

Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXVI, Issue 7

April 15 - May 5, 2022



Elders gather together for breakfast on Tuesday, April 5th. "It's good to be back with the people we've missed" shared Connie Orona.

Story and photo by J. Peters

## **Ak-Chin Elder Center** reopens for services

Starting on April 4th, the Ak-Chin Elder Center reopened their doors to the Community's seniors, once again providing breakfast and lunch meals in the Elder Center dining room.

reopening has The brought many smiles, as elders were allowed to gather for the first time since the closing of the Elder Center back in March of 2020, for health concerns amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The empty center and staff were very lonely and quiet without their beloved patrons.

During the closure, the Congregate Meal Elders visiting the center on the morning of April 5th, were happily congregating once again, enjoying their breakfast with one another.

Sharing smiles and being with friends, family and staff members was something that the elders in the community had been longing for.

Now, they are able to get the much-needed interaction that they once had before Covid hit, two years ago.

That is a very long time for anyone to adjust to; no social interaction; especially for the older generations who are used to their daily routines and reliability of other during COVID19, have helpful elder care services.

Elder Center and other Community departments are slowly reinstating many of their daily programs.

This reopening now allows elders to come back to the Elder Center for their congregate meals and other gatherings and activities.

Now that the Elder Center is fully open, there is no longer curbside pick-up for breakfast and lunch.

"We must follow the Title VI grant guidelines," shared Leslie Carlyle-Burnette, Elder Center Director. That means that some of the breakfast and lunch home deliveries that were occurring stopped.

# **Father Tvrdy enjoys** stay at Ak-Čhin Šť. Francis of Assisi



Father Julius Tvrdy offers Palm Sunday mass at Ak-Chin St. Francis of Assisi parish on April 10. Photo by Flower Ruelas. Story by R. Peters

For the past few weeks, Ak-Chin Community has had a visitor among us, Father Julius Tvrdy, who recently retired from active ministry at the Diocese of Lincoln in Nebraska. Fr. Tvrdy has been staying on at Ak-Chin St. Francis of Assisi parish.

Once he retired, he reached out to the local bishops and dioceses in Nebraska to let them know of his availability. Soon after, the bishops let other priests and parishes know and in no time, he was booked to

5:30pm daily mass, confession and assisted with religious education classes. His daily mass has been celebrated in English and Spanish, depending on the group attending and has received a good response from the daily mass services.

While here in the community, Fr. Tvrdy has taken the time to go and meet with parishioners when possible. He takes walks around the community to get in some exercise and explore the different at St. Peter he was able to meet with Joe Enos, who has been staying at St. Peter.

Although retired, Fr. Tvrdy is very active, driving many miles to offer mass services for those who are either in remote areas and do not have a regular priest or to fill in at parishes when their priests are absent.

He talked about his travels during his South ministry in America, where he served the people in Valenzuela for over seven years. He also shared that he learned to speak Spanish at the age of 40.

Program was also halted until further notice, although breakfast and lunch were being provided at the Elder curbside Center via pickup, and delivery for those who qualified.

Elder Center continues to page 2

With the Community reopening departments to 100 percent workforce as of March 21st, the

"Before COVID19, breakfast was not part of Title VI home delivered meal program. It was only because of the

assist with mass service until the end of July.

Fr. Tvrdy will be celebrating mass during Holy Week with Ak-Chin parishioners. He also provided a areas in the community.

In addition, to offering services here in Ak-Chin he has offered mass for St. Peter Indian School Mission in Bapchule, when requested. While

While in Venezuela Fr. Tvrdy served in a very

Story by R. Peters

**March Community Meeting** 

The March Community Meeting, held virtually was brief as only three Council members were on the agenda to provide Council Member reports.

Vice Chairman, Lemuel Vincent opened the meeting scheduled for 6pm. Once he greeted everyone who signed on, an opening prayer was offered by Council member Lisa Garcia.

Vice Chairman first commented the on question asked in

about the next in-person Community Meeting, as he shared, "we're actually working on getting the next one in person."

Vice-Chair announced the membership to Council's decision to return to full capacity, meaning all Community departments are now back to 100% workforce.

He also announced the approval of Community's the sponsorship with NABI,

a good thing, especially now. Because coming out of this pandemic there's these programs that are starting that are going to get these kids out there and motivated again."

