



POTAWATOMI TIMES

Gsenyaniyêk êzhewébêk — Forest County Potawatomi Happenings



Volume 32, Issue 5 • September 1, 2026 • wzawbêgya gizes • Leaves Turning Yellow Moon • FREE

Potawatomi Gathering 2026



Aviyannah Alloway making a ribbon skirt



Owen Shepard's beginners class



Mabel Schingeck empowering MMIP during the fashion show

by Amber Haseman

Potawatomi bands from across Turtle Island traveled to Forest County to gather for the Potawatomi Gathering, hosted by the Forest County Potawatomi community from July 27 through Aug. 1, 2026. The week-long event featured a language conference, cultural activities, entertainment, and community gatherings.

The week began with a severe thunderstorm warning during Monday morning language classes. Dark, eerie green clouds filled the sky, bringing strong winds, hail, thunder, and lightning, while a tornado threat was also in effect. Fortunately, the storm passed quickly, and sunshine welcomed participants for the remainder of the day.

Language instructors from several bands shared their knowledge during

the conference. Featured presenters Malcolm McDonald, Owen Shepard, and Donald Keeble engaged participants through interactive lessons. McDonald encouraged participants to focus on speaking nesnabémwen rather than writing it, while Shepard introduced beginners to first-, second-, and third-person introductions through engaging ball-toss exercises.

Additional youth and adult language conference activities continued throughout the day, including sun painting, tie-dyeing, paint workshops, language games, group exercises, turf field-house activities, BINGO, Go Fish, and much more.

Evening entertainment kicked off with comedian Brett Mooswa of Makwa Sahgaiehan First Nation in Canada, followed by motivational speaker and comedian Kasey Nicholson, who jokingly reminisced about the day's tornado warning experience. Comedian Donovan Archambault and performer Mylo Smith concluded the evening with laughter, storytelling, and

music.

On Tuesday, participants of all ages welcomed Dania Wahwasuck, Miss Indian World 2025-2026. During her Career Readiness: Empowering Futures presentation, Wahwasuck shared her educational journey, emphasized the importance of mental health, and offered practical tools and practice questions to help prepare participants for college and career success.

Gathering activities officially began on Wednesday. While many events took place at the Carter Powwow grounds, the Potawatomi Community Center hosted youth activities, including cardio drumming, turf games, arts and crafts, a pool party, and a giant inflatable ninja obstacle course.

Evening entertainment featured Native comedian Rob Fairbanks, known as the Rez Reporter. You may have seen him in a few reels on Facebook reporting local traffic and weather. Following his act was the moment everyone had been patiently waiting for. It was time for Micro Wrestling.

The show had the audience laughing, sitting on the edge of their seats, and cheering throughout the entire night.

As the week continued, workshops and cultural

demonstrations filled the powwow grounds. Visitors also attended the two-day Food Summit at Bodwéwadmī Ktēgan (Potawatomi Farm), where they explored Potawatomi agricultural history, traditional foods, wild rice restoration and trout streams, aquaponics, and maple syrup production through presentations and guided tours.

The Elders Tent welcomed visitors to the Regi Raptor Education Group presentation, where attendees saw a raven, a turkey vulture, a red-tailed hawk, an American kestrel (falcon), and a barred owl. The presenter shared information about each species while highlighting their wildlife rehabilitation and education efforts.

As the evening finally came, rain began to fall, sending organizers to quickly relocate the fashion show from the Carter Casino to the powwow grounds. Participants of all ages joined in showcasing regalia, their personal style, best dress, and inspirational messages, highlighting creativity, confidence, and cultural pride.

The week brought culture, community, language, and tradition for visitors of all ages. From educational workshops and cultural demonstrations to entertainment and language. The 2026 Potawatomi Gathering celebrated the unity and strength of the Potawatomi people from across Turtle Island. Participants left with lasting memories, new connections, and a deeper understanding and appreciation of their language, culture, and traditions, which continue to bring their communities together.



Everyone enjoying Micro Wrestling

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OBITUARY

William Eugene Waube

Byēdaské - “Lightening coming towards”

William Eugene Waube, 62, of Laona, Wis., passed away peacefully on August 10, 2026, in Wausau, Wis., surrounded by family. He was born on Nov. 11, 1963, in Chicago, Ill., to William Waube Jr. and Gloriann (Smith) Waube.

William was a devoted family man who treasured the time he spent with his loved ones. He had a wonderful sense of humor and was known for being a goofball who could make those around him laugh. He especially enjoyed being surrounded by his friends and family and took great pride and joy in his daughters, son, nephews, and grandchildren.

A lifelong sports fan, William proudly cheered for the Chicago Bears and Chicago Cubs. He also loved spending time outdoors, especially golfing and fishing. William was a good cook and enjoyed sharing food and good times with the people he cared about. He also considered himself a professional gambler.

William is survived by his children, Gloriann Waube (Stone Koenig), Melissa Waube, (Theron Ahtone) and Jack Pauliot; his nephews, Joshua, Brandon, and Cameron Sefcik; his sister, Cheryl



Waube (Stan Sefcik); and his beloved grandchildren, Raina Koenig, Slate Waube, Dominic Pauliot, and Serenity Pauliot. He will be remembered for his laughter, humor, generous spirit, and the love he had for his family.

William was preceded in death by his beloved grandson in infancy; his parents, William Waube Jr. and Gloriann (Smith) Waube; and his uncle, Gordon Waube.

Viewing services were on Aug. 12, 2026, followed by traditional services.

Native American services were held on Aug. 13, 2026, at the Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center & Museum. Burial followed at the Tribal Cemetery at Stone Lake.

Weber-Hill & Packard Funeral Home of Crandon assisted the family with arrangements.

FCP Up & Coming

by Amber Haseman

Campus Closure: Campus will be closed on Sept. 7, 2026, in observance of Labor Day.

Community Advocacy Pop-Up Booths: Visit Community Advocacy’s Pop-Up Booth on select Tuesdays to be informed about domestic violence, sexual assault, healthy relationships, and prevention. Everyone is welcome. Stop by the Potawatomi Community Center on Sept. 15, 2026, and Oct. 13, 2026, at 1 p.m. For more information, contact Community Advocate and Resource Specialist Laura Godin at (715) 478-4539 or laural.godin@fcp-nsn.gov.

LNR Photo Contest: Do you enjoy taking photos? Enter your photos for a chance to have them displayed in the LNR FCPC calendar. Everyone is welcome to submit photos throughout the year, following the traditional calendar moon phases. LNR’s goal is to honor and appreciate the natural world around us. Monthly winners will receive incentives and have their photos displayed. Call (715) 478-7222 with questions. Rules and submissions can be found at <https://lnr.potawatomi.com/nina-forms/17aao8/>.

