Maricopa, Arizona

Volume XXIV, Issue 8

April 16 - May 6, 2010

19th Annual Him-Dak Celebration features Ak-Chin's youth and their art

Story by R. Miguel & Photo by KD Morago

The 19th Annual Ak-Chin Him-Dak Museum Celebration, which was entitled "Celebrating Ak-Chin's Youth & Their Art", showcased the artistic talents of the younger members of Ak-Chin by displaying their artwork in the main exhibit area of the museum during their annual celebration.

As guests of the event walked into the main area, they encountered photos, arts & crafts, drawings, paintings and biography photos of community youth and their work from throughout the years. The exhibit was one of many things that everyone who attended the celebration enjoyed throughout the day.

The day began with the annual walk/run from the Fire Department to the museum, which drew 120 walkers and runners, with Clayton Acosta (1st place), James Lopez (2nd place) and Cecily Peters (3rd place) recognized for their Top Three finish. Everyone who participated received free t-shirts.

Also honored were; Maxine Antone who received first place in the art contest and whose design was featured on this year's celebration t-shirt. Kathleen Miguel and Michelle Narcia finished second and third respectively.

Before the regular performances got underway, Ed Miguel and the Matachina dancers from the Gila River Indian Community gave a spiritual dance and prayer blessing.

Lane Jensen-Yellow House and his dancers were the first group to perform. They demonstrated some traditional dances, which included "Hoop" and

"Fancy" dancing. The fancy dance was showcased by his two-year old daughter, to the delight of attendees.

Yellow-House's performance was followed by the Ak-Chin Baban Kehina Group. The group, led by singers Richard Joaquin, Carole Lopez, and Norma Cipriano, danced to traditional songs and concluded their dance blessings with a "Social Round Dance".

The day's performances ended with the Yellow Bird Hoop Dancers from the San Carlos and Plains tribes. Ken Duncan, director of the group, explained the different dances which included the Veteran's Dance, Eagle Dance and Hoop Dance.

When introducing the Apache Veteran Dance, he shared of how his family member was given an apache stone and eagle feather to wear for protection while serving in the Korean Conflict. At that moment, as if on cue, two fighter jets flew above the Him-Dak celebration, adding to the sentiment of the story and dance.

Duncan then called out "all the Ak-Chin championship hoop dancers" and invited four children to come up and learn how to hoop dance. With some instruction, the Ak-Chin youth displayed their championship style.

What's a Native American celebration without the good ole popovers and the smell of great food, which overwhelmed the grounds. Food vendors included; GuAchi District (frybread), Enos/Antone (frybread), James Family

(continued on page 9)



Ak-Chin Baban Kehina Dancers from the Ak-Chin Community, perform a traditional song during their performance at the Him-Dak Celebration.



Community Member welcomed home from Iraqi Tour

Story & Photo by R. Peters

On April 1, 2010, there was a no fool's atmosphere, as countless family members and friends anxiously awaited to greet their soldiers from the 1404 Transportation and 158 Infantry who were returning home from a long overdue tour in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait.

Over 150 soldiers from the 1404 Transportation Company, based out of Bellemont, near Flagstaff, were deployed to Kuwait to truck supplies across Iraq. Around 40 soldiers from the Phoenix-based 158th Infantry were also deployed to Afghanistan to provide security.

Community member, Spc. Jason Garcia, who was attached to the 1404 Transportation Company, was one of the proud soldiers greeted by his many family members; including his mom, dad, grandmother, brother, sister in-law, niece, nephews, aunts and cousins; during a welcome home ceremony that was held in a bay at 161st Air Refueling Wing at Cutter Aviation, Sky Harbor Airport.

Jason enlisted with the National Guard in 2004, as a heavy equipment transporter. His first deployment was in 2006 to fight for Operation Iraqi Freedom, in Kuwait. He volunteered to go back in 2009, where he spent a lot of time driving all over Iraq.

During his last tour Jason witnessed

first hand, a truck bombing of comrades, he also took indirect fire and came across RPGs while on the road.

When asked what his plans where, since Jason's active duty is now complete, he said "no plans for at least a month...right now I want to enjoy being home."

Jason's family would like thank everyone for their prayers and support during the time that Jason was away.

His mother Marlene also wanted to have this prayer (below) sent on her son's behalf as a way to thank those who helped her and her family through the tough times while Jason was gone. She was asked to pass the prayer on once her soldier returned.

"A Prayer for our Soldiers"

O Lord, be with our soldiers as they leave their homes and their families to serve our nation.

Guide them as they plant the seeds of peace for these are the seeds that will forever keep America the land of the free and the home of brave.

Bless them O Lord and bless their families for they are all the heroes of American Freedom.

Their sacrifice for us will not be forgotten.

Welcome Home Jason – we are very proud of you!

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2 + 100

To My Little Man,

You are such a big boy and have brought so much happiness to me and daddy's life. This has been a tough year (we miss you Daddy!) but all your smiles and laughter has gotten us through it all. You inspire and amaze me everyday. We will do our best to help you become a great person and always give you the best of ourselves. Until then, stay awesome, stay happy and keep on "pushing me to the limits". Happy Birthday!

> Happy Birthday Jordyn,

Love, Momma & Daddy

We hope you enjoy your special day and get what you want or need. We love you! Love, Dad, Connie, Jasmine, Yasmin, Joe, Vonnie, Stella and Sparky

> Happy Birthday Zaida

You have to share your stuff with me but not the girls stuff!! Love, Samson

Happy "10th" Birthday Anyssa Ryane Justin WOW!! 10 years old already!! You seem to be growing up fast it was like you were first born and now you are "10" already. Keep your head up Nanie in everything you do and something good always comes from it. You are growing up to be a smart, bright and beautiful girl. Thanks for your help with the two terrors!! We love you Nanie and I hope that you enjoy your sleep over!! Happy Birthday Nanie!!! Love, Papi & Mama

Happy Birthday to our Little/Big Sis Anyssa We hope you enjoy your day!! We promise not to mess up your sleep. We fight with you but we love you with all our hearts!! Love, Joey, Jr., Dots & Lili

Happy Birthday Grandma Vera We hope you have a good one!!! Love, Joel & Deanna & Kids

Happy Birthday Irma Like Nacho Libre said "Take it Easy"!!! We hope you enjoy your day!! Love, Joel & Deanna

Happy Birthday Martina HEY I will still "Hook You Up"!!!! I know what got you was the "ca-boots" LOL!!! Have a good one!! Deanna



Happy Birthday

I am so happy that we still have a connection and no matter what you will always be apart of mine and Joe's Family. I enjoyed your help with the eggs and I am happy that we get to spend time together. I want you to know that you are very special to me and I will always be here for you. LOVE YOU ALWAYS, Erika M.

Happy Birthday God Sister (Nene) I wish you a great happy birthday! Thank you for always watching out for me at school and at home. I'm lucky to have a sister like you! LOVE YOU!!! Your Little Bro, Joe M.

Happy Birthday God Sister (Nene) I wish you a great happy birthday! Thank you for always watching out for me at school and at home. I'm lucky to have a sister like you! LOVE YOU!!! Your Little Bro, Joe M.

Happy Birthday; To my wonderful grandsons Duane and Gary Anderson I love you from Grandma M. Narcia

> Happy Birthday to Rupert Stephens From Frances and the kids



To my little soldier Antonio

I've missed you so much being gone but I can't wait to see how big you've grown. I am proud to be your daddy. I love you and will see you soon. Happy Birthday! Love Daddy

> Нарру В-Дау Renee

Have a very nice one. Another year older No more little girl. Love you from Grandma

Happy Birthday to my daughters Karen and Marlene Love mom

Happy Birthday to my grandchildren Jason Garcia (Welcome home!:) Michael Peters and Darryl Peters Love Grandma Evelina

> Happy Birthday Steve-0" Keeping Jamming O'odham! Love your Lil' Sis B-Minus (T.O. Forever!)

> > Happy Birthday "Steve-0" (Aka "Papa Smurf") Your Lil' Bro Toy Toy

Happy Birthday

"Steven E. Sam" (April 20th) Keep your mind on your music. You've got a lot to offer, just don't let anything distract you...We're all very proud of you, always remember that. I'll always love you no matter what anyone says. Be strong O'odham! Love, "Mama & Ed'

Happy Birthday to our uncle Rupert Stephens May your day be filled with lots of happiness & love by all! May God Bless you always & keep you in His great hands. Love Cisco & Armida

Happy 16th birthday to a great teenager! A guy who is a joy to our hearts and loved by all...God's special child. We love you Steven we always pray that God keeps you safe & watches over you always. Love Grandma & Grandpa

Happy Birthday auntie Vera! We love you, Barry, Debbie & Frasia

Happy Birthday Bert! You're getting there, have a great birthday & we love you baby brother! Barry, Debbie & Frasia

Happy Birthday Cayla! You are nine (9) years old. Have a great time at your birthday party! Lots of Love, Auntie Debbie

Happy Birthday Nene You're still a big girl! Hope that you have fun on your special day! Fm: Auntie, Briana, Bianca, Frankie and Johnny

> Happy Birthday Tina!