He was excited about getting this year's Spring Intersession "off the ground" as he praised Ak-Chin Recreation for taking the initiative to set up the many activities and recognized the Him Dak art program for "always being a big hit"

He also thanked the many volunteers and other departments who participated to "make it a success."

Vice Chairman Vincent mentioned projects Council is currently working on like the rental assistance program, as well as rescinding the mask mandate for members and employees.

also had He the opportunity to meet with Congresswoman Sharice Davids from Kansas who was in town for the

At left, March Community Distribution provided over 300 families dry good items during the two-day distribution on April 7-8.

The Community Distribution is scheduled to continue every month for 2022.

Photos by J. Peters

Hispanic Caucus and round table discussion at Salt River.

"She did convey to me that she was excited to come to Ak-Chin, because she's heard so much about what Ak-Chin entails, not only on the political side but also just in general with what we do for members." Vice Chair shared as he and Davids took a tour of the Community.

He also pointed out Ak-Chin Transit for "going all out on accommodating" the tour which was held on a Sunday.

Vice-Chairman Vincent ended by praising the community for staying strong while dealing

with the pandemic, "I have no doubt that we can overcome anything that's put in front of us." Council member Lisa

Garcia was next to provide her report, as she thanked everyone for joining she also shared, "we are working on having our next community meeting be in person" as well as "still having the option of virtual for some of those who still may want to attend virtually."

Council member Garcia listed many things that Council has participated in, such as the First Things First virtual meeting, where Council offered help "with their strategic plan to address critical issues

Meeting continues to page 3

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE** 

**PAGE 2 ELDER NEWS** 

PAGE 3 COMMUNITY NEWS

PAGE 7 ANNOUNCEMENTS





COVID19 and Ak-Chin Community restrictions during COVID 19, that the Elder Center delivered breakfast." Leslie added.

Home delivered lunch is ONLY provided to eligible homebound elders, through Elder Center and Title VI Program Grant Funding and Reporting, funded through Older Americans Act Title VI. The Title VI program is designed for elders to come in to socialize with one another over a hot meal.

In order to receive a home delivered meal, elders must meet a certain criterion. "We must report to the Federal Government Title VI Older Americans regarding the elders we serve. We must report every meal that is served. In-Take forms and reassessments are done as part of that reporting. We determine eligibility through an In-Take Form completed by the Elder Center staff." Leslie shared.

Leslie also shared that the In-Take Form can be done over the phone, however, it is best if a member of the Elder Center staff can meet with the elder in person. In-Take forms are done on new elders that just turned 55. In-Take forms on all elders are updated annually.

Below is a list of Home Bound Delivery eligibility guidelines.

- You do not have a car and/ or you are unable to drive on your own.
- Your doctor believes that your health or illness could get worse if you leave your home.
- You are fragile and/or bedridden.
- You need assistance with daily living such as bathing, using the toilet, cooking, dressing, etc.
- You are unable to leave your home without assistance.
- Because of illness or

April 15 - May 5, 2022

injury, you need the aid of supportive devices such as crutches, canes, wheelchairs, and walkers; the use of special needs transportation; and the assistance of another person in order to leave your home.

Not every situation can be listed. That is why a reassessment is necessary to evaluate each and everyone's needs and circumstances.

It is understandable that some elders may be cautious about returning to the Elder Center for a meal. The Elder Center is following COVID-19 protocols for everyone's safety, and hopes to see more elders in the coming weeks.

If you have questions regarding the Elder Center's opening, please call the Elder Center at 520-568-1760 or 1762.



"Welcome Back" sign painted by Elder staff member Marissa Antone brings smiles to all who enter the Ak-Chin Elder Center.



The Family of Rudy Mavis Sr. Sadly announces his passing, March 20, 2022. He was a loving, caring, husband and father, a compassionate friend to all who knew him.

> Services: May 1, 2022 Place: V.F.W. of Maricopa, Az 41600 W. Smith-Enke, Bldg 10 Maricopa, Az 85139 Time: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

> > **Everyone Welcome**

Fr. Tvrdy continued from Front



## **Elders enjoy Easter Activities**

It's been a festive week at the Ak-Chin Elderly Center, two days filled with Easter crafts and fun, gearing up the elders for the upcoming holiday.

