NEW POST ON TURTLE TALK

Split South Carolina SCT Complies With ICWA And Affirms Return Of Child To Cherokee Father

Here is the opinion:

Adoptive Couple v Cherokee Nation

An excerpt:

We do not take lightly the grave interests at stake in this case. However, we are constrained by the law and convinced by the facts that the transfer of custody to Father was required under the law. Adoptive Couple are ideal parents who have exhibited the ability to provide a loving family environment for Baby Girl. Thus, it is with a heavy heart that we affirm the family court order. Because this case involves an Indian child, the ICWA applies and confers conclusive custodial preference to the Indian parent. All of the rest of our determinations flow from this reality. While we have the highest respect for the deeply felt opinions expressed by the dissent, we simply see this case as one in which the dictates of federal Indian law supersede state law where the adoption and custody of an Indian child is at issue. Father did not consent to Baby Girl’s adoption, and we cannot say beyond a reasonable doubt that custody by him would result in serious emotional or physical harm to Baby Girl. Thus, under the federal standard we cannot terminate Father’s parental rights. For these reasons, we affirm the family court’s denial of the adoption decree and transfer of custody to Father.

By: Matthew L.M. Fletcher

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
George Blanchard, Governor
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive,
Shawnee, OK 74801
(405) 275-4030 Fax 275-5637

July 31, 2012

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL:

Greetings:

On Tuesday, July 31, 2012, I, George Blanchard, Governor of the Absentee Tribe of Oklahoma, do declare a State of Emergency exists due to the extreme heat in our Tribal areas.

At this time I am placing our Emergency Management on high alert to respond to any tribal emergency arising from the heat and drought conditions to safeguard tribal members and property.

George Blanchard, Governor
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Greetings:
I hope everyone is staying cool and healthy during this year’s summer heat spell.

Did everyone have a chance to pick some of the corn that we had planted? We certainly hope so. Thanks to all of you who attended the “corn drying class” that Sue held at her Mother’s home, she put together so quickly we didn’t have time to notify all those who wanted to learn how to dry corn and make bread. Next year we can plan another class for drying corn and making bread at the corn field the way our elders did in the olden days. Those who attended would like to thank Isaac, Andy, and our maintenance department for planting such a good crop of corn and the support they all had from the Executive Committee.

Language classes will resume on August 5th at 1 P.M. and they will be held at Brendle Corner. The first 1 1/2 hours will be devoted to our traditions and customs, etc. During this time, I would like to see more of our Tribal Elders attend so they could assist with instructing the young people with the traditions and customs of the Shawnee. We will provide pencils, paper, snacks, and drinks.

Before the end of summer, I would like to have a two day language camp for the children. As soon as I can put this together, I will notify the children ages five to fourteen.

The executive Committee has been receiving a lot of calls about the “COBELL CASE”. As soon as we can get some information on this, we will let everyone know. We know there have been rumors and allegations about this settlement and I am in the process of getting the facts for you.

Everyone try to stay cool and safe during these hot days, and as always, if you have something you want to talk to me about, come by the office or call me and I will come to your home or any place for a meeting.

NE YI WA
Governor George Blanchard

Tribes:
1. Shawnee - si wi ne wi
2. Caddo - ki li hi li ge
3. Delaware - la ni pa
4. Kickapoo - ke ki po
5. Creek - ho mi se ko
6. Seminole - ho mi se ko
7. Sac & Fox - hofike
8. Potawatomie - po ti ti ma
9. Cherokee - kitohowi
10. Seneca - ni ti wa
11. Chickasaw - ge ki sa
12. Cheyenne - si ya ne

Not only did our corn turn out good, our watermelons produced far better than what we expected. We believe the hot weather caught up with us and prevented the melons from reaching full growth. They are beginning to split on their own and out of this heat. It’s not as bad as last year but it seems like it is right now.

This is the first time that I know of our Tribal Government attempting to grow corn. I am very pleased at the results we achieved. There was plenty of corn for everyone. Many elders came and picked corn when it was ready. We even had other tribes comment on what an accomplishment it was for us to have raised the corn we need for traditional purposes. It was not an easy undertaking; we put a lot of work and care into the planting, maintenance and harvesting of the crop. It was well worth it. All tribal members are welcome to go and pick corn, we just ask that you take what you can use. We do not want to waste this corn.

We are working to close out the last mile and a ¼ that we have contracted with Cleveland County on Road improvements. We are also working with the Secretary’s office in rebuilding the parking for the smokeshop in Harrah. The only other projects we have pending is the parking lot for the satellite office for the Police Department in Little Axe and Kings Road in Johnson Community. After these projects are complete we plan to revisit our funding and the priority list. If you have any input on these roads, please let us know, we look forward to hearing from you.

I hope you are all staying cool and out of this heat. It’s not as bad as last year but it seems like it is right now.

Not only did our corn turn out good, our watermelons produced far better than what we expected. We believe the hot weather caught up with us and prevented the melons from reaching full growth. They are beginning to split on their own in the field. But they are at an edible size, and the people who have picked have said they are sweet and taste good.

There was advice from all ages and we heeded all of the advice we could get. Many different age groups worked in the corn field. It was a learning experience for all of us. I know that we have a tribal government to run but we also have heritage and tradition to maintain and pass on for many generations. I hope this is an activity that stays with the tribe for many years to come.

We are working to close out the last mile and a ¼ that we have contracted with Cleveland County on Road improvements. We are also working with the Secretary’s office in rebuilding the parking for the smokeshop in Harrah. The only other projects we have pending is the parking lot for the satellite office for the Police Department in Little Axe and Kings Road in Johnson Community. After these projects are complete we plan to revisit our funding and the priority list. If you have any input on these roads, please let us know, we look forward to hearing from you.

I hope you are all staying cool and out of this heat. It’s not as bad as last year but it seems like it is right now.

Greeting Tribal Members:

This month marks the middle of my two-year term as Secretary of the tribe. I came into office one year ago this month. Overall, I feel pretty good about my progress in learning the job and my accomplishments during this first
year. There is a lot more I want to learn about issues important to our tribe in the coming months. I also have much to accomplish before the end of my term. I appreciate your support and input during this first year. Your feedback helped to guide me in making progress in areas that are important to you.

We recently had our audit readouts for the various entities within the tribe, and for the tribe as a whole. Overall, the audit results were very good. I appreciate the diligent work by all of the employees to make sure that our money and assets are accounted for in a timely and accurate manner.

CULTURAL PRESERVATION PROJECT

Our summer program to document the lives and stories of tribal members is progressing. Our three college/graduate students have been busy interviewing tribal members and recording their stories.

As mentioned last month, the stories and profiles we record will be maintained in our Cultural Preservation Department. We want to preserve our history by documenting these stories for future generations. Some of our work on this project will be featured in our newsletter. This month we are featuring a story written by Paulette Blanchard on Esteline Schlenburg. I hope you enjoy the article on Esteline and all of our future stories.

If you would like to volunteer to be one of the featured tribal members, please let me know. Or, you may contact the student journalist directly by email at journalist@astribe.com or by telephone on 405-275-4030 extension 191.

CASINO UPDATE

The past few months have been very exciting for Thunderbird Entertainment Center. From March to June, Thunderbird Norman's operating income is up 91% over 2011. Combining both properties operating income it is up over 149%. They have been diligently working to drive revenue while at the same time controlling expenses. The hard work is paying off and they are trending to transfer over 1 million more dollars to the tribe in 2012 than in 2011.

The coming months should be just as exciting as the previous months. In July they gave away two Jeep Patriots and the response was very positive. The new event center at Thunderbird Norman is up and running. They are currently trending to have a record setting July with transfers to the tribe of 200% more than July 2011. The promotion planned for August will be giving away 60 inch televisions each Saturday at both locations.

WEBSITE

Our new website (www.astribe.com) was redesigned months ago and is functioning at about half of the intended capacity. To compensate for this, the old website is accessible from the home page. We have been searching for a website administrator for quite some time and have not been able to fill this position. The job is advertised on the old website under the heading “Employment”. If you know of an experienced website designer in need of a job, please refer him/her to our website to fill out an application for this job.

ENROLLMENT

I know some of you are interested in our enrollment changes and activity, so this month I am reporting on our enrollment department activity for 2012 through the month of June.

- 3,705 total enrolled tribal members
- 15 deceased in 2012 through the end of June 2012
- 4 enrollment rejections
- 2 voluntary relinquishment
- 2 blood quantum corrections

If you plan to enroll a minor applicant, please include a photo with your enrollment application so we will have a picture on file. Pictures can be emailed to: Larry Buckley at larryb@astribe.com or Darrell Larney at dlarney@astribe.com.

STATE INDIAN SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

The State Indian Softball Tournament for fast pitch and slow pitch is being held July 27-29th at the Boomer Softball Complex in Oklahoma City. I know that our tribe will be well represented in these tournaments because we have always had a pretty good turnout in both the men and women’s division. Please email me pictures of you and/or your team(s) along with names and tournament results. I would also like to hear about your favorite memories from the current tournament or from tournaments in the past. I’ll collect this information and post it in the next edition of the newsletter. Please email your pictures and comments to teri@astribe.com.

I wish you safe travels and enjoyment as you finish out the summer months. If you have any issues or concerns that you would like addressed in the newsletter, please let me know.

