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OWNED BY THE SHOSHONE-BANNOCK TRIBES

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Sho-Ban Casino construction update given at district meetings



By LORI EDMO-SUPPAH
Sho-Ban News

FORT HALL — The new Shoshone-Bannock Casino is 22 percent complete said Jack Ridgeway of Vanir Construction and he provided construction updates at two tribal district meetings where he was invited to attend.

Ridgeway is considered the owner's representative on the casino project and he was at the March 21 Ross Fork District meeting. He showed a series of photos from the construction site and explained in one photo where the surface wall is being removed

on the west side of the Shoshone-Bannock Hotel that leads into the new casino. They were unable to salvage the rock from the hotel exterior because it was too well adhered and broke apart when removing. A nine-inch or greater separation has to be in between each of the buildings because if they are too close together, either could take the other down, if there was an earthquake.

All of the equipment from the deli area in the hotel has been removed and is in storage and will be reused.

A photo of the under-



On left, Jack Ridgeway from Vanir Construction shows construction progress photos during the March 21 Ross Fork District meeting. (Lori Edmo-Suppah photo) Above, a worker on a scaffold. (Submitted photos)

side of the roof was shown that includes hundreds of trusses with varying depths and links. A shed roof design is utilized with a two percent slope — it is designed to allow the moisture to flow to the lowest point of the shed to drain into roof drains. The facility is designed so the smoke will rise upward using laminar flow air circulation. Ridgeway said the gaming floor is raised where fresh air enters from under floor and circulates.

Although the initial design didn't include a bingo hall, one is included that is designed to sit

255 players. Some in attendance at the meeting expressed concern the bingo hall is too small in the new casino.

Ridgeway explained the electrical conduits are distributed evenly throughout the casino floor and are underneath. He said the electrical engineer designed it so there is one dedicated circuit for every four gaming machines.

The vault shell that houses the count room is complete with a steel ceiling over it. It will require special identification to gain access in and out of



Progress on the roof.



Steel wall construction.

the room, once the building is complete.

Ormond Builders is the general contractor and there are eight subcontractors on the project.

In regards to the Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance, Wes Edmo, TERO director said there are currently 31 workers employed including 29 tribal members and 2 descendants. Concerning iron workers, the local union business agent dis-

patches the workers who are sent out on the project.

Anna Bowers expressed her dissatisfaction at the meeting that she has yet to be dispatched because she could prove her qualifications.

The projected completion date is March 2018 and Ridgeway said six months prior to the completion, all of the systems have to be tested and the Gaming Commission has to license the facility.

Primary Election March 31

FORT HALL — The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Primary Election is Friday, March 31 when registered tribal member voters will cast ballots for four or less candidates for the Fort Hall Business Council.

The 10 candidates vying in the election are: Anna Marie Bowers; Devon Dwayne Boyer; Kevin Lamar Callahan; Ladd R. Edmo; Wesley R. Edmo; Adam Boyd Hill; Robert W. Perry Jr.; Mitzi Leigh Sabori; Nathan Small and LaNada War Jack.

Polling hours are from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the five reservation districts: Bannock Creek Community Center in Bannock Creek; Lincoln Creek Community Center in Lincoln Creek;

Buffalo Lodge in Fort Hall; Eagle Lodge in Gibson District; and Putnam Lodge in the Ross Fork District.

As of March 29, there are a total of 1,276 registered voters according to Antoinette Kniffin, Tribal Enrollment. Eligible tribal members who are 21 years of age and have residency one year prior to the election can register at the polls. Those registering at the polls must show a blue tribal identification card to prove residency.

The top four vote getters will face off against incumbents Donna Bolinger, Marcus Coby, Edison Darrell Dixey and Lee Juan Tyler in the May 26 General Election.

Secretarial Election also slated

By LORI EDMO-SUPPAH
Sho-Ban News

FORT HALL — The Fort Hall Agency Bureau of Indian Affairs is conducting a Secretarial Election Friday, March 31 to amend the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Constitution & Bylaws regarding tribal enrollment.

Polling hours are from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Registered tribal voters are asked to vote yes or no whether they would be in favor of one-eighth blood degree.

The Secretarial Election is scheduled the same day as the Tribes Primary Election and two different tables will be set up clearly distinguishing between the two at the polling sites.

The two elections will be conducted separately and have two different voter registration lists.

