LETTER TO THE EDITOR

March 9, 2015

Dear Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members,

The purpose of this letter is to relate how I view the actions taken by our Executive Committee (EC) of our Tribe based on the taped videos and articles in the Absentee Shawnee News for several months.

After I viewed the taped videos and read the articles in the Absentee Shawnee News, I am very disturbed of how three members of the Executive Committee (Lt. Governor, Secretary, and Treasurer) want to take away the Governor’s span of control by having special EC meetings without her knowledge.

When George Blanchard and Larry Nuckols were Governors, the EC at that time took the same actions. Now the EC is trying to take the same actions on our current Governor. This is not acceptable. The Office of the Governor is a respected position of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The Governor elected by all members serves as our elected leader with full responsibility to govern our Tribe. If a major event occurred against our Tribe, the Governor would be held responsible.

It alarmed me to read in the December 2014 issue of the Absentee Shawnee News as reported by the Attorney General Office Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker, LLP the following statements:

“Most concerning were three key areas: (1) adherence to the Tribe’s Constitutional framework for Executive Committee decision making”; (2) proper role of Executive Committee members; and (3) gaming operations. Regarding the former, an unconstitutional pattern had developed among Executive Committee members over time of attempting to take governmental action informally through the mere signature of three individual committee members.” (Lt. Governor Gibson, Secretary Dawsey and Treasurer Bates).

Apparently, the logic was that the constitutional requirements for meeting and conducting business need not be followed if three individual committee persons agree—in other words, no set agenda, no notice, no convening of a quorum for transacting business, and no formal vote.”

These statements were supported in the December 2014 Governor’s Report. “These three individuals are not acting in the best interest of our tribe—it appears they are deliberately misinterpreting the law, the constitution and the administrative systems Manual policies of our Tribe for their own personal gain and benefit. At the last Regular Executive Committee Meeting (which you may view on the AST tribal member’s only website area now) these three individuals openly admitted to having their own legal counsel and to having unconstitutional meetings with neither I (Governor) nor the Representative being invited.”

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members why are we allowing this form of governance to be continued in December, January, February and March? Governing our Tribal business in this manner is totally unacceptable behavior and must be stopped by us the Tribal shareholders. They were elected to be accountable, to serve all members of the Tribe and operate all aspects of our Tribal Enterprises in good faith, be transparent, good stewards of our funds and take action without prejudice. They were elected to put the Tribe first, treat every member with respect, and go out of their way to uphold the Constitution. When I come to Shawnee to visit, I want to be proud of my Tribe who is working together in a mature legal manner. I want the Shawnee Non-Indian Community to want to trade, associate and support our way of life.

In closing, if the Lt. Governor, Secretary and Treasurer can’t work with the Governor who represents us legally according to the Constitution, they need to resign or be recalled because they are creating more legal costs getting their own attorney, Tribe’s business is suffering and not living up to the oath they made to uphold the Tribe’s Constitution Requirements.

I will be at the Brokeshoulder Family Reunion in June 2015, and if I don’t hear or read about positive improvements in the relationship of our Executive Committee we TRIBAL SHAREHOLDERS NEED TO INTERVENE AND CLEAN HOUSE.

Please email me your positive thoughts or reactions to this message. Blschwarz2008@comcast.net.

Loretta Brokeshoulder Schwarz
Elder member of the Shawnee Tribe since 1932

DISCLAIMER:
The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by this author do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of the Tribe-at-large, the Administrative Systems Manual, the Executive Committee or the AST Editorial Advisory Board.

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 4TH, 2015
10:00 AM
AST CASINO IN LITTLE AXE
Hello my friends, neighbors, relatives and Tribal members at large!

I think spring may have, at long last, arrived in our part of Oklahoma. For those of you who reside in Oklahoma this seemed to be an unusually rugged winter with our tribe having multiple closures due to the hazards snow and ice bring. For those tribal members outside of Oklahoma I hope you are seeing positive signs of spring and will find joy in this weather change as I do. This type of weather gives me the chance to get out and start walking or riding my bike around the Shawnee Municipal Airport track. The City of Shawnee recently improved the lighting around this track and it gives more opportunities to enjoy evening exercise.

This month has been an active month for the Tribe’s Election Commission. This Commission represents one aspect of what we as a sovereign nation have available to it – a right to vote on tribal officials and issues. The election process gives opportunity within our tribal government for those who are 18 or older to illustrate through their vote which direction they want the Tribe to go. Voting is important within a democratic process as it ensures the right of each tribal member is expressed. I hope those of you who are able to vote - did so.

In my last month’s article I indicated I would attach my testimony to you today on behalf of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. I think spring may have, at long last, arrived in our part of Oklahoma. For those of you who reside in Oklahoma this seemed to be an unusually rugged winter with our tribe having multiple closures due to the hazards snow and ice bring. For those tribal members outside of Oklahoma I hope you are seeing positive signs of spring and will find joy in this weather change as I do. This type of weather gives me the chance to get out and start walking or riding my bike around the Shawnee Municipal Airport track. The City of Shawnee recently improved the lighting around this track and it gives more opportunities to enjoy evening exercise.

My name is Edwina Butler-Wolfe and I am the Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and its sister tribes in Pottawatomie and Cleveland Counties in Oklahoma and four other Tribes (Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Iowa Tribe, Kickapoo Tribe, Sac and Fox Nation). The Absentee Shawnee’s live in the region of south-central Oklahoma which is about 35 miles east-southeast of Oklahoma City.

The Tribe comprised of two bands: Big Jim Band in Cleveland County and the White Turkey Band in Pottawatomie County near the City of Shawnee. This second community in Oklahoma is where our Tribal government complex is located. The Tribe’s ancestral homeland lies in the regions of Ohio and Kentucky. It was during the nineteenth century the U.S. government removed the Tribe to what is now the state of Kansas. The Tribe abandoned itself from the reservation in Kansas in 1845, becoming known as the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The Tribe relocated to Indian Territory (Oklahoma) in 1890. The Big Jim Band settled along the Deep Fork River, while the White Turkey Band settled in its present site near present day Shawnee, Oklahoma. It was during 1886, the U.S. Army forced the Big Jim Band to move once again, this time to its present community in Cleveland County. In 1891, the town surrounding the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and its sister tribes adopted the name Shawnee as its name.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe currently employs approximately 433 in its two health corporations (one for-profit and the other a non-profit, these are both Board operated), two casinos, one housing authority and those located at the Tribal complex. Approximately $15,571,373 is expended annually on salaries with those funds being expended predominantly in a two county area. The Tribes annual federal budget brought into the state of Oklahoma is $36,762,875. The Tribe owns 783.59 acres; the Tribes members/citizens individually own 10,916.85 acres.

I am the second woman to serve in the role of Governor for my Absentee Shawnee people and as to date I am the longest serving. I am honored to serve my people and cherish our children and elders and all that they represent as place holders in our history and our future. Prior to coming into the role of Governor I served as an educator for over 15 years and during that time saw the many need(s) within the Oklahoma public school system. I am concerned about the Native American students within our public school systems based on the alarming nationwide statistical data I have seen. It shows victimization, bullying, cyber-bullying, racial tensions, substance abuse use, gang activities and the need for additional safety measures for both student and teacher. It is my hope that changes can and will be made through joint collaborative efforts between public school systems and tribes.

As you may be aware in 1994 the Johnson O’Malley student count was frozen and the funding has not increased since 1995. Currently over 90 percent of Native American students are in public schools yet the funding has remained the same, resulting in fewer services for the students. When the student count was frozen in 1995 the JOM funds were placed under the Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) category of funding and the JOM office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) was closed. There is no contact person for the JOM program to maintain and administer the program. There has also been a move by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) to eliminate the JOM program so they can use the funds for other uses. The BIE’s priority is, of course, those students located within the BIE funded schools. As of April 2014 we have over 400,000 Native American students attending public schools with approximately 9% of this population being in Oklahoma. The Native students in public schools do not have a voice in the BIE or BIA to advocate for their academic success. The best advocate for our Native students is tribes and that is why I stand before you today. Tribal interaction with schools could be improved by granting the Tribal Education Agencies (TEA) access to educational and student data on those students enrolled within public schools that are within that Tribe’s territorial catchment or service area. These TEAs could then assign liaisons to schools to have direct contact with the students and could assist with tutoring and help to address attendance issues with an emphasis on access to tribal programs. Connecting students and families to tribal programs gives much needed access to family counseling, behavioral health professionals, mentoring programs, cultural and language programs to name a few. There are too many issues in public schools to expect the teachers of...
administrative staff to be aware of tribal programs, which results in tribal students being denied services that could help them perform better academically and socially. Tribal representatives should have access to student records (attendance, grades, etc.) so that tribes can become partners with the schools to improve the tribal student’s education or prevent at-risk students from failing or dropping out of school.

