West of Carlyle
10:56AM	2:56PM	3	WB-Elders center
10:57AM	2:57PM		Apartments
10:58AM	2:58PM	2	EB-Elders Center

Transit will still be offering Free On-Demand door to door pickup in Ak-Chin that can be scheduled up to 7 days in advance. This new route is an addition to our current services. Residents can make unlimited On-Demand Reservations in addition to the new fixed route.

KEY
WB = West Bound SB= South Bound
EB= East Bound NB= North Bound

Bus shelters are numbered.

AK-CHIN TRIBAL TRANSIT
SERVING THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

TO SCHEDULE A RIDE:
CALL: 520-568-1630
TEXT: 520-340-0382

SCAN ME TO REGISTER A PARADE ENTRY

Maricopa

VETERANS DAY PARADE

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7

9 AM BOWLIN & PORTER

FREE LUNCH FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO FOLLOW

REGISTER: WWW.MARICOPAPARADE.COM

QUESTIONS? Email us at: Parade@ALPOST133az.org



JOB OPENINGS

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS:

- Child and Family Therapist (part-time)
- Lab Tutor (part-time)
- Police Officer (certified)
- Prosecutor

Open to Enrolled Ak-Chin Members Only

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

COMPUTER SKILLS FOR ADULT BEGINNERS

COME TO THE LIBRARY AND LEARN THE BASICS OF USING A COMPUTER.

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



520-568-1675
LIBRARY@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

PLAY DAY AT THE LIBRARY!

COME IN AND ENJOY A PLAY DAY AFTERNOON AT THE LIBRARY!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH 3-6PM



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

COME TO THE Library AFTER DARK

AGES 15+

WE'RE STAYING OPEN LATER! ENJOY SOME FOOD AND ACTIVITIES. COME IN COSTUME!

OCTOBER 29TH 6PM-8PM

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

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

JOIN US THIS Crafternoon

COME IN AND DECORATE A MASK!

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14TH 3PM-5PM

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

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

Employee Birthdays 10/3 - 10/19

10/3 Earl Justin Jr. Sanitation Justine Lopez, Custodial Diana Perez Police Victoria Smith, Community Gov	10/14 Olesya Nelson, Finance Eliza Santiago, Runner Ambria Valles, PRC
10/4 Loc Nguyen, Police Amy Rodriguez, Housing	10/15 James Boehm, Fire Steven Ruelas, Maintenance
10/8 Angel Antone, Fire Diana Carlyle, Runner Jon Spezzacatena, Fire	10/16 Angelina Soliz, EPD
10/9 Ann Antone, Parks & Rec	10/17 Courtney Bagsby, Fire Armonda Santiago, Custodial
10/10 Adam Finken, Tribal Gaming Agency	10/18 Sheila Reed, HHS
	10/19 Ninfa Wells, Elderly

AK-CHIN HEALTH EDUCATION PRESENTS...

STAGE RUN

VIRTUAL 10K OR HALF MARATHON

CHOOSE YOUR DISTANCE
COMPLETE IN 25 DAYS
10.05.26 - 10.29.26

REGISTER USING GOOGLE FORMS. SCAN QR CODE.
REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCTOBER 9TH, 2026.
SELECT YOUR RACE DISTANCE.
WALK OR RUN THE STAGE DISTANCES.
SUBMIT ALL TIMES FOR EACH COMPLETED STAGE.
EARN A \$10 GIFT CARD FOR EACH STAGE COMPLETED.
(MUST COMPLETE ALL STAGES FOR REGISTERED DISTANCE TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE ANY GIFT CARDS)
RECEIVE A T-SHIRT, MEAL VOUCHER, & GIFT CARDS AFTER COMPLETION.

STAGES & DISTANCES	
HALF MARATHON 13.1 MILES	5 DAYS STAGE 1 - 3.0 MILES STAGE 2 - 3.0 MILES STAGE 3 - 2.5 MILES STAGE 4 - 2.5 MILES STAGE 5 - 2.1 MILES
10K 6.2 MILES	3 DAYS STAGE 1 - 2.0 MILES STAGE 2 - 2.1 MILES STAGE 3 - 2.1 MILES
2.4K 1.5 MILES	1 DAY STAGE 1 - 1.5 MILES (FOR 55+ AND KIDS 12 & UNDER)

OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, THEIR FAMILIES, RESIDENTS, AND EMPLOYEES ONLY
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT HEALTH EDUCATION AT (520) 568-1080 OR MGUY@AK-CHIN.NSN.US

Happy Birthday to my son Eugene, Sr.
Love, Mom

Happy Birthday Sharon
Love, your family

Happy Birthday to my granddaughters Amy, Andrea, and Emily and grandson James.
Love, Grandma

SCARY storytime

Come in and listen to some spooky stories along with a creepy craft!
Guardians must be present with their child.

