

# SHO-BAN NEWS

Covering Idaho & Indian Country

Telling the stories that honor our past, define our present and shape our future...

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OWNED BY THE SHOSHONE-BANNOCK TRIBES • VISIT US AT SHOBANNEWS.COM OR ON FACEBOOK

## LOCAL

Solid Waste operates on one truck due to repairs



## EDUCATION

Pocket gopher management



## SPORTS

National Indian Relay championship first day results



# Pine nut (teva) gathering prepares future generations



LCPD's Bailey Dann and Daisy Dixey walk among sagebrush looking for areas to harvest pine nuts on September 4. (Roselynn Yazzie photos)



Youth climb up a hill to begin gathering.

By ROSELYNN YAZZIE  
Sho-Ban News

ALMO, Idaho – Language and Culture Preservation Department (LCPD) hosted the annual Shoshone-Bannock tribal member pine nut gathering and pinyon seed banking over the Labor Day weekend.

On Saturday, September 2 a lunch was provided at the City of Rocks Visitor's Center with a prayer offered by tribal elder Farrell Wildcat.

LCPD's Original Territories Historical Research Manager, Nolan Brown, gave a historical presentation on the Shoshone-Bannock people at City of Rocks National Reserve region.

He explained the goals of the event are to bring the Sho-Ban people back to the area to gather in the traditional manner; collaborate with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) State Office and their tribal liaison, Susan Filkins, for the Seeds of Success project; and to collect seeds to bring home to Fort Hall and plant, along with Land Use, LCPD, and

tribal member Sydney Fellows.

"So that we'll always have pinyon seeds in case of a catastrophe, be it fire or because of climate change. There's a mold, called black stain mold, that is killing the pinyon pines around here and so we wanted to bank those seeds in case anything should ever happen," said Brown.

The seed bank program calls for a minimum of 3,000 seeds to take to Bend, Oregon where they will be cleaned off the cone and prepped by Forest Service for transfer to Fort Collins, Colo. There, it will be stored below 30 degrees putting it into dormancy. In case of disaster the Tribes can request some of the seed back to grow.

Pine nut harvesting is typically done in the late summer into autumn. A sign of it being ready is when the rabbitbrush is in bloom. Early in the harvest the pinecones are still green and can be opened when they're left out in the sun. The later harvest



LCPD's Original Territories Historical Research staff Bailey Dann and Nolan Brown present.



Tribal elder Farrell Wildcat offers the prayer for lunch.

the pinecones are open and could take longer to collect since less seeds are available. Pine nuts can be picked from the tree or the ground.

A film on harvesting

was shown to demonstrate the process.

Brown emphasized the importance of tying the language to the events they do. New Original Territories Historical



Aiyana Eschief uses a fruit basket to reach pinecones at the top of the tree.



Pinecones collected for the seed bank project.

Researcher, Bailey Dann, lesson on phrases to use gave a Shoshone language See GATHERING, page 4

# EISF Sho-Ban Native American Department list of winners

By LORI ANN EDMO  
Sho-Ban News

BLACKFOOT – The Eastern Idaho State Fair Shoshone-Bannock Native American Department had 97 exhibitors and 599 items that were judged this year.

Department Superintendent Anna Bowers said they had a lot of children submit art this year thanks in part to Chief Tahgee Elementary Academy teacher Alexandria Alvarez who encouraged her students to submit. It's the second year Alvarez students submitted.

The Native American department is named for R.W. Dixey who was the first department superintendent. Next year they hope to have a large photo or mural in his honor.

The family regalia special award had 17 entries ranging from small photos to large ones.

Mary (Tina) Papse served as judge and the



Family photo of traditional regalia or traditional practice winner, Velda Racehorse.



following is a list of winners of special awards and prizes in the Shoshone Bannock Native American See WINNERS, page 4



On left, Department Superintendent Anna Bowers. Above, newly made beaded high tops winner by Paulette Tendoy. (Lori Ann Edmo photos)



Winners for newly made quill work by Benny Dann and newly tanned hide smoked by Michele Hernandez. (Submitted photo)

From page one

**GATHERING, continued**  
while gathering, put together by the language instructors.

She was grateful to see all the youth in attendance, so they can be around the language and learn their traditions.

