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Carrying the Message
honors MMIP
Awareness Day



EDUCATION
Sho-Ban Family
STEM Night
well attended



SPORTS
Fort Hall Rec
Teen Tourney
results

SHO-BAN NEWS

COVERING IDAHO & INDIAN COUNTRY

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define our present & shape our future...*

Missing Fort Hall man's remains found

BOX ELDER COUNTY, Utah — Fort Hall Police Chief Pat Teton said the Box Elder County Sheriff's office notified them April 27 that a hunter found human remains approximately five miles from where Matt Broncho's vehicle was located in Snowville, Utah.

An individual looking for shed antlers found the skeletal remains in the remote Hansel Mountains southeast of Snowville. The Box Elder Sheriff's office responded to investigate. The Utah Office of the Medical Examiner and the Box Elder County Search and rescue team were called to assist.

Chief Teton said they advised some keys with a beaded keychain were located with the remains.



Matt Broncho

Box Elder Sheriff's contacted Cynthia Metz and she identified the beaded keychain belonged to Matt.

The remains were sent to Salt Lake City medical examiners to check the dental records. On May 2, Box Elder County notified the FHPD the remains were

identified as Broncho. Teton said their thoughts and prayers are with Matt's family.

Broncho went missing in 2019. His abandoned pick-up truck was found on Interstate 84 exit 7 in Snowville, Utah. His wallet and phone were left in the truck. It was reported his dog was also missing and the dog was found March 27, 2019 wandering a few miles west of Snowville. Despite search efforts conducted by multiple agencies, along with volunteers in both Utah and Idaho, Matt wasn't located. Since his disappearance, a joint investigation between the Box Elder County Sheriff's Office and the FHPD has been ongoing according to a press release.

BSD 55 Powwow contest & special results



From left, Outgoing Miss BHS JennaVecia Stagner, new Miss BHS Cera Vera, first attendant Aralyn Martin, and escorts Yamni Chandler and Michael Bahe. (Lori Ann Edmo photos)

By LORI ANN EDMO
Sho-Ban News

BLACKFOOT — The Blackfoot School District 55 Powwow was May 3 and 4 at Blackfoot High School where royalty was selected and numerous specials were conducted.

Host drum was Bad Agency, emcee was Matt Wilson and arena director was Kyle Nipwater. Susan Avila Dixey was head woman dancer and Hunter Osborne was head man dancer.

The evening of May 3, outgoing Miss Indian Blackfoot High School JennaVecia Stagner hosted a special where she recognized tribal elders that were present and asked them to dance. She had her grandmothers Angelita Broncho and Geri Red Cloud stand in front while they danced. Afterward they handed out gift bags to them.

On Saturday afternoon, the family of Zeberiah Lee Taylor did a dance special for boys and girls ages one to six years old. Prizes were given to three places, along with candy and fruit. Mountain View Middle School special was done for teen and junior boys categories where they danced against each other. Sonny Cornpeach

See RESULTS, page 4

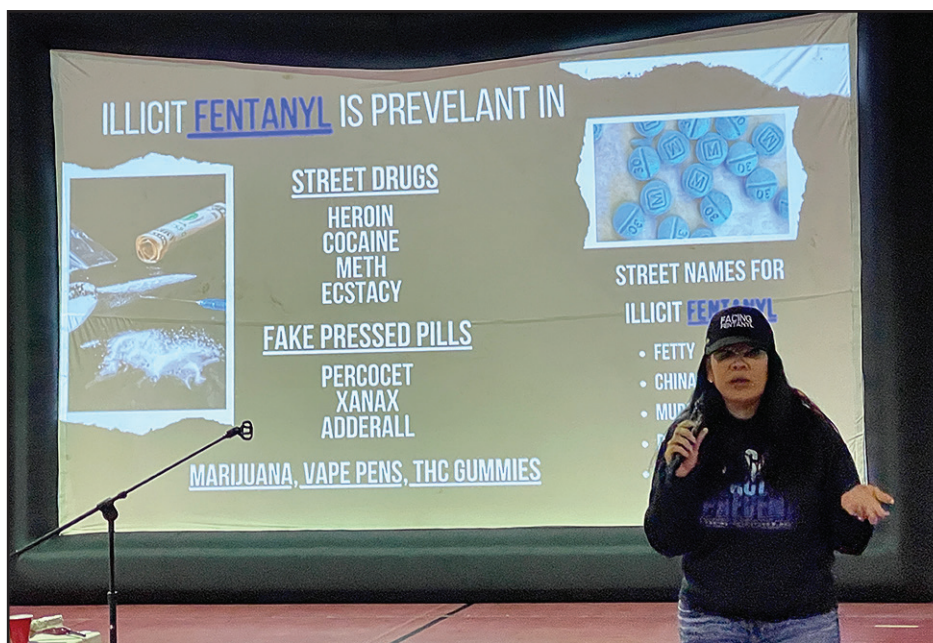


Elder golden age women embrace.



