
NEWS

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HARRAH'S AK-CHIN CASINO RESORT BREAKS GROUND ON HOTEL TOWER

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort recently broke ground at the future site of its hotel expansion featuring a five-story, 152-room hotel tower on the existing property in Maricopa.

More than 100 people attended the groundbreaking ceremony, held June 8. In addition to comments from Geoff Andres, vice president and general manager of Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort, Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Louis Manual accepted a \$40,000 contribution from Ken Alber of PENTA Building Group, general contractor for the project, for the community's education fund. According to Alber, the contribution is a demonstration of Penta's commitment to the project and the company's mission to enrich the communities in which they work.

A long time partner with the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the City of Maricopa, represented by Councilman Marvin Brown, also participated in the event, sharing the City's ongoing support to the Ak-Chin Indian Community and Harrah's.

"Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort has brought people to our growing city for the last 15 years. We are excited for this hotel expansion because it will help bring in more

visitors who will not only enjoy the amenities on property but the charms of Maricopa as well,” said Councilman Brown.

According to Andres, the new tower will include 15 ADA-accessible rooms and five guest suites. All 152 rooms will include upgraded amenities such as granite countertops, 50-inch flat screen televisions and larger showers.

The building and opening of this hotel expansion will accommodate more visitors, and the increase in room availability will also provide an opportunity to host conventions and other meetings.

The new tower will double the number of available rooms on property, bringing the number to 300 from the current 148. The project is expected to create more than 200 jobs. In addition to the pre-construction and construction jobs, the opening of the new tower will add additional staff to the front desk, housekeeping and guest services areas on property.

As is tradition on tribal lands, Gila River Indian Community member Joseph Enos led a tribal blessing on the land where the hotel will be built.

The \$20 million hotel expansion was designed by Tempe-based RSP Architects.

Other plans for the Ak-Chin property include a remodel of the Harvest Buffet and the relocation of the resort’s BINGO operations to the hall located just outside the main building, which will open up more than 4,700 square feet in additional meeting space.

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. is the world's largest provider of branded casino entertainment. Since its beginning in Reno, Nevada, more than 70 years ago, Harrah's has grown through development of new properties, expansions and acquisitions, and now operates casinos on four continents. The company's properties operate primarily under

the Harrah's®, Caesars® and Horseshoe® brand names; Harrah's also owns the World Series of Poker® and a majority interest in the London Clubs International family of casinos. Harrah's Entertainment is focused on building loyalty and value with its customers through a unique combination of great service, excellent products, unsurpassed distribution, operational excellence and technology leadership. Harrah's is committed to environmental sustainability and energy conservation and recognizes the importance of being a responsible steward of the environment. For more information, please visit www.harrahs.com.

Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino opened in Maricopa, Arizona in December 1994 and was Arizona's first Indian casino to have a management partner. The 40,000-square-foot casino has everything you need for a thrilling gaming experience, with the largest selection of reel and video slots, video poker, table games from blackjack to World Series of Poker®, Keno and Bingo. The Ak-Chin Bingo Hall has been totally remodeled and provides the latest in Bingo technology. Harrah's Ak-Chin is the only Bingo hall in the Harrah's organization, continuing the proud heritage of William F. Harrah, who opened his first Bingo hall in Reno in 1937.

In December 2009, the Ak-Chin Indian Community continued its management contract with Harrah's and signed an additional five-year agreement with the company.

For more information, please visit www.harrahsakchin.com.