



# POTAWATOMI TIMES

Gsenyaniyêk êzhewébêk — Forest County Potawatomi Happenings



Volume 30, Issue 11 • DECEMBER 1, 2024 • bbon gizes • Winter Moon • FREE

## Executive Council Swearing In



by Val Niehaus

It was a big day for the Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Tribe on Nov. 4, 2024.

On this day, the tribe swore in three newly-elected officials into the office of Executive Council. The officials that were sworn in were: Vice Chairman Ken George Jr., Treasurer Joseph Daniels Sr., and Secretary Alexandria McCorkle. This is both George and McCorkle's first time to ever serve on Executive Council.

Before the oath of office took place, Chief Judge Christian Daniels asked for a word of prayer and good thoughts given by Ned Daniels Jr. The courtroom was filled to the brim with FCP community members, the

officials' families, and employees of the tribe.

Judge Daniels and Associate Judge Angela Moe then swore in the three candidates. After each was sworn in, Judge Daniels let them say a bit of gratitude to the families, friends and community that were present in the courtroom. All three were greatly honored for the opportunity they had been given by their people in being elected. They spoke of putting the tribe's best foot forward and to break the division that has been happening in the past years.

*Potawatomi Times* wishes them the best of luck in the years to come!



Forest County Potawatomi Community  
P.O. Box 340 • Crandon, Wisconsin 54520

ELECTION BOARD  
CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS:  
Executive Council Election, November 02, 2024

TRIBAL SECRETARY:

Aiyana VanZile	145	votes
Alexandria McCorkle	188	votes

This 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2024 Attest:

Stephanie Bara, Ballot Clerk; Cheryl Fe, Ballot Clerk; Phil St. J., Ballot Clerk; Nabel Semine, Ballot Judge

Forest County Potawatomi Community  
P.O. Box 340 • Crandon, Wisconsin 54520

ELECTION BOARD  
CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS:  
Executive Council Election, November 02, 2024

TREASURER:

Gerry Ann Mann	103	votes
Joseph Daniels Sr	178	votes
Nate Gilpin Jr	52	votes

This 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2024 Attest:

Stephanie Bara, Ballot Clerk; Cheryl Fe, Ballot Clerk; Phil St. J., Ballot Clerk; Nabel Semine, Ballot Judge

Forest County Potawatomi Community  
P.O. Box 340 • Crandon, Wisconsin 54520

ELECTION BOARD  
CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS:  
Executive Council Election, November 02, 2024

VICE CHAIR:

Heather VanZile	106	votes
Ken George Jr	121	votes
Mko Daniels	41	votes
Crystal Deschinsky	64	votes

This 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2024 Attest:

Stephanie Bara, Ballot Clerk; Cheryl Fe, Ballot Clerk; Phil St. J., Ballot Clerk; Nabel Semine, Ballot Judge

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REMINDER TO TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP

SPECIAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday  
DEC 14, 2024

1:00 PM

Lunch Served at Noon

FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI  
Keeper of the Fire

PLEASE NOTE LOCATION:  
EXECUTIVE BUILDING AUDITORIUM  
(The Potawatomi Community Center is not available)  
5416 Everybody's Road • Crandon, WI 54520

MEETING STIPEND - YOU ARE REQUIRED TO BRING YOUR TRIBAL ID

# FCP Up & Coming

by Amber Haseman

**Elder Association Meeting:** The Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) will host the Great Lakes Native American Elder Association meeting at the Potawatomi Casino Hotel – Carter on December 4-5. The meeting is open to FCP tribal elders. To register, please call Jenna Paradies at (715) 478-4892 or Sara Garrow at (715) 478-4992.

**Christmas Light Display:** Gather together at the Potawatomi Center for the first lighting of their Christmas display for the season on December 5 at 6 p.m. There will be eggnog, cookies, and hot chocolate available. The lights will remain on display December 6 through 31 from dusk until 9 p.m. For more information, visit the Community Center front desk or call (715) 478-6500.

**Breakfast with Santa:** Join the farm on December 7 for Breakfast with Santa and their Holiday Open House event. The event is free and open to the public. Be sure to join between 9 and 11 a.m. for breakfast with Santa. Wreath-making and cookie decorating will follow from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The fun continues until 2 p.m. with make-and-take crafts, door prize drawings, free gift wrapping, and a free gift with any \$50 purchase.

**Brunch for Elders:** FCP elders are invited to the Cultural Division

on the museum's lower level on December 18 from 10 a.m. to noon to socialize and enjoy brunch. Museum staff will provide the meal. Open to FCP tribal elders only. For more information, please call (715) 478-7478.

**Historical Photo Identifications:** Attention Community Elders! The FCP Cultural Center, Library & Museum's archive team needs your help identifying unknown individuals in historical photographs. Join the team monthly to share stories, socialize, and review 10-15 photographs in hopes of solving some mysteries. Visit the lower level of the FCP Cultural Center on December 18 and January 22 from 1-3 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact the team at (715) 478-7478 or [fcpculturalcenter@fcp-nsn.gov](mailto:fcpculturalcenter@fcp-nsn.gov).

**Nature Photo Contest:** Submit your best photos to win great prizes. The photo contest is open to everyone. Special prize categories are available for tribal members, descendants, and youth's photos. Judging categories include flora, fauna, sunrises, sunsets, community and culture, and landscapes. If you have any questions, please call (715) 478-4458. Rules and submissions can be found at <https://lnr.fcpotawatomi.com/ninja-forms/17aa08>.

# Lunch-N-Learn



Coach Dixon speaking with the parents

by Amber Haseman

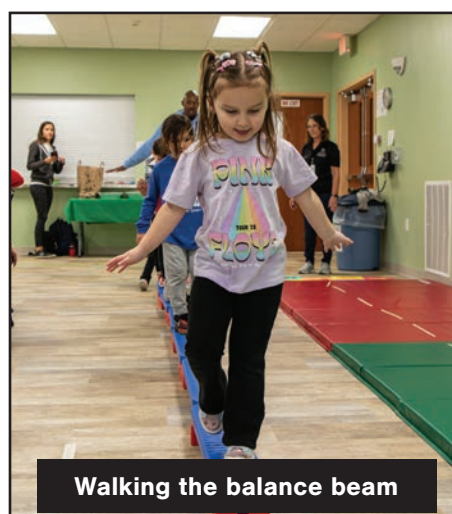
Forest County Potawatomi Tribal Members, descendants, and their families were invited to the Lunch-N-Learn event at Gte Ga Nēs Preschool from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Nov. 14, 2024. Parents and grandparents joined guest speaker and FCP Youth Athletic Coach Eric Dixon, who shared information and hands-on learning about preschool children's physical literacy, balance and control, and core-body strength.