On the morning of Tuesday April 12th, elders gathered in the dining room of the center to have an egg coloring session.

Here the elders sat amongst their peers and colored a total of 15 dozen eggs, the eggs were then used the following day.

After lunch on April 13th, staff members provided baskets to elders as they were gathered in the dining room and awaited their chance to hunt down as many Easter eggs as their baskets could carry.

Beforehand staff went outside the building to hide all the eggs around the area, filling every nook and cranny they As the elder bunnies hopped out on their Easter hunt, the elders had fun combing over the building, along with assistance from center staff. Once all the eggs had been found, everyone headed inside for their final event, the raffle.

could find.

Raffle items included; kitchenware, a book and reading light/magnifier, and a big cozy blanket.



Father Julius Tvrdy enjoys lunch at the Elder Center, and welcomes everyone to join him for Easter Sunday mass at Ak-Chin St. Francis of Assisi Church, April 17, at 12 pm.

poor parish and helped start a school. He talked about the school systems, schedules and their humble lifestyle.

Growing up in a catholic family of Czech descent, Fr. Tvrdy went to Catholic school. He attended St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary in Denver, Colorado with Bishop Thomas Olmstead. Next year they will both celebrate their 50-year Ordination to the Priesthood.

spend time in the Native communities. "It was my first experience working with Native Americans."

Fr. Tvrdy is happy to provide Holy Week services in Ak-Chin and invites everyone to join him for mass at St. Francis of Assisi:

L: Cute bunnies Glenna Francisco and Virginia Zepeda with baskets full of eggs. R: Elders enjoy a fun-filled day coloring eggs at the Elder Center. Story and photos by J. Peters

## Elder April Breakfast-Lunch Menu

15) Good Friday - Center Closed

18) French Toast, bacon, fruit cup, juice | Red Chili Stew, Cauliflower & Broccoli Mix, Chumath, Jell-O, Apple

19) Cream of wheat, boiled eggs, biscuit, yogurt, cereal, milk | Bar-B-Que Chicken, Brown Rice, Butternut Squash, Romaine Salad, Mandarin Oranges

20) Chorizo & eggs, diced potatoes, beans, tortilla, sliced apples, chocolate milk | Red Chili Indian Tacos, Zucchini, Tropical Fruit

21) Sausage, green chili, & egg burrito, Kashi bar, grapes, juice | Pork Chops, Scalloped Potatoes, Sautéed Greens, Roll, Pineapples

22) Fried spam, scrambled eggs, diced potatoes, tortilla, banana, juice | Split Peas, Chicken Stir Fry (D), Garden Salad, WW Roll, Asparagus, Oatmeal Cookie-Plum, Asparagus, Tropical Fruit

25) Hamburger, green chili, & egg scramble, diced potatoes, tortilla, cottage cheese & pears, juice | Chicken Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Corn, Jell-O, Pear

26) Bacon & egg burrito, fruit cup, cliff bar, juice | Lima Beans, Ground Beef & Green Chili (D), Carrots, Corn Bread, Watermelon 27) Pancakes, boiled eggs, bacon, strawberries & blueberries, juice | Broccoli Soup & Cobb Salad, Yogurt w/ Berries

28) Sausage & egg quesadilla, diced potatoes, fresh salsa, cottage cheese & pineapples, chocolate milk | Hamburgers, Green Leaf, Tomato, Ranch Style Beans, Broccoli Salad, Tropical Fruit

29) Oatmeal, boiled eggs, English muffin, cereal, banana, milk | Tilapia or Chicken, Rice Pilaf with Peas & Carrots, Asparagus, Cantaloupe

> \*\* Menu items subject to change\*\*

Fr. Tvrdy plans to head home after Holy Week to his parish house in Alma, Nebraska. He would like to come back to the southwest for the winter, "I'd like to do winters here, winters are hard in Nebraska."

Fr. Tvrdy feels at home here, as the climate and landscape is similar to Venezuela. He is grateful to be able to 4/14: Holy Thursday, 7 pm 4/15: Good Friday, 7 pm 4/16: Holy Saturday, 8 pm 4/17: Easter Sunday, 12 pm

Everyone is encouraged to bring their candles for Holy Saturday, and Holy Water bottles to fill.