Hope that you have a good one and don't over do it! Thanks for helping me with the kids and even at the last minute. You deserve to have a good time and enjoy yourself especially after putting up with my monsters. Again Happy Birthday Tina! Fm: Jake and the Gang

> A Joyful & Happy 1st Birthday Antonio James



We love you dearly, hugs & kisses, Grandma, Ren, Nina, Yam and Your #1 Uncle Jimmy

Happy Birthday Godmother Vera, hope your birthday brings you much joy and happiness! Love, Raychel & Family



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16600 N. Maricopa Highway Maricopa, Arizona 85239

OFFICE HOURS

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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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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.

All letters MUST be signed by the writer and are limited to 200 words.

Writers must also include their name address & phone number. Names can be omitted from submissions 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. No UPPERCASE or formatted paragraphs

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATE 2010 Subscription rate is \$16.00.

If you would like to receive the "Runner" by mail, please send a \$16.00 check/money order to: Ak-Chin O'odham Runner 16600 N. Maricopa Highway Maricopa, Arizona 85239 ke check/money order payable to:

Ak-Chin Indian Community

DEADLINE

Don't forget the

DEADLINE for the May 7 - May 20, 2010 ISSUE is due by MONDAY, MAY 3RD.

Please submit all announcements, wishes, etc. no later than MONDAY, MAY 3RD.

Any material submitted after the **MAY 3RD DEADLINE** cannot be guaranteed placement.

But, if appropriate and relevant. will be included in the following issue.







Ak-Chin **Elders** travel to see Papago Cowboy **Exhibit**

From left to right: Evelyn Enos, Joe Lopez and Rechanda Manuel, relax after touring the *T.O.* Cultural Center and Museum

Photo by Felicia Vincent

It was a trip that Ak-Chin Elders had anxiously been waiting for, and on Tuesday, March 30th, twenty five of them participated in the day trip to the Tohono O'odham Nation to visit Ted DeGrazia's Papago Cowboy exhibit at the Cultural Center and Museum located in Topawa. Traveling by coach bus, the group left Ak-Chin at 8:30am, and took the scenic route of traveling through the village of Cockelbur to reach the road which met state route 86 to Sells. The Elders enjoyed the movie Blindside for the two hour drive.

Those not interested in the movie enjoyed seeing the different desert flowers that were in bloom as purple flowers, called C:uv Tatad, and yellow poppies lined the roads. They admired the flowers so much that Frances Stephens had to help re-direct the driver who missed the turn off and had the group heading to Tucson.

Once arriving in Topawa, the group disembarked and was greeted by museum staff that provided a tour of

Ak-Chin Elder Center

Menu for March 2010

Friday, April 16; Cheeseburgers, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, chips and Pineapple Upside down cake

Monday, April 19:

Pork Cubes w/Gravy, sliced carrots, rice pudding and bread

Meatloaf, mashed potatoes w/gravy, green bean and Jello w/whip topping

Wednesday, April 21:

Spaghetti w/meat sauce (D) white sauce, green salad, garlic bread and Pineapples

Thursday, April 22: Lemon Chicken, plain rice, peas and carrots and Fruit Salad

Friday, April 23:

Tri meat sub, lettuce, tomato, chips and fruit cobbler Monday, April 26: biscuits and Apple Cake Tuesday, April 27: Goulash, green beans, bread and Mandiran orange w/whip cream Wednesday, April 28: Chili beans, green & yellow squash, corn bread and peas Thursday, April 29:
Veggie Soup, broccoli, peach cobbler and crackers Friday, April 30:

the exhibit. There, they were able to view the 26 individual art pieces DeGrazia created in 1954. They also had a chance to see other parts of the museum such as the library archive and scenic overlook toward Baboquivari mountain.

After the tour, the group traveled to Sells to have lunch at the Desert Rain Cafe. The cafe actually ran out of food, but it did not deter the Elders from enjoying the trip. At that time, they discussed going to Golden Ha:sañ Casino near Why, Arizona, but instead chose Casino Del Sol in Tucson. After a late lunch and some time at the Casino del Sol slots, the Elders returned back to Ak-Chin at 6:00pm with some wonderful Tohono O'odham and Tucson mem-

Ak-Chin Elders would like to thank museum tour guide Jennifer Juan and Sam Saunders from Desert Rain Café, and the Ak-Chin Tribal Council for funding.

Meeting Monday, May 31, 2010. 6pm to 8pm

Elder News Briefs

ELDERS VOTE! Deadline April 27th

Ak-Chin Elders are being asked to help select the next Ak-Chin Elder Trip in which five different fun adventures are being proposed.

Elders have until Tuesday, April 27th to vote for ONE. The trip destination selected will be the one receiving the highest votes cast. Elders can only vote once.

Trip 1 – International Blues Festival in Albuqueque, New Mexico held in July 2010, to include sightseeing in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Trip 2 – The 89th Annual Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial in Gallup, New Mexico which is held annual the second weekend in August. Elders will be sitting in reserved general seating and trip also includes visits to Petrified Forest and the Grand Canyon.

Trip 3 – Fourth of July in San Diego, California, Trip 4 – Catalina Island Cruise, **Trip 5** – California destination spots such as Marina Del Rey, Hollywood, and Beverly Hills.

For additional information or questions, please contact the Elder Center at 568-1760.

Healthy Breakfast Program to start April 26th Lunch to be moved to NOON

The Ak-Chin Senior Services program applied for and was recently awarded a Healthy Breakfast Program grant. This is great news for the Ak-Chin Elders as they now will be served a healthy breakfast beginning on Monday, April 26th. Breakfast items will be set out and served from 8:00 am to 9:30 am. The breakfast program will run until June 30th.

Because of the added breakfast. LUNCH WILL NOW BE SERVED AT NOON beginning on the same day, Monday, April 26th.

Upcoming Elder Activities

Ak-Chin Elders will be traveling to Rawhide on Saturday, April 17th to visit the Farmer's Market. Elders will also enjoy a delicious \$5.00 breakfast. Elders will be entertained by the Rawhide country band and enjoy the opportunity to pick up some fresh locally grown vegetables, as well as visit some local artist

Twenty Ak-Chin Elders will be participating in the 22nd Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference to be held at the Fort McDowell Raddison Resort and Casino. Elders from throughout Arizona will be attending information workshops on elder health issues, lectures from prominent Elder speakers. Ak-Chin Elder Mildred Narcia will be recognized as well as Ak-Chin Indian Community and Harrah's for sponsorship of the event. The Ak-Chin Turtles will also be competing in the annual Senior Olympic events.

Good luck to the Ak-Chin Turtles!

Elders encouraged to attend Round-Up

Ak-Chin Elders are encouraged to attend the Job and Resource Round-Up to be held on Tuesday, April 27th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Harrah's

Elders will receive the opportunity to meet with representatives from Medicare and Social Security and get any of those questions answered. Each attendee will receive a conference bag and get a chance to win door prizes. The Ak-Chin Senior Services department is helping assist the event with providing refreshments and the conference bags through the Medicare Outreach grant

the department receives. Please contact the Elder Center if you have questions at 568-1760. The event is open to the public.

Community Ak-Chin **Service Center**





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	for Service: Transportation er Support Services, 520-56 Lunch	Elder Checks Movie Deadline Arts & Crafts 9am	17 Happy Birthday "Rupert Stephen:			
18	19 Arts & Crafts 9AM	20 Happy Birthday!! "Vera Antone" Arts & Crafts 9am	21 Arts & Crafts 9am	Happy Birthday!! "Herman Stephens" Arts & Crafts 9AM	23 Arts & Crafts 9am	24
		AICOA Confere	nce in Ft. McDowell			
25	26 Elder Advisory Meeting Arts & Crafts 9am	27 Cultural Resource Presentation 11:45am	Fitness Activity Arts & Crafts 9am	29 Movies -Casa Grande Arts & Crafts 9am	30 Arts & Crafts 9am	

Arts & Crafts 9am

Taco Salad, Rice, Corn, Lettuce, Tomatoes and Bread pudding 000000000 Ak-Chin Elder Center-Ge Gelik Ha Ki (520) 568-1760 Call us for Services: Transportation, Congregate Meals, Home Delivered Meals. Caregiver Support Program & other Elder Support Services:

Lunch Served Daily 11am-12pm Open: Monday-Friday 8am-4pm 00000000000000000

Ak-Chin members participate and "The Sun Will Come Out Tomorrow" attend Gila River Council Meeting



From left to right: Jason Thomas, Mildred Narcia, Miss Gila River 2010-1011 Tia Benally and Debra Lewis Benally take a moment to share in the morning celebration of Tia's formal introduction before the GRIC Council.

Story and photo by KD Morago

Ak-Chin Indian Community's presence was known at the recent Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Council meeting held Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at the GRIC Governance Center in Sacaton. Twelve of the seventeen council members were present, along with presiding chairman Governor William R. Rhodes, when Ak-Chin elder Mildred Narcia was asked to provide the opening Invocation.

After the Invocation, Ak-Chin member Delia Carlyle, representing the U.S. Census, presented GRIC with a Certificate of Appreciation as being an Official Partner with the U.S. Census Bureau, as well as shared some information regarding the 2010 Census which is underway. Carlyle also recognized and commended the individuals who are coordinating the Gila River census count, and she also answered Council member questions.

