

REGION

NEWS FROM NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN

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NEWS TIP LINE (231) 933-1472



Honor guards and American Indians from different tribes enter during the Grand Entry. The powwow was held indoors Saturday afternoon because the ground was wet from morning rains.

JIINGTAMOK 2005

Grand Traverse Band hosts powwow



Tray Ray, of Traverse City, dances across the floor during the traditional men's dance. Below, Sons of the Three Fires beat their drums and sing as dancers pass. The group was just one of several that drummed and sang. The drum — the heartbeat of Mother Earth — is the center of the powwow.



PHOTOS AND STORY BY
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The powwow is a social event where the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and other tribes come together yearly to visit, feast, sing and dance.

Band members expected hundreds of people — families, singers, dancers, artists and craftspeople — from all over the United States to attend its 2005 annual traditional Jiingtamok in Peshawbestown Friday through Sunday.

The powwow has evolved from the Grass Dance Societies of the early 1800s, when the United States government outlawed tribal customs and religions for all native people.

Peshawbestown has been the home of the Grand Traverse Band since 1852, when Chief Peshabe and his band moved from Cross Village in what is now Emmet County to Leelanau County to establish a village, originally called Eagletown.

The federal government recognized the band as a sovereign nation in 1980. It has about 3,800 members. Its service area includes Grand Traverse, Charlevoix, Leelanau, Benzie, Manistee and Antrim counties.

Below, Gregory Zimmerman watches dancers as he waits his turn to dance.



Hank Bailey, of Cedar, does a men's traditional dance. Bailey is a member of the Grand Traverse Band and is part of the Black Wolf clan.