

Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXXVI, Issue 22

December 2 - 15, 2022

## 2022 Tribal Council Anyssa Justin experiences the Election results Magic at Disney College

Saturday, November 19, 2022, Ak-Chin Community members made their way to the voting booths at Ak-Chin Recreation gymnasium as early as 6 am to cast their votes for three seats on Ak-Chin Tribal Council. By 2 pm, the polls closed and around

November 245 pm the final results Ak-Chin were ready to be shared.

Ak-Chin's newly elected C o u n c i l m e m b e r s : Gabriel Lorenzo Lopez (231 votes), Cecil D. Peters (219 votes), and Lisa Garcia (193 votes), will begin serving their four-year terms come

Election continues to page 2

McCarty contines to page 3





Ak-Chin Vice Chairman Lemuel Vincent presents Chuck McCarty with a plaque on behalf of the Ak-Chin Tribal Gaming Agency, October 21, 2022.



For anyone who has ever been able to enjoy a trip to Disneyland or Walt Disney World, it is utterly magical. From the moment you walk through the gates, to your first ride, or Mickey sighting, there's just nothing like it on earth; something I hope everyone gets to experience at least once in their lifetime. Over the summer, Anyssa Justin was able to experience a once in a lifetime moment, firsthand, as she was able to learn from and work at "The Most Magical Place on Earth".

Anyssa shares her memorable experience attending the Disney College Program and working at Walt Disney World with the Runner.

#### What was the program you recently completed at WDW?

I completed the Disney College Program in Orlando, Florida this past summer. The Disney College Program is a paid internship, that allowed you to gain on-the-job experience with a world-renowned company, providing uniquely Disney learning experiences, all while preparing for your future, building transferable skills, including networking, problem solving, teamwork and effective communication.

### Why did you choose to attend this particular program?

Attending the program was not something I always knew I was going to attend. It was an impulse decision to apply. I was up one late night and saw information on it and I just applied not knowing what would come out of it. It only took a few days before I received a response letting me know I was accepted.

Story by R. Peters, photos submitted

### When did you go and how long where you there?

I left in April and returned home at the end of August

### How long was program and what did you receive upon completion?

My term was 5 months for the summer season. Upon completion, I received graduation ears, certificate, and joined the Disney Alumni Association.

### Where did you train/ work while at WDW?

I was placed in Attractions at Under the Sea: Journey of the Little Mermaid and was also trained in Enchantment Fireworks Show. This consisted of crowd

Anyssa continues to page 6

Phoenix Suns pay tribute to Arizona's 22 Tribes - culture, tradition and language



Above, Indigenous youth representing Arizona's 22 tribes pose with Phoenix Suns players to showcase their new 2022-23 Nike NBA City Edition uniform. Representing Ak-Chin is Daria Garcia, (top-fourth from left) and Narin Lopez (top-far right). Photo courtesy of Phoenix Suns

If you've gone to a Phoenix Suns game lately, you probably noticed their newly distinguished uniforms.

The Phoenix Suns 2022-23 Nike NBA City Edition uniform was unveiled during their home game on November 16, and designed in honor of Arizona's 22 federally recognized tribes.

The vibrant turquoise is the first standout of the uniform, taking a closer look you will see many detailed elements on the jersey and shorts that are significant to the indigenous cultures of Arizona.

The research and design process for the City Edition uniform began over two years ago and was led by the Suns' inhouse marketing and creative teams with consultation from a Navajo designer.

The Suns worked with the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, all 22 tribes, as well as Nike N7, Heard Museum, Phoenix Indian Center and other indigenous groups to ensure the development of the uniform would be culturally relevant and appropriate to the Arizona tribes.

The turquoise color represents the living or protection stone.

The Native American medicine wheel, depicted on the waistband of the shorts, and on the Suns center court at Footprint Center represents the four cycles of life and the four cardinal directions.

The 22 feathers in the

medicine wheel logo and the 22 arrowheads lining the bottom of the shorts represent each of the state's tribes.

The black tape running down the jersey top and shorts features the word for 'sun' in each of the tribes' unique native languages. All native languages are also displayed on the court.

To kick off the new uniform the Phoenix Suns coordinated with the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona to invite tribal youth from the 22

tribes to participate in a photo shoot on October 14. The youth were also provided an opportunity to meet with Suns Players and then take photos in representation of their respective tribes for a program called OrigiNativ.

The Suns will wear the indigenous inspired uniform during select home games as part

- 67

season-long celebration series hosted by Gila River Resorts and Casinos that will honor the 22 Sovereign Nations of Arizona. They will also wear the uniform for seven road games that focus on cities with large indigenous populations.

of "ORIGINATIV," a

The Suns will honor a Native American basketball hero during

Suns continues to page 4

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## ົ້າກາ

Story and photos by J. Peters

November 21st, community elders had an amazingly fun time attending the Ak-Chin Elder Center's first ever Turkey Trot.