Immediately following, time was given for the Introduction of 2010 Gila River Royalty. Tia Benally, Miss Gila River 2010-2011, and her attendants were formally introduced to Council. Tia is the niece of Ak-Chin Councilman Anthony Narcia, Sr., and granddaughter of Mildred Narcia. Her parents are Debra Lewis Benally and Douglas Benally.

Tia introduced herself and shared some comments. Council members congratulated the girls and offered their support. After the introduction and presentations, Council took a fifteen minute recess to enjoy cake and punch to congratulate Tia and her attendants.



as Desert Wind presents Annie, Jr.

Story and photo by KD Morago

The Desert Wind Middle School cafeteria was transformed into a musical theatre as the DWMS Choirs took it over for two consecutive evenings to present "Annie Jr." to enthusiastic

Held on Thursday, April 8th, and Friday, April 9th, the musical was based on the book by Thomas Meehan and presented on Broadway by Mike Nichols.

Desert Wind students set the stage to New York City in December 1933 to share the story of little orphan Annie who lived in a gloomy orphanage run by harsh and domineering Miss Hannigan.

Annie becomes the young guest of cold-hearted wealthy industrialist Oliver Warbucks. She charms him and his household staff when selected to spend time in his spacious residence.

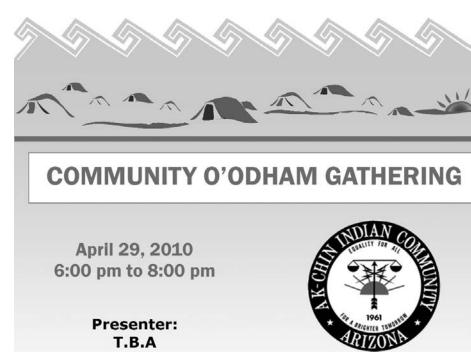
Warbuck eventually decides to help Annie find her parents by offering a reward, Miss Hannigan's brother Rooster, who was just released from prison, and his female friend decide to impersonate Annie's parents to obtain the reward for themselves.

The eleven scene play featured 7th and 8th grade choir members on Thursday, and 6th grade choir members on Friday, with students who had speaking parts performing in both shows. It took 10 weeks to prepare for the Annie Jr. show and most rehearsals initially occurred during the normal school day.

DWMS Director of Choir, Theresa Hintz said, "The highlight of the entire experience was seeing the students faces when they realized that they had not only survived the nerves, but that they had done very well. I was very thrilled with their performance, but more so that they had as much fun as they did. You could tell they realized their hard work and determination had paid off."



Grace Farrell, the faithful secretary of Oliver Warbucks, welcomes orphan Annie into Warbucks's home. Farrell (left) was played by Talei Wolfgramm and Annie (right) was played by Shelby Hanks.



The event will be held at the Community Service Center. Please bring your family and come and enjoy a delicious meal with fellow community members.

Sponsored by Him-Dak EcoMuseum, Cultural Resources Office and Ak-Chin Language program Please contact the Museum staff at 568-1350 if you have any questions.

Marty Cole of the Prescott Fire Department teaches a Wild Land Fire Training course to members of the Ak-Chin, Maricopa and Silverbell fire agencies.

Ak-Chin Fire staff participate in Wildland Training Classes

Story & Photo by R. Miguel

For an entire week, staff from the Ak-Chin Fire Department went through a Wildland Fire Training course offered to them from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Pima Agency. The weeklong courses took place at the Bunger building located at the Ak-Chin Community Industrial Park grounds.

Marty Cole of the Prescott Fire Department and Clay Wood from the Show Low Fire Department taught the S130, S190, L180 and I100 classes to the staff, which each needed in order to pass the course to become certified to fight and assist in wildland fire containment.

The S130 class focused on fire terrain, winds and every other weather factor that may cause fire behavior to increase or decrease. The S190 course touched on the human factor aspect; how personal factors are involved, types of equipment needed for wildland fires, the do's and don'ts while fighting a wildland fire and strategies to contain it. The L180, highlighted human behavior and compass reading. The I100, was the basic knowledge of the Incident Command System and the chain of command from the Commander to the Fire fighters.

"Becoming Wild Land certified gives Ak-Chin the opportunity to better protect their area," said Allen Sinclair, Fire Management Officer for the Pima Agency. "With the high summer temperatures approaching, the potential for wild fires increase, therefore the need to have fire agencies skilled in this area."

The certification is of vital importance to the Ak-Chin Fire Department as it will give the department extensive knowledge to control a wildland fire that may possibly occur in the community on the Preserved Sensitive Area, just to the northwest boundaries of the community, where a wild fire has the most potential to occur. If a fire were to occur there, Ak-Chin would respond and take control and if needing assistance, due to the severity of the fire, it will then contact BIA for assistance. BIA will then contact surrounding fire agencies who can assist with a wild fire.

At the present time, personnel from fire agencies in Pinal County that includes; Florence, Coolidge, Maricopa, Ak-Chin, Gila River, Arizona City, Eloy and Casa Grande are in the early stages of forming a potential Pinal County Wildland Group that would allow each agency to possibly help with wild fire containment through a "friendly neighbor" policy. The group has met a few times and during their meetings have brainstormed on topics from; training, equipment, resources and aid that may be useful to all.

Another important factor of becoming Wildland certified is it would give staff the opportunity to assist State and Federal agencies who cover a fire outside of the Ak-Chin Community. A total of twenty four fire personnel from the Ak-Chin Fire Department went through the course, one from Maricopa and four from the Silverbell Army Airfield agency also attended the training.

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Spring Safety Tips

Every year, Spring weather wakes up and energizes our animals, reptiles and other wildlife. With the increase in construction and local activities, we can expect more close contact with potentially dangerous wildlife especially rattlesnakes. When working outside it is important to be on the lookout for snakes. Rattlesnakes are often out in the mornings and evenings, and stay in shaded areas during midday. Often snakes will retreat from contact if given the chance. However, when cornered or threatened, the rattlesnake may defend

When confronted with a rattlesnake, the best option is to back away slowly, leave it alone, and call the Fire Department. The Fire Department has had specialized training and will remove hazardous creatures, and relocate them when they come too close to humans.

If you are bitten, please get away from the snake, and remember to stay calm. Once you get to safety, call 911 for help. It is best to keep the affected arm or leg at the level of the heart. This

can be accomplished by lying down, or propping up the affected limb. Remove restrictive clothing and jewelry so they don't constrict during swelling. If a pen is available, draw a small circle around the bite and note the time. This will help to track swelling in the affected area.

Do not cut open the wound, put ice on the affected area, use a tourniquet, attempt to suck the venom out, or use suction techniques or tools. These actions are not effective, and can do more harm than good.

Although identifying the snake is helpful in treatment, many people have been further injured trying to catch the snake for identification. Use extreme caution if you choose to capture the snake. A safer alternative is to take a picture of the snake from a safe distance.

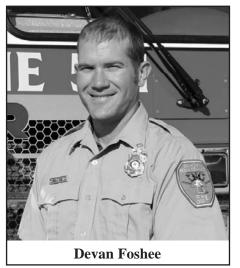
If we can answer any questions concerning safety tips while working outdoors, please feel free to give us a call. Otherwise, stay safe, drink plenty of water and have a great week!

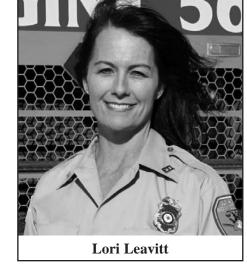
Ak-Chin Fire's Leavitt and Foshee earn certification and degree

Story by R. Miguel & Photo by Staff

Ak-Chin Fire Fighter, Lori Leavitt can now officially add Paramedic to her job title. Leavitt recently became a certified Paramedic after completing a seven month course at Phoenix College. She earned forty three credits in a short period of time and endured skills and weekly testing in medication and paramedics. The experience was tough but was worth it according to Leavitt.

"I want to thank the Ak-Chin Fire Department and community for the opportunity to be able to better serve in my role at the fire department, she said. "I also want to thank all the Ak-Chin firefighters for their support and encouragement through this difficult





and challenging experience."

Leavitt has been with the Ak-Chin Fire Department for a total of 8 years.

Devan Foshee, who has been with the Ak-Chin Fire Department for almost a year, recently was awarded an Associate of Applied Science degree in Fire Service Operations from Mesa Community College and was accepted to Northern Arizona University in a B.S. program for Emergency Services

While at M.C.C. for two years, Foshee studied courses in State Fire 1 and 2, tactical strategies, fire apparatus and physical fitness training just to name a few. He will make his way to Flagstaff in June to attend NAU for two years and then attend medical school. He plans to return to the Ak-Chin Fire Department upon completion of his educational priorities.



1887-1930s

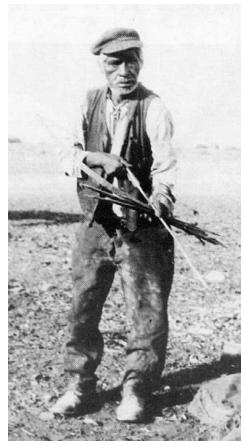
Crack Shot Hits Target with **Passengers** 1912

During the early Maricopa Junction days, 92 year old entrepreneur Mr. Wasnauk walked to Maricopa every afternoon from the Ak-Chin community with tools in hand to greet the passengers of trains Numbers 7 and 8.