Junior Boys Traditional Thomas Eagle.

Fentanyl awareness begins with community



Andrea Thomas from Voices for Awareness Facing Fentanyl presents at Waapi Kani's Mental Health Wellness & Recovery Services Fentanyl Awareness Community Day event on Tuesday, May 7. (Roselynn Yazzie photos)



Michael Fiore, Outreach Coordinator for Voices For Awareness Foundation and Project Facing Fentanyl.

By ROSELYNN YAZZIE
Sho-Ban News

FORT HALL — Education and prevention by starting conversations about fentanyl were the focus of the Waapi Kani Mental Health Wellness & Recovery Services Fentanyl Awareness Community Day event on Tuesday, May 7 at Timbee Hall.

The day is recognized nationally to bring together efforts to end the crisis.

According to fentanylawarenessday.org last year over 70,000 Americans fatally overdosed on illegally made fentanyl. Fentanyl is now found in fake pills and many street drugs, but users are often unaware that their drugs contain the potent opioid.

Lemuel Stone offered a prayer to start the event.

A welcome was given by Tribal Health & Human Services Director Travis Martin who talked about the importance of the event to the community.

Fort Hall Business Council Secretary Claudia Washakie called fentanyl an epidemic and how it affects all tribal members.

She asked people to talk about fentanyl with their family members, especially those who are using. "We need them to know we love them and we don't like what they're doing to themselves," she said.

Washakie said people need to call law enforce-



Thomas speaks to Fort Hall community after the event.



Opioid Reversal kits and Naloxone spray were available after the presentations.

ment if they come into a situation or see someone has overdosed. She sees the need to support programs with funding for handling the fentanyl issues.

She talked about tribal communities who've taken an active approach to fentanyl, such as the Lummi Nation. She showed a video on YouTube called "Enough is Enough," which shows their community banding together with their local law enforcement and going to known drug houses. They reach out to the occupants and sing healing songs beginning the steps to take back their community.

Washakie wants to see more done in the community. She asked, how many deaths need to take place before we say, "Enough is enough." Adding, leadership needs to be involved. She thanked the attendees for taking a stand against fentanyl by going to the event.

Detective

Sweat

from the Fort Hall Police Department gave a presentation on fentanyl and local statistics. He began speaking about heroin and defined it as an opioid drug made from morphine, a natural substance taken from the seed pod of the various opium poppy plants grown in Southeast and Southwest Asia, Mexico, and Columbia. Heroin can be a white or brown powder, or a black sticky substance, known as "black."

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid painkiller, used as an anesthetic and prescribed for severe and chronic pain.

Fentanyl is 50 times more potent than heroin. Fentanyl is 100 times more potent than morphine. 2 mg. of fentanyl is considered a lethal dose.

Fentanyl is transdermal, which means it can enter your body through the skin and one can overdose by just touching it. Sweat advised not to use hand sanitizer if exposed

See FENTANYL, page 4

From page one

RESULTS, continued

and Kenai Corona came up with the idea for the special. Thomas Eagle won the junior boys and Jason Countryman won the teen boys. They each danced in the spotlight.

Head woman dancer Susan Avila Dixey had a special for teen girls all categories. First through third place were selected in each category of fancy shawl, jingle and traditional. Fort Hall Elementary Princess Ellanis Stagner hosted a hand-drum contest prior to dinner break. First place was Kenny Brown, second Kylen Stump and third Tommy Eagle. First place received a hand drum.

On Saturday evening Blackfoot High School graduating seniors were recognized, along with teacher Merle Smith who plans to retire.

Following are the results.

Junior Girls Traditional: first-Evah Dann, Second-Sofia Edmo,

third-Elizabeth Stagner. Junior Girls Jingle: first-Kayla Osborne, second-Elaua Villarreal, third-Paisley Buckskin. Junior Girls Fancy: first-Cambri Lynn Buckskin, second-Rose Medicine Horse, third-Millie White Horse.

