



POTAWATOMI TIMES

Gsenyaniyêk êzhewébêk — Forest County Potawatomi Happenings



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Chef Pyet Visits FCP Community



Chef Pyet having FCP Elders draw the next word for B-I-N-G-O



The two dishes Chef Pyet made during her cooking demonstration at PCC

by Val Niehaus

The FCP community had a special visitor during April 30–May 1, 2026, renowned Chef Pyet DeSpain from the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and the first-season winner of Gordon Ramsey’s “Next Level Chef,” which aired on FOX in 2022. Chef Pyet is also an award-winning Native American and Mexican-American chef, storyteller, and advocate for Indigenous foodways.

Pyet developed her passion for cooking through the cultural influences of her Native American and Mexican heritage. She recounted a story during one of her presentations about her grandpa’s beans, which

were always simmering in a crock pot on his counter, no matter the day or time. She even features a recipe called “Grandpa Tony’s Pinto Beans” in her cookbook. Her deep-rooted connection to food and heritage shaped her into the world-renowned chef she is today.

After attending culinary school and earning a certification in Wellness & Nutrition, she launched Pyet’s Plate in 2015, her private chef and catering business dedicated to healing and cultural storytelling through whole foods and Indigenous ingredients (pyetsplate.com).

Her work emphasizes food sovereignty, cultural preservation, and reconnection with the land and seasonal cycles. She incorporates ingredients such as bison, beans, corn, peppers, and squash — prioritizing foods native to the America’s. Although she occasionally includes spices from other countries, she faithfully cooks with ingredients traditional to the land of her ancestors.

Since winning “Next Level Chef,” Chef Pyet has earned major recognitions: being named one of *Entrepreneur Magazine’s* Top 25 Private Chefs in Los Angeles, featured appearances on Food Network’s *Tournament of Champions*, *The Rachael Ray Show*, delivering a TEDx Talk on reclaiming identity through Indigenous foodways, and publishing her own cookbook,

“Rooted in Fire: A Celebration of Native American and Mexican Cooking.”

During her visit, Chef Pyet engaged FCP Elders at the Caring Place through “Indigenous Pantry Bingo,” awarding prizes such as California Sage and berry jams. Six bingo games brought excitement to elders and attendees alike. She prepared treats from her cookbook, including Deer Chili, Strawberry Salsa with tortilla chips, and Sweet Corn Cake. Participants enjoyed tasting her exceptional dishes.

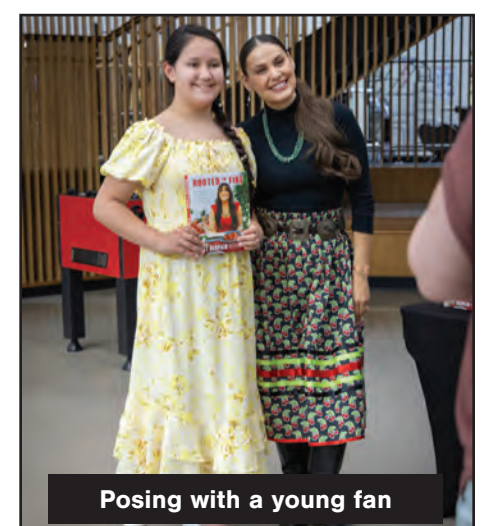
Chef Pyet also, during her time here, did a cooking demonstration for the community and book signing, along with photo taking, on May 1 at the Potawatomi Community Center. She made dishes from her cookbook, including Wojape BBQ Bison Meatballs, Mushroom and Poblano Wild Rice with Duck Fat, and a Dandelion Greens and Pickled Berry Salad. Everyone who tried these dishes couldn’t enjoy them more and loved how local ingredients were used. After getting a bite to eat, people could get in line to have a special message written in their very own cookbook by Chef Pyet, which was a special treat.

We give Chef Pyet DeSpain a Chi Migwëth for sharing her passion, knowledge, and culinary artistry with our community. Her visit was more than just a series of events — it was a celebration of heritage, storytelling, and togetherness that brought us all

closer. The memories created, the flavors experienced, and the connections made will resonate with our community for years to come. We are deeply grateful for this special time and look forward to her next visit to the community.



“Cheffing” it up



Posing with a young fan

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OBITUARY

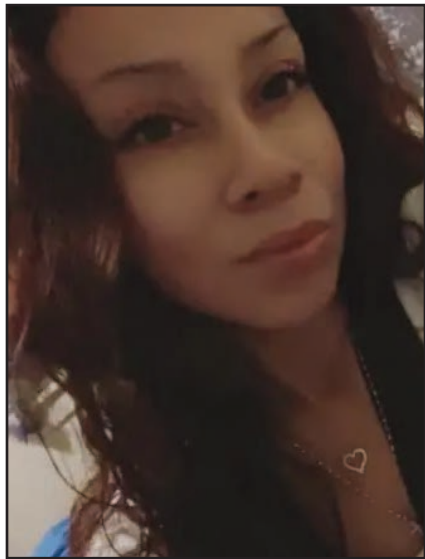
Bria Louise Torres

Spirit Name: Was Mosa Kwe (stands in a light woman), Turtle Clan.

Bria Louise Torres, age 30 of Milwaukee, Wis., passed away April 24, 2026. She was born on a full moon and a leap year on March 5, 1996, and was considered the Baby Bear and Free Spirit. The beloved youngest sibling in her family, brought endless light and laughter to those around her. With her warm spirit and infectious smile, Bria created cherished memories with her brothers and sisters, always eager to share kindness and joy. She will be deeply missed, and will be leaving a sisters gift for her caring heart and playful humor. Bria's role as the beloved youngest sibling made her the glue of her family. She leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and unforgettable moments.

She is survived by her daughter Amena Mercado (10), and son Miguel Mercado (8); her mother Mary Konaha, and father John Torres. She is also survived by her sisters: eldest Angelina Konaha, Christina Torres, and Ede Torres; and brother Stephano Torres. Her family was an important part of her life, and she held each of them close in her heart.

Bria was preceded in death by



her eldest brother John Konaha Jr.; grandmother Sophie Nesaukee Konaha; grandfather Louis Konaha Sr.; great aunt Esther Nesaukee-Brown; great uncle Archie Nesaukee; great grandparents: Martha Whitefish and Jack Nesaukee; uncle Louis Konaha Jr. Now they welcome her spirit home.

Native American services were held on April 29, 2026, and funeral/committal on April 30, 2026, at the Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center/Museum with Mr. Joe Daniels Sr. leading the services. She was laid to rest with her lineage, burial will followed at the Forest County Potawatomi Tribal Cemetery in Stone Lake.

OBITUARY

Bernice Ann Pemma

Bernice Ann Pemma, age 61, of Wabeno, Wis., passed away on April 25, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family and the memories of a life lived with thoughtfulness, gentleness, and selflessness.

She was born on July 10, 1964, in Rhinelander, Wis., and carried throughout her life a quiet strength, a caring spirit, and a deep devotion to the people and traditions that shaped her.

Bernice was a spiritual woman whose life reflected her faith, her kindness, and her respect for others. She was known by those who loved her as someone who listened with patience, gave freely of herself, and made those around her feel valued. Her Native American name was Sag-a-Sch-nook, meaning Whirling Cloud, a name that reflected the grace and presence she brought into the lives of others. She lived with a gentle heart and a steady love for her family, her community, and the simple joys of everyday life.

She was a 1982 graduate of Wabeno High School and later dedicated her time and talents to her community as an elementary school tutor for the Wabeno School District. In that role, she helped guide and encourage young students, offering support with the same calm and caring nature that defined her life. Her work was more than a job, as it was an expression of her desire to help others grow and succeed.

Bernice found joy in many of life's pleasures. She was an avid Green Bay Packers fan and also enjoyed watching the Milwaukee Brewers and local school sporting events. She looked forward to casino trips, bingo, area powwows, and evenings spent playing Keno, Poker, Scrabble, and Yahtzee. She especially cherished calling her sisters every



day on the phone and enjoyed relaxing car rides around town, simply taking in what was happening in the community. These moments brought her happiness and reflected her appreciation for connection, conversation, and the world around her.

She is survived by her son Ian Waubanasum and his significant other Tashina Guzman; grandchildren: Jaxon Chapple and Creigh Pemma. She is also survived by her sisters: Ruth Pemma, Betty Jo and Jeff Keeble, Cheryl Pemma, Brenda Pemma, Lateachia Pemma, and Antria Pemma; and by her brother Mike and Trish Pemma. Her family was an important part of her life, and she held each of them close in her heart.


Bernice was preceded in death by her parents, Peter Pemma Sr. and Bertha Shockto; her brothers, Pete Pemma Jr. and Robert Pemma; her brother-in-law, Winslow Mexico. Their memory remained a part of her life, and now they welcome her home.

Native American services were held on April 28, 2026, at the Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center/Museum. Mr. Jeff Cisneros and Mr. Boise Valliere will lead the services. Burial followed at the Forest County Potawatomi Tribal Cemetery in Blackwell.