He began by covering the basic body movements that everyone should know. He shared, "Basic physical literacy should be taught between 0 and 6 years old." He continued by stating that he noticed many of the kids sitting on the bench at the Community Center. "They're not getting up and moving. Children don't have the confidence within themselves to do the movements and do what the other children can do."

That said, it was time for the children to join Coach Dixon to work on their basic movements. The children completed movement exercises such as marching in place, circle hip movements, raising their legs, sitting down and touching their toes, walking the balance beam, and more. Coach Dixon evaluated each child as they completed each exercise. The basic body movements he covered with the children helped him see what they could and couldn't do. This will help him identify what he needs to focus on specifically when developing the program.

After Dixon wrapped up his portion of the event, everyone joined for lunch. Education Division Administrator Eugene Shawano Jr. thanked everyone for attending the Lunch-N-Learn event; the parents and grandparents, Coach Dixon, and the education team for their dedication toward the children's continued education. He continued to share that he's learned a lot from Coach Dixon's discussions and proceeded with the prayer. Lunch featured chili, noodles, frybread, vegetables, fruits, and cookies. During lunch, 12 door prizes were drawn. Prizes featured movie theater tickets to Rouman Theater, Shell gift cards, and more. In addition, each child received two books, *Busy Body* and *Move Your Body*, as well as a jump rope to take home with them.

Although the construction of the playground wasn't complete by the time of the event, parents and children could check out one of the complete sections. It was a little rainy, but parents were able to sneak a peek at the new equipment. To the eyes of their children, they discovered two learning panels featuring both Potawatomi and the English language. It's a great way for the children to experience the Potawatomi language, even during outside play. Once the construction of the playground is complete, the education team may have an official open house, so be sure to stay tuned.



Walking the balance beam



Enza checking out the learning panels



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**Deadline for the December 15, 2024, issue of the PT is Wednesday, December 4, 2024.**



**FCP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Chairman: JAMES A. CRAWFORD

Vice Chairman: KEN GEORGE JR.

Secretary: ALEXANDRIA MCCORKLE

Treasurer: JOSEPH DANIELS SR.

Council Members: BROOKS BOYD, DESTINEE ALLOWAY

**POTAWATOMI TIMES STAFF**

Interim Managing Editor: KRYSTAL STATEZNY

Writers/Photographers: VAL NIEHAUS & AMBER HASEMAN

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# Impulse Media Award - London

by Val Niehaus photos by Impulse Media

Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) tribal member-owned business Impulse Media has been making waves again in the world of videography and were nominated for the Best Documentary Episode at the 11th Annual International Motor Film Awards for their off-road racing docuseries, "Rush". "Rush S2 EP4: Old Dogs New Tricks", which was filmed at the ERX Motor Park in Elk River, Minn., features Pro-2 racers in the 2022 AM-SOIL Championship Off-Road race series and is one of seven episodes.

The award show was held at Alexandra Palace, London, on Oct. 4, 2024.

The team of Impulse Media consists of FCP tribal members and co-owners Jeffrey and Lyle Keeble, along with Sokaogon Chippewa member Tito Labine. These three men have entertained through their provocative angles, exhilarating speed, and overall, their attitude of life's a journey which is that everyone should have fun and laugh.

The team visited the FCP Communications Division on Oct. 30, 2024, to film a podcast and talk about their experience while in London at the film awards and why they were even nominated. Lyle sneakily entered the episode into the Best Documentary Episode category. He assumed nothing would come from entering, but low and behold got an email back telling him that their documentary was selected. The only bad thing was the whole team had to keep this a secret from friends, family and fans for several weeks — something this big and astounding was hard to keep hush for that long.

This was a bigger deal than any three of them could have imagined. Impulse Media was going up against some of the top competitive enterprises in the industry of motor films. Lyle Keeble said, "When we got the list of who all got nominated, that is when we realized how big of a deal this was because in the drama categories it was like, *Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One*, *The Fall Guy*, *Fast and the Furious*, and *Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga*. In our category we went against Porsche, Bugatti, Mercedes G-Wagen, Top Gear, Discovery Channel, MANIFEST: Building Kim Kardashian's Range Rover — that all was just in our category." Jeffrey Keeble said,

"That is why we were so blown away! What are you doing picking us? If you look at our geographical area it's like, what...these three guys?" He said with a chuckle. "We just didn't know how big of a deal this was and once we got to go and tell people and the feedback we got from it, made us realize how big of a deal this really was. Not to only represent our family but to

represent Forest Count Potawatomi and Sokaogon Chippewa," said Jeffrey. "We just look at ourselves like we are three kids from the rez and then when we are put up against those names, we are like holy crap! This is a bigger deal than I originally thought," expressed Lyle. Unfortunately, when it came down to the winner of the category, Top Gear Tunnel Run ended up taking the win for the night. Lyle states, "I said at the end, well we are here because obviously they do see something, so maybe we do belong with these names."

The team then went on to talk about a few stories about their whole week in London before this award show took place. They also took along with them CJ Greaves, a professional American off-road driver who races in the Pro-Stock UTV division and Pro-4 division from Abrams, Wis.

There were stories from every direction including the bad luck of their first house rental flooding, to Labine's size issues with the bathrooms and small cabs in London, to the amount of walking and hills involved in such a grand city and minding "the gap". The guys even made a little trip over to Paris to enjoy some of the tourists highlights the city had to offer along with visiting many known landmarks such as The Louvre to see the beloved Mona Lisa, and the Eiffel Tower which left some Parisians questioning their photo poses.

Overall, these four men took in memories of a lifetime. When you find your passion, put in the hard work and never stop striving for the best, the reward is better than anything ever imagined. The FCP community and surrounding communities are proud to say they know these three lively guys from Impulse Media, and wish them luck in their future endeavors!



