Volunteers at the District 1 kuipod workshop.

Christopher Lomaquahua
Gila River Indian News

With the bahidaj harvest season set to begin, preparation is critical for a successful harvest starting with a strong kuipod. On Friday, June 14, the GRIC Health Initiative, in collaboration with District 1 Community, hosted a kuipod making workshop. The kuipod is used to harvest the cac-}

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

The discussion covered possible connections between victims of cold cases and drug and domestic violence, among a myriad of issues tribal law enforcement and services face. Gov. Lewis said preventing crimes against American-Indian women and children living in tribal communities requires a comprehensive effort by tribal, local and federal law enforcement agencies. “These issues today threaten the very safety and security of all of our tribal members,” said Lewis. MacGregor said, “We’re here today to demonstrate that attention is being paid to this issue and actionable items that we would formulate and like to take on behalf of the entire department at the highest levels.” Among the high-level federal representatives, who visited the Community was Tara Sweeney, Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs for the Administration for Native Americans and Michelle Demmert, Chief Justice of the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska Supreme Court. Sweeney said, “There’s a need for improved partnership across the federal government and increased partnership with tribal law enforcement, tribal communities and federal government agencies.” Demmert brought to light her peoples’ challenges in investigating major crimes that go unresolved in her community. She said, Alaska has one of the highest numbers of missing and murdered American-Indian women. Prior to the press conference a round table discussion was held at the Vio- lla B. Johnson Gila River Health Care Administration Building. Leadership from 12 tribes, along with the Community, were joined by national organizations and councils to talk about cold cases involving missing, murdered and Indigenous women and children.

Prepar ing for the 2019 District 1 Bahidaj Harvest

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

With the bahidaj harvest season set to begin, preparation is critical for a successful harvest starting with a strong kuipod. On Friday, June 14, The GRIC Health Initiative, in collaboration with District 1 Community, hosted a kuipod making workshop. The kuipod is used to harvest the cac-

Gila River Indian News
P.O. Box 459
Sacaton, AZ 85147
Change Service Requested

With the bahidaj harvest season set to begin, preparation is critical for a successful harvest starting with a strong kuipod. On Friday, June 14, The GRIC Health Initiative, in collaboration with District 1 Community, hosted a kuipod making workshop. The kuipod is used to harvest the cac-
O’otham New Year Gathering

Cultural Circle
Sacaton Fair Grounds-Sacaton, AZ

June 22-23, 2019

This is a social gathering everyone is welcome

Join us for an evening of traditional singing and dancing.

All night chudt | evening and midnight meals | bring your own comfortable chairs | camping onsite is permitted

This is a drug and alcohol free event

For more information, please contact:
Pam Thompson 480-721-0939
Or Alie Walking Badger 520-562-9713
Gardening for a happier and healthier community

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

On a breezy 85-degree morning on Saturday, June 8, 20 men and boys gathered at the District 6 Tribal Health Department’s Community Garden for a gardening workshop. This event was one part of many coordinated by the Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh Men’s Group in June celebrating Men’s Health Awareness Month. These events are for men to learn more about their own wellness while building new relationships within the Community for support.

Michael Mercado, Tribal Health Department, helped to coordinate this event along with the rest of the events throughout the month. Mercado said, “the interest for the gardening event came from the understanding of the Akimel O’otham and Pee Posh history with agriculture.” His goal is to help build an understanding of cultural history while learning more about our health and how our food plays a role. Workshops like this will expose Community members to new aspects of their health, and the men’s group also wants to ensure participants learn about resources currently available to them.

David Van Druff was the invited speaker to provide guidance and instruction for those in attendance. Van Druff shared critical aspects of successful planting in containers that will yield diverse crops in a small space. This strategy is excellent for first-time gardeners as it will also keep out critters from eating plants. The containers utilized in the District 6 gardens are about 25 gallons, which makes it easy to plant a variety of crops that will complement one another.

Along with the guidance and instructions, the conversations were as valuable among the participants. During the breaks, many shared stories of hiking and picking from wild shrubs to eat. Others began picking mesquite bean pods that were ripe, opening them and sharing the beans for all to taste. Door prizes for the participants included seeds, terra cotta pots, and cooling cloths.

Men’s Group will be hosting a Wellness Walk in District 5 on June 22. Also, closing out the month will be the Men’s Conference on June 29 at the District 5 Multipurpose Building.

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Tend the harvest. As elders, they stress how essential it is for youth to learn about the history of the harvest, the fruit, and how to prepare it. This education is also part of the programming of the camp at the end of the month. The District 1 Community provided the saguaro cactus ribs in addition to the tools required to construct a kuipod. Those in attendance were instructed on how to assemble the tools by District 1 staff and elders. Kaitlyn Martinez and Ashley Pasqual were both in attendance as first-time participants. Martinez said, “my initial interest came from the fact that I never made one before, and I wanted to learn from the elders, and I believe I achieved that today.”

Pasqual took time off of work to attend, and she’s looking forward to the harvest, stating, “I look forward to learning how to make jam from the harvested bajihad.” Elders shared some tips for anyone planning to attend the harvest. Those include wearing a big “hogy” hat, long-sleeved shirts, pants, durable work hiking boots, and bring plenty of water. Also, if it’s your first time harvesting, they want Community members to come with an open mind, patience, and willingness to learn.

