

Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXVI, Issue 6

April 1 - 14, 2022

Allen Allcott retires at 27 years of service

As Ak-Chin slowly begins the trek to a 100% workforce, some employees have been working towards other goals, such as retirement.

On St. Patrick's Day, longtime employee Ak-Chin Fire Marshal, Allen Allcott hung up his boots for Ak-Chin Fire.

A small surprise ceremony was held at Ak-Chin Recreation gym to honor Allen, with the intersession students congratulating and presenting him with a paneled ax plaque.

attendance Also, in were several firefighters

on shift, as well as Fire Journeyman Baker for Chief Cecil Peters and Chairman Robert Miguel.

Allen has worked for Ak-Chin Fire since 1994, "I started volunteering with Ak-Chin Fire mid 1994 while taking my EMT class with Bill White."

He recalled some of the crew he worked with during his tenure. "I started with Bill, Connie, Adella, Cecil, Flora, Gloria, Isabel, Frank and Tweetie. Myself, Candace, and Bob got hired full time in 1995."

Before working with Ak-Chin, Allen worked as a

Bashas'.

His list of achievements and certificates included; EMT, Intermediate EMT, and Paramedic, Firefighter I and II, Captain and Fire Marshal.

Allen also became a part time Flight Medic with Air Evac for two years and was an instructor on many different levels for EMS and Fire classes. His duties ranged from Emergency Medical Services to firefighting, swift water and high angle rescue, public education, and fire inspections.

On May 13, 2005, Allen



Above, Allen is surrounded by Ak-Chin fire during a surprise ceremony on Thursday, March 17. Story and photos by R. Peters

risked his life to save an unconscious man during a car accident-fire while off-duty.

He received the Symbol of Excellence Award as the 2005 United Fire Firefighter of the Year

for his heroic act.

Allen shared a few other memories during his career with Ak-Chin.

"Happy moments were whenever I felt I made a difference, one in partic-

ular, I was on a call that came in as possible low blood sugar and turned out to be a major heart attack and I defibrillated the patient 8 times and brought him back and he got over 10 more years with his family."

Allcott continues to Page 2

Ak-Chin Childhood **Development back to** full time classes

Monday March 28th, back in full swing, Ak-Chin Early Childhood Development has once again come together back the to bring much-needed Pre-K experience.

Throughout the school building students and staff were excitedly going about their day; classes were in session and students were fully engaged with their fellow teachers and classmates.

for students, parents and staff alike as this critical learning curve is of high importance for the future generations.

back in 2020, Way Early the Ak-Chin Childhood Development closed its doors with minimal access for students to gain that much needed knowledge

2020 last day of in person was March 13 and Childcare's last day was March 18, 2020.

The hardest part about closing our doors was the unknown of the Pandemic and what that would bring. Then not knowing how long we would be closed for.



Great aerial photo by Volo of Ak-Chin Circle on Saturday, March 19. Story by J. Peters

Weekend fun for a

Students enjoyed collectively learning new things like memorization and foundation building in class, while the teaching staff enjoyed teaching and inspiring the young students to expand their horizons and explore the world around them.

Bringing back full school sessions has been the foremost achievement

and know-how taught before heading into kindergarten.

We asked Early Childhood Development Program Manager, Bianca Chavez-Schrader a few questions about their journey through the school's closure.

When did the school close its doors and what was the most difficult part of making that decision as a department?

It was spring break 2020. of March Preschoolers of 2019-

During the time of closure/partial the closure what did staff do to prepare for the upcoming reopening? Any extra trainings? did COVID-19 We Care safety Child training through Indian Health Services and other programs that were geared specifically for early childhood settings. We watched the numbers of COVID cases from the Arizona Department of Health Website.

Since staff were working

ACD continues to Page 4



at Ak-Chin Circle

As the weekend of March 19 rolled around, you couldn't help but notice there was something big happening at Ak-Chin Circle.

Foodies, motor enthusiasts and furry four-legged friends had their time in the spotlight during the 2022 Central Arizona Food Truck Battle, Chihuahua Festival & Lil' Doggy Races, Central AZ Car & Bike Show and Western Pinal County Business & Craft Expo.

The mega event was coordinated and hosted by Copa TV's main man John Stapleton, who brought a fantastic mixture of events for everyone to enjoy.

John shared, "There were four separate events- The Central Arizona Food Truck Battle which had 20 participants registered with 18 Food Trucks who showed up. For the Western Pinal County Business & Crafts Expo, we had 80 booths! We had about 200 vehicles, with a combination of cars and motorcycles... The Chihuahua Festival and Lil Doggy Races, I believe we had about 30 participants and quite a bit of looky-loos who just wanted to bring their furry family member to watch the fun."