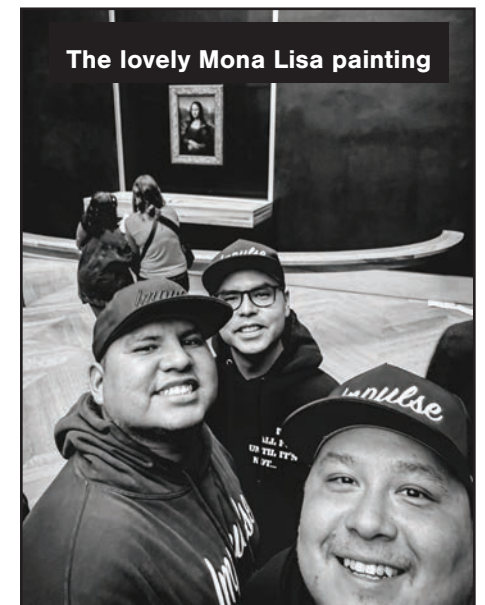
At the International Motor Film Awards show. (l-r) Tito Labine, Lyle Keeble, CJ Greaves and Jeffrey Keeble photo by International Motor Film Awards



Taking in the night at the awards



A day at the Eiffel Tower



The lovely Mona Lisa painting



All four friends with the London Bridge behind them

# Frybread Showdown 2024

by Amber Haseaman

It was a busy Saturday morning for the Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) community. Government employees, Potawatomi Ventures, and the Carter Casino team gathered at the Potawatomi Community Center on Nov. 9, 2024, for the 2nd Annual Frybread Showdown event, sponsored by the FCP Communications Division. The event is open to FCP tribal members and descendants.

Employees began arriving around 9 a.m. to set up their booths in the gym. Frybread submissions arrived between 10 and 11 a.m. Four participants brought 10 or more pieces of frybread for the judges to sample. Those judges included Jason Bertrand, Charlotte "Teets" Daniels, Peggy Konaha, and Kayla Fraley.

As visitors entered the gym, they received a Frybread Showdown punch card to complete while visiting each booth, completing activities, and learning more about the services offered by each department. Once

completed, the cards were turned in to receive a \$25 gift card and received an entry into the drawing for Green Bay Packer tickets. The winner was called at the end of the General Council meeting.

In the meantime, the Frybread Showdown judges took center stage to begin the judging process. They were required to judge in the following three categories: taste, texture, and appearance. The first submission of the four entries featured a side of brats, burgers, weenie-wrapped fry bread, and a piece of regular frybread. Judges were impressed with the exquisite texture. They also stated it was "the best weenie wrap they've ever had."

The second entry wasn't their ultimate favorite, but it was good. The third entry was all the rave. The judges shared that the smell was magnificent. The frybread was nice and warm, a bit on the sweeter side, like a donut, and made the judges want to finish the entire piece. The fourth and final entry

was very dense and crispy but a good kind of crispy. It was soft on the inside and had that crispy outside.

Once the judges were finished, the Communications team tallied the score. With the help of the Community Center's Assistant Cook and MC for the event, Johnathon Johnson helped announce this year's winners. In first place, receiving a gift basket with a beautifully-handcrafted Frybread Showdown medallion, a large Frybread Showdown cutting board, a cast iron and cutting board set, kitchen home décor, and a cozy blanket, was Dawn Soman. In second place, receiving a gift basket with a cast iron set, kitchenware, and a small Frybread Showdown cutting board was Jennifer and Josephine Daniels. In third place was Mavis Anwash, who received a gift basket similar to that of Jennifer and Josephine. Congratulations to this year's Frybread Showdown winners!

Following the contest, members continued to visit the booths. They

gathered for lunch between 12 and 1 p.m. and enjoyed their choice of chili or chicken noodle soup, frybread, and a choice of dessert. Frybread from the contest was also available for everyone to enjoy. The General Council meeting began around 1 p.m., and booths remained on display through 3 p.m. Following the meeting, a name was drawn for the Packer tickets. That winner was Cameron Tuckwab. Congratulations, Cameron, on your exciting win!

Although this year's entries were less than half of last year's, it was an incredible experience for the participants and judges. The judges had the opportunity to focus on the entries submitted individually, honing in on their taste, texture, and appearance. With this being an annual event, we are sure everyone will be more prepared for next year. With that being said, prepare your recipes for next year's Frybread Showdown. We hope to see you then.



Judges hard at work



(l-r) Migweth to our judges Peggy Konaha, Jason Bertrand, Charlotte "Teet" Daniels, and Kayla Fraley



The beautifully-designed medallion for first place



First place winner Dawn Soman



Second place winners Jennifer & Josephine Daniels



Third place winner Mavis Anwash

# Community Halloween Party

by Val Niehaus

The annual FCP Community Halloween Party was held at the Potawatomi Community Center on Nov. 1, 2024.

The night started with a meal with a lot of spooky and Halloween-themed treats to eat. A huge thanks to the cooks who helped prepare this feast for all. While people were eating, most of the youth were in the gym area dancing to some Halloween tunes provided by Mixin Matt's DJ Service.

Once everyone was done eating, it was time for the biggest part of

the night, which was the Halloween costume contest. There were costumes ranging from the famous Wednesday from the Addams Family, Beetlejuice, hot dogs, princesses, to a blow-up Patrick from Sponge Bob Square Pants. In all, the costumes were amazing to see in person and many of them took a lot of hard work and money to make.

As always, this is a night of fun, laughter, spooky thrills and great community company all around. Thanks to the staff at the Community Center in making this another memorable Halloween party for all.



# Successes for Indian Country in the 118th Congress

submitted by Kevin Allis (FCP Tribal Member, Grandson of Harry Ritchie), President of Thunderbird Strategic LLC, Former CEO of the National Congress of American Indians

The 118th Congress, which convened in January 2023, brought several key legislative and policy wins for Indian Country. These achievements reflect the growing recognition of the unique challenges and opportunities facing Native American communities and the federal government's commitment to strengthening its government-to-government relationship with tribal nations. Below are some of the notable successes for Indian Country during this session of Congress.

