



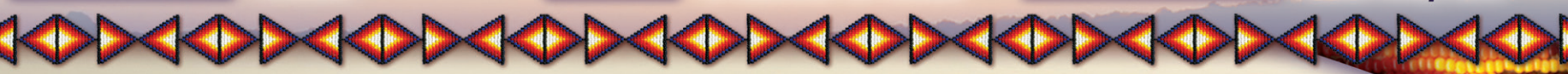
**LOCAL**  
New Sho-Ban Tribes  
Indian Day royalty  
crowned



**EDUCATION**  
Native students dance  
in cultural showcases  
at Blackfoot SD schools



**SPORTS**  
Yokoyama & Teton Team  
win FHIRA Indian Day  
Indian Relay races



# SHO-BAN NEWS

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**VOLUME 49, ISSUE 37 | THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025**

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## Sho-Ban Tribes Indian Day Powwow results

FORT HALL — Shoshone-Bannock Language and Culture Preservation Department hosted the Indian Day activities September 25 and 27.

Indian games were the afternoon of September 26 followed by the royalty contests and outgoing royalty dance specials.

The feast was Friday that featured hamburgers, hot dogs, a variety of salads, stew, frybread and sheet cakes the Shoshone-Bannock Casino Hotel provided.

The Indian Day powwow had 100 registered dancers September 27 at the Shoshone-Bannock Jr./Sr. High School. Emcee was Tyson Shay; Michael Eldridge was arena director and Spring Creek served as host drum. Tabulators were Thalia Lopez, Melita Fisher and Kaycee Dixey.

Following are the results: Junior Boys traditional: First-Adonis Osborne, second-Virgil Trujillo, third-Calvin Larkin. Grass: First-Jiovani Ballesteros, second-Conner Honena, third-Darryl Yazzie. Fancy: First-Jonah Ballesteros, second-Johnny Yazzie, third-Macario Hameline.

Junior Girls traditional: First-Evah Dann, second-Paisley Pokibro, third-Sophia Edmo. Jingle: First-Tamia Cerino, second-Darling Pebeahs, third-Paisley Buckskin. Fancy: First-Cambri Buckskin, second-Mariella Eldridge, third-Eliseanna Evening.

Teen Boys traditional: First-Glen Garcia, second-Soni Cornpeach, third-Braxton Wahtomy. Grass:



Adult men's traditional first place winner Chasen Coby. (Lori Ann Edmo photos)



Adult women's fancy shawl first place winner SallyAnne Thomas.

First-AJ Graves, second-Omar Apodaca. Fancy: no contestants.

Teen Girls traditional: First-Sholee Atcity, second-Wappi Osborne, third-Susan Avila-Dixey. Jingle: First-Kimora Graves-Pevo, second-Logan Wahtomy, third-Tee'Araha Anderson. Fancy: First-Syan Hooper, second-Chelia Dann, third-Enika Whelan.

See POWWOW, page 10



Dancers in grand entry at Sho-Ban Jr./Sr. High School.

## Shoshone-Bannock Tribes provide contingency plan amid federal U.S. Government shutdown

By ROSELYNN YAZZIE  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS

FORT HALL — With Congress unable to reach an agreement on a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the federal government, the federal shutdown is now in effect as of October 1, 2025.

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have activated their contingency plan to ensure essential services continue without disruption. Tribal government operations will remain open during normal business hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, through October 18, 2025, after that the plan will progress into its next phase, with additional measures to sustain essential services.

The Tribes' plan prioritizes continuity of government operations. Critical services, including the Fort Hall Police Department, Fort Hall Fire & EMS, Tribal Courts, and primary health and social programs will remain active. Departments have been directed to coordinate with federal and state partners to confirm approval for continued operations and to guarantee reimbursement during the shutdown.

### Program Updates

Health & Human Services expect minimal disruptions. The Fort Hall Service Unit will continue providing health care delivery and services to Shoshone-Bannock

members and eligible patients, supported by advance appropriations to Indian Health Service for Fiscal Year 2026.

For Tribal 477 Programs — services will continue, though some minor disruptions may occur.

Head Start & Schools will remain open.

The Fort Hall BIA Agency has been instructed to implement the BIA Shutdown Contingency Plan. During the shutdown, no services will be available at the Fort Hall Agency. A limited number of key and essential personnel have been deemed exempted and excepted and will be reporting to work under limited working conditions. Wildland Fire and Fort Hall Irrigation staff will continue to report to work as well.

Tribal departments have been directed to limit their purchases to essential, non-discretionary spending. The Executive Office and Finance Department will oversee all expenditures to ensure fiscal stability.

The Fort Hall Business Council is coordinating with national tribal advocacy organizations, such as the Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT), to ensure tribal voices are heard in Washington. In addition to keeping updated from the support communicated by federal lobbyists, Mapetsi, and state lobbyists Youde & Associates.

See SHUTDOWN, page 10

## Two Native MVMS students made fun of for wearing red handprint

*Blackfoot SD55 officials intend to educate on Missing & Murdered Indigenous People awareness movement*

By LORI ANN EDMO  
Sho-Ban News

FORT HALL — Parents of two local Native Mountain View Middle School girls impacted by negative comments after they wore red handprints on their faces then removed it during Blackfoot School District 55 Indian Week activities are hoping the incident results in more education at the school.

The two girls Cherish Faulkner and CharLee Siow, MVMS seventh graders, woke up early September 24 to paint the red handprint on their faces that symbolizes the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women movement — the silence of media and law enforcement.

Cherish's mother Leslie Decker said the two girls were supporting MMIW.

Cherish said she noticed CharLee removed her handprint after first hour, "because I guess she was getting laughed at and stuff." Cherish then asked for makeup wipes to take hers off, "and then when

I went to the bathroom, I heard some boys yelling like what happened to you? And they were laughing."

Cherish said she went to the bathroom and took if off, she used her phone when she wasn't supposed to, to text her mom to come pick her up.

CharLee said everyone was just staring when she first walked into the school — she went to her locker then the bathroom. Later that day some boy in her class kept saying that it looked like she got slapped and kept putting his hand up to her face. "I pushed his hand away many times and he still put his hand up to my face and wouldn't stop," she said.

Cherish said she felt embarrassed. CharLee said she also felt embarrassed, "I felt if I didn't take it off, I'd get more negative stuff towards me."

Leslie said both were crying after the incident. She received her daughter's text saying she wanted to go home so she knew something was wrong. Cherish's father William

went to check her out of school. He was upset and called the school principal Wes Jensen. The principal reportedly viewed cameras but was unable to confirm who the boys were.

Leslie said she was upset and decided to post in the social media Facebook page "Life in Blackfoot" about the incident. That post generated 270 comments and had 56 shares as of September 29, many in favor of her post however some comments suggested the boys didn't understand the significance. In her post, Leslie said it was a terrible day for her seventh-grade daughter and her cousin at MVMS as both wore red handprints on their faces for their heritage — an Indian Day activity they did. Boys started making fun and laughing at the two Indigenous girls — it hurt their feelings and they washed it off after first hour. She checked her daughter out because she was crying. "Every culture should have a right and a comfortable feeling to dress in their heritage," she



From left, Leslie Decker, Cherish Decker Faulkner, CharLee Siow and Katie Siow. (Lori Ann Edmo photo)

said in her post believing kids shouldn't experience

racism this early (divo boys).

See MVMS, page 10