

SW Michigan Community Harvest Fest
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www.swmiharvestfest.org



Southwest Michigan Community Harvest Fest

NEWS RELEASE

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The Fourth Annual Southwest Community Harvest Fest is a celebration of local food, entertainment and crafts that will bring together local growers, restaurants, artisans, musicians and others on Sunday, September 17 at Tillers International located just south of I-94 between Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. The event runs from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 per carload, bicyclists are free, and the gates open at 11 a.m.

Activities include contra dancing, hayrides, and several informative and fun demonstrations and presentations. A special family tent will have activities for children. Tillers International is located at 10515 "OP" Ave. in Scotts.

This year's special guest speaker is Donald A. Perrot, Potawatomi Tribe Elder. The title of Mr. Perrot's talk is "Potawatomi Life and Values." He will teach us about the history and values of his traditional culture that once solely inhabited Southwest Michigan. Mr. Perrot is an international lecturer on this topic, a fluent speaker of five Native American languages, and currently teaches his native language and culture to his people.

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A food tent will serve locally produced harvest-time treats during the entire festival. Local growers and artisans will also be selling their wares and produce. Musical acts will feature local folk and bluegrass bands.

Presentations will include the “Sustainable Living Panel: Local Folks Harvesting the Good Life.” Panelists from rural and urban settings will discuss ways they have integrated green living concepts into their everyday lives ranging from fuel conservation and solar/wind energy to organic gardening and recycling to community involvement and political action.

The festival is sponsored by Tillers International, Fair Food Matters, Higher Grounds Fair Trade Coffee, Michigan Land Trustees, and People's Food Co-op. The music is sponsored by Broughton Music Company of Kalamazoo.

For more information about the festival, visit www.swmiharvestfest.org.

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