## Expanded Access to Clean Energy Resources

One of the most transformative pieces of legislation for tribal communities has been the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which Congress passed prior to the 118th session but saw significant implementation during this period. The IRA includes provisions that allow tribal governments to access clean energy tax credits through the "elective pay" mechanism. This allows tribes to receive direct payments for renewable energy investments, even if they do not have federal tax liability. For many tribes, especially those in rural areas, this offers a unique opportunity to build clean energy infrastructure, reduce utility costs, and create sustainable jobs.

Several tribes, including the Forest County Potawatomi Community, have already begun taking advantage of these credits, which provide funding for solar energy projects, wind farms, and other renewable energy developments that are crucial for economic and environmental resilience in Indian Country. This success not only positions tribal nations at the forefront of the clean energy transition but also supports long-term economic growth.

## Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

In a landmark victory, the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) included critical provisions that expand tribal jurisdiction over non-Native perpetrators of domestic violence and other crimes committed on tribal lands. This reauthorization is especially significant given the high rates of violence that Native women experience, often at the hands of non-Native offenders.

The expanded jurisdiction granted by VAWA 2023 builds on the protections originally established in the 2013 reauthorization, allowing tribal courts to prosecute non-Native individuals for crimes such as sex trafficking, stalking, and child violence when they occur on tribal land. This expanded authority is a crucial step in ensuring justice for Na-

tive women and children and restoring tribal sovereignty over law enforcement matters.

## Increased Funding for Indian Health Services (IHS)

Healthcare has long been a critical issue for Indian Country, with many tribal communities facing systemic underfunding and limited access to quality care. The 118th Congress, working alongside the Biden administration, significantly increased funding for the Indian Health Service (IHS), providing more resources for healthcare delivery in tribal communities.

In addition to the regular budget increases, supplemental funding was allocated to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which disproportionately affected Native American communities. These investments in healthcare infrastructure will help improve access to essential services, expand telehealth capabilities, and address the long-standing disparities in healthcare outcomes for Native Americans.

## Tribal Access to Federal Infrastructure Investments

Tribal nations have been able to access funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, passed in late 2021 but implemented through much of the 118th Congress. This law provided billions of dollars for infrastructure projects across the United States, including for Indian Country. Tribes are now benefiting from historic investments in roads, bridges, broadband internet, and water infrastructure.

For many tribal communities, especially those in remote areas, infrastructure funding is vital to overcoming challenges related to transportation, digital connectivity, and access to clean water. The funding allocated to tribal nations under this law is not only helping to improve the quality of life on reservations but is also laying the groundwork for economic development by enhancing connectivity and access to markets.

## Tribal Consultation Requirements and Sovereignty Protections

Throughout the 118th Congress, there has been a renewed focus on ensuring that federal agencies respect tribal sovereignty by engaging in meaningful tribal consultations. Executive actions and legislation passed during this session have strengthened the requirements for federal agencies to consult with tribal governments on issues that affect their lands, resources, and people.

A notable victory for tribal sovereignty came in the form of proposed IRS regulations in October 2024, which clarified that businesses wholly owned by tribes would share their tax-exempt status. This change allows tribal enterprises to operate free from federal



income taxes, providing them with greater certainty in business planning and further reinforcing tribal self-determination.

## Education and Workforce Development Initiatives

Congress also advanced several initiatives aimed at improving education and workforce development in Indian Country. These include increased funding for Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools and targeted job training programs designed to help Native youth prepare for careers in emerging industries like clean energy, technology, and healthcare.

Additionally, investments in broadband infrastructure under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law are expected to enhance educational opportunities

by improving digital access for tribal schools and families, allowing for expanded use of online learning tools and remote education resources.

## Conclusion

The 118th Congress has been a period of significant progress for Indian Country, with key legislative wins across sectors ranging from energy and infrastructure to healthcare and justice. These successes not only address long-standing challenges in tribal communities but also provide new opportunities for growth, development, and self-governance. Moving forward, it will be crucial for tribes to continue engaging with lawmakers to ensure that these gains are sustained and built upon in future congressional sessions.

**Christmas  
Cookie  
Decorating**

**Thursday  
December 5  
2024  
4-7 pm**

**FCP Cultural Center,  
Library & Museum**  
8130 Miswh ko swen Dr.  
Crandon, WI 54520

**Open to  
Everybody**

**CONTACT:  
CONSQUELA ALLOWAY  
715-889-6216  
consquela.alloway@fcp-nsn.gov**

FOREST COUNTY  
POTAWATOMI  
HEALTH &  
WELLNESS CENTER  
BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH

# Coffee Talk



JOIN THE MISSION TO  
KEEP LITTLE FINGERS & HEADS WARM THIS WINTER

# Hat & Mitten TREE

November 25, 2024  
thru mid-January 2025

FCP Family Services Lobby  
5415 Everybody's Road  
Crandon, Wisconsin

HATS & MITTENS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE TO FCP TRIBAL  
MEMBERS, DESCENDANTS,  
& THEIR FAMILIES

Sponsored by



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI  
ECONOMIC SUPPORT

For more info contact **Katheryn Tupper**  
715-478-4433 | [Katheryn.Tupper@FCP-nsn.gov](mailto:Katheryn.Tupper@FCP-nsn.gov)

Let's keep warm this winter!

## ELDER MENU

### DECEMBER 3

**Breakfast:** French toast, bacon, & strawberries  
**Lunch:** Baked chicken, chicken gravy, mashed potato & corn  
**Dinner:** Pizza burgers, french fries, wax beans & fresh fruit

### DECEMBER 4

**Breakfast:** Fried eggs, ham steak, coffee cake & mandarin oranges  
**Lunch:** Pork chop, roasted potato, carrots & apple sauce  
**Dinner:** Sunflower crusted trout, roasted sweet potato, fiesta corn

### DECEMBER 5

**Breakfast:** Cheese & ham omelet  
**Lunch:** Chili, corn bread & fruit  
**Dinner:** Chef salad, pretzels, apple pie and raspberry vinaigrette

### DECEMBER 6

**Breakfast:** Boiled eggs, sausage link, toast & yogurt  
**Lunch:** Sheperd's Pie (hamburger, mixed veggies, gravy, mashed potatoes) & fruit  
**Dinner:** Beef and tofu romaine noodle bowl w/ mixed veggies

