Today, we see what the People who have knowledge of coming events, our Elders, were trying to tell us in the past. We were told to respect all living things - those that soar above us in the sky, those that walk or crawl upon the earth, those that belong underwater, all of the roots, trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowers. We were cautioned to take only what we need, for the Creator has set these upon Mother Earth for all our use.

Today, we are abusing our Mother Earth. Our air, water and soil is polluted. We are told not to eat fish out of certain streams and lakes.

I pray to our Creator that we look back so that we may see ahead. Let us examine our lives so that we are respectful to our fellow humans and to nature. Let us respect our children and, above all, let us live our lives in accordance with our beliefs.

Let us share our natural resources for the good of our People. Let us work for clean air and water and pray for the courage to stand up to those who would abuse our Mother Earth.

Tha ge na gom ge (So be it).

Bemweteš (James Thunder)
Potawatomi Language Instructor
The Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center, Library and 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 (including online shopping), 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.

The Potawatomi Dictionary is now available for purchase. Order online at: www.FCPotawatomi.com/shop/potawatomi-dictionary

Ezhe-bmadzimger gdebo’dewadmi zhes’imensional POTAWARE DICTIONARY

Gift Shop

The Forest County Potawatomi 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.