Tori Reed – Secretary
teri@astribe.com
405-275-4030 Ext 104

Blessing to Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members,

Thank you Election Commission for providing the refreshments at the “Swearing-In Ceremony”. You all always do an excellent job in the preparation and presentation of the Oath to the newly elected officials. Congratulations to Isaac Gibson, Jr., Lt. Governor, Jeff Gibson, Representative, Augustine Johnson, Deputy Election Commissioner and Shirley Adkins on their respective re-elections.

We are continuing progressing in the areas of economic development, educating our tribal members, and services for the tribal members. Below is the list of activities for the month:

- ASED A Board Monthly meeting, as Ad Hoc non-voting member.
- Elders’ Monthly meeting, at the Title VI Bldg this month. They meet every third Saturday, either at AST Resource Center or Title VI Bldgs, 10 am. If you are 55 years and older, please come join us for fellowship, food, and fun times together. We plan fund raisers, outings, and cultural activities. Annual Elders’ Veterans Dance, this year it is a Gourd Dance in November date TBD.
- Planning meeting for the Family Fun Fest, Saturday, August 25, 2012, 4-8pm., Thunderbird Casino EVENT CENTER, Norman, OK. Will have live music, karaoke contest, food, and lots of fun for whole family. Sponsored by Community Health Preventative Service.

- Diabetes Education Program for six (6) weeks every Thursday at the L1-SI-WI-NWI Health Clinic, Little Axe, OK. Class Topics include: What is Diabetes, Healthy Eating, Being Active, Monitoring & Taking Medication, Problem Solving, Reducing Risks and Healthy Coping. Encourage all tribal members to participate in upcoming classes on diabetes.

- Congratulations to August 2012 Employee of the Month, Chelle Foreman, Little Axe Health Facility employee.

- Monthly Redstone Investment meeting. We have an excellent investor advisor, who continually keeps the committee updated on the tribe’s investments. Since we have been with Redstone Investments, we have achieved attractive returns for the Tribe’s investment portfolio for over ten (10) years.

- Constitution Revision Committee. They need your input on revising the legislative branch of the AST government with Proposed Constitutional Change. Four options are being considered. As you will see on another page the proposed four (4) options. Please fill out the Survey and either mail, give or fax to a Constitution Revisions Committee Member or Eddie Broshesouler, Coordinator, Office of Treasurer, 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Bldg 2, Shawnee, OK 74801 or by fax 405-395-9780.

- HUD’s Housing Needs Assessment input by Tribal Leaders’ Consultation, Choctaw Casino and Resort, Durant, OK., sponsored by the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority of OK. The purpose of this meeting was to have government-to-government consultation in providing a forum for learning about and commenting on the “Assessment of Nation American, Alaska Native Housing Needs,” a congressionally mandated study. This consultation involved the southern Plains region. Open forum was held for discussion of the process of the study, the survey instruments and
other issues of concern related to the study. Previous consultations by Tribal Leaders have been held in different areas of Indian Country.

- Corn demonstration by Gov and his wife, Sue Blanchard. Several elders and children about 20+ attended. Learned the process of cleaning, grinding/shredding the corn kernels from the cob, cooking the creamed corn in dutch oven skillets with ashes, roasting the ears and taking off the kernels to be dried for corn soup cooking. It was an enjoyable and an hard working process. Thanks to both the Governor and Sue for their time.

- Revenues for General Fund approximately totaled $7.1 million and Revenue for Health Programs approximately totaled $11.2 million for 2011. The Expenses came in at approximately $7 million for General Fund and for Health Programs every federal dollar was spent ($11.2 million).

Sincere appreciation goes out to the employees of the Finance Department and the Controller, Belinda Collins, as they daily continue the never ending processes for the financial side of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Without their tireless dedication and commitment we could not keep the financial transactions processes flowing!

Also, would like to extend my appreciation to the Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder, who continues to assist me with numerous projects, attend meetings where I cannot attend, and consulting decisions in the office of Treasurer! Also, Arlene Herrera is back working with my office and enrollment. She is a great employee and works hard at various tasks she is given and we are sure glad to have her back with us!

We appreciate all your phone calls, emails, and visits. May God continue to bless you and yours! See below articles from AllNational Bank; Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder; ASED A, and Finance Department.

Respectfully yours,
Kathy Deere, Treasurer

“Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is “progress”. Working together is success.” Henry Ford

Greetings Fellow Tribal Members:

We have been experiencing very high temperatures in the last few weeks, and from the sounds of it we’re in for more with forecasters predicting temperatures well over 100 degrees. With that in mind, let’s make sure to take proper safety precautions before going outside. Make sure to stay hydrated and check to see that children and our elderly are staying cool and hydrated as well. I would like to take some time to wish everyone celebrating a birthday or an anniversary this month a “Happy Birthday/Happy Anniversary and may you have many more to follow!”

We have been busy down at the Tribe with the regular day to day activities but still looking forward to our upcoming projects. The construction of Building Blocks III at Little Axe has been delayed by the construction permit process of Norman. We had hoped to break ground during early August.

However, the City of Norman required us to plat the entire 80 acres (which includes all the land the Clinic is built on). The platting has to be completed and approved by a “pre-approval” Committee before the construction plans can be submitted to the City Planning Board. These two Boards only meet every 30 days so it takes a total of 60 days to get construction plans approved by the Planning Board. Then it takes another 30 days to get a permit from the City. Our first hearing on the platting will be on July 26.

If all goes well – we should get a construction permit by the end of October.

The construction documents are in their final stages and the mechanical and electrical plans are 80% finished. We are still working on how to handle waste water treatments. Our goal is to protect our environment and provide for future economic and housing developments in Little Axe.

Many of us are enjoying the extra time with our children or grandchildren during these summer months before things wind down and we send our little ones back to school. This means, back to school shopping for many. With that in mind, let’s stay happy and hopeful for the bright future of our people!

The following are Resolutions passed through June 20, 2012

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:
E-AS-12-42 07/18/12
Supports entering into a Deputation Agreement in order to accomplish the goal of providing better and more comprehensive law enforcement services to both the citizens of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and the State of Oklahoma. Vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. Lt. Governor, Absent

E-AS-12-43 07/18/12
Approves, authorizes and supports the submission of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s application of the FY 2012 Assistance to Firefighters Grant for funding through the Dept. of Homeland Security/FEMA to enhance the Tribal Fire Department’s ability to protect the health and safety of the Tribal lands. Vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. Lt. Governor, Absent

E-AS-12-44 07/18/12
Approves and accepts Tiffany Sheri Johnson, Jeremiah Justin Johnson, Adriana Renae Watson, Alexa Lee Joke, Kaelynn Rayann Wilkinson, Waylon Henry-Goliath Coon, Stephen Wayne Leedom, David Anthony Wilson, Aaron Wade Wilson, Christopher Donald Leedom, Matthew David Beaver, Zoe Ellori Stuckey, Jessica Ann Newton, Christy Lynn Newton, Colt Allen Newton, Michael Alexander Herrera, Mya Rose Wilson, Jade McKenzie Wakley, Monika Sue Mackey, Andy Micheal Uchida, Beau Wesley Lane Owens, Mara Ann Salisbury, Breanna Joy Walley, Riley Erin Payne, Jacob Collin Foreman and Mandalie Dawn Wasley, as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution. Vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. Lt. Governor, Absent

E-AS-12-45 07/18/12
Amends Resolution No. E-AS-2011-86 which established Holidays for calendar year 2012 by omitting the words “Monday after the dance” when setting Absentee Shawnee Day in August 2012 (TBD) Vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. Lt. Governor, Absent

E-AS-12-46 07/18/12
Amends Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Tribal Agreement in order to accomplish the Tribal Fire Department’s enhancement of the Tribal Fire Department’s ability to protect the health and safety of the Tribally lands. Vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. Lt. Governor, Absent

E-AS-12-47 07/18/12
Approves the agreement between the Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health Facility and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center College of Dentistry and authorize signature authority for Governor Blanchard to execute the agreement. Vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. Lt. Governor, Absent

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS:
L-AS-12-04 07/18/12
Amends Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Tribal Criminal Code, Chapters 3 and 4 as provided for in the attachment
The Finance office continues our efforts in keeping the day to day activities flowing effectively and efficiently through communication between the Finance office and Programs. In working together, we have found the most time effective and cost effective processes for transacting business.

The Audit is complete and has been turned in to the Audit Clearing House. All the Tribe’s entities are audited first and those roll into the Tribe’s Government wide financials; (ASEDA; ASED A Fleet, AST Counseling Services, Store, Harrah Smoke Shop; Restaurant; AllNations Bank; and Thunderbird Casino Locations 1 & 2). The Audit includes the MD&A (Management Discussion and Analysis); which is a brief review and explanation of the Audit. The 2010 and 2011 Audits are “unqualified”; which when compared to an educational grading scale is an A.

The Indirect Cost Proposal for 2012 negotiation is complete and has been mailed to the Governor’s office for signature. National Business Center (NBC) is six months behind whereas they had been only three months behind last year because they experienced budget cuts thus staff cuts. Our rate is up from 17.74% for 2010 to 21.98% for 2011 and our rate for 2012 has been submitted for 22.35% however, that is an unsigned rate. I began writing the Indirect Cost Proposal for 2013 last week; this is about a 40-60 hour task; which will have to be done around other monthly duties.