Elders Coffee Talk: FCP tribal elders and one guest 18+ are welcome to join FCP Elder Services for coffee talk. Enjoy lunch and a fun activity. Days include Sept. 15, Oct. 5, and Oct. 26, 2026. Join at the Turtle House from 12-2 p.m. If you require assistance, you must bring a caregiver to the event. For any questions or more information, contact Jenna Paradies at (715) 478-4892 or Taylor Saari at (715) 478-4341.

Parent Support Group: Everyone is welcome to join for lunch to share and support parents and

caregivers in their parenting journey. Weekly topics will be discussed, and resources will be available. Join every Thursday from 12-1 p.m. from Sept. 17, 2026, through May 6, 2027, at the Potawatomi Community Center Commons. For more information, contact Family Resource Community Coordinator Mary Thornton at (715) 889-2051 or marye.thornton@fcp-nsn.gov.

Fenders & Flannel Car Show: Do you have a cool car to show off? Register today for the Fenders & Flannel Car Show on Sept. 19, 2026, hosted by Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Carter. The first 100 to register will receive an exclusive dash plaque and a goodie bag. Trophies will be presented to first-place winners and runner-ups in a variety of categories, chosen by the crowd. Additional judged trophy categories include Best in Show and Potawatomi Pick. Set-up begins at 8 a.m., and registration ends at 11 a.m. Judging begins at noon. Winners will be announced at 2 p.m. Pre-register today at <https://www.potawatomi.com/carter/events/all-in-summer-series-2026/fenders-and-flannels-car-show>

Elders Day Trips: FCP tribal elders and one guest, 18+, are welcome to join for a day of fun. Join Sept. 28, 2026, for a trip to the DeYoung Family Zoo in Wallace, Mich. Lunch will be provided. Depart from fireside MARKET in Stone Lake at 8:30 a.m. On Oct. 6, 2026, elders are welcome to enjoy a Fall Leaves Chair Life Ride at Granite Peak in Wausau, Wis. Lunch is provided. If you need assistance, you must bring a caregiver. Limited spots are available. To sign up or for more information, contact Jenna Paradies or Taylor Saari.



POTAWATOMI TIMES

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Deadline for the September 15, 2026, issue of the PT is Wednesday, September 2, 2026.

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Swearing In

Historic & Cultural Preservation Board Yance Mann



One of many Gathering art show submissions

Mid-Week/End of Potawatomi Gathering 2026

by Val Niehaus

The 2026 Potawatomi Gathering brought together culture, entertainment, education, business, and community relations for several days of events. This year, the Forest County Potawatomi Community had its turn hosting the Potawatomi Gathering from July 27 to Aug. 1, 2027, and what a week it was.

This year's Gathering welcomed approximately 5,000 attendees representing the 12 Potawatomi Nations.

A Language Conference kicked off the week, followed by cultural workshops, nightly entertainment, meetings, an art show, and, ultimately, the Potawatomi Gathering Powwow.

Wednesday marked the official start of the cultural workshops offered to attendees. The workshops ran July 29-31 and focused on teaching participants how to make a variety of items with cultural significance to the Potawatomi people.

Many instructors have carried these teachings since they were young, while others may have only recently learned a craft and wanted to share their knowledge with those in attendance. A common message throughout the workshops was that when someone teaches you a skill, it becomes your responsibility to pass that teaching and those skills on to anyone who is willing to learn and onto the next generation.

The golf tournament also kicked off on Wednesday, with families and friends gathering at Nicolet Country Club in Laona, Wis. The tournament consisted of 18 holes in a two-person scramble format, with food and drinks available.

Workshops were offered on a first-come, first-served basis and included medicine bag making, wrapped porcupine quillwork, moccasin making, preparing hominy corn, flat-stitch earrings, applique painting, ash basket making, ribbon skirts, finger weaving,

loomwork, dance shirts, hand drum making, dentalium princess earrings, and much more.

Entertainment was also highly anticipated throughout the Gathering. Kevin O'Toole, a fire performer, Tia Wood, a fan favorite, and her sister Fawn Wood, and Okema were among those scheduled to perform, with Brett Mooswa serving as emcee. Performances were held on the main outdoor stage at Potawatomi Casino Hotel Carter (PCHC), providing a perfect setting for family and friends to gather and enjoy the evening.

On July 30, cultural workshops continued alongside a Spirit Warrior Run and self-guided museum tours. Another highlight was the Confederacy All Leaders Meeting held at PCHC. Tribal leaders came together as one to discuss future endeavors for their people and to reflect on what they have accomplished over the past year.

The day also marked the kickoff of the Food Sovereignty Summit at Bodwéwadmī Ktēgan, the Potawatomi Farm. The summit added another important dimension to the Gathering by highlighting food sovereignty and the relationship between community, food, and land.

A fishing contest was also held at Devil's Lake, along with a guided native walk and educational information about microplastics.

The day also featured interviews and a talent contest for the new Miss Potawatomi and Brave Reign. Several young women competed for the crown, with Margaret Thunderhawk of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi, also known as the Gun Lake Tribe, crowned Miss Potawatomi for the 2026-27 reign. Gabe Loonsfoot of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians was named Brave for this year's Potawatomi Gathering. FCP congratulates both

representatives and looks forward to seeing them represent the Potawatomi people across Turtle Island in the coming year.

That evening's entertainment at PCHC featured Little Wolf, AntoineX, and Kevin O'Toole, providing another night of performances for Gathering attendees. The performers kept the crowd on its feet for much of the evening as family and friends enjoyed the celebration together.

On July 31, the Business Expo was held at PCHC, giving businesses and community interests an opportunity to connect. The Economic Summit also took place that day in the Willow Room at PCHC.

The casino was also the site of the Art Show's opening and viewing. Artists entered pieces in a wide range of categories, including beadwork, pottery, jewelry, basket weaving, painting, and digital art. A youth category featured artwork from some of the Gathering's youngest artists.

For those looking for a little more competition, a 3-on-3 tournament was held at the Potawatomi Community Center. Attendees could also participate in cultural workshops they may have missed earlier in the week, giving everyone another opportunity to experience the teachings offered throughout the three-day workshop schedule.

Friday night marked the beginning of one of the Gathering's main events: the Parade of Nations, held before the official Grand Entry of the Potawatomi Gathering Powwow.

Each Potawatomi Nation present gathered its royalty, veterans, and representatives to dance around the arena. The moment served as a powerful reminder that the Potawatomi Nations are still here and remain united when they come together each year to celebrate their shared culture just as this year's theme indicates "zgēknēn odē gētē neshnabē zhetthgēwēn - Hold on

to this old way of life". It was a display of strength, unity, and perseverance in the face of all that has happened throughout history — a message to all: "We are still here."

Following the Parade of Nations and Grand Entry, the evening was filled with dancing, singing, laughter, good food, and companionship.

