

Wak Newsletter



VOLUME 36 ISSUE 08

SAN XAVIER DISTRICT

August 2026

Sopol 'Esabig Masad/Short Planting Month

Under the Stars

SWAP MEET

**Saturday
August 22, 2026
5:00 - 10:00 p.m.**

LIVE WAILA MUSIC

San Xavier Mission
1950 W. SAN XAVIER ROAD

Drug and Alcohol Free Event
RAIN OR SHINE
FREE ADMISSION

VENDOR FEES:
COMMUNITY - \$15
NON-COMMUNITY - \$30

Find Unique Treasures
HOME GOODS/DECOR
ARTISAN/HANDMADE PRODUCTS
JEWELRY/ACCESSORIES
FOOD/CONFECTIONS

50 50
RAFFLE

Organized by: SXD Health and Wellness Committee

Persons attending and participating in the Under the Stars Swap Meet assume all risks, including but not limited to illness, injury, death, or property loss, and agree not to hold the San Xavier District, the San Xavier District Health & Wellness Committee, San Xavier Mission, its agents, event sponsors, and volunteers liable.

[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/RUUKZIUKZT](https://forms.office.com/R/RUUKZIUKZT)

LIMITED SPACE

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Report & Highlights

7/1/26 – Chairman attended the Young Men's Gathering close-out meeting. 7/2/26 – Vice Chair attended the Old Pueblo Archaeology Board meeting. 7/6/26 – Vice Chair attended the Young Women's Gathering debriefing meeting 7/7/26 – Chairman chaired the Council meeting.	7/9/26 – Executive Team, Finance Director, and COVID Coordinator met with the ARPA Internal Audit Team to answer questions. -The SXD hosted a Public Meeting for TON members on the border wall lawsuit with Chairman Verlon Jose and the Border Delegation members in our council chambers.
7/11/26 – We attended the Back-to-School Rally sponsored by the Education Dept. & Committee. -We attended a meet/greet with Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chair Ken Martin and DNC Native American Caucus Chair Clara Pratte. Congresswoman Adelita Grijalva also joined us and some of the TON Executive Office staff. Chairman did an opening blessing; Chairman Jose did the welcome, and then they asked us to provide a history of our district.	7/13/26 – Executive Team, Finance Director met with REDW and TON Executive & Finance Team on the FY25 SXD's Clean Audit review before further presentations to council, Budget & Finance Committee and Legislative Council. -Chairman chaired this evening's joint Special SXDC/Finance Committee meeting to review the FY27 Budgets with: Finance, Materials, IT, Natural Resources, and Rangers Depts.
7/14/26 – Chairman chaired the evening joint Special SXDC/Finance Committee meeting to review the FY27 Budgets with: HR, People Wellness House, Maintenance, Education, Admin, and Cultural Events Depts.	7/15/26 – We attended the District Chairs meeting hosted by the Chukut Kuk District at the TON Himdag Ki. - We attended this evening's New World Screwworm presentation by the TON Natural Resources Dept, the Nation's Public Health, and UA Vet. Dr. Brownlee in our council chambers.
7/16/26 – Executive Team, Finance Director, and COVID Coordinator presented to the TOLC Budget & Finance Committee our ARPA Budget Amendment No. 3; the Committee requested additional information; it was rescheduled to 7/23. -Chairman met with two allotment owners requesting assistance on matters affecting their allotments; they were referred to the BIA for the final word on resolving their concerns.	7/20/26 - Chairman chaired this evening's joint Special SXDC/Finance Committee meeting to review the FY27 Budgets with: SAWRSA, Planning, Senior Services, Housing, and Council Depts. 7/21/26 – Chairman chaired the SXD Council meeting. 7/22/26 – Chairman attended the first day of a two-day meeting of the Four Tribes Cultural Committee at Freeport McMoRan Sierrita Mine regarding cultural protection.
7/23/26 – Chairman attended Day II of the cultural meeting at Sierrita Mine. -Executive Team, Finance Director, and COVID Coordinator presented to the TOLC Budget & Finance Committee our ARPA Budget Amendment No. 3 with corrections. -Vice Chair attended the OPIOID Awareness Training in the community building. -Chairman chaired the Community Meeting and a Special Council Meeting afterwards.	7/27/26 – We attended a Legislative Council Special Closed Session for a financial update held at the San Lucy Farms. 7/28/26 – Executive Team, Finance Director, COVID Coordinator, and our Procurement Manager met with the ARPA Audit Team to review the SXD procurement process. 7/30/26 – Vice Chair attended the SAWRSA Projects Update Meeting. 7/31/26 – Rain Ceremony

August District Events

SAT

22

Community Swap Meet
5PM-10PM

WED

26-28

CERT Training
Community Building



Housing Department

Sopah Esabig Masad

The Importance of Roof Inspections Before, During, and After Monsoon Season

Monsoon season brings heavy rainfall, strong winds, and severe weather that can quickly expose weaknesses in a home's roof. A routine roof inspection is one of the most effective ways to protect your home, your family, and your property from costly damage.

Before Monsoon Season

Preparing your roof before the rains arrive is essential. Inspect for missing or damaged shingles, loose flashing, clogged gutters, cracked sealant, and any signs of leaks. Trim tree branches that hang over the roof, as strong winds can cause them to break and damage the structure. Addressing minor repairs early can help prevent major water damage during storms.

During Monsoon Season

Safety should always come first. Never attempt to climb onto a roof during heavy rain, high winds, or lightning. Instead, inspect your home from the ground for visible signs of damage, such as fallen branches, loose roofing materials, or water pooling around the home. Inside the house, watch for water stains, dripping ceilings, damp insulation, or mold growth. If you suspect roof damage, contact a qualified roofing professional once weather conditions are safe.