The finance department continues to complete accounting by the seventh day of the month and have been since August 2010; for financial reporting for the Health Authority and Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Inc. boards for Absentee Health Systems, Shawnee and Little Axe (LSWN) which is possible since the accounting is completed on schedule every month. The Finance staff will begin July reconciliations for financial reporting on the first of August. It is imperative the accounting staff continue to stay ahead of all of the accounting so that audits go smoothly, so that Indirect Cost rates will stay up to date as well. Indirect cost proposals cannot be submitted without completed audits as the audit is used to calculate the proposal. There are many processes in place in your Tribe’s accounting department that ensure we keep accurate records of transactions. The Tribe’s accounting processes must be in compliance with GAAP; (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board).

The Tribe currently has compact funds of BIA and I H S, 51 Grants, and the new Clinic business. In addition, the Tribe operates on a General Fund and an Indirect Cost Fund.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Finance Department has very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them, the Treasurer’s office and at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The Finance Department employs 11; with 7 (64%) being AST Tribal Members and 4 (36%) being non-natives. This department as always would like to extend a special thanks and note of appreciation to the Executive Committee for providing the tools, resources and support to enable the finance staff to reach its accomplished goals and to continue with this effort. A special thanks and note of appreciation to Program Managers and Employees of the Tribe for their assistance and dedication in our group effort toward accomplishing our goal.

If you have any questions or needs, please call 405-275-4030 ext 162 and I will be glad to assist you in any way I can.

Respectfully,

Belinda Collins, Controller

FINANCIAL CONSULTANT

Greetings Tribal Members,

With the election of Treasurer over and for a second two-year term Treasurer Deere, promises to provide transparency in providing sound financial management and reporting to our Tribal members.

The following activities that I have been involved and participated:

Financial Reports: Reviewed monthly encumbrance reports for General Fund, Elder’s Council and Indirect Cost.

Redstone Investments: Attended our monthly investment meeting with Mike Kelley, Investment Advisor of Redstone Investments, in attendance Treasurer Deere, Secretary Reed and Controller, Belinda Collins, discussion composed of investment strategies and opportunities in the investment market.

Absentee Shawnee Economic Development Authority, Inc. (ASEDA): ASED A, Inc. composed of Dan Little Axe, President, Vice-Chairman, Adam Proctor and recently appointed officially by resolution Eddie Brokeshoulder, Secretary, office at 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

BUSINESSES
ASEDA, Inc. operates a diversified portfolio of businesses and chose to develop for profit businesses to create revenue.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE COUNSELING SERVICES (ASCs): ASCs is a clinic located at 1301 SE 59th Street, Oklahoma City, OK, specializing in providing out-patient programs for both Native and Non-Native treatments for alcohol abuse, methamphetamine dependency and opiate dependency.

For more information on Absentee Shawnee Counseling Services programs and counseling services please call 405-672-3033.

GOVCONE SERVICES, INC. (GSC): is a Tribally Owned corporation, originally founded in 1997, on August 11, 2011, it was incorporated under the Tribal Corporation Code of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. The primary purposes of GSC is to diversity and bolster the economy of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and provide opportunities and benefits to its approximately 3,500 tribal members by capitalizing on opportunities in the federal government contracting market.

At the time and printing of August 2012 newsletter, GOVCONE SERVICES, INC. is submitting to the office of Small Business Administration (SBA) an 8(a) certification application as a Tribally Owned Small Disadvantaged Business Enterprise. More information will be forth coming on the status of our 8(a) application and the development and services of GOVCONE, INC., if you have any questions, please contact board members of ASEDA, INC.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Housing and Urban Development: Tribal - Leader’s Consultation on HUD’s Housing Needs Assessment: Treasurer Deere and I attended a one-day consultation meeting, Monday, July 9th at Choctaw Casino and Resort, Durant, Oklahoma, sponsored by the Choctaw Nation Housing Authority of Oklahoma. The purpose of this meeting was to have a government-to-government consultation in providing a forum for learning about and commenting on the “Assessment of Native American, Alaska Native Housing Needs,” a congressionally mandated study. This consultation involved the Southern Plains region. The consultation provided an open forum for discussion of the process of the study, the survey instruments and other issues of concern related to the study. Prior to the Southern Plains consultation seven other scheduled meetings were held in different parts of Indian Country.

In attendance included Wayne Sims, Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs Regional Administrator, Duane Winship, deputy director of Choctaw Nation Housing Authority, Ericka Poethig, Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, Jennifer Stoloff, HUD, Study Manager, Nancy Pindus, Project Manager, The Urban Institute and a host of leaders, tribal housing directors and other staff. The end result will be a household survey of five (5) tribes of western Oklahoma and about nine (9) tribal / TDHE authorities.

As always, my office is open and ready to assist you in any way we can. I am excited to hear your ideas on how we can increase economic development across the tribe, concerns relating to our revision of our constitution and transparency of our financials. I can be reached at 405-275-4030 ext 148 or eddieb@astribe.com.

Respectfully,

Eddie Brokeshoulder
Financial Consultant
Hello from your AllNations Bank Family.

Let’s take a Fraud Alert quiz this month that could save you money and frustration.

IF YOU CAN ANSWER YES TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, YOU COULD BE INVOLVED IN A FRAUD OR ABOUT TO BE SCAMMED.

• Did you receive a CHECK from an item you sold on the internet, such as a car, boat, jewelry, etc.?
• Is the amount of the CHECK more than the items selling price?
• Did you receive the CHECK by an overnight delivery service?
• Is the CHECK connected to communicating with someone by email?
• Is the CHECK drawn on a business or individual account that is different from the person buying your item or product?
• Have you been informed that you have been the winner of the LOTTERY, such as Canadian, Australian, El Gordo, or El Mundo, that you did not enter?
• Have you been asked to PAY money to receive a deposit from another country such as Canada, England or Nigeria?
• Are you receiving PAY or a COMMISSION for facilitating money transfers through your account?
• Did you respond to an email requesting you to CONFIRM, UPDATE, or PROVIDE your account information?

If you can answer yes to any of the above questions stop communicating with the individual immediately. If you become a victim of one of the above scams file a police report immediately and notify your financial institution. You may need to close your account.

Best Regards,
Your AllNations Bank family Gene, Eugene, Janice & Amber

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NOTES:
- Sales Tax = 6% of Gross Sales
- Gaming Tax = Free cash flow
- Employee = 1% of Gross Wages
- Severance Tax = 8% of Total Production Market Value
- State Compact (Tobacco Refund)

FY-2012
YTD TAX COLLECTIONS
JUNE
Run Date: 07/23/12
The Absentee Shawnee Tribe would like to thank Mr. Clark Frayser for his donation of "Panther And The Swan" is on display at the new clinic in Little Axe.

Again, Thank You/Nee ya way

White Turkey Band of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe

Bingo Fundraiser

August 17th 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Horse Shoe Bend Community Center
46309 Garretts Lake Rd, Shawnee, OK 74801

Concession stand will be available and prizes for the Bingo games.

Price per Bingo card will be .50 cents.

Proceeds will be sponsoring the 5K and 3K run and walk held on October 6, 2012.

Twin Parker
405-229-8052
Gwen Switch
405-204-3612

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 processing of municipal waste, and that moving 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.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

The AST recycling Program will initially focus on the following waste stream materials: High Grade shredded paper, Assorted office paper, Phone books, Magazines, Cardboard, Newspapers, 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 costs.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S
EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

JUNE 2012 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
DONNA BUTLER

Nominated by Rhonda Kaseca

I would like to nominate Chelle Foreman for employee of the month. Chelle is an outstanding example of the type of employee that goes above and beyond the expectations of her job on a consistent basis. She does whatever it takes to ensure her work and the work of her department is accurate and on time. She handles questions, requests, and projects from employees with care and consideration, and this instills confidence that the answers she provides are well thought-out and accurate. She’s a very dedicated and dependable worker and is always ready to go the extra mile to help all Tribal Members and co-workers.

Chelle has a perfect attendance, a great attitude, always complimentary whenever she meets anyone, and always has a smiling face. Ms. Foreman displays no negativity at any time and truly is an asset to Tribe. She is creative in coming up with solutions to problems, overcoming roadblocks, and is a pleasure to work with. Incredibly loyal employee, who treats others with respect and kindness. She’s very outgoing, will go out of her way to help anyone, and always has a smile and kind word with whomever she comes in contact with. She never gives up on any challenge placed before her, fights for what is right and what she believes in. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe is fortunate to have her as a member of our team.

JULY 2012 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH
CHELLE FOREMAN

Nominated by Rhonda Kaseca

Donna exhibits initiative, resourcefulness, and untiring efforts to achieve perfection in her duties resulting in increased operational efficiency of the Title VI program. She treats the participants with care, love, and respect.

She complies with guidelines and health and safety procedures without reservations and with a positive attitude.

She is kind and thoughtful. Her fun and teasing attitude always brings laughter. Donna is always at work and willing to do extra for anyone.
AARP State President, Marjorie Lyons says, "AARP takes pride that honorees from all 39 federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma come together in unity and harmony to honor the accomplishment of their elders. The extraordinary accomplishments of Indian elders from all parts of the state have left an indelible mark on their families, their tribes, their communities and the state as a whole." “Whether they served their tribes in a leadership position, devoted themselves to cultural preservation or were simply a quiet source of strength to their family, this group of honorees embodies the qualities. So many of the elders’ contributions is a commitment to teaching, to connect this generation to their ancestry and create a legacy for them to carry forward. AARP has been doing these awards for the past three years.