POTAWATOMI TIMES
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Deadline for the June 1, 2026, issue of the PT is Wednesday, May 20, 2026.



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We are seeking ads for our personal section from FCP Tribal Members including birthday, anniversary, or any congratulatory wishes, and can contain photos or just text. Personal ads will be free of charge*, and can be emailed to the contact info above by the deadline date. Deadlines can be found on our website, and on page 2 of this issue.

**Requests for selling items will still be considered "ads" and will be charged classified/display ad rates.*

FCP Up & Coming

by Amber Haseaman

Campus Closures: Campus will be closed on the following days: May 18, 2026, in observance of Chief Simon Day, May 25, 2026, in observance of Memorial Day, June 18-19, 2026, in observance of Juneteenth.

Potawatomi Gathering Update: Registration is open for the Bodéwadmí Gathering and the Language Conference. Visit <https://registration.socio.events/e/fcpgathering2026> to register today. When filling out the registration, select 'Continue Registration,' then enter the total for adults and youth for either the Potawatomi Gathering or the Language Conference, or both. Fill out the remaining information as follows.

Bowling & Lunch: Join FCP Elder Services for Bowling & Lunch at Northstar Lanes in Antigo. FCP elders and one guest 13+ are welcome to join the fun. Limited transportation will be available. Choose to join on May 17, June 21, or both at 12 p.m. The top three scores for a two-person team average wins. First prize is a \$100 gift card, second is a \$50 gift card, and third is a \$25 gift card. There will be drawings for prizes throughout the event.

Coffee Talk: FCP tribal elders are invited to join Coffee Talk. Enjoy good conversation, connection, and lunch. Be sure to stop by the Turtle House on May 19, 2026, from 12-2 p.m.

Graduation Banquet: Are you or your child graduating this year, whether it be from high school, with your HSED, GED, or college? Is your child on the honor roll? The

FCP Education Division would like to honor them at this year's Graduation Banquet. If you'd like to be included, please contact the Education Division no later than May 22, 2026, at education@fcp-nsn.gov or (715) 478-7355. The banquet will be held on June 5, 2026, from noon until 3 p.m. at the Potawatomi Community Center.

Outdoor Group Walks: PCC members, FCP government employees, FCP tribal members, and descendants are welcome to join for outdoor group walks all summer long, starting June 3, 2026, to August 26, 2026, from 12:15 – 1 p.m. Join at the PCC main entrance to participate. Whether you are strolling solo or teaming up with friends or family, walk 100 miles and score awesome gear and Wellness 360 points. In case of bad weather, the indoor walking track will be utilized. Registration is required. For more information, contact the Fitness & Wellness Manager, Desiree Martin, at (715) 478-6512.

Elders Day Trip: Elders are invited to join FCP Elder Services for an Elders Day Trip to North Star Casino for BINGO on June 14, 2026. Limited spots are available. Depart from fireside MARKET in Stone Lake at 10 a.m. Doors open at 12 p.m. Early Birds at 1:30 p.m. The regular session begins at 2 p.m. The day features a standard BINGO package, including a machine and lunch. You are not signed up unless you have a confirmation number. To sign up or for more information, contact Jenna Paradies at (715) 478-4892 or Taylor Saari at (715) 478-4341.

Chief Simon Day



photo by Wisconsin Historical Society, WHI-24373

by Amber Haseaman

In honor of Chief Simon Day, observed on May 18, the Potawatomi spokesman Simon Kahquados is recognized for his leadership and interpretation on behalf of the Potawatomi people.

In November 2025, Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Tribal Treasurer Joseph Daniels Sr. met with the FCP Communications Division to share his collection of regalia and historical items passed down from his grandfather and gathered over the years. One piece in particular carries great historical significance: a bandolier bag previously owned by Chief Simon. According to potawatomiheritage.com, bandolier bags are considered medicine bags, worn during specific observances and ceremonies.

Daniels shares with the team, "During the course of the villages settling during the migration, we had to learn the language of the government, had to learn the English language, and we had to learn how to speak the English language."

He continued by explaining that one man devoted his life's time and

effort to this role as an interpreter - Simon Kahquados. Kahquados traveled to many Potawatomi villages throughout the Great Lakes, carrying messages from the U.S. Government and communicating to the Potawatomi people and villages about what the government wanted them to consider.

Daniels added, "This bag that is on my grandfather's articles was one of the many bandolier bags that were gifted to him by various communities of the Potawatomi," referring to the bag previously owned by Chief Simon.

Daniels went on to share that Kahquados took it upon himself to travel to Washington, D.C., to speak directly with the president. His purpose was to convey the wishes of the Potawatomi Nation, advocating peace among the Potawatomi people at that time.

Kahquados is recognized each year on his birthday for his advocacy on behalf of the Potawatomi people. He served as a voice for the Nation, providing information on ancestry, culture, language, history, and Potawatomi life.



Chief Simon's bandolier bag photo by Travis Pohl

NIGANSEKWE DAY

Arlene ALLOWAY DAY

MAY 12

Past FCP Chairman Chats - Al Milham



by FCP Communications Division

Former FCP Chairman Al Milham sat down with the FCP Communications Division and shared what he told us about his time as Chairman from 1993 to 1995, as well as his 13 years as Vice Chairman. Here is a bit of his story and endeavors.

Introducing himself, he spoke about his grandparents, who were Thunders, and about his two grandmothers, who were traditional healers who helped their people with medicines from Mother Earth. He mentioned getting federal recognition in 1936 and kept moving forward from there.

“It was a true honor to be elected as the longest-serving Vice Chairman in our community. Or at least since 1936,” Milham said with a chuckle. He ran for Chairman in 1993, serving one term, then took a short break before returning to serve as the tribes’ Vice Chairman for at least 13 years. Milham said, “It was continuing to improve the quality of life for our members.”

While Milham began his term in 1993, a \$250,000 donation to the Milwaukee Public Museum funded the “Tribute to Survival” exhibit. As Milham said, “It was replicas of our Native American people. Many other tribes participated in that as well. I got to be there when they opened it, and it was a really good feeling seeing our members and others in our memorabilia of the past.”

He recalls when they opened the Carter C-Store alongside the Potawatomi

Carter Casino Hotel, and how phenomenal that day was. Milham recalls Senator Breske coming to that day of openings and how that was such a big deal for a Senator to show their support because that had never happened before. “He was a good man,” Milham recalled.

One thing also brought up from 1993 is that Milham said that once we had our bills paid off and things were flowing well, they decided to dedicate their time and money to community housing efforts. “We have millions of dollars invested in housing for future generations, and I am glad to see our people have a better quality of life today,” Milham said.

Another huge memorable event was the Crandon Mine. Milham recalls, “We started with our lake waters, and we had a six-year study done on Devil’s Lake. We used state grants for this study, and the fish in Devil’s Lake were full of mercury, so once that

study was done, we, as a tribe, started the process. We were working with our Sokaogon brothers and sisters because this ore body was right at their back door. Jeff Crawford was instrumental in headhunting professors and experts in this type of mining issues from around the world. With this, the FCP tribe was the second tribe in the U.S. to obtain the Class I Air Act, a significant moment for Milham while serving on the Executive Council. Milham said, “We fought for 13 years with Michigan because they didn’t want us Native people telling them what to do with their part of the world. It was a long fight, but we got the radius and the Class I Air, and that was another endeavor to put off this mining that would have been super disastrous right here in our county. I am so glad we still have the beauty of God’s country here.” Both the FCP tribe and the Sokaogon Chippewa were able to buy out the mining company, and the tribes retained all the land where the mine would have been located.

Another monumental moment for Milham was in 1994, when he traveled to Washington, D.C., for the White House Tribal Summit, along with 350 other leaders representing 547 tribes at the time, the first such gathering in nearly 170 years. Milham said, “There was a parade of people that went through the city there, and even though it’s a bit vague to me in this day and age, there was quite a number of tribal members from other tribes, and those kinds of gatherings were instrumental in getting to know each other’s ways.”

Milham recalls another being in

D.C. during the Barack Obama and Biden administrations, which was another phenomenal event, too. He also recalled having breakfast with Al Gore during a period of Gore’s leadership.

Milham remembers his Elders being a huge part of his life, getting him where he was, and leading during his time in tribal government. He recalls Mrs. Crowe as someone who took him under her wing, guided him, and encouraged him in ways he would never forget. He said, “Some of my Elders had to see something in me because they were kind and wonderful people, and I truly miss them.”

Milham’s advice to the younger generations is to continue our community’s progress. There has been a lot of success, and hopefully, they use what the government has put out there to stay on the Red Road, staying straight, sober, and clean.

Milham said, “God Bless this council in office now, and as we age, we always wonder who is going to step up. For individuals whom I watched grow up and are now in office, and continue to maintain a good quality of life, being honest with your membership is the best ticket. Honor that our government is very strong, and we continue moving forward.”

We here at FCP thank former Vice Chair/Chairman Milham for his years of devoted service to his tribe. His steady commitment, along with the honesty and transparency he brought to his roles, has left a lasting impact we sincerely appreciate.