St. Francis is also asking for donations of Easter lilies to decorate the church and eggs for the Easter Egg hunt which will be held after Sunday mass.



#### Ak-Chin Oodham Runner 💽

Newspaper of the Ak-Chin Indian Community ©2022

16600 N. Maricopa Hwy Maricopa, Arizona 85139

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

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

#### Ak-Chin O'odham Runner **Editor: Raychel Peters**

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

#### Ak-Chin Tribal Council

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

#### **Regular Contributors:**

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

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

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

All information and original work contained in this newspaper is copyright and may not be reproduced without written permission from: Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 16600 N. Maricopa Hwy

#### Maricopa, Arizona 85139 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

#### ARTWORK, LETTERS, **STORIES**

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

If you have artwork, photos, poems or a great story that you would like to share, please contact us so we can include it in "YOUR" newspaper. Also, if you have suggestions or comments about "YOUR" newspaper, let the Runner Staff know

Community Meeting continued from Front

within the organization and the impact it may have to the rural communities such as Ak-Chin."

~~~~~~~~

Garcia shared the upcoming Community distribution and Covid testing dates. She then focused on meetings with the community's economic development review committee, as well as the feasibility studies going on in the community.

She mentioned the quarterly updates with Harrah's, work sessions with the Treasurer, IMT, Housing, Purchase Referred Care program, and upcoming projects.

"I believe with ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds we've identified 13... so as they get going we will give updates on that as well."

She also offered her thanks to all the departments who helped Spring Intersession, with then announced a meeting with MUSD on potential scholarships for students.

"It's nothing final, still being worked on and talked about." Council member Garcia ended by asking parents to "encourage your students to stay in school and further their education, then seek higher education because that's a great investment that the community needs and offers."

Council member Octavio Machado provided his report, acknowledging everything that

Council member Garcia shared and commenting on what Vice Chairman mentioned about going to 100% staffing level.

"That doesn't mean that every department is providing services at 100%." He then urged members to "call each individual department or a particular department and ask what services they are providing at this time," for those who may be curious about certain services.

After Council completed their reports the Member Q & A Session began with questions being sent in. Questions included; process for hiring positions. vacant health care plans, next community meeting location, status of temp workers program, status on updating code of ethics for Council members, summer youth work program, NeoGov hiring process and the hiring freeze.

After the Q and A concluded, Council Secretary Vicki Smith announced raffle winners.

Council shared similar sentiments about how "look they forward to seeing everyone at the next community meeting."

The March Community Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

The next Community Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 25, location is still TBD. For questions please call 520-568-1000.



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

## Past Due Fines

If you are delinquent on your fines, or if you are unsure if you have any fines.

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 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 maps.
- Required before construction can commence on existing projects.

#### Mini Refresh of the 2016 Long Range Transportation Plan:

- Required to change ownership of existing roads.
- Mini Refresh Includes:
- 0 **Public Involvement** 
  - Establishment of Rights-of-Way 0
- Establishment of Strip Maps and Road Inventory Data 0
- 0 **NEPA Reviews**
- Tribal Rights-of-Way Plat Maps 0
- 0 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

#### 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 May 6 - 19, 2022 issue is due by FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH

Material submitted after the **APRIL 29TH DEADLINE** cannot be guaranteed

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



Distribution items are all lined up and ready to be handed out. Many thanks to all those who have stepped up to help with the monthly Community Distributions.

## **Ak-Chin Indian Community Health and Human Services Adult Protective Services**

#### **Adult Protective Services**

Services are provided to the elderly and vulnerable adults who may be at risk of being a victim of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

#### What is adult abuse?

When a community Elder or vulnerable adult have been subjected to physical, emotional or sexual abuse, neglect or self-neglect, or financial exploitation.

What are some of the signs of possible abuse?

- · Unexplained injuries or behavior.
- · Appears afraid of a person or situation. · Isolation
- · Sudden decline in physical appearance.
- · Untreated injuries or health problems.
- · Unsafe living conditions.
- · Disappearance of possessions or property.
- · Missing money or unaccounted for finances.

#### What do we do?

Adult Protective Services (APS) receives and evaluates reports of suspected adult abuse, neglect and exploitation. Investigation and validation of adult abuse reports are the responsibilities of Adult Protective Services.

If you feel you are being abused or suspect an Elder or vulnerable adult is being abused please contact:



**Ak-Chin Adult Protective Services** 520-568-1169 or 520-568-1092

Ak-Chin Police 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. Meeting will be virtual or at the Elements Event Center at Ak-Chin Circle.