The 4th Annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors will recognize 50 outstanding tribal elders who have made a positive impact in their tribe, community, state or country. **Deadline for Nominations was May 31st, 2012, by tribal governments or by individuals.**

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**NATIVE COMMUNITY FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (CDFI)**

*Origins of the CDFI Fund*

The Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-325) established the CDFI Fund to promote economic revitalization and community development through an investment and assistance programs. CDFIs provide a variety of business loans and other financial services to economically disadvantaged areas that are not adequately served by traditional financial institutions.

*What is a CDFI?*

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) are community based financial institutions that specialize in serving low-income people or working in economically distressed communities. They seek to provide a wide-range of financial products and services, such as mortgage loans to low-income and first-time homebuyers, small business loans, and loans for community facilities and affordable housing. CDFIs may offer rates and terms that are flexible than those provided by traditional financial institutions. They provide services that will help ensure that credit is used effectively, such as technical assistance to small businesses, credit counseling to consumers.

On June 26th at ALLNATIONS BANK, the first of a steering committee met to discuss in a brainstorming session an opportunity for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe to develop a CDFI financial program. Our steering committee was assisted by Kristi Coker-Bias, Senior Advisor for Programs & Development of First Nations Oweesta Corporation, Longmont, Colorado. Kristi comes from the CDFI program with a wealth of knowledge and experience; she was instrumental in developing the Citizen Band Potawatomi Community Development Corporation (CDC), founded in 2003 which provides access to capital and business development services.

More information about the AST Native CDFI program development will be for coming. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 405-275-4030 ext 148, or eddieb@astribe.com.

Respectfully,

Eddie Brokeshoulder
Financial Consultant

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**IS A CDFI RIGHT FOR YOU?**
Shawnee Woman Warrior Esteline Schulenberg

During a time in American history when Native Americans had few rights and often difficult, poverty stricken lives, an Absentee Shawnee woman defied social structures, and through the United States Women’s Army Corps, emerged as Shawnee woman warrior.

July 31 1934 Miss Esteline Sloan was born to Agnes Sloat Sloan and Frank Sloan in Cleveland County at the “old home place” which was 1¼ miles north of highway 9 on Harrah-Newalla road around the Little Axe area of Oklahoma. One of eight children, her parents were hard working during a time when life was difficult. There was no electricity in the home until the 1960’s and they utilized an outhouse like many others at the time in the area. They hunted their meat and grew their vegetables. There was a country store for other items such as flour, sugar and coffee, but they had little money. To get by they sold fruit from their peach tree and some of the vegetables from their garden while her father worked odd jobs to make ends meet.

As a young girl Esteline was expected to look out for her siblings, draw water from the well for washing, and sweep the floors. For warm baths back then she remembers keeping the water from the well outside in a metal tub, heating it in the sun for bathing. Laughing she referred to it as “solar heating.”

She attended Brendle School and Knowles Schools which she described as an “old country school, with a wood stove” in a “one room” school house that she said is “probably no longer standing.” When asked about the differences between today and when she was young she said that “children today have more opportunity” for things like “language, music and education.” She mentioned that as a kid she “enjoyed listening to the small battery operated radio and climbing trees for fun.” Esteline went to Pawnee Indian School in Oklahoma, until the 9th grade, and then attended Haskell in Kansas for 10th and 11th grade before graduating from Tecumseh High School back in Oklahoma.

While in school, Esteline was impressed by the pictures of women in uniform who were in the military and set her goal to join. In 1954, she enlisted in the US Women’s Army Corp where she was an administrative clerk, “nothing terribly exciting” as she put it and served 2 years. The same year she was discharged and married her husband Donald Schulenberg, who was a career military man serving in the Army, until 1973.

They had their first child in 1962, the first of four children. Esteline supported her husband’s career as a full time mom. She and her family moved many times to places such as Texas, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and even Paris France, supporting her husbands career in the Army. Esteline encouraged her husband to stay in the service each time he came up for re-enlistment because she said it gave her family a sense of security. During their marriage she stayed stateside while he served in Korea, during two tours in Vietnam and other duties overseas.

While he was gone she always came back to Norman to be close to her Absentee Shawnee family staying close to her husband with daily letters. Being separated was difficult for a mother with four children with a husband overseas. She found comfort in her mother, brothers and sisters in Little Axe area, often spending half the day with her family.

She enjoyed sharing Shawnee traditional ceremonies with her children, reciting how during dances her daughters “would put a shawl on and dance while my son sat listening and watched in the ribbon shirt made by his grandmother.”

Esteline is active in the American Legions and other veteran’s organizations. She is with the Absentee Shawnee Color Guard Association where they plan parades, flag presentations such as the recent Sovereignty Symposium in Oklahoma City.

As a member of the American Legion Post 88 in Norman, Esteline was the first woman commander elected to the position and served from 1999-2001. She also served and was the Division West Commander of the American Legion of Oklahoma, as well as being the former president of Women’s Veterans Organization of Oklahoma 2000-2002. Esteline is a charter member of Women in Military Service for America. In 2001 she was awarded a plaque for Female Veteran of the Year for the State of Oklahoma. The Crow Nation of Montana awarded Esteline with recognition as the Outstanding Female Veteran of the Year. In 2010 she was awarded Indian Elder Honors metal from the Oklahoma AARP.

Esteline, among three brothers who also served in the Army was not the only warrior in her family. She is a woman warrior surrounded by warriors. Her final statement, “I am Shawnee, I am a Warrior, I will always be a Shawnee Warrior.”

- By Paulette Blanchard
Little Axe Health Center Update

We are through our first three months in the new clinic and all is going well. We have many exciting things happening at the clinic and look forward to finishing out the rest of the year successfully. Our third-party collections are increasing monthly and things are looking good in our business office.

We have many new employees in the Little Axe Clinic and are almost fully staffed. We have two new pediatricians. Dr. Nicole Willis started June 29th and Dr. Cerissa Key begins July 30th. Both are accepting new pediatric patients and appointments can be made by calling the Little Axe Clinic at (405) 447-0300. It is important to schedule early before school starts. Now is also the time to schedule your children for their immunizations. For those children who need immunizations for school, you have the option of scheduling a well-child check up with one of the pediatricians or if you only need immunizations, you can call the clinic and schedule with the public health nursing department to get the necessary vaccinations. Don’t wait until the last minute, get in early for those back to school appointments.

We have had many questions regarding our clinic hours of operation. The Little Axe clinic is open Monday through Friday, 7 am to 5:30 pm. The clinic is closed to patient care on the first and third Wednesday afternoons, 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm, of each month to allow staff time for their department meeting, trainings, and conference times. The Pharmacy is open every day from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm, including during the lunch time. We are also closed on all federal holidays and a day in August for AST Day. The clinic will be closed on August 3 for AST Day and on Sept. 3rd for Labor Day. Closings will be posted throughout the clinic at all the registration desks and on the front door of the clinic.

Over the past month, our lawns have been taken care of and the contractor has been out looking at the work and will be replacing any dead trees or plants in the near future. He will not be able to replace any trees until fall, during the planting season. There still may be areas that need attention, but overall the lawn is looking nice. We had visitors from the Dallas IHS office on the 10th of July and they commented on the building and how nice it looks. They were very impressed with the size and the architecture of the building. One comment made was that they had been to other healthcare facilities within the IHS had seen the worse and now they wanted to see the best. I just felt so proud that someone from the IHS would feel this passionate about what the Absentee Shawnee Tribe has accomplished, that I had to share this with everyone. So as a tribal member and an employee, I feel so proud to be a part of the healthcare team and hope we are accomplishing our objectives of keeping tribal members healthy and providing the best healthcare to all our patients.

If you have any problems, concerns, questions, or comments, please feel free to contact me at (405) 447-0300 or you can email me at bfelton@astribe.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Submitted by Beverly Felton, MSN, RN, Acting Executive Director of Health
Music is Life

By Phil Bradley
Music Education

In spite of this month being one of the hottest months of the year, the Music Education Department has had an eventful July with some determined students and preparing for our Family Fun Fest in August.

My students age from 6 years old to an 84 year old AST elder. Many of the students have entered my program to gain knowledge of an instrument or gain vocal control to benefit themselves, however they don’t realize their walking out a musician and a role model for those who can appreciate music. On many occasions, I have received phone calls from curious parents and grandparents inquiring about the music classes for their children or grandchildren but I end up signing the parents and grandparents up for lessons in hopes of finding that inner musician that has been fighting to come out.

The students and I are blessed with having a FREE Music Education Program which has really helped dreams come true for many of my students who have, for while, been anxious to learn how to play the piano, acoustic guitar, or even sing like a bird. I can never express how much enthusiasm I have each day to come to work, and to work for a tribe that gives so much back to their tribal members musically.

If you have ever had the dream to play music, give your dream some life and call the Music Education Program. I offer lessons on piano, guitar, bass guitar, drums, and vocal.

The requirements to participate in the program are as followed:

- Must be a Native American or employee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.
- Must be 6 with no maximum age limit.
- Children must have parents present at each class, no exceptions.
- I do ask that some students sign a release to take a profile picture to be put in the monthly newsletter.