Weekly Agenda

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS
<p>Archery Tag 4-6pm Potawatomi Community Center Theron, Judy, Leonore, Judy</p>	<p>Pow Wow Club 4-6pm Potawatomi Community Center Ned, Brandon, Storm, Redman</p> <p>Cooking Club 4pm Potawatomi Community Center Tiffany, Helena, Lenore, Judy</p>	<p>Arts & Crafts 4-6 pm We Care & Potawatomi Community Center Ned, Judy, Helena, Lenore, Theron</p>	<p>Cooking Club 3-5pm We Care Tiffany, Helena, Judy, Leonore Theron</p> <p>Pow Wow Club 5-6pm Potawatomi Community Center Ned, Redman, Brandon, Storm</p>

For more information contact Lawrence Mann at 715-478-6515, or 715-478-7478 and ask for the corresponding contact(s) listed.

Wade Fernandez Visits Schools & FCP Community



Wade's performance with his guitar

by Amber Haseman

The Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Education Division welcomed multi-award-winning, international touring artist, educator, and composer Wade Fernandez (Wiciwen Apis – Mahaew – Walks with the Black Wolf) of the Menominee Reservation to the Forest County community for a series of school visits and a public performance.

Fernandez visited three local school districts during his visit, including Laona School District on April 22 at 9 a.m., Wabeno School District at 12:30 p.m. the same day, and Crandon School District on April 23 at 10 a.m. During each visit, he shared his music and stories with students of all ages, encouraging them to follow their own paths and remain true to who they are.

He concluded his visit by joining the FCP community on April 23, 2026, with a public performance at 5 p.m. in the Executive Auditorium. Community members gathered and enjoyed a meal including chicken and

wild rice soup, frybread, berries, and beverages. Fernandez spent time conversing with attendees, sharing stories and memories.

Since beginning his solo music career, he has shared the stage with artists such as Jackson Browne and the Indigo Girls, performing more than 80 international tours and concerts at venues ranging from Woodstock '94 to the Kennedy Center. His music, messages,

and teachings are firmly grounded in his Menominee roots and his love for the land, animals, and people. His passion for education, culture, and service to the community is reflected in his work with schools, colleges, workshops, and service to the elderly, individuals with disabilities, incarcerated individuals, and youth. He has been performing publicly for most of his life, since about age 11, with the guitar as his first instrument.

Opening the evening performance with the Native flute, Fernandez honored relatives, elders, and those in attendance. He recognized that his father, his wife, his eldest son, and his youngest son were in attendance. He also mentioned that his father reminded him to perform a song he composed for the Potawatomi in 2003, for the Hannahville Indian Community gathering.

Throughout the evening, Fernandez combined storytelling, humor, and music, captivating the audience with his authenticity. He performed songs

such as “One Spirit, One Nation, One Tribe,” while sharing personal stories about finding his way to the big stage. He recalled a time after the birth of his first child when he realized it was time to be himself, to not just perform cover songs, but to create music rooted in his own stories, family, and community. Within months, he got a band, had his first gig, and had a thousand copies of the CD delivered to his door the day before the concert. Soon after, he opened for Jackson Browne, and everything fell into place. “That’s what happens when you follow the path, you’re supposed to be on,” he shared.

The performance showcased Fernandez’s ability to incorporate the electric guitar, Native flutes, and hand drum, seamlessly blending traditional Indigenous sounds with classic rock. During “Commodity Cheese Blues,” Fernandez was joined on stage by his youngest son, drawing the children in the audience to the front row.

Fernandez continued to engage the audience with his charm and spontaneity, performing a “Newspaper Song” inspired by a copy of the *Potawatomi Times* he had in his hotel room. He later performed a personal song dedicated to his grandmother, sharing her story and the impact of diabetes on Native communities. He recalled how his grandmother lost her eyesight to diabetes, how she would gently touch his face to know which grandchild he was. She only lived to be about age 55, leaving him with many unanswered questions.

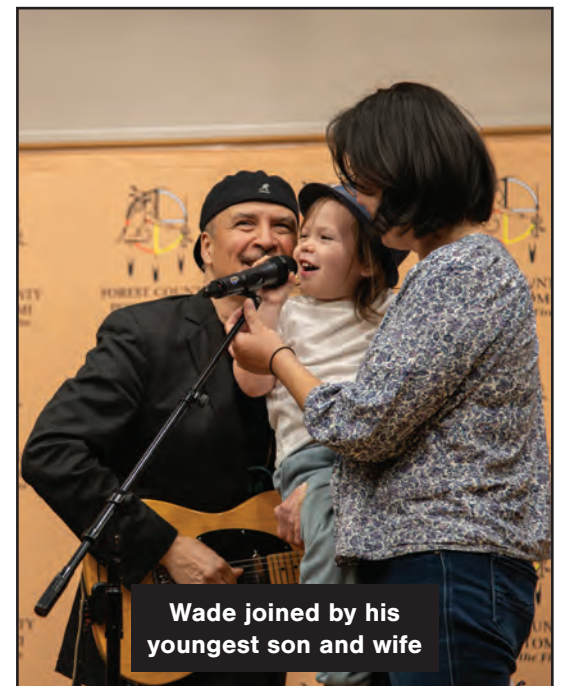
Fernandez shared that he was walking home from school on a beautiful fall day, surrounded by red, orange, and brown colored leaves. Suddenly, he felt his grandmother’s presence, walking beside him, and the words to her song came to him. He performed the piece

with a hand drum, guitar, and flute.

The evening also featured familiar favorites, including “My Girl” by The Temptations and Johnny Cash’s “Folsom Prison Blues,” with lyrics changed to reflect the FCP community. He also performed a song in his native Menominee language and other originals, including “Rez Runner (Indian Car).”

To close the evening, Fernandez performed on the flute while standing in the center of the auditorium, resembling the circle of life. He spoke about the recent loss of his mother, reflecting on how life keeps moving forward. He expressed his gratitude for his family's presence, emphasizing the importance of supporting those who come after us and keep trying to do the right things, the best we can.

Fernandez thanked everyone for their hospitality and support. He expressed his appreciation for the time spent with the Forest County community and for the opportunity to share his talents, teachings, and stories. His visit left a lasting impression through music, laughter, reflection, and community.



Wade joined by his youngest son and wife



Performing on the Native Flute

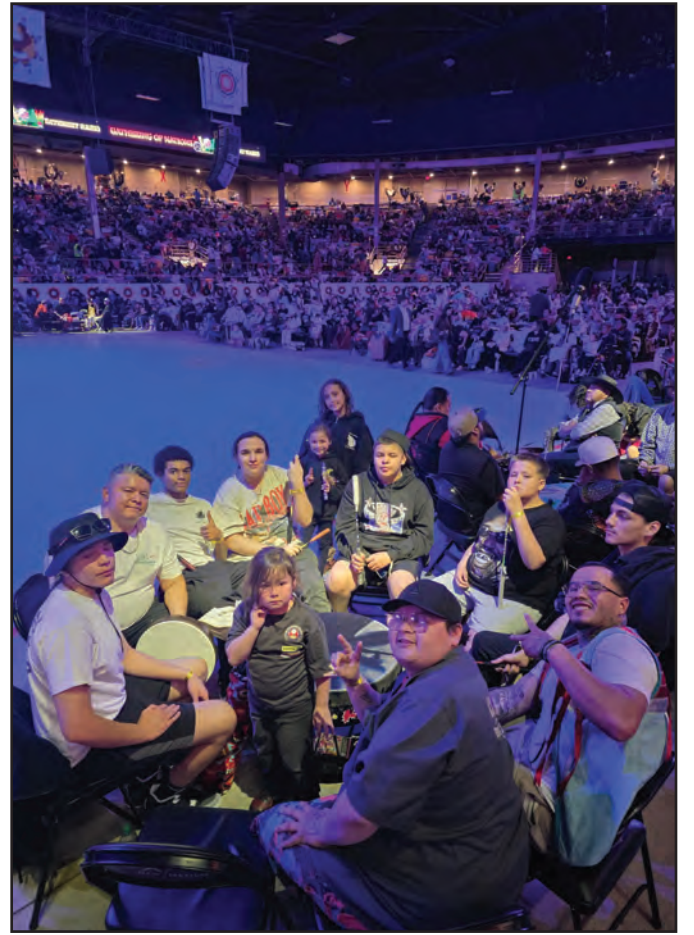


Audience joining in



Working on his next song, Potawatomi Times

Powwow Club Journey to Albuquerque



submitted by Ned Mashen Daniels III

Boozhoo, indenwaymagidook,
My name is Ned Mashen Daniels III. I am from the Turtle Clan, Potawatomi, from Stone Lake. I wanted to take a moment to share our recent journey with the Powwow Club as we traveled to Albuquerque, N.M., to attend the Gathering of Nations Powwow with over 30 children. Over the past three years, the Powwow Club has continued to grow, with the focus of showing our youth meaningful cultural experiences beyond the community.

This is the second biggest powwow journey for the group. By traveling, the youth are able to experience different powwows and learn from different drum groups and dance styles. The Powwow Club's goal is to continue this work by organizing at least one large powwow trip each year.