His tools were the bow and arrow and his trade was shooting off hats of anyone willing to take a chance. He either was a very fast talker or looked very capable, because many did take the chance.

He never missed his target. Mr. Wasnauk was paid a quarter for this demonstration. This photo depicts Mr. Wasnauk ready to perform in June of 1912.

Editor's note: the above photo and information came from "Reflections of a Desert Town" by author and history committee chairperson Patricia Brock.



Mr. Wasnauk

It is being provided by the Maricopa History Committee, a branch of the Friends of the Maricopa PublicLibrary.







Erin Yarberry

Maricopa fourth and fifth grade students compete in Mile Meet

4th and 5th graders from the Maricopa Unified Schools District put their endurance to the test as they competed in Maricopa Schools Mile Meet at Ram Stadium on the Maricopa High School campus on April 9th.

The top five boys and girls finishers from the six schools which were; Butterfield, Saddleback, Maricopa, Santa Rosa, Pima Butte and Santa Cruz, were invited to compete in the friendly competition.

Individual and team awards were given out following the meet.



AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY SUMMER SNAKE SAFETY

Snakes:

Are shy, timid animals. They travel through long grass amongst leaf-litter or under shrubbery or debris. They like being "outside" and "heat". They use the sun to keep warm. Day-Active snakes do this by basking in direct sunlight. Night-Active snakes tend to cuddle up to warm surfaces, such as rocks, which have been heated by the sun earlier in the day.

Helpful Hints:

©

- *Remove any debris lying around (i.e. wood, corrugated iron, or brush piles) these are things snakes like to hide under.
- *Stack firewood neatly and away from the house.
- *Keep bird feeders and chicken coops clean and tidy to reduce rodents (which
- attract snakes).
- *Keep your grass short and your garden tidy.

*Keep ground-level water sources tidy

(i.e. birdbaths, ponds, puddles).

- *Wear boots and trousers when working through long grass or leaf litter.
- *Never leave your doors open.
- *Never put your hands where you can't see them.

If bitten by a snake **STAY CALM** and **CALL** for Medical Attention.

Snake Repellents:

Snake-A-Way Snake Repellent (EPA approved) proven effective against both non-poisonous and poisonous snakes. Sprinkle Mothballs around where snakes are and they will go away. "Just be careful with Mothballs and

Children!" Get a Cat, two or more around the house.

> If you have any questions please contact Officer Perry at the AK-Chin Police Department 520-568-1200 or Extension 1217.



NEW LIFE AK-CHIN FAMILY CHURCH

WHERE GOD IS CHANGING LIVES

Matthew 11:28

Our times for service are as follows:

Sunday morning 10:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m. Sunday evening

Thursday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

For more information or prayer, contact one of our pastors.

Pastor Carlos Marin 520-560-2679

Associate Pastor Johnny Stephens 520-705-3052

0606060606060606

00000 Perfect Attendance March 2010

Dawson Allison **Carlton Carlyle David Garcia** Jalen Garcia Raven Humeyumptewa **Derek Manuel Ethan Manuel** Joe Miguel Jose Miguel Jr. **Kiandry Miranda Novalene Narcia Tobias Nez** Mario Ortega

Daniel Pablo

Morgan Peters

Steve Peters

Samson Pinheiro

0000000000000000

Xendryk Silas-Antone Heaven Smith Jakob Thomas Madeleine VanSickle **Erin Yarberry** Laila Gardner **Isaiah Peters Evone Santiago** Traci Thomas Holly McDarment **Justin Perillo**

Awesome Job!

Keep up the good work **Truant Officer Miranda**

From left to right: Lorenzo Holcomb, Renelda Pete, Chance Love, Esther Alvarez, MaryAnna Soliz, James Reynolds, Andrea Dorries, Toby Rodriguez, and Wayne Allison. Not pictured: Andrea Shirley.

April 11-17, 2010 is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Each year, the second full week of April is dedicated to the men and women who serve as Public Safety Telecommunicators. Because emergencies can happen at anytime, our Communications Officers work 24 hours a day 365 days a year.

They work holidays, birthdays, good days, bad days and sometimes take no days off to answer your call for service.

A big thank you to the Ak-Chin Police Department Communications Officers and I commend you all for your dedicated service to our Community.

Submitted by

Chief of Police Manuel Garcia

First Things First Ak-Chin Community Meeting

April 21, 2010 from 9:00 – 10:30

All interested community members are invited to share their ideas and thoughts about how best to support children ages 0 -5 and their families.

The purpose of this meeting is to identify the individuals, programs and services that currently provide assistance to children ages 0-5 and their families.

Who should attend?

- · Any parent or guardian of a child aged 0-5
- · Any family member of a child aged 0-5
- · Any employee of the Ak-Chin Tribe who is interested in supporting the health and well being of children ages 0-5 and their families

Any community member interested in supporting the health and well being of children ages 0-5 and their families

Join us on April 21 from 9:00 – 10:30 at the Ak-Chin Community Service Center, 48227 W. Farrell Road, Maricopa, AZ 85239.

For more information please contact Aimee Sarosi at 520.836.5838.

Library now open on Sundays



Maintenance worker Charles Justin installs one of the surveillance cameras in the Education/Library building lobby. The new cameras will aid in monitoring the area.

The lobby security cameras are here! The library will now be open everyday AND until 7pm Tuesday through Friday. Our new hours will be effective immediately!!!! The Ak-Chin Library is one of the few libraries in the country extending their hours and opened everyday!

Parents or guardians who are

members or residents of the Ak-Chin Indian Community: if your child is between 2 years and 8 years old, they can now get a library card! The child will be able to check out one (1) book only. No DVDs or CDs until the child is over eight (8) years old. The parent or guardian is responsible for material checked out by the child.

NEW LIBRARY HOURS

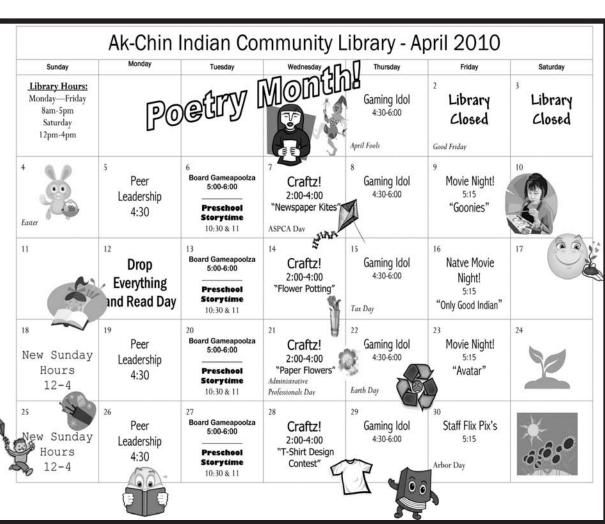
Sunday: 12 pm to 4 pm Monday: 9 am to 6 pm Tuesday: 9 am to 7 pm

Wednesday: 9 am to 7 pm

Thursday: 9 am to 7 pm Friday: 9 am to 7 pm

Saturday: 12 pm to 4 pm

For more info please call: (520)562-1670





Little Antonio Rodriguez opens his egg and looks for his prize.



Ak-Chin Child Development students make a mad dash towards eggs during their annual easter egg hunt.



Ak-Chin Recreation Kickball Teams



Ak-Chin Kickball Team #1 - Top 1 to r: Shilo Thomas, Celestino Sanchez, Nathan Smith and Kerianna Justin. Bottom 1 to r: Novalene Narcia, Carlton Carlyle, Jr., James Lopez, Juan Lopez and Tyson Lopez.



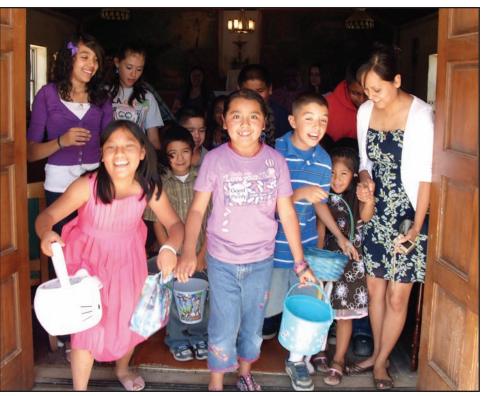
Ak-Chin Kickball Team #2 - Top 1 to r: Marciano Joaquin, Luis Garcia, Byron Deloney and Jalen Garcia. Bottom I to r: Marcus Stephens, Jose Miguel, Mariella Garcia, Zendrick Antone and Drevyn Antone.

Left: Egg hunters have a number of prizes to choose from during the Ak-Chin Recreation Easter Egg Hunt.

Right: Megan Quintero makes her way towards the finish line during the Ak-Chin Child Development Easter Party.



The Easter bunny hops his way towards second base during a friendly game of kickball.



Children dash out the church doors at St. Francis on Easter Sunday in hopes of finding lots of eggs.





Him-Dak continued

(barbeque), Catering By Helen (french fries/onion rings), San Juan Church (burritos), Cruz/Andrews Family (tamales), Rosemary Glaser (menudo), Glorina Joe (shaved ice) and Chuy's (hot dogs).