### DECEMBER 7

**Breakfast:** Ham, potato, egg & cheese skillet, w/ fresh fruit  
**Lunch:** Tuna Casserole, peas & carrots & fruit  
**Dinner:** Buffalo burgers on a bun, tater tots & fruit

### DECEMBER 8

**Breakfast:** French toast & bacon  
**Lunch:** Chicken marsala in gravy, mashed potato, carrots & peaches  
**Dinner:** Creamy Reuben soup, fruit

### DECEMBER 9

**Breakfast:** Cream of Wheat, sausage links & fresh fruit  
**Lunch:** Pheasant & turkey sausage, fried potatoes, asparagus  
**Dinner:** Chicken tenders, mixed veggies, sweet potato French fries, & fruit

### DECEMBER 10

**Breakfast:** Ham, egg & cheese scramble w/ yogurt  
**Lunch:** Chicken tacos, Mexican rice, fiesta corn  
**Dinner:** Hunters stew w/ mushrooms, bison, onion, oregano, sumac, corn stock, sunflower oil w/ smashed squash, cranberries

### DECEMBER 11

**Breakfast:** Boiled eggs, bacon, American fries & fruit  
**Lunch:** Beans, chopped meat & tomatoes, peaches  
**Dinner:** Pork chops, fried noodles, carrots, fruit

### DECEMBER 12

**Breakfast:** Sausage & cheese omelet, toast, fruit  
**Lunch:** Broccoli & cheese soup, ham sandwich, watermelon  
**Dinner:** Cobb salad, French dressing, grapes

### DECEMBER 13

**Breakfast:** Boiled eggs, corned beef hash, toast, apple sauce  
**Lunch:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, buttered bread, fruit  
**Dinner:** Tater-tot casserole w/ mixed veggies, fruit

### DECEMBER 14

**Breakfast:** Fried eggs, sausage, toast, fruit  
**Lunch:** Diced chicken in gravy over cauliflower mash, corn  
**Dinner:** Cream cheese stuffed chicken breast, broccoli, garlic bread, fruit

### DECEMBER 15

**Breakfast:** Ham & cheese omelet, hash browns, toast, fruit  
**Lunch:** Beef & broccoli over rice  
**Dinner:** Farmers veggie soup, ham sandwich, fresh fruit

### DECEMBER 16

**Breakfast:** Pancakes w/ berries, sausage, fresh fruit  
**Lunch:** Baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes, green beans  
**Dinner:** Tomato soup, grilled cheese sandwich, fruit

### DECEMBER 17

**Breakfast:** Biscuits & gravy, boiled eggs, fresh fruit  
**Lunch:** Chop suey over rice, egg rolls w/ sweet & sour  
**Dinner:** Salmon w/ three sisters mash, roasted squash

### DECEMBER 18

**Breakfast:** Egg & Cheese English muffin, bacon, fresh fruit  
**Lunch:** Beef stew, biscuit, peaches  
**Dinner:** Shrimp jambalaya w/ rice

# Alexis Harris Featured in Milwaukee Magazine's Women of Distinction 2024



Potawatomi Ventures (PV) Vice Chairwoman Alexis Harris, was featured in *Milwaukee Magazine's* Women of Distinction 2024. This annual special section features Milwaukee women leaders who represent excel-

lence in a wide range of fields.

At PV, Harris has played an instrumental role in shaping the future of our organization. As a FCP member, she has served on the PV board since 2023 and was named Vice Chairwoman in March of this year.

Beyond serving on our board, Harris works at Gartner where she delivers on the strategic, diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives for the company by promoting candidates from underrepresented communities and non-traditional backgrounds.

Through her leadership at PV and Gartner, Harris exemplifies the positive impact that dedicated individuals can have in shaping a more equitable future for all.

You can read Alexis' full feature on *Milwaukee Magazine's* website and in the November 2024 Issue, <https://www.milwaukeeemag.com/women-of-distinction-2024-alexis-harris/>

# Potawatomi Ventures at FCP Community Center

On Nov. 8 and 9, 2024, Potawatomi Ventures (PV) and Greenfire Management Services hosted Informational Sessions and Community Engagement Event at the FCP Community Center. PV leadership and board members led an informational session to discuss quarterly updates and invited valued feedback from tribal members. In addition to these meetings, PV shared a booth with Greenfire, offering tribal members further insights into the businesses and opportunities. As part of the events, PV held a raffle featuring exciting, branded prizes including



a stadium bag, a Yeti water bottle, a Carhartt hat, a notebook, a shirt, wild rice, and a ribbon bag. The raffle was won by Harvey White.

# Potawatomi Ventures Celebrates Native American Heritage Month



This November, Potawatomi Ventures (PV) celebrated Native American Heritage Month by planning special events each week for employees. On Nov. 6, 2024, employees took part in a smudging ceremony led by HR Training Specialist of PV Tina Baker. The ceremony allowed employees to clear their minds and let go of any negativity.

On Nov. 13, PV, Greenfire, and Data Holdings employees gathered at FCP's Wgema Campus for a Native American Heritage lunch catered by Chef Jessica Pamonicutt of Ketapainen Kitchen out of Chicago, Ill. The menu consisted of pulled bison with blueberry BBQ, herb roasted chicken, Manomin wild rice, berries and maple,

Ojibwe purple potato salad, signature salad, pumpkin cornbread, and Chantilly cream cake with medicine berries. Along with the lunch, the Indian Community School presented a traditional ceremony for employees.

"Through our events this month, we hope to foster understanding and respect for Native American cultures and honor the rich traditions of Indigenous peoples. We invite everyone to join us in recognizing the significance of our heritage and the lessons it offers," says Baker, member of the Menominee tribe.

PV is grateful for opportunities to honor and appreciate the rich history and culture of Native American communities.

## JOIN OUR TEAM

Potawatomi Ventures is seeking driven individuals who are eager to be part of our mission to create lasting value for the Forest County Potawatomi.