The Car & Bike show brought a lot of attention to their details, as people walked around to view the specially crafted heavy machinery. Entranced by the various makes, models, and color schemes, there was one car that caught the eyes during the judging of the Best in Show competition, a 1970 Pontiac GTO own by Steven Stoiber. Mr. Stoiber is no newbie to this show as he and his stunning Pontiac have swept up this competition before.

While looking at amazing cars and bikes is fun, all that walking can work up an appetite and at this event food was no problem. Lined up in a row for the Central Arizona Food Truck Battle were plenty of meals on wheels (excuse the pun). Attendees got to try the various flavors of foods and deserts from a number of trucks. The mobile restaurants brought their "A" game to Saturday's event, as they were also in competition to find out who would come

out on top of the Food Truck Battle. Winning the People's Choice category was Philly Up Food Truck, claiming Judges Choice was the Asian Seoul Food Truck, Best Dessert winner Mama Bear's Mini Kitchen and for Best Taco was SVGK.

Last but certainly not leashed, a crowd assembled to watch the oh so popular Chihuahua Festival and Lil Doggy Races. The lil' competitors and their humans were ready to go racing during the cutest competition of the day. Joining in the races were Ak-Chin members Peanut and Tank, alongside owners Yolanda and Esperanza Miranda. Both Tank and Peanut made it to the second round of the bracket. Both doggies pulled out all the stops and bolted down the track, but eventually they ended their runs there. The race was winner take all and the winner taking it all home was also a returning champ named Hazel, the undefeated.

AKC continues to Page 7



"One of the most intense calls was when a train hit a small vehicle in Maricopa and I tried to save a small child. Having to intubate babies in critical shape, those moments stay with you.

My first fire was on Farrell just across the wash. It was a kitchen fire and Bob Blagen and I were on that one. Another would be the fire in the restaurant Ace in the Hole and Runner building. That one put me and Frank in the hospital.

We had a high angle rescue out on highway 84 for a climber who had fallen. It was too windy (for) helicopter and too tight of an area to remove him. We worked with a Phoenix rescue group to get him off the mountain."

Candace, Allen's wife shared in an email a pic of one of the babies Allen delivered.

"We got a call for a lady in labor at the Texaco in Maricopa, it is now Shell I think. Cindy and I got there and she was in full blown labor to the point we delivered the baby about 10 minutes later in the back of the ambulance. When the baby was about a month old they came in to say thank you. There's a young girl here in Ak-Chin I helped deliver."



Ak-Chin Fire has had many fine men and women work in the department since its humble beginnings of 1986, and Allen is definitely one of them.

"It has been an awesome experience; the community has provided me the opportunity to provide for my family and given me the ability to help a lot of people.

One cannot put to words the gratitude I have for

the community and all the members I have had the chance to meet.

As Chairman said I feel like part of the family and feel that many people in the community are part of Candace and my family. You grow and become very close to everyone through that many years. I will say thank you to everyone who has helped me and supported me over the years, especially my wife.

Over the years Cecil has turned into a great friend and an amazing boss. He taught me so much I cannot say thank you enough to him as well as all of the Community Councils I have worked under and the Community Members I have served."

Candace also joked "he thinks he's retiring" but Allen will most likely stay busy doing what he loves as the Chief for Thunderbird Fire District, even though he said he plans to "Relax, play golf and try a few new challenges."

Congratulations Allen on your retirement. The Ak-Chin Indian Community thanks you for your service.



Above, students in the Ak-Chin Recreation Spring Intersession program help Ak-Chin Fire and Recreation staff create a surprise ceremony for Allen, as they presented him with this panel plaque and ax, which reads "Presented to Fire Marshal Allen Allcott, For 27 years of dedicated service. Congratulations on your retirement."



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

Past Due Fines

If you are delinquent on your fines, or if you are unsure if you have any fines. To Ak-Chin Indian Community Elders,

Beginning April 4, 2022, The Elder Center will be open to serve you breakfast and lunch.

Please read carefully. There are changes that come with the new opening. It effects the Home Delivered Meals and Curbside Pick-up

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH CURBSIDE PICK-UP STOPS ON APRIL 4, 2022

BREAKFAST

Beginning Monday April 4, 2022 - There will no longer be curbside pick-up for breakfast. Breakfast is now served in the Elder Center dining room. If you were picking up at the curbside for breakfast, you can come in for breakfast instead. We want to see you!

Beginning Monday April 4, 2022, **BREAKFAST DELIVERY WILL STOP**

Please understand, before COVID19, breakfast was not part of home delivered meal program. It was only because of the COVID19 pandemic along with the Ak-Chin Community restrictions that the Elder Center was obligated to deliver breakfast. Since the Elder Center is now open full time to serve breakfast, you can now come in for a meal.