A total of 1,190 Shoshone-Bannock tribal members registered to vote in the election by the March 17 deadline. One third of the registered voters or 357 is needed to cast their ballot for the election to be valid. If the number is reached then it is a majority of yes or no votes will determine the outcome.

Voting returns will be conducted at the Tribal Business Center Council Chambers that night after the Tribes Primary Election ballots are counted.

2-year-old boy attacked by dogs recovering

By LORI EDMO-SUPPAH
Sho-Ban News

FORT HALL — A two-year-old Fort Hall boy is recovering after surgery to repair numerous injuries after being attacked by dogs near his home on the Fort Hall Townsite March 26.

He went through five hours of surgery to repair wounds on his head, ears, a puncture on his neck and repair tendons on his leg. He also has numerous other wounds on his back and arm.

Darrell "Inch" Archuleta said his grandson Gunner Quagigant is being sedated to keep him calm at Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah but does wake up and watch cartoons.

Archuleta said they had just gotten home from grocery shopping Sunday afternoon when he and his wife Christine thought Gunner had gone inside with his older brother. He heard the dogs outside so he went out and heard his grandson crying out, so he ran after them, fought the dogs off and was able to pull him away. Thankfully he said a blue van pulled over and had paper towels that he used to stop the bleeding until Fort Hall Police and Fort Hall EMS arrived. Gunner was taken to Portneuf Medical Center in Pocatello.

From there he was

taken by air to Salt Lake City.

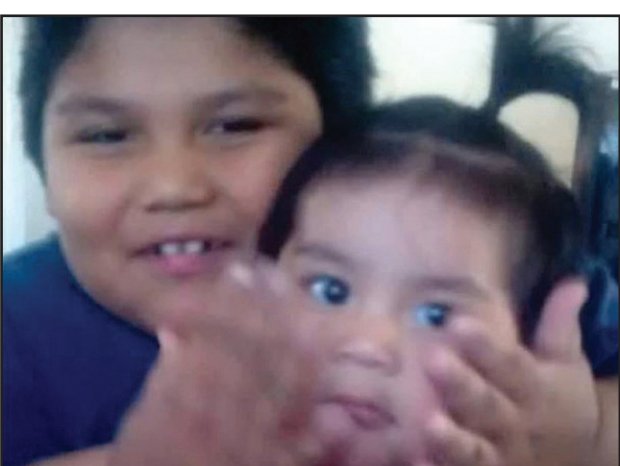
Archuleta said he was scared at first but his previous EMS training kicked in to stop the bleeding. He's thankful for the people in the blue van, EMS staff, FHPD and PMC staff.

His grandson will have to stay at Primary Children's for upwards of two or more weeks, the doctors told them, but he is recovering and was able to eat some yogurt Wednesday morning. The wounds are starting to heal, Archuleta said.

In a news release from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes FHPD Chief Pat Teton said the child suffered numerous dog bites. The dogs involved in the attack have been destroyed and the remains sent to a lab for testing. The dog owners weren't at home at the time.

Archuleta said he's been complaining for a long time about the dogs because he believes they were starving. "They were going to eat my grandson," he continued.

The good news, he said, is the Fort Hall Business Council approved the animal control ordinance March 28. It was initially approved September 2016 but was awaiting Bureau of Indian Affairs approval said Blaine Edmo, chairman. Fort Hall Agency



Gunner Quagigant, the two-year-old dog attack survivor, with his brother Cain. (Photo courtesy of GoFundMe page)

BIA Superintendent Randy Thompson said the resolution approving it was received but the ordinance wasn't attached so Edmo said the FHBC reenacted the ordinance and it will be resent for BIA approval.

The FHBC authorized Tribal Fish and Game and the FHPD to address the stray dog problem on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. They're advising the public to restrain their dogs.

Tribal Fish and Game is currently collecting the remaining dogs involved in the incident to remove them from the community. Brett Haskett, Tribal Fish and Game director said they've set out live traps to capture them. They want to caution local residents to confine their dogs. All dogs not on a leash or unrestrained in

the Townsite area could be captured and removed. The trapping is expected to continue for up to a week.

The FHPD and Tribal Fish and Game officers are continuing to investigate and findings will be forwarded to the Tribal prosecutor's and federal prosecutors for possible criminal charges.

Archuleta said he's thankful for all of the prayers sent their way and he intends to do a thank you letter once they return home.

A GoFundMe account has been created on Facebook to assist Gunner's family with medical and travel expenses at www.gofundme.com/gunnars-medical-expenses. As of the March 29, a total of \$1,625 has been raised.