Throughout the day, spectators also had the privilege of watching arts & crafts demonstrators showcase their talents as each worked on a craft. Sally Antone, a member of the Ak-Chin Community, worked on basketry and Dwayne Antone, Sally's son, showed his talents with acrylic paintings. Also showing their work, were; Daniel Yazzie (beadwork) and Maggie Keams (rug weaver).

Vendors selling their goods included; Ak-Chin Elders who were selling handmade frames, jewelry and greeting cards to name a few; Rikki Francisco who sold baskets, earrings figurine dolls and yucca grass; Au Nation Indian Jewelry who sold Navajo sterling silver and earrings; Ida Poola featured Hopi

Sally Antone of the Ak-Chin Community,

pottery; Davidson Tittles sold discounted books and Mary Kay Products were on hand promoting health, skincare and makeup products.

Ak-Chin Departments who set up information booths throughout the day Courts, E.P.A., Diabetes Prevention, Fire, Peer Leadership and the 2010 Census booth.

The Him-Dak Staff would like to thank the following for making this year's event a success; Ak-Chin Recreation, Ak-Chin Community Council, Ak-Chin Police, Ak-Chin Runner, Ak-Chin G.I.S., Ak-Chin Finance, Ak-Chin Fire, Ak-Chin Public Works and Event Assistance, Ak-Chin Language, all demonstrators and performers, all food and arts and crafts vendors, all information booths, Wilma Antone, Marilyn Thompson, Leona Kakar, Ak-Chin Community Youth, Hilary Cummings and M.C. for the celebration, Robert Miguel.

photos by KD Morago



A Yellow Bird dancer performs the "Hoop Dance".



Top: Walkers make their way down Farrell road from the Ak-Chin Fire Department to the Him-Dak Musuem grounds early Saturday morning. All participants received a free t-shirt.

Right: A young dancer with the Lane Jense-Yellow House dance group performs a "Fancy Dance" much to the delight of the crowd on hand.







Members of the Ak-Chin Fire Department get into the performance by taking part in the "Social Round Dance".



Young visitors to the exhibit area point out a particular drawing of interest to them. The exhibit area, which was dedicated to community youth arts & crafts, was entitled "Celebrating Ak-Chin's Youth & Their Art".



Maxine Antone was the winner of this year's t-shirt design, standing with her is her father, Duane Antone.



Rug Weaver, Maggie Keams, works on another masterpiece during the celebration.



Marvin Thomas (left) and Erno Lopez (right) enjoy the day's performances during the 19th

Annual Him-Dak Celebration.







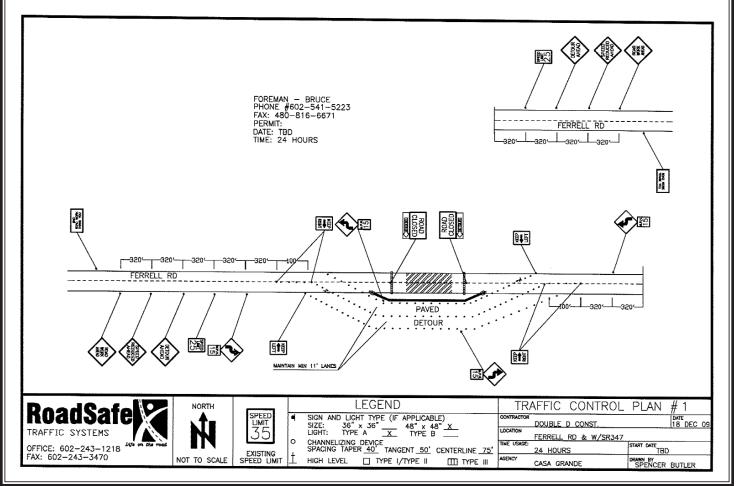


"ATTENTION COMMUNITY MEMBERS"

Starting May 3rd through May 14th there will be a detour on Farrell Road at Smith Wash. MGC and Double D Contractors will be installing new water and sewer pipelines across Farrell Road as part of the Community Wide Infrastructure Improvements. Please use the alternate detour routes as posted and for your safety, follow all traffic control signs.

Contractors will be at the Job and Resource Round Up on April 27, 2010 at the Harrah's Ballroom between 1pm-4pm to answer any questions and to provide employment information. Please contact the EPD at 520-568-1155 if you have any questions or concerns, as they will be coordinating efforts with the contractor.

Thank you for your patience, Ak-Chin Capital Projects MGC Contractors, Inc.





Current openings in the Community:

Museum Technician

Administrative Support Assistant (Housing)

Water Quality Specialist

Social Services Supervisor

Council Executive Secretary

Check with Human Resources for the latest job announcements.

Please pick up applications at the Human Resources Office or e-mail your resume to resumes@ak-chin.nsn.us.

Complete your application in full and be sure to sign your name. Submit applications before the closing date as late applications will not be accepted.

If you are claiming Indian Preference, proof of tribal enrollment MUST be submitted 10 at the time of application.

ARIZONA LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN/WALK FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS April 30, 2010

Meet at 6:15am for Safety Briefing at the Ak-Chin Police Department 47314 W. Farrell Road Maricopa, Az 85139.

Walkers meet at the intersection of Peters & Nall and Highway 347 at 8:00am.

All Bicycle Riders must wear helmets! Insure bike is working properly prior to start of event

Contact Officer Davis Garcia at 520-568-1200 or by e-mail DBGarcia@ak-chin.nsn.us

All participants must have a signed Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run Participant Registration/Waiver Form.

Going the Distance of 21.2 Miles



EMPLOYEE UPDATE



Marina Vincent **Senior Cook** Senior Services

Who's smart now?

A group of boys at the local drugstore would always tease a little boy named Johnny. The manager of the drugstore felt sorry for the kid, and he noticed that the older boys liked to play a particular prank on Johnny: They would hold out a dime and a nickel and tell him to take one. Johnny always took the nickel, saying that coin had to be better because it was bigger. Every day they played the same joke, over and over again, laughing when Johnny chose the nickel.

One day the manager took Johnny to one side. "Son, there's something you ought to know—those boys are tricking you. A dime is worth twice as much as a nickel."

"Quiet!" the little boy whispered. "I've already made 10 bucks off those idiots!"

Help wanted?

A woman approached the manager of a large department store. "Excuse me, are you planning on hiring any extra help?" she asked.

"I'm sorry, we're not," the manager replied politely. "We already have all the staff we need."

"Good," said the woman. "Then would you mind finding someone to wait on me?"

Strategic Planning Session for Underage Drinking

April 17th from 10am to 3pm Location: HimDak Museum Conference Room

We will take the 40-plus page Needs Assessment that was put together over the past year and use this as our foundation to 'chart the course' going forward.

Please contact me if you want to be part of this session.

Thank you,

Hilary W. Cummings, Executive Director Education Outside the Box, Inc. ph 480-326-7999 e hilary@eotb.org



St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Mission 16657 N. Church St. Maricopa, AZ 85139 Ak-Chin Indian Community

Sunday Mass at 12 PM

Sunday, April 18, 2010 Psalter III, <u>Easter Week 3.</u> Father Gregory P. Rice, M.H.M. Sunday, April 25, 2010 Psalter IV, <u>Easter Week 4.</u> Father Dale M. Jamison, O.F.M. Sunday, May 2, 2010 Psalter I, <u>Easter Week 5.</u> Father Gregory P. Rice, M.H.M.

Announcements:

Catholic Council of Elders Meeting

Hosted By: St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Mission Salt River Indian Community
April 17, 2010 at 10:00 AM

Confirmations 2010

Sunday, May 16, 2010

St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Mission Ak-Chin Indian Community at 9:00 AM Father Fredrick J. Adamson, V.G.

Sunday, May 16, 2010 at 12:00 PM

Father Fredrick J. Adamson, V.G.

St. Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Mission Sacaton, AZ-Gila River Indian Community

Thursday, May 27, 2010 7:00 PM

Kieran Kleczewski, Ph. D

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church Komatke, AZ-Gila River Indian Community

Sunday, May 30, 2010 at 12:00 PM

Father David Sanfilippo, V.G. St. Lucy Roman Catholic Mission

St. Lucy Roman Catholic Mission
Gila Bend, AZ-San Lucy Indian Community

Tuesday, June 1, 2010 at 7:00 PM

Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted Bishop of Diocese of Phoenix

St. Peter the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

Bapchule, AZ-Gila River Indian Community

Request of Administration of Communion and Viaticum Dean Peters

> E-mail: dean.p.peters@gmail.com Cell: 520-251-8378

Gila River Indian Community

First Innual Cancer Awareness Walk Saturday April 17, 2010

Gathering at Komatke Health Center

Registration: 7:30 A.M. - 8:15 A.M. Blessing: 8:20 A.M. - 8:30 A.M. Walk: 8:30 A.M. - 9:30 A.M. Ending at D#6 Kalka Park

Short program to follow and informational booths at D#6 Kalka Park 9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

For more information contact: Bernadette Cooper (520)562-3321 ext: 1008

"Raising the awareness within the Community







Annual Kateri Tekakwitha Feast Day Celebration

Hosted By: Holy Family Roman Catholic Mission & Our Lady of Victory Roman Catholic Mission

Held at: Our Lady of Victory Roman Catholic Mission Gila River Indian Community

April 24, 2010 at 10:00 AM



"Ak-Chin Music Classes"

New Class for new instrument: **Saxophone**

Please call to sign-up for a new class starting next week: April 19 & 20, 2010.