Elders and department staff thought it would be a great idea for them to do a fun activity before Thanksgiving, hence, the Turkey Trot was introduced.

Elder Program Assistants Marissa Antone and Narcia Sonia both worked together to come up with different ideas,

thinking outside the box to find new ways to get the community elders moving again.

The turkey trot turned out to be a perfect way to incorporate more low impact exercises that are also fun.

After their morning breakfast elders who chose to participate were dressed to the "T" in their best turkey attire, then lined up outside for the fun activity.

the green light to go the group and that was the elders trotted down Euphrasia Mike. She the event course, with a took off from the getcouple running and some go leaving her fellow wheeling. The course contestants behind. length around the Elder building was just the Euphrasia won a throw right distance for the blanket, group to enjoy without native print Christmas getting tired.

Employees watching and cheering Tupperware and a pair from beginning to end.

triumph, but there was participant who one was determined to be Once they were given the #1 Turkey Trotter in

handmade stocking and mittens. Coming in 2nd place was enjoyed Evelina Lopez, winning of cozy winter socks. Placing 3rd was Analita The elders trotted to Laborin, who also won Tupperware and a pair of cozy winter socks. All participants received a blue tote bag with gifts inside.

> The Elder department is planning to make this holiday hit an annual activity for the elders, "seeing how much the elders really enjoyed it. We were a bit worried we weren't going to get as much elders as we thought we did, we are hoping each year we do a turkey trot." says Marissa Antone.

> As for the elders they are looking forward to being able to do this again next year.

"The elder staff loved

Above, voters fill out information before getting their ballot, at Ak-Chin Recreation gymnasium, November 19,2022

January 2023.

The Election Board ensured a safe voting experience for all, with adequate spacing of booths, drive-up voting members for with physical limitations and frequent sanitizing for high touch points.

They also worked closely with Council Secretary Vicky Smith to help coordinate the Meet the Candidate Night, while Elder Director, Leslie Carlyle-Burnett worked to get a Candidate event set up for lunchtime at the elder luncheon.

Meal tickets for Vekol Market were provided to all voters, as an added incentive. Vekol stayed busy pretty much all day

providing the free burger and fries meal, and even had some redeemed on Sunday.

Congratulations to newly our elected Councilmembers!

I am truly humbled, blessed and honored to be elected to serve our people and our community. Thank You Ak-Chin for entrusting in me to Lead our Community. "Ves Ed Vem"

- Gabriel Lorenzo Lopez

Thank you to everyone who came out to vote and elected me to serve on council. I look forward to working with council and the membership for the betterment of our Community.

- Cecil D. Peters



















being able to plan the event with such a great turn out. The feedback that we got from the elders were nothing but positive. The elders enjoyed dressing up with handmade tutus that the staff had put together and the fun turkey hats and headbands that they also got to wear. We are looking forward to next year's turkey trot."

Above, newly elected Councilmember Gabriel Lorenzo Lopez and his wife Salinda, getting campaign signs visible for Election Day.

## Elder December Breakfast-Lunch Menu

1.) Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit | Meatloaf. Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Salad, Rolls, Peaches

2.) Sausage Breakfast Burrito, Cereal, Fruit | Pozole, Succotash, **Rolls, Peanut Butter Cookies** 

5.) Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, English Muffin, Fruit | Spaghetti, Salad, Toast, Cupcakes

6.) Egg, Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Hashbrown, Fruit | Bar-B-Que Ribs, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Pears

7) Potatoes, Beans, Tortilla, Mix Fruit Squash Casserole, Wild Rice, Salad, **Rolls, Mandarin Oranges** 8) Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Grapes w/ Cottage Cheese Broccoli Soup, Turkey Sandwich, **Tropical Fruit** 

9.) Boiled Eggs, Sausage, Toast, Banana Cereal Indian Tacos, Lettuce, Tomato, Cheese, Jell-O

12.) Scrambled Eggs W/ Green Chili, Hashbrown, Toast, Fruit | Beef Fajitas, Rice, Beans, Candy Cane Trifle

13) Oatmeal, Boiled Eggs, English Muffin, Pears | Salad Bar, Potato Soup, Rolls, Fruit Cocktails

14) Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Mix Berries | Black Eyed Peas, Chicken Pot Pie (D), Beets, Peas, Apples, Oranges

15) Cream of Wheat, Boiled Eggs, Toast, Fruit | Hamburgers, French Fries, Corn on the Cob, Cherry Crisp

16) Masik Tas Holiday – Center Closed

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

o Enrolled Ak-Chin Community Elders

Please come and receive your Christmas gift card and a nice lunch!

> **Ak-Chin Elements Ballroom** Thursday, December 8, 2022 11 AM to 1 PM

Stockings including nuts, fruit and candy will be provided to the first 60 Elders.

### For questions or transportation call the Elder Center at 568-1760

Presented by **Ak-Chin Indian Community Elder Center** 

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** Photojournalists: Justine Peters Tyaun Marshburn Graphic Artists: Diana Carlyle and Rebecca Rosoff News Assistant: Delila Villegas

#### **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.

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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 that too.