Junior Boys Traditional: first-Adonis Osborne, second-Thomas Eagle, third-Trastan Beasley. Junior Boys Grass: Devin Pebeahsy, second-Jon Hernandez, third-Jivoani Ballesteros. Junior Boys Fancy: first-Demarcus Pebeahsy, second-Jonah Ballesteros, third-Jax Hernandez.

Teen Girls Traditional: first-Annika Gonzalez, second-Envy Beasley, third-Skylee Osborne. Teen Girls Jingle: first-Logan Wahtomy, second-Raylee Shane, third-Kimora Graves Pevo. Teen Girls Fancy: first-Raliah Marshall, second-Gabrielle Appenay, third-Ashra Benally.

Teen Boys Tradi-

tional: first-Braxton Wahtomy, second-Indian Dann Cornpeach, third-Kenai Corona. Teen Boys Grass: first-Michael Bahe, second-Jay Hernandez, third-Tanner Countryman.

Women's Traditional: first-Lou Osborne, second-Destiney Tinno, third-Tay'a Osborne. Women's Jingle: first-Joyce Graves, second-Se'Rae Running Eagle, third-Atalya Benally. Womens Fancy: first-Sallyanne Thomas, second-Raeriell Scott, third-Kyra John. Mens Traditional: first-Raymond Scott Junior, second-Chasen Coby, third-Ashton Fish. Mens Grass: first-Joseph Baldwin, second-Dashon Scott, third-Kenneth Brown Sr. Mens Fancy: first-Kenneth Brown Junior, second-Tyi Bear, third-Tristan Cornpeach.

Golden Age Women: first-Nummie Osborne. Golden Age Men: first-Donald White Horse, second-James Tone.

Letter to the editor

Mendez thanks supporters for votes

Thank You
I just want to say "thank you" to the tribal members that voted for me in the primary election. Thank you for taking the time to get out and vote and especially for supporting me as a candi-

date. I know how difficult it is being in a leadership position but that has been my passion in life. I really do care about our community and will continue to do what I can to improve services for all. I enjoyed the experience of talking

with and seeing tribal members I don't always have an opportunity to talk with. May God bless each and everyone of you in a special way!
Angelea Mendez

FENTANYL, continued

to fentanyl, because it opens pores. Use soap and water.

Symptoms of fentanyl exposure include disorientation, coughing, difficulty breathing, sedation, and rapid and profound cardiac arrest.

Detective Sweat gave numbers for overdose calls in Fort Hall from 2019 to now, however, the numbers only reflect the calls recorded by dispatch. In 2019 they received 7 calls, in 2020 they received 13 calls, in 2021 they had 57 calls, in 2022 they had 28 calls, in 2023 they saw a rise again with 25 calls and as of now in 2024 they have had five calls.

The invited speaker was Andrea Thomas from Voices for Awareness Facing Fentanyl. She truly believes gatherings like this can make a huge difference. Every time she comes to a reservation she sees everyone so connected and that's what's needed outside the reservation for people to come together and to care about their communities, support each other, and find solutions.

Thomas showed a video on families affected by fentanyl, so that people will connect.

Thomas shared the story of how she lost her daughter, who struggled with alcoholism and developed pancreatitis as a result. Suffering in pain and not wanting to go to the hospital because she felt judged her boyfriend gave her a fentanyl pill to ease the discomfort and it ultimately killed her. Thomas said if she knew about fentanyl in 2018 when she lost her daughter she may have had a chance to save her.

This motivated Thomas to help spread awareness because it's killing the unsuspecting, those experimenting and those already using.

"There are people out there that don't know. Seniors are raising their grandchildren, right, because they've lost one or more parents to fentanyl poisoning. Young people 14 and younger are dying at the fastest rate from fentanyl poisoning. And so, this age group of 18 to 49 that are being affected, so that tells you across the board that no one's immune and it could happen to anyone," she said.

She brought attention to National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day on August 21, the day is established to remember those lost to illicit fentanyl poisoning and to acknowledge those affected as a result, such as friends and family.

Thomas said, "We need to act stronger. We need to be louder."

A statistic she pointed out was teen deaths have risen by 77 percent due to fentanyl.

"We need to stop before it starts that's where prevention comes in," she said. She hopes people take what they hear today and share it because talking about it and giving others a little bit of information can save a life.

Michael Fiore, Outreach Coordinator for Voices For Awareness Foundation and Project Facing Fentanyl talked about how valuable people can be in recovery. He said it was from their experiences and strength from their recovery that can help others.