Instructor: Mr. Lyle Reams

Please contact: Cultural Resources Office 520-568-1372/ 520-568-1368

Tamales

New Cooking Class

Tamales

Tamales

Come Learn how to make Tamales at Cultural Resources Ofc.

Thursday, April 22, 2010, 6 p.m.

Instructor: Ms. Josephine Johnson

Please contact: Ak-Chin Cultural Resources Office 520-568-1372/520-568-1368

Letter to the Editor:

My "THOTS."

Hilary Cummings 480-326-7999

In O'odham the word also means 'shock' or 'surprise'.

Subject: Gila River Smear Campaign

I heard the radio ads that The Gila River Indian Community is funding a media campaign portraying the Tohono O'odham Nation as "greedy" for seeking to build a casino adjacent to Glendale, Arizona. GREEDY? Gila River Tribe has Casinos in the Phoenix area. Phoenix has a population of about 4.3 million people. The Tohono O'odham Nation has casinos in the Tucson area and Why, Arizona. The Population of Tucson is about 1 million people. The population of Why, Arizona is about 200 people.

Gila River Indian Community has a land base of 372,000 acres The Tohono O'odham Nation has a land base of 2.6 million acres. (comparable to the size of the state of Connecticut.) Gila River Indian Community has a membership of about 12,000 members. Tohono O'odham Nation has a population of about 30,000 members.

If TON & GRIC were given 1 million dollars each, GRIC can do A LOT more for their smaller land base and smaller population. GRIC is closer to a bigger market and so can make more at their casinos and provide better things for their people. TON does ok, but that is why WE are not able to provide services comparable to what GRIC can. It cost 1 million dollars to pave 1 mile of road. I know the numbers are not accurate, but you get the idea. GREEDY, or NEEDY

Long before the coming of the other cultures, we O'odham, were entrusted with land that started at the Sea of Cortez/the Gulf of California, east to the area where present day Sierra Vista is located, then circling north to the Superstitious Mountains, across behind the city of Sun City, then southwest to Yuma, Arizona. THAT is the aboriginal O'odham lands.

We were one tribe, one language with many dialects. We followed a himdag based on the myth

which we all share, but unique in regards to our surroundings. Then the people came from faraway lands and split our land in half calling one side, Mexico and the other, the United States of America, without regard to our people. They forced us into different pieces of lands and labeling us different tribes of people. Tohono O'odham, Gila River, Salt River and Akchin. But they did not stop the fact that we are related by blood and a common goal of survival. People go from Tohono to Akimel for different purposes. We see medicine people, attend ceremonies, dance Chicken Scratch together to bands that are from all our different communities.

This issue that is now before us, that has turned brother against brother is pure politics. My Grandfather called it 'the Paper Way/Tapial Himdag' because it is based on living life according to what is written on paper and not relying so much on respect.

In the old days, before the coming of the outsiders, people shared everything and were very respectful of one another. If a hunter shot a deer he shared it with the whole community. You had to be nice because maybe the next day, someone else might shoot a deer and you came home with nothing. You knew they would share because you shared yours. That is what the creators made us to be. A people who survive relying on each other.

It's good to play Politics in the White Man's way (tapial himdag), if that is how issues must be settled, but when this is all over, please remember that we are related.

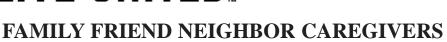
Thank You! Camillus Lopez, Tohono O'odham Nation Member

The comments stated above are not Ak-Chin Indian Community (ACIC) based nor is ACIC taking any action in support of or against the situation at hand.

LIVE UNITED.

United Way of Pinal County





OUTREACH ASSITANCE PROJECT Now Recruiting Licensed Childcare Providers

United Way of Pinal of Pinal County, uniting generosity with community needs to promote lasting change in peoples' lives by focusing on the building blocks for a better life: Education - Income – Health.

EDUCATION

Helping children and youth achieve their potential through education

Our goal is to create long-lasting changes by addressing the underlying causes of problems. Did you know that the majority of Pinal county children are cared for by family, friends, or neighbors in need of the appropriate training to ensure that our children attain the healthy brain connections so they enter school ready to succeed?

Our Family Friend & Neighbor Caregivers Outreach Assistance Project is an exciting new program providing training throughout Pinal County. To ensure the home providers are able to participate in the trainings we are looking for licensed childcare and/or daycare providers in the following communities: Apache Junction, Coolidge, Florence, Kearny, San Manuel, Mammoth, Oracle, Queen Creek, Superior, Toltec, Eloy, Arizona City, Stanfield, Maricopa, Casa Grande, Picacho and Ak-Chin Indian Community.

We need you to provide child care on various days and times during the home provider networking and training events. If you would like additional information on this fantastic opportunity and you can provide a clean, safe, child friendly environment, planned activities, fenced yard, and non-smoking environment.

Please contact the United Way of Pinal County office and ask to speak to Carol Giddens for additional information at 520.836.0736 or 1-800-390-0736.

FIRST THINGS FIRST This program is brought to you by First Things First (FTF), approved by Arizona voters, works to ensure that our youngest children have access to quality early childhood experiences so they will start school healthy and ready to succeed. For more information on First Things First (FTF) see their website at www.azftf.org

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

LIVE UNITED... United Way

Contact: Carol Giddens Tel. (520) 836-0736

Email: carol.giddens@unitedwayofpc.org

Visit the American Diabetes Association.

and join the movement to Stop Diabetes.**

Learn how to live healthy and be active and change the future of diabetes.

- Access to over 100 exhibitors, presenting the latest in medications, medical devices, products, health plans, & technology
- FREE health screenings
- Healthy cooking demonstrations
- LARGE specialty education exhibit areas focused on Podiatry, Vision, Pharmacy, Dental, Naturopathic, & Cultural Diversity
- Interactive nutrition and exercise presentations
- Featured Key-note speakers throughout the day
- Wide Assortment of ADA resource books and cookbooks

Saturday, April 24, 2010
Phoenix Convention Center - FREE ADMISSION
8:30am-3:00pm

Register Online at www.diabetes.org/expophoenix
Questions? Please call Nicole Johnson - (602) 861-4731 X7098 or nijohnson@diabetes.org

As many of you Gentle Readers know, I'm a recovering librarian so I'm beginning this month's column with a tip of the hat to all of the unsung heroines (and heroes) who labor so hard and well in America's libraries.

These institutions and their staff keep us informed, educated, entertained, and assisted in the art of resumes and job searches (especially in these times of economic stress and high unemployment).

Even though they're frequently the first to be cut back when budgets are tight, they keep on smiling and asking if we've found what we're looking for. Hug a librarian, clerk, page, and/or aide when you see them during National Library Week, April 11-17.

I must say that I, for one, have really enjoyed the rainy weather of the past 45 or so days. The desert is really green and the wildflowers are spectacular. Farmers have had lots of free water for their crops and the most of the state's reservoirs (unlike their coffers) are so full that water's travelling down the Salt, Gila, Santa Cruz, and San Pedro rivers.

However, the flip side of this very wet winter is that when it all inevitably dries up, the fire danger will be VERY high indeed.

This is why the Pinal County Air Quality folks are issuing three (3) day open burn permits, effective April 1st. All burn permits will expire on or by May 1st. The "No Burn" ban will continue thereafter until the summer monsoons show up to abate the fire danger.

Speaking of the rites of Spring, Casa Grande's VFW Post 1677 will be putting on its annual Easter Egg Hunt on the grounds of Ocotillo School (501 S. Florence Street) at 10:00 a.m. on April 3rd. The Post's veterans have been hard at work gathering prizes and goodies (bicycles, dolls, games, etc.) for several

If you're in Maricopa, the Community Hope Church is holding their 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt in Pacana Park at 10 a.m. as well. Wherever you go, it'll be a great time and the children's smiles are priceless.

Returning to a water-related topic for a moment, Pinal County's Local Drought Impact Group (LDIG) was formed to help prepare mitigation measures we might be forced to take in case of extreme drought.

Rick Gibson, Agricultural Agent for Pinal courtesy of the UofA, and Art Carlton, staff for the county's Emergency Management Services, co-chair the group which consists of volunteers from various water connected agencies.

Late last year, LDIG was the fortunate recipient of a grant from the **Abbott Laboratories**

Foundation (thanks to Roger Hill and the local Abbott-Ross plant) which allowed them to become a part of Project Wet: a curriculumbased program that works with local schools to increase awareness and understanding of this precious natural resource. Last month, Project Wet held a very successful Water Festival for area fourth graders.

On April 14, from 6-8 p.m. in Room T116 at the Signal Peak Campus of CAC, the UofA in conjunction with the Cooperative Extension Service, LDIG, and various local communities will be holding a Listening Session to identify, discuss, and define Central & Western Pinal County's current and future water issues.