The curricula for public schools are determined by committees appointed at the district and at state level. Unfortunately, in states with populations of Native American students when schools include culturally offensive material into curricula without being aware of the nature of the offense. As an example, in Oklahoma, public schools often conduct activities portraying the “Oklahoma Land Run” without realizing the negative connotation of the act to Native American students. Most teachers and administrators are not aware of the negative impact they have on students and their families. They are often busy with the day-to-day periods of state mandates or other events, and with a tribal liaison on the curricula committee, it could be accomplished in a manner that is not offensive.

School systems could become more accountable for the education of Native American students if funding for Indian Education programs like Impact Aid and Title VII were administered by the Tribal Education Agencies in that respective area. This might be accomplished in a manner similar to the JOM contracts. Currently, schools are only required to have public hearings or oversight committees appointed by the school administration. Tribes are often not given adequate notification for these hearings and may not be asked to participate at all. As a result the funds are often spent for educational services for the entire school population, not the Native American students for which the funds are allocated. If the TEA had oversight, it could ensure proper expenditures. For years we, the tribes, have been asking local schools how the Impact Aid and Title VII funds are being spent. Our schools seem reluctant to share this information with us, the tribes, but when an answer is given the typical response is “the funds go into one pool and cannot be tracked”. So the school system cannot tell us specifically if the funds were spent on Native students. As these are federal dollars there must be a reporting mechanism for fund tracking that tribes could be educated on. We have many needs within our schools. One of my biggest concerns is the bullying of young Native American students when they have to call into action our behavioral health department to assist our elementary level children about bullying to prevent suicidal ideation. We, as tribes, need the ability to work with schools towards prevention of cyber-bullying through social media and internet forums; we need input into Native American gang activity, substance abuse issues, weapon use and a way to ensure our children, teenagers and teachers are in a secure learning environment.

Over the decades, tribes have invested in capturing and preserving their culture, language and history. We have found that by doing this we help both our own people and others to better understand our struggles and accomplishments. This has not been illustrated or at times even shared in public school textbooks and these depictions are necessary to provide an accurate portrayal of Native American history to students. History and culture is a validation to students of whom they are and why they are here. If public schools work with tribes then a more accurate and relevant history and culture could be made available to all students who could benefit from the information and its presentation. Tribes could be a resource for language, culture or historic curricula, and this material could be designed so that it would abide by the State’s Common CORE Standards or those so selected by the State for curricula development.

The ‘No Child Left Behind’ (NCLB) Act requires that a teacher be considered “highly qualified” in order to teach a language for school credit. Most of our fluent tribal speakers are elders and do not always have a degree or certification to become “highly qualified.” These same speakers are being lost at an alarming rate due to their age. Our Native languages are endangered and action must occur before they are lost. The tribes are the best judge to say who is an expert speaker of their language. The NCLB Act should look to include language allowing tribes to prioritize their language speakers according to standards the tribe determines. Additionally, Native language should be certified as a world language credit so that it is accredited for purposes of graduation. Currently, Native language is counted as electives due to the challenges of teacher certification.

In conclusion, I, as the Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe applaud any and all effort to address issues related to Native students and education. In working together we can move forward jointly beneficial efforts that will have long and meaningful contributions for our Native American students that will positively impact their families, communities, and all students within our public schools.

Thank you, for allowing me this opportunity to share with you and I look forward to a future of shared contributions so that we can decrease victimization, bullying, gang activity, ethnic tensions and substance abuse within the public school system and instead move our youth into hopeful futures of higher education and vocations.

The whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Aristotle stated this. I saw this quote and it brought home to me the reason I originally ran for Office which was to make a difference for the whole tribe and not just a few parts of it. My vision was to bring the tribe together, work through whatever storm we might face and make advances in education, healthcare, investment structures and throughout our tribal governance so that all students within our public schools can continue to do well now and in the future. I have done my part. What part is that you may ask?

- Arrive at work each morning and stay into the evening;
- Attend all EC meetings; Special EC meetings and GC meetings;
- Attend local and state meetings on programs under my direct oversight;
- Contribute and/or take part in functions and American activities for our tribal people;
- Abide by our constitution and honor my Oath of Office;
- Resolve issue(s) brought before me to the best of my ability;
- Work with my programs to meet budgetary and programmatic needs.

If we are going to run our Tribe like a business then we need leaders in Office willing to conduct the business of the Tribe and do it with ethics and honesty and be held accountable for their actions. It is my hope that in the near future we will create a survey tool that will give in-state and out-of-state voters input as to what we need to do to strategically approach business, programming, investments and budgets so that we can make steps forward.

Conclusion
I have 2 months to go. My door is always open (unless I happen to be in or at a meeting) and I welcome your visit. Help me to make a difference – stand beside me and Let’s Build for the Future (BFF) - united and together!

Thank you for your support.

Secretary’s Report

Hello Everyone;
I hope that everyone is in good health, with all of the allergies and various respiratory problems that have going on. I know I am looking forward to the spring weather that has come.
I have not gone on any travels here lately, due to the various problems that have been created by various Executive Committee members. I have been working on research looking in to the practices of the Department of Human Services and the methods that they have been using to place our children. I am also attempting to get an appointment with the Director of DHS and the Governor of the state of Oklahoma. Last year at the ICWA conference in Ft. Lauderdale, I attended the Attorney General’s Advisory Committee on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence meeting where I gave testimony. This Committee held meetings in various states getting testimonies from various agencies, Law Enforcement, Tribal Leaders, ICW, and Educators concerning our Native Children. My point to this is that the Attorney General and the Bureau of Indian Affairs have re-written the Guidelines concerning ICWA and from speaking with ICW workers here the State of Oklahoma Department of Human Services have not looked at the new Guidelines and are continuing to make their own decisions without including the families or the tribes. If anyone would like a copy of the new guidelines they may come by my office and we will provide a copy.
I have also have concerns about the Tribal Housing Authority, so that is more research which may or may not be a good thing. There have been numerous complaints from tribal members and I would like to know if the guidelines are being followed. After I finish researching then I will speak with the Housing Board and start asking questions. I hope everyone has a wonderful Easter. If anyone has any questions or would like to just come by to visit, or call, please do. Home Number is 307-0954, 275-4630, ex. 6289
Thank you, and be blessed.

Representative's Report

Greetings, Fellow Tribal Members.

On March 21, 2015 we had the primary election for prospective candidates for the offices of Governor and Tribal Secretary.

It is my hope that you got out and did your civic duty by casting a vote for the candidate of your choice.

Our government is democratic. The people own it, operate it, and can do what they wish with it including choosing who may run the government for them. Your vote makes a difference.

To contact me at the Tribal Complex, please write to:
Representative Ken Blanchard
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

Or by phone at (405) 275-4030, Ext. 6287.

Respectfully,
Ken Blanchard

No reports submitted by
Lt. Governor and Treasurer
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING AND ACCEPTING EULEE LEE ELYEY BROPHY, ROBERTA JOY BIDDLE, KYLI ROSE BITTLE, KYLI ROSE BITTLE, WYATT DAN THOMPSON, CARRIE DAN CARSON, ZESA LOU-ANN PUCKITT, LYNNELI RENEE KASECA, JOSEAH AHINSKA DAWSEY, ALYSSA MARIE PUCKITT, KURUK JAMES WILLIAMS, KYLI ROSE BITTLE, TRINITY MORGAN BITTLE, WYATT DAN THOMPSON, KYLI ROSE BITTLE, ZESA LOU-ANN PUCKITT, KYLI ROSE BITTLE, KYLI ROSE BITTLE, WYATT DAN THOMPSON, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Absent, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasure Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe’s vote, if required, N/A.

WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and
WHEREAS, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and
WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby rejects the application of Makynna Johnson, Eric Wayne Harjo, Alissa Marie Puckitt, Josiah Ahinska Deere, Andrea Kay Lemke-Rochon, Ky’Ara Joy Johnson, Ky’Ara Joy Johnson, WYATT DAN THOMPSON, Ky’Ara Joy Johnson, Ky’Ara Joy Johnson, Alissa Marie Puckitt, and Julia DeAnna Snake as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby approves and accepts Eulee Lee Elyey Brophy, Roberta Joy Biddle, Kyli Rose Bittle, Trinity Morgan Bittle, Wyatt Dan Thompson, Carrie Dan Carson, Zesa Lou-An Puckitt, Lynneli Renee Kaseca, Josiah Ahinska Dawsey, Alyssa Marie Puckitt and Julia DeAnna Snake as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby approves and accepts Eulee Lee Elyey Brophy, Roberta Joy Biddle, Kyli Rose Bittle, Trinity Morgan Bittle, Wyatt Dan Thompson, Carrie Dan Carson, Zesa Lou-An Puckitt, Lynneli Renee Kaseca, Josiah Ahinska Dawsey, Alyssa Marie Puckitt and Julia DeAnna Snake as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby approves and accepts Eulee Lee Elyey Brophy, Roberta Joy Biddle, Kyli Rose Bittle, Trinity Morgan Bittle, Wyatt Dan Thompson, Carrie Dan Carson, Zesa Lou-An Puckitt, Lynneli Renee Kaseca, Josiah Ahinska Dawsey, Alyssa Marie Puckitt and Julia DeAnna Snake as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby approves and accepts Eulee Lee Elyey Brophy, Roberta Joy Biddle, Kyli Rose Bittle, Trinity Morgan Bittle, Wyatt Dan Thompson, Carrie Dan Carson, Zesa Lou-An Puckitt, Lynneli Renee Kaseca, Josiah Ahinska Dawsey, Alyssa Marie Puckitt and Julia DeAnna Snake as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby approves and accepts Eulee Lee Elyey Brophy, Roberta Joy Biddle, Kyli Rose Bittle, Trinity Morgan Bittle, Wyatt Dan Thompson, Carrie Dan Carson, Zesa Lou-An Puckitt, Lynneli Renee Kaseca, Josiah Ahinska Dawsey, Alyssa Marie Puckitt and Julia DeAnna Snake as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.
EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION NO. E-AS-2015-15
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
REGULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 18, 2015


WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian Tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and
WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and
WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and
WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has authorized an increase of the Social Services Director Annette Wilson’s Bancfirst credit card limit of the Social Services Director Annette Wilson’s Bancfirst credit card limit from Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($2,500.00) to Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby re-appoints Roy Larney to the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for a term of (2) two years effective January 16, 2015 and expiring January 15, 2017.

CERTIFICATION
We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No-E-AS-2015-15 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on March 18, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Yes, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe’s vote, if required, N/A.

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION NO. E-AS-2015-15
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
REGULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 18, 2015


WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian Tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and
WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and
WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and
WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has authorized an increase of the Social Services Director Annette Wilson’s Bancfirst credit card limit of the Social Services Director Annette Wilson’s Bancfirst credit card limit from Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($2,500.00) to Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby re-appoints Roy Larney to the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for a term of (2) two years effective January 16, 2015 and expiring January 15, 2017.

CERTIFICATION
We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No-E-AS-2015-15 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on March 18, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Yes, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe’s vote, if required, N/A.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION NO. L-AS-2015-01
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
REGULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 18, 2015

A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE OF THE DIRECTOR ANNETTE WILSON’S BANCFIRST CREDIT CARD LIMIT FROM TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($2,500.00) TO FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($5,000.00).

WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is a federally recognized Indian Tribe exercising all inherent sovereign rights from time immemorial; and
WHEREAS the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has a Constitution approved by the Department of the Interior, last amended in May 2011; and
WHEREAS the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma is empowered by the Constitution to speak and otherwise conduct business in the name of, and on behalf of, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; and
WHEREAS the authorities granted by this Resolution shall be continuing until and unless rescinded by separate action of the Tribal Government.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby authorizes an increase of the Director Annette Wilson’s Bancfirst credit card limit from Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($2,500.00) to Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00).

CERTIFICATION
We, Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor and Vera M. Dawsey, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify this Resolution No-L-AS-2015-01 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on March 18, 2105, there being a quorum present, by vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Gibson: Yes, Secretary Dawsey: Yes, Treasurer Bates: Yes, Representative Blanchard: Yes, Governor Butler-Wolfe’s vote, if required, N/A.
GOVERNOR’S SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Captain Trent Norton

I Trent Norton currently hold the position of Assistant Chief of the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police Department; Prior to working for the Absentee Shawnee Police Department I worked for the town of Stroud in 2001 for three years. Later I went to Sac & Fox Police Department to serve as a patrol Officer where I became Basic Instructor, and Academy Coordinator Certified, and K-9 Certified, for three Years. I then came to work for the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police Department in Sept. of 2008 where I started as a Narcotics Patrol Officer, later being promoted to a patrol Sergeant, and then later promoted to my current position of Assistant Chief. I currently hold Instructor certifications for SFST (DUI Field Sobriety), LEDT (Driving Instructor), Academy Coordinator, Taser Instructor, and Vine and Amber Alert Instructor.

Let’s Build For the Future (BFF)!

GOVERNORS SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE

Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe will be working with the six program department that she has oversight over and will monthly select an employee that is deemed to have contributed to their program and to the Absentee Shawnee tribe. The attributes to be considered are: Contributions to the community and the Tribe; leadership; performance and work ethic; teamwork. It is the intent of the Governor to recognize tribal employees who do a remarkable job and might not otherwise get recognized for their contributions. This special employee recognition program will be highlighted under my Office as the SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH program.

The AST Health System values ALL feedback.

We will listen....

*Patient Advocate Jim Robertson
405-447-0300

*Customer Service Line
405-701-7623

*Patient Questionnaire located in each of our clinics or on our website
www.ASTHEALTH.ORG
NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN WARRIORS
Come Join Us!
See if you qualify for VA Benefits ~ Explore your current VA Benefits!

Native American Veterans Enrollment Event

Little Axe Health Center
Wed. April 22, 2015
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Shawnee Clinic
Wed. May 20, 2015
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

VHA Health & VBA Benefits Specialists will be available to assist
with the following U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs programs:

- Vet Center Mobile Unit
- DAV - Disabled American Vet Rep
- Mental Health & Substance Abuse
- Women’s Health Program
- Survivor’s Benefits
- Housing & Education Benefits
- Employment Opportunities
- Homeless Program

Contact: Connie Bottaro/Melinda Ferrell/Lela Culley, Patient Benefit Advocate
Little Axe Health Center ~ 15951 Little Axe Drive, Norman, OK, 73062 ~ 405.447.0300
Shawnee Clinic ~ 2029 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801 ~ 405.878.5850
Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System ~ www.asthealth.org

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Member Steven Snake Recently Presented a Painting to the Family of Robert Williamson. The Presentation Was Held at the Sac & Fox Nation.

Regarding the Painting:
The painting is dedicated to the Robert Williamson family. The warrior depicted in the painting is Joshua Williamson, who was a world class dancer and performed at many state and intertribal events. The Sac & Fox and Shawnee people were allies since time immemorial and were in the America’s along with the sabertooth tigers and mastodons. My painting transcends boundaries and political chaos.

Thank You,
Steven Snake
April 3, AST Complex will be closed. No Breakfast will be served or delivered this day but you will get a breakfast on Thursday, April 2, 2015.

April 4, GENERAL COUNCIL
10 A.M. THUNDERBIRD CASINO
EVENT CENTER

Unscramble the letters to find the words in our Earth Day Anagram

Word List: animal, clean, conserve, earth, ecology, green, habitat, plant, recycle, reduce, reuse

e d u r c
esu ar
ba t i h a t
l a i m a n
e n e r g
a n c l e
g o e y o l c
ey e c o l
h e a r t
ve e s r n o c
l a p n t

For the homeowner, Arbor Day is an excellent opportunity to take stock of the trees on your property and plan for the future. Inspect your trees. Note any broken branches or evidence of disease or insect infestation. Think about how planting new trees might improve the look of your property or provide wind or heat protection. Take a trip to your local nursery to see what's available and to get new ideas. Walk around your neighborhood. Are there any public areas where tree planting or tree maintenance might make a real difference to your community? Talk with your neighbors. Find out what their opinions are. And, oh yes, plant a tree.
Hello, my Absentee Shawnee people!