The District 1 Harvest will begin on Friday evening, June 28, by setting up the community camp. The bahidaj harvest will take place all day on Saturday, June 29. Closing out on Sunday the fruit will be processed in a variety of ways for all to learn. This event is open to the Community, and all are welcome to attend.
Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Lone Butte Trade Center in reference to a theft. Contact was made with the victim, she stated that an unknown female took her purse after she got up and left the area. The casino em- ployees stated that the sus- pect asked the suspect to pro- ceed to the store in an unknown di- rection. Video surveillance revealed an unknown male was left the vehicle in the park- ing lot. A police report was forwarded to law office for re- view.

Status: Open Investigation

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Out- let Tommy Hilfiger Store in reference to a theft. Contact was made with store employee who stated three young women came into the store and the male sus- pect took hats before running out the doors. The male that took the hats was not identified; the suspect and victim were gone; he stated he left the vehicle in the parking lot. Charges are being forwarded to police for charges to be pressed.

Status: Open Investigation

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Out- let Tommy Hilfiger Store in reference to a shoplifting. Investigation revealed a male subject entered the store grabbing a small ice cream and a couple of bags of chips. The suspect was later recovered in the store along with the item. A police report was forwarded to law office for review.

Status: Open Investigation

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Gila River Casino in reference to a theft. Contact was made with the victim and the suspect was later recovered at the casino to replace his items; the suspect is then released.

Status: Closed – pending suspect identification

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Out- let Tommy Hilfiger Store in reference to a theft. The suspect was later recovered at the casino with the item. The victim then wished to pursue charges should the suspect be later located.

Status: Closed – pending suspect identification

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Out- let Tommy Hilfiger Store in reference to a theft. The suspect was later recovered at the casino with the item. Charges are being forwarded to law office for review.

Status: Closed – pending suspect identification

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the 76 Gas Station in reference to a shoplifting and a theft. Review of video surveil- lance shows three juveniles enter the store and proceed to take three bags of Takis Fuego, three king size Snickers, one monster energy drinks, a PA Mtn Blast and a CT hot drink; the males then left the store with the merchandise they did not pay for. No charges were filed because they left in an unknown direction. The store manager or employ- ees did not recognize or know the suspects.

Status: Closed – pending suspicion identification District Four- Sacaton Area – Theft – Officers were dispatched to the store in an unknown direc- tion to assist in identifying the suspect. The victim took items belonging to the vix- tim including BOSCH porta- ble speakers. The suspect was gone prior to officer ar- rival; papers were taken of the suspect's truck. Charges are not being requested at this time.

Status: Closed – pending suspicion identification

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Out- let Tommy Hilfiger Store in reference to a shoplifting. Investigation revealed a couple past the point of sale where it was displayed. The couple point the point of sale to the suspect. The suspect was later recovered in the area. Charges are being forwarded in or- der to assist in identifying the suspect.

Status: Open Investigation

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Out- let Tommy Hilfiger Store in reference to a theft. Contact was made with store employee who stated an unknown male was left the vehicle in the parking lot. A police report was forwarded to law office for review.

Status: Open Investigation

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the Phoenix Premium Out- let Tommy Hilfiger Store in reference to a theft. The suspect was later recovered at the casino with the item. Charges are being forwarded to law office for review.

Status: Closed – pending suspicion identification

Theft – Officers were dispatched to the area in reference to a theft of heavy machinery. Contact was made with a Department of Transportation employee, a forklift was located and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since February and when the residence was been vacant since 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Tribal Health Department
Gila River Indian Community

As the Measles Virus has reemerged, here is some information you need to know:

- Measles cases have been skyrocketing in the U.S. this year, with over 1,000 reported cases so far in 2019.
- Measles is a contagious disease spread by a virus.
- It’s so contagious that when someone has measles, 90% of the people around them who aren’t immune will also catch it.
**Stay cool and safe this summer in the Community**

**Emma Hughes**
Gila River Indian News

June 21 marks the first day of summer and according the Center for Disease Control, heat kills more than 600 people in the U.S. each year. Heat-related illnesses, including heat stroke and heat exhaustion, is a danger for all ages, but extreme heat poses a greater risk for children and elders.

Here are some tips for staying cool and safe: Stay hydrated! It is vital to keep your body properly hydrated, especially here in the desert. Drink more water than usual and try to avoid drinks with sugar, alcohol and caffeine. And by the time you become thirsty, you are already mildly dehydrated. According to Arizona Department of Health Services, even those that mostly stay indoors should drink at least 2 liters of water per day. People that spend more time outdoors should drink 1 to 2 liters per hour during strenuous activity.

**Limit your exposure**
To the heat but if you are outdoors, pace your physical activity, take frequent breaks. Wear lightweight and light-colored clothing. Try to plan outdoor activities for early morning or evening.

Know the signs of heat exhaustion: feeling faint or dizzy, excessive sweating, nausia or vomiting, muscle cramps, cool, pale or clammy skin, rapid, weak pulse. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, get to a cooler, air conditioned place. Drink water if fully conscious. Take a cool shower or use cold compresses.

Heat strokes are more severe and life threatening. During a heat stroke, your temperature spikes rapidly strong pulse, may press. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, get to a cooler, air conditioned place. Drink water if fully conscious. Take a cool shower or use cold compresses.

Heat exhaustion: feeling faint or dizzy, excessive sweating, nausea or vomiting, muscle cramps, cool, pale or clammy skin, rapid, weak pulse. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, get to a cooler, air conditioned place. Drink water if fully conscious. Take a cool shower or use cold compresses.

For a collection and schedule and list of recyclable materials, please contact your District service center, the Dept. of Environmental Quality (520) 562-2234, or the Dept. of Public Works (520) 562-3545. You may also visit gricdeq.org.