Specifically, the results of the Session will facilitate the development of informed water education programs and future water planning efforts. For more information, contact Tasha at 520.836.5221 (x 210) or tasha@cals.arizona.edu – I hope to see you there.

The Arizona Trail Association, the Arizona Office of Tourism, and REI stores partnered to create a map of the 800+ mile long Arizona Trail which stretches from Utah to Mexico.

The new map highlights communities that lie in close proximity to the Trail and indicates which of those communities has specific services and supply outlets of interest to those traveling along the Trail.

Several Pinal County communities are featured as well. Copies of the map can be found at your local Chamber of Commerce or by contacting me at david.snider@pinalcountyaz.gov or 520.836.0003.

I would be very remiss if I didn't ask you all to join me in wishing my predecessor Jimmie Kerr a very happy birthday – he'll turn 76 this month and still going strong.

David Snider, Supervisor Pinal County District 3

Karl Cordova, Superintendent (520) 723-3172

Visit Casa Grande Ruins National Monument for Free During National Park Week, April 17-25

COOLIDGE, AZ -Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, along with the 391 other national park sites, will be open to the public free of charge from April 17 through 25, to celebrate National Park Week.

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument Superintendent Karl Cordova states: "This celebration presents an ideal opportunity for families in surrounding communities to come and enjoy the wonders and mysteries of this ancient place in their own backyard at no cost."

Two special family friendly Junior Ranger programs will be held on National Junior Ranger Day, Saturday, April 24, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Participants will earn both a Junior Ranger badge and an embroidered patch.

Children who participate in either Junior Ranger programs on that day may also enter a drawing for a set of Junior Ranger hiking gear that includes a hand carved walking stick with a Casa Grande Ruins medallion and a Junior Ranger backpack, water bottle, and safety tool.

In addition, a separate drawing for hiking gear will be held for all children who participate in Casa Grande Ruins' Junior Ranger Program activities and earn badges from April 17-

"National parks preserve our heritage, promote recreational experiences and provide places of quiet refuge," said National Park Service director Jon Jarvis. "Most people live within a short drive of a national park, so I encourage everyone to spend some time enjoying America's Great Outdoors during National Park Week."

Visit the parks and celebrate your ownership of these special places. Bring a young person and let them know that these places also belong to them and all future generations.

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument protects the multi-story 'Great House' and the ruins of other ancient structures built by the ancient people of the Sonoran Desert over 800 years ago.

The Monument is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Directions and additional information are available on the Monument's website, http://www.nps.gov/cagr, or you may call (520) 723-3172.

Pinal County Ground Zero for Showy Spring Wildflowers

Contact: Heather Murphy (520) 866-6057 Joe Pyritz (520) 866-6226

FLORENCE, AZ – For the next few weeks, residents and visitors will see the splendor of spring unfold in Pinal County. Wildflowers are already beginning to bloom in the desert, along highways and in our parks and recreation areas.

To help you enjoy the golden Mexican poppies, blue Mohave lupine and other spectacular blooms, Pinal County is recommending a halfday or full-day drive.

Half day journey:

Take US 60 East to Florence Junction, turn south on 79. South of the Town of Florence, Make a left onto the Florence-Kelvin Highway (this is a dirt road be prepared to go slowly,

using caution).

The Florence-Kelvin Highway ends

at State Route 177. Turn Left, stop

for lunch or dinner in Superior where 177 ends. Return to your starting point using US 60.

Full day journey:

Take US 60 east to Florence Junction and turn south on 79. Take 79 all the way to Oracle Junction and turn lef onto Highway 77.

Stop for a snack or a meal in Oracle San Manuel or Mammoth. Continue north on 77. At Winkelman, turn lef onto 177, which will take you past the town of Kearny.

Further north, see the historic Ray Mine before 177 ends at Superior Take time to explore Superior before heading west on US 60.

If time permits, stop at the beautiful Boyce-Thompson Arboretum just west of Superior.

Former Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller Passes Away

Contact: Mike Miller (918) 453-7476

Wilma Mankiller, former Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, passed away Tuesday, April 6th. Mankiller served 12 years in elective office at the Cherokee Nation, the first two as Deputy Principal Chief followed by 10 years as Principal Chief. She retired from public office in 1995. Among her many honors, Mankiller was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Clinton.

"Our personal and national hearts are heavy with sorrow and sadness with the passing this morning of Wilma Mankiller," said Chad Smith, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. "We feel overwhelmed and lost when we realize she has left us but we should reflect on what legacy she leaves us. We are better people and a stronger tribal nation because her example of Cherokee leadership, statesmanship, humility, grace, determination and decisiveness. When we become disheartened, we will be inspired by remembering how Wilma proceeded undaunted through so many trials and tribulations.

Years ago, she and her husband Charlie Soap showed the world what Cherokee people can do when given the chance, when they organized the self-help water line in the Bell community. She said Cherokees in that community learned that it was their choice, their lives, their community and their future. Her gift to us is the lesson that our lives and future are for us to decide. We can carry on that Cherokee legacy by teaching our children that lesson. Please keep Wilma's family, especially her husband



Charlie and her daughters, Gina and Felicia, in your prayers."

Mankiller requested that any gifts in her honor be made as donations to One Fire Development Corporation, a non-profit dedicated to advancing Native

American communities though economic

development, and to valuing the wisdom

that exists within each of the diverse tribal communities around the world.

Tax deductible donations can be made at www.wilmamankiller.com as well as www.onefiredevelopment.org.

The mailing address for One Fire

Southmore, Houston, TX 77004 Her memorial service was Saturday, April 10th, at the Cherokee Nation Cultural Grounds in Tahlequah.

Development Corporation is: 1220

Contact: Jeff Harjo, 406-325-6945

Minnie Two Shoes 1950-2010

Native American Journalist Association, Founding Member



Minnie Two Shoes, Assiniboine Sioux from the Fort Peck Reservation in Montana, was born March 24, 1950 and walked on April 9, 2010 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Funeral services were held April 13 on the Fort Peck Reservation.

Native American Journalists Association President Ronnie Washines made the following remarks on the passing of journalist Minnie Two Shoes:

I simply cannot see going to a NAJA conference and not being able to see Minnie Two Shoes walking down a hall and greeting you with a smile, warm hug and a quick joke.

She was one of the Native journalists who answered the call to be at Pennsylvania State University in 1984 to set the beginnings of the Native American Press Association, which later became NAJA. She was a lifetime NAJA member and had the notes, programs and photo journals to prove it. She served on the NAJA board several times and was on the current board, which she dubbed, 'The kinder, gentler NAJA.'

She was a sincere advocate of free press, free speech and free food for everyone. She held a deep respect and

love for NAJA and the mission of the organization.

She accepted the additional duties and responsibilities of being an active, contributing NAJA board member even though she was forced to deal with personal health concerns.

I will personally and professionally miss her sense of humor, her dedication to Native journalism and the respect she held for tribal culture and teachings.

The Native American Journalists Association extends our heartfelt condolences to her family, her people and her colleagues.

The journalist and Native world here has one less champion, but I am confident that she has earned a place in the kinder, gentler world she will now walk through eternity.

I pray Creator welcomes and embraces Minnie Two Shoes and comforts the hearts of her surviving family.

"More Than Frybread" movie now in production features Arizona natives



The cast from the movie "More Than Frybread" gather for a quick photo. The movie is in production and with plans for release later this year.

Contact: Holt Hamilton (928)864-8391

Phoenix—It seemed fitting to include a couple of Native American comedians in the mix of lead actors in the upcoming sure to be a hit film "More Than Frybread." It's a comedy after all about a frybread contest.

Theresa Choyguha, Tohono O'odham, and James Bilagody, Navajo, crack jokes during the film's first promotional shoot and news conference in Phoenix. "So who makes the best frybread?" asked a reporter. "The Navajos of course," said Bilagody with a big smile. Choyguha, standing nearby, vigorously but quietly shook her head no and waited for her chance to speak.

Still in production, the "indie" movie is Holt Hamilton's fourth feature film. Two of his last films, "Turquoise Rose" and "Blue Gap Boy'z," are already on store shelves.

The film tells the fictional story of the First Annual Arizona State Frybread Championship competition held between the 22 tribes in Arizona. The 22 Nations each send a finalist to represent their tribe and compete for the coveted title of Arizona State Frybread Champion. The film closely follows five female and male frybread makers from the Navajo, Hopi, Yavapai- Apache, Hualapai, and Tohono O'odham Nations as they journey from their various reservations to the state championship in Flagstaff.

"It's all about bragging right in this one. Who really does make the best bread," said Hamilton. This will be the first feature film to include such a diverse

variety of Native American actors from Arizona, California and New Mexico.

"We held auditions for many months way out in a lot of middle-of-no-wheres across the state and found some amazing talented and undiscovered actors that only needed a chance to shine. This is their chance. There will be stars born from this film," said Hamilton.

Recognizing a small Native talent pool in Hollywood, he wanted to help increase that pool with new faces by an opportunity to many who may never have another chance like this. "This is the heart and life blood of indie film making. Everyone has to take a step up and play a bigger role, me included."