After Monsoon Season

Once storms have passed, perform a thorough inspection of your roof. Look for missing shingles, damaged flashing, clogged gutters, sagging areas, and debris left behind by the storm. Check the attic and ceilings for signs of moisture or leaks. Prompt repairs can prevent additional damage, improve the roof's lifespan, and reduce future maintenance costs.

Roof Safety Tips

- Never climb onto a wet or damaged roof.
- Use binoculars to inspect the roof from the ground when possible.
- Keep gutters and downspouts free of leaves and debris.
- Schedule regular roof inspections, especially after severe storms.
- Report any damage immediately and make repairs as soon as possible.

Regular roof inspections are an important part of home maintenance. Prepare before monsoon season, stay safe during storms, and inspect your roof afterward. Homeowners can reduce the risk of water damage, protect their investment, and help ensure a safe living environment for their families.

**San Xavier Qualification Form
for Housing Assistance** →



Receptionist: 520-573-4043

Administrative Assistant: 520-573-4044

Housing Manager: 520-573-4042

NATURAL *Resources*

Greetings Wa:k Community! First off, I would like to recognize our OUTSTANDING youth workers: **Monique Miles-Gil, Marcos Mesa, and Angeline “Angie” Phillips**. Our youth workers remained professional in their work setting, stayed dedicated to the work program, and were punctual and ready to work. Monique assisted our office staff with various tasks around our office and got to know our department better, Marcos worked with the Rangers and shared some footage taken from one of his assignments in the community, and Angie was able to assist both our Groundskeeping crew at the Hikdan during the morning hours, and part of the afternoon she was able to work and learn about our Ranger Department. All our NR/Ranger staff enjoyed having these 3 youth workers with us this summer and appreciate all they’ve done & we wish them well.

Office Updates: Staff were able to attend the New World Screwworm (NWS) Workshop back on July 2nd. They received the current status in the US (active & inactive cases), learned the latest techniques & treatments for cattle, and how to prevent and monitor for the NWS. An update was provided to the Natural & Cultural Resources Committee on 7/6; staff attended the SX District Council (SXDC) Meeting regarding the O’odham Stronghold Livestock Association By-laws; a resolution was passed by SXDC (7/7). Staff was on-site to monitor during the well sampling conducted near the northeast boundary (7/14). A United Community Action Board Meeting was held (7/15) to provide an update on PFAS testing. Staff also presented Fiscal Year 2027 budget information at the SXD Special Council Joint Meeting (7/13), and we attended the Cemetery Wash Monthly Coordination Meeting (7/21).

Riparian site: Last month, staff provided an on-site presentation for the SX summer youth at the Wa:k Hikdan. The youth were divided into small groups for a scavenger hunt, and afterward the Rangers provided a “lock-out” demonstration, in which several youth teams participated and succeeded after several attempts. We also had the BIORETS Program from the U of A request a tour of the site. This group consisted mainly of educators from the local schools around Tucson. They appreciated all the efforts from the District and the Groundskeepers for keeping the area nice. Finally, out of respect for the Encinas Family, we decided to postpone our 2026 Staff Renewal Ceremony until a later date. We do send our condolences to the Encinas Family for their loss.

If you have any questions or concerns about any of our projects, please feel free to contact us: David Tenario (520) 573-4056, Geena Johnson (520) 573-4055, Morgan Parsons (520) 573-4057, Ulrick Francisco (520) 573-4054, or Miranda Flores (520) 573-4053.

Thank you.

NRD Director

HIMDAG EVENTS

COORDINATOR

ŞOPOL ‘EŞABIG MAŞAD

SHORT PLANTING MONTH

A:ñi ‘aň hab ce:gig Michael David Anthony Enis. Ñ amjed i:ya Wa:k tab, Ð o aň Wa:k Himdag Events Coordinator. Here is some information to share. There are many ways O’odham Himdag is shared and understood. Let this be one source for you as you read and listen.

During this month the O’odham in the western villages would do **Ak Chin** Farming. That style of faming is using rainwater that comes down from the mountain and channels into the washes to water the Oidag (field)

In Wa:k we used the **Akimel** style of watering. An **Ak** is a wash or river; **Akimel** can mean River, since the water is constantly moving.

Please open the link for more information

Planting Song #3

A planting song can be identified by the singing of “ Hi-lu ya a lu.” This is how planting songs begin. It is said O’odham could hear that early in the morning from the fields and they knew planting was happening. Everyone helped each other plant. Working Oidag to Oidag singing and planting.

This song is telling of a famer singing to the crops. The farmer comes in the morning and again in the evening. The famer’s songs stay with the crops. It also tells of the wind that pushes on the crops, but the crops push back.



HIMDAG EVENTS

COORDINATOR

Bahidaj 'Iamdam Bahidaj Harvesters 2026

Thank you to the Wak Senior Services Clients and Staff that harvested this year, also the families that joined the community harvest in the evenings of June 29 and 30, 2026.

I look forward to creating and collaborating with you all in the near future on cultural and community events and potential ideas. If you have any suggestions or questions, please feel free to reach out and send me an email to menis@waknet.org or phone call at (520) 573-4005. Pegi 'Oig.



Summer Youth EMPLOYMENT WORKER



A:ni ab ce:gig Lailanie Carlyle, N-je'e ab ce:gig Shandalynn Carlyle, N-og ab ce:gig Reginald Antone. N-bab ab ce:gig Franklin Carlyle, N-hu'ul ab ce:gig Clarice Carlyle. N-ka:k ab ce:gig Karen Antone N-wosk ab ce:gig Francisco Antone but. A:ni an amjed Wa:k Ceksan.