On March 21st many of you came to the polls to vote. I thank each of you who sent your absentee ballots in and for the many that came to the Tribal complex in Shawnee and voted. Your vote is vital to the direction, we as a people, move as it can ensure whether our tribe progresses or does not.

It is my hope that as you go to the polls in June that you will carefully consider each candidate and think of three things: 1) Is this person capable of making positive changes for the betterment of our Absentee Shawnee people? 2) Will this person show up to their Office each day and uphold the oath of that Office? 3) Can this person represent our people at national meetings – meaning can this individual stand up in a national forum and speak to ALL issues related to the tribe and its needs and look and act professional when doing so?

Thank you again for your vote and I am honored by the many that voted for me and will do my best to continue to make positive changes for our children and their children. Let’s continue to Build For the Future (BFF) and do it together!

I want to extend my thanks to each and every voter who came out to vote on March 21st or sent their absentee ballot vote form in to take part in our tribal elections! I also, want to say ‘thank you’ to each candidate who felt the need to help the tribe by running for Office during the primary election.

Over the next 3 months I will do my best to show you why I think that I am the right candidate for the Office of Secretary. I believe that our tribe is ready for a change - we need ethical and honest people in leadership who want to make a difference. My military record, work ethics and family life clearly show that once I am committed, I follow through! Thank you Twila O. Parker-Longhorn

405-229-8052

THANK YOU’S...
The MSPI (Meth/Suicide Prevention Initiative) drum project continues to meet every Saturday afternoon at 1pm at the Employee Committee/Music Building, behind the Shawnee Clinic. John Soap has dedicated his time for instruction on how to make drum sticks and hand drums. A few participants have completed this artful craft.

We invite you to come and see what the youth and others have accomplished as their next task will be to learn pow–wow songs from John Soap and from other invited singers.

For more information please contact the following:

Absentee Shawnee Behavioral Health
John Soap: (405) 878-4716

Little Axe Health Center Behavioral Health – MSPI
Jenifer Sloan: (405) 701-7988
Clarice Williams: (405) 701-7995
The AST Tribal Health System welcomes Dr. John Wheeler, Orthopedic Surgeon, to our team of outstanding providers! He will be replacing Dr. Jack Beller, who has served the health system well over the years. We are excited to have Dr. Wheeler on board to assist us with our orthopedic program. He will be covering the Shawnee and Little Axe Clinics as well as maintaining his partnership. Additionally, Dr. Wheeler will also be performing the surgeries on our patients, streamlining the time between appointment and surgery as well as follow-up care and physical therapy. This new approach will eliminate additional appointment times and delays as well as wait times in accessing care.

We are very proud of our outstanding star performers this month and thank them all for their contributions to our patients, their fellow employees, and the Tribe! The 2015 year continues to be a breakout year for the AST Health System. With the new PlusCare Clinic on the horizon, the upcoming health fair, same day clinic for established patients, VA on-site campus events, along with numerous grant programs linked into our health system, our tribe will continue to enjoy access to programs and services that will ensure you and your family become and remain healthy.

We have initiated a new electronic notification system for patient appointments by your preferred choice. Either through email, text, or phone calls-the automated system is intended to remind patients of their upcoming appointments. We are going to start blocking appointment times for Tribal members who live outside the catchment area before Tribal events such as Pow Wows, General Council meetings, elections, etc., so that AST members can have “speed pass” access to our services when coming from out of town. We are very excited to continue to expand access and services as well as increase your satisfaction with our services!

Employee of the month for health was Ms. Connie Bottaro, PBA; the team of the month was our Patient Benefits Advisors, Ms. Bottaro and Mrs. Melinda Ferrell, for their help with our tribal elders and integrating all the new ACA, VA, and other programs going into effect this year. With tax season upon us, this has been a huge effort for our PBAs. The special leadership recognition award was presented to Nurse Practitioner, Jamie Gonzales, for her efforts towards completing a highly complex clinic certification, adding further value to this valuable provider and increasing her ability to service her patients. Way to go team!

A few other key bits of information for this month:
- AST/Serviced Health System Native American Veterans: If you are currently receiving services with the area VA Medical Center, please contact us today to set up an appointment to have your services established with the AST Health System. We have been approved to begin our program for Native American Veterans. We have two upcoming Veterans Enrollment Events scheduled at the Little Axe Clinic on Wednesday, April 22nd and at the Shawnee Clinic on Wednesday, May 20th. The events provide an opportunity for you to visit with VHA Health and VBA Benefit enrollment specialists. They will be able to see if you qualify for benefits or they can help you explore your current VA benefit offerings.
- If you need CPR training, please contact the AST Health System’s Public Health Office at (405) 447-0300 for scheduling and training opportunities.
- Contract Health Services (CHS) interactive phone menu helps patients access the most appropriate service provider by calling (405) 701-7951. This feature will speed up access to the patients seeking services and follow-up to their care.
- The AST Health System continues to improve its Customer Service. The Customer Service Line is (405) 701-7623. Please direct all complaints or compliments to this line for appropriate attention and/or response. Please be assured this is the best way to have each situation addressed, with consistent updates from our Health Staff. After the investigations of all issues are complete, our Health Director or a Clinic Administrator will personally contact you with updates, decisions, or questions pertaining to your case.
- The AST Anti-Bullying Prevention “HOTLINE” is (405) 701-7987 during work hours 8-5, M-F, and for added confidentiality or after hours you may contact Mrs. Dara Thorpe at either (405) 701-7992 or via cell (405) 481-0815 to start intervention assistance for tribal youth. If it is an emergency or someone is at risk of harming themselves or others, please contact 911.
- The Affordable Care Act Decision Tool continues to be a valuable tool with helping you decide what you need to do for compliance with the act. Please see the ACA tab at the ASTHA Health Program’s Website: http://www.asthealth.org/aca (Please visit our site today to find out what you need to do to protect yourself and your family).
- IRS Releases Tax Form and Instructions for Tribal Exemption from Individual Shared Responsibility Payment: Shortly after the New Year, the IRS finalized and released Health Coverage Exemptions 2014 Form 8965 and instructions for healthcare exemptions from the Individual Shared Responsibility Payment. Native Americans who only utilized Indian healthcare services in 2014 and who do not have their Native American exemption number at time of tax filing may self-attest through their tax preparer; or if you prepare your own tax return, you may self-attest on Part III of Form 8965. Visit http://www.asthealth.org to access the form and instructions or contact a Patient Benefit Advocate at Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic for more information.
- Emergency After hours Pharmacy Access: If you experience an emergent issue after hours and receive a prescription that needs to be filled that same evening, AST Health has provided access for Tribal members at 3 approved Walgreen locations in Shawnee and Norman. You will need to submit your prescription and it is mandatory to identify yourself with your AST CDIB card and other appropriate ID. Then they shall fill your prescription. You will have a 5 day limited fill on your prescription. Upon the first work/business day, you can have the remaining balance of your prescription transferred to your AST pharmacy in either Shawnee or Little Axe, and they will fill your remaining balance. The 3 approved Walgreen service locations are: 1427 North Harrison Street or at 600 Shawnee Mall Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma or at 100 12th Avenue NE, Norman, Oklahoma.
- Ebola Public Health Messages and Updates: You can access this up to date information today on the AST Health System webpage: http://www.asthealth.org. Breaking news and information from the CDC and OSDH are located on our webpage along with other pertinent information for you to protect yourself and your loved ones.
- Social Media: You can follow the AST Health System on Facebook and receive the most current messages and announcements regarding your tribal health care.
This is to announce the **UNOFFICIAL** results of the March 21, 2015 Primary Election for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. This election was held on the above date pursuant on the Tribal Constitution and the Election Ordinance. All votes were counted at the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**GOVERNOR (2 Year Term)**
- Sabrina Little Axe, 29 Votes
- Jeff Gibson, 110 Votes
- Edwina Butler-Wolfe, 190 Votes
- Ricky Little Axe, 53 Votes
- Kathy Deere, 56 Votes

**SECRETARY (2 Year Term)**
- Sacha Almanza, 62 Votes
- Leonard Longhorn, 56 Votes
- John Raymond Johnson, 91 Votes
- Vera Dawsey, 152 Votes
- Twila Parker, 119 Votes
- Paulette Blanchard, 49 Votes

We, the officials, are responsible for declaring the above election results, do hereby claim the above statements are true and correct to the best of our knowledge.