**SCAN HERE FOR OPEN POSITIONS INCLUDING OUR TRIBAL RELATIONS COORDINATOR:**



<https://www.potawatomiventures.com/careers>



# BREAKFAST WITH SANTA & HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE





SATURDAY  
**DEC 7 | 2024**  
9AM - 2PM

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: 9AM-11AM**  
WREATH MAKING: 11AM - 1PM  
COOKIE DECORATING: 11AM - 1PM

**KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT BODWÉWADMI KTĒGAN!**  
MAKE & TAKE CRAFTS  
FREE GIFT WITH \$50 PURCHASE  
DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS  
FREE GIFT WRAPPING AVAILABLE





3389 Cty Hwy H  
Laona, WI 54541  
715.478.4545  
farm.fcpotawatomi.com

**HOURS:**  
M-F: 9 am - 5 pm  
SAT Seasonal  
Closed Sundays

## Rock your Mocs Week

photos submitted by Crandon School Business Director Darcy Bradley  
story by Amber Haseman

Rock Your Mocs, established in 2011, is a worldwide social media unity event for Native Americans and Indigenous People, according to rockyourmocs.org. It is held annually during National American Heritage Month. Despite its original date of November 15, the event was created to be celebrated as a week-long event, inviting more event opportunities and participation dates.

Throughout the week, moccasins are worn and documented, whether it's taking photographs, videos, or sharing stories. This content is then shared on social media using the hashtag #rockyourmocs. This creates an online album for the world to see and enjoy. The Forest County Potawatomi community was one of the participants this year.

During the week of the event, FCP Chairman James A. Crawford recorded a segment with the Com-

munications team to share on the FCPC Facebook page, inviting the community to celebrate the event. He stated, "I encourage everyone to wear their moccasins on Thursday, November 14, in recognition of our identity and solidarity as Indigenous people. For those who don't have moccasins, wearing turquoise is a meaningful way to participate."

The engagement on that Facebook post drew a crowd from Wolastoq territory in New Brunswick, Canada, to New Mexico. People shared photos and stories from around the world. Even our local communities participated, including the Crandon and Wabeno school districts as well as FCP Government employees. It was an incredible week of sharing cultures and stories, uniting Native American and Indigenous people through their heritage, and honoring their ancestors and Indigenous people worldwide.





**POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY CENTER**

# ◀ CLOSURES ▶

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28**  
In observance of Thanksgiving

**WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 & 26**  
In observance of Christmas

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1**  
In observance of New Years Day

**MONDAY, APRIL 21**  
In observance of Easter

**MONDAY, MAY 19**  
In observance of Chief Simon Day

**MONDAY, MAY 26**  
In observance of Memorial Day

**FRIDAY, JULY 4**  
In observance of Independence Day

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**  
In observance of Labor Day



**FOREST COUNTY  
POTAWATOMI**  
*Keeper of the Fire*

# Community Events DECEMBER 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Monday & Wednesday (Ends May 2025)	3	4 Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm <b>GLNAEA</b> (Great Lakes Native American Elder Association) 1 pm Carter Casino <b>Language Class</b> 10 am – 12 pm <b>Wabeno School Board Meeting</b> Wabeno High School Library: 6 pm	5 <b>GLNAEA</b> (Great Lakes Native American Elder Association) 7 pm Carter Casino <b>Christmas Cookie Decorating</b> 4 pm – 7 pm <b>Parent Support Group</b> 12 pm – 1 pm (Commons Area)	6 <b>Nicki Sims</b> (Potawatomi Casino Hotel Carter)	7 <b>Mark Daniels JR Rematch</b> Doors Open at 7 pm (Menominee Casino) <b>Breakfast With Santa Holiday Open House</b> 9 am - 5 pm <b>Nicki Sims</b> (Potawatomi Casino Hotel Carter)
8	9 Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Monday & Wednesday (Ends May 2025) <b>Crandon School Board Meeting</b> Jaegar Auditorium; 6 pm	10	11 Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Monday & Wednesday (Ends May 2025) <b>Language Class</b> 10 am – 12 pm <b>Laona School Board Meeting</b> Laona Elementary Board Room 5:30 pm	12 <b>Parent Support Group</b> Assisting Mothers, Fathers & Caregivers in their Parenting Journey 12 pm – 1 pm (Commons Area)	13 <b>FCP Elders Xmas Party</b> 12 pm – 5 pm We Care – Carter	14 <b>Rebal Invitational Wrestling Tournament</b> 7 am
15	16 Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Monday & Wednesday (Ends May 2025)	17	18 Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Monday & Wednesday (Ends May 2025) <b>LFPA Food Distribution</b> <b>Language Class</b> 10 am – 12 pm <b>Sobriety Feast</b> 6 pm	19 <b>Parent Support Group</b> Assisting Mothers, Fathers & Caregivers in their Parenting Journey 12 pm – 1 pm (Commons Area)	20  <b>Community Christmas Party</b> 4 pm – 9 pm	21
22	23 Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Monday & Wednesday (Ends May 2025) <b>Gte Ga Nes Preschool</b> Winter Break (Dec. 23 – Jan. 2) <b>Crandon, Laona &amp; Wabeno Schools</b> Winter Break (Dec. 23 – Jan. 1)	24	25 <b>kwesmes Christmas Campus Closed</b>	26 <b>kwesmes Christmas Campus Closed</b>	27	28
29	30 <b>Lovin' Country</b> 7 pm – 11 pm (Potawatomi Casino Hotel Carter) Youth Gathering Group 3:45 pm – 4:30 pm Monday & Wednesday (Ends May 2025)	31 <b>Lovin' Country</b> 11 am – 3 pm <b>Cat 5</b> 9 pm – 1 am (Potawatomi Casino Hotel Carter) <b>NYE Sobriety Powwow</b> 5 pm Feast 7 pm Grand Entry				



● GENERAL INFORMATION ● COMMUNITY CENTER ● POWWOW GROUNDS  
● BODWÉWADMI KTĒGAN ● HEALTH & WELLNESS ● MUSEUM ● LOCAL SCHOOLS