The children who went ranged

in age from 5 to 18. They have been working hard for this opportunity — practicing, learning songs, and preparing themselves. Our boys put together three drums and learned many songs, and they continue to grow every day. This is part of our way of life — to carry these teachings forward so that one day they can pass them on to the next generation.

We traveled from April 23 to 28, 2026. Along the way, we faced some challenging weather, including storms through Tornado Alley, but we made it there and returned home safely.

When we arrived, the experience was incredible. We were surrounded by world-champion drum groups and dancers. The kids were able to see and hear things that many people never get the chance to experience unless they travel. We also connected with relatives, including the Little Soldier

Singers from Kansas, and got to watch Woodland dancers on the first night. It truly felt like everything came together the way it was meant to.

What stood out the most to me was seeing the kids' reactions — their smiles, their excitement, and the pride they carried. Moments like that are priceless. They accomplished something very important. They represented our people, the Potawatomi, in a good way, and I could not be more proud of each and every one of them.

We started the Powwow Club about three years ago at the Potawatomi Community Center in Stone Lake and the We Care Center. My brother, Nicholas Shepherd, and I always wanted to create a space where our people could come together — where our children could sing together, dance together, and grow together as one.

This trip was one of our goals, and to achieve it with our youth made it even more meaningful. It was also special knowing that this was the last Gathering of Nations to be held in Albuquerque.

I want to give a heartfelt thank you to the Executive Council, the Cultural Department, and the Language Department for supporting our children and helping make this trip possible.

Sometimes in life, we get distracted and forget that our children are always watching us — watching how we live and what we do. We have a responsibility to lead by example and put our best foot forward for them. Everything we do like this is for them, so they can learn to be good to one another and grow strong together as a people. I love every one of these kids, and I am very proud of who they are becoming. They are our future leaders.



Four Students Honored at CMS AAA Gala

by Val Niehaus

Crandon Middle School honored students on April 27, 2026, for their outstanding achievement in Attitude, Attendance, and Academics at the “AAA Gala”.

This event started a few years ago to recognize students who meet certain criteria, to show them that their hard work, dedication, and integrity matter in school, and to show parents how their work at home with their youth helps maintain these principles.

The night started with a walk down a red carpet as you entered the gymnasium. Families could also get their professional photo taken by Art Teacher Nicole Hansen. Once the event officially started, Middle School Principal Josh Jaeger gave an introduc-

tion explaining why this night was so significant and meaningful, not only to the students and families, but also to the staff at Crandon Middle School.

This was a semi-formal event, so the students could dress a bit fancier than their everyday school wear. They could also invite only two guests to accompany them — most brought parents, but others brought grandparents, aunts/uncles, or just that special adult they wanted to show off their accomplishments to.

A sit-down dinner was served to attendees, including salad, rolls, and a main course. The middle school teachers served the dishes to each guest, which was a fun experience for the students, having their teachers serve

them their main course for the night. There was also cake and refreshments for those in attendance.

Once everyone had eaten, the awards were then handed out to the students. A bronze, silver, and gold medal, along with a certificate, was given to each student. The different-colored medals indicated how many times the student had received this award during their time in middle school: bronze for the first year, silver for the second, and gold for the third.

Once the awards were all handed out, District Administrator Jason Bertrand said a few words to acknowledge how significant it was for each student to be honored for their hard work in class, their dedication to their futures,

and their politeness and respect toward their teachers and those around them, even out of a school setting.

To cap off the evening, and a part that students enjoy the most, was the raffle drawing, where randomly picked winners received exciting prizes such as smart TVs and gift cards to local and non-local businesses.

This event truly celebrates and appreciates middle school students for their achievements both in and out of the classroom. Special thanks to Crandon Middle School for organizing such a meaningful evening for these dedicated students.



6th Grade - Danica Robinson



7th Grade - Natiyah LaBarge & Jayden Tuckwab



8th Grade - Marcus Ritchie

Soman Takes Second at Whistling Straits Golf Course



(l-r) Will Gerber, Kaeleb VanCleve, Kollin Gerow, Reid Votis, Desmond Soman

submitted by Crandon Golf Facebook

Crandon captured the Coleman Invitational title at Whistling Straits in Sheboygan, Wis., on April 21, 2026. The field consisted of 11 schools and 55 golfers.

The Cardinals were led by juniors Reid Votis and Desmond Soman, who delivered standout performances, placing first and second overall with rounds of 76 and 78, respectively. So-

man placing in second overall.

Freshman Kollin Gerow also turned in a strong showing, earning a sixth-place finish with a score of 88.

Will Gerber and Kaeleb VanCleve rounded out the varsity lineup, contributing to an outstanding team effort that secured the victory.

Congratulations to Coach Belland and team.

Aviyanah Alloway Crowned Prom Queen



by Val Niehaus, photos by Nic's Pics

A huge congratulations to Aviyanah Alloway, who was crowned Prom Queen at her “Let’s Grove Tonight” Junior Prom on April 25, 2026. FCP congratulates you, Aviyanah; you looked beautiful!



Building the Future Together: Potawatomi Pilot Program Empowers the Next Generation



“We have a role to spark a movement that builds a foundation strong enough for our People to lean on and solid enough to uphold the generations to come.”

— Crystal Deschinny, Board Chairwoman

The Potawatomi Pilot Program officially launched on April 2 in Milwaukee, bringing together an inaugural group of tribal members and descendants eager to deepen their understanding of tribal business, governance, and economic development. Designed as both an educational and leadership-focused initiative, the program creates space for learning, dialogue, and long-term relationship building between the community and Potawatomi Ventures.

The kickoff session introduced participants to the purpose and vision of the program, grounding the experience in the history of the Potawatomi Business Development Corporation and its evolution into Potawatomi Ventures. As the organization continues to grow, the Pilot Program offers an important opportunity for participants to better understand how tribal enterprises function, why they exist, and how they support economic sustainability for current and future generations.

Building on that foundation, Session Two, held on April 6, focused on governance and leadership. Participants explored the structure of Potawatomi Ventures and the critical role of the Board of Directors, gaining insight into decision making, oversight, and accountability. This session emphasized the importance of strong governance in protecting tribal assets,



“When we come together to learn and gain perspective, we strengthen ourselves as a Nation. This opportunity invites our Tribal Members to walk alongside Potawatomi Ventures in building understanding, trust, and meaningful relationships with our community. What we shape together today will carry forward — strengthening our people, our enterprises, and the future we leave for the next generations.”

— Heather VanZile, Tribal Relations Director

reinforcing sovereignty, and ensuring businesses align with the values of the Forest County Potawatomi community.

The program recently concluded Session Three: Financial Overview, offering participants a closer look at Potawatomi Ventures’ financial statements. Rather than presenting numbers in isolation, the session framed financial reporting as a story, one that reflects organizational health, performance, and long-term sustainability across its subsidiaries. This perspective helped participants better understand how informed financial stewardship supports economic resilience and future growth.

Overall, the Potawatomi Pilot Program continues to serve as a meaningful educational resource and a growing leadership pipeline. By increasing transparency, strengthening understanding, and welcoming tribal members into conversation around tribal business, the program reinforces the idea that informed engagement today helps safeguard opportunities for generations to come.



“This program is more than a few classes, it’s a pathway to our collective future. When our Tribal Membership show up to learn, we don’t just participate — we lead, we build, and we protect what is ours. The opportunity is here. It’s up to us to step forward and turn it into a lasting impact for our people.”

— Stacey White, Board Treasurer



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PV - Best Minority - Owned Businesses 2026

IN THE LEAD



Potawatomi Ventures (PV) has been recognized as a best minority-owned business in 2026.

The Daily Reporter's In the Lead: Best Minority-Owned Businesses series spotlights 18 exceptional companies making an impact across Wisconsin. These businesses stand out for their growth, innovation, community involvement, and long-term vision, and represent a variety of industries.

PV is the economic development and income diversification business of the Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) community. The 100 percent tribally-owned enterprise has 900 employees and generated \$363 million in

revenue during its last fiscal year.

“Earning recognition as one of Wisconsin’s leading minority-owned businesses reflects our team’s dedication and hard work,” CEO of PV and member of the FCP tribe shared Kip Ritchie, “Minority ownership is a responsibility and empowers us to build diverse, competitive businesses that expand opportunities, uplift our community, and create prosperity for future generations.”

As we celebrate this recognition, we’re honored to continue to create a meaningful impact in Wisconsin and for the FCP community.



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Grandmother Earth Day Celebration

by Val Niehaus

The FCP Land & Natural Resources (LNR) Division celebrated Grandmother Earth Day on April 22, 2026, at the Potawatomi Community Center. The departments that fall under this division and participated in this event were Bodwéwadmī Ktēgan (Potawatomi Farm), Forestry, Sustainable Food Services, Land Information, Natural Resources, Outreach & Engagement, and Tribal Historic Preservation.

Each year on April 22, Earth Day highlights pressing environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and habitat loss through themed events, community clean-ups, educational programs, and policy advocacy.