---

**FY-2015**

**YTD TAX COLLECTIONS**

(Thru 2/28/15)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TAX CATEGORY</th>
<th>JANUARY</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JUNE</th>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>OCTOBER</th>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>% OF TAXES COLLECTED</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sales (6%)</td>
<td>$1,309.86</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>$150,000.00</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>Severance (8%)</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$27,703.63</td>
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<td>0.00%</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$351,822.47</td>
<td>$351,822.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Women’s Health

Little Axe Health Center
Women’s Health Services
Located in the Primary Health Care

Providing & Promoting Preventative Health for All Women

Services include:
- Adult immunizations
- Breast & Pelvic Exams
- Mammogram Referral
- Bone Density Studies

Information about:
- Health Promotion
- Quitting Smoking
- Misuse of Alcohol and Drugs
- Nutrition
- Physical Fitness and Exercise
- Controlling Stress and Violence
- Prevention of Pregnancy
- AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases

FEMA Trailer payments are due on the 5TH of each month to the Finance Dept. Check, cashier’s check or money orders are to be made out to Absentee Shawnee Tribe Finance Dept./FEMA payment. As of February 1, 2015 if payments are more than 5 days late there will be a $25.00 late fee. Thank You.

Grass Mowing Application

The following are the requirements for this program:

1. Must be an Absentee Shawnee Tribal Member
2. Must be 65 years or older
3. Handicap/Disabled
4. Must provide proof of residency
5. All trash, branches, debris must be cleaned out of yard

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Maintenance Department will ONLY mow and weeds eat applicant’s lawn. Maintenance will mow every two (2) weeks. Also, the maintenance workers will not trim trees, shrubs, etc. NO RENTAL PROPERTY will be mowed.

If you have any questions, please contact Reta Harjo at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6249

NAME: __________________________

ADDRESS: ________________________________

CITY: ___________ STATE: ___________ ZIP: ___________

CDIB #: ___________ DOB: ___________

HOME PHONE: ___________ MESS. PHONE: ___________

Finding directions to home:

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________
CONTACT INFORMATION:

Introduction

The information being provided is to help families understand what programs are offered through the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority and how to apply. Our programs target low income Native American families who need housing assistance. The programs currently being provided are Rental, Lease to Own and Down Payment Assistance.

Application Process

Our process begins with the completion of our housing application. When completing the application be sure and answer all the questions that pertain to you and sign all attached forms. If you should have any questions regarding the application; call or come by our office and ask our staff in the Programs & Admissions Department and they would be glad to assist you.

The application will also require documents to be attached in order to complete the process; which are:

- Photo I.D.
- CDIB Card
- Social Security Card
- Birth Certificate
- Marriage License/Divorce Decree/Custody Decree (if applicable)
- Declaration of Section 214 (form is included with application)

Each household member must provide a birth certificate, social security card and CDIB card (if enrolled in a federally recognized tribe). The Housing Authority will conduct a criminal background check and credit check on all adult household members over the age of 18. A home visit is the final step in completing your application.

Waiting List

A letter will be mailed out once your application has been approved notifying you of the date your name was placed on the waiting list. It is very important to stay in contact and notify the Housing Authority anytime changes occur in income, household composition, or contact information.

In the event that your name is next in being offered a home; you will be notified by letter or phone.

Annual Updates required to remain on the waiting list.

Eligibility for each program has income requirements; please be sure and review the current income limits on your application. We will not be able to process your application if you do not meet the income criteria.

AST PHARMACY

When requesting refills, please provide 24 hour notice until pick-up. The most efficient method is to have your refill numbers ready when you call the Pharmacy, and use our automated system. Deliveries of controlled medications are not allowed.

If you would like to receive a text message to your cell phone when your medications are ready for pick-up, please alert the pharmacy staff and provide us with your current cell phone number. Please inform us of changes in address, phone number, insurance and other contact information (changes at registration do not flow to pharmacy).

If you have any questions at any time, feel free to call either Pharmacy or stop by and speak with one of our Pharmacy staff. We are happy to assist you with your pharmaceutical needs!

Hours of Operation:
Little Axe: Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
(7:30am-5:30pm Drive-Thru)
Phone-(405)292-9530
Shawnee: Monday-Friday 7am-5pm
Phone-(405)878-5859

We are open through the lunch hour!!

**BOTH PHARMACY DEPARTMENTS ARE CLOSED WITH THE CLINICS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON OF EVERY MONTH TO COMPLETE ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES.**

Thank You,
AST Pharmacy Staff

AST PHARMACY

OKLAHOMA INDIAN LEGAL SERVICES, INC. (OILS)

Attorneys from Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will provide free will preparation services for eligible tribal members who own interest in Indian Trust or Restricted Land.

WILL PREPARATION CLINIC
DATE: JUNE 2, 2015
10:00a.m – 3:00pm

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE
BLDG # 2
2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR.
SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

Please call Norma (M-F 8:00am- 5:00 pm) to register @ 1-800-658-1497

You must have an appointment to talk to an attorney

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. is a non profit law firm funded principally by the Legal Services Corp. For additional information regarding other legal services call Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. 1-800-658-1497

For more information please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder, Office of Governor at 405-275-4030 x 6307
Low Rent Housing

Our low rent housing program is provided to families in need of housing in the Shawnee and Tecumseh area. Rental houses are furnished with kitchen appliances, central heat and air, and mini blinds all throughout.

In the Shawnee area, the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority has two elderly/handicap communities. These areas have fully and partial handicap accessible units. A laundry facility is located in the community for tenant use only.

Tenants in our rental program are provided services through our Maintenance Department; if any maintenance issues should arise you would contact the Housing Authority and a crew member will come and do the repair.

Lease to Own Program

The Lease to Own Program is available for any Native American family who has met our requirements and would like to purchase a home through the Housing Authority. The homes offered are ones currently in inventory and owned by the Housing Authority.

This program is designed for income eligible families who have been renting but now feel they are ready for the opportunity to purchase their own home. The application is the same as the rental; accept the income requirements are different. Be sure and specify when completing your application, that you are applying for the Lease to Own Program. If you have substantial rental history and meet the income requirements, your name may be placed on the waiting list.

Down Payment Assistance Program

This program offers a one-time grant of up to $20,000 to assist with down payment and/or closing cost to purchase a home and is designed to make home mortgage payments more affordable. Eligibility Requirements:

• Applicant must be eighteen (18) years of age
• Must be Native American enrolled in a Federally Recognized Tribe, with priority given to enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma to apply
• Applicant must qualify as a low-income family, and must meet minimum income guidelines
• Applicant must be first-time homeowner
• Primary residences only
• Must be approved for home loan
• Dwelling Unit must pass environmental inspection

Eligibility for each program has income requirements; please be sure and review the current income limits on your application. We will not be able to process your application if you do not meet the income criteria.

Eligibility:

• Applicant must be eighteen (18) years of age
• Must be enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe with gross incomes over 100% of the median income adjusted for family size to apply
• Applicant must be first-time homeowner
• Primary residences only
• Property must be located within the state of Oklahoma
• Must be approved for home loan
• Dwelling Unit must pass all Housing Quality Standards inspection as well as Environmental Inspection

For more Program Information, please contact Kimberly Vermillion at Ext. 260.

MONTHLY RENT IS CALCULATED BY YOUR INCOME

OUR LOW RENT UNITS HAVE 1, 2, 3 & 4 BEDROOMS

LEASE TO OWN HOMES HAVE 3 & 4 BEDROOMS

Our low income housing program is to help families understand what programs are offered through the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority and how to apply.

Our programs target low income Native American families who need housing assistance. The programs currently being provided are Rental, Lease to Own and Down Payment Assistance.

Application Process

Our process begins with the completion of our housing application. When completing the application be sure and answer all the questions that pertain to you and sign all attached forms. If you should have any questions regarding the application; call or come by our office and ask our staff in the Programs & Admissions Department and they would be glad to assist you.

The application will also require documents to be attached in order to complete the process; which are:

• Photo ID
• CDIB Card
• Social Security Card
• Marriage License/Divorce Decree/Custody Decree (if applicable)
• CDIB Card
• Annual Updates required to remain on the waiting list.

A letter will be mailed out once your application has been processed. Our process begins with the completion of our housing application.

Payment Assistance.

This program offers Over Income AST Tribal Members only with affordable homeownership financing opportunities. The Over-Income Down Payment Assistance will include payment of reasonable closing cost associated with the first mortgage and the ASHA’s second mortgage with the remainder of the money going toward the down payment. The maximum amount for each homeowner is $5000.00.

