

Battle Creek Enquirer
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Last piece of iron installed at FireKeepers

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EMMETT TOWNSHIP — FireKeepers Casino is now roughly 20 percent complete after a “topping off” ceremony today marked the installment of the last piece of structural iron.

About three dozen construction workers and members of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Tribal Council signed the roughly 3,500-pound beam, decorated with the tribal and American flags, before it was hoisted by crane into place atop the casino’s entrance.

The Fulton-based tribe owns the casino.

The beam was decorated with the marks of 15 local unions, members of the Southwest Michigan Building Trades. Sitting in a pot in front of the casino was a three-foot-tall Christmas tree, which Duane Wixson, senior project [manager](#) for casino construction, said symbolized a no-injuries, timely project. A second shift of construction workers will be added Oct. 6, Wixson said, and the casino is expected to be enclosed by Thanksgiving, allowing crews to work through the winter.

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battlecreekenquirer.com Staff

[JustinHinkley](#) wrote:

Golyons —

That was likely a drill. The casino construction crew was running a "man down" exercise last week to test response time and their own procedures, etc.

We at the Enquirer have heard nothing on our scanner or from police about any injuries or accidents there.

9/19/2008 1:36:02 PM

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golyons wrote:

The "no injuries tree" is dumb and a lie because I was listening to my scanner the other day and an ambulance was dispatched out to FireKeepers to pickup a contractor who had fallen off the roof and broke his leg.

9/19/2008 1:14:28 PM

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