**NABi from Page 1**

Florida, Nike N7, Phoenix Suns, Phoenix Mercury and Talking Stick Resort Arena. Ahead of the tournament, a college and a career fair is held for all teams, which coincides with NABi’s initiative to promote education off the court. Basketball players will have a chance to hone their skills at a two-day junior basketball camp provided by the Jr. Suns & Jr. Mercury.

Candidates can come out to support the tournament at the opening ceremony and parade of teams on Sunday, June 23, at the Ultra Star Multi-Tainment Center Ak-Chin from 6:30 pm to 9 p.m. For those who want to get closer to the action there is a $25 admission fee for the 5-day all access wristband and $10 for one-day all access wristband, and can be purchased cash only. The kids five and under are free, including adults 65-years and older, with a valid identification card. For more information log onto nabifoundation.org or call (480) 446-7052.

**Employment & Training Success Story**

**Michael Molinar, Dis-**

tric 4, went to the WIOA Adult Program on March 17, 2017. He enrolled into the program with a goal to earn his Barber License and to achieve his dream of opening a barber shop on the reservation. Michael had sev- eral barriers which includes a felony in his background which kept him from be- ing able to work and save the money he needed not only to support his young family but to also complete his dream to become a barber. Since being in the WIOA Program, he attended the International Barber School in Chandler, AZ, the Life Skills Workshops, and Work and Readiness Training. With a lot of hard work, he was finally able to achieve his goal; he become a Barber! He has donated some of his time and new learned skills to give back to his community by giv- ing free haircuts within the community and also during the Career Fair sponsored by Employment & Training at District 3 in the fall of 2018. Today, he has com- pleted the last piece of his dream. He applied for and obtained his business li-

*From May 2011 through December 2018, GRIC residents have recycled nearly 3 million pounds of material!*

When a household recycles, trash can be reduced by 40 to 60 percent.

*Recycling has saved the Community $95,710 in trash disposal fees, and keeps the material out of the landfill.*

*Plastic takes approximately 700 years to fully decompose. This means that your great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandchildren will be alive when the plastic bottle you threw in the trash today finally decomposes!*

*Thank you for Recycling!*
**Vechich Hemachkam Oichutha**

**‘Next Generations Accomplishments’**

Growing up in a typical O’otham family had always been a knowledge-gain ing experience. As we matured, our parents and Elders eventually administered more responsibility on us. They still guided our upbringing with firmness combined their own life experiences. The males and females had specific roles and responsibilities. Even though the commands and phrases were simple, they each represented a whole process. For example, when we heard the command phrase ‘Himk am nolavthak wi: Κ ‘o kalith’ we knew that we had to clean out the fire-box grate and empty the ash pit box before starting a new cooking fire inside the cast iron stove. The wood box had to have the proper sized firewood that fit inside the fire-box and the door had to close tightly in order for the fire to burn properly. Above all, the metal fire tending tools had to be readily available for the girls to poke and stir the burning wood inside the fire-box when lit. They knew how to regulate the air-vents and dampers to regulate the heat. For the males in our family, we learned the proper use of hand tools. Our father and uncles taught us how to maintain the family pickup truck and how to change a flat tire. Eventually we learned to change oil and spark plugs. At times, we often heard the phrase ‘Che’che’ o oth heg chux: ‘ “The young men are going to hunt jackrabbit.’ When we were old enough the teenagers and boys went on jackrabbit hunts on their own. An older brother or cousin drove the group of hunters out to our hunting grounds before sunrise on the day of the hunt. Many Elders in our families requested a chux: ‘jackrabbit’ at Thanksgiving to make ‘chux: hithoḍ ‘jackrabbit stew.’ One of our favorite hunting grounds was along Goodyear Road in the Snaketown area.

For the girls in the family they learned about cooking and maintaining the household. One very important task for our sisters was to learn how to make chemaith on their own. One phrase we often heard was ‘W’himk ‘o nathog heg chechmaith.’ ‘Go make the tortillas.’ When we heard those instructions to our sisters, we automatically went out and started the fire in the outdoor cooking grill. Our fire grill was a washtub that we moved around to the shade of a tree, or windbreak. For many of us siblings, the first vehicle we learned to drive was a standard stick shift. Eventually both the boys and the girls learned to drive the backroads throughout the village taught by family members. It was a big thing when we passed the written exam and driving test for our official driver’s license issued by the Motor Vehicle Department. That life’s accomplishment was for a very good reason. From then on, we often heard the phrase. ‘Tho me: am nolavthak wi: ‘k ‘o na nolavth heg haichx huk. ‘Drive to the store and shop for groceries.’ We often accompanied big sisters to assist her with grocery shopping when she drove to the store in Chandler. Oth-er times she drove eñ Je’e’ch eñ Lula’u to their ap-pointments and mail runs. When our older rel-atives reached the age of eighteen many joined the military service right out of high school. Others regis-tered to vote on a national level and with our Tribal Government. Several fam-ily members moved into the dormitories on college campuses and sought higher-ed education. Others went right into the workforce and earned a living wage.

We encourage you to learn these phrases and use them with your family members. Speak with an Elder or speaker in your family and learn how to pronounce the phrases. This month’s word match will test your skill on the accomplishments of our Next Generations.

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**Students learn to be junior master gardeners**

Christopher Lomahquahu

Can you identify your soil type? These topics and more were presented to a group of Community youth at one summer program. The Tribal Education Department hosted a Summer Junior Master Gardener Program at the Sacaton Head Start building from June 24-28.