October 28th @3-6pm

COME IN COSTUME!

Open to Ak-Chin Indian Community members, residents and employees.

520-568-1675
library@ak-chin.nsn.us

HALLOWEEN CRAFTS

Wednesday
October 7, 2026
4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Him-Dak Art Building

Open to all Members and Residents.
Transportation provided within the community.
For more information, please call the Him-Dak Museum (520)-568-1350

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS 10/1 - 10/17

OCTOBER 1 Joseph Antone Ryo Quinonez Maynard James William Martinez Damien Smith Eugene Peters Sr.	OCTOBER 6 Roman Sierra James Arianna Bandin	OCTOBER 13 Blessing Antone
OCTOBER 2 Elizabeth Valles Martin Castro Tanya Lewis Jeaney Narcia Stella Makil White Noemi Hernandez Nikkol Martinez Alison Miguel	OCTOBER 7 Matthew Villarreal Alyssa Pablo Fernando Arellanes-Burgos	OCTOBER 14 Joe Jerry Erin Martinez Yarberry Ambria Valles Rosa Lewis Eliza Santiago Sharon Carlyle
OCTOBER 3 Elva Alarcon Justine Lopez Earl Justin, Jr. Victoria A. Smith Christopher Miles	OCTOBER 8 Lee Smith Jr. Evelyn Garcia Angel Antone Brittany Paddock Maria Maldonado	OCTOBER 15 Holly Lawrence James Boehm Jose Miguel Jr. Steven Ruelas
OCTOBER 4 Neveah Antone Amy Rodriguez Gabriel Manuel Malcolm Johnson	OCTOBER 9 Ann Antone Jacob Trenado	OCTOBER 16 Michael Latino Santiago Angelina Soliz Charity Lewis Jalia Carra-Ponce Emily Peters
OCTOBER 5 Douglas Pablo Dyon Aguilla Leonard Enos Celia Medina	OCTOBER 10 Berdina Arellanes-Burgos	OCTOBER 17 Francisco Miguel Armonda Santiago Isaiah Peters Jesus Corella Jr. Noah Brown
	OCTOBER 11 Andrea Peters Marco Jensen	
	OCTOBER 12 Xzalius Homer Shanna Narcia Christina Kaniatobe Guerrero Zachary Valles	

10/2026

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
					Crochet 15+ 5-6pm	
	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Book Club 5-6pm	Computer Skills 4-5pm	Puppet Show! @10am	Crochet 15+ 5-6pm	10
BANNED BOOKS WEEK						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Indigenous Peoples' Day Book Club 5-6pm		Storytime @10am Crafternoon 2-5pm	Play Day! Ages 5-12 3-6pm	Crochet 15+ 5-6pm	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Book Club 5-6pm	Computer Skills 4-5pm			Closed @5pm	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Book Club 5-6pm		Scary Storytime 3-6pm	Library After Dark 15+ 6-8pm		HALLOWEEN

October is **HEALTH LITERACY MONTH!**
LEARN MORE @ [HTTPS://MEDLINEPLUS.GOV](https://medlineplus.gov)

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

Christian Warren brings down the house at the Luxe Lounge

Story and photo by Kristen Villegas



Christian Warren and band make a stop in Ak-Chin following a series of shows in Chandler; they would continue their performances in Sun City the day after this show at the Copper Penny.

The Ak-Chin Circles' Luxe Lounge was jumping with the smooth, country talents of Christian Warren on September 26. The 9 PM show was nothing short of spectacular as country classics, modern hits, and of course crowd favorites were played for patrons, making for a night full of the best country music has to offer.

An Arizona native, Christian and band have made their mark in the Arizona country scene, as they travel across the valley to perform. Singing and drumming with his band, Christian's group does a great job of

getting folks out of their seats and on the dancefloor.

Christian and band are not new to the community, as they've had a recent show at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino on September 4, and previously played at the 2025 Masik Tas Celebration's Tracy Lawrence After Party at the Ak-Chin

Circle Luxe Lounge on Saturday December 20.

If you're looking for a great time with even better music, check out Christian Warren the next time he hits Ak-Chin Circle. You can follow him @Christian Warren on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.