McCarty continued from Front Charles "Chuck" McCarty was recently honored by the Ak-Chin Indian Community for his dedicated years of service to the Ak-Chin Tribal Gaming Agency.

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Mr. McCarty began his career as Executive Director, March 27, 2006. During his tenure Chuck overseen Enforcement, the Compliance, Audit, Administration and Licensing Divisions of Ak-Chin's Tribal Gaming.

He worked with the Tribal Gaming Commission and legal counsel on Compact Amendments to ensure compliance standards of games, for the operation of gaming machines, required background investigations for December 2 -15, 2022

licensing of casino employees, vendors and other areas.

"Chuck has a kind heart and was there for members in their times of grief, sadness, and celebratory occasions." Sandra Shade, Gaming Commission Chairman shared. "The Council, Commission, Gaming and Staff wish him well as he begins his muchawaited retirement."

Chuck is very proud of the leadership he leaves behind at TGA, "One of the strongest management teams I have worked with... we have very strong first-line supervisors. I can't commend my staff enough, they made my job easy."

He is also thankful for

support received the from the tribal council during his 17 years at Ak-Chin.

Chuck has been pretty busy since his retirement, though he does have a bucket list he tends to get to eventually. His immediate plan when he finds time is to take a self-paced Spanish class and maybe a cruise to Ensenada. He plans to do some fishing and golfing as well.

"In a year that's what I'll be doing - fish one day, golf one day, relax on the weekend, watch the games on Saturday and church on Sunday that's my plan."

Best wishes to you Chuck on your retirement!



Chuck with his staff, sharing a happy moment together at his retirement Story by R. Peters, photos by J. Peters party, October 21.

## **Ak-Chin Recreation Employee** *Duel* in the **Desert Chair Volleyball** Tournament

Story and photos by R. Peters



### **Delia Carlyle** recognized with Chairman's **Leadership Award**

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During the 2022 **Indian Gaming** Mid-Year Conference Delia was one of the panelists for Remembering the Fort McDowell Casino Raid on November 15th. After the session she and the other panelists were presented with the Chairman's Leadership

Submitted by Rosalva Madrid Award. Ak-Chin Tribal Gaming



### **AK-CHIN FARMS HAS ONE (1) VACANCY** FOR A REGULAR FARM BOARD MEMBER

#### **Qualification Requirements**

1.) Must be able to regularly attend Farm Board Meeting, once a month, on the last Tuesday of the month and any special meetings set. The appointed term shall be for 5 years.

2.) Must familiarize yourself to the Farm Plan of Operations which govern and spell out the duties of a Regular Farm Board Member.

3.) The Farm Board consist of (3) Regular Farm Board Members (2) At-Large Experienced Farm Board Members, making a total of (5) Board Members. The Three (3) Regular Members of the Board shall be enrolled members of the Community or persons who are not members of the Community but who are employees; provided that, regardless of Community membership status, preference shall be given to persons who have agricultural experience or management experience.

All interested parties who desire to serve on the Ak-Chin Farm Board must submit a letter of interest detailing why they are interested in serving on the Ak-Chin Farm Board and your agricultural or management experience if any. In your letter of interest, please note which Board, Commission, or Committee you currently serve on, and when your term expires.

Community/Farm employees must also submit documentation from their supervisor allowing them to serve on the Ak-Chin Farm Board.

All letters of interest may be mailed to: Ak-Chin Farm Board Attn: Farm Manager 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, Az. 85138

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 Dec 16, 2022 - Jan 5, 2023 issue is due by FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

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

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

challenges that pushed their start time back, but with some quick assistance from Ak-Chin Fire, the games commenced.

had

а

couple

The 2022 Ak-Chin Recreation

Employee Duel in the Desert

Chair Volleyball tournament

had 15 teams come out for some

friendly banter and final bragging

rights for 2022.

Recreation

### **CHAMPIONS - AK-CHIN FIRE**

**THIRD PLACE - THE RINGERS** 

Ak-Chin Recreation staff thanks everyone

for coming out and encourages teams to

work together, build camaraderie, practice

second, with The Ringers coming in third.

communication and have a good time.



SECOND PLACE - AK-CHIN R US

UofA trivia questions were announced by Chairman Robert Miguel, who served as announcer. Winners were determined by how quickly they made it to the announcer stand and of course shouting out the right answer.

Prizes included team themed socks, blankets, coozies, chairs and more.

Championship game was a winner-take-all between the Fire Department and Ak-Chin R Us, with Fire winning and offering up the only loss to Ak-Chin R Us who came in



Team Ka-Ching and Harrah's Ak-Chin volley for bragging rights as everyone else follows along.