LUNCH

Beginning Monday April 4, 2022, there will no longer be curbside pick-up for lunch. Lunch is now served in the Elder Center dining room. If you were picking up for lunch, please come in for lunch. Again, we want to see you!

> Lunch Home Delivered Meals will continue for those elders that are eligible

TRANSPORTATION

To schedule a ride to come in for lunch and breakfast, please call as soon as possible the Elder Center Transportation Supervisor Georgia Corella directly at 520-568-1769.

Elder Center Breakfast Hours 7:00AM to 8:30AM Elder Center Lunch Hours 12:00 Noon to 1:00PM

COVID Pandemic Safety Precautions

- Elders are required to wear a mask except when eating and drinking
- Elder Center staff are required to masks as the mask mandate requires
- Elder Center occupants will practice social distancing.
- Elder Center occupants will wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol
- Elder Center Staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

If you have any questions, please call the Elder Center at 520-568-1762 or 520-858-5043.



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

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

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

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

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

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

Ak-Chin Indian Community 22 - EAR Ak-Chin Circle ements Event Center MAKE EVERYDAY EAR

Elder April Breakfast-Lunch Menu

1) Biscuit & gravy, diced potatoes, scrambled eggs, fruit cup, juice | Pork Green Chili Stew, Carrots, Apple Rings w/ **Cottage Cheese, Plums**

4) Spam, potato, & egg burrito, cliff bar, banana, chocolate milk | Bar-B-Que Ribs, Plain Ribs (D), **Red Potatoes, Yellow** Squash, Lemon Bread, Oranges

5) Ground steak, scrambled eggs, diced potatoes, toast, grapes, *juice* | Grilled Chicken over Caesar Salad, Acorn Squash, Grapes

6) Cream of wheat, boiled eggs, English muffin, yogurt, cereal, milk | Ground Beef Taco, Green

Leaf, Tomato, Zucchini, Corn, Fruit Cocktail

> 7) Blueberry pancakes, sausage links, scrambled eggs, sliced apples, juice | Pinto Beans, Chicken Dumpling (D), Yams, Potato-D, Corn Bread, Peaches

8) Veggie breakfast casserole, diced potatoes, toast, cottage cheese & pineapples, juice | Baked Chicken, Broccoli, Baked Beans, Rolls, Jell-O, Plum

11) Sausage links, scrambled eggs, hash brown, toast, cottage cheese & peaches, juice | **Black Eyed Peas, Chicken** Tenders-D, Creamed Spinach, Fresh Fruit Salad

12) Chicken fried steak, biscuit with gravy, scrambled eggs, banana, chocolate milk | Meatball Sandwich w/Green Bell Pepper, Wax Beans, WW Pasta Salad, Apple Sauce

13) Chorizo, potato, & egg burrito, fig newton, fruit cup, juice | Squash Casserole, Wild Rice, Spring Salad, Rolls, Pears

14) Oatmeal, boiled eggs, toast, cereal, banana, milk | Turkey w/Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Green Bean Casserole, Salad, Rolls, Lemon Cake-Apples

15) Good Friday - Center Closed

> ** Menu items subject to change**

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

> **Functional Fitness Elements Event Center** 16000 Maricopa Rd.

Let's help Prevent a Fall or an Injury

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

11111111 How Exercise Can Help You Avoid a Fall

YOURBODY

EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY





Call Injury Prevention for more information 520-568-1087

ak-Chin Oodham Runner 💽

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Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community ©2022

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

OFFICE HOURS 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. MONDAY - FRIDAY PHONE: 520•568•1375 FAX: 520•568•1376 E-MAIL:

runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us Ak-Chin O'odham Runner

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

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

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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. Also, if you have suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, let the Runner Staff know



CASA GRANDE (March 21, 2022) — Are you passionate about children's issues and want to provide vision and leadership on the early childhood available programs to young kids in your community? Then First Things First (FTF) needs you.

FTF is Arizona's early childhood agency and is looking for about 150 volunteers who will collaborate with other dedicated community members in local communities across the state. In the FTF Pinal Region, there are several openings on the regional council.

The application process is a simple online application found at FirstThingsFirst.org/ serve.

Volunteering on а regional council is a unique leadership opportunity to make a positive impact on children and families in

health to preventive services in their area.

access

increase

April 1 - 14, 2022

and

Volunteer to be a voice for young

our community. Regional

council members have a

passion for ensuring that

every baby, toddler and

preschooler in Arizona

has every opportunity

to succeed. They help

the local services and

families. By collaborating

with other dedicated

opportunities for young

children to get a strong

Research has shown a

child's early experiences

lay the foundation for

a lifetime of success in

school and beyond. FTF

partners with parents

and communities to give

children birth to age 5

the tools they need to

arrive at kindergarten

prepared to succeed.

made up of community

decisions about how

FTF can help strengthen

families, expand early

opportunities

councils

inform

priorities

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young

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council

provide

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define

supports

children

regional

members

start in life.

community

FTF is accepting applications in the FTF Pinal Region from various backgrounds for the following seats that are open either due to vacancy or terms about to expire: parents of young children and an atlarge seat – who want to be a voice for children in our community. Regional council members must live or work in this region.