I am a summer youth employment worker for Administration. My current experience is working in Administration, building strong relationships with my fellow community members, and experiencing day-to-day employment in the San Xavier District. I attended a Chairs meeting with Vice Chairwoman Sally Pablo, where fellow Chairs from each district meet and discuss. During this discussion, we had an in-depth conversation about the recent lawsuit that was filed and now shared with the public, the thoughts and emotions of our fellow Chairs, what may be substantial risks, the problems we may face, and all the things we should be prepared for and aware of. Attending this meeting gave me a more in-depth understanding of the responsibilities that our tribe and our fellow sister tribes have dealt with, and what it takes to call ourselves a nation.

I have also enjoyed my time being with Danielle these past 7 weeks getting to know her more and just how interesting her life is, also assisting Sandy with the budgeting and organizing them by department numbers, having small conversations with the Chairs and being a little goofy, but not only that but assisting Mikey when I have finished my work by helping him and his youth workers and creating stronger bonds also finding out who else I'm related to in my community.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The SxD COVID Office is entering the final quarter of operations. On September 30, 2026, this department will cease operations, including all associated programs. This month, be on the lookout for updates regarding the COVID Department on the SxD Facebook page.

Covid Office Provides...

- Covid Tests
- Covid Box (if you test positive) *includes Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and cleaning supplies for your household.*
- PPE for community events, funerals, and anniversaries, *when requested.*

Water Filters & Replacements

Pur Plus Filter systems are available; it screws right onto the spout!

Small amount of replacement filters for the iSpring Countertop System and the Zero Water Pitcher. Please call

News CDC recommends staying up to date on vaccines, these reduce risk and serious complications. The 2025-2026 Covid Vaccine is available, ask your primary care doctor for any further information.

DIAPER & MENSTRUAL PRODUCT MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION

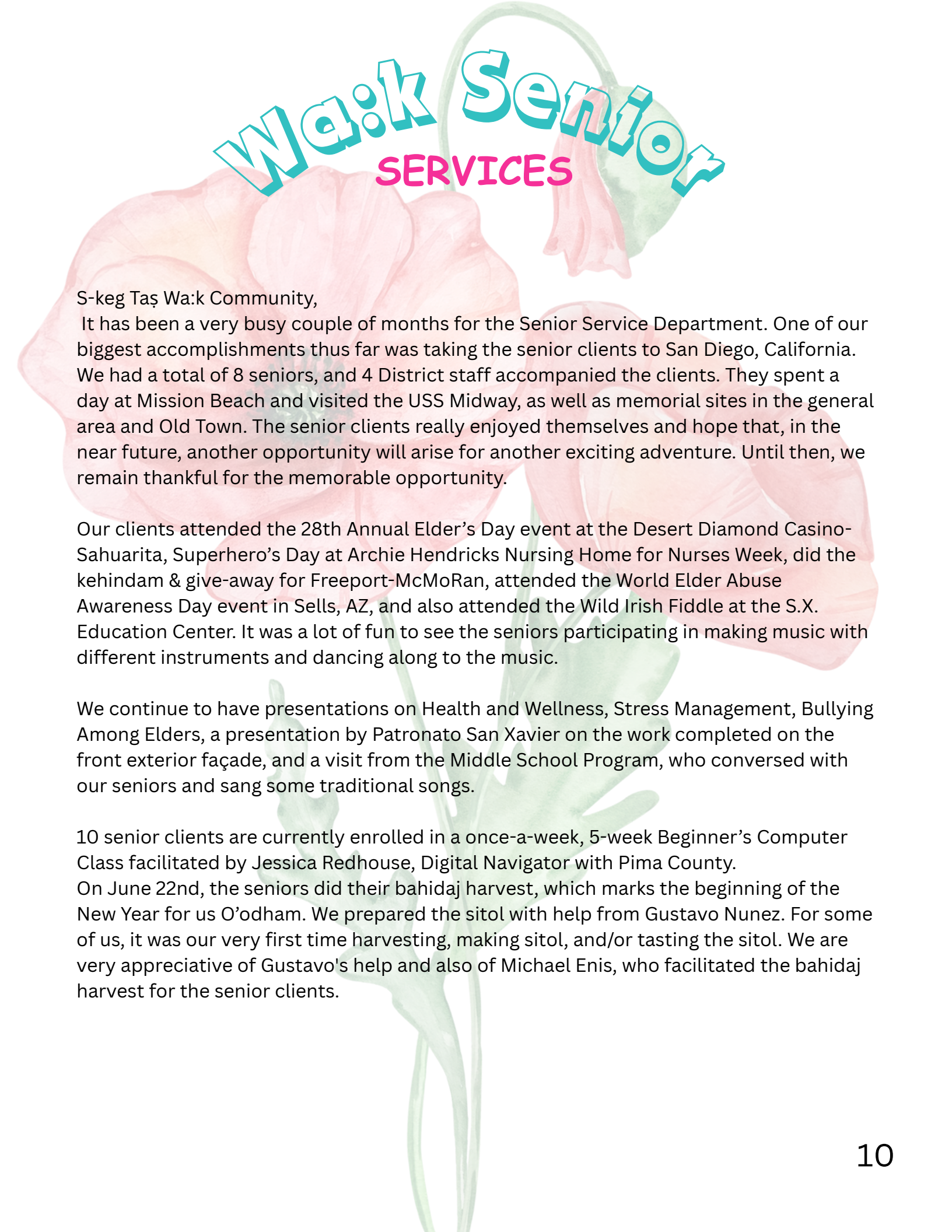
Items Available:

- Diapers
- Pull Ups
- Adult Incontinence Products (Diapers)
- Menstrual Products

June 2026 marked the end of our partnership with the Arizona Diaper Bank, we thank them for their partnership for 3+ years. The diaper program will continue with available stock. Unfortunately when a size is out of stock, it will not be restocked. Please call for available sizes.