### Deadline for letters of interest: December 15, 2022

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	1	NOV 29 2022 (# 2
Teams played for 10-minutes or first to score 11 points, whichever	1 2 3	IN THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT 45525 West Farrell Road Maricoga, AZ 85139 Phone (520) 558-1385 Fax (520) 558-1386
came first. Teams consisted of department employees, with smaller departments joining up to make a team.	4 5 7 8 9 10	In the Matter of the Adoption of: A.M.A D.O.B: 03/24/2006 THE AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY TO: Alonso Arellanes Burgos YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Civil Action has been filed against you in the Court of the Ak-Chin Indian Community.
A new member of the Parks and Rec staff said "I've never participated in a game like this before. It was a lot of fun." To make the night even more fun between games, ASU-	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 24 25	YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO FILE A FORMAL WRITTEN ANSWER In the said matter within a period of 20 days if you are served within the boundaries of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. 30 days if you are served outside the boundaries of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. 30 days if you are served outside the boundaries of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. 30 days if you are served outside the boundaries of the Ak-Chin the necessary filing fee; further you must send a copy of your written answer to: Silas Curtis Norris 41940 W. Pecan Lane Maricopa AZ 85138 After you have been served and the written answer period has lapsed, the Tribal Court shall set a date for a hearing of this matter, and you will be notified of the time and date that you will be required to appear. IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUMMONS a judgment by default will be entered against you and the opposing party shall be awarded the relief demanded in this matter. GIVEN under my hand and seal of Ak-Chin Indian Community Court in the State of Arizona this 28th day of November, 2022. Deanna Rascon, Court Administrator of the Ak-Chin Indian Community Court
	26	] 2/2/2/2/2/2/2/2/2/2/2/2/2/



The 2023 Agricultural Lease payment to landowners will be made by mail, direct deposit, or SRPMIC Pay Card only. There will be <u>no</u> in person payout.

On Friday, January 20, 2023, Agricultural Lease Payment checks will be mailed to your address on file or, if you have elected to use direct deposit, disbursement will be mailed to your address on file or, if you have elected to use direct deposit, disbursement will occur to the financial institution on file with the salt River Pirna-Maricopa Indian Community ("SRPMIC") Finance Department. Incorrect information will cause a delay in receiving your payment. To update your address or direct deposit information, or to sign up for direct deposit, please contact: contact:

SRPMIC Vendor Maintenance, ph: (480) 362-7729 (staff is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Arizona time) The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 12, 2022. Please call as soon as possibl

Pay Card disbursement will be placed onto your SRPMIC Pay Card on Friday, January 20, 2023. To sign up for a SRPMIC Pay Card for your lease payment or to add your lease payment to an aiready issued SRPMIC Pay Card, please contact the SRPMIC Finance Department at (480) 362-7620. The last day for Agricultural Lease Payment updates is December 12, 2022. December 12, 2022

Payments less than \$15.00. All direct deposit and Pay Card payments will be disbursed so of the amount. <u>For checks less than \$15,00</u>, landowners will need to contact the Finance Department and request that a check be mailed. Such checks will be ed 7-10 business days following the request after January 20, 2023. sRPMIC Fine

Questions? Contact the SRPMIC Finance Leasing Payment Office (480) 362-7730.



December 2 -15, 2022

## Multi-Media Mondays

Story and photo by T Marshburn

## **Ak-Chin Library celebrates Native American Heritage Month with Gertie Lopez**

Photo by D. Villegas, Story by Milo Antone, Ak-Chin Library

As a way to contribute celebrating Native to American Heritage Month, the Ak-Chin Library held a special event bringing in a Native artist from one of the surrounding native communities. Gertie Lopez.

Ms. Lopez is a well- into where her musical known musician in the path has taken her, the Waila Music scene, a trials she faced through genre of music popular and where her career among tribes and others. is now. She shared the She shared a brief history processes of creating on Waila music and how albums and of course she began playing music.

Gertie provided insight



Gertie and friends at the library event.

performed a show for the audience.

As the night of music went on Gertie and her bandmates signed merchandise and took pictures with their fans.

Ms. Gertie is also a Librarian at the San Xavier Community on the Tohono O'odham nation.

Looking to add a little music to your Monday? The Ak-Chin Library is now hosting Multi-Media night.

Every Monday at 5pm under the direction of Wilson "Milo" Antone, employees members, and their families are welcomed to join a night of musical magic.

I sat in during one of their jam sessions and I was amazed at how talented the kids were. Zachary "Zack" Garcia put on quite a show for fellow media students.

The program currently offers lessons on audio and video as well as playing instruments.



Above, youth listen to music as Wilson "Milo" Antone, library video production asst. observes.

Antone has involved in music for 15+ years.

He currently knows how to play 7 instruments personally, but has many friends who play different instruments and can help if anyone wants a lesson on an instrument he doesn't know.

been Antone's ultimate goal is to help the children build knowledge and confidence to shoot videos on their own.

> That goal may be closer than he thinks as the kids are learning quick and really enjoyed their time at Multi-Media Monday.