Ak-Chin Indian Community Health and Human Services Child Welfare **Child Protective Services** 

#### What is Child Protective Services

Child Protective Services operates under Health and Human Services Department to Respond to Reports of suspected Child Abuse or Neglect.

#### We are Required to by law to:

Act in response to all reports/referrals of suspected child maltreatment.

- Evaluate child safety.
- Support and Strengthen families, whenever possible.

Facilitate services to families to help ensure the Safety of their children.

Help to Prevent future abuse or neglect.

#### When to Report

A report should be made when any person, who reasonably believes that a child under the age of 18 has been abused, neglected, exploited, or abandoned.

A report of suspected abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment is only a request for an investigation. The person making the report does not need to prove the abuse. Investigation and validation of child abuse reports are the responsibilities of Child Protective Services.

#### How to Report Child Abuse/Neglect call:

Ak-Chin Health & Human Services (520) 568-1098 **AK-Chin Police Department** (520) 568-1200 or Child Abuse Hotline (State Wide) 1-888-767-2445



(520) 568-1200

# Easter Scavenger Hunt

## Takes over at the Library

Baskets set out for the children participating in the scavenger hunt. Once the scavenger sheet was filled out children could pick up their baskets.

It's a delightful sight at the Ak-Chin Community Library and Education Center. Walking into an Easter festive lobby, children were put in a hopping good mood, as the lobby was decked out with colorful decorations.

Participants have been making their way into the library since last week; from 9am – 6pm, to get an Easter scavenger hunt sheet from library staff; to answer a variety of questions and find 10 eggs in order to receive an Easter basket. A bonus chance to win a \$25.00 gift card was offered, if the children used their library card to check out a book from the Self-Checkout machine.

From asking Mr. Matt ch "What is game night?" is and "What is the date of we the next game night?" to f asking Ms. Amy, "What If is your favorite book and ch author?" children would ar then scribble down their co answers on their sheets. th

The scavenger hunt also included a walk over to the Education side of the building, to visit Administrative support technician Tera Thornton. Ms. Thornton had a secret question for children to answer, asking to locate her favorite character hiding somewhere on her desk,

(hint) her
character
is strong
with the
f o r c e .
If the
children
answered
correctly
they got
y u m m y
candy.





\*Open to Community Members and Residents

\*All families who have a completed ROI by April 28th will be entered into a drawing for prizes

\*Lunch & Dinner will be available, while supplies last!

If you cannot aftend the event, please contact the Education Office for alternative arrangements at (\$20)\$569-1280

These adorable Easter decorations were brought to the lobby of the building.

Pastel bunnies and eggs filled the area, including a magnificent Easter tree.

PARENTS and GUARDIANS If you have a student from Ak-Chin participating in an upcoming event and would like them to be featured in the future editions of the Runner, Please let us know!

ATTENTION

Ak-Chin

Email: runnernews@ak-chin.nsn.us Phone: (520)568-1375



EASTER HOP BUNNY NEST FLOWERS GRASS SPRING CROSS EGG HUNT LILY PEEPS CANDY BASKET SUNDAY CHICK LAMB DYE PARADE

B S KE T LA MB D SLKC QF G E UUS Y D L G L G E NR P P E E P S Z C A B H D 0 R Q R L E H Y WT C E U A Y A SWN NE M RRR Y E OR NG 1 OL C F A KU INLGRAS S D Y BRYFUXHXS G 1 DGCANDYOXN Η GUTUFRLIPTK

EASTER

SPRING

54443

CMS programs are available to help manage diabetes in our communities.



Contact your local Indian health care provider for more information, visit HealthCare.gov, or call 1-800-318-2596.



MAKE ·EVERY DAY· Earth Day April 22, 2022

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Educational Exhibits
- Vendor Exhibits
- T-Shirts (1st Come 1st Serve)
- Lunch (1st 250 Attendees)
- Raffle (Do Not Need To Be Present To Win)

Ak-Chin Circle Elements Event Center 16000 N. Maricopa Road Maricopa, AZ

11:00am-4:00pm

For More Info Call: (520) 568-1140

MASKS ARE REQUIRED INDOORS & ATTENDEES MUST ADHERE TO ALL CDC & COMMUNITY GUIDELINES



## Gardening Club

Coming soon

More information contact the Library at library@ak-chin.nsn.us or 520-568-1675.



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services NAB-250364-OLS-21.

## MWMS School Panthers have soild win with the help of Draven Soliz

Ak-Chin Community member Draven Soliz, #44 for Maricopa Wells Middle School boys' basketball brought his A game to the MWMS home court on Monday April 11, as the Panthers soared through their game against the Casa Grande Villago Titans, winning 25-17.

Soliz, "a gigantic 7th grader" mom Vanessa shared, plays on the B team, which is currently sporting a 3-0 record.

Draven was aggressive at the rim, grabbing many rebounds and racking up some serious points for his team. He also had a couple of steals and was quick to set up down the court for both defense and offense. His opponents struggled to keep him at bay but he was a force not to be reckoned with.

If you would like to catch Draven in action, his next home game is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19th at 430 pm, against Desert Wind.



Draven Soliz hustles back to defend.



Story and photos by R. Peters



# 44 Draven Soliz steals the ball and drives to the basket.



Draven lays it up to score a bucket for the Panthers.









Summer 2022 Semester Deadline:

April 29, 2022 5:00 PM (no exceptions)

Continuing College/University Students (Spring to Summer)

> Submit to our Office: Class Schedule, Tuition Bill, Book Costs, and Program of Study (Degree Audit)

Appointments are available

46512 W. Farrell Rd., Maricopa, AZ 85139 (520) 568-1291/ 1280



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





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.