The film will include forty-two speaking parts, nine of which include lead roles. Actors include Tatanka Means (Navajo/Oglala Lakota), Joe Washington, (Choctaw/Shawnee), Teresa Choyguha (Tohono O'odham), Camille Nighthorse (Hualapai), Jennifer Joseph (Hopi), James Bilagody (Navajo), Tawnya Gomez (Arapaho), Dey Gomez (Arapaho), Mary Kim Titla (San Carlos Apache) and Willis Daychild, (Hualapai).

Three actors bring some feature experience to the table. Two of those, Means and Nighthorse, will be playing their first lead roles in a feature. The third is Bilagody who played a role in Blue Gap Boy'z. "It's exciting to think of all the resumes that will have grown from this film," said Hamilton.

In-Country Viet Nam Veterans in conjunction with the Vietnamese Community in Arizona and many generous Veterans Organizations

Request the honor of your presence

16th Annual Viet Nam Remembrance Day Ceremony Sunday - April 25, 2010 - 9:00 a.m. Nam Memorial - Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza. Phoenix. A

Viet Nam Memorial - Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza, Phoenix, AZ 17th Avenue - - Adams Street westbound/Jefferson Street eastbound (one way streets)

DATELINE: APRIL 30, 1969 - - U. S. MILITARY PERSONNEL IN VIETNAM REACHED 543,300-

Americans have continually answered the call to arms and have successfully defended our freedom and way of life. During the Vietnam War, our military was joined by a brave group of Vietnamese who fought side by side in an attempt to dismantle the threat of communism in their country.

To the American and Allies' veterans: "Be proud of yourself and proud of what you did for the cause of freedom and particularly for an unfortunate country...Know that millions...of South Vietnamese people, at home and at large, are deeply grateful". On Vietnam Remembrance Day, we share the grief and sadness of the American and Allies' veterans' families whose fathers, husbands and children were wounded, passed away during the war or still remain MIA.

To those that will join this day of remembrance - "WELCOME HOME".

To those whose names are inscribed on the Viet Nam War Memorial - "THANK YOU".

This day is for the living to pay proper homage to the fallen and to the cause to which they gave their lives.

DATELINE: APRIL 30, 1975 -- NVA CAPTURES SAIGON; VIETNAM WAR ENDED-

The commemoration starts at 8:30 a.m. with ceremonies at 9:00 a.m.

Massing of colors and flag raisings of the U.S. and S. Vietnamese flags Display of historical military memorabilia, military vehicle display Picnic lunch following the conclusion of ceremonies

Color Guard Units are invited to participate in a Parade of Color Guards— POC Josie Kakar-Delsi 520-836-1022 kakar_delsi@cgmailbox.com Color guard units participating - muster @ 07:45 Wreath Presentation POC Josie Kakar-Delsi 520-836-1022 kakar_delsi@cgmailbox.com All other information POC Midge Munro 623-979-0829 mhairi1@cox.net

The Ak-Chin O'odham Runner extends their deepest sympathies to Minnie's family. It was a real treat for the Runner staff to see her each year at the NAJA Conferences.



Gu-Achi District Days Team Roping

Mark Joaquin Sr. Memorial Arena Saturday, April 17, 2010 Books open after Jr. Rodeo



First Roping

#10 Pick 1 Draw 4 \$100 Per Entry Enter 2x's

#12 Pick 1 Draw 4 \$100 Per Entry Enter 2x's

Saddles to high money Header and Heeler of the day.

Buckles to 1st in the average of each roping. Breast Collars to 2nd in the average.

Must rope in each roping to qualify for Saddles.

For More Information, Please Contact: Albert (602) 329-8112 or Gerald (520) 307-8046

The Gu Achi District and Rodeo Committee reserve the right not to be liable for any injury, theft, or damage to any person or personal property during this event.

No Alcohol or Gang Attire will be tolerated.

2010 Gu Achi District Day Open Junior Rodeo

Saturday, April 17, 2010

Enter up at 7:30 AM, Rodeo Start Time: Depending on Entries?? Mark Joaquin Sr. Memorial Arena, Santa Rosa Village

	<u>Events</u>	Age Category	<u>Buckles</u>	<u>Limit#</u>	Entry Fee
	Sheep Riding	6 years of age	1	15	\$10.00
	Calf Riding	7-10 years of age	1	15	\$15.00
	Steer Riding	11-13 years of age	1/	15	\$20.00
r. Ei	Jr. Bull Riding	14-17 yearas of age	14.87	15	\$25.00
	Pole Bending	11-13 years of age 14-17 years of age	1	15 15	\$25.00 \$30.00
A	Breakaway Roping	11-13 years of age 14-17 years of age	1	15 15	\$25.00 \$30.00
	Barrel Racing	11-13 years of age	1	15	\$25.00
No.		14-17 years of age	1	15	\$30.00
	Team Roping (2x)	11-13 years of age 14-17 years of age	1 1	15 15	\$25.00 \$30.00



WILD PONY/HORSE RACE

Buckles Limit# Entry Fee Wild Pony Race (Youth up to 17 yrs of age) \$50.00 (Buckles for winning team) Wild Horse Race (Adults) \$250.00 (Buckles, Jackets and Cash for Winning Team) (Jackets and Cash for 2nd Place Team)

Buckles to all First Place Winners in each event and awards For More Information, Please Contact: Albert (602) 329-8112 or Gerald (520) 307-8046

The Gu Achi District and Rodeo Committee reserve the right not to be liable for any injury, theft, or damage to any person or personal property during this event.

No Alcohol or Gang Attire will be tolerated.

April 2010







Playing Table Games*and Win!

Friday – Saturday: n – 1pm and 7pm



1 WINNER CHOSEN AT 8PM TO WIN \$500 AND ANY UNCLAIMED PRIZES!

Get one free drawing entry just for coming out Receive one more entry for every 25 Base Reward Credits Earn 100 Base Reward Credits and receive 101 bonus entries

eaven **April 1 – June 27, 2010**

> Only Harrah's gives you a chance to walk away with a heavenly \$777,000! Play to Win: Every Saturday and Sunday, 10am – 5pm

eriod is from 6am – 5pm. Valid only in Slots, Blackjack and Video Poke Must participate in game and collect prize(s) by 5:15pm. Drawings are Saturdays and Sundays at 7pm. ive lucky winners will spin the Seventh Heaven slot machine to win guaranteed cash — from \$100 to \$777,0001

crime victims' rights:

FAIRNESS, DIGNITY, RESPECT.

Friday, April 23, 2010

Social Services is hosting the following event to honor the victims' of crime:

12:00pm: Walk Starts at EPA Building & Ends at Community Service Building 1:00pm: Speaker/Lunch, Theresa Ulibarri, Speaker from M.A.D.D.

RSVP: Shelli Kahn 520-568-1086

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY'S EARTH DAY 2010

Earthy Enos Says:

"Stop! And Think About It!"

Date: April 23, 2010

Location: **Government Headquarters**

42507 W. Peters and Nall Road

7am - Community Clean-Up **Events:** (Main Building)

10am - Environmental Activities

Premiere of Environmental Video

(Recreation Center) 11am - Lunch/Dessert

COME HELP CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

Be one of the first to view the Environmental Department's Educational Video (Starring your own EPD Staff)





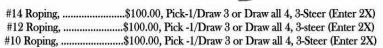
Saturday April 24, 2010

AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY ARENA

MARICOPA, ARIZONA

Books Open 9:00 A.M. Rope at 10:00 A.M.





Enter as Header or Heeler Prizes to Average Winners of Each Roping Saddles to High Money Winner #5 & under, #6 and above

CATTLE BY RYAN JUSTIN

Management May Change Any Roping Without Notice More Information Contact Gabe Lopez (520) 568-3645, Ben Valisto (520) 840-4389

 ${\color{blue} \textbf{LOPEZ-ENOS COMMITTEE \& STOCK CONTRACTOR NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, LOSS OR \\ \textbf{THEFT} \\$

Ak-Chin Preschool Parent Committee



ALL ABOUT READING TIME!

TOPIC: Create a Love for Reading at Home

by: Liz Burks

When:

Tuesday, April 20, 2010 6pm-8pm

Where:

Ak-Chin Child Development Center 48203 W. Farrell Road

Maricopa, AZ 85239

For Parents and children age birth to 6 years Tell a friend

A hands on parent activity:

- * Create a flannel story board and magic wand
- * Learn how to use every day things at home for reading
- * Learn more about reading skills

FREE FOOD! BOOKS! FUN FOR EVERYONE!

United Way SUCCESS BY 6

You're Invite



All Community Members and Employees.

Come explore your career.

Join us on Tuesday, April 27, 2010 from 1 PM to 4 PM in the Harrah's Ballroom

Learn about different career and job opportunities

Attend a seminar and learn how to design a effectively

Meet with representatives from different departments of Ak-Chin, colleges, vendors and contractors

Enjoy free food and drink



Representatives include:

• Ak-Chin Departments: Elder Center, Fire, Human Resources, Library, Maintenance and more

•Colleges: Brookline, Central Arizona College, Maricopa Skill Center, University of Arizona and more

•Vendors/Contractors: AZ Community Action, Gila River WIA Program, Inter Tribal Council of AZ, Medicare/SSA,MGC, Penta and more

*Receive one entry to win one of these fabulous door prizes by attending the Round Up!

*Attend a seminar and receive five entries to win a prize!