Open Monday–Thursday, Closed Fridays

For any questions, reach out to the Covid Office:
520-573-4010 or covid@waknet.org



Wa:k Senior SERVICES

S-keg Taş Wa:k Community,

It has been a very busy couple of months for the Senior Service Department. One of our biggest accomplishments thus far was taking the senior clients to San Diego, California. We had a total of 8 seniors, and 4 District staff accompanied the clients. They spent a day at Mission Beach and visited the USS Midway, as well as memorial sites in the general area and Old Town. The senior clients really enjoyed themselves and hope that, in the near future, another opportunity will arise for another exciting adventure. Until then, we remain thankful for the memorable opportunity.

Our clients attended the 28th Annual Elder's Day event at the Desert Diamond Casino-Sahuarita, Superhero's Day at Archie Hendricks Nursing Home for Nurses Week, did the kehindam & give-away for Freeport-McMoRan, attended the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day event in Sells, AZ, and also attended the Wild Irish Fiddle at the S.X. Education Center. It was a lot of fun to see the seniors participating in making music with different instruments and dancing along to the music.

We continue to have presentations on Health and Wellness, Stress Management, Bullying Among Elders, a presentation by Patronato San Xavier on the work completed on the front exterior façade, and a visit from the Middle School Program, who conversed with our seniors and sang some traditional songs.

10 senior clients are currently enrolled in a once-a-week, 5-week Beginner's Computer Class facilitated by Jessica Redhouse, Digital Navigator with Pima County.

On June 22nd, the seniors did their bahidaj harvest, which marks the beginning of the New Year for us O'odham. We prepared the sitol with help from Gustavo Nunez. For some of us, it was our very first time harvesting, making sitol, and/or tasting the sitol. We are very appreciative of Gustavo's help and also of Michael Enis, who facilitated the bahidaj harvest for the senior clients.

We want to extend our condolences to the families of Joanne Preston, Arthur Bailey, Gabriel Ortiz, Bellina Lopez and Ronald Pablo. These individuals have been enrolled clients with our program and utilized the services we provided to them. We also want to remember our co-worker and friend, Maurice Corella. Maurice was a cook for Senior Service's for 8 years. He was definitely a good cook and one who brought his big smile with him every day. They are truly missed.

A big THANK YOU to our Summer Youth Employees, Zavida Jose and Arianna Moreno. Our staff couldn't thank you enough for your hard work and dedication. We very much appreciated the time you spent not only with us but also with our clients. Keep striving and working toward your goals.

Our Senior Service Staff is dedicated to providing a range of services for our clients. We facilitate arts and crafts activities and welcome new ideas to enhance these programs. Our team conducts home visits to perform basic vital checks and assists with medication refills and pick-ups. Additionally, we offer transportation to doctor appointments. Our cooks prepare delicious meals for our enrolled senior clients, serving breakfast and lunch. We welcome new clients to join our program!

Sapo,
Wa:k Senior Services



Planning Department Update

The Planning Department would like to provide an update regarding this year's round of Summer Youth Workers.

Every year, our department hosts a group of young community members who are educated on the Planning profession and given an opportunity to express their creative side. This year, we hosted an activity where our youth workers created visual artwork to be displayed in our soon-to-be-completed Wa:k Ki:kam Park. Each round of students was given free rein to express their artistic vision with words, drawings, poetry, and more. The top three designs will be voted on by our elders and utilized in our final park design. To make things more interesting, we've also encouraged some of our elders to participate and create their own art pieces, which will be voted on by our youth workers.

This activity serves as a great opportunity to showcase the impressive creativity and artistic ability within our community. The Planning Department is committed to facilitating community input into projects like this one whilst also offering an opportunity for our Summer Youth Workers to learn and grow in the process.



S.A.W.R.S.A

SOUTHERN ARIZONA WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT

In previous articles, “authorization” was mentioned frequently because this allows the San Xavier District to accomplish tasks on behalf of the Wa:k O’odham and landowners. The District’s authorizations can be found in Public Law 108-451, 118 STAT. 3478 that includes the 1982 Southern Arizona Water Rights Settlement Act (SAWRSA) and the 2004 Amendments, known as the Arizona Water Settlement Act (AWSA).

There were many years of negotiations with allottee landowners, staff, community members, attorneys, Tohono O’odham Nation Water Resources Committee and various defendants in the lawsuit, of which a majority are no longer here with us. Although SAWRSA staff were not involved in the negotiations, we are honored to participate in the project discussions, design, and completion of several projects.