Extension of Time to file <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YEgkRSLRGY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YEgkRSLRGY</a> Need More Time to File or Pay Taxes <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhGCnuCdFl4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhGCnuCdFl4</a> Owe Taxes But Can't Pay? <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLzYpiFXSZ4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLzYpiFXSZ4</a> Where's My Refund? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRwiPkFSZsU Why You Should Use Free File https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1BnCv2kFtA Filing Electronically <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khoX1xVJebg</u> Tax Credits for Families <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mSgo5qgOeY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mSgo5qgOeY</a>



#### **Past Due Fines**

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

If you are delinquent on your fines, or if you are unsure if you have any fines.

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

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

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

#### You can avoid any of the above collections by the following: • You may come to the

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

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



Gonzalez Recreation Program *Coordinator* Parks and Recreation

Jacolby King

Wastewate Operator

Water Operations





Adan Enriquez Wastewater Operator Water Operations



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



Glad you just relaxed and scratched your tickets. We love you for everything you do. Especially for me

since I'm the favorite child. Love your Daughter, Monda Capri and boys

Happy Birthday Daddy... or should I

Thanks for all that you do for me, and for being the best dad I can ask for. It means so much to me, for you to see me grow. I love you, Daddy. Cake & Ice Cream coming soon. Love, Love 🔴

#### Happiest of Birthday blessings JJ

We hope you have a good one, and your day is the best one yet. Thanks for being there, as well as the coolest

4/21 Lourdes Smith, Law & Order

Planning

4/16

Glenna Francisco,

Maintenance

4/17

Candace Allcott,

Elderly

Jace Dickerson,

Fire & Safety

4/18

Teancum Thatcher,

Law & Order

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

4/30 Michelle Granados,

Law & Order

5/1 Marlene Garcia, Housing Department Shauna Brown, Capital Projects

5/2 Maria Garcia, Maintenance

 Recreation Programs Assistant (3) Project Manager

- Applications Software Technician
- Environmental Programs Manager
  - Purchasing Agent

Sonya Joaquin, Early Childhood

5/5 Brian Guyer,

Fire & Safety Lydia Rueda, Prosecutor Blas Valles, Sanitation

Francisco Velasco, Sanitation Lucy Jerry, Social & Health Services

Would they like to give it a try? Are your kids interested in coding?

We're starting a new session of Game Hacker in person. Every Wednesday 4 to 5:15PM.

Spots are limited! If you have questions, contact us at library@ak-chin.nsn.us or 520-568-1675

THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO AK-CHIN MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY

Your Pals, Dez & Emerson

Happy Birthday to my daughters Karen and Marlene Love, Mom

Happy Birthday to my grandsons Darryl and Antonio, and my granddaughters Celeste and Angelita Love, Grandma

EASTER?

sav Best Friend

Friend when needed

# APRIL 10TH - MAY 5TH BIRTHDAYS

| SUNDAY                                                                 | MONDAY                                                                                                                | TUESDAY                                                                           | WEDNESDAY                                          | THURSDAY                                                        | FRIDAY                                                | SATURDAY                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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<br>Glenna Francisco<br>Darryl Peters<br>Valerie Ruiz |
| Jace Dickerson 17<br>Rupert Stephens                                   | Jose Batopis, II <sub>18</sub><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<br>Juan Luz, Jr.           | 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                    |
| Richard Brady 1<br>Marlene Garcia<br>Vivian Lewis<br>Antonio Rodriguez | Selina Richiusa 2                                                                                                     | Cruz Alvarez3Blas CastroSonya JoaquinRJ MarshSamuel Paddock, Jr.Joseluis Santiago | Irene Arredondo 4<br>Geraldine Vincent             | Mayleigh Delores 5<br>Lucy Jerry<br>Jalen Norris<br>Blas Valles |                                                       |                                                                       |
|                                                                        |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                   |                                                    |                                                                 |                                                       |                                                                       |

## Native American Basketball Invitational (NABI) and Partnership With Native Americans Organization Team Up for Educational Programming

PHOENIX - NABI has selected Partnership With Native Americans (PWNA) to organize the Educational components during NABI Week from July 17-23, 2022, in Phoenix, Ariz. PWNA is a national, Native-led nonprofit that focuses on immediate relief and long-term solutions such as education, career readiness and professional development in underserved tribal communities. NABI bringing in a partner who can solely focus on our educational components will help NABI to reach the goals of continuing to provide quality educational programming to the youth NABI serves during NABI week.

"We are looking forward to collaborating with PWNA to enhance and prioritize our educational components during NABI week and to rebuilding the basketball tournament after the pandemic stalled our efforts," says GinaMarie Scarpa, NABI Cofounder.