**FRIDAY
OCT
30TH 2026**

BARKS, BOOS & A MOVIE!
JOIN US AT AK-CHIN CIRCLE FOR A FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION!
LITTLE DOG RACES
Think your little speedster has what it takes?
Enter the race for a chance to win a CASH PRIZE!
DOG COSTUME CONTEST
Dress up your pup and bring your best Halloween look! First place wins a CASH PRIZE!
FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY MOVIE
Enjoy a free movie on the Jumbotron!
CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE
Halloween fun for the whole family!
Register your pup for the Dog Race and Costume Contest at AkChinCircle.com



**NATIONAL
DESSERT DAY**

ALL DAY OCTOBER 14TH



**1/2 OFF
ALL DESSERTS**

16000 N Maricopa Road, Maricopa AZ 85139

Ak-ChinCircle.com





**MIX
MAFIA
DJ SQUAD**

**HALLOWEEN
PARTY**

OCT. 31ST DOORS AT 9 PM
DJ 10PM-2AM

DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT
COSTUME CONTEST AT MIDNIGHT
\$500 IN PRIZES | \$300 FIRST PLACE



Ak-ChinCircle.com
16000 N Maricopa Road, Maricopa AZ 85139



520.426.6832 | ARROYOGRILLE.COM
PATIO VIEWS | DINE IN | ORDER TO GO
48456 WEST HWY 238 IN MARICOPA

OCTOBER SUNDAY FUNDAYS
FOUR BUCK
**SUN CRUISERS
& DOMESTIC
BEER CANS**
Sun Cruiser & Domestic Beer Cans priced \$4 on Sundays during NFL football games. Must mention coupon when ordering. No substitutions. Not valid with any other specials, offers, discounts or Harrah's Rewards. One coupon per order. Must be 21 or older to purchase alcohol. Non-transferable. Offer expires 10/31/26.
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OPENING IN SPRING 2027
CLUBHOUSE ■ BANQUET HALL ■ RESTAURANT
WEDDINGS ■ CORPORATE GOLF EVENTS ■ OFFICE PARTIES
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OCTOBER DRINK OF THE MONTH

**Witch's
Brew**



\$10

TITO'S, TRIPLE SEC, MIDORI, LEMONADE AND STARRY WITH A SUGAR RIM

Ak-ChinCircle.com



OCTOBER 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 SAVE THE DATE NITE 2027 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2026		 \$60,000 Table Games Side Bet SWEEPSTAKES NOW - OCTOBER 29, 2026	 1 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	 2 CAESARS SPORTSBAR	 3 \$15,000 SWEEPSTAKES SPECTACULAR MINI MASSAGER GIVEAWAY	
 4 SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	 5 TREAT YOURSELF TO DUNKIN' NO TRICKS	 6 ISABELLE COLLECTION GIVEAWAY	 7 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER FALL'N FORTUNES FOREVER YOUNG	 8 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	 9 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE LOUNGE WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS	 10 BINGO READY TO SCREAM BINGO?
 11 SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	 12 SPECT-APP-ULAR! DOWNLOAD THE CAESARS REWARDS APP	 13 ISABELLE COLLECTION GIVEAWAY	 14 FALL'N FORTUNES	 15 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	 16 FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM, FACEBOOK & X!	 17 FRY'S FOOD STORES® ELECTRONIC GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY
 18 SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	 19 SCARE UP A GREAT ROUND AT SOUTHERN DUNES GOLF COURSE	 20 ISABELLE COLLECTION GIVEAWAY	 21 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER FALL'N FORTUNES FOREVER YOUNG	 22 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	 23 PURCHASE A DAY PASS FOR THE POOL!	 24 YOU CHOOSE TIER CREDIT BONUS TASTE OF CHAOS
 25 SUNDAY SHOPPING SPREE FAMILY STYLE SUNDAYS AT OAK & FORK	 26 UNLOCK MONSTER REWARDS WITH CAESARS REWARDS® PRESTIGE VISA SIGNATURE®	 27 ISABELLE COLLECTION GIVEAWAY	 28 10X REWARD CREDIT MULTIPLIER FALL'N FORTUNES FOREVER YOUNG	 29 YOUR CHOICE TO PLAY YOUR WAY	 30 REWARD YOURSELF & SHOP WITH REWARD CREDITS AT THE GIFT SHOP	 31 Happy Halloween AMAZON.COM® GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY HAUNTED HOT SEATS

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