### **Maricopa Legacy Boys** Volleyball play Desert Winds Middle school

Story and photos by J. Peters

It was a noisy afternoon on November 21st, as family the students, and friends of Legacy School Traditional Maricopa cheered and shouted for the Junior High Volleyball team

as they played against here and there the boys Desert Winds Middle School.

Lions The Legacy triumphed through their game against Desert Legacy Lions coming Winds, with a few error

were able to keep up with the opposing team as they played an exciting match, with each team wining one and one with out 2 - 1.



Antonio Rodriguez bumps the ball to set it up for his teammate.

FIREPLACE

TREE

SLEIGH

SANTA



William Martinez looks and waits to go up for a block.

## **Health Education brings** back Annual Diabetes event and Rival Walk/Run

Story and photos by T. Marshburn

On November 16th, Ak-Chin Health Education hosted their annual Diabetes event, this year was the first in person event since 2019.

For the past two years the event was only offered virtually. As the event grows, many changes have been added to make the event even more fun.

In 2015 the Rival Run was added, now participates can choose T-shirts to rep their favorite team. So, whether you're a fan of current champions UofA, or the true champions ASU there's room for everyone.

The farmer's market



Health Education would like to send thanks to the Sanitation/Public Works Department for all their help with route maintenance, lighting, and table and chair set up/breakdown. Ak-Chin Youth Council Members for their assistance at the water station registration, and produce distribution. Ak-Chin Fire Department for the additional lighting and standby assistance.

produce giveaway was added in 2016.

Participants are given a hefty bag of fresh produce which includes a variety of fruits and vegetables. It takes a whole team to pull off this event and as someone who attended the event their efforts didn't go unnoticed.





Staff members gather for a photo.

A special thank you to Waylon and Clayton you Antone. Thank to Vekol Market for providing a delicious dinner. Lastly Thank you to all the participants who joined us for an evening of fun and fitness.

Suns continues from Front

each game of the ORIGINATIV series starting with Phoenix Mercury alumni Arizona State and University Sports Hall of Famer Ryneldi Becenti. Hailing from Fort Defiance within Navajo Nation the in Arizona, Becenti was the first Native American woman to play in the WNBA during the team and league's inaugural season in 1997.

Throughout the game, fans will have the opportunity to learn about the history and traditions of Indigenous communities in Arizona and about local Native American businesses and personalities.

### ORIGINATIV remaining game nights:

Dec. 2 vs. HOU Jan. 6 vs. MIA Jan. 8 vs. CLE Feb. 24 vs. OKC Mar. 14 vs. MIL



Ak-Chin Councilmember Lisa Garcia gets a close-up of the Phoenix Suns court at Footprint Center where all Arizona 22 Native translations for "day" are showcased. Lisa kneels beside Ak-Chin's "Tas" translation.

Mar. 16 vs. ORL Apr. 4 vs. SAS

More information on **ORIGINATIV** the program and new City Edition uniform is available at Suns.com/ ORIGINATIV.

Tickets for all upcoming Suns home games can be purchased at Suns. com/Tix.



## **DECEMBER** COVID / FLU VACCINE AVAILABLE

SCAN FOR VACCINE

Visit a GRHC Primary Care Department for vaccines.

Walk in or schedule an appointment by calling 602-528-1280.

## Ak-Chin Indian Community COVID TESTING DATES

## December 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> • 5 pm - 7 pm

Ak-Chin Multipurpose Justice Complex, Maricopa, AZ 85139



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

## CLOSED Monday December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Monday

### Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital Pharmacy Curbside Hours

Monday, 12/26	10am-8pm
Monday, 1/2	10am-8pm

If you need assistance or more information on services open, call GRHC's main line 520.562.3321. Regular business hours will resume the Tuesday after each holiday. If you need immediate assistance, call 911 or visit the Emergency Department at HHKMH.

## January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023



Behavioral Health Services

## MENTAL HEALTH AND THE HOLIDAYS



**GRHC.ORG/BHS** 

\*

The holiday season can bring joy to many, but it can also be stressful. The COVID-19 pandemic may compound stress, anxiety, and loneliness.



If you are feeling isolated this holiday season, reach out or ask for help if you need it.

Setting boundaries can help you feel more in control of the season's celebrations, in a way that is best for you.



Use positive coping strategies that can support your mental health-like practicing mindfulness, exercising, eating well, spending time in nature, and getting enough sleep.

Do what you can to stay healthy by getting vaccinated or a booster if you are eligible, and by wearing a mask or practicing social distancing where advisable-indoors and in crowds.



988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE: CALL OR TEXT 988



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



controls during holidays and special events.

------

### *What type of classes/training did you receive?*

The classes that were offered were more about the company, and personal experiences from other cast members. I learned a lot about guest services, and human resources because that is what had interested me. I listened to a lot of speakers, who shared the start of their journey and where they are now. I spoke to a lot of executives for Disney and those who have been with the company for 30+ years.