~~~~~~~~~~~~

components Educational will include the 2022 NABI Educational Youth Summit and the NABI College & Career Fair hosted by Phoenix College.

"PWNA is honored to facilitate this year's College & Career Fair and the NABI Educational Youth Summit to enhance educational programming during NABI Week," said Josh Arce, president, and CEO of Partnership With Native Americans. "We look forward to providing engaging education sessions and introducing our 'Grow With Google' digital training to Indigenous students during the event."

In its 19th year, the annual Native American Basketball will Invitational feature 136 teams (boys and girls, ages 14-19) comprised of athletes representing tribal communities from all over North America. The NABI basketball invitational continues to be the largest national premier all Native basketball tournament and a successful platform bringing educational messaging and programs to over 1,300 youth during NABI week.

NABI week officially tips-off on Sunday July 17, 2022, in Phoenix, Ariz., with more than 400 basketball games played in 11 Phoenix area gyms. NABI week will conclude with Championship the games on Saturday July 23 at the newly renovated Footprint Center, home of the Phoenix Suns & Phoenix Mercury. Upon conclusion of the Championship games on Saturday, all teams will be hosted to the Arizona Diamondbacks game.

Overview of NABI events open to the public:

NABI Parade of Teams: Powered by the Heard Museum, Sunday July 17th @ Heard Museum

~~~~~~~~~~~

NABI Pool Play & Bracket Games: Monday -Friday July 18-22 @ varies Phoenix area gyms.

Phoenix Mercury Native American Night: Powered by NABI Nation, Friday July 22nd @ Footprint Center

NABI Championship Games: Powered by Nike N7, Saturday July 23rd @ Footprint Center NABI Night with Arizona Diamondbacks: Powered by Dbacks Care, Saturday July 23rd @ Chase Field

For more information, please visit our official website www. NABINation.com.





II 1-800-522-4700 or 1-800-NEXT STEP. @2022 Caes Must be 21 or older to gamble and tai

CHOP, BLOCK & BREW