Earth Day is taken seriously at FCP, and the whole community gets involved as they did on this day. LNR had displays and interactive stations for both young and old to participate in, free samples for guests to take, such as wildflower packets, information on planting a garden, wool dryer balls to cut back on microplastics, and the cost of using dryer sheets, among many other incentives to take home to help protect the one Earth we have. They hosted a scavenger hunt for the children, along with showing them that they could use an old milk jug as a bird feeder or recycle metal soup cans into something useful. Not only

were there fun activities to participate in, but Sustainable Foods also had healthy snacks for those who came to munch on while enjoying each other's company.

Each spring LNR hosts local land and lake cleanup efforts to remove harmful materials from our local water sources and lands. On Tuesday, May 19, 2026, the LNR Division will be working at Bug Lake and the surrounding area to remove trash, debris, and non-organic waste. We all have opportunities every day to make a difference, and we ask, individually and collectively, to serve Mother Earth to the best of our ability.

If you have an interest in joining the effort of the division, please feel free to stop by Bug Lake from 9-11 a.m. LNR would love to have community members be a part of the day and engage with the division.

Protecting Mother Earth starts with simple actions from each and every one of us. Reducing waste, recycling, and supporting community efforts are simple ways to start. Every mindful choice helps preserve our environment for future generations. If you have questions about where to start helping or are not sure about some answers that may need guidance, please reach out to the LNR Division at 715-478-7222.



LNR Division



Representing Bodwéwadmī Ktēgan



Representing Natural Resources



Interactive demonstrations



The Crawford kiddos had a fun time



Families getting information at the different booths



A Sea Turtle sculpture made out of recyclable garbage

Juliana Engel Retires



by Amber Haseman

Friends and coworkers gathered to celebrate Juliana Engel's retirement. It was a bittersweet day as she spent her final day with coworkers and the tribe on April 30, 2026. A celebratory cake, gifts, and a Pendleton blanket were presented in recognition of her many years of dedicated service.

The afternoon brought visitors from across campus who stopped by to share farewells, warm hugs, stories,

laughter, and well-wishes, accompanied by a slice of delicious cake.

Engel retires from Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) after 13 years of dedicated service to the tribe. She began her career in Central Registration Reception/Scheduling, where she spent her first three years, and later advanced to her Central Registration Supervisor role, where she's spent the past 10 years.

When reflecting on her time with FCP, Engel shares that her favorite part is the relationships she's built with fellow employees, patients, and tribal members. As she enters retirement, she looks forward to relaxing and spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She also plans to keep in touch with her FCP employee family that she has built over the years.

Congratulations, Juliana, on your well-deserved retirement. Wishing you happiness, good health, relaxation, and many joyful moments spent with your family and grandchildren as you begin this next chapter of life.



Photos submitted by FCP Health Division



May Veggie of the Month: Avocados

submitted by HWC Community Health Dietitian Sarah Hoffman

Nutrition Fun Facts

- Avocados are in season during the winter, spring and summer months.
- A good avocado is firm, with no soft spots, but yielding to gentle pressure when ripe.
- Unripe avocados should be stored in a paper bag, at room temperature. Ripe avocados can be stored in the refrigerator for 2-3 days.
- Avocados can be a great addition to sandwiches, salads, eggs, smoothies, dips and so much more!
- Avocados contain many differ-

ent nutrients, including unsaturated (healthy) fats, potassium, and vitamin E.

- In 1 avocado, there are about 227 calories, 21 grams of fat, and 12 grams of carbohydrates.

For more information on nutrition topics, please contact Health & Wellness Center Community Health Dietitian Sarah Hoffman at (715) 478-4355.

Recipe Source: <https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/39748/actually-delicious-turkey-burgers/>

Recipe: Turkey Burgers



Ingredients:

- 1.5 pounds ground turkey
- 1/8 cup bread crumbs
- 1/8 cup finely diced onion
- 1 egg white, lightly beaten
- 1/8 cup chopped parsley
- 1/2 clove garlic, peeled and minced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 ground black pepper
- 6 hamburger buns, toasted
- 6 slices cheese
- 2 avocados, sliced
- Additional toppings, as desired

Directions

1. Mix ground turkey, seasoned breadcrumbs, onion, egg whites, parsley, garlic, salt and pepper together in a large bowl.
2. Form into 6 burger patties
3. Cook the patties in a medium skillet over medium heat, turning once, until an internal temperature of 180°F is reached.
4. Assemble the burgers on toasted buns, with slices of cheese, fresh avocado, and any additional toppings.

Swearing In



Enrollment Committee: Stephanie Barea

Summer Feeding Program
June 15 thru August 13

PICK UP LOCATIONS
Stone Lake:
Potawatomi Community Center Parking Lot
Blackwell:
Bodwewadmi Kitegan Parking Lot
Carter:
Ka Kew Sé Gathering Grounds

PICK-UP TIME
Noon-1pm

Do you have a student that will be staying home this summer?

Sign up to receive a FREE lunch Monday through Thursday!

OPEN TO FCP TRIBAL MEMBERS & DESCENDANTS AGES 18 MONTHS - 17 YEARS



To enroll scan the qr code, or contact Trisha Thorbahn 715-889-9706 • TrishaR.Thorbahn@FCP-nsn.gov

After three "no-call/no-shows" you will be removed from the list. To be re-enrolled you must call.

Immersion Strengthens Connections Across Bodwéwadmimwen Programs



by Communications Account Coordinator Tesia Shepard

The Forest County Potawatomi Language Department was honored to host a three-day Language Immersion Event that brought together language staff from our other Potawatomi communities. Participants from the Language Departments traveled from the Prairie Band, Nottawasseppi Huron Band, and the Pokagon Band to spend time learning, speaking, and supporting one another through full immersion. Along with strengthening individual speaking skills, the purpose of this immersion for language staff was to prepare and build confidence so they can bring similar immersion opportunities to their own communities in the future. This event created a welcoming space to reconnect, share knowledge, and strengthen speaking skills together.

The main goal of these few immersion days was to stay immersed in Bodwéwadmimwen for the entire three days, and a little fun, competitive challenge helped keep everyone motivated. Each participant started with 10 safety pins. Any time someone was caught speaking English, another participant could say “mishen i” (“give me that”) and claim one of their pins. The challenge quickly became a friendly reminder and added lots of enjoyment while encouraging everyone to stay immersed in language. By the end of the event, the participant with the most safety pins — an apprentice from Pokagon — walked away proudly with nyéwabdék nseth nyéw (44) pins and the grand prize, along with some well earned bragging rights!

Throughout the immersion days, participants took part in interactive activities designed to build confidence, strengthen conjugation skills, and encourage knowledge sharing. One favorite activity called “What’s in the Box,” involved hiding an object inside a box and describing it. After three clues were shared, participants could start guessing what the object might

be, practicing listening skills and descriptive language along the way.

Another highlight was the command relay race, where participants read a command in Bodwéwadmimwen to the person at the end of the table, who then acted it out. This activity provided lots of smirks and laughter while reinforcing comprehension, teamwork, and clear communication — and even sparked some friendly competition between groups. Other activities included Kahoot! quizzes, a Bodwéwadmimwen “mad lib”, familiar group games, storytelling, and a one word at a time group story. The group story was especially enjoyable to watch, as each person had to repeat the full sentence from the beginning before adding just one new word to keep the story going.

Overall, the three-day immersion event was about much more than building language skills. It was a time to reconnect, come together, and renew a shared commitment to keeping Bodwéwadmimwen alive. By remaining immersed, encouraging mutual support, and learning through meaningful, real-life activities, participants strengthened their speaking abilities and developed greater confidence to apply the language within their communities. This experience reinforced an understanding that language revitalization efforts come full circle when consistent effort is made and the language is actively used in everyday contexts.

The Forest County Potawatomi Language Department also extends a heartfelt migwëth (thank you) to the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) for their continued support of this initiative. ANA’s support makes opportunities like this possible and plays an important role in helping language communities come together to grow, learn, and carry Bodwéwadmimwen forward into all our communities.



REGISTRATION

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<https://registration.socio.events/e/fcpgathering2026>

Visit the registration page to select your tickets and secure your spot for this special gathering. Remember, each person attending will need their own ticket for each event.



Register today, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

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Enrolled Potawatomi Tribal Members,
Potawatomi Descendants, and
Their Immediate Family Members

Tribal Trades Program



submitted by Education Academic Coach Noah Shea

As the school year draws near its end, high school juniors and seniors are hearing questions like: “What do you want to do with your life?” or “Where are you going to school?” Two young gentlemen have found paths toward careers in meaningful fields in the new Tribal Trades Program (TTP), a work-study program for juniors and seniors through which they can explore the trades. The

program is run by the Forest County Potawatomi Higher Education Department.

Eddie Alloway and Nolan Milham are aspiring tradesman enrolled in the program in its first year. Alloway is interested in a career in carpentry or welding, while Milham is focused on becoming an electrician.

“Hopefully [in the next five years] I can establish myself in a city like Green Bay or Appleton,” said Milham

about his future. “Then I can come back and own my own business.”

