



\$200-\$800 Off!
Call 602-910-6588

Kinetico
home water systems
www.kineticoaz.com



Certified to remove more contaminants than any other system



Welcome to the site!
Login or Signup below.

Login | Signup

They're coming...

Home > Arizona

ICAN celebrates 25th anniversary at Thanksgiving dinner

Story Comments

Share Print Font Size: - +

Tweet Like 0 Share

Posted: Thursday, December 1, 2016 2:09 pm

By Matthew Tonis Tribune Staff Writer

For 25 years, ICAN: Positive Programs for Youth has led the way in Chandler for keeping at-risk and low-income children off the streets.



(Will Powers/Tribune Staff Photographer)

What started as a roving program hosted at schools across Chandler has turned into a mid-size organization based within 10 minutes of both Chandler and Hamilton High Schools, providing free after-school assistance to children around town.

ICAN Thanksgiving Dinner

Diana Martinez and Andre Saucedo sign a thank you card for ICAN with the help of Amanda Petersen.

ICAN founder Henry Salinas said he promised the students early on that the program would be what it is today, and he saw out that promise.

Buy this photo

"I promised the kids that one day we'd have a place like this," Salinas said. "That it would be free and they wouldn't have to pay for any of the programs."

Based on Salinas' vision, ICAN moved to its current location in 2012, where it serves hundreds of Chandler children a day.

Chandler Police Captain Edward Upshaw served on ICAN's first board of directors and has been involved with the organization since its outset.

"It's the mission," Upshaw said. "It's the passion for what we do. It's helping the kids that need the help."

OPEN HOUSE!
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

NOV. 5, 1515 S Higley Rd, Gilbert, 85296
NOV. 19, 4909 E Brown Rd, Mesa, 85205
DEC. 3, 550 W Warner Rd, Chandler, 85225

480.309.4792 WWW.PIECIFULSOLUTIONS.COM

Your Connection

NOW OPEN IN SCOTTSDALE! BUY TICKETS
RESERVE YOUR ENTRY TIME

NOW OPEN

ODYSEA
AN OCEANIC ADVENTURE

KEYSTONE MONTESSORI
A Foundation for a Lifetime of Learning

Toddler • Primary • Elementary • Adolescent

Currently Enrolling for our Primary Programs

Call Today for a Tour!

1025 E Liberty Ln. • Phoenix, AZ • 85048 • (480) 440-7312

Excellence in Healthcare for 40 Years!

SUN LIFE FAMILY HEALTH CENTER
480-351-2850
2080 W. Southern Ave. Ste B10
Apache Junction, AZ

www.sunlifefamilyhealth.org

ONE PRICE FlooringAmerica
Makes You Happy
New flooring and all the extras for **ONE LOW PRICE!**

to Aging Solutions



Click or Call Today!

602-264-HELP (4357)

A private-pay enterprise of Area Agency on Aging, Region One

On Nov. 23, the organization put on its eighth annual Thanksgiving dinner for the community and celebrated its silver anniversary. ICAN, with the help of volunteers and donations, fed 532 people at the dinner and gave away baskets of food.

Shelby Pedersen, the CEO of ICAN, has been involved for the past nine years. Pedersen said the event could not be possible without the assistance of the community which ICAN has

been engrained in for so long.

"ICAN's done a great job of building a strong community so that all of the agencies in Chandler are working together so that kids and their families have access to a lot of great resources," Pedersen said. "It's really exciting on a night like this because you see the Chandler Police Department, the mayor, the city council and a lot of business and corporate supporters come out just to be here and celebrate Thanksgiving with our families."

Each entity did its part to contribute to the dinner, acting as donors or volunteers for dinner and the ceremony celebrating the program's anniversary.

The biggest difference Upshaw has seen on the force since ICAN's founding is the lower arrest rate of area youth.

"Over the 25 years, we're not arresting these kids anymore," Upshaw said. "We're not arresting their siblings. It took a long time, but it works."

[Tweet](#) [Like 0](#) [Share](#)

UP TO 50% OFF STAINMASTER
XTREME SAVINGS NOW!
FINANCING available on purchase of \$1500 or more with your Flooring America Visa to Wal credit card (made between 11/2011 & 12/2014)
Special 18 Month

SPECIAL REPORTS



SB 1070: A Year Later



'Celebrating Arizona's Centennial -- 2012'



'Rigged Privilege'



'Snaketown'



'Reasonable Doubt'