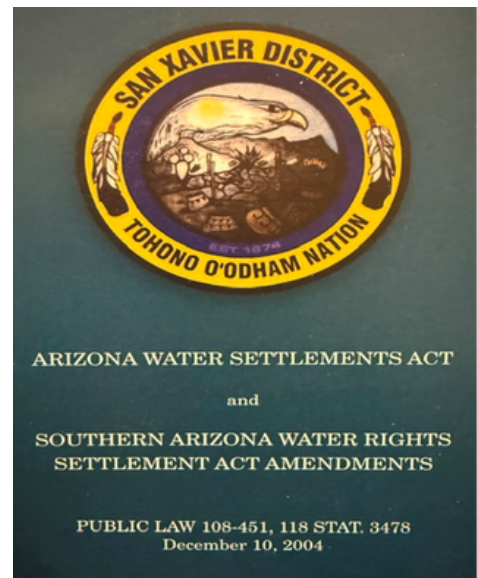
The following is a list of what is included in SAWRSA/AWSA:

TITLE I – CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT SETTLEMENT

TITLE II - GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT

TITLE III - SOUTHERN ARIZONA WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT. This section applies to the San Xavier Indian Reservation (District) and the purpose is to authorize, ratify, and confirm the agreements; authorize and direct the Secretary to execute and perform all obligations of the Secretary under those agreements; and to authorize the actions and appropriations necessary for the United States to meet obligations of the United States under those agreements and this title.

Section (Sec.) 304-Water Delivery and Construction Obligations, **Sec. 305**-Deliveries Under Existing Contract; Alternative Water Supplies, **Sec 306**-Additional Water Deliveries, **Sec. 307**-Conditions on Constructions, Water Delivery, Revenue Sharing, **Sec. 308**-Water Code: Water Management Plan; Storage Projects; Storage Accounts; Groundwater, **Sec. 309**-Uses of Water, **Sec. 310**-Cooperative Fund,



Sec. 311-Contracting Authority; Water Quality; Studies; Arid Land Assistance, **Sec. 312**-Waiver and Release of Claims, **Sec. 313**-After-Acquired Trust Land, **Sec. 314**-Nonreimbursable Costs, **Sec. 315**-Trust Fund, **Sec. 316**-Miscellaneous Provisions, **Sec. 317**-Authorized Costs, and **Sec. 302**-Southern Arizona Water Rights Settlement Effective Date.

TITLE IV – SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT

We hope this captures your attention. Copies can be obtained through the SAWRSA office or at the following link: <https://www.congress.gov/108/plaws/publ451/PLAW-108publ451.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact Maggie Alvarez or Velma Begay at (520) 573-4000.

San Xavier District

C.E.R.T

Community Emergency Response Team



August 26, 27, 28, 2026

9:00AM - 4:00PM

San Xavier Community Building

CERT Training provides critical skills in emergency preparedness and response.

Provided for community members, District workers, community workers, community representatives, and district leadership. Certifications provided upon completion



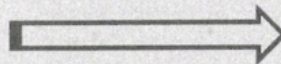
Join us for a Tohono O'odham Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Certification Class, designed to equip community members with essential skills to prepare for and respond to emergencies and disasters.

This hands-on training will cover critical topics including disaster response and preparedness, basic first aid, CPR/AED use, and Naloxone (Narcan) administration for opioid overdose response. Participants will also learn about personal and family emergency planning, scene safety, and how to effectively support their community during emergencies.

**Opiate
identification and
naloxone
administration
training**

**CPR/AED and First Aid training
will be provided**

Scan the QR
code to
register



Persons attending and participating in this training assume all risks including but not limited to illness, injury, death, or property loss and agree not to hold the department of Public Safety, Tohono O'odham Nation Healthcare, and the Department of Human Services liable.

Be prepared to help
yourself, your
family, and your
community in the
event of an
emergency or
disaster.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT THE TOHONO O'ODHAM
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

(520) 383 - 8860 (OFFICE)

(520) 471 - 2643 (CELL)

Wa:k Ceksan ROYALTY

Maylina Lawson

JR. MISS WA:K CEKSAN 25-26

S-ke:g Tas Wa:k community, my name is Maylina Lawson. I am currently ten years old. I am your Jr. Miss Wa:k 2025-2026. My reign has been a good journey so far. I have 5 new sash sisters whom I love to be with while we attend many pageants, fundraisers, and workshops. During this reign, I have met many more Royalty girls and built more confidence in myself to not be shy and talk when I needed to. I enjoy sharing my introduction and listening to others' introductions to learn where they come from and who their families are. Disney Christmas on O'odham Jewed was fun; we dressed up as Disney princesses on our O'odham-made dance floor. Albuquerque, NM. Gathering of the Nations was fun; we got to be with all the dancers and many different Royalties on the floor, many colors and feathers, and also meeting up with Miss T.O and her attendees... We also enjoyed the Jr. Miss Salt River & Miss Salt River pageants. They all had good talents!! Traveling is the best time because I get to spend time with my family and enjoy the scenery. I did love attending the Miss Indian Arizona workshop; it was very educational. We got to learn dos and don'ts and how to be better as you represent your community!!! We also learned a song and got to sing it to (Sialik) Miss Indian Arizona. Overall, I thank you, Wa:k community, for your continued support and the love you all have shared!!! Representing San Xavier District has been an honor, and I will continue to make you all proud. Sapó Maylina Lawson (Jr. Miss Wa:k 2025-2026)





TONHC



SAN XAVIER HEALTH CENTER

Clinic Hours | Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

Call for a Same Day appointment starting at **7:45am** daily

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOUR NEXT VISIT

To ensure your visit is timely and runs smoothly, please arrive 15 minutes before your appointment time and be prepared to update/confirm all personal information. We understand this is repetitive but we want to make sure all information is correct so that we can apply all the necessary resources to your benefit.

If you are checking in for an eye appointment, you must check-in downstairs at the south window, then proceed to the eye clinic waiting area upstairs.

Podiatry has moved and is located on the first floor on the south end of the Main Building (SX-1)

Outpatient Services, Pediatrics, Sameday Appointments, and Specialty clinics are all located in the New Modular (SX-12).