# Potawatomi Bands and Months

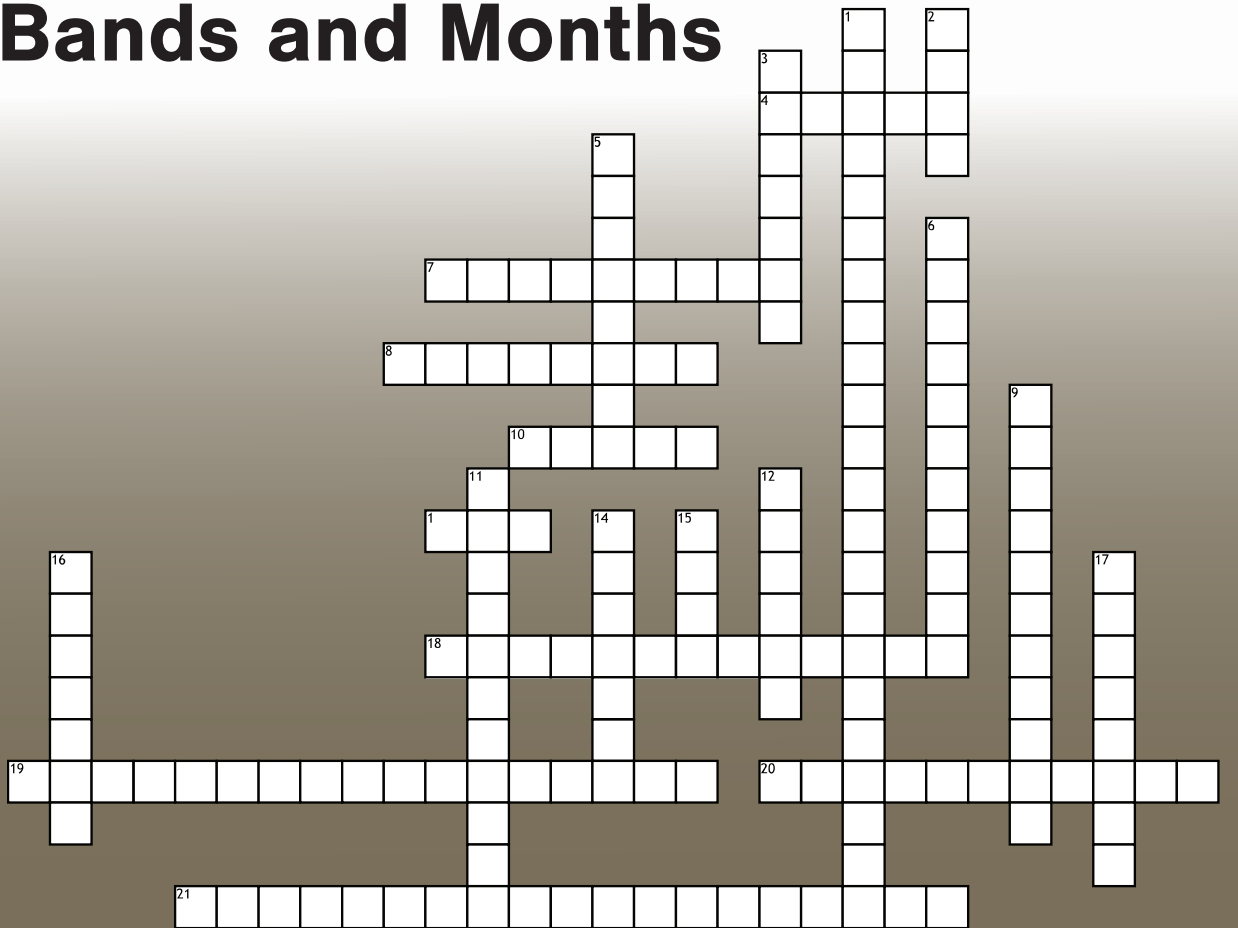
Answers will be in the next issue

**ACROSS**

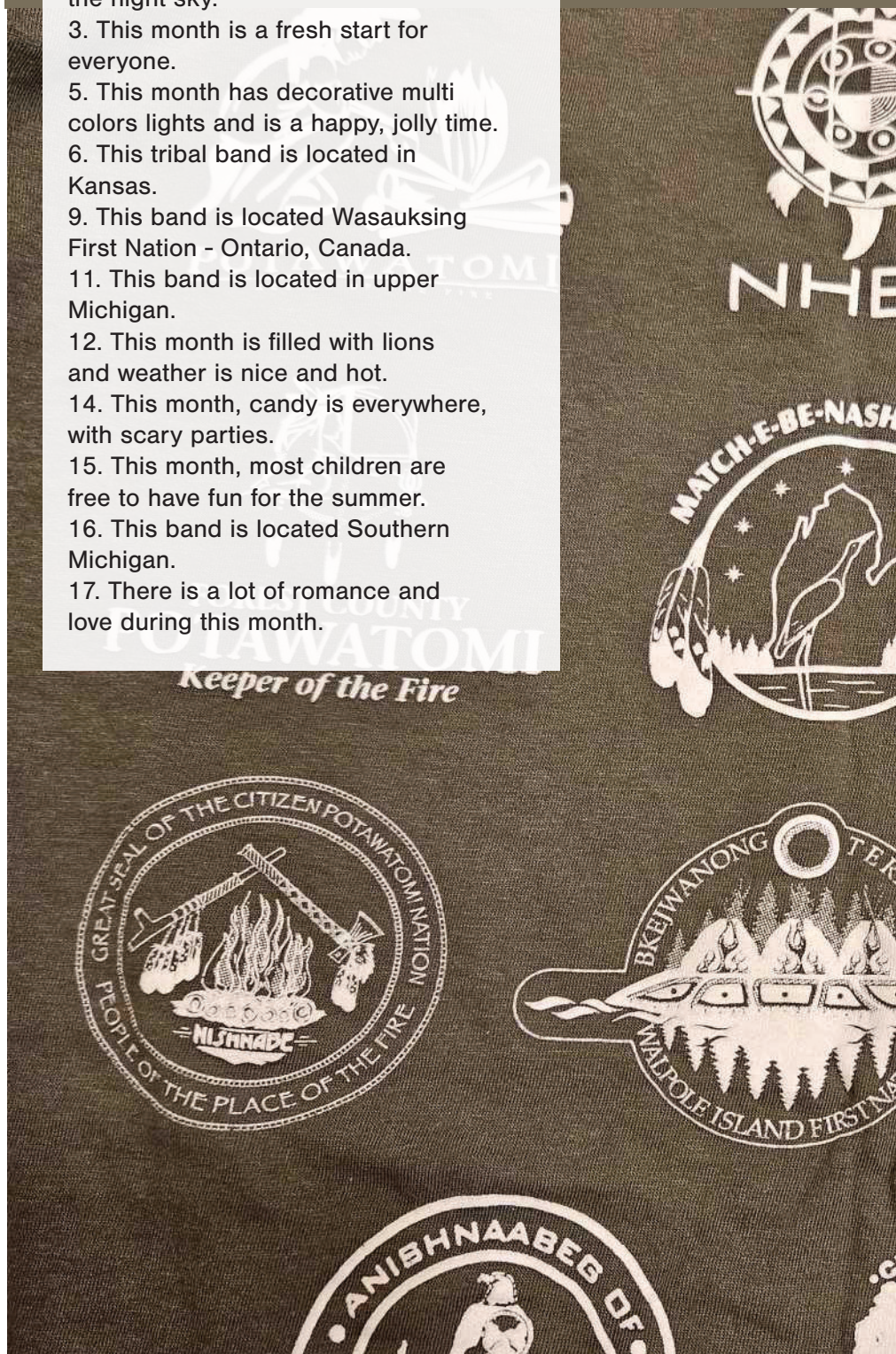
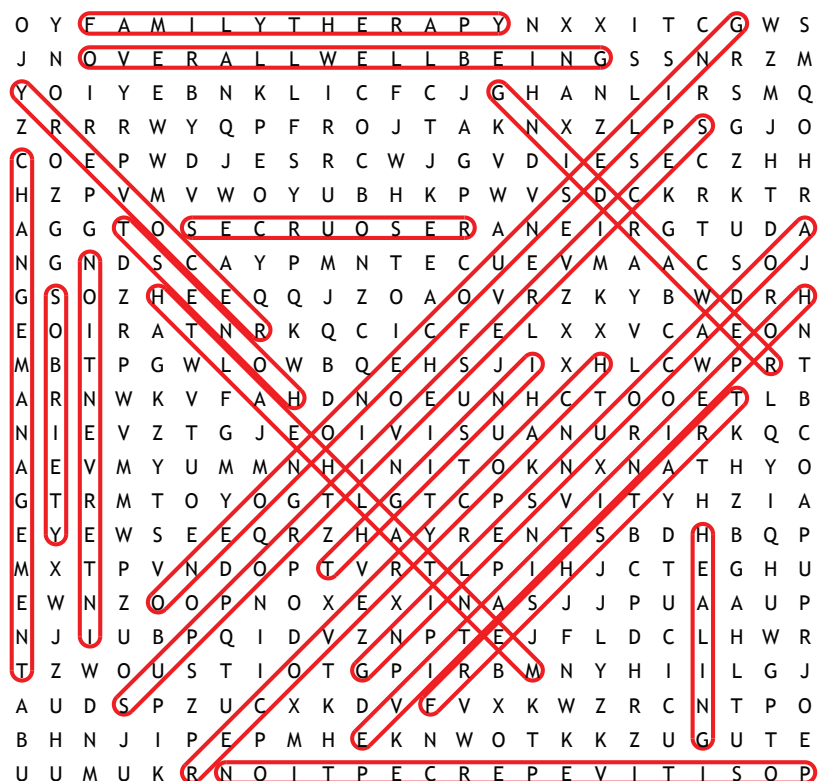
- 4. This month is made for fools and fun.
- 7. This month marks the beginning of harvest time.
- 8. This month everyone prepares for a large feast and is grateful.
- 10. This month is known for madness.
- 13. This month, our family foundation is recognized, and we show her our love on that special day.
- 18. This band is located in Bkejwanong Ontario, Canada.
- 19. This band is located Athens, Mich.
- 20. This band is location is Oklahoma.
- 21. This band is located in Gun Lake, Mich.

**DOWN**

- 1. This band is located in northeast Wisconsin.
- 2. This month begins with fireworks in the night sky.
- 3. This month is a fresh start for everyone.
- 5. This month has decorative multi colors lights and is a happy, jolly time.
- 6. This tribal band is located in Kansas.
- 9. This band is located Wasauksing First Nation - Ontario, Canada.
- 11. This band is located in upper Michigan.
- 12. This month is filled with lions and weather is nice and hot.
- 14. This month, candy is everywhere, with scary parties.
- 15. This month, most children are free to have fun for the summer.
- 16. This band is located Southern Michigan.
