

Historical Clippings

Three Lakes Museum

November 2023

Celebrating Every November

to call attention to the culture, traditions, and achievements of this nation's original inhabitants,

Native American Heritage Month



To the wild rice beds

The month of November was chosen for its cultural significance as the month when Native Americans conclude their traditional harvest season.

It's a time to honor and celebrate their rich and varied cultures, traditions, history, and contributions and also an opportunity to become more educated about the Native American people.



May 1916 - Native American Heritage Month got its start as a one-day "*American Indian Day*" celebration in New York

October 1975 - President Gerald Ford turned it into a week-long "*Native American Awareness Week*"

1990 - President George H. W. Bush signed into law a joint resolution declaring the entire month of November "*National Native American Indian Heritage Month.*" This resolution officially recognized Native citizens both as the country's original inhabitants and for their essential contributions, specifically to farming and harvesting.



The image above, c.1904, is a gathering of local Ojibwe at the store of William Neu where they frequently traded goods. This store was on the corner where the Three Lakes Pharmacy and Fika are today.

The Three Lakes Museum and archives include artifacts and images showing that this area was inhabited by indigenous people not only 120 years ago but more than 5000 years ago. But there is so much more to tell. How can you satisfy your curiosity and sort through the controversies?

Start local, seek those with knowledge and ask questions.

The two tribes of this area whose history predates the establishment of Three Lakes in 1881 are the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (or Ojibwe) today located to the west of Three Lakes and the Forest County Potawatomi, east of Crandon.

Gété yathmowen ga athtëmwat gėkyathėk

History is what the Elders said.

From the entrance to the
Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center Gallery



George W. Brown Jr.

OJIBWE MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER

The George W. Brown Jr. Ojibwe Museum and Cultural Center offers one of the complete collections of the Lac du Flambeau history. Our collections include a world record sturgeon taken from a area lake and a 500+ year old dug out canoe.

VISITOR HOURS
Mid November - Mid March
Tuesday - Thursday
10am-4pm
Mid March - Mid November
Monday - Friday
10am-4pm
Closed holidays

Admission
\$4.00 Adult
\$3.00 Senior
\$3.00 Child
5 and under Free

George W. Brown Jr.
Ojibwe Museum & Cultural Center
603 Peace Pipe Rd. • Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538
715-588-3333 • www.ldfmuseum.com

The Lac du Flambeau and Potawatomi both have remarkable cultural centers that each include a museum, library and gift shop and most importantly, knowledgeable people to help.

The resources available at these facilities make it worth the time to visit and learn about the indigenous people of our area.

Hours: Chicago
Monday - Thursday / 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Or by appointment: 1-800-860-5479 ext. 7478

School Groups Welcome
Please call ahead for scheduling

Museum Admission:
Adults: \$3
Kids (5-12) and Elders (55+): \$1
5 and under: FREE

MUSEUM
The Museum was primarily created to educate the public with a permanent exhibit outlining significant historical and contemporary events and to pass the history, culture and traditions of the Potawatomi to the next generations.

The heart of the facility is our continued collection of photography and artifacts, artwork, audio/video, rare books, treaties, manuscripts, language materials and other memorabilia.

Services offered to the community include:
Potawatomi language and cultural class instruction,
Native American DVD and VHS rental, gift shop sales, a variety of tribal newspapers and an array of books on the history and culture of indigenous Peoples of the northern and western hemispheres.

Journey with us through many colorful displays and interactive kiosks. Witness for yourself the history of the Forest County Potawatomi Community.

GIFT SHOP

The Gift Shop has a wide variety of items such as:

- Baskets
- Paintings
- Jewelry
- Clothing
- Beadwork
- And more!

We carry handcrafted items that are selected from American Indian Artisans local and regional.

LIBRARY

The Library is a tribally-owned and operated public library. Our collection focuses on American Indian Studies, with an emphasis on the Potawatomi Nation and the tribes of the Great Lakes region. We also have a great collection of American Indian authored fiction and children's books along with a growing DVD collection. You can search our library collection with the following link: www.library.FCPotawatomi.com

For research inquiries please call (715) 478-4841.

FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI CULTURAL CENTER, LIBRARY & MUSEUM
8130 Mish ko swen Drive
PO Box 340 | Crandon, WI 54520
1-800-860-5479, Ext. 7478
www.FCPotawatomi.com/culture-and-history