For more Program Information, please contact Kimberly Vermillion at Ext. 260.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

107 N. Kimberly
Shawnee, OK 74801
P.O. Box 425
Shawnee, OK 74802-0425
Phone: 405-273-1050
Fax: 405-275-0678
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
THE TIGER FAMILY REUNION
HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR

MAY 23, 2015
AT THE LITTLE AXE AREA
FROM 10AM TO 10PM

BRING YOUR BEST POTLUCK DISH,
DRINKS, CHAIRS AND GAMES!!

ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE LATE
JIM TIGER AND ANNIE MANN TIGER
ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

If you have any questions please call
Jan at 405-514-5520....
Absentee Shawnee Elders Committee

Pendleton Blanket Raffle
$1.00 Tickets
Drawing April 18th

(Here is a photo of blanket)
Buy Tickets from any AST Elder
Questions Wanda Tiger

TWILA PARKER 405-229-8052
WANDA SHOOTSEESE 405-229-3288
WANDA TIGER 405-706-2357
March 30th

Shelsie Mae White Thunder
Happy 22nd birthday “Mousie” we love you.
From: Mom, Dad, Sheldon, Shelby, Justin, Bryson, and Daelan

Jayden Watson
Hope you enjoy your day and may God Bless you with many more.
Love you Always and Forever,
Mom and Kevin

Waynell Jimboy

Uncle Jay
Love you,
Your nephew Aiyden

From: Grandma, Ashton, Tony, Kirstain and Annabelle
We Love You!!!!!!

From mom, Paul and James C
When: Saturdays, 8am-12pm
1st Saturday of every month
Beginning MAY 2nd

FREE to Sell, Trade, or Give-Away Local Produce

Vendors Needed! The Absentee Shawnee Little Axe Health Clinic will be hosting a community Farmers Market. Local produce vendors are needed—location only is being provided, must bring own set-up & products to either sell, trade or give-away at one’s own discretion.

For more information &/or to sign up as a vendor please contact Shea Warden at 701-7977.
Registration is required—no fees.

ALL PRODUCE MUST BE OKLAHOMA GROWN & MADE, NO EXCEPTIONS.
Friday, April 17, 2015
9:00 a.m. Shotgun Start
(Rain cancellation date – Friday, April 24, 2015)

Firelake Golf Course
1901 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801 (405) 275-4471

Registration fees:
Early bird (through Friday, April 3rd): $240/team or $60/person
Late: April 4th – April 13th: $300/team or $75/person

Deadline to register: Monday, April 13, 2014 by 5:00 p.m.
No on-site registration

4 Man Scramble
1st, 2nd, 3rd Flight Prizes Awarded
Proximity contests
$300 hole in one
Door prizes (maybe even a kitchen sink!)

Come and support the Coalition’s efforts in raising awareness and
advocating for diabetes prevention in Oklahoma.

SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS AVAILABLE
SEE REGISTRATION FORM

For more information, contact Torie Fuller:
tfuller@potawatomi.org
or (405) 395-9303 x5119

See registration form for payment details
Personal Banking:

AllNations Bank offers a wide range of products and services to meet today's consumer demand including our AllNations Bank Free Checking Account; Savings Account; Certificate of Deposit Accounts; Individual Retirement Accounts; Money Market; Now Accounts & Consumer Loans including Auto, Boat and more. AllNations Offers Free ATM/Debit Card with each personal account that can be used at our Shawnee OK Drive Up ATM. In addition, we offer a wide selection of Safe Deposit Boxes for rent at competitive prices.

Contact Us for Details As Follows:
Calumet Office - Gene Davis or Dixie Smith 405-893-2240;
114 E Main, Calumet, OK
Shawnee Office - Gene Davis or Eugene Stidham 405-273-0202;
2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK

Business Banking:
In addition to our Commercial Checking account, AllNations Bank offers a wide range of products and services to meet today's business needs including all types of Commercial and Small Business Loans; Merchant Services; Night Depository Drop & More.

Contact Us for Details As Follows:
Calumet Office - Gene Davis or Dixie Smith 405-893-2240;
114 E Main, Calumet, OK
Shawnee Office - Gene Davis or Eugene Stidham 405-273-0202;
2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK

Banking Hours:
2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801
Lobby Hours 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday
Drive In Hours 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Monday - Friday
Saturday: 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon

For more information on how you can register for the new AST “Follow My Health” Patient Portal, contact Patient Registration at Little Axe Health Center - 405.447.0300 or Shawnee Clinic - 405.878.4702

Visit your app store and install the Follow My Health app

- Improved access to your health information
- Communicate directly with your clinic
- Request an appointment
...and more!

www.asthealth.org/patient-portal

Register Now!!!
Absentee Shawnee
Tribal Health System
Behavioral Health Services

Office Hours
Monday — thru — Friday
8:00 AM — 5:00 PM

Little Axe Clinic
15951 Little Axe Drive
Norman, OK 73025
Ph. 405-701-7987

Shawnee Clinic
2029 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801
Ph. 405-878-4716

Services are offered through:
Little Axe Clinic & Shawnee Clinic for all Federally Recognized Tribes.
The following are current programs administered by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Education Department:

These are brief descriptions of current programs. Program guidelines are available in hard copy at the Education Department office or for download at www.astribe.com.

- **Academic (K-12) Program**: assists with academic related expenses, and a portion of funds can be used for school-related athletic program expenses. Program has a maximum funding limit for the academic year.

- **Zahn Program**: established from a trust fund, program can help with some graduation expenses, and awards two (2) incentives: one for GED recipients and one for High School graduates. Program has a maximum amount of funding for graduation expenses.

- **Job Training Adult Education Program**: funds for vocational training at accredited vocational institutions. Program has a maximum funding limit for the calendar year or per program.

- **Higher Education: Education Incentive Award Program**: funds for undergraduate degrees, one associate or bachelor degree, at any accredited college or university. Funding levels are determined based upon grade point average and full-time or part-time status.

- **Graduate Scholarship Program**: funds for one master’s degree or one doctoral degree, and can fund one graduate admissions test. This program has funding levels based upon full-time and part-time status.

- **Big Jim Youth Award Program**: annual incentive for High School Seniors for Academic Achievement and Athlete of the Year. Deadline for application submission is March 31st of each year.

All funding is based upon the availability of funds at the time of application.

All applications and guidelines are available at www.astribe.com. Click on Services and select Education.

For more information, please call Tresha Spoon at (405) 275-4030, Ext. 6242 or 1-800-256-3341 or email to tresham@astribe.com.

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**The Absentee Shawnee Health System**

is pleased to announce that plans are being made to open an Extended Hours Health Clinic in 2015.

The Extended Hours Health Clinic will be located in the “old” Little Axe Clinic in the Casino Parking lot 15702 East HWY 9 Norman, OK 73026

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**After School Program 2014/2015**

Come join us at the AST Resource Center!!!

- Free tutoring in all subjects!
- Games and activities!
- Delinquency prevention!
- Healthy lifestyles!

And much more!

OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Everything is offered at no charge….Little Axe School’s bus will transport students to the AST Resource Center on Peebly Road and parents are responsible for picking students up by 6:00 pm.

Duration: Starts September 2nd and will run through the school year. Monday-Thursday, 2:45pm-6:00pm

For more information and to sign up please contact Blake Goodman at (405) 364-7569.

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The Extended Hours Health Clinic will be similar to an “AM/PM” clinic for acute illness or injury needs. The clinic will be staffed with a Physician, Physician Assistant, or a Nurse Practitioner. This acute needs clinic is designed to allow increased access to care for our patients after the regular Primary Care clinic is closed and on weekends. If you have an emergent condition such as chest pain or suspected stroke, please call 911 or go to the nearest ER. *The Extended Hours Health Clinic will not be equipped for emergent care.*
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering

The Tribal Housing Improvement Program's goal is providing sanitary, safe, and decent housing for its members by utilizing the following criteria to select the most "in need" tribal members with homes that are in disrepair but are still suitable for rehabilitation. All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements and criteria which is approved by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

THIP list all applicants by a priority list:
- Handicapped/Disabled and Elderly
- Income
- Family Size/Overcrowded Living Conditions
- Condition of Home

Other Programs available:
- Sanitation Facilities Assistance Program

Applications need to be completed and all necessary documents attached before the application will be processed. Applications are available online on the website: www.astribe.com.