When asked how he would advise prospective students thinking about doing TTP, Alloway said “Come do it because you can learn a lot that you can apply down the road. It might even change your interests because you are exposed to a lot of different stuff.”

The program boasts an in-house vocational coach, Lead Facilities Worker Matt DeLeeuw, who works with the students daily on various skills. Students earn OSHA-10 and first-aid certifications as well as safety, personal protective equipment, and basic carpentry education. Currently, the program is working with Capital Projects to complete a warming shed for the new sledding hill, enabling students to participate in building infrastructure that supports their community. The shed is on pace to be completed by July 2026.

TTP also collaborates with multiple inter-tribal departments as well as partners like the Blackwell Job Corps and Nicolet College, giving participants exposure to many different fields and locations. Recently, the students took an on-site electrical course from

Instructor Ray Palubicki, an adjunct professor at Nicolet College. “Those young men have bright futures ahead of them,” commented Palubicki at the completion of the course.

Students in TTP receive a pair of boots as well as their own tools and tool belt to keep at the completion of the program. While the program is focused on carpentry and construction, students with specific interests can explore opportunities for networking and on-site instruction based on what they hope to do for their careers, like plumbing, HVAC, masonry, welding, and others.

The program can be completed in conjunction with the school’s work-study program.

Students and parents who are interested in the program may contact Matt, Brittne, or Noah at the FCP Education Department:

Matt DeLeeuw matthew.deleeuw@fcp-nsn.gov Office: 715-478-4461

Brittne Hill: brittne.hill@fcp-nsn.gov Office: 715-478-4146

Noah Shea: noah.shea@fcp-nsn.gov Office: 715-478-4390



Nolan Milham



Eddie Alloway

Strengthening Families Month

submitted by Family Resource Community Coordinator Mary Thornton

Family Services celebrated families by hosting Movie Night on April 22, 2026. April is recognized as “Strengthening Families Month” by the Wisconsin Child Prevention Board. Community members were reminded of the 5 Protective Factors to keep families strong. The 5 Factors are: **Resilience** – How do you face adversity; how do you solve problems and bounce back. **Relationships** – having good social connections for both parents and children. Having positive, trusted friends. **Knowledge** – becoming educated on child de-

velopment and topics of interest to enhance learning. **Concrete Support** – Everybody needs help at some time, asking for help when needed with mental health, finances, medical needs, job, and transportation. Reaching out to professional services. **Communication** – developing the social and emotional needs to express how we are feeling. Learning to communicate our emotional needs at a young age helps children feel understood and valued.

Members enjoyed snacks, prizes and the large screens at community center.



Students Learn About Maple Sugaring



submitted by LNR Outreach & Education Manager Tyler Lorenz

As the sun becomes more frequent and stronger the long-awaited spring is here. We begin to feel warmth and welcoming of songbirds who are returning, and the natural environment around us is awakening. For the Potawatomi community, Zisbakwtoke Gises (Maple Sugar Moon/Sugaring Moon) is a time for tradition and family, as it is a seasonal reminder that has

held true for thousands of years.

The warm days and cool nights provided optimal times for those collecting maple sugar and sap to gather this timely resource and to participate in a century's-old tradition. For the students at Rising Sun, Gte Ga Nēs, and the Community Center After School Programs, they had the opportunity to participate firsthand in maple sugaring.

Environmental Educators from the

Land & Natural Resources Division, Bailey Veal and Preston VanZile were busy tapping trees, collecting sap, and educating the youth on the processes of maple sugaring.

At Rising Sun, students looked for the grey and flaky bark of the sugar maple trees and tapped their very own tree while Malcolm McDonald, Language Specialist, taught them the Bodwéwadmimwen related to maple sugaring.

Working closely with Mr. Richard Gougé, the students at Gte Ga Nēs learned the traditional methods of collecting and how their ancestors harvested sap for cultural and physical subsistence for centuries.

Students that attended the After School Program at the Potawatomi Community Center, assisted Ms. Bailey and Mr. Preston by identifying maple trees, learning how sap moves through a tree, tapping maple trees, and collecting sap. Staff were able to show the physical representations of how much sap is needed to collect to produce one gallon. Following up from these small presentations and lessons,

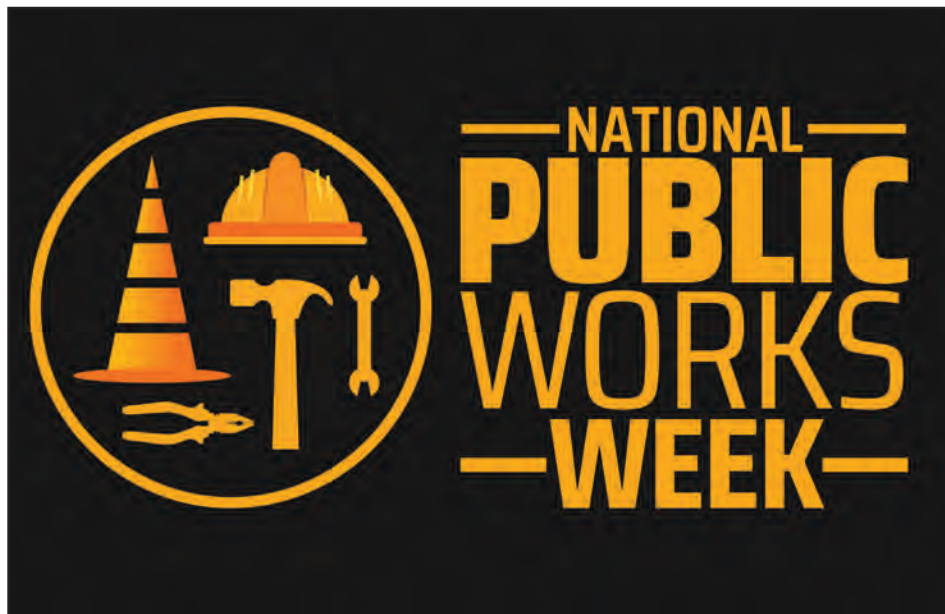
students had the opportunity to tour the Bodwéwadmim Ktëgan Maple Syrup production.

Syrup production progressed well despite the inconsistent weather at Bodwéwadmim Ktëgan according to Farm Manager Joe Shepard. "We have produced a little over 200 gallons of maple syrup." The frequent ups and downs in temperature made the season unpredictable. There were periods with very little activity, followed by stretches when the trees are pouring out sap. With warmer weather days, farm staff collected around 2,000 gallons of sap per day. This allowed Bodwéwadmim Ktëgan to make strong gains during peak flow conditions.

To those who are looking for some excellent Maple Syrup, stop in at Bodwéwadmim Ktëgan to purchase our very own product while supplies last.



National Public Works Week



submitted by FCP Public Works Executive Assistant Candace Skenandore

National Public Works Week (NPWW) is an annual celebration that is celebrated during the month of May. This celebration honors and recognizes professionals that play a role in keeping communities safe, functional, and thriving. The Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Public Works Division has recognized NPWW for the past two years by doing a week-long celebration involving the public works staff and tribal community. This year NPWW is May 17th – 23rd with this year's theme being Rooted in Service, Powered by Community

– emphasizing the deep commitment of public works professionals and the often-unseen work that keeps communities running.

Our public works staff shows a level of dedication that keeps the community moving forward no matter the weather or challenge they face. Their work may be unseen, but its impact is felt throughout the community. Thank you FCP Public Works staff for the hard work you put forth to keep the FCP community running safely and smoothly.

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Billy Daniels Maple Sugar Camp

by Communications Relations Specialist/Designer Char White

I recently had the opportunity to take a small tour of the Billy Daniels Maple Sugar Camp, located near the current Head Start building, on the land where the temporary Fire Keeper School once stood. During my visit, I met with Cultural Preservation Division Administrator Sam Alloway, who was present at the camp and shared meaningful insight into its history and revival.

Billy Daniels was among the first certified Potawatomi tribal language and cultural teachers, alongside his sister, Mary Daniels. Both were dedicated FCP tribal members who worked for the tribe; however, Daniels devoted nearly 50 years or more of service. He was widely respected and well-known

throughout the powwow circuit as a traditional dancer, a veteran, and a deeply-valued ceremonial leader within the community.

Around 1993, Daniels established the maple sugar camp with tribal members and students as a place of learning, cultural practice, and community gathering. The camp remained active until his passing on Nov. 27, 2020, at the age of 88. Following his death, out of honor and deep respect for Daniels, those who had worked closely with him in the cultural program allowed the camp to remain untouched.

Today, the Maple Sugar Camp is active again. Many of Daniels' former students are now participating in the

revitalization of the camp, continuing the cultural teachings he shared so generously. Much of his original equipment and tools remain exactly where he left them — some still fully usable — creating a powerful feeling that his presence has never truly left. One especially meaningful item is Daniels' silver ladle, which he used to sample freshly-made syrup. Alloway and others continue to use this same ladle today, carrying forward Daniels' traditions in both practice and spirit.