Saturday began with morning ceremonies and teachings before the powwow moved into full force. With Grand Entry beginning at noon, dancers put on their regalia and filled the arena, dancing throughout the afternoon and into the evening.

As the sun began to set, it was time for another important Gathering tradition: the "passing of the ashes" to the next Potawatomi Nation in line to host. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Shawnee, Okla., will host the 2027 Potawatomi Gathering.

Taken as a whole, the 2026 Potawatomi Gathering reflected the many ways Potawatomi communities come together. The week moved from language preservation and artistic expression to entertainment, golf, and fishing, while also making room for important conversations surrounding business, economic development, and food sovereignty. Throughout it all, culture, family, and community remained at the heart of the Gathering.

A Chi Migwēth goes out to all FCP employees who volunteered their time to help make this year's Gathering a success. Thanks also go to those who worked from the beginning to organize such a large event, the Gathering Committee, community members, friends, and families who stepped up to help in any way they could. An event of this size could not have been successful without the time, dedication, and hard work of everyone involved.

We will see you all next year in Shawnee, Okla.!



Eugene Shawano Jr. and Eugene Shawano Sr.



Donald Keeble and Sam Alloway



Noden Thunder teaching participants during his group exercise



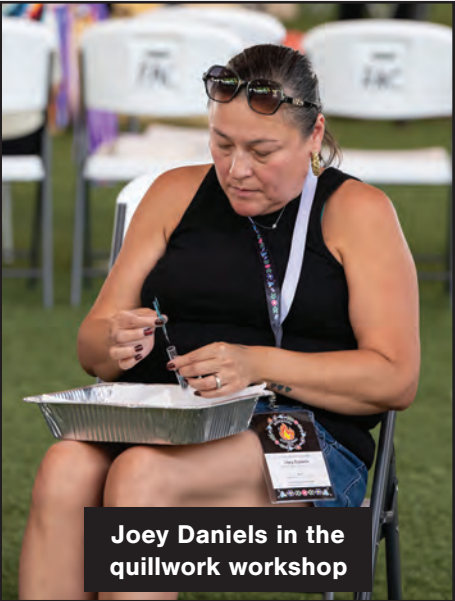
Family fun playing ngot tadiwen (UNO)



Tie dyeing fun for everyone



Smile and pose for the camera



Joey Daniels in the quillwork workshop



All smiles at the ninja course



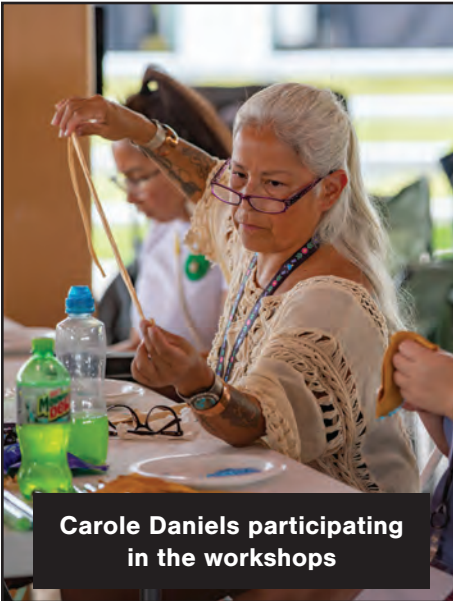
Tia Wood



Golf carts were a fan favorite



AntoineX



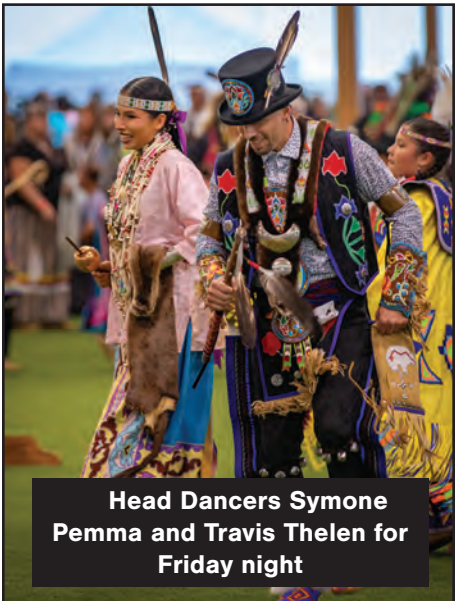
Carole Daniels participating in the workshops



Thankful for slip-n-slides for the week



Little Wolf



Head Dancers Symone Pemma and Travis Thelen for Friday night



Kevin O'Toole

SYE Youth Visit and Learn About the Proposed Crandon Mine Area

by Val Niehaus

What began as an idea last October, during the 22nd anniversary of the historic purchase of the Crandon Mine property, became an opportunity this summer for young people from the Forest County Potawatomi and Sokaogon Chippewa tribal communities to learn firsthand about a decades-long environmental battle that affected the lands they live on.

The Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Land & Natural Resources Department and the Sokaogon Chippewa Community Environmental Department brought together their Summer Youth Employment (SYE) for an educational day focused on the history of the proposed Crandon Mine, the environmental consequences mining could have caused, and the importance of protecting land and water for future generations.

The program gave youth a chance to learn not only what happened during the long fight over the proposed mine but also what “could” have happened if tribal communities and other opponents had not fought for decades to stop the project. The SYE who attended stood on the very grounds where the mining site was planned. It was also the land that many of their relatives had kept safe

for them and future generations.

The day began with registration, followed by a welcome and prayer led by Sokaogon Chippewa Chairman Robert Van Zile. Sokaogon Chippewa Environmental Department Director Tina VanZile welcomed attendees and spoke about her deep involvement in efforts to stop the Crandon Mine. She was one of the main activists who fought hard to keep this threat from her homeland. Eugene VanZile also spoke about his role in ensuring the mine never came to be. These few names represent some of the leading people in the fight, but many others who have walked on have also done their fair share in various ways. FCP LNR department’s Climate Resilience & Sustainability Coordinator Marcy Delos, and Environmental Educator Bailey Veal explained the nature and progression of the land they stood on and the impacts the mine could have had if it existed today.

Youth examined core samples taken from about 2,420 feet underground and learned how the area’s geology developed over nearly 2 billion years through volcanic activity, mountain building, erosion, ancient seas, and glaciation. They participated in interactive climate activities and explored the ore body while identifying plants, animals, and other natural features. Youth learned about Manoomin/mnomen and how mining and climate change could affect wild rice, water, and cultural practices. They visited Mole Lake Farm to learn about food sovereignty and explored Mushgi-gagamongsebe to better understand watersheds and water protection. Youth collected and identified macroinvertebrates to evaluate stream health and discussed the impacts of mining pollution and climate change. The gathering ended with an art and writing activity encouraging youth to reflect on what they learned and what they hope to protect for future generations. Of particular importance was the potential threat posed by the proposed Crandon Mine to Manoomin, or wild rice, and the waters surrounding the neighboring Mole Lake Reservation. Manoomin holds tremendous ecological and cultural importance to the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, making protection of the area’s water resources a central part of the decades-long opposition to the mine.