In future newsletter I plan on featuring students who have made vast progress in their lessons, so keep an eye out for those students. Also, as many of you may know, the Music Education Program has teamed up with many of the AST Programs to host a Family Fun Fest August 25, 2012 from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Thunderbird Event Center in Little Axe, this is a Karaoke Contest as well as a mini health fair bringing you music, concession, give-a-ways, school supplies, car seat checks/installations, sports physicals, and many more. This event is open to the community. Registration for the Karaoke Contest starts at 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.; a CDIB card is required for registration. If you should have any questions about the Family Fun Fest, feel free to give Sidna McKane a call at 405-701-7977 or 405-370-5576. We hope to see you all there.

Thanks to all of our tribal children and our elders, we are learning to fly.

Phil Bradley
405-370-5576 or 405-701-7994
Music Education Department

Summer Is Coming To An End....

A new school year is beginning; this can be a stressful time for your child. Especially for those who are starting their first year in elementary or if your child is going into middle school or high school. New teachers, bigger classes, more homework and different daily routines are few factors that your child is stressing over. As a parent there are ways you can help your children to cope.

- Model enthusiasm for learning. Be excited and eager for the new school year, your child will be too.

- Expose your child to every opportunity to learn. Have age appropriate books, encyclopedias, dictionary or atlas available. Take family trips to the museum, zoo or go on a nature hikes.

- Take your child on a tour of their school, meet teachers and administration. Show respect and support for your child’s teacher and school.

- Be attentive and active in parent/teacher conferences, open house, school plays, fundraisers and sports events. It’s more beneficial for parents and child if both parents attend school functions.

- Read to your child, make daily reading a routine. Encourage independent reading.

- Set realistic expectations for your child’s achievement and behavior. Encourage your child to stretch within his level of ability. Let children know you are proud of them and everyone makes mistakes.

- Create a balance for learning within your family. Have structure, routine and sense of responsibility in the family for learning. Allow time for play and relaxation.

- Have specific area set up for homework, free of all distractions. Be available for help but avoid being directly involved with their homework.

- Ask your child how his day was and what his day consist of at school. Ask to see their papers and other projects, going over them together.

- Know your role as parent and your child’s role as the child.

Remember that every child is different and have different levels of learning. Be realistic of your child’s learning ability and to encourage them. When parents are involved with their child’s learning it shows; I care about you, I believe in education, I support you and encourage you to reach your highest potential in education.

This information is provided by Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program
Sena Yesslith, PSSF Worker 405-878-4702 Ext 124
Aerobic activity – what counts?

Aerobic activity or “cardio” gets you breathing harder and your heart beating faster. From pushing a lawn mower, taking a dance class, or biking to the store – all types of activities count. Try doing them at a moderate or vigorous intensity for at least 10 minutes at a time. (150 minutes per week recommended)

How do you know if you’re doing light, moderate, or vigorous intensity aerobic activities? For most people, light daily activities such as shopping, cooking, or doing the laundry doesn’t count toward the guidelines. Why? Your body isn’t working hard enough to get your heart rate up.

Moderate-intensity aerobic activity means you’re working hard enough to raise your heart rate and break a sweat. One way to tell is that you’ll be able to talk, but not sing the words to your favorite song.

Vigorous-intensity aerobic activity means you’re breathing hard and fast, and your heart rate has gone up quite a bit. If you’re working at this level, you won’t be able to say more than a few words without pausing for a breath.

Muscle-strengthening activities – what counts?

Besides aerobic activity, you need to do things to strengthen your muscles at least 2 days a week. These activities should work all the major muscle groups of your body (legs, hips, back, chest, abdomen, shoulders, and arms).

To gain health benefits, muscle-strengthening activities need to be done to the point where it’s hard for you to do another repetition without help. A repetition is one complete movement of an activity, like lifting a weight or doing a sit-up. Try to do 8—12 repetitions per activity that count as 1 set. Try to do at least 1 set of muscle-strengthening activities, but to gain even more benefits, do 2 or 3 sets.

You can do activities that strengthen your muscles on the same or different days that you do aerobic activity, whatever works best. Try to allow 48 hours rest for each muscle group worked. There are many ways you can strengthen your muscles, whether it’s at home or the gym.

(Information provided by the CDC)

The AST Fitness staff would like to congratulate all AST employees currently participating in the AST Fitness Competition! We would also like to congratulate the winners of the AST Employee Fitness Competition for the 2nd quarter of 2012!

The winners are:

1ST PLACE:
Team “Short Stacks” (Melinda Ferrell and Lisa Jackson) with a combined total of 6.8 percent body fat

2ND PLACE:
Team “It’s Not Fittin” (Blake Goodman and Asaycia Clayton) with a combined percent of 6 percent body fat

3RD PLACE:
Team “He Said, She Said” (Joseph Blanchard and Twyla Blanchard) with a combine percent of 5.8 percent body fat

The AST Fitness Program would like to applaud the efforts of the AST employees for staying active. Your habits of exercise and physical activity will go a long way in promoting a healthy body. The AST Fitness program would like to encourage all AST employees to continue on with their physical activities!

The 3rd quarter of the AST Fitness Competition begins in July and ends in September. This is a fresh start for the Fitness Competition among the Absentee Shawnee employees. Whether it’s at a gym, at home, or at work, let’s get out and get moving.
Happy Birthday!!