This is a 4-week Junior Master Gardener program which will take place once a week for four weeks with workshops covering topics ranging from plant parts, needs, processes, propagation and permaculture practices according to S-enna Whittington, Project Manager.

The program was open to 30 students ages 8-14, who are looking for something to do during the summer break, but have an interest in planting.

Master gardening instructor Chanika Forte was present to teach the eager participants how to plant their favorite vegetables. Forte, has taught gardening and incorporating gardening into her work with the St. Vincent de Paul’s urban farm community.

“I love working with kids, because they think outside of the box and are not afraid to get dirty out in the garden,” said Forte. With gardening, Forte’s curriculum has now branched out to local communities to teach groups how to plant, harvest, and compost.

She said at one garden- ing session, they covered seeds and seasonal planting, when is the best time to plant things like corn. Forte is also a bee keeper and at one class, she brought in an empty hive and bee suit to educate the youth about the role insects play in garden- ing.

“We teach how good and bad bugs work in the farm and how the good ones keep that bad ones away,” said Forte.

Also, interaction with nature as a whole, we can’t survive in nature if bugs and birds weren’t fertilizing plants, which can provide us with foods. Soil plays a big role in the sustainability of vegetables said Forte.

Students learned about the different types of soil compositions and how a mixture of sand, silt and clay can improve the growth of vegetables in their own gardens at home.

After completion of the program the youth receive certificates as junior master gardeners. One of the class participants Benjamin Brown said he was interested in gardening.

“I really like this class, I always help out with my mom, I’ve been doing it since I was eight,” said Benjamin Brown a sixth grade student at Kyrene Middle School. On what he would like to grow, “It would be raspberries, may- be corn some of this stuff I’ve done before.”

Behind the head start building, the group of participants went to work on a garden, turning up the soil by removing weeds and laying down a fresh layer of potting soil. At the gar-den, the students will plant a number of vegetables of their choice, like peppers, carrots, and beans.
Gila River Indian News June 21, 2019

Grades receive recognition at Tribal Education Department banquet

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

With the academic year closing, families from around the Gila River Indian Community gathered Friday, June 14 at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the East Valley Gila River-Komatke Branch to recognize recent graduates. Graduates ranged from high school, college, to those who completed trade or GED programs. Encouraging all to continue their education, Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis expressed how proud he was for all those in attendance and because of the success of the students in attendance he confident the Community’s future is in good hands. Lewis also recognized out-of-state graduates and thanked them for traveling to the event.

After the dinner, two high school graduates Marlena Whitehair (Marcos de Niza High School) and Adam Cardona Jr. (Cesar Chavez High School) gave speeches. These were followed up by college graduates Christina Lopez (Arizona State University), Darius Jackson (Arizona State University), and Jacqueline Brogley (Gateway Community College). Everyone expressed their gratitude for support from TED and shared stories of the challenges they overcame in pursuing their education.

The graduation recognition called all the students who received a certificate of accomplishment from Gov. Lewis, and Community Council representatives Monica Antone, Pamela Johnson, Janice Stewart and Arzie Hogg.

A portion of the evening also featured brief remarks from some of the tribal entities in attendance including the Marriot, who manage the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass and Velvet Button from Ramona Farms who spoke about future career opportunities. TED indicated that the number of graduates increases each year significantly.