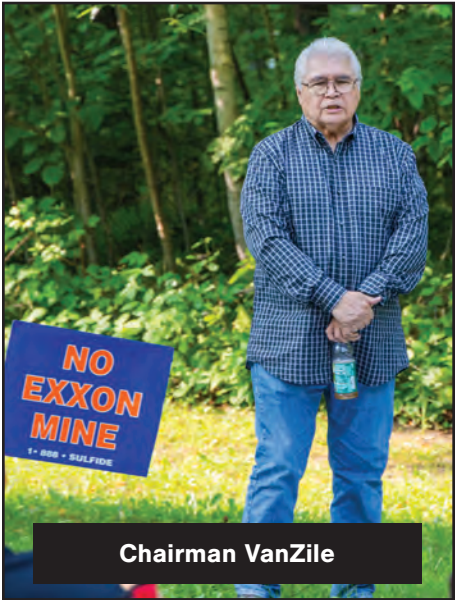
Organizers hope this educational opportunity will eventually be offered on a broader scale, allowing more

young people to learn about the history of the Crandon Mine proposal and the environmental issues surrounding mining.

Special appreciation goes to Sokaogon Chippewa Environmental Department Director Tina VanZile, along with FCP’s LNR department staff and volunteers, Sokaogon Chippewa staff and volunteers, along with Chairman VanZile and Eugene VanZile, for organizing and hosting the educational event for the youth of both tribal nations.

PBS Wisconsin Public Television in Madison also attended the event to document the day’s activities. The resulting coverage is expected to air later this fall, providing an opportunity to share the history, environmental lessons, and enduring legacy of the Crandon Mine fight with a much larger audience.

More than two decades after the mine property was purchased, the forests and waters surrounding the proposed site remain a powerful classroom — and a living example of what determined communities can accomplish when they come together to protect the land for generations yet to come.



Chairman VanZile



Tina VanZile



Eugene VanZile



Bailey, Tina and Marcy showing some information on the land



Core sample

FCP Paddle Birch Bark Canoes on the Menomonee River for the First Time in 188 Years



story submitted by Potawatomi Casino Hotel Milwaukee, photos by FCP Videographer Travis Pohl

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — On Friday, Aug. 14, 2026, Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) tribal members, including youth who spent part of their summer building a birch bark canoe, launched five handcrafted birch bark canoes on the Menomonee River in Milwaukee's Menomonee Valley. This marks the first time in 188 years that FCP members paddled the river since their ancestors were removed from the region in 1838.

At its heart, this event is about the kids. FCP youth spent time this summer learning the traditional craft of birch bark canoe building; working with their hands, connecting with their culture, and carrying forward knowledge passed down through generations. This launch is their reward and their moment to make history. The launch occurred at a boat launch near Hardwood Engineering and Lombardi Brewing on the Menomonee River, with canoes

heading east down the river. “I wanted to reward our kids for their hard work helping build a birch bark canoe,” said FCP Cultural Programming Coordinator Lawrence Mann, event organizer. “I wanted them to experience something historic by bringing our birch bark canoes back to the Menomonee River. I wanted them to be the ones to do this for our people.” The event was also a celebration of how far the Menomonee Valley has come; from an industrial wasteland to a restored natural corridor to a powerful visual of birch bark canoes gliding past the Potawatomi Casino Hotel, a symbol of the tribe’s enduring presence in Milwaukee.

Historical Significance
The FCP’s connection to this land runs deep. The following timeline illustrates the journey that makes this canoe launch so meaningful:

- 1600s: The Potawatomi settled on the shores of Lake Michigan, drawn to the region “where the food grows on water.”

- 1833: The Treaty of Chicago was signed, ceding Potawatomi lands.
- 1835: The Treaty was ratified by the U.S. government.
- 1838: Potawatomi people were forcefully removed at gunpoint. Those caught east of the Mississippi were shot at. The ancestors of today’s FCP fled to northern Wisconsin.
- 1838–1913: Wisconsin Potawatomi lived on the run from the U.S. government for 75 years.
- 1913: 11,786 acres of land were purchased for the Wisconsin Potawatomi, ending decades of displacement.
- 1990: 152 years after removal, FCP purchased 15.6 acres in Milwaukee’s Menomonee Valley — the present site of Potawatomi

Casino Hotel.

- 2026: 188 years after being forcefully removed, FCP tribal members paddle birch bark canoes on the Menomonee River for the first time since removal.

Additional Facts

- The five birch bark canoes being launched include hand-built vessels by the FCP community over the years. Notable canoe builders include Wayne Valleyer (2018) and Marvin Defoe (2007), whose craftsmanship continues to inspire the next generation.
- This event coincides with a broader season of cultural reconnection on the Menomonee River. Sturgeon Fest planned for September to celebrate the return of sturgeon to the Menomonee River after approximately 180 years — another powerful symbol of restoration and resilience.

- FCP will also host their annual Canoe Gathering on September 26 in Forest County, bringing together birch bark canoes from relative tribes across the region. Please visit FCP's Facebook page for further updates.

An additional thank you to the Marquette University Rowing Team for its generous offering of a trail boat to serve as a safety vessel, ensuring the well-being of all participants on the water, and to Hardwood Engineering Consultants, LTD who helped Potawatomi Casino Hotel arrange the launch site.



#Open2Everyone

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5 YEAR

FREE TREATS DAILY

Enjoy fresh coffee & other specialty refreshments (while supplies last).

ANNIVERSARY MEMBERSHIP SALE

- Exclusive discounted rates for new members!
- Special renewal offers for current members!

ANNIVERSARY

September 8 – 12, 2026

Celebrating 5 Years of Community!

We wouldn't be here without YOU —our members, families, and community. Let's celebrate together and look forward to many more years ahead. Member spotlights & testimonials, flash sales, and giveaways all week.

Don't miss out —bring a friend and receive PCC swag!*

*Friend must not be a current active PCC Member.

5 DAYS. 5 THEMES. ENDLESS FUN!

Visit each zone to unlock rewards.**

- 1 **Fitness & Wellness Zone** • Tuesday, Sept. 8
- 2 **Pool Zone** • Wednesday, Sept. 9
- 3 **Gymnasium & Turf Fieldhouse Zone** • Thursday, Sept. 10
- 4 **Kid & Family Zone** • Friday, Sept. 11
- 5 **Full Facility Zone** • Saturday, Sept. 12

**Some services may require registration. Please check zone hours to ensure that area is open when you arrive (e.g., Pool, Waseya Wellness Lounge, Group Exercise, etc.)