If you or someone you know can commit about 10 hours to per month to make a difference in the lives of young children in our community, please visit FirstThingsFirst.org/ serve. There, you can learn about the volunteer positions available in your area, read a detailed description of the position, and fill out an application.

The job of getting kids ready for school starts the day they are born. Please consider lending your expertise, insight and community spirit to help ensure that all Arizona children are ready to succeed kindergarten in and beyond.



AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

42507 West Peters & Nall Road • Maricopa, Arizona 85138 • Telephone: 520. 568.1000 • Fax: 520.568.1001

Regional

volunteers

learning

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) UTILITY RATE BTU STUDY FOR THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

The Ak-Chin Indian Community ("Community") Central Plant is seeking a professional gualified consultant to conduct a Utility Rate BTU Study including recommendation on rates. The individual, firm, or consultant must be capable to complete a utility study to determine summer -winter rates of

Annual Cost Determination. Part B.

- 1. Determine Revenue Requirement based on actual accounting costs.
- 2. Propose estimated Revenue for billing.

Part C.

Accepting bids for Ak-Chin **Barley Harvest**

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HIN FARA

The crop must be harvested efficiently with acceptable agricultural practices.

Truck and trailers will be weighed at Ak-Chin Farms headquarters for light weight and loaded weight prior to delivery.

Submit all bids to Ak-Chin Farms Manager at:

42507 W. Peters and Nall Rd. Maricopa AZ 85138.

The closing date for bids will be April 15, 2022.

#### **Public Meeting Ak-Chin Indian Community Meeting**

April 25, 2022 6:00 pm

The Ak-Chin Indian Community will hold a public meeting to discuss three tribal transportation matters in accordance with 25 CFR Part 170 Sections 170.421 and 170.435.

#### Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP):

- TTIP is a 5-year listing of transportation projects obtained from a Tribe's priority list, public comments, and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).
- TTIP is "financially constrained" based on funding source(s).
- TTIP projects are needed for Fiscal Years: FY 2022, FY 2023, FY 2024, FY 2025, FY 2026.
- TTIP is updated once every 4 years, or it may be updated annually.
- Projects identified and approved for the TTIP will be provided to the BIA with a supporting Resolution.

#### Change of Ownership on Two Existing Roads from **BIA-owned to Tribally-owned:**

- Antone Avenue, BIA Route 25, 0.3 miles.
- Farrell Road, BIA Route 14, 4.0 miles.
- Requires Resolutions requesting change, relinquishment of associated rights-of-way, updates to the road inventory, and new strip mans
- Required before construction can commence on existing projects.

Mini Refresh of the 2016 Long Range Transportation Plan:

#### that too.

All submitted letters MUST be signed by the author and are limited to 200 words. Authors must also include their name, address, and phone number. Names can be omitted by request. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted.

We reserve the right to edit all submitted material for clarity, grammar and good taste. All submissions should be received as typed or non-cursive writing. Please do not submit UPPERCASE or formatted paragraphs.

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

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATE

2022 Subscription rate is \$33.75. If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$33.75 check/money order to:

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

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

#### DEADLINE

Don't forget the DEADLINE for the April 15 - May 5, 2022 issue is due by FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than FRIDAY, APRIL 8TH

Material submitted after the **APRIL 8TH DEADLINE** 

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

chilled water to the enterprises of the Community.

#### I. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Central Plant consists of (3) 900ton Trane Centrifugal Chillers (2700 tons), (3) 900-ton cross flow Marley Cooling Towers as well as (2) 1200- ton Trane Centrifugal Chillers and (2) 1200ton cross flow Marely Cooling towers for a total of 5100 tons of cooling capacity.

The Central Plant's primary chilled water loop is designed to maintain a constant water flow through the chillers evaporator using (3) constant speed pumps rated at 1800 g/min and 2 variable frequency driven pumps rated at 2400 g/min.

The secondary pumping system consists of 5 variable speed chilled water pumps which are controlled by using a differential pressure control (DP) sensor for control to the enterprises depending on the maximum chilled water valve and its current temperature differential setpoints.

#### **II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION - SCOPE OF WORK & SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED**

The Utility Rate BTU Study is to help determine a methodology for recovery of capital, for provided cooling to the facilities within the Ak-Chin Circle Commercial Area that includes the Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center, Elements Event Building, Central Plant as well as Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino. The Utility Rate BTU Study will provide the follow detailed report to include:

Part A.