- 17. There is a lot of romance and love during this month.



**Answers from previous issue**



**DEC 2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31		LIVE MUSIC CASH DRAWINGS PARTY FAVORS CHAMPAGNE TOASTS		WIN YOUR SHARE OF <b>\$20,000 CASH</b>

*Celebrate*  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**



**CASH DRAWINGS**

1 P.M.: TWO \$500 WINNERS  
 3 P.M.: ONE \$775 WINNER  
 5 P.M.: ONE \$2,025 WINNER

9, 10 & 11 P.M.: TWO \$2,025 WINNERS EACH HOUR  
 12:30 AM: FOUR \$2,025 WINNERS

*Champagne Toast*  
**AT NOON & MIDNIGHT**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**LOVIN' COUNTRY**  
11 A.M.-3 P.M.

**CAT 5**  
9 P.M.-1 A.M.

*Happy Holidays*  
DRAWINGS

SELECT WEEKENDS  
IN DECEMBER

**WIN A \$500  
AMAZON®  
GIFT CARD**

**UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER CONTEST**

**SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 21**

CONTESTANTS RECEIVE \$5 REWARD PLAY!

**CASH PRIZES** 1st \$750 • 2nd \$500 • 3rd \$250  
FOR EACH CATEGORY

WIN UP TO \$200 REWARD PLAY!

**SPIN & WIN**

**THURSDAYS IN DECEMBER**

Earn 800 same-day points to spin & win noon-7 p.m.

**New Year's Eve Buffet**

DECEMBER 31 | 4-9 P.M. | \$32 PER PERSON

— FEATURING —

Snow Crab Legs, Crispy Breaded Shrimp,  
 Braised Short Ribs, Pressure Fried Chicken  
 and Lobster Mac & Cheese

**THE SPRINGS**  
RESTAURANT & LOUNGE