*Thank you for
5 amazing years!*



5471 Thayék Êthë Dnêkmëgzêk Myéw
(The Place Where Everyone Plays Road)
Crandon, Wisconsin

Coming up at PCC

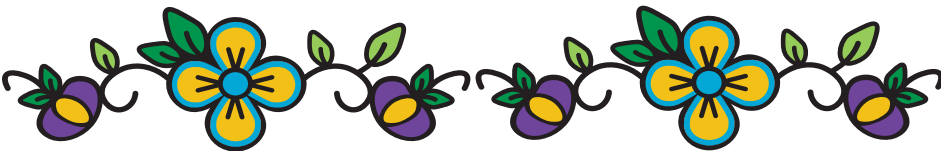
submitted by Media/Event Coordinator Leah Palubicki

Celebrating 5 Years of Community. The Potawatomi Community Center (PCC) will celebrate its 5th Anniversary September 8-12 with five themed days highlighting the many programs, services, and spaces that make PCC a hub for the community. Members are encouraged to visit each featured zone throughout the week to unlock rewards and learn more about everything PCC has to offer. The celebration will wrap up with a grand prize drawing on September 12. Join us as we celebrate five years of community, connection, and growth while honoring the journey that brought us here.

Looking ahead, PCC has several exciting events and programs planned this fall. The 3rd Annual Softball Tournament will take place September 11-13 at Arlyn Alloway Field. We also look forward to our After School Program beginning on September 14 and our annual Yoga Retreat on September 18-19. October brings a fall "Powwow the Vote" on October 3, hosted by Wisconsin Native Vote. The date is set for the FCP Community "Haunted Hollywood" Halloween Party on October 30 from 4-8 p.m. Tribal members, descendants, and their families are invited to join us for an evening of costumes, games, activities, and family fun.

Looking for a way to relax and recharge? Waséya Wellness Lounge offers Red Light Therapy, Infrared Sauna, Halotherapy, PEMF Therapy, and a Sound Lounge experience. Take some time for yourself this month and experience the wellness services available in this beautiful space.

For more information on programs and events, visit fcplinks.com/cctr or follow PCC on social media.



Milwaukee Brewers Three Day Camp Held at PCC

submitted by Events & Media Assistant Holly Palubicki

Young baseball players from across Forest County spent three days learning, competing, and having fun at the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Academy camp held at Crandon High School on August 10-12. Boys and girls ages 6-14 improved their hitting, throwing, and fielding skills through

Mayor of Racine Visits PCC



submitted by Lobbyist / Shareholder Schreiber GR Group George Ermert

On Aug. 20, 2026, Racine Mayor Cory Mason visited the Potawatomi Community Center (PCC) to learn more about Potawatomi's operations and approach to serving the community.

With Racine preparing to open a new community center in 2027, Mayor Mason was interested in learning about the PCC's programs, operations, and best practices and exploring ideas that could help inform Racine's new facility.

We appreciated the opportunity to welcome Mayor Mason, share our experiences, and discuss the important role community centers can play in bringing people together and providing valuable services to the communities they serve.

hands-on instruction and drills before showcasing what they learned in a scrimmage game. The camp concluded with awards recognizing outstanding effort and achievement, celebrating the growth of young athletes while inspiring the next generation of northwoods baseball players.

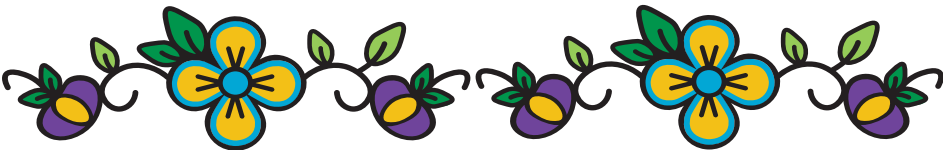


Cycle Breakers Raise Funds for MMIP

submitted by Events & Media Assistant Holly Palubicki

The Cycle Breakers group recently turned a community fundraising effort into meaningful action by donating proceeds from a lemonade stand and cookie sales to support Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) awareness initiatives. Guided by its mission of healing, empowerment, and violence prevention through culturally based practices, Cycle

Breakers presented the donation to Redrum M.C. and Redspirit, organizations that advocate for MMIP awareness and support. The effort, made possible through partnerships with several community organizations, gave participants an opportunity to give back while promoting advocacy, education, and healing for Indigenous communities.



Ash Tree Connection Workshop

by Communications Tribal Talent Bryson Daniels

On Aug. 5, 2026, the Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Cultural Preservation and Land & Natural Resources divisions hosted an Ash Tree Connection Workshop held at the Potawatomi Community Center. The educational event focused on ash trees and their importance to local forests. The workshop was led by Climate Resilience & Sustainability Coordinator Marcy Delos, Environmental Educator Bailey Veal, and Cultural Programming Coordinator Lawrence Mann. The presenters educated attendees about how to identify ash trees and their relatives, the threats facing ash trees, and the effects climate change can have on their survival.

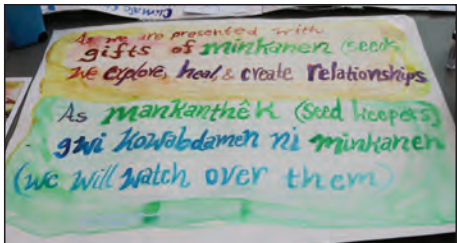
Guests also learned that there are three species of ash trees found in forest county, which include black ash, white ash, and green ash. Black ash is the most abundant in northern Wisconsin and thrives in wet environments like swamps. It is commonly used for basket-making.

Interested parties were led outside to identify different types of trees.

One of the major topics discussed was the growing danger ash trees face from disease, invasive species, and climate change. These threats can weaken ash populations and have lasting effects on the forests and ecosystems that depend on them.

Some interesting facts about Ash trees is they act like straws that suck up water and prevent floods. They also house over 150 species of moth and butterfly larvae.

The workshop encouraged community members to become more proactive in the support of LNR and their journey to prevent the effects of climate change on Ash trees. To learn, help or support ash tree preservation, contact LNR at 715-478-7222 / LN-RDivision@fcp-nsn.gov.



Greenfire: Unique Experience Leads to Growth



by Marketing & Business Development Intern Ava Johnson

Greenfire welcomed three summer interns – Hunter Szymborski, Alex Sanchez, and Ava Johnson. Each were assigned to a team to learn processes, skills, and form meaningful professional relationships.

Szymborski – a returning intern – is a Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) senior, currently pursuing a degree in Construction Management. To help him sharpen his skills in the industry, Szymborski brings a strong sense of accountability, teamwork and time management that he gained through his extensive work-life balance. Outside of schoolwork, this includes sports, EMT work, and Army ROTC experience, alongside his last Greenfire internship.