Pharmacy Hours | Monday - Friday 8:00am - 7:00pm & Saturday 8:00am - 4:00pm

Oodham Ap'edag Ki: PEOPLE WELLNESS HOUSE

Meet, Greet, and Share

The People Wellness House (PWH) staff met with our youth employees and shared the work PWH does within the Wak community.

During the gathering, the youth discussed their future goals and what wellness means to them. Each participant was given a puzzle piece and invited to create a design that represented their personal vision of wellness.

We are excited to share a photo of the completed puzzle pieces coming together, symbolizing the unique contributions, strengths, and perspectives of each youth.

Thank you to all the youth who participated and were willing to openly share their thoughts, ideas, and experiences. Your voices matter, and we appreciate your engagement and creativity!

PWH staff



Hi, my name is Isabella Toro I come from the San Xavier reservation, my mom is Natasha Nunez and my dad is Preston Toro, my grandparents are Lucinda Nunez, and Bennett Encinas.

I am currently employed with the People's Wellness for this summer. I have never seen the side of what really goes on at Wellness House, and I always assumed it was just talking circles, a place to send your kids to for the summer, or an after-school program. But after being employed here, I see so much more than a youth program. I have seen people walk into the Peoples Wellness House heavy, tired, and sad, and leave with a better version of themselves or a clear mind. You can clearly see the difference.

I really think teenagers my age don't see the good at the Wellness because they only look at this place as punishment, but the Wellness helps with everyone's needs. If you need someone to talk to, they are here. If you need food, they are here. If you need guidance, they are always here. You name it, they will try their best to assist you.

Just come fill out a paper, and they've got you.

Thank you,
Isabella Toro



Greetings Community Members & Relatives,

O'odham Ap'edag Ki: (People Wellness House) has been busy serving community members and others, along with providing our summer students with activities that were educational and fun. Students visited the gourd Farm in Casa Grande, Az., it was very inspiring. They toured the gift shop, were amazed to see multiple bins of gourds in all sizes and picked their gourds plus one for students who were unable to attend. The owner also demonstrated how to wash & clean them with the inside of a banana squash. Our field trips included; the movies, splash park, Phoenix Heard Museum, Mt. Lemmon - Babad Duag (frog Mountain) and our Golf & Stuff outing which will end our summer program on July 21, 2026. If you haven't yet noticed our Ap'edag ki: building is/has been painted, painters will then do the inside which will give our facility a new look. PWH invites you to stop by for a visit.

Quote: **"For our community to be Whole & Healthy... It must be based on our members Love and Concern for each other". Ap'edag Ki sends our deepest condolences to the families who have lost a loved one.**

Thank You
Margaret Unito – Case Manager





Wa:k Spirit August

Sopol 'Esabig Masad / Short Planting Moon



Greetings Wa:k Community,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! I am so excited for this upcoming school year and looking forward to seeing all the students very soon. I hope the students of the San Xavier District community have had time to relax, rejuvenate, enjoyed the various summer programs at the Education Center, and are ready to start a new school year. We, at the San Xavier District Education Center welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and we look forward to working with you and your children.

The staff here at the Education Center are getting all the final touches completed for the start of this years programs, events, and services. We understand the significance of quality education and the vital role parents and guardians play in their children's educational journey. I firmly believe that collaboration between home, school, and the Education Center is essential for the development of each child. I'd like to encourage open communication and invite you to share any concerns, suggestions, or ideas throughout the year.

Our dedicated staff is passionate about ensuring that each student receives a well-rounded education that prepares them for future success with the services, programs and events we provide. We are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for your children where they can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Throughout the school year, you can expect regular communication from us regarding important updates, events, and opportunities for parental involvement. We'll also proactively seek your feedback to continuously improve our services at the San Xavier District Education Center.

As always, thank you for your commitment and supporting your child's education. Look forward to serving you and everyone else as you continue your education.



Greetings from the Library

We had a successful Summer Reading Infant/Toddler Program this past month. We are so thankful for the parents who brought in their wonderful children to our program. I applaud the parents/caregivers.

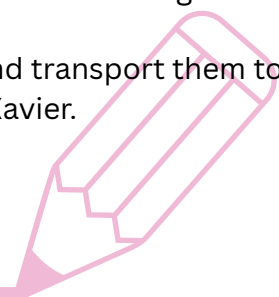
The library had a successful book giveaway at our Back to School Rally, which was held at the Community Building on July 11, 2026.

We will now prepare to plan for our After School Program 2026-2027.

Our After School Program is here to help students with homework and tutoring.

The Education Center will be able to pick up your child from their school and transport them to the After School Program and then home if they live in San Xavier.

Gertrude Lopez—Learning Center Coordinator
Elissa Encinas—Learning Center Aide



Education Outreach Coordinators

S-keg Tas Wa:k Community,

Blessings to All!

As students prepare to return to school, the Education Center will return with programs such as the ASP (After School Program), Missed Bus, and VOY (Voices of Our Youth) . These programs will be offered throughout the school year. If you are interested in having your student attend any of the programs, please contact the Education Center or feel free to drop in. All programs require an application to be filled out and turned in. Applications will be available Monday, August 3rd, 2026.

Continue to check newsletters and the Wa:k Facebook page to see updates on our programs at the Education Center. During this time Delissa and I, are available to assist with students and parents.

Please continue to be safe out there. We are all teachers in one way or another. May the Creator watch over all of you today and always.