- 1. Gather Central Plant (CP) Baseline Load Usage Data.
- 2. Review Load Information for Infrastructures.
- 3. Determine Seasonal Loads for

1. Create a Summary of proposed rate to present to Council

#### **III. REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS**

The Community is seeking а proposal and a formal statement of qualifications from a profession firm interested in being considered in conducting a Utility Rate BTU Study. Request for Proposal (RFP) CD is available at the Ak-Chin Purchasing Office at 42507 West Peters and Nall Road, Maricopa Arizona 85138 or full RFP will be available by email upon request at <a href="mailto:fhowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us">fhowerton@ak-chin.nsn.us</a>.

The response should include a statement regarding the firm's approach to perform Utility Rate BTU Study. Provide details of the firm's experience and identify the proposed project staff and their experience in conducting a Utility Rate BTU Study. Staff identified in the proposal must continue to work on the project for the duration of the study. Any changes in personnel are subject to approval from the Community's Project Team

#### **IV. SUBMISSIONS**

Submissions should be provided in a package clearly marked with "PROPOSAL Ak-Chin Utility Rate **BTU Study**." Please submit five (5) bound and (1) unbound copies of your Proposal to the Purchasing Manager at the address listed below.

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

Any questions regarding this project proposal must be submitted via email by 5 p.m. April 22, 2022 to Flora Howerton, Purchasing Manager (520) 568-1043. The deadline for submitting proposal is April 29, 2022 by Noon 12 p.m. MST.

- Required to change ownership of existing roads.
- Mini Refresh Includes:
  - o Public Involvement
  - o Establishment of Rights-of-Way
  - o Establishment of Strip Maps and Road **Inventory Data**
  - o NEPA Reviews
  - o Tribal Rights-of-Way Plat Maps
  - o Resolutions

Copies of documents are available for review at the Planning and Development Department beginning March 28. Comments may be made orally or in writing. If in writing, please submit to:

> Planning and Development Department 42507 W. Peters & Nall Road (520) 568-1070 Sandra.Shade@ak-chin.nsn.us PKann@ak-chin.nsn.us DECarlyle@ak-chin.nsn.us

Questions may also be addressed to these individuals.

Deadline to submit comments are due no later than May 2, 2022 at Noon. Call-in number and login information to this Virtual Community Meeting will be provided Friday, April 22, 2022.



COMMUNITY **MEETING** April 25, 2022 6 pm

For more information please call 520-568-1000. ACD continued from Front

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from home they took advantage of that time to do early childhood educational training through First Things First, Child Care Educational Institute and other trainings that were available virtually. Our staff of 16 in the time we were closed did over 357 courses collectively.

#### Did the school have to make significant changes to be able to reopen to full time?

Initially in June 2021, when we were permitted to have the children in person for 2 days a week, who were going into kindergarten. We just had to look over our protocols that were created the year before so we could put them into practice. We had already ordered material and equipment needed and the IMT and their members helped us out tremendously with additional PPE for staff and the children.

During the time of the closure, how did you and your staff face the challenge of keeping the kids up to date with learning essentials? Like what did the school do to help the kids stay onboard with preparing for kindergarten?

The teachers work very hard to create intentional educational activities that would be beneficial for the children and easy for parents to help facilitate at home. Those were delivered weekly.

We even did a virtual kindergarten round up with the Education

Advisors. When the 2019-2020 school year was coming to an end and we were still not open, we started creating protocols based on what the best practice was for a Pandemic and model those practices in our health and wellness procedures. We hoped that once reviewed maybe we would be able to open in person but it was not approved. We had to end the school year with an extended year of virtual learning and close with a Graduation Parade for the children going into kindergarten.

Then in January 2021, we started training for doing zoom classes with all the children who were enrolled with us. The teaching staff did a wonderful job getting the children engaged in learning virtual along with the weekly activity bags that were supplementing the zoom sessions.

#### How excited were you and the staff to be back at work full time? What were the things that you missed about being at the school?

I was definitely very excited to have all my staff back 100%. Then to prepare for the children to be back full time was such wonderful news. All our staff have been waiting patiently to hear that news the whole time we were closed or on working with 50% of the preschool in person with limited hours.

The one thing that was missed the most was the children's laughter, April 1 - 14, 2022

voices, energy that they brought to our facility. Without having them here it was really sad seeing these beautifully decorated classrooms with no children in them. Now it is a wonderful atmosphere to walk in and hear the happy sound of children learning and interacting with the staff.

Is there anything you would like to share about being back after so long of uncertainty? First and foremost a huge thank you to the Community Council for keeping our program funded and our wonderful staff employed. A big thanks to the IMT team for helping us navigate through that time. A big thank you and round of applause to the entire ECE staff for being flexible in their work and sticking it out the whole time. They truly are a group of wonderful people.