Within the weeks he's been here, Szymborski learned quite a bit. One of those things is effective planning, especially around the unexpected. "I think it's more of the aspect of, 'don't expect something that's going to happen the way you want it to happen,'" he says. "But more or less have a

bunch of different contingency plans or different ways to think about it."

Sanchez is another MSOE student, a junior, who is pursuing a Construction Management degree. Communication, collaboration, and leadership skills, including relevant external experience and insight, are all things that Sanchez brings to the construction team. With a great drive to learn, Sanchez has been exposed to more "hands-on" experiences and expanded upon important knowledge and skills in the field.

"Construction management is a career that is very oriented around experience out on a job site," says Sanchez. "So being able to act like a sponge and absorb knowledge from some of the best in the industry has been very important to me."

Sanchez said that he became more familiar with software programs (Bluebeam, Procore and MS Project) and has a greater appreciation for good organization and communication since coming on board.



Johnson is a junior at Marquette University, studying journalism and advertising. Last summer, Johnson joined Potawatomi Ventures' marketing team, learning the basics of marketing. Johnson brought collaboration, strong communication, and an extra layer of creativity to the team. Skills like photography and graphic design are developing, while her writing skills have gotten stronger.

"An internship gives you a peek behind the curtain before you actually get on stage," she says. "It allows you to expand your knowledge and skills in whatever industry you're in, building your network, and strengthen those connections. It also shows you what that industry is like and helps you plan for your future, which I found to be very helpful within the past couple of years."

A good internship can look like many different things, so can a bad one. To outline future programs, we asked each intern what a good and bad internship looked like and from there,

a short list of qualities formed.

Good internships encourage active learning, and mentorship resources to be employed as much as possible. From there, trust is fostered and those relationships strengthen as programs progress. Good communication, hands-on work, and collaboration add value to programs like these, and can bring those professional relationships into closer personal circles.

Sanchez adds that, "Having good mentors around me who also make work enjoyable while also being able to pass down their years of knowledge is what makes an internship good to me."

Szymborski, Sanchez, and Johnson walk away from their internships with positive experiences, mentors, and a promising future. As they do, they carry new connections, stronger bonds, and a new industry perspective.

Greenfire continuously accepts applications for internships on our careers page. If you know someone that is interested, have them apply today.

PV - Tribal Relations Communications Corner

by Director of Tribal Relations Heather VanZile

Bosho! As we moved through May, June, July, and August, tribal relations continued to focus on increasing communication and creating opportunities for tribal members to engage with Potawatomi Ventures (PV). This summer provided valuable opportunities for connection, collaboration, and community engagement, and I am grateful for the continued participation and feedback from our tribal members.

Community Engagement

- 1:1 Tribal Member Q&A Sessions: Launched on May 7, 2026, providing another opportunity for tribal members to connect directly, ask questions, and share feedback.

- Community Outreach Event: Hosted on May 8, 2026, in Carter, Wis., creating opportunities for dis-

cussion and engagement with tribal members.

- Data Holdings Tour & Q&A: Held on July 17, 2026, giving tribal members and our elders an inside look at one of PV's growing businesses.

- Potawatomi Gathering Economic Summit & Business Expo: Hosted on July 26, 2026, there was a huge effort to engage our participants through active presentations on Data Holdings and our Innovation Community initiative through the Bwadwét Cohort.

- Virtual Community Meeting: Held the first virtual Tribal Relations community meeting on Aug. 6, 2026, providing another accessible way for tribal members to stay informed and engaged.

- Meno Keno Ma Gē Wen Powwow: On Aug. 22, 2026, PV sponsored five spot dances with \$25 Shell gas cards as a way of giving back to

the circle.

- FCPC Backpack Event: PV partnered with the Education Division on Aug. 26-27, 2026, to distribute 400 backpacks to FCP tribal members and decedents preparing for the upcoming school year.

Collaboration & Partnerships

- Level 1 Potawatomi Language Class: In collaboration with the FCP Language Department the first Language Class was offered for interested employees on May 28, 2026.

- PV Town Halls: Participated in Town Hall meeting on June 22, 2026, supporting communication, alignment, and PV employee engagement.

- PV Board of Directors Meetings: Continued participation in Board meetings throughout May-August 2026, supporting strategic discussions and tribal relation priorities.

- Intertribal Economic Engage-

ment Meeting: Participated on June 25, 2026, with Mno-Bmadsen, Waséyabek Development Company, and Gun Lake Investments to strengthen intertribal relationships and explore economic development opportunities.

- Bwadwét Innovation Community: Participate in Bwadwét Cohort, serving as a resource for tribal members interested in entrepreneurship and business development.

Looking Ahead

- Watch for additional virtual engagement opportunities and community discussions in the coming months.

Closing

Migwēth to everyone who participated in our events this summer. Your involvement strengthens our community and helps guide the work we do each day. I look forward to continuing these conversations and connections as we move into the fall season.

Greenfire: The Building Behind the Cream Puffs



The next time you visit the Dairy Building during the Wisconsin State Fair, look beyond the counter when you order your cream puff. Improved circulation, expanded public space, upgraded building systems, and enhanced accessibility have created a better experience for every visitor who walks through the doors.

Historic public buildings must evolve to meet today's accessibility

standards, support modern building systems, and improve the visitor experience. The renovation of the Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Building shows how those improvements can be made while maintaining the building's role as one of the Fair's most popular destinations.

Greenfire served as Construction Manager for the 23,000 square-foot renovation and expansion, partner-

ing with American Design, inc., GRAEF, Pierce Engineers, and Ring & DuChateau. The project included a west wall expansion, upgraded mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, improved visitor circulation, expanded public space, and accessibility improvements that enhance the experience for fairgoers while supporting year-round use of the facility.

Unlike new construction, historic renovations require teams to work within the constraints of an existing structure. Existing conditions, aging infrastructure, and occupied campuses demand detailed pre-construction planning, construction sequencing, procurement strategies, and continuous coordination among owners, designers, contractors, and facility operators. Greenfire managed each phase of the project while aligning construction activities with Wisconsin State Fair Park operations.

The complete renovation

improved how visitors move through and experience the Dairy Building. Expanded gathering space, upgraded infrastructure, enhanced accessibility, and modern building systems better support large crowds while preparing the facility for future State Fairs and year-round events.



Giving Back to Support Student Success: A Decade of Impact



This year marks an important milestone in community partnership and giving back. For the past 10 years, Greenfire Management Services and First Nations Studies-MPS have worked together to support Native students and their educational journeys. What began as a shared commitment to helping students succeed has grown into a decade-long tradition of generosity, collaboration, and community impact.

Thanks to the collective efforts of employees from Greenfire, Potawatomi Ventures, and affiliated organizations, this year's First Nations Back-to-School Supply Drive delivered remarkable results. Together,

donors contributed more than \$3,100 in monetary donations and school supplies, along with 20 backpacks and laptop bags and five boxes of essential classroom materials.