### Did you need to do something to qualify before attending?

The qualifications needed was to be enrolled in an accredited US college, university, or higher education program OR have graduated from an accredited US college, university, or higher education

program within 24 months of the application posting date. Must have completed at least one semester and be 18 years or older.

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### What was one of your most memorable experiences while at WDW?

I experienced so many different things working for Disney and living in Florida overall. There were so many other participants like me that had never been to Disney World. I met so many people from around the world and made longtime friendships. I really enjoyed working the enchantment fireworks show, I saw it over and over, every night and it was an unreal feeling that never went away. I knew it would not be a forever experience and I wouldn't be able to see it again for who knows how long. I get to say I was a Disney World Cast member and I will forever have those memories

### What was the best advice you received while there?

I was always told I was chosen for a reason, and it was because some part of who I am and the characteristics I have, was in Walt Disney's vision. This was no ordinary job and it kept me on my toes. I wanted to create Magic for not only myself but others as well. No matter how far I go or where I end up, Disney will always have a place in my heart. I was able to make guests experiences unforgettable, little did they know they did the same for me too.

### Who was your biggest influence while there?

My family and co-workers from Ak-Chin Circle were very supportive during my time gone. I was able to give my mom and grandma an experience they never had before. And, my community believing in me knowing I could bring back the knowledge I gained and the experiences I can share to my community. The support and knowing I can inspire someone to do the same thing, made everything worth it.

*Will you attend another Disney program in the future?* I do not know if I will be attending another program, but this program was never in

my goals and it became one of the best decisions I've ever made for myself. Disney is continuing to open new things everyday (due to the pandemic closure) and more programs are being offered. My love for Disney might bring me back in the future to make magic

Anyssa continued from front

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again!

I hope I can inspire my community or anyone to look into an opportunity like Disney. It was truly an experience of a lifetime and I am always happy to share more about my personal experience. Walt Disney always said, "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." If you can dream it, you can do it. – Walt Disney

Anyssa Justin Senior Entertainment Manager Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center



December 1 Aurora Peters Kendra Smith Rebecca Stephens-Rodas Kayla Valisto Raven Vallejos

> December 2 Candice Antone Duane Antone Clarence Enos Dale Narcia Marcus Peters Lindsey Valles Victor Vincent

**December 3** Arlene Manuel

December 4 Archer Anderson Analita Laborin Destinee Peters Bren Valisto Valerie Velasquez

December 5 Drevyn Silas-Antone Justine Peters Erica Trejo

> December 6 Richard Joaquin Dena Romo

December 7 Evelyn Justin Danya Lopez Joseph Manuel Monica Murrietta Sarlya (Jacuinde) Miranda Omarion White

> **December 8** Odelia Stephens Xavier White

December 9 Corey Allison Angelica Antone Virginia Castro Leo Lewis, Jr. Florinda Peters Terry Santiago

**December 10** Alex Antone Alverna Flores Gloria Narcia

December 11 Desirae Antone Guadalupe Gloria Andrew Humeyumptewa Alejandro Maldonado, Jr. Malinda Pete

> December 12 Zoe Gardner Gina Lewis Elvera Stephens

December 13 Tristianna Antone Arie Deleon Phillip Joaquin Joseph Kaniatobe Adeline Thomas

December 14 Channel Antone Kiandry Jacuinde-Miranda

December 15 Janice Perez Angelica Salas-Vargas

December 16 Maxine Antone Maria Carlyle-Zepeda Raven Humeyumptewa Ba'n Jose Tyler Peters Lisa Vincent

December 17 James Compton Leslie Lewis-Manuel Lita Yarberry

December 18 Josie Hernandez Justin Humeyumptewa Ralston Justin Sarina Smith Bianca Valenzuela

> **December 19** Manuel Peters

December 20 Lanna Lewis Collette Susunkewa Roni Sue Zappia

> December 21 Aiden Peters Eileen Pinheiro Elijah Narcia Adrian Romo

December 22 Nicolas Olivas Volincia Pablo Manuel Rodriguez Candida Upton

**December 23** Yyondrez Antone Bartholomew Smith

December 24 Velacita Lopez David Peters, Jr. Kyle Peters



December 25 David Manuel, Sr. Arrow Santiago Serenity Villegas Danny Vincent

**December 26** Andrew Pinheiro Angela Trenado

**December 27** Orlando Lewis Erica Oliver

December 28 Bernadina Gonzalez Julianna Orona Jersey Peters Sabrina Sam Javier Zepeda

> December 29 Abel Lewis Aubrey Lozano Kathleen Miguel

December 30 Bernadette Carra Christopher Lewis Renita Machado Lee Miguel, II

December 31 Mercedes Rivera-Lopez

### December 2 - 15, 2022



**VIOLENT NIGHT** Monday - Thursday: 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00 Friday: 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 & 10:30 Saturday: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 & 10:30 Sunday: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00

**STRANGE WORLD** Monday - Thursday: 3:30, 6:00 & 8:30 Friday: 4:30, 7:00 & 9:30 Saturday: 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00 & 9:30 Sunday: 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00