#### Ak-Chin Child Development

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•Week of the Young Child April 4th-8th. https://www.naeyc. org/events/woyc/planyour-event



**April 2022** 

oWednesday April 6th is preschool round up for 2022-2023sy. 8 AM -7 PM.

oFollow along with the week's fun events and ideas for your child. At the link above.

•Friday April 22nd 2022 9 AM -12 PM- Dental Screenings, Hearing/Vision and Developmental screenings. All children birth through 5 not in kindergarten and Dental screenings include expectant mothers. Services provide by U of A Cooperative Extension.





United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS PIMA AGENCY P.O. Box 8 Sacaton, Arizona 85147



#### IN REPLY REFER TO: Superintendent

The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Pima Agency (Agency) is releasing this notice of an environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed SR 238 Waterline Extension (Project) along the north side of SR 238 on Ak-Chin Indian Community (Community) lands. The project would consist of construction, operation, and maintenance of a new waterline to serve the Apex Motor Club Raceway located west of Community land. This notice is intended to provide details about the proposed project, and to request your input.

#### **Proposed Action**

The project proponent, Global Water – Santa Cruz Water Company, Inc. (Global Water), has submitted a right-of-way (ROW) application to the BIA for the development of a new waterline within an easement held by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for SR 238 across Community lands.

The project is expected to avoid existing utilities and no utility relocations are anticipated to be necessary. The project would consist of trenching to make way for the approximately 16-inchwide waterline to be located at a minimum depth of 4 feet. Trenching would be completed via excavator. However, waterline installation within the vicinity of washes may be completed via borings to install the waterline under the washes which may require work occurring on Community lands outside of the existing ADOT easement on the north side of SR 238. Construction access would be granted via SR 238. Portions of pavement along SR 238 may require saw cutting, removal, and replacement as part of the waterline installation. Upon completion of the waterline installation, trenches would be backfilled and soils compacted. A contractor use area for parking, staging and stockpiling would be located at the APEX facility to the west. No lane closures along SR 238 are expected, but minor

#### <u>NOTICE of PUBLIC SCOPING</u> Environmental Assessment for the SR 238 Waterline Extension, SR 238, Ak-Chin Indian Community

lane shifts may be necessary and temporary traffic control signage would be used to alert motorists.

A new approximately 20-foot-wide by one-milelong ROW would be necessary for the waterline on the north side of SR 238 across Community land; additional temporary construction easements may be needed from Ak-Chin lands for construction access and waterline installation.

#### Purpose and Need

Development of the proposed Project on Community land requires issuance of a new ROW by the BIA, which is considered a federal action subject to the National Environmental Policy Act

(NEPA). The purpose of the project is to construct, operate, and maintain a waterline extension to the Apex Motor Club Raceway to supply water needed for operation of the facility. The project would also increase revenues paid to the Community. BIA's purpose is to respond to Global Water's application for a ROW under 25CFR169.

#### **Scoping Period**

As part of NEPA, federal agencies are required to consider the potential social and environmental impacts of proposed actions. This letter serves as the BIA's invitation to you or your agency to submit comments, concerns, or suggestions regarding the proposed action. All comments received become part of the public record associated with this proposed action. Accordingly, your comments (including your name and address) will be available for review by any person that wishes to view the record. At your request we will withhold your contact information to the extent allowed by the Freedom of Information Act. Please submit your comments within 30 days to the BIA in care of Marshall Hayes at Logan Simpson (51 West Third Street, Suite 450, Tempe, Arizona 85281); via fax at (480) 966-9232; or via email at mhayes@logansimpson.com.

Cecilia Baker, Superintendent Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pima Agency P.O. Box 8 Sacaton, Arizona 85147

Enclosures: Figure 1. Project Aerial Map





## COVID TESTING, COVID & FLU VACCINES AVAILABLE.

You may also visit a GRHC Primary Care Department for vaccines. Walk-in or schedule an appointment by calling (602) 528-1482. **Red Tail Hawk Health Center** 

April 2 10 am - 2 pm

Red Tail Hawk Health Center April 23 10 am - 2 pm



SCAN FOR VACCINE INFORMATION

## **Post COVID Clinic** at Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:



Post COVID clinic is currently being offered by appointment at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital.



This service is to complement the care you receive from

your Primary Care Provider.



If you tested positive for COVID-19 virus and continue to experience shortness of breath, trouble focusing, anxiety or depression, or feel you have not fully recovered, please contact the COVID hotline or your Primary Care Provider for more information on post COVID care.



Please insure that you have completed your COVID-19 quarantine time prior to setting up your appointment.

GRHC COVID-19 HOTLINE: (520) 550-6079 HOTLINE HOURS: 8 am - 8 pm, 7 days a week.