These contributions will directly support more than 1,200 K-12 students served through the First Nations Studies program within Milwaukee public schools. The supplies and financial support will help ensure students have access to the tools they need to learn, grow, and thrive throughout the school year.

The success of this year's drive reflects the generosity and community spirit of everyone who chose to participate. Every backpack donated,

every school supply collected, and every dollar contributed represents an investment in the future of Native youth and the continued success of students in our communities.

As organizations across the Potawatomi family continue to strengthen partnerships and create opportunities, initiatives like the Back-to-School Supply Drive demonstrate the power of collective action. Together, we are helping students start the school year prepared, confident, and equipped for success while building a lasting legacy of support for future generations.

Migwéth to everyone who donated and helped make this year's drive a success. Your generosity is creating

brighter opportunities and stronger communities for the students and families served by the First Nations Studies program.



TRY OUR *new* PIZZA





FCP Elders Enjoy the Potawatomi Gathering

photos submitted by Elder Activities Aide Taylor Saari



Elders Enjoy the Brewers



Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) tribal elders traveled to Milwaukee, Wis., on Aug. 18, 2026, for an incredible Milwaukee Brewers shutout against the Seattle Mariners. The final score was 22-0, the largest shutout in team history and tied for the largest since 1900.



ELDER MEAL ROUTE MENU SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Notes
		1	2	3	4	5	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
6	7 Labor Day – Tribal Offices Closed	8 Hot Beef & Cheddar, Tater tots, corn	9 Chicken parmesan, noodles, green beans, breadstick	10 Walleye nuggets, coleslaw, fried potatoes, fruit cup	11 Sub Sandwich	12	
13	14 Chicken tenders, wedges, carrots, fruit	15 Pork chops, saurknaut, red potatoes, dinner roll	16 Stuffed pepper casserole, green beans, roll, fruit	17 Spaghetti & meatballs, side salad, beef stick, jello	18 BLT wrap w/ pasta salad, fruit	19	
20	21 Sloppy joes, tater tots, baked beans	22 Taco salad, beans & rice, cake	23 Chicken alfredo, broccoli, breadstick, brownie	24 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, peas, fruit	25 Caesar Salad	26	
27	28 Pulled pork, mac & cheese, veggie bread, dinner roll	29 Beef vegetable soup, ham & cheese slider, crackers, fruit	30 Turkey & gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry bars				



FOREST COUNTY
POTAWATOMI
Keeper of the Fire

PO Box 340
Crandon, WI 54520

NOTICE TO TRIBAL MEMBERS

CHIEF JUDGE

NOMINATION RESULTS

Nominations for Chief Judge

- Mary Simono nominated Angela Moe - **Accepts**
- Ira Frank nominated Jeryl Perenich - **Accepts**
- Lisa Milligan nominated Donna VanZile - **Accepts**
- Sonya Daniels nominated Andrew Phillips - **Accepts**
- Alvin "Cliff" Weso nominated Patrick "PJ" Daniels Sr. - **Accepts**

Election Board

- Donna VanZile nominated Lisa Milligan - **Judge- Accepts**
- Joseph Daniels Sr. nominated Linda Skallerud - **Clerk- Declines**
- Brooks Boyd Sr. nominated Rex Yang - **Clerk- Accepts**
- Brooks Boyd Sr. nominated Sonya Daniels - **Clerk- Accepts**
- Brooks Boyd Sr. nominated - Linda Skallerud **Alternate- Accepts**



Alexandria McCorkle
Tribal Secretary
Forest County Potawatomi

In accordance with chapter 2-1 Tribal Court (05/28/1993) Sec.3.6. If there are more than two (2) candidates for any judicial position, there shall be a primary election to narrow the number of candidates to two (2) which shall be the two (2) persons receiving the highest number of votes in the primary election. The primary election will be followed in two (2) weeks by a general election at which time one (1) of the two (2) shall be elected Judge.

Primary Elections
September 12, 2026
Executive Building
8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

General Election
September 26, 2026
Executive Building
8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

POSTED
8/25/2026



**CRANDON BRUSH RUN
WRISTBANDS**

57TH POLARIS CRANDON
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OFF-ROAD RACES

SEPTEMBER 4-6, 2026

for Forest County Potawatomi Tribal Members
& FCP Employees

DISTRIBUTION TIMES

Thursday, September 3, 2026 | 5 - 7 PM

Friday, September 4, 2026 | 10 AM - 6 PM

Saturday, September 5, 2026 | 9 AM - 6 PM

LOCATION

5523 Cnty. Rd. S / Old Go-Kart Track
(Across from Brush Run Grounds)

TRIBAL MEMBERS:

- Must show Tribal ID
- One wristband per person + their immediate family members
- Be prepared to write down the names of each immediate family member
- Kids 10 and under-FREE
- Must be present to receive wristband

EMPLOYEES:

- Must show employee badge
- One wristband + one guest wristband
- Guest must be present to receive wristband
- Kids 10 and under-FREE



FOREST COUNTY
POTAWATOMI
Keeper of the Fire





FOREST COUNTY
POTAWATOMI
Keeper of the Fire

Forest County Potawatomi Executive Council
& 2027 Budget Panel Members

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE FOLLOWING
2027 INFORMATIONAL BUDGET MEETINGS:

**Wednesday
September 9
1-3pm**

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

**Wednesday
September 9
5-7pm**

WE CARE
612 HWY 32
WABENO, WISCONSIN

**Wednesday
September 16
5-7pm**

POTAWATOMI
HOTEL & CASINO
- SERENITY BALLROOM -
1721 WEST CANAL ST
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN



**SPECIAL
BUDGET
MEETING**

Sept. 19, 2026
(1st Attempt)

Sept. 26, 2026 (2nd Attempt)

12pm Meal Provided
1pm Meeting Start

POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY CENTER
5471 THAYÉK ÉTHÉ DNĒKMĚGZĒK MYÉW • CRANDON, WISCONSIN

MEETING
STIPEND
You are required
to bring your Tribal ID

Community Events
SEPTEMBER 2026

SUNDAYMONDAYTUESDAYWEDNESDAYTHURSDAYFRIDAYSATURDAY

1

Recurring Weekly Events

Mondays:
10am - NA Meeting at Recovery Resource Center
12pm to 3pm - Social Club at Museum Lower Level

Tuesdays:
4pm - After School Language Program (Crandon & Laona)
4pm - After School Cooking Club at PCC
4:30pm - 5:30pm - Powwow Club at PCC