Sap'a

Anna Butler and Delissa Romero
Education Outreach Coordinators

CULTURAL LANGUAGE TEACHER

S-ke:g Taş Ñ-Hahajuñ,

During the month of July, the Middle School Program started on June 29—July 13, 2026. The students learned to make cecamait, bit ki:, bahidag sitol, songs, as well as tour the Hikdan, Saguaro National Park, a field trip to the Tohono O’odham Nation Cultural Museum for a tour & for Youth Financial Literacy training, visited Senior Services, and concluded with an “end of the program” outing to Harkins Theatres and Main Event.

Using the collected bahidag (saguaro cactus fruit), the students learned how to cook bahidag sitol (cactus syrup). Each student had their hands in the ripe fruit and smashed it to make it easy to cook. Several students took turns stirring the sitol, separating the seeds from the juice with a cheesecloth, and stirring again until it was ready to put in jars. The students also learned to make cecamait (tortillas) by mixing the flour, salt, lard and adding warm water to make their dough. Several young men were outside starting the fire until the komal was hot. Each student got a dough ball and began to flatten the ends and patted until it got thin and round. Ñ-hu’ul-bad always said, it does not matter if the cemit is not round or have holes in the dough. We still eat it! The students sort of burned their fingertips, being that it was their first time making cecamait and put it on the komal. Afterwards the students tasted the sitol and dipped the cemit in the syrup. Several students said, it was their first time seeing the sitol being cook and also making cecamait. I really enjoyed observing the students, hearing their laughter’s and how much fun seeing the young people put their dedication in the cooking process.

The students performed the Bahidag Ne’e song which they performed for the Senior Services clients, Hikdan staff, and while they collecting bahidag. In addition, students made their gourds, learned how to introduce themselves in O’odham, learning the O’odham language immersion with expressions, etc.

Elizabeth Ortega - San Xavier Culture Language Teacher





AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM 2026-2027



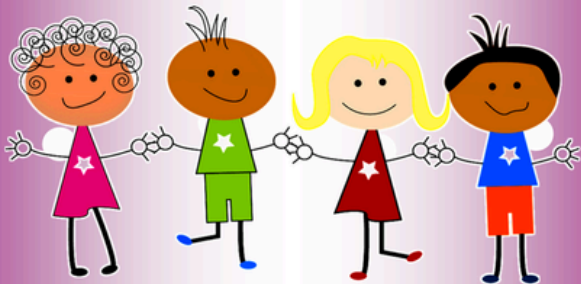
What is offered:

- ♦ Homework Help
- ♦ Physical Activities
- ♦ Arts and Crafts
- ♦ O'odham Language/Culture
- ♦ Snacks
- ♦ Field Trips
- ♦ Transportation (sxd village limits or 4 miles beyond boundary.)

The Program Welcomes:

- Waz Community students
- Traditional Community students
- Kindergarten thru 6th grade

- Monday-Wednesday
- ASP begins September 14th, 2026!
- ASP ends May 12th, 2027!
- Applications available August 3rd, 2026!



For more information, you may contact the SXD Education Center at 520.807.8620

Missed Bus Program

AN APPLICATION MUST BE ON FILE PRIOR TO YOUR CHILD BEING PICKED UP!

Morning transportation: Will be provided for those students who miss their school bus, including the Van Tran and City Bus. The limits are:

- 3 times per month for K-5th
- 2 times per month for Middle and High School students.

Transportation **WILL NOT** be provided if the scheduled pick up time for student has not passed according to school bus and Van Tran schedules.

Missed bus transportation **WILL NOT** be provided for students who are suspended from riding the bus.

Transportation for parents without a vehicle who need to attend parent meetings, parent-teacher conferences, parent night, local conferences, school board meetings, town hall meetings, etc.—as it relates to their child/ren and education. **WE ASK FOR 72-HOUR NOTICE!**

Transportation can be provided to those students who may need to register, follow-up on registration, testing, intake, and/or to do campus tours. Campus tours may be planned to involve more than one student.

Calls: Calls may be made between 7am & 9am. Transportation calls after 9am will not be accepted

Applications available:
August 3rd

Transportation begins:
September 1st, 2026



Applications available at the San Xavier Education Center 520.807.8620

SAN XAVIER DISTRICT

VOY

★ VOICES OF OUR YOUTH ★

SAN XAVIER STUDENTS 7TH-12TH

BE INVOLVED IN:
COMMUNITY SERVICE~GROUP
FUNDRAISING~WORKSHOPS/PRESENTATIONS~YOUTH
CONFERENCES~EDUCATIONAL GROWTH~FAMILY
NIGHTS~COLLEGE TOURS~GROUP OUTINGS~CULTURE
LEARNING~POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT~ SOCIAL OUTINGS

VOY BEGINS: SEPTEMBER 17th

SIGN UP WITH THE SXD EDUCATION CENTER @ 520.807.8620



San Xavier Recreation Center
(520) 393-4075 | 8549 S. J. Mayor Dr. Tucson az 85746

Teen Program

All Welcome Ages 13-17!

- Trips
- Service Learning
- Tutoring
- Volunteering
- Health Assesments

Register Here!



Fridays

4:00 PM- 5:30 PM

For more info, call us or email
Angelina.Talkalai@tonation-nsn.gov

* Persons attending and participating in the "Teen Program" assume all risks, including but not limited to, illness, injury, death, or property loss and agree not to hold the Tohono O'odham nation, its agents, event sponsors, and volunteers liable.

SAN XAVIER RECREATION CENTER
8549 S. J. MAYOR DR. TUCSON AZ 85746
(520) 393-4075



BUILD YOUR
OWN!

RASPADO NIGHT!

4:00 PM - 7:30 PM



Join Us!