Submit completed application to:

Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801

If you have any questions, you can reach us by phone at (405) 214-4235

- Be sure to warm-up and cool down when appropriate.
- Wear protective gear - i.e. bike helmets, wrist & elbow guards, pads, etc.
- Rest, especially when your muscles are tired
- Prevent “overuse” injuries (i.e. stress fractures, tendonitis, or inflamed joints) by not overdoing exercise.
- Condition your body before jumping into new activities at full force.

For more information contact: Rosie Tall Bear at 405-701-7601
Little Axe Health Center
WHAT IS A FOSTER CARE WORKER?

Foster care caseworker training involves completing a bachelor’s degree program in social work through a college or university. Students take courses in psychology, abnormal psychology, sociology, economics, ethics, child welfare policies and complete a supervised internship.

The child’s Foster Care Worker needs to be a partner with the foster parents to ensure that each child receives the full spectrum of services provided and/or arranged by the Department.

Some aspects of this relationship include the following:

- Sharing information on an ongoing basis regarding the child’s individual needs, family situation and adjustment to the foster home
- Encouraging the foster parents to participate in the total service planning process
- Providing the foster parents the opportunity to discuss the child’s progress and any unmet needs which they assess
- Providing the foster parent with information, support, guidance and referrals to other professionals on the child’s behalf
- Helping the foster family, when necessary, to identify and obtain services for the foster child; e.g., medical, educational
- Ensuring that the foster family, on the child’s behalf, has access to all financial resources available to the child while in foster care.

A Foster Care Worker works in conjunction with Tribal Courts, Tribal Law Enforcement, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other county services. Indian Child Welfare’s goal is to ensure the safety of our tribal children when they placed in foster care. The homes that our tribal children are placed in must complete Child Welfare Background Check, OSBI Background Check, Income Verification, Home Study, and a Physical. Our AST foster homes are licensed by our Foster Care Committee.

Foster Care Payments are as follows:

0-5 age $14.73 day $441.97 month
6-12 age $17.12 day $513.57 month
12 and over $19.30 day $579.13 month

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE PAYMENT, ALL THE ABOVE MUST BE MET AND TURNED INTO THE STATE. ONCE PROCESSED STATE PAYMENT WILL BE ISSUED.

This is just a little information on what type of work a foster care worker performs on a daily basis. If you are interested in becoming a foster home, please call 405-878-4030 ext. 133.

Hello Everyone;

I hope that everyone is in good health, with all of the allergies and various respiratory problems that have going on. I know I am looking forward to the Spring weather that has come. I have not gone on any travels here lately, due to the various problems that have been created by various Executive Committee members. I have been working on research looking in to the practices of the Department of Human Services and the methods that they have been using to place our children. I am also attempting to get an appointment with the Director of DHS and the Governor of the state of Oklahoma. Last year at the ICWA conference in Ft. Lauderdale, I attended the Attorney General’s Advisory Committee on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence meeting where I gave testimony. This Committee held meetings in various states getting testimonies from various agencies, Law Enforcement, Tribal Leaders, ICW, and Educators concerning our Native Children. My point to this is that the Attorney General and the Bureau of Indian Affairs have re-written the Guidelines concerning ICWA and from speaking with ICW workers here the State of Oklahoma, Department of Human Services have not looked at the new Guidelines and are continuing to make their own decisions with out including the families or the tribes. If anyone would like a copy of the new guidelines they may come by my office and we will provide a copy.

I have also have concerns about the Tribal Housing Authority, so that is more research , which may or may not be a good thing. There have been numerous complaints from tribal members and I would like to know if the guidelines are being followed. After I finish researching then I will speak with the Housing Board and start asking questions.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Easter. If anyone has any questions or would like to just come by to visit, or call, please do.

Home Number is 307-0954, 275-4030, ex. 6289

Thank you, and Be Blessed.
We are in the process of looking for dedicated individuals to contribute to our Foster Care Committee. If you are interested, please send a letter to the Secretary that states your interest in becoming a member of the board.

This interaction being a foster parent helps to ensure that these children have positive connections to their culture. This interaction helps these children nurture a positive sense of identification as a Native American. By being willing to do this, you can be a valuable part of the healing journey that will help strengthen this next generation of Absentee Shawnee children; in turn, helping those children become the parents that their children will need them to be. Our children are our future, what will we have our future be?

ABSOLUTE SHAWNEE TRIBE CHILD WELFARE
405-878-4702 (ext. 133)

Native American youth have two distinct influences, that of their family of origin and that of their caregivers. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Foster Care is in need of homes for children that are in our child welfare system. Your participation in being a foster parent helps to ensure that these children have positive connections to their culture. This interaction helps these children nurture a positive sense of identification as a Native American. By being willing to do this, you can be a valuable part of the healing journey that will help strengthen this next generation of Absentee Shawnee children; in turn, helping those children become the parents that their children will need them to be. Our children are our future, what will we have our future be?

The only thing necessary for tranquility in the world is that every child grows up happy.

Chief See Tom

Native American youth are facing a crisis. These children are being removed from their homes and placed into the child welfare system at rates much higher than any other population. Native American children are often placed in homes outside of their families, tribes, and Native American culture and all this contributes to significant social problems. The story of Native American people is a complicated one marked by significant trauma and atrocities. Often times this trauma consisted of the removal of abuse which happened to these young and vulnerable children in many of these schools resulted in overwhelming intergenerational trauma and unresolved grief. This trauma which interrupted the ability to parent has led directly to the most current social problems that plague Native American communities today including alcohol/drug abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, sexual abuse and parenting deficiencies. All of these problems have contributed to the break-down of the family unit, leading to the removal of large numbers of Native American youth from their families. The journey of healing and breaking the cycles which have been put in place by the historical trauma experienced by generations of Native Americans requires that the cultural identity for so long denied to these children be returned. Native American youth have two distinct influences, that of their family of origin and that of their caregivers. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Foster Care is in need of homes for children that are in our child welfare system. Your participation in being a foster parent helps to ensure that these children have positive connections to their culture which helps nurture a positive sense of identification as a Native American. By being willing to do this, you can be a valuable part of the healing journey that will help strengthen this next generation of Absentee Shawnee children; in turn, helping those children become the parents that their children will need them to be. Our children are our future, what will we have our future be? Will you, as Absentee Shawnee member, do your part if you are able? If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact Juliann Wilson ICW/CPS/FOSTER CARE at 975-4030, ext. 133.

FOSTER CARE

Racial disproportionality is defined as the over-or under-representation of certain groups (e.g. racial/ethnic, gender, age) relative to the group’s proportion in the general population. Reports conducted in 2008 showed that, compared to other groups, Native American children were:

- 3 times more likely to be referred to CPS
- 1.6 times more likely to be removed from their biological homes
- Twice as likely to remain in foster care for over two years
- Less likely to be adopted and more likely to be in guardianships
- Less likely to be reunited with their biological parents

The sad reality is that there are not enough culturally appropriate homes for these children, resulting in the placement of Native American children in homes that do not share their cultural heritage or traditions. We want to place “our tribal” children in our own homes, to do this we need tribal members to open their homes and their hearts. Are you willing to open your heart? Are you willing to open your home?

If so, please contact Julie Wilson ICW/FC/CPS 878-4702 (ext. 133).

Currently there are three (3) openings on the Foster Care Board. If you are interested in serving on the board, send your letter of interest to Secretary Dawsey at the Tribal Complex, 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 73801.

“I don’t want a family. I need one.”
—Current Waiting Child
Both students and our OBU tutors are on their Spring Break during the week of March 16 thru 19, 2015. It is hard to believe this semester will be wrapping up in about 8 to 9 weeks. Our After school students are doing well, this semester, in their studies and are eager to learn.

Brendan was honored with the Achiever Award for the month of March at North Rock Creek School. He has been coming to Horse Shoe Bend since his early childhood and now he is in the second grade. We are very proud of Brendan and his achievements at school. He is the son of Warren and Tammy Winter. Brendan and his mom, dad and sister, Tara, are all members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

Daniella was selected by her second grade class at North Rock Creek School for the Citizenship Award. This is her first semester in the after school program and Daniella shows improvement each day and is always willing to help around the after school program. We are glad that Daniella is at the Horse Shoe Bend After School Program. Her grandmother is Paula Gazaway. Daniella is a member of the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma.