Each year, Daniels and his team would host a pancake breakfast for the tribal community and distribute bottles of fresh maple syrup, processed directly from his camp to tribal elders. These acts of generosity and care are

fondly remembered and continue to inspire those who carry on with their teachings today. The pancake breakfast and gifting of syrup to elders still occurs today. Daniels lives through these traditions, in the memories of his students, and in the sweetness of the maple syrup and candy produced at his camp.

Billy was also a devoted family man. He is survived by seven children, 15 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. It is hoped that his family finds comfort in seeing his Maple Sugar Camp reopened, and his cultural teachings preserved, ensuring that his legacy will continue for generations to come.



FCP GRADUATE Spotlight



Class of 2025
JOE SAHPENAI
GRANDON HIGH SCHOOL



Class of 2025
ABE VANZILE
WOB NIN KOS
NICOLET COLLEGE

WE WANT TO HONOR ALL FCP HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES by including them in the June 1 & 15, 2026, issues of Potawatomi Times Newspaper.

A banner featuring the Senior will be located at the Potawatomi Community Center

Please scan the QR Code for questionnaire & to upload a photo, or contact us at 715-478-7461 / times@fcp-nsn.gov for a paper form.

NEWSPAPER & BANNER DEADLINE: MAY 20, 2026



Contact us with questions about uploading photos.

 FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI LANGUAGE & CULTURE



FAMILY NIGHT



**THURSDAY
MAY 28, 2026
5:00 – 7:00 PM**

FCP CULTURAL CENTER, LIBRARY, & MUSEUM - LOWER LEVEL
8130 MISH KO SWEN DRIVE • CRANDON, WISCONSIN

ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE
FOOD • GAMES • PRIZES

Bring the family and hang with the Language crew!

OPEN TO
FCP Tribal Members, Descendants, & Their Families

For information contact Language & Culture Advisor Pwagen Frank:
715-478-7374 • Pwagen.Frank@FCP-nsn.gov



MMIW, MMIP, & OPIOID AWARENESS RIDE



JUNE 19-20 2026

9:15am **Bike Blessing**
9:30am **Kick Stands Up**

REGISTRATION = **\$25**

Contact Bruce LaMere:
715.490.5848 • lamereb54@gmail.com

NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR DAMAGES

Friday • June 19
5 – 9 pm **Meet & Greet:**
at LDF Old Bingo Hall • Lac du Flambeau, Wisc.

Saturday • June 20
9:30 am **Starting:**
LDF Old Bingo Hall • Lac du Flambeau, Wisc.

STOPPING AT:
Star Lake Community Park; ride through Forest County Potawatomi Community; Lunch & Tour at Bodwéwadmí Ktégan (Potawatomi Farm) • Laona, Wisc.; attend Strawberry Moon Powwow at Sokaogon Chippewa Community • Mole Lake, Wisc.

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farm.fcpotawatomi.com






HOURS:
M-F 9-5, June-Dec Sat 8-4,
Closed Sunday



GTE GA NĒS






PRESCHOOL
Graduation

(2026)

Save the Date
THURSDAY, MAY 21
FCP COMMUNITY CENTER
11:00 A.M. — GRAND ENTRY IN FIELD HOUSE

10:30 a.m. — Graduating 4K Students Arrive
Pick Up Cap & Gown Under Staircase in Commons Area

12:00 p.m. — Lunch in the Commons Area

Calling all Honorees!

Graduation
**-NEW DATE-
FRIDAY
JUNE 5, 2026**
Banquet


Is your child graduating this year?
(High School, HSED, GED & College)

Is your child on Honor Roll?
(3.0+ GPA all 4 Quarters)

Make sure they're honored!

To be included contact FCP Education no later than May 22, 2026.

GRADUATES: If you or a loved one graduated recently or will graduate before June 5, 2026, please call 715-478-7355!



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI EDUCATION DIVISION
209 E. Elm Street
Crandon, WI 54520
Education@FCP-nsn.gov
715-478-7355

ATTENTION FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY!!

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS NEEDED!

Bozho!

My name is Jessica Kitchens (Bojkwansikwé – Dragonfly Woman), and I'm a citizen of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and a PhD student at the University of Central Arkansas. I'm conducting research study for my dissertation on Potawatomi Perspectives on Autism and Neurodivergence.

This study explores how autism and related traits are understood, experienced, and supported within our Potawatomi communities. It centers community voice and lived experience, and I hope it will contribute to future supports, services, and education that reflect our values.

I'm currently looking for Forest County Potawatomi adults (age 18+) who are:

- Autistic (formally diagnosed or self-identified)
- A parent or caregiver of an autistic individual
- A tribal elder, knowledge-keeper, or historian with insight into how our people have understood difference

Participation Options:

- Individual interviews or possible Sharing Circle (During The Gathering of the Nations in late July/early August - OR- via Zoom from March-June, 2026)

Contact me @ jkitchens2@cub.uca.edu - You can also join the study by using this Google Form - <https://forms.gle/BCKVHC5J4hQTLcN9>

Feel free to share or tag someone who might want to participate!

Migwetch for considering and supporting this work. Bama pi!



Mnokmé Bintahégewen

Spring CLEANING

Beginning
**FRIDAY
MAY 15**

Ending
**FRIDAY
MAY 29**

DUMPSTERS LOCATED AT 3 LOCATIONS!

FCP Solid Waste Transfer Station
5315 Ritchie Ln • Crandon

The End of Chief Wabeka Dr.
Chief Wabeka Dr • Blackwell

FCP Forestry
3877 Industrial Park Rd • Carter

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Community Events MAY 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Recurring Weekly Events					1	2
<p>Mondays: 10am - NA Meeting at Recovery Resource Center 12pm to 3pm - Social Club at Museum Lower Level</p> <p>Tuesdays: 4pm - After School Language Program (Crandon & Laona) 4pm - After School Cooking Club at PCC 4:30pm to 5:30pm - Powwow Club at PCC</p> <p>Wednesdays: 10am to 12pm - Language Class at Museum Lower Level 10:30am to 11:30am - Walking the Spectrum Support Group at PCC 4pm - After School Language Program (Wabeno)</p> <p>Thursdays: 10am - Cradled Connections at PCC** 12pm to 1pm - Support Group at PCC 4pm - After School Cooking Club at We Care 4:30pm to 5:30pm - Powwow Club at PCC <i>** New addition</i></p> <p>Fridays: 9am - Mens Smudge Talk at Recovery Resource Center 2pm - AA Meeting at Recovery Resource Center</p>					<p style="text-align: center;">Chef Pyet Community Event & Book Signing 5pm</p>	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<p>Veterans Post 1 (VP1) Monthly Meeting Open to all Tribal Veterans Old Tribal Hall - 3pm</p> <p>ATV Safety Course LNR Building 4pm</p>	<p>MMIP Event & Walk Kwe Da Kik Lane Pre-walk Prep - 10am Walk Begins - 12pm Awareness Ride - 12pm</p> <p>ATV Safety Course LNR Building 4pm</p>			<p>Potawatomi Ventures Community Outreach Session We Care - Carter 4pm - 6pm</p> <p>Pentatonic Uncertainty Live Entertainment Carter Casino Rock N Brews Stage 7pm - 11pm</p>	<p>Mothers Day Wellnes Event Waseya Wellness Lounge - 9am - 2pm</p> <p>General Council Meeting - 1pm</p> <p>Pentatonic Uncertainty Live Entertainment Carter Casino Rock N Brews Stage 7pm - 11pm</p>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>HAPPY Mother's Day</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK</p>	<p>Kickball w/ Cops Argonne Ball Field 4pm</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Arlene Alloway Day Nigansekwe Day Campus Closed</i></p>	<p>Many Faces of Autism 2:30pm - 5pm</p> <p>Child Minding Farm Day 3pm - 5pm</p> <p>Fashion Show 5:30pm - 7pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK SOBRIETY FEAST - POTLUCK PCC - 5pm</p> <p>Family Fun Night Community Center 5pm - 8pm</p>	<p>Recovery Walk Start at Mole Lake Rec Center - 9am</p> <p>Solid Waste Spring Cleaning Begins</p>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>Elder Bowling & Lunch Northstar Lanes - 12pm</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Chief Simon Day CAMPUS CLOSED</i></p>	<p>Bug Lake Cleanup Day 9am - 11am</p> <p>COFFEE TALK Elders Coffee Talk Turtle House 12pm - 2pm</p>	<p>Gte Ga Nes- Last Day of School 8:30am - 1pm</p> <p>COMMUNITY SOBRIETY FEAST Museum Lower Level - 6pm</p>	<p>Gte Ga Nes Graduation 11am</p>	<p>Jacob Fannin Live Entertainment Carter Casino Rock N Brews Stage 7pm - 11pm</p>	<p>Jacob Fannin Live Entertainment Carter Casino Rock N Brews Stage 7pm - 11pm</p>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Memorial Day CAMPUS CLOSED</i></p> 		<p>Nutrition Taste Test H&W Test Kitchen: 11am - 1pm PCC Teaching Kitchen 11:30am - 1pm</p> <p>Connecting with Ash: Workshop 5pm - 7pm</p> <p>End of Year Dance FCP Youth & Families 5pm - 8pm</p>	<p>Family Fun Night 5pm - 7pm</p>	<p>Solid Waste Spring Cleaning Ends</p>	
31						





Monday, April 13
Pizza Party @12pm
 Turtle House
 5450 Kak Vot Lane • Crandon, Wisc.