UPDATED LIST OF 2019 GRIC GRADS

Anna Ranea Gonzales
Jason Williams
Mandy Watts
Dino Trevino Jr.
Alissa Kimbrell
Brianne Palma
David Arbon
Gabriel Lewis
Holly Johnson
Jackie John
John John
Johann Homolka
Sky Trevino Jr.
Sheidrick Lazo
Angelika M. Macias
Ruby Peciperdrink
Amy Lewis
Dahsa Martinez
Melissa Hernandez
Dakie Harrison
Joseph Pendeza
Esparanza Gonzales
Adam Caroza
Alyana Brill
Alyson Anton
Cassie Meehan
Giovanni Martinez
Grace Walker Taylor
Jacob J. Lewis
Javel Jones
Joshua Bearhand
Keana Juan
Malakai Kaufman
Samira Harrison
Zarinae Bajoano
Simeon Williams
Aaron Notito
Destiny Sanderson
Maikyla Racine
Kellin Adkison
Marliha Yellowman-Chavez
Rebecca Villcot
Miranda Watts
Angeline Angeline
Adela M. Nguyen
Ena Toeg
Dameo C. Gutierrez
Jacob Acuna
Nicholas Prellit
Quiring Nolasco
Derek Velez Jr.
Morgan Michael
Gonzalo Rodriguez
Azaila Honeywumpala
Christian Garcia
Destiny Aubrey
Karta Garcia
Leticia Johns
Kyle Ray Lewis
Editha Poblicsia
Álexis White
Alicia Peniruri
Alican June II
Amaimela Mills
Felicia Caste
Felicia M. Loya
Francisco Caste
Drogobery Sumita
Hope Nish
Michelle Coen
Nicholas White
Patricia Hernandez
Patrick Sano
Seancie Miguel
Sarah Gallo
Rosalyn Rico
Brahayna Mil
Khayel Fakumugwa
Abel Azucena
Daniel Miles
Elna Narica
Jaquelle Johnson
Jenise Ros
Reagan Mason
Abay Knight
Morgan Lewis
Quentin Kyrland
Mayra Gloria
Anthony Jackson
Abigail Oliffe
Jonathan Harrity
Tobias Matthew
Dylan Notah
Sarah Robert
Robert Gonzales
Sarah Madrid
Tania Biana
Andrea Tess
Chase Carmen
Dennis Martinez
Jacob Otte
Jose Josephine
Karly Kyrland
Anastacia Caste
Alisia Caste
Cody Mendezka
Jorge Barron Jr.
Destiny Peters
Elan Williams
Faith John
Kelli Milla
Sumy Pfeld
Allen Mia
Andre Thomas
Guadalupe Perkiss
Jairo Brown
Lorenza Alemam
Matthew Jackson
Merceades Marriz
Marcha Etoh
Nicolas Sanchez
Paracaphene Moreno
Ruth Kids
Sianita Bojorquez
Sienna Jackson
Stey Juan
Destiny Sander
Marliha Yellowman-Lewis
Aljandro Lewis
Nicole Zarioz
Amelia Terry
Ashley Charles
Ayesa Caste
Hanna Buter
Daya-Lea Gomez
Erinky Maliki
Barrette Jr.
Henee Decora
Ismael Mejia
Jeremiah Lewis
Lonnie Williams
McKean Williams
Sadie Brown
Sandra Brown
Steven Nasawetya
Tyrie Namale
Monique Lyana
Lonnie Manuel
Anthony Porter
Cain Ortiz
Christopher Garcia
Daneier Antonio
Jones Williams
Nicholas Toby
Page Kyrlan
Rassea Jay
Jason Lucero
Jayden Perkiss
Marlena Whitehair
Mayra Francisco
Mercedes Ruiz
Trevor McCandless
Ceona Houston
Christian Lopez
Rose Manual
Halsey Jones
Omar Rogers
Arias Williams
Dakota Lematser
Hannahs Skyler
Sarah June
Alisandra Thomas
Andrea Lamar
Amelia Lopez
Alysa P readdir
Daylen Thomas
Ayesa Sunflower
Mendes Pablo
Kristal Casas
Kathrin Peter
Rosa Caste
Patricia Caste
Cassie Caste
Bowm Williams
Lorena Blackwater
Cailynne Miguel
Ines Hernandez
Rudy Mix
Ryssa Keeto
Salina Williams
Deesha Miller
Wolfgang Deslai
Tessa Riley
Trina Sundus Garcia
Erica Dawhoya
Colin Lewis
Lila Nunez
Clarissa Christine
Priscilla Terry
Kathleen Karale
Camille Tomesa
Santana Rodriguez
Matthewo Sanchez
April Rodriguez
Bijin Rodriguez
Patrick White
Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Council Host Pee Posh Bingo in District 7

A new and unique way of language education was on display as 50 Community members who attended the District 7 Pee Posh Bingo event on Tuesday, June 4 at the District 7 Service Center. The event, coordinated by current and former members of the Akimel O’odham/Pee Posh Youth Council, Angel Molina, David Romero, and Angel Ortiz. Similar events are held to teach new vocabulary or become familiar with the given language used for the game. In this case, the wording was in Pee Pos.

Angel Molina, District 7 Youth Council Rep. and Secretary, lead the charge for this event after experiencing the O’odham Bingo that the Huhugam Heritage Center hosts. Through this event, Molina said, “she hopes to expose the language and culture more since it’s not always open with activities as the O’odham language.” Her initial reactions when explaining the event to the Community was surprising as “everyone seemed shocked.”

The game is set up like regular bingo except it utilizes Pee Pos color names for the top row in place of B-I-N-G-O. The numbers in the column, substitut-ed for items announced in the Pee Pos language. For this event, the vocabulary words focused on food items. For example, former youth council representative Angel Ortiz served as a caller and would call Qwesm/ Mariik (Yellow/ Orange and Beans). If players have the beans in their yellow/orange column, then it’s covered with a seed. Varied patterns apply for winners depending on the game, including a single row, four corners, and blackout.

Members of the District 7 youth program attended in addition to elders from the Community. Those elders enjoyed the event and would like to see a version with small phrases used in place of food words.

Though this was the first Pee Posh Bingo event held in the district, many hope for regular games. The youth organizers attribute the success of the game to the support of the Youth Council and their advisor Mikhail Sundust. David Romero also expressed that the District 7 elders, “strongly supported the event by providing the bingo cards and vocabulary words for the day’s event.”
Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs tours Gila Crossing Community School

Kyle Knox
Gila River Indian News

Before the opening of the newly constructed Gila Crossing Community School later this summer, on June 11 a tour of the school was given for Tara Sweeney, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs for the U.S. Dept. of the Interior. Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Community Council Representatives Devin Redbird, and Charles Goldtooth, in addition to members of the Owner’s Team lead the tour.

Sweeney was instrumental in the partnership to develop the school, and the visit was also inclusive of meetings throughout the Community. Sweeney said that, “After touring the school there’s a significant opportunity for the future of the Gila River Indian Community.” Sweeney will return in July for an official signing, marking the opening of the school. In the future, she looks forward to “seeing students learning and thriving in this environment.” Culture, agriculture, and STEM are exceptional characteristics of the school, and she is excited about that its inclusion in the day-to-day curriculum for the students.

The tour demonstrated standout features of the new facility including the greenhouse, STEM buildings, and cultural classrooms. One classroom showcased advanced technology features. Some key features are enhanced audio capabilities for teachers using wireless microphones and enhanced high definition audio/video systems to support classroom instruction. Also, classrooms use natural lighting via solar tube technology, which acts as advanced “skylights” with brightness levels that can adjust.

Gov. Lewis shared their mission in the school’s construction, which is, “to provide and construct a world-class educational institution for our students, leaders of tomorrow, and our future.” He was pleased with the progress of the school to date and is confident in how the finished facility will look.