August 2012 Birthdays

Aguinaga, Joanna Stevens
Alaee, Deena Shabnam
Alford, Brandon Wayne
Alford, Donald John
Alford, Dylan James
Alford, Janene Flora
Allen, Zachary Jerold
Almanza, Favian DaE
Almanza, Luke Jeslene
Altman, Colson Charles
Anderson, Dakiah Ali
Atwood, Rayanna Rain
Atwater, Rae Lynn
Balch, Tasha Jamie Renee
Ballard, James Wesley
Barbosa Jr, Francisco Lazarro
Barbosa, Natalie Cadence
Barnes, Alivna Lynn (Wilson)
Barnes, Jenna Kay
Barriaga, Calib Jay
Barriaga, Dana Michelle
Barriaga, Joshua Deen
Beachom, Lois Marie
Bella-Heim, Katherine Ann
Berry, Michael Wayne
Betelouyn, Sonie Elaine
Blackbear, Kyler Jesse
Blancett, Tina Marie
Blanchard, Caileah Ann
Blanchard, Christopher Ray
Blanchard, Christian
Blanchard, Henry Benjamin
Blanchard, Jessica Marie
Blanchard, Kaylee Dawn
Blanchard, Kenneth Leland
Blanchard, Leandra Danae
Blanchard, Luann Delores
Blanchard, Ruth Evelyn
Blanchard, Sandra Lynn
Blanchard, Stacie Faye
Blocker, Steven DeWayne
Blood, Jeffery Lee
Bond, James Phillip
Boston, Sheila Marie
Boston, Sheldon Shannon
Bosworth, Donna Sue White
Bradshaw, Karsyn Marie
Brady, Crystal Sue
Bread, Eli Emery Michael
Bread, Kiley Madison Michael
Breeding, Taylor Mae
Britt, Nathan Scott
Brookeshoulder, Riley Ann
Brown, Teresa
Buckheart, Phillip Paul
Byers, Dallas Landry
Carlson, Adriannno McBride
Carroll, Wessie Carmen
Carter, Rosa Lee
Casteel, Serenity James
Chambers, Dana Lynn
Chisholm, Anita Sue
Citty, Daniel Keith
Citty, Rachel Dance
Ciulla, Kayla Rena
Cline-Smith, Jamie Lenea
Cody, Kristen Renee
Copeland, Matthew Kyle
Cotrell, Lindsay Russell
Crowley, Aleycia Nicole
Crowley, Isabel Deanne
Crowley, Jessica Ann
Crowley, Parris Rae
Cruz, Briel Lashelle
Cruz-Larney, Fanela Guadalupe
Curtis, Kendra Janae
Davis, Barbara Ann
Davis, Darrell Everett
Dawsey, Vera Mae
Day, Linda Lee
De La Campa, Ginger Leanne
Delode, Cheyenne MacHelle
Dodd, Gayla Robert
Downey, Sheila Ann
Drags Wolf, Whirlwind
Draper, Darla Dawn
Dunmorn, Patrick Duane
Edgmon, Kimberly Ann
Elkins, David Preston
Ellis, Davy Joe
Ellis, Margaret E. Starr
Elmore, Braden Lee
Embery, Lisa Marie
England, Randall Blake
Farris, Jaroyce Paul
Felton, Kain Neal Blaze
Felt, Wyatt Cooper
Finch, Courtney Shea
Fixico, Angela Rochelle
Filippo, Tracy Lynn
Foreman Sr, Leonard Dewayne
Fowler, Sophia Evelyn
Frazier, Kendall Terese
French, Joseph Lee
Frye, Michelle Renita
Fuentes, Adriana Esperanza
Galyn (Cochran), Joyce Ann
Garrretson, Shavonelle V.
Gilson Jr, Roy Gene
Gilson, Marie Spoon
Gilson, Morgan Lee
Gilson-Hicks, Leila Kay
Gillmore, Tammy Kay
Gilmire, Cynthia Jayden
Goodman, Brandon Thomas
Gouge, Marissa Janell
Gransstrom, Brandon Thomas
Gray, Doris Estelle
Greenfield, David Glenn
Griffin, Armani Dejour
Griffin, Corrine Sue
Hane, Carolyn Ann
Haro Jr, Victor Ray
Haro, Jason Michael
Haro, Theresa Michelle
Heatley Jr, Abraham Lee
Herrera Sr, Ruben Pilar
Herrera, Jennifer Marie
Herrera, Renee Christine
Herred, Lucas Andrew
Hill, Scotty Lee
Holderness, John Lennon
Hood, Iyon Joseph Weston
Hood, Steven Mark
Houston II, Gary Dean
Huckaby, Chyna E. Allen
Irvin III, William Jetson
Jackson, Amanda Christine
James, Barbara Cheryl
Jimerson, Dante Romain
Johnson Jr., Robert Anthony
Johnson, Aireen Nicole
Johnson, Augustine
Johnson, Carrieyn Melissa
Johnson, Christina Michelle
Johnson, Crystal Faith
Johnson, Darrell Ray
Johnson, Desiree Cathone
Johnson, Diane Kay
Johnson, Nicholas Ray
Johnson, Robin
Johnson, Robert Gene
Johnson-Stephenson, Bryan Darius
Johnson-Stephenson, Marissa Kalliytn
Jordan, Betty Jean
Josyewa, Daniel Dakota
Kaskuske, Clara L.
Kastl, Richard Dean
Katsiaficas, Glenda Joanne Alford
Kennedy, Rebecca Lea
Kennedy, Willie James
Kinnamon, Alisha Dawn
Kirby, William Anthony
Lamb, Weston Bobby Clayton
Langston, Nicole Leeann
Larney Jr., Nathaniel Roy
Larney, Darrell Wayne
Larney, Tan Dianne
Latham Sloan, Stone Tecumseh
Lee, Christopher Ashton
Leedom, Daniel Clayton
Liles, Tammy Gayle
Little, Mark Anthony
Little Axe, Angela Renae
Little Axe, Barbara J White
Little Axe, Ch stanza Lynn
Little Axe, Jamison Sloan
Little Axe, Kimberly Jolene
Little Axe, Mikah Dean
Little Charley, Eldon
Little Charley, Tyerra Nicole
Little Jim, James Allen
Little Jim, Lorene Little Axe
Little, Earl Lynn
Littlebear, Patrick Dale
Littlecreek, Cameron Joseph
Littlecreek, Marrisa Renee
Littlecreek, Richard Lloyd
Littlecreek, Troy Dylan
Littlehead, Montana Dane
Locke, Ericalee Dawn
Logan, Kathleen June
Longden, Marry Vone
Longhorn, Garrett Allen
Longhorn, Keith Warren
Longman, Kirstan Page
Loshie, Amy Laverne
Lovins, Jo Ann
Lowe, Trenton James
Mack, Devin Lee
Mack, Kylan Cole
Mann, Cecil Ray
Mann, McCann Allen
Mann, Michael Ray
Mann, Stacy Diane
Marquez II, Felipe Herrera
Marquez III, Felipe Herrera
Marshall, Brian Michelle
Marshall, Chris
Marshall, Laura Lee
Martinez Jr, Jose Martin
Martinez, Goodchief Justice
Martinez, Tecumseh Joaquin
Masquas, Zariyah Jade
Masquas, Cheryl Ann
Masquas, Lindsay Marie
Maxwell, Darrell Wayne
McBride, Caroline Sue
McBride, Michael Andrew
McDaniel, Joshua
Megee, Hunter Buck
Miller, Stacy Elaine
Miller, Tommy Dean
Moore, Amanda Rene
Moore, Brian Keith
More, Christopher Glenn
Moreland, Nettie Louise
Morris, Nikolai William
Mosbacher, Myles Anthony
Neese, Krystal Ann
Neugent, Victoria Ann Louise
Neugent, Zalee Vee
Owens, Alisha Janie
Panther, Jessalynn Rae Ann
Pear, Melody Leann
Pearl, Roger Allen
Peetoom, Stephanie Dawn
Puckett, Ryan Paul
Ramirez, Angel Renee
Ramirez, Librado Bryan
Ramirez, Syla Loumae
Rackard, Keely Danielle
Ridenour, Lesley Paige
Riedel, Jerri Annette
Rojas Jr. Antonio
Rolette, Daniel Wayne
Roller, David Lee
Roller, Susan Margaret
Ross, James Edward
Ross, Randall Lee
Rudloff, Derek Chace
Runnsabo, Brock Allen
Ryan, Cullen Patrick
Salazar, Catherine Lynn
Sallee, Melanie Rachel
Sanchez, Janna Lee Anne
Sanchez, Luisa Raquel
Sanchez, Lupe
Sanchez, Marie Megan
Sanchez, Steven Mercedes
Sanchez, Trevor
Schwarz, Logan Bane
Scarber, Margarey Alice
Serena, Shane Lee
Shawnee, Lyndell Grant
Sinks, Daniel Ray
Sloan, Ruby Alaysia Marie
Sloan, Virginia Michelle
Sloat, Britt Marshall
Sloat, Christopher Douglas
Sloat, Jimmy Wayne
Sloat, Lorraine Gail
Snake, Amber Laree
Spruill, Jen Steven
Spruill, Alon J. Chase
Spruill, Alyssa Stylarace
Spybuck, Nicole Lynn
Spybuck, Thomas Matthew
Squire Sr, Kenneth Dale
Squire, Suzette Ann
Starr, Ashley Lee
Starr, Esella Mia
Starr, Jamie Dawn
Stotly, Allen Monroe
Strain, Susan Elaine
Stricklin, Olivia Sayson
Sullivan Jr, Thomas Lee
Svenson, Londyn Alayne
Switch, Cara Cameron
Switch, Melpherd Dewanye
Tallchief, Sierra Marie
Thompson, DeKaylie Talia
Tiger Jr., Leonard Gene
Tiger, Cierra Alayne
Tiger, Lily Martha Ruth
Tiger, Linda Kay
Tiger, Mary Louise
Tolbert, Jaya Vaughn Charles
Tolbert, Jocelyn Renee'
Tullius, Ashley Nicole
Tyner, Lewis Blaine
Vaughn, Ashley Nicole
Vaughn, Sandi Kay
Velez, Carol Ann
Villalobos, Enrique Ivan
Walpekehe, Joaquin Noah
Wakley, Brianna Morgan
Warriner Jr, Manely Anthony
Warrior, Isaac Necon
Warrior, Lynda Annelise
Warrior, Samuel Adrian
Watson, Gregory Doyle
Wenholm, Tyrus Riley
West, Randall Aaron
Whinery, Michelle Lauren
White, Darrel Lee
White, Michael Brooks
White, Violet Joyce
Whitten, Mikayla R. A. C.
Whitten, Tina Louise
Williams Jr, Robert
Williams, Charlotte Virginia
Williams, Deana Michelle
Williams, Derrick Heath
Williams, Jennifer Lee
Williams, Kaysia Lyn
Williams, Susan Elizabeth
Williamson, Jeanie Oldham
Wilson, Alicia Marie
Wilson, Anthony Eugene
Wilson, Asa Lynch
Wilson, Debra Ann
Wilson, Deja Lea
Wilson, Espernii
Wilson, Mya Rose
Wilson, Sarah Madison
Wilson, Terry Blaine
Wilson, Tiffany Michele
Wolfe Jr, Zachary Paul
Woodward, Anthony Emmett
Woodward, Blake Anthony
Yates, Trevor Todd Thomas

Happy Birthday!!
Happy Birthday, Darrol Davis!
(Son and Uncle)

We love you bunches!!
Love Mom, Greg, Holly, Eli, Jessica, Ryan and Jellybean

Happy Birthday, Michelle Frye (Turtle)

Love you!
Love your sister, Jackie, Little Charley, and from you nephews, Michael, Austin, and Nicholas Johnson

Happy Birthday, Montana D. Littlehead
August 3rd
Love you!
Dad and Aunt Amy and Family

Happy Birthday, Leonard Foreman!

We hope you have a great day!
Love, Chelle & Family and Aunt Rhonda & Family
Students were very busy July 2, thru July 12 studying Science. That was conducted by Randall Watson, Tutor at Horse Shoe Bend After School Program, Cecilia Flores, Water Quality Specialist and Roger Anderson, Environmental Specialist from the Office of Environmental Health and Engineering of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

**July 2**

Students had a blast with the “Waterzookas” that Roger Anderson demonstrated water pressure. Each student was given a “Waterzooka” to take home. Roger explained to students to always conserve water and how important it is to not pollute the air and water.

**July 3**

Students had a special guest that showed up at the Horse Shoe Bend Tutoring Program. Smokey The Bear made an appearance after Larry Cravet, BIA Fire Prevention made a presentation on fire safety. Larry also showed the students their fire equipment that is used in fighting a fire.

Also on July 3, Cecilia Flores, did a hands on study with Water Quality and Bugs. Cecilia and Randall went to the North Canadian River to get river water to show students what kind of bugs and objects that live in the water. Students were supplied a fish net and plastic gloves to get water sample from the river water. Then students looked through a magnify glass to see up close of what objects and bugs that was living in
I'd like to recognize some guests that came by the Horse Shoe Bend Tuesday, July 3, Jacklyn Williams, Secretary, Carla Reed, Treasurer, Stella Nullake-Nanaeto, Committee Member of the Sac and Fox Nation visited and they were pleased to see that summer tutoring was offered through the summer and that so many students had taken part for a summer program. I am so pleased to see these ladies had taken the time out of their busy schedule to stop in and check the program out and see what their contribution to the after school program is doing to help our young youth.