2

Boom Lake - 10am

3

4

5

6

7

Happy Labor Day!
Campus Closed

8

Potawatomi
Community Center
5th Anniversary
Fitness & Wellness
Zone

Gte Ga Nes
First Day of School
8:30am - 1pm

9

Potawatomi Community
Center 5th Anniversary
Pool Zone

Informational Budget
Meeting
Museum Lower Level
1pm - 3pm

Forest Whale
1pm - 6pm

Informational Budget
Meeting
We Care 5pm - 7pm

10

Potawatomi
Community Center
5th Anniversary
Gym & Turf Zone

Tribal Elder Food
Box Distribution
12pm

11

Potawatomi
Community Center
5th Anniversary
Kid & Family Zone

3rd Annual PCC
Co-Ed Softball
Arlyn Alloway Field

12

Primary Elections
Chief Judge
Executive Auditorium
8am - 7pm

Potawatomi Community
Center 5th Anniversary
Full Facility Zone

3rd Annual PCC
Co-Ed Softball
Arlyn Alloway Field

13

3rd Annual PCC
Co-Ed Softball
Arlyn Alloway Field

14

Veterans Post 1 (VP1)
Monthly Meeting
Open to all
Tribal Veterans
Old Tribal Hall - 3pm

15

Roadside Safety Event
Emergency Management
9am - 3pm

Elders Coffee Talk
Turtle House
12pm - 2pm

Community Advocacy
Pop-up Booth
1pm - 3pm

Farm to Table
4:30pm

16

LFPA Food Distribution
12pm

Sobriety Feast
Museum Lower Level - 6pm

Informational Budget
Meeting
Serenity Ballroom MKE
Casino 5pm - 7pm

No Walking Farm Tour

17

18

Yoga Retreat
5:30pm - 7:30pm

19

Special Budget
Meeting
1pm

Fenders & Flannel
Car Show
Carter Casino - 8am

Yoga Retreat
9am - 12pm

20

Elders Chicago Trip

21

22

23

Nutrition Taste Test
H&W Test Kitchen
11am - 1pm

Positive Indian
Parenting
Turtle House - 1pm

24

Tribal Elder Food
Box Distribution
12pm

25

Jordan Blanchard
Rock N' Brews Stage
Carter Casino - 7pm

26

General Election
Chief Judge
Executive Auditorium
8am - 7pm

3rd Annual Neshnabék
Wigwas Thiman
Mawtheshnëwen
Canoe Launch at
Devils Lake - 11am - 6pm

Special Budget Meeting
(Second Attempt) - 1pm

Jordan Blanchard
Rock N' Brews Stage
Carter Casino - 7pm

27

28

Elders Day Trip
Deyoung Zoo
Leaving at 8:30am

29

30

Family Services
Open House
9am - 3pm

Positive Indian
Parenting
Turtle House - 1pm

Orange Shirt Day

Recurring Weekly Events Continued

Wednesdays:
10am - 12pm - Language Class at Museum Lower Level
10:30am - 11:30am - Walking the Spectrum Support Group at PCC
4pm - After School Language Program (Wabeno)

Thursdays:
10am - Cradled Connections at PCC
12pm to 1pm - Parent Support Group at PCC
4pm - After School Cooking Club at We Care
4:30pm to 5:30pm - Powwow Club at PCC

Fridays:
9am - Mens Smudge Talk at Recovery Resource Center
2pm - AA Meeting at Recovery Resource Center

GENERAL INFORMATION

COMMUNITY CENTER

POWOW GROUNDS

BODWÉWADMI KTĚGAN

HEALTH & WELLNESS

MUSEUM

08/05/2026



A program of  Wisconsin Conservation
Voices

SAVE THE DATE

Wisconsin Native Vote's Powwow the Vote

OCT 3 | SATURDAY | 1 - 6 PM

FIRST 200 REGISTERED DANCERS RECEIVE HONORARIUMS



Potawatomi Community Center
5471 The Place Where Everyone Comes To Play Rd
Crandon, WI 54520



FOOD TRUCK

GIVE-A-WAYS

VOTER
REGISTRATION



www.conservationvoices.org/nativevote

After School PROGRAM 2026 2027

Monday *thru* Thursday @ 3:30pm

begins September 14, 2026

ORGANIZED GROUP ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:
 Physical Activity, Culture, S.T.E.M., Art, Cooking, Life Skills, Adventure Club (outdoor program by FCP LNR), and More!

OPEN TO ALL YOUTH AGES 7+

FREE WITH PCC MEMBERSHIP

Non-members must purchase a Day Pass.

After-school transportation provided for PCC Members and FCP Tribal Community.

For more information or to register
Stop by our Front Desk
Call 715-478-6500
Visit PotawatomiCC.recdesk.com

SEP. 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Labor Day BUFFET 11 A.M.-7 P.M.		1 15 HANDS TUES. & WED.	2 CLUB 50	3 Sizzling SUMMER HOT SEATS	4 FALL FORTUNE FRIDAYS IN SEPT.	5
6 BACKYARD BBQ KIOSK GAME	7 5x POINTS	8 15 HANDS TUES. & WED.	9 CLUB 50	10 Sizzling SUMMER HOT SEATS	11 FALL FORTUNE FRIDAYS IN SEPT.	12
13 BACKYARD BBQ KIOSK GAME	14 5x POINTS	15 15 HANDS TUES. & WED.	16 CLUB 50	17 Sizzling SUMMER HOT SEATS	18 FALL FORTUNE FRIDAYS IN SEPT.	19 FENDERS & FLANNELS Car Show
20 BACKYARD BBQ KIOSK GAME	21 5x POINTS	22 15 HANDS TUES. & WED.	23 CLUB 50	24 Sizzling SUMMER HOT SEATS	25 FALL FORTUNE FRIDAYS IN SEPT.	26 WINFEST SUMMER 2026 FINALE
27 BACKYARD BBQ KIOSK GAME	28 5x POINTS	29 15 HANDS TUES. & WED.	30 CLUB 50	FORREST PIKE SEPT. 4 & 5 7-11 P.M. ROCK & BREWS RESTAURANT JORDAN BLANCHARD SEPT. 25 & 26 7-11 P.M.		

POTAWATOMI PRESENTS

WINFEST SUMMER 2026 FINALE

\$50,000 GIVEAWAY

TWO \$5,000 WINNERS
ONE \$10,000 WINNER
ONE \$20,000 WINNER

POTAWATOMI.COM/WINFEST

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

FALL FORTUNE FRIDAYS IN SEPT.

WIN YOUR SHARE OF \$40K FRIDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

CASH DRAWINGS FROM 5-9 P.M.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

FREE REGISTRATION

FREE FOR SPECTATORS

FENDERS & FLANNELS Car Show

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19

TO PRE-REGISTER, VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CALL 715-473-6740 OR 715-473-6774

SCAN FOR MORE INFO

POTAWATOMI CASINO HOTEL CARTER

618 STATE HWY. 32, WABENO, WI 54566 | 1.800.487.9522

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POTAWATOMI.COM

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