DEVOTION Monday - Thursday: 3:00 & 6:00 Friday: 3:00, 6:00 & 9:00 Saturday: 12:00, 3:00, 6:00 & 9:00 Sunday: 112:00, 3:00 & 6:00

THE MENU Monday - Thursday: 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00 Friday: 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 & 10:30 Saturday: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 & 10:30

**BONES AND ALL** Monday - Thursday: 3:30 & 6:30 Friday: 3:30, 6:30 & 9:30 Saturday: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30 & 9:30 Sunday:

Sunday:

12:30, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00

**BLACK PANTHER:** WAKANDA FOREVER Monday - Thursday: 3:30, 4:00, 7:00 & 7:30 Friday: 3:30, 4:00, 7:00, 7:15 & 10:30 Saturday: 12:00, 12:30, 3:30, 4:00, 7:00, 7:15 & 10:30

Sunday: 12:00, 12:30, 3:30, 4:00, 7:00 & 7:15

**BLACK ADAM** Monday - Thursday: 4:00 & 7:00 Friday: 4:00, 7:00 & 10:00 Saturday: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00 & 10:00 Sunday: 1:00, 4:00 & 7:00 all times PM unless noted





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12:30, 3:30 & 6:30

Before Empire, Santiago joining Chin's

ak-chincircle.com/theater





joining the Eduardo considered himself reserved and introverted. But after Harrah's Ak-Toastmasters

Club, he says his communication, leadership and public speaking skills flourished. This newfound confidence, paired with deep Native American roots and lessons that come with being the second oldest of 12 siblings, helped Eduardo learn to resourceful, be strong and proud of where he comes from.

What does Native American Heritage month mean to you?

"Native American Heritage month is a time to celebrate my culture and community. We, as Native Americans, are a diverse group who have made our mark in history and are just as important in today's society."

### How can we be better allies to Indigenous communities?

"In any working relationship or friendship, it's important to have respect and trust. Understanding the perseverance that keeps moving forward us and respecting cultural priorities will help

understand everyone Indigenous communities better and create positive, lasting relationships with one another."

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#### What is the most thing important everyone should know Indigenous about communities?

"Even though we are all seen as Indigenous, we are very diverse and it's important not to think we're all the same. We may carry the same core values of culture, respect, trust and family, but our ways of life may be different."

## **MASIK TAS CELEBRATION**



ARROYO GRILLE & GOLF SHOP DISCOUNTS \$15 DAILY PRACTICE FACILITY PASS DISCOUNTED LESSONS & RENTAL CLUBS \$25 REPLAY ROUNDS

520.426.6827 AKCHINSOUTHERNDUNES.COM

### 16000 N. Maricopa Rd. Maricopa AZ 85139



Must be 21 or older to gamble and take advantage of these offers. Know When To Stop Before You Start \* Gambling ? Call 1-800-522-4700 or 1-800-NEXT STEP. @2022 Caesars License Company, LLC, See December 2 - 15, 2022

Ak-Chin

# **Masik Tas Celebration**

Entertainment for the whole family Free for all ages **Ak-Chin Circle Field & Arena** 16000 N. Maricopa Rd., Maricopa, AZ 85139 Parking is Free. Signage will direct all event traffic

> December 4th - Toka/Songivu'l Traditional Games December 7th - Chair Volleyball Tournament

**December 9th:** Tracy Lawrence at Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino; Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com

> December 9th & 10th - Co-ed Volleyball Tournament December 10th - 5Kat 9:00am

December 10th - Light Parade Starting at 7:00pm December 11th - Youth Council Cultural Events

December 16th - 7:00pm-12:00am: Papago Warriors at Ak-Chin Circle amphitheater December 16th - 18th - Rodeo

December 17th -7:00pm-10:00pm: Kumbia Kings & Grupo Metal at Ak-Chin Circle amphitheater

December 16th-18th - Basketball Tournament

December 18th - Fireworks Show-Time TBD

December 16th-18th

Free Carnival/Fun Zone/Petting Zoo Hours:

December 16th: 5pm-10pm, December 17th: 10am-10pm, December 18th: 10am-7pm

### **Open Wild Horse Race** -December 17th & 18th at 12pm 1st Place: Buckles \$500 added money \$300 per Team

No phone entries, no refunds Contact Delbert White: dwhite@ak-chin.nsn.us or 520-414-5515 All teams must be paid up by 11am Saturday, December 17, 2022

To receive payout, contestants must complete W-9 and provide a form of identification. MANDATORY CHECK-IN

All contestants must sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS All entries must include payment

Walk-ins on-site. Books Open 8am-11am Cash, Money Order, or Cashiers Check accepted. Please make payable to Ak-Chin Indian Community-2022 Rodeo \*\*No personal checks accepted