MIX AND
MATCH
DIFFERENT
FLAVORS AND
TOPPINGS!

AUG
14TH



FOR MORE INFO, CALL US OR EMAIL
ISRAEL.HARRIS@TONATION-NSN.GOV

* PERSONS ATTENDING AND PARTICIPATING IN THE "RASPADO NIGHT" ASSUME ALL RISKS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ILLNESS, INJURY, DEATH, OR PROPERTY LOSS AND AGREE NOT TO HOLD THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION, ITS AGENTS, EVENT SPONSORS, AND VOLUNTEERS LIABLE.



SAN XAVIER REC CENTER
8549 S. J. Mayor Dr. Tucson AZ 85746

ADULT NOON BASKETBALL

MONDAYS-TUESDAYS-
THURSDAYS- FRIDAYS
12:00 pm- 2:00 pm



FOR MORE INFO CALL/EMAIL:

(520) 393-4075 or Morgan.Gonzales@tonation-nsn.gov

* Persons attending and participating in the "Noon Basketball" assume all risks, including but not limited to, illness, injury, death, or property loss and agree not to hold the Tohono O'odham nation, its agents, event sponsors, and volunteers liable.

San Xavier Recreation Center

20th Anniversary CELEBRATION

FREE
EVENT

20 years of fun, fitness and festivities with us!

AUGUST 19TH 2026 5PM - 8PM

VENDORS, MUSIC, SPORTS,
FAMILY FUN & MORE



Food will be provided, While supplies last. For information on how to get involved:
Event Location: 8549 S. J Mayor Dr. Tucson, AZ 85746 Email: rosemary.coronado@tonation-nsn.gov
Call: (520) 393 - 4075

Persons attending and participating in "SXRC 20th Celebration" assume all risks, including but not limited to, illness, injury, death, or property loss and agree not to hold the Tohono O'odham Nation, its agents, event sponsors, and volunteers liable.



Sopol Esabig Masad (Short Planting Moon)

August 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Upcoming Events Raspados Night 08/14/26 4PM - 7PM SXRC 20th Celebration 08/19/26 5PM - 8PM					
3 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Chair Volleyball	4 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Chair Volleyball	5 Basketball Night	6 Noon Basketball Chair Volleyball	7 Tiny Tots Noon Basketball Volleyball Night	1 Open Rec
10 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Basketball Night	11 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Chair Volleyball	12 Afterschool Program Basketball Night	13 Noon Basketball Chair Volleyball	14 Tiny Tots Noon Basketball Raspados Night Volleyball Night	8 Open Rec
17 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Basketball Night	18 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Afterschool Program Chair Volleyball	19 San Xavier Recreation 20 th Anniversary Celebration Afterschool Program Basketball Night	20 Noon Basketball Afterschool Program Chair Volleyball	21 Tiny Tots Noon Basketball Teens Program Volleyball Night	15 Open Rec
24 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Basketball Night	25 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Chair Volleyball	26 Afterschool Program Basketball Night	27 Noon Basketball Chair Volleyball	28 Tiny Tots Noon Basketball Teens Program Volleyball Night	22 Open Rec
31 Coffee & Chair Volleyball Noon Basketball Basketball Night					29 Open Rec

Hours of Operation
Mon - Fri 8AM - 8PM
Sat 8AM - 4PM
Closed on Sundays

HOPP Weight Rm Hours
Mon - Thur 10AM - 7PM
Fri 8AM - 5PM

Weekly Activities
Basketball Night
Mon & Weds 5pm - 8pm
Noon Basketball
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 12pm - 2pm
Chair Volleyball
Tues & Thurs 5pm - 8pm
Volleyball Night
Fri 5pm - 8pm
Coffee & Chair Volleyball
Mon 9AM - 11PM
Afterschool Program
Tues & Thurs 330pm - 530pm
Weds 130pm - 330pm
Teens Program
Fri 4pm - 530pm
Tiny Tots
Fri 10AM - 11AM

For more information, give us
a call or visit us today!

8549 S. J Mayor Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85746
(520) 393 - 4075

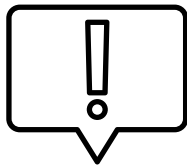
For more updates  **like us on Facebook @SANXAVIERREC**

All activities, programs, events at SXRC, including HOPP are subject to change

Persons attending and participating in "August Events" assume all risks, including but not limited to, illness, injury, death, or property loss and agree not to hold the Tohono O'odham Nation, its agents, event sponsors, and volunteers liable.



San Xavier District of the
Tohono O'odham Nation
2018 W. San Xavier Road
Tucson, Arizona 85746
Phone: (520) 573-4000
Fax: (520) 573-4089



Concerned Community Alert

As a concerned member of the Wa:k Community, I would like to encourage all residents to be watchful of their surroundings and report any uncalled-for activities you may see, hear, or be concerned about. To keep our community safe, it is our responsibility to ensure our family, relatives, elders, and neighbors are safe. There have been individuals (residents & non-O'odham) speeding on dirt roads and over speed bumps, making donuts on the baseball field at night and sometimes during the day without concern about the damage they may cause to individuals and homes within this area should they lose control. Mailboxes and speed limit signs have been run down & vandalized; government-issued mail containing confidential information has been torn up (This is theft, a crime, illegal, and can be punishable). To keep our community safe, we all need to report such incidents. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND... Children play within these areas, and individuals walk along the roadside for their own health or to get to their intended destinations.

SO... Let's All Do Our Part to keep our members and the Wa:k Community Safe... Report Incidents when they are a Concern and Safety is an Issue. Thank You

From a concerned Community Member