May 7, 2015 - this will be the last day of our spring semester Horse Shoe Bend program. The program will start again September 2015. We will not be doing a summer program. I would like to thank all of the Oklahoma Baptist University students for tutoring our students and hope they have an enjoyable summer. Also, I would like to thank Stuart Rolette for all of his work in keeping up with the daily operations of the center. When working with children it is very important to be on the job with them and showing them stability and Stuart has illustrated that on a daily basis.

If you should have any questions or concerns please call 405-481-0397.

Thank you,
Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe
Guardian Name:____________________________________       Youth Athlete (name):______________________________

City, State:___________________________________         Zip:_____________       Phone:___________________________

DOB (Athlete):_________         Age:________         Male:___   Female:___

PARENT/GUARDIAN 1-Mile Walk/Run

Waiver: In consideration of the acceptance of this entry I waive all claims for myself and my heirs against the sponsors, cooperating and coordinating groups and any individuals associated with this event and will hold them harmless for any and all injuries which may result from my participation. I hereby give my permission to the media to use my name and photograph in the AST newsletter without limitation or obligation. I certify that I am physically fit for this event and understand the risks involved by participating in this event.

_________________________              _________________________
Signature                                                                                                  Date

YOUTH EVENTS
INCLUDE:
50 YARD DASH
BROAD JUMP
LONG JUMP
SOFTBALL THROW
1-MILE RUN
FREE THROW SHOOTING

PRE-REGISTER NOW!

Saturday
May 23rd, 2015
Little Axe Resource Center
8:00 A.M.
Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Domestic Violence Department
Annual
Sexual Assault Awareness
Balloon Release

Join the Domestic Violence Department in spreading the awareness!!

We will also have a guest speaker
Dawn Stover from Oklahoma’s Native Alliance Against Violence (NAAV)

Date: April 1, 2015
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Shawnee Complex

Date: April 9, 2015
Time: 3:00 pm
Location: Little Axe Clinic
The AST Contract Health Services Team are here to assist you ... follow the CHS Guidelines!
Get a copy of the CHS Guidelines and update your information

Contract Health Services for AST members with Insurance

CHS for a currently enrolled AST member who resides in the defined catchment area who has insurance such as Medicare or Private Insurance:

1. Complete CHS Patient Update form and update all information every 6 months.

2. Notify CHS at least 48 hours prior to appointment date for a (COB) Coordination of Benefits to be sent to provider.

3. Inform Provider/HealthFacility that AST CHS is secondary payer/payer of last resort.

4. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.

Contract Health Services for AST members without Insurance

CHS for a currently enrolled AST member who resides in the defined catchment area who does not have insurance:

1. You must apply for any alternate resources for which you may be eligible - Medicare, Medicaid, SoonerCare, insurance, etc.

2. Complete CHS Patient Update form and update all information every 6 months.

3. You must utilize the services provided within the AST health clinics prior to being referred out.

4. Referrals for outside services must be sent to CHS. Services must be medically approved by an AST Health provider.

5. An appointment will be scheduled and a COB will be sent to the outside provider.

6. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.

Emergency and Urgent Care Services

CHS for a currently enrolled AST member who resides in the defined catchment area who needs emergent or urgent care:

1. Call the On-Call nurse at (405) 447-0300 option 9 for “triage”.

2. Notify CHS on the next business day or within 72 hours after the ER visit. Notification does not assure authorization of payment. However, if you do not notify CHS within 72 hours, your bills will not be paid.

3. For AST members with no insurance evidence must exist that the visit was medically necessary. Medical priorities have been established for determining which referrals can be authorized for payment.

4. For AST members with insurance, evidence must exist that a third party resource has made determination such services were “emergency care” or “urgent care” (such evidence may include payment from private insurance).

5. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.

Contract Health Direct Phone Line
405.701.7951
Fix-A-Leak Week
March 16-22, 2015

- During Fix A Leak Week, the EPA's WaterSense Partnership Program encourages Americans to take the initiative to fix all of their household leaks.
- As a promoter of the WaterSense Program, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Office of Environmental Health and Engineering would like to encourage you to take part in this program as well.
- Doing so, you can save clean drinking water and also save on your water bill.

IF YOU’D LIKE TO SUBMIT AN AD OR ARTICLE:
Give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or (405) 481-0558 or send us an e-mail to stiger@astribe.com

ALL ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE ARE DUE BY THE 15th OF THE CURRENT MONTH

UNFORTUNATELY, WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT ONE PICTURE PER BIRTHDAY PERSON, NOT PER BIRTHDAY WISH.
Recycling Containers Now Available

OEH now has recycling containers set up for public use. These recycle containers, which are cardboard only containers, are located on the south side of the Title VI building at the main complex and the other container is located at the northeast corner of the Little Axe Clinic.

We also have our mobile recycle container available behind the clinic here at the main complex. We are currently only accepting cardboard in this container as well.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Recycling Program

"To Establish a recycling program for municipal waste planning, reduction, and Recycling"

The Office of Environmental Health and Environmental Program is proud to announce the start of a new recycling program for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The recycling center is located in the yellow metal building adjacent to the OEH Department. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe (AST) Recycling Program Program declares that waste reduction and recycling are the preferable to the or processing of municipal waste, and that removing certain materials from the municipal waste stream will decrease the flow of solid waste to municipal landfills. AST Recycling Program used the knowledge and information about recycling markets and market demand as well as information obtained from various publications and the internet to comprise an analysis of material the recycling program will address at the start of the program. AST Recycling Program Plan establishes a goal that, by year’s end 2013, at least 25% of the recyclable material produced by the Tribe will be recycled.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

The AST recycling Program will initially focus on the following waste stream material: High-Grade shredded paper, Assorted office paper, Phone books, Magazines, Cardboard, Newspaper, and Aluminum cans. As the program and market develops, other recyclables will be sought.

There is a cost associated with recycling. However, economic, social, and environmental benefits exceed these cost.
The AST Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Programs are on-call 24 hours per day to provide emotional support, advocacy, and crisis counseling to survivors at hospitals, police stations, and throughout the legal system. The programs also serve as a resource center to the community by offering educational information and referrals.

**Transitional Housing**
The AST DV Transitional Housing Program serves victims of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault. Participants have up to six months to obtain education and job skills needed to begin a new life.

**Court Advocacy**
Assists survivors with domestic violence court-related costs (when funding is available) and appearances as well as filing for emergency protective orders (EPO) or restraining orders.

**Shelter Placement Assistance**
The Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Domestic Violence Program works with other shelters within Oklahoma in order to help victims obtain safe housing. Emergency transportation for the victim and children may also be available.

**Housing and Utility Assistance**
Assists victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and/or dating violence in emergency situations. This assistance may allow for a victim to either receive housing or utility assistance.

**Referral Assistance**
Assists with providing community resources to those who are in need of additional services outside the scope of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Domestic Violence Program.

**Community Outreach**
The Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Domestic Violence Program offers educational trainings, informational displays, and community events in order to provide more awareness to both Tribal and Non-Tribal communities.

For any questions regarding any of the above services please contact the Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Domestic Violence staff at (405) 273-2888.

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**Little Axe After School Program 2014/2015**

**Come Join us at the AST Resource Center!!!**

- Free Tutoring in all subjects!
- Games and activities!
- Delinquency Prevention!
- Healthy Lifestyles!

Open to all Middle School and High School Students
Open to Absentee Shawnee Tribal Students K-5 with a CDIB

Everything is offered at no charge...Little Axe bus will transport students to the AST Resource Center on Peebly Road and parents are responsible for picking students up by 6:00pm.

Duration: Starts September 2nd and will run through the school year.
Monday-Thursday, 2:45pm-6:00pm
For more information and sign up please contact Blake Goodman at (405) 364-7569
The Absentee Shawnee Diabetes & Wellness Fitness Center’s  
Fitness Schedule

**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE FITNESS**  
**FITNESS CLASS SCHEDULE**

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**Chrissy Wiens**  
Diabetes and Wellness  
Physical Activities Specialist

**Buster Bread**  
Diabetes and Wellness  
Fitness Manager

Location: 1970 156th Ave. N.E. Norman, O.K. 73071  
(405) 364-7298

For more information please visit our website at:  
http://www.asthealth.org/tags/fitness

**Fitness Hours:**

- **Monday** 6:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.  
- **Tuesday** 6:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.  
- **Wednesday** 6:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.  
- **Thursday** 6:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.  
- **Friday** 6:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.  
- **Saturday/Sunday** CLOSED