She explained “Teva” is the word for pine nut in Shoshone and Bannock.

“When we’re collecting our teva it’s good to ‘tsa suakande’ – to have good thoughts when we’re collecting it,” she said.

Dann said prayer is important too, in the handout shared with tribal member participants, it had the phrase, “Teva soo nahatoiha nanisuntehainke” meaning “Pray for lots of pine nuts” in Shoshone.

“Because there’s a reciprocity between the things that we gather and ourselves and our spirits and so, and their spirits. And so when we come together and we meet it’s good to have those. We need to have those good thoughts so that they can recognize us and so that we can harvest in a good way so that the will come back,” she said.

Tribal member, LaDawn Poog, felt blessed being in the land of her ancestors. Growing up she remembers her grand-



Gatherers had access to a new incorporated area at Castle Rocks State Park not yet open to the public. (Roselynn Yazzie photos)

mother taking her grandchildren to pick pine nuts. As the years went on they stopped going because the area they used was bought and fenced off.

Today, she was excited to make new memories with her children.

Poog was happy to see the relationship between the Tribes and BLM.

“Learning that we’re allowed to come harvest, it’s just a beautiful feeling. It feels like a lot of healing coming out. A lot of healing coming together, especially for my children and for all the youth that

are here. They get to experience it. To me that is just priceless,” said Poog.

Fort Hall Business Council member, Sammy Matsaw Jr. attended the event with his family. He said it was important to attend these kind of events and encouraged others to make memories with the young people so they’ll continue the teachings.

He was appreciative for the prayers, food provided and LCPD for the tools used to collect the pine cones.

When it comes to treaty rights, he said, “This

is where the rubber meets the road and our feet hit the ground and that’s where it matters the most is to be out here doing this with our families and our community members, so that it lives on.”

Afterwards participants made their way to various sites to gather throughout the day. There was a caravan to a new incorporated area not yet open to the public without a Motor Vehicle Entrance Pass.

Gathering commenced until September 4.



BLM State Office Tribal Liaison, Susan Filkins, shows an example of the pinecones they’re looking for.



Sho-Ban tribal member LaDawn Poog.



FHBC member Sammy Matsaw Jr. harvests with his family.



Sho-Ban Native story winner Lozen Osborne. (Submitted photos)



Sho-Ban Native story winner Tenshi Hevewah.



Newly made willow or natural fibers basket winner LaRae Bill.

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**WINNERS, continued**

booth.  
Family photo of traditional regalia or traditional practice: Velda Racehorse - \$200.

Newly made beaded high tops (white buckskin with green and yellow geometric design): Paulette Tendoy. \$200.

Newly tanned hide smoked: Michele Hernandez. \$200.

Newly made quill work: Benny Dann. \$200.

Newly made willow or natural fibers basket (made of hemp fiber): LaRae Bill. \$200.

Children’s category: Sho-Ban Native story with illustrations: Two winners –Tenshi Hevewah and Lozen Herkshan Osborne. \$100 each to both winner’s.

Lozen told a story about “Tsaan Natsu Waaipe” – good medicine woman who loved to dance. She was named that because of the good feelings she brought to others. She danced one night to bring good feelings for all her families.

Hevewah centered her artwork around the legend “How Beaver lost its tail.” It’s a story about bear having a meeting with all his friends because he had important



EISF Native American Department wing dress entries. (Lori Ann Edmo photo)

news to share but beaver kept interrupting to show off his beautiful tail. Bear asked beaver to sit down but beaver kept on waving his tail all over the place. Beaver got too close to the fire and his tail started smoking. Bear yelled for everyone to help get beaver’s tail out of the fire with their walking sticks. The fire was out but beaver’s beautiful tail was gone. Beaver saw his tail, was embarrassed and ran to the river to jump in and hide. That’s the day beaver lost his beautiful tail.

Bowers noted next year, a special award category will be winnowing basket.



Dried elk meat first place winner Velma Wahtomy. (Lori Ann Edmo photo)