He said, "Every five minutes someone is lost to fentanyl poisoning."

He explained overdose is excessive use of drugs and our loved ones are being poisoned.

Fiore said we need to talk about how deadly fentanyl is. He encouraged those recovering should do so out loud.

"This needs to become one voice that we are here to help. Don't be ashamed to what you been through. These kids need us. There are solutions in our recovery. Our lives are going to be needed to save other lives. Take the opportunity to share your story with somebody. Recover out loud, it's a movement. It's not a drug, it's not an overdose. It's a poison. This is killing the unsuspecting," he said.

Fiore had a few more fentanyl facts, such as one can't smell, taste, or see it. There are two types of fentanyl, pharmaceutical, which is legal, prescribed by doctors, and monitored and regulated. Illicit is manufactured, smuggled into the U.S., and sold illegally and not regulated safe, or legal. Illicit fentanyl can be found in street drugs, fake pressed pills, and marijuana, vape pens, and THC gummies, street names include Fetty, China Girl, Murder 8.

Again, Just 2 mg of illicit fentanyl can cause sudden death, which is the size of a few grains of salt. Fentanyl can shut down the respiratory system and can cause a form of suffocation.

Signs of overdose are unconsciousness, very small pupils, vomiting inability to speak, snoring, gasping, gurgling sounds, known as the "death rattle," foaming at the mouth, blood from nose and mouth, purple lips/fingernails, weak pulse, discolored skin

bluish/purple.

Fentanyl pills can be made to look like prescriptions. There is no safe amount to take.

Fiore went over the steps to save a life, first step is to call 911, distribute Naloxone, or Narcan in the nostril if on hand, and start CPR, which can be demonstrated on Youtube. Opioid Reversal Kits were provided to those who attended.

Thomas explained the tools are available so people could take them. She said anyone can have them now, one doesn't have to be a drug user or have drugs in their home, but you don't know who you're going to come into contact with that may need it. It's simple to spray in the nose to save someone's life.

She cautions people these emerging drugs are more dangerous than fentanyl and there are no antidotes for them.

Thomas said there needs to be more prevention and action, "Then maybe we can create an educated society that we can empower them to make better choices and to be safer."

She said people have to work together, "Just by coming together there's solutions in all groups for all of the pieces of this crisis. We have a national security crisis, it's a public health crisis and now it's becoming a humanitarian crisis because so many people are virtually vanishing before our eyes from these dangerous drugs."

Recovery panelists were tribal members Kelly Buckskin, Jon Marc Skunkcap, Melanie Longoria, and Shantel Stone. Each talked about their recovery journey in hopes of inspiring others.

Shoshone-Bannock tribal member, Delicia Dann, spoke on behalf of her daughter, the late Khailee Adakai. She was born in 1996 and passed on September 20, 2023, from a fentanyl overdose. She was described as a beautiful, talented artist. Dann said she knew nothing of Narcan at the time and she hopes no one has to witness this kind of heartbreak.

"Fentanyl has no spirit and it took a beautiful young woman, it took my daughter," she said.

Dann said it's important to come together as a community to help and comfort one another.

For more information on this topic, go to <https://facingfentanylnow.org/>, <https://voicesforawareness.com/>, <https://www.dea.gov/onepill>

New Miss BHS & MVMS royalty crowned



MVMS royalty was crowned on Saturday, May 4 during the Blackfoot School District 55 Powwow. From left, first attendant Felicity Stagner, MVMS Queen Chelia Dann, second attendant Sholee Atcity and Miss Congeniality Cali Atcity. (Lori Ann Edmo photos)

BLACKFOOT — Ceara Vera was crowned Miss Indian Blackfoot High School May 3 during the Blackfoot School District Powwow.

Second attendant is

Aralyn Martin. It was a close finish between the two with Vera receiving 329 points and Martin 328 votes. They were judged on their talent, dancing and interview. Each had

tables set up during the powwow showing their family and accomplishments.

MVMS royalty

Chelia Dann was named Miss Mountain View Middle School queen. First attendant is Felicity Stagner and second attendant is Sholee Atcity.



Miss BHS Ceara Vera gets her crown adjusted by Tadraschell Murray.

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Fort Hall Business Council, Publishers

Lori Ann Edmo, Editor

Roselynn Yazzie, Assistant Editor

Brenda McKean, Bookkeeper

Brenda Appenay, Circulation Technician & Advertising Salesperson

Jeremy Shay, Web/Graphics Specialist

Olivia Yokoyama, Reporter

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