Community Council Representatives Redbird and Goldtooth both attended the original Gila Crossing Community School as students. Moreover, both are eager for the school’s completion. Goldtooth shared that his grandchildren will eventually attend the new Gila Crossing Community School.

Closing out the tour Community leaders presented Sweeney with a token of gratitude, a small gourd necklace adorned with water symbols.

DOI meets with tribal leaders to discuss public safety in round table

Emma Hughes
Gila River Indian News

The U.S. Department of Interior held a listening session with tribal leaders on June 11. The Gila River Indian Community hosted the discussion “Reclaiming Our Native Communities,” which focused on cold cases, violent crimes, and missing and murdered Native Americans.

GRIC was well represented with Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis, Lt. Gov. Robert Stone, Community Council Representatives and Miss Gila River Tyler Owens who joined the session. Lt. Governor began the session with a prayer and tradition-

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) introduced “Performance Measures: begin investigating on unsolved missing and murdered cases and assign task force teams. Develop and implement task force work, develop standard operating procedures for task force operations, collect information on unsolved homicide and missing person cases from BIA, FBI and tribal law enforcement. Develop an annual report outlining the successes and lessons learned for each task force discipline.”

While asking the questions “how to partner together?” “what are our solutions?” “how can we further incorporate tribal law enforcement and strengthen reporting measures?” Every tribe has its own reporting system to the BIA. Most agreed that there was not enough funding for public safety and many of the tribes dealt with issues such as I.T. infrastructures for data recording, dead zone areas for cell phones if there is an emergency and the issue of rural addressing.

Edward Manuel, Tohono O’odham Nation, discussed how a woman’s group turned to their tribal police for data on violence against O’odham women and children, that brought up 34 cases, with most of those crimes happening off tribal lands.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community President, Martin Harvier brought up the possibility for tribal law enforcement between the four sister tribes to share information.

“Today was about hearing from tribal leadership, Indian Country advocates, and communities,” said Tara Sweeney, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.

Violence Against Women Task Force Co-Chair, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation Chairman Mark Fox, Tlingit and Haida Inuitian Tribe Chair Karen Bill, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Violence Against Women Task Force Co-Chair, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation Chairman Mark Fox, Tlingit and Haida Inuitian Tribe Chair Karen Bill, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Violence Against Women Task Force Co-Chair, Tlingit and Haida Inuitian Tribe Chair Karen Bill, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Violence Against Women Task Force Co-Chair, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation Chairman Mark Fox, Tlingit and Haida Inuitian Tribe Chair Karen Bill, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Violence Against Women Task Force Co-Chair, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation Chairman Mark Fox, Tlingit and Haida Inuitian Tribe Chair Karen Bill, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI).
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

courtesy of the community council secretary’s office • june 5, 2019

ACTION SHEET

Community Council: P.O. Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone: (520) 562-9720; Fax: (520) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council was called to order by Governor Stephen R. Lewis at 9:12 a.m.

INVOCATION

Provided by Sister Barbra Jean

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated

Executive Officers Present:
Governor Stephen R. Lewis
Lt. Governor Robert Stone

Council Members Present:
D1-Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg, D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Avery White, Rodney Jackson; D4-Monica Antone, Delmar Jones, Jennifer Allison, Pamela Johnson; D5-Janice Stewart, Michael, Franklin Rizo, Sr.; Thomas White; D6-Anthony Villarreal, Sr., Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird

Council Members Absent:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO TABLE REPORTS #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #8, AND #12 FOR NON-SUBMITAL OF MATERIAL

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CONSENT AGENDA TO APPROVE #6, #7, #9, #10 AND #11

ACCEPT AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS #1, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, AND #9 AND ACCEPT AND APPROVE NEW BUSINESS #1, #5, #6, #7, AND #8

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO CONSENT AGENDA TO ADD AND ACCEPT MATERIAL FOR RESOLUTIONS

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

Carol A. Schurz, District 2 Representative
Avery White, District 3 Representative
Delmar Jones, District 4 Representative
Franklin Pabio, Sr., District 5 Representative
Charles Goldtooth, District 6 Representative
Devin Redbird, District 7 Representative

Presenters:
Chief Judge Donna Kisto-Jones

Chief Judge Donna Kisto-Jones administered the Oath of Office to each Council Member.

(15 minutes Reception to follow)

[Governor Stephen R. Lewis called for a 15-minute break. The Meeting reconvened at 10:31 A.M.]

REPORTS

1. K-12 Education Program Quarter 3 Manager’s Report

Presenters: Trina Hart

TABELLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. Gila River Indian Mission School FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Sister Martha Carpenter

TABELLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. Maricopa Village Christian School FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Al Chatman

TABELLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. Sacaton Elementary School District #18 FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Wanda Burton

TABELLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. Skyline Gila River FY19 Tribal Allocation 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Vaughn Flannigan

TABELLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. Community Technology Center FY2018/2019 1st & 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Connie Jackson

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. GRTI FY19 Q2 Report January 1, 2019 – March 31, 2019, GRTC tribal Grant Award Program

Presenters: Clarice Chigo-Jones, Board of Directors

APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

8. Gila River Police Department Evidence Room Update/ Presentation

Presenters: Jeffery Hunter, Dan Olson

TABELLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>9. GRTI Notice of Filing Connect America Fund Inter-Carrier Compensation (CAF-IHCC) Data Submission

Presenters: James Meyers, Board of Directors

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>10. Gila River Indian Community Tribal Health Department