I would like to thank Rodger and Cecilia for their knowledge and time they had given to the students at Horse Shoe Bend for the summer.

I would like to thank the Citizen Potawatomie Nation Employment and Training Department for their help in sending me two employees for the summer.

Gabriella Perez, graduated from Dale High School May 2012, she will be attending Seminole State College this fall and will be taking her basic courses, and her plan is a career in the Medical Field to be a Phlebotomist. Gabriella is from Ft. Benning, Georgia and is a tribal member of the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma. She likes tumbling, and playing with her son Maks.

Brittany Coon, is a Sac and Fox Tribal Member and is also Seminole and Creek. Brittany will be a Junior at Graham High School located in Oklahoma. She likes playing basketball with her sisters and dislikes softball, a lot. Also likes spending time with her family in Okemah and going to church. Brittany lives with her Aunt in Earlsboro. We are very sad to hear that her father passed away a couple of months ago. When she graduates from high school her plan is to attend Beauty College.

I am very proud of all my tutors (Randall, Stuart, Brittany, Gabriella) here at Horse Shoe Bend as they are making progress in their education to become productive citizens.

Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Director
Horse Shoe Bend After School
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
405 481-0397 cell number
405 275-4030, Ext. 133
Fax: 405 273-9629
edwinab@astribe.com

Roger and Cecilia, made a presentation on Recycling and students made bird houses out of recycled items, which consist of a plastic 2 Liter bottle and string. Each student made a bird house and was taken home by student.

Everyone was very busy as anytime a child is making a project on their own there are so many questions a student has, they are wanting to make sure they are doing things right.

Roger arranged for Shana L. Mashburn, Hydrologist, Oklahoma Water Science Center from U.S. Geological Survey Water Resources Discipline, USGS, she made a presentation on water as to where it comes from and the importance it is to conserve water. Roger and Shana had students take a walk outside around the center to see different types of plants and trees. They also looked at the different kinds of soil that was in the area.

Cecilia did a slide show presentation on alternative science, which showed the different types of body of water. Students were quizzed on their material that was on the slide show presentation.

A field trip was scheduled we went to the Snow Eagle House, in Perkins, Oklahoma. It is owned and operated by the Iowa Tribe. A tour was very educational to the students as they were able to see an eagle up close.

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Phillip Cravat and Whitney Warrior from the Iowa Tribe Environmental Health came to assist with Cecilia in this project. Randall and Stuart Rolette and Gabriella Perez tutors at the Horse Shoe Bend also was very busy with this project as students were excited to see and indentify each bug that was in their water sample. Cecilia, at the end of the Tuesday lesson, handed out draw string bags with goodies to each student to take home. Students were also supplied with a treat bag from the BIA Fire Prevention with safety tips and goodies.

July 9

July 10

July 11

July 12

If you’d like to submit an ad or article give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or send us an e-mail at stiger@astribe.com

ALL ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT MONTH’S ISSUE ARE DUE BY THE 20TH OF THE CURRENT MONTH

Unfortunately, we can only accept one picture per birthday person, not per birthday wish.
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August 3, 2012
Day

August 2012

Menu subject to change

2% Milk served daily
Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It’s a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.
New Officials Ceremony

Governor George Blanchard, Treasurer Deere, L.T. Governor Isaac Gibson, Deputy Commissioner Augustine Johnson, Tribal Representative Jeff Gibson.

What an amazing cake!

Tribal Members & Employees

Jo Ann Walker and Mary Birdtail
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering

• Tribal Housing Improvements Application

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:

a. Handicapped/Disabled and Elderly
b. Income
c. Family Size/Overcrowded Living Conditions
d. 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

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Complex
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering, Building 13

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

### Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority

107 N. Kimberly, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804
Phone: (405) 273-1050

Come in and visit with us about:

- Lease with Option to Purchase
- Rental for Over Income
- Rental
- Budget Counseling

### 10 Tips for College Students looking for a Job

1. Know what it takes. Skills, experience of that job.
2. Perfect your application materials. Have your application reviewed by career counselor or just a better editor.
3. Activate your network. Let people know what job you’re looking for and get many leads to follow up on.
4. Join a professional organization. Most occupations, from restaurant professionals to engineers, have professional associations. Join one. (Many have student rates.) Attend meetings, go to seminars, and read the materials. Like an anthropologist, learn the language and customs of your field, the issues of the day, and identify the key players, so that when you land an interview, you will “speak the language” like a native.
5. Be patient and persistent. Set aside time every week to check for job postings, to do research on employers in your field, and to send out a manageable number of applications.
6. Don’t just treat an interview as an interrogation. If you are fortunate enough to land an interview, treat it as an opportunity to establish a professional relationship with the interviewer.
7. Practice out loud. If you lack experience or feel uncomfortable in interviews, find someone to do a mock interview with.
8. Be “on” from the start. In this age of security cameras, you may be recorded from the moment you hit the employer’s parking lot. Act as if the employer is watching you from the outset. Dress the part. Be friendly and respectful to everyone you meet. Stay focused. Even if you are left cooling your heels in the reception area, do not be tempted to check your phone. If you cannot resist the temptation, leave your phone in the car.
9. Make that first impression count. With everyone you meet at the employer, especially with the interviewer, you want to make your first impression count. Stand up straight. Look the interviewer in the eye. Smile, and extend your hand for a firm, but not knuckle-crushing, handshake.
10. Be positive. Stay upbeat throughout the interview. Smile—it will register in your voice. Do not let the interviewer’s facial expressions or tone of voice throw you off your game. Do not assume that a particular answer is “wrong” or that you have “blown it.” Stay confident and be the best you can be!
What's Happening...

At the Little Axe Health Center

AUGUST 2012

NOTICE: LA CLINIC WILL BE CLOSED THE 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY FROM 12-5 PM FOR STAFF MEETINGS & TRAININGS.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

AUGUST 31, 2012

MEDICARE REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AT THE LA CLINIC TO ENROLL PATIENTS FOR MEDICARE, AARP, AFLAC ADVANTAGE PROGRAMS!

THIS WILL BE AN ALL DAY EVENT.

FOR AN APPOINTMENT PLEASE CALL SHAWNEE OR LOURIE ASAP.

Back to School Survival Days

Prepare your students for back to school health needs!

Screenings: Behavioral Health, Dental, Body Mass Index, Sports Physicals, and up to date Immunizations for your children. AND MORE!!!

When: Mondays, Aug. 6th and 13th
Where: Little Axe Health Center

Family Fun Fest!

A Tribal Celebration of Our Children, Elders, and Friends!

OPEN TO PUBLIC!

When: August 15, 2012; 4-8pm
Where: Thunderbird Casino Event Center

Do you know what Immunization Awareness Month is? It's observed each August in the US. August is the perfect time to remind family, friends, co-workers, and those in the community to catch up on their vaccinations. Parents are enrolling their children in school, students are entering college and health care workers are preparing for the upcoming flu season. By staying up-to-date on the recommended vaccines, individuals can protect themselves, their families and friends, and their communities from serious, life-threatening infections.

DID YOU KNOW?

We are taking appointments at:

Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Shawnee Health Center
2050 E. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801
405-878-5850

Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Little Axe Health Center
5951 Little Axe Drive
Norman, OK 73026
405-701-7999

Public Health-405-701-7999
Main Health Center-405-447-0300

We invite you to take advantage of the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System’s Patient Portal. The online services offered by our practice with that assurance that all of your information in encrypted and stored securely. In our patient portal you can:

- Update your address, phone, e-mail address, insurance, and other patient info.
- Change your password
- Send appointment request
- View a history of your previous online visits
- Ask a question
- Fill out Health Forms

After you create an online account, you will receive an e-mail from us that includes your user ID and a link to your patient portal.

Please give registration your e-mail address!! :-

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CDIB required for Registration of Karaoke Contest 3-5:30 pm Tobacco Free and Alcohol Free Event

LIVE MUSIC,
FUN CONCESSIONS, GIVE-AWAYS, & MORE

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Public Health-405-701-7999
Main Health Center-405-447-0300
The First American Indian Registered Nurse

I have been pursuing my Master’s degree in Nursing from Southern Nazarene University. As part of an assignment, I had to prepare a presentation on a nurse that has left a legacy on the nursing profession and the world.

I was proud to discover the nursing legacy left by the first American Indian registered nurse in the United States. Susie Walking Bear Yellowtail was born on the Crow reservation in Montana on January 27, 1903. Susie Yellowtail graduated from the Boston City Hospital School of Nursing in 1923 to become the first American Indian registered nurse in the United States.

Susie Yellowtail RN would travel throughout the United States visiting reservations and assessing the difficulties facing the American Indian. Ms. Yellowtail joined state health advisory boards and quickly made a name for herself as an advocate for the Native American Indian. She also founded the first professional association for Native American Nurses and was instrumental in winning tribal and government funding to help Indians enter the nursing profession. In 1978, Susie Yellowtail received a distinction that would mean more to her than many others: the American Indian Nurses Association named her "Grandmother of American Indian Nurses."

Susie Walking Bear Yellowtail died in 1981 leaving behind a world that was just a little bit better because she walked in it with a big heart and willing arms. She walked with pride and purpose.