### 2022 Open Rodeo December 17th & 18th, 2022



### Bull Bash - Friday, December 16th at 4pm **Buckles to event winners!**

| Events  | Fee           | Added \$                 |          |
|---|---------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Open Bull Bash (limit 30)                         | \$150         | \$500                    |          |
| Open Novice Bull Riding (limit 10)                | \$100         | \$500                    |          |
| Open Women's Steer Riding (limit 10)              | \$50          | \$500                    |          |
| One time Admin Fee of                             | \$20 per co   | ntestant                 |          |
| No late entries, no phone entries, no refunds. *E | xcept with    | an acceptable doctors    | /vet not |
| Contact Rodeo Secretary 24 ho                     | ours prior to | start of rodeo.          |          |
| To receive payout, contestants must complete      | W-9 and n     | rovide a form of identif | fication |

MANDATORY CHECK-IN

All contestants must sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS All payments must include Rodeo Entry Form

Cash, Money Order, or Cashiers Check accepted. Please make payable to Ak-Chin Indian Community-2022 Rodeo \*\*No personal checks accepted

### All-Indian Jr. Rodeo -Friday, December 16th at 8am

| Performances or  | ORMANCE TIMES<br>n Saturday & Sunday at 12pm<br>at 8am (if needed)   | 12  | Buckle to Event Winners!<br>Buckle & Saddle to All-Around (6-9, 10-13, 14-17)   |
|--|--|---|---|
| Event<br>Bareback (limit 20)<br>Saddle Bronc (limit 20)<br>Bull Riding (limit 30)<br>Steer Wrestling (limit 30)<br>Tie Down Roping (limit 30)<br>Ladies Barrell Racing (limit 40)<br>Ladies Breakaway Roping (limit 40)<br>Ladies Team Roping (2Xs) (limit 40)<br>Team Roping (2Xs)(limit 100)<br>Century Team Roping (2Xs)*(limit 40)<br>4 Tribes Team Roping (2Xs) | Fee<br>\$100<br>\$100<br>\$100<br>\$100<br>\$100<br>\$100<br>\$100<br>\$200/Team<br>\$200/Team<br>\$200/Team   | Added \$<br>\$500<br>\$500<br>\$500<br>\$500<br>\$500<br>\$500<br>\$500<br>\$1000<br>\$1000<br>\$1000<br>\$1000 | 5 Years & Under 10-13 Years Old   Sheep Riding (limit 20) Steer Riding (limit 20)   Dummy Roping (limit 20) Ribbon Roping (1x) (limit 20)   Stick Horse Barrels (limit 20) 6-9 Years Old   Stick Horse Barrels (limit 20) 6-9 Years Old   Entry Fee: \$20 6-9 Years Old   Calf Riding (limit 20) Team Roping (2x) (limit 20)   Barrel Racing (limit 20) Bull Riding (limit 20)   Barrel Racing (limit 20) Barrel Racing (limit 20)   Barrel Racing (limit 20) Breakaway (limit 20)   Barrel R |
| **No personal checks accepted<br>No late entries, no phone entries, no refunds. *Exce<br>24 hours prior to start of rodeo.<br>MANDATORY CHECK-IN<br>All contestants must sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS  | st be enrolled<br>o O'dham,<br>n request.<br>ne highest<br>WAIL ENTRIES TO - Ak-Chin Indian Community<br>ATTN: Community Events - 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd.<br>Maricopa, AZ 85138<br>Will count<br>ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY-<br>December 5, 2022<br>WALK INS<br>DONE<br>December 10th   10am - 5pm<br>Ak-Chin Multi-tainment Center - 16000 N. Maricopa Rd.<br>Maricopa, AZ 85138<br>eck accepted. Pleasemake payable to Ak-Chin Indian Community-2022 Rodeo<br>no refunds. *Except with an acceptable doctors/vet note. Contact Rodeo Secretary |   | Western Attire Enforced   No late entries, no phone entries, no refunds.   "Except with an acceptable doctors/vet note.   Contact Rodeo Secretary 24 hours prior to start of rodeo.   All payments must include rodeo entry form.   To receive payout, contestants must show birth certificate.   MANDATORY CHECK-IN   All contestants must sign a waiver. NO EXCEPTIONS   Cash, Money Order, or Cashiers Check accepted. Please   make payable to Ak-Chin Indian Community-2022 Rodeo   ***No personal checks accepted.   MAILLENTRIES OPEN - October 21, 2022   MAIL ENTRIES TO - Ak-Chin Indian Community   ATTN: Community Events - 42507 W. Peters & Nall Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85138   ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY-   December 10th   10am - 5pm   Ak-Chin Multi-tainment Center - 16000 N. Maricopa Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85138   WEBSITE POSTING - December 12, 2022  |

### For more information email:

AllEventsStaff@ak-chin.nsn.us | masiktas.ak-chin.nsn.us | Follow us on Facebook | @AkChinIndianCommunity Ak-Chin Indian Community and Stock Contractor are not responsible for accidents, injury, loss or theft during this event.