Presenters: Jeffrey Matt, Jennifer Burkhalter, Board of Directors

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

>11. GRICA FY19 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: John Lewis, Leonard Gold

ACCEPTED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA


Executive Session

Presenters: Courtney Moyal, Dale Enos

TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION


Presenters: Kenneth Manuel, Interim Oversight & Planning Committee

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

>1. A Resolution Authorizing The Gila River Early Head Start To Submit A New Non-Competitive Grant Application To The United States Department Of Health And Human Services, Administration For Children And Families, Office Of Head Start American Indian/Alaska Native Program Branch For The EHS-Child Care Partnership Grant For Year One Of The Five Year Grant (GMS&D forwards to Council with recommendation for approval, to be placed on the Consent Agenda; ESC concurs)

Presenters: Isaac Sakido

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. A Resolution Authorizing The Purchase Of Allotted Trust Land Within The Exterior Boundaries Of The Gila River Indian Reservation (Allotment 2172) (GMS&D forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenters Warren Wittshue, Eugene Blackwater

APPPOVED

3. A Resolution Approving A Memorandum Of Agreement Between The Inter Tribal Council Of Arizona, Inc. And The Gila River Indian Community Tribal Health Department For Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Supplemental Funding (GMS&D forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; NRSC concurs)

Presenters: Christina Floyd

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. A Resolution Instructing The United States Department Of The Interior, Bureau Of Indian Affairs, To Uphold Its Federal Trust Responsibility By Maintaining A Full Time Superintendent At The Pima Agency (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval; LSC concurs)

Presenters: Office of the General Counsel

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. A Resolution Amending GR-026-19 A Memorandum Of Agreement Between The Inter Tribal Council Of Arizona, Inc. And The Gila River Indian Community To Fund The Comprehensive Approach To Good Health And Wellness In Indian Country (G&MSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval with additional material)

Presenters: Christina Floyd

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

6. A Resolution Approving The Submission Of Year Four Of The Five Year Grant Application To The American Indian Alaska Native Program Branch, Head Start Bureau, Department Of Health And Human Services In Order To Provide Renewed Funding For The Head Start / Early Head Start Program (ESC motioned to concur with Government & Management Standing Committee)

Presenters: Isaac Sakido

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. A Resolution Designating Three Parcels Containing 104,0456 Acres More Or Less, Of Reservation Land In District Three For The Purpose Of Establishing Drainage Systems; And Granting Rights-Of-Way Easements To The Gila River Indian Community Department Of Land Use Planning And Zoning For The Purpose Of Designing, Operating, Managing, And Maintaining The Drainage Systems And Applicable Appurtenances (NRSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Norman Brewer

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

8. A Resolution Approving The Petition For Membership For Robert Lee Blaine Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC motioned to forward to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenter: Sheila A. Valenzuela

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

9. A Resolution Approving The Sale Of The Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. Spectrum License To AT&T And Authorizing A Limited Waiver Of Sovereign Immunity By Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. In Connection With And For The Limited Purpose Of Any Litigation To Enforce The Terms Of The License Purchase Agreement Or The Enforcement Of Any Order Entered In Any Litigation (EDSC forwards to Council with recommendation for approval)

Presenters: James Meyers, GRTI Board of Directors

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

10. A Resolution Approving The Gila Crossing Day School Lease Between The Gila River Indian Community And The United States Department Of The Interior

Presenters: Michael Carter

APPROVED

ORDINANCES

Government & Management Standing Committee Appointment – (3) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN DEVIN REDBIRD

Health & Social Standing Committee Appointment – (2) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN CAROL SCHURZ, COUNCILWOMAN PAMELA JOHNSON AND COUNCILMAN ANTHONY VILLARREAL, SR.

5. The Nature Resolutions Standing Committee Appointment – (2) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN DELMAR JONES

4. Economic Development Standing Committee Appointment – (3) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN DELMAR JONES

5. Cultural Resource Standing Committee Appointment – (3) Council Seats

Presenters: Community Council

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN DELMAR JONES

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO PLACE THE COMMUNITY-AT-LARGE POSITIONS ON HOLD FOR FURTHER REVIEW TO DEFINE SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS, NUMBER OF COMMITTEES ALLOWED TO SERVE ON AND SALARY REVIEW; FURTHER RECOMMEND THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL DECLARE THE VACANCIES FOR INTERESTED COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SERVE VACANCIES UP TO, BUT NO LONGER, THAN 6-MONTHS AND REPORT BACK IN 90-DAYS WITH THE STATUS

Government & Management Standing Committee

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN TERRANCE EVANS

Gila River Indian News June 21, 2019
MOTION MADE AND SECOND FOR A Special Work Session, July 1, 2019 at 9am TO DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR THE IOPC NEW BUSINESS
> 1. Fina Leasing & Financing Corporation FY 2018 Financial Audit (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business with recommendation to accept) 
  
Presenters: Elizabeth Antone, REDW
  
ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  
2. Gila River Farms Board of Director’s Declaration of Vacancy – 1 Seat (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business to open up for any interested Council member)

Presenters: Gila River Farms Board of Directors
  
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DECLARE THE VACANCY
  
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN AVERY WHITE
  
3. Status and Decision Tree for Lone Butte Wastewater Treatment Plan (G&MSC forwards to Council under New Business)

Presenters: Frank Anderson, Ron Rosier
  
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPROVE
  

Presenter: Laurie Thomas
  
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ACCEPT
> 5. GRIT Independent Auditor’s Report and Consolidated Financial Statements December 31, 2018 and 2017 (G&MSC forwards to Council with a recommendation to accept; EDSC forwards to Council for placement on the consent agenda under New Business with a recommendation to accept)

Presenters: Robert Bresnahan, James Meyers, Board of Directors
  
ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  
[GOVERNOR STEPHEN R. LEWIS RECALLED HIMSELF FROM THE ITEM AND TURNED THE CHAIR OVER TO LT. GOVERNOR ROBERT STONE. COUNCILWOMAN JENNIFER ALLISON ALSO RECALLED HERSELF FROM THE ITEM HOWEVER, REMAINED IN THE MEETING TO ASK A QUESTION]

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO REMOVE ITEM #6 FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND TO BE HEARD AT EXECUTIVE SESSION

6. Request for Investigation (Executive Session) (LSC forwards to Council under Unfinished Business to request a Special Council Meeting to discuss options for IOPC).