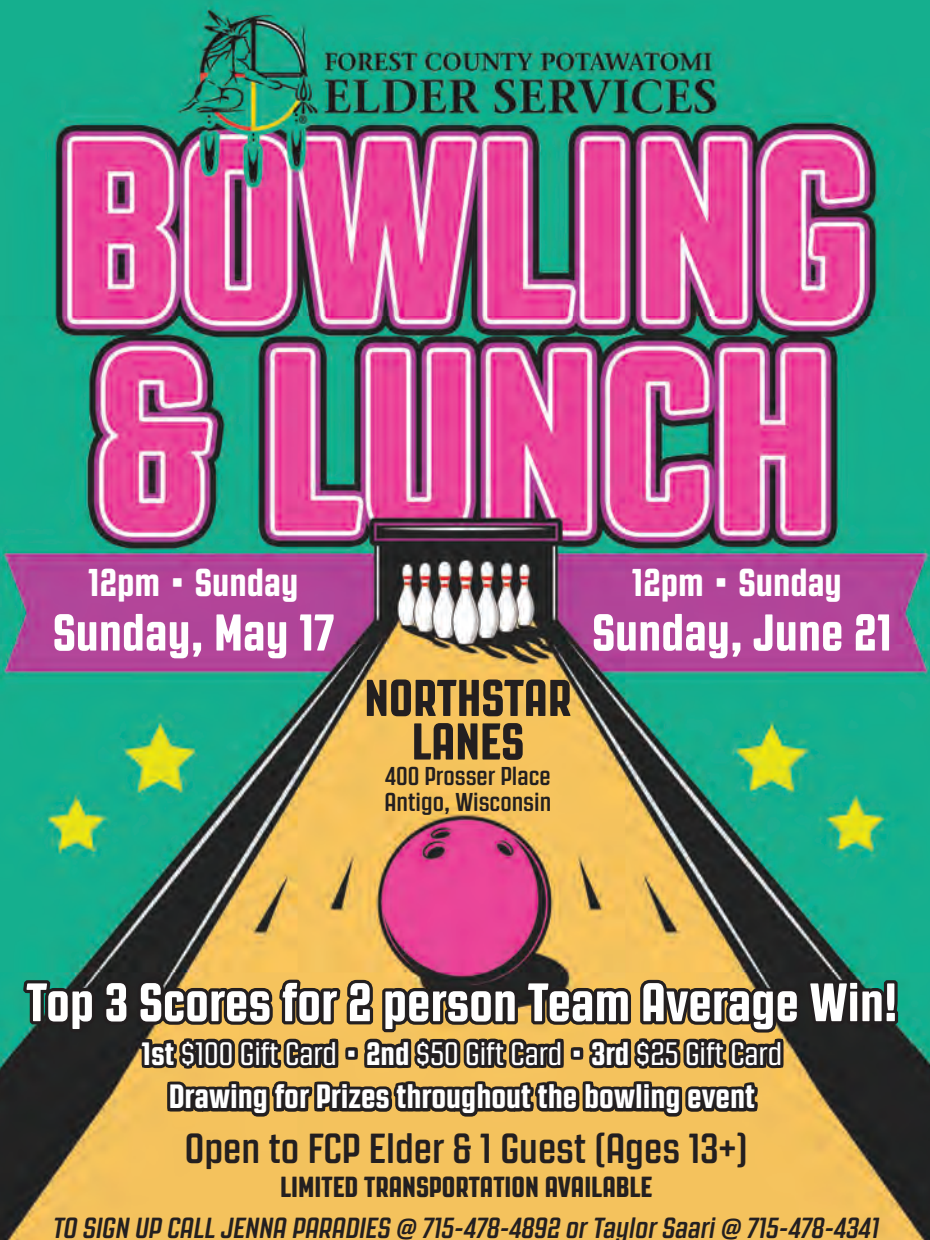
Tuesday, April 28
MOVIES
 Rouman Cinema
 Rhinelander, Wisc.
 Depart Fireside Market SL @3pm
 Open to FCP Elder & One Guest 18+
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

Wednesday, May 13
Casino Trip
 Lake of the Torches Casino
 510 Old Abe Road • Lac Du Flambeau, Wisc.
 Depart Fireside Market SL @ 9am
 Open to FCP Elder & One Guest 18+
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

Sunday, June 14
BINGO
 North Star Casino
 Bowler, Wisc.
 Depart Fireside Market SL @10AM
 Doors Open @12PM
 Early Birds @1:30PM
 Regular Session @2PM
 Open to FCP Elder & One Guest 18+
LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE
 Includes a Standard BINGO Package w/machine & lunch.

FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI ELDER SERVICES
 To sign up or for more info call
 Jenna Paradies @ 715-478-4892
 or Taylor Saari @ 715-478-4341

YOU ARE NOT SIGNED UP UNLESS YOU HAVE A CONFIRMATION NUMBER!
 FCP Elder must be present for their guest to attend!



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI ELDER SERVICES

BOWLING & LUNCH

12pm • Sunday
Sunday, May 17

12pm • Sunday
Sunday, June 21

NORTHSTAR LANES
 400 Prosser Place
 Antigo, Wisconsin

Top 3 Scores for 2 person Team Average Win!
 1st \$100 Gift Card • 2nd \$50 Gift Card • 3rd \$25 Gift Card
Drawing for Prizes throughout the bowling event
 Open to FCP Elder & 1 Guest (Ages 13+)
LIMITED TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE
TO SIGN UP CALL JENNA PARADIES @ 715-478-4892 or Taylor Saari @ 715-478-4341

May 2026 Elder Route Meal Menu

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Italian Sub, Trail Mix, Pickle, Fruit	2
3	4 Sloppy Joes, potato wedges, baked beans, fruit	5 BBQ Chicken, mashed potatoes, fruit cup, dinner roll	6 Chef Salad, Cottage Cheese, dinner roll, fruit	7 Wild Rice & Hominy Soup w/ beef, dinner roll, fruit	8 Tuna Pasta Salad w/ pickle, yogurt parfat	9
10 The 12 th meal will be sent out on the 11 th route.	11 Ham Sub, Pasta Salad, Fruit	12 Tribal Offices Closed - Arlene Alloway Day	13 Pepperoni Pizza, Veggie & dill tray, pasta salad, jello w/ fruit	14 Pork Roast w/ wild rice, dinner roll, fruit, veggie	15 Cold Cut Sandwich, chips, pickles, pepper strips	16
17 The 18 th meal will be sent out on Thursday 14th.	18 Tribal Offices Closed - Chief Simon's Day	19 Wild Rice Casserole, Yogurt Parfait, dinner roll	20 Pork chop stuffing, veggie & dip, fruit cup	21 Spaghetti & meatballs, mixed veggies, garlic bread	22 Chicken Salad sandwich, peanut butter crackers, cottage cheese	23
24 The 25 th meal will be sent out on Thursday 21 st .	25 Tribal Offices Closed - Memorial Day	26 Shepard's Pie, Dinner roll, fruit cup	27 Chili w/ beef, cornbread, pasta salad, fruit	28 Chicken Noodle Casserole, yogurt parfait, dinner roll	29 Bologna Sandwich, cottage cheese, peaches, veggie + dill dip	30
31	The Daily Menu is subject to change without prior notice due, to inclement weather conditions, facility closures and other circumstances beyond our control. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.					

- FCP Sustainable Food Services Department

FLOWER POWER FRIDAYS

MAY 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

WIN YOUR SHARE OF **\$25,000**

\$200-\$1,000 CASH DRAWINGS
TWO WINNERS EACH HOUR: 5-9 P.M.

One electronic entry for every 25 tier credits earned May 1-May 29.
One win per person, per day of promotion.

MEMORIAL DAY KIOSK ★ GAME

MONDAY MAY 25 WIN UP TO **\$1,000** IN REWARD PLAY

Memorial Day Buffet

MONDAY, MAY 25
11 A.M.-7 P.M.

SPRING into SUMMER

SATURDAY, JUNE 27
DRAWINGS 6-9 P.M. | ONE WINNER EACH HOUR

WIN YOUR SHARE OF **\$20,000 CASH**

All of your April, May, and June entries roll over as entries into the Spring into Summer Cash Drawings

One electronic entry for every 25 tier credits earned April 1-June 27.

CASH DRAWINGS LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FREE FOR SPECTATORS

RAD DAD Car Show

THIRD ANNUAL

20 26

First 100 to register will receive a dash plaque & goodie bag!

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

PRE-REGISTRATION: \$10 | REGISTRATION DAY OF EVENT: \$15

PRE-REGISTER ONLINE OR CALL
715-473-6740 OR 715-473-6774

REGISTER: 8 A.M.-11 A.M.
CASH DRAWINGS 11 A.M.-2 P.M. | TROPHIES: 2 P.M.