(Reference: http://www.asrn.org/journal-chronicle-nursing/205-big-heart.html)

Marla Throckmorton RN

Wills Clinic

October 11, 2012
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Absentee Shawnee
Tribal Complex
Building 1

To make an appointment
Call OILS at:
(405) 943-6457 or
1-800-658-1497

If anyone needs assistance with a will before then, call the same number to make arrangements for an appointment to meet with OILS attorney.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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 form 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 associates or bachelors 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 for one graduate admissions test. This program has funding levels based upon full-time and part-time status.

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. 121 or 1-800-256-3341 or email to tresham@astribe.com.
Some ways to prevent and manage diabetes is through healthy lifestyle behaviors. One question that many people with diabetes or pre-diabetes often ask is “What can I eat?”. The American Diabetes Association states that you do not have to be deprived or restricted. The key factors are learning what are the “superfoods”, how much of it you can have and how often. Getting into the habit of eating a healthy diet helps you manage diabetes and prevent complications caused by diabetes.

The following foods are listed on the American Diabetes Association web site as “superfoods”. Try to incorporate as many of these foods into your daily meal plan to enhance the nutrient content of your meals.

The foods listed have a low glycemic index (causes slower rise in blood glucose after eating) and provide key nutrients that are lacking in the typical western diet such as:

- calcium
- magnesium
- potassium
- vitamins A, C, and E.
- fiber

Beans, dark green leafy vegetables, citrus fruit, sweet potatoes, berries, tomatoes, fish high in Omega-3 fatty acids, whole grains, nuts, fat-free milk and yogurt. To learn more about eating these superfoods and recipes visit diabetes.org and sign up for Wellness and Healthy Eating classes at the Little Axe Clinic. Call Sidna McKane to sign up at 405 701-7977.

Source: American Diabetes Association at www.diabetes.org

**Absentee Shawnee Behavioral Health**

Absentee Shawnee Behavioral Health is now providing counseling services in both Shawnee and Little Axe locations. We are taking new patients at this time. Our facilities offer an array of services including but not limited to:

- Psychiatry - adult and child
- Intensive Outpatient Groups
- Domestic Violence Counseling
- Grief Counseling
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Individual Therapy
- Group Counseling
- Bio Feedback
- Stress Reduction
- DUI Assessment

We welcome back Kristy Morrell – she is now located at the Little Axe Clinic.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest staff:

**Cultural Preservation Director/ Administrator**

Dr. Julia Irwin is a psychiatrist and has been providing services at the Little Axe Clinic. She is available on every Thursday.

Dr. Peter Stanbro is a child psychiatrist and will be currently taking new patients. He will be providing services every Thursday at our Little Axe Clinic.

Monte Blake, LPC is one of our newest clinician’s. He is located at our Shawnee Clinic.

If you have any questions or comments, please call me at my office. Thank you for your time.

I hope to provide a department that you, the People, can be proud of. Slowly but surely, with great determination and perseverance, we will complete the task at hand. In the end, my mind has been overwhelmed with work and there aren’t enough hours in the day to do all that I want.

Finally, I’d like to take this chance to say “Thank you” for the many calls and visitors during my transition. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest staff:

**Cultural Preservation Director/ Administrator**

Dear Tribal Members,

This message is to inform you that Cultural Preservation has made a few changes in the past month. At the beginning of July, I was appointed as the Acting Director of this department. The summer intern and I have been hard at work trying to restructure and give the building an internal makeover, while still conducting business. Before this month is over, I expect to have my support staff in place and running at full capacity. We hope you like the overall improvements.

In the upcoming weeks and months, our program will be scheduling “How To” clinics, in order for our People to learn skills such as: sewing, beading, tanning, and language. With this in mind, I’m asking you to submit your ideas of things you would like to learn. Or, if you possess this knowledge and would like to make sure to pass it along as one of our instructors, you may respond by sending your request to my email at joseph.blanchard@astribe.com or by calling me at my office. Although I have a list of items on my agenda already, I am always looking for other cost-effective solutions.

If you haven’t visited the Gift Shop lately, stop by to say hello and take a look at our inventory. If we don’t have what you want, let us know. In trying to provide the goods that our customers want, we have several catalogs to choose from and we can order the materials you need. We only ask that for specialty items, you provide a small deposit to secure the transaction. Also, in the near future, we will be opening on Saturday to accommodate those who can’t stop by during the week or on their lunch break.

There is one item that you may want to take notice for your young people. Our Language Program will be sponsoring an overnight “Language Immersion Camp” in the month of September. Though details aren’t complete yet, the plan is to teach camping skills, to develop better communication skills, to promote stronger family bonds, and to identify animals by their tracks and Indian name. The requirement is that you and your child (minimum age 6) participate, and come with an open mind to learn. There will be limited spots available and I definitely need to know how many people to feed. If everything goes well, it is my hope to make this an annual event. I’ll explain more as the details are finalized.

Finally, I’d like to take this chance to say “Thank you” for the many calls and visitors during my transition. The encouraging words, acts of kindness, and support have been very helpful in adjusting to my new position. My mind has been overwhelmed with work and there aren’t enough hours in the day to do all that I want. Slowly but surely, with great determination and perseverance, we will complete the task at hand. In the end, I hope to provide a department that you, the People, can be proud of.

If you have any questions or comments, please call me at my office. Thank you for your time.

Joseph H. Blanchard
Cultural Preservation Director/
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804
(405) 257-0430 ext. 203

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**PHARMACY NEWS**

**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL PHARMACY**

- As of January 1, 2012, Oklahoma State Law mandates a current photo ID is required for EVERY time ANY controlled medication being picked up.

- Both Shawnee and Little Axe pharmacy locations both fill prescriptions for members of all tribes, but outside prescription orders are restricted to Absentee Shawnee Tribal citizens with established charts.

- 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 a current cell phone number.

The following are a few tips to help us be more efficient in our delivery of pharmacy services to you:

- Present insurance cards each time you pick up or drop off a prescription
- Keep us informed of changes in address, phone number and other contact information.
- Let the Pharmacy staff know if the prescription is going to be picked up or needs to be delivered.
- When requesting refills, please provide 24 hours notice and either the refill number, which is located above your name on the prescription label, or the names of your medication.

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

New Hours of Operation for the Pharmacy:

**Shawnee:** 7am-6pm Monday-Friday
**Little Axe:** 7am-5:30pm Monday-Friday
We are open through the lunch hour!!

**Both pharmacy departments are closed the first Wednesday of each month to complete administrative duties**
Foster Parents Needed!!!

Can you open your home and heart for a foster child? Foster parents provide a temporary, safe home for children in crisis. Foster parents are partners with child welfare workers, lawyers and judges. It is not for everyone but if you have it in your heart - we need you.

- Can you love and care for a child who comes from a difficult background?
- Can you help a child develop a sense of belonging?
- Are you secure in yourself & your parenting Skills?
- Can you maintain a positive attitude toward a child’s parents?
- Can you love with all your heart & then let go?

FOSTER PARENTS PROVIDE A TEMPORARY, SAFE HOME FOR CHILDREN IN CRISIS. THEY ARE PARTNERS WITH WORKERS, LAWYERS, AND JUDGES. IT IS NOT FOR EVERYONE! CAN YOU OPEN YOUR HOME AND HEART FOR A FOSTER CHILD?

Many children need a loving home and a family to help them through a very tough time. Please think about it and talk with your family before you become a foster home. They all need safe, supportive environments!

If you find yourself and your family interested in Foster Care, please contact J.R. Wind 405-275-4030 ext. 195.

Foster Care

This article appears in the Daily Times in Farmington, New Mexico. And even though this talks about the foster care program and tribal children in foster care, this article can speak on behalf of what the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Foster Care and other tribes are going thru. Finding foster homes is a necessary to not only protect AST children but to also maintain their cultural identity, heritage and traditions. The Absentee is a small tribe and we should be able to work as ONE TRIBE to care for the AST children. If you have any questions, contact the ICW department at (405)275-4030.

“Only two foster homes in San Juan County belong to American Indian families, but more than half of the 85 children in foster care now are American Indian. That means about 40 American Indian youths in the local foster system are living with non-native families. The Children, Youth and Families Department, charged with placing children in alternate homes if their own families are deemed unsafe for reasons of abuse or neglect, is having a hard time finding enough native families for the number of native children in the system.

The department does everything it can to match a child with a family of a similar background. That doesn’t work when fewer homes than children are in the system, which means native children more often than not end up in non-native families. This is contrary to federal policy, which directs the department to make every effort to place children of American Indian descent in homes that nourish their cultural identity. But without more native families stepping up to offer a home for children, there is little the department can do to remedy this situation.

The Indian Child Welfare Act provides four placement options, which the department must pursue in descending order every time it places a native child. The first option is to place American Indian children with a relative who can provide a safe environment and who eventually attains a foster care license. The second option is for a child to be placed in a family from the same American Indian tribe. The third is for the child to be placed with a American Indian family not of the same tribe. The final option, and the one the CYFD most often uses, is matching native children with non-native families that simply have a foster care license.

This is a loss for children and for potential foster families. It’s also a loss when it comes to efforts to revitalize native traditions and teach them to the children. We encourage all native families with the resources that can allow children a home to contact the Children, Youth and Families Department. Fostering a child is one of the most rewarding things a family can do.”

In the state of Oklahoma alone, there are almost 3000 