Presenters: Interim Oversight & Planning Committee, Ron Rosier

ITEM DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND ADD TO THIS ITEM THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO (2) COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO APPOINT COUNCIL-MAN FRANKLIN SARACO, SR. AND COUNCILMAN AVERY WHITE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is announcing the 30-day public comment period for the issuance of the air quality operating permits for the facilities listed below:

Triax Industries 6519 W. Allison Rd., Chandler, 85226 District 4

Komatke Ln., Laveen, 85339 District 6

Sheraton Grand Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa 721 West Seed Farm Road, Sacaton, 85142 District 6

AZ.

If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

NO NOTICE OF HEARING

IN THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COURT

STATE OF ARIZONA

LEILA SHAY MIGUEL

Petitioner/Plaintiff

URISH MIGUEL SR.

Respondent/Defendant

CASE NUMBER: FM-2019-037-DV

CIVIL SUMMONS

TO: URISH MIGUEL SR.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, that a civil action has been filed against you in the Gila River Indian Community Court.

You shall respond at an ANSWER/PLEA, or your default may be entered. If you fail to appear and defend, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

You may respond in writing. However, if you do so, your presence at the Answer/Response Hearing is not required. If a written answer or response is made, it shall be filed and served before the date of the hearing unless the time is extended by or order of the Court.

NEW BUSINESS

INVESTIGATION

WOMAN JENNIFER ALLISON ON INVESTIGATIVE

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ADVERTISE THE VACANCY

9. Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. Board of Director’s VACANCY HAD BEEN FILLED

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

10. 2019 NCAI Mid-Year Conference & Marketplace

[ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]

10. 2019 NCAI Mid-Year Conference & Marketplace

Presenters: Dena Thomas, Treasurer Robert Keller

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

9. Gaming Internal Audit 2nd Quarter Report

Presenters: Jon Konrad

ACCEPT AND APPROVED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Second to none was his love for his community. As a 51-year member of the Gila River Volunteer Fire Department, he dedicated his life to serving the community. He was a true hero in the eyes of his peers, known for his unwavering commitment to helping others.

He leaves behind a legacy of service and dedication. His memory will live on through the countless lives he touched and the countless people who call him a friend and family. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

THANK YOU

Gila River Indian News

June 21, 2019

FOR THE PASQUAL FAMILY

FOR A TRUE PIMA COWBOY

(John in memory of Leslie Pasqua)

He walked straight and
sat tall and proud in the saddle
for 92 years.

For all the years we knew him
he reminded us of who we are
and made us proud of where we came from.

With a warrior's courage
he fought for our freedom in a faraway war
then came home to fight a water war for his horses and cattle.

And with quiet dignity he stood and fought for
ducklings and birds and geese and would also have watered
because he revered all living things.

Always respectful just being his own natural self
he reminded us to be humble with a joke
and a catchy saying that we would never forget.

When it was his time to go
and with his family all around him
he sat up and looked at each one of them one last time.

He called each one by name
and said "I'm okay"
then he went when he was ready.

So until we meet again Pima Cowboy
we'll look for your truck coming down the road
and we'll miss your friendly voice.

The last of your kind
not a rhinestone cowboy but the real deal
a true Pima cowboy.

But we won't ever be the same
because you made us better
you made us stronger — you made us proud.

Father-grandfather
great-grandfather
relative friend
American veteran and Native warrior.

Always a cowboy
the true Pima legend
and forever O'otham.

~Sago~

by willaredene lewis
I’m in a Pickle!

My doc says I gotta calm down but how do I get your attention? I know...

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This is a limited time opportunity. Transactions must be made between April 1, 2017 and June 30, 2017 or when the funding for the program runs out, whichever comes first.

We apologize in advance, but this special offer may not be combined with any other offer or test drive.
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HURRY! Sale Ends Soon!

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$159/mo. 2014 Dodge Avenger
$20,999 4WD 2015 Ford F-150
$320/mo. 2016 Lincoln MKC
$285/mo. 2016 GMC Terrain
$23,999 2018 Ford Edge Titanium
$12,995 or $205/mo. 2014 Kia Cadenza
$18,999 2017 Nissan Maxima
$28,999 Handicapped Accessible 2015 Chevy Silverado
$11,999 2015 Hyundai Sonata
$15,999 2017 Dodge Caravan
$245/mo. 6 to choose from Ford Fusion
$299/mo. 2016 Dodge Charger
$325/mo. Low Miles 2011 Ram 1500
$23,999 2018 Ford Edge Titanium
$325/mo. 3 to choose from Toyota Camry

SALE ENDS SOON!

*Payment based on 700 credit score, 3.87% APR @ 72 mos. with TT&L down. Not all customers qualify based on approved credit. Must present ad at time of purchase.
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ON THE SPOT
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