April 1 - 14, 2022



12345 W. 95th St. Suite 200-11 Lenexa, KS 66215 www.ethnographic-research.com

# **Research Study on the Internet**

# You may be eligible to receive \$800 for participating in a study.



We are looking for people **50 and older who live on Tribal lands** to participate in a social research study.

\*You do NOT have to have internet access, a computer, smart phone, or tablet to qualify.

Those who qualify and participate in the study will receive **\$800** as a thank you for their time.

To get the full incentive, they will need to:

- Keep a video diary for two to three weeks using a handheld video camera supplied by the study team. Participants will keep the camera after the study.
- Have us over for a three-hour in-person/in-home visit.

If you're interested in learning more or know someone who might be, feel free to contact us at **816-931-7772** or email us at: **shalonda@ethnographic-research.com**.

The protection of those who participate in our studies and our staff is very important to us. We continue to actively take actions to help in preventing the spread of COVID during any in-person research, by adhering to ERI and local/national health authority guidelines for safety.

Disclaimer: Please note, the Community is not affiliated with this study.

Ak-Chin Circle continued from Front



........................

There was plenty of fun to keep everyone busy with, "non-stop crowds all day and thousands in attendance making their way through" John added.

April 1 - 14, 2022



Community contestants Tank (left) with Sami Atrawi and Peanut at the Lil' Doggy races. Best in Show-Steve Stoiber, 1970 Pontiac GTO. Photos by J. Peters



Left: Mama Bear's Mini Kitchen staff with trophy for Best Dessert, joined by Official Food Truck judges. Right: Hazel wins the Races again this year. Photos by Volo

# "14 DAY TRADITIONAL O'ODHAM FOOD CHALLENGE"

Could you live on a traditional O'odham diet for 14 days? And no, we're not talking about Chili Stew and Potato Salad.

The Him-Dak & Health Education Departments are teaming up to challenge our community members and residence to take part in a pilot program to honor our ancestors for all the hard working in passing down cultural values and traditions that we fight to keep in today's world. One important item that helped to sustain their villages was the food that they planted, harvested, gathered or hunted. Many of these foods are no longer eaten by O'odham people today.

We are asking 10 residence of the community to participate in a 14-day self-challenge, to eat a diet close to what our ancestors ate. Health Education will assist in providing food items, recipes and will meet with participants prior to the start of the challenge. No winners or losers, just seeking a connection to the past.

This challenge is open to Members & Residence of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. Deadline to sign up is Monday, April 18, 2022 Challenge starts Wednesday, April 27th and ends Tuesday, May 10, 2022

For sign up and questions, please contact Marc Matteson, Health Education Manager @ 520-568-1082 or Email: mmatteso@ak-chin.nsn.us

> Sponsored by: Him-Dak Museum & Health Education



who can stay on the Rainbow Road! No need to register! Come on over!



#### Employee Birthdays

Marilyn Thompson, Adrian Angulo, Sanitation Community Government Marcus Stephens, Sanitation 4/2

Bernett Lopez, Housing Elsa Trujillo, Maintenance Casey Turgeon, Capital Projects

4/4Johnny Clayton, Maintenance

4/5 Marc Matteson, Health Education Rosalva Madrid, TGA

Brodie Carr, Fire & Safety

4/6

Sandra Shade, Planning 4/16 Glenna Francisco,

Maintenance 4/17

Candace Allcott, Elderly Jace Dickerson, Fire & Safety

4/18 Teancum Thatcher, Law & Order

4/19 William Antone, Him Dak Museum

4/21 Lourdes Smith, Law & Order



## **JOB OPENINGS**

- Accountant
- Communication Officer (911 Dispatcher)
- Deli Clerk
- Economic Development Analyst
- Environmental Programs Manager
- Firefighter-Medic
- · Gaming Agent
- Police Officer (non-certified)
- Police Officer Certified (AZ POST certified)
- Senior Planner
- Head Lifeguard Seasonal Open to Community Members, Employees and Residents only
- Lifeguard (5)

MONDAY

Please visit our website at www.ak-chin.nsn.us, for Job Openings, to review the job posting and apply. If you need assistance, please call Human Resources at 520-568-1050.

SUNDAY

31

Terry Zicafoose Senior Cook ECE

WEDNESDAY

Matthew Cross, Library Joan Jackson-Deal, Human Resources Jason Garcia, Sanitation

4/7

Nicole Carlyle-Coester,

Community Service Manager

4/8

Health Services

4/26Lerline Peters, Cultural Lorenzo Batopis, Courts Karen Gardner, Vekol Alyssa Bullis, Early Childhood

4/30

Michelle Granados,

Law & Order

SATURDAY

1 Jessica Dean

Belen Sanchez, Social & 4/28 Deborha Salmons, Finance

4/9Nikolai White, Sanitation

FRIDAY

Dyami Jackson

4/12 Ralph Gomez, EPD

Jason Garcia Sanitation Driver Sanitation Department

THURSDAY

|                                                                | A                                    | sril                                                                                                                  | Bir                                                    | thde                                                                               | ays                                             | Jacquelyn Lewis<br>Ruby Smith<br>Marcus Stephens<br>Marilyn Thompson<br>Hope F. Vallejos | Skye Gonzalez<br>Blue Sky Thompson<br>Augustine White                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Happy<br>Birthday to my<br>grandsons Jason<br>and Michael, Sr. | 3                                    | Isabella Luna 4<br>Paula Pete<br>Eileen Quintero                                                                      | Jacolby King 5                                         | Elena Cypriano 6<br>Drevon Deloney<br>Jason Garcia<br>Alexis Stephens<br>(Alvarez) | Nicole Coester 7                                | Jeffrey Ruelas 8<br>Cayla Thomas                                                         | Leondro Antone 9<br>Garin Cuatt<br>Nathius Jacuinde<br>Michelle Miranda<br>Nikolai White |
| Love, Grandma                                                  | Amanda Green 10                      | Gloria Alejandro 11<br>Miranda Iniestra<br>Fred Jerry, Jr.<br>Michael Peters, Sr.<br>Angel Stephens<br>Heather Thomas | Deeandra Lewis 12<br>Angel Hoffman<br>Isaiah Narcia    | Jessica Batopis 13<br>Mel Kaniatobe                                                | Pate Justin 14<br>Janay Justin - Ulloa          | Brian Carra 15<br>Reynold Narcia<br>Sandra Shade                                         | Antonia Baptisto 16<br>Glenna Francisco<br>Darryl Peters<br>Valerie Ruiz                 |
| Pate<br>and Janay<br>Love your family                          | Jace Dickerson 17<br>Rupert Stephens | Jose Batopis, II 18<br>Tianah Pilone                                                                                  | William Antone 19<br>Anaise Valles - Diaz              | Amelia Alvarez 20<br>Celeste Delores<br>Steven Sam                                 | Anyssa Justin 21<br>Renelda Pete<br>Zaida Soliz | Ricky Attakai, Jr. 22<br>Andrew Enos<br>Vickie Tavena                                    | Jonathan Dean 23<br>Hunter Narcia                                                        |
|                                                                | Martina Antone 24                    | Duane Anderson 25<br>Irma Arellanes-Burgos<br>Valerian Joaquin, Jr.                                                   | Lorenzo Batopis 26<br>Angelita Garcia<br>Karen Gardner | Gregorio Castro 27<br>Robert Stephens                                              | Jesus Balderrama 28<br>Julianna Trenado         | Douglas Pablo 29<br>Araya Pena                                                           | Aliyah Deloney 30<br>Jordyn Miguel<br>Natalie Romo                                       |

Juan Luz, Jr.

TUESDAY





Above: Cuacualti Ballet Folklorico performers Below: Performance from Capoeira Arizona





Proudly owned by the Ak-Chin Indian Community [receipeur]

#### WEEKLY SPECIALS - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



#### April 1 - 14, 2022 ............ **Culture and diversity celebrat**

The sunset colors at Copper Sky Regional Park lit up more than just the fields and fountain on Friday night. During the Copa Cultural Night Market, hundreds of Maricopans and visitors were treated to an experience that highlighted the beautiful diversity of arts and cultures from many different regions of the globe.

Master of Ceremonies, Councilmember Henry Wade welcomed the crowd to a new event for the city that put a spotlight on multifaceted cultures of the world with dance, music, cuisine and artistry.

The Culture Row, a collection of informational tents housing a diverse set of organizations, clubs and artists, was a popular spot for attendees to get to know the different histories and traditions represented at the festival. Aromas from the food trucks, which offered everything from Italian to Vietnamese fare, enticed attendees to try favorites from different countries.

On the main stage, performances included the Buffalo Soldiers "Thunder Band", Ballet Cuacualti Folklorico, Paradise Island

Story and photos by R. Bowen Hula and Fire Knife, Thai Culture Ambassadors Lantern Dance, Capoeira Arizona, 9 Dragons Lion Dance, Indigo Ballroom Dancing and Kizomba Phoenix.

Curious crowd members could also join in the festivity as many of the entertainers offered free lessons and photo opportunities on the side stage after their performances. Throughout the experience, the uniqueness of each individual's heritage and customs were brilliantly celebrated.



Thai Cultural Ambassadors during their Lantern Dance



Fire Knife performance



Contact Riva at (520) 233-2445



II 1-800-522-4700 or 1-800-NEXT STEP @2022 Ca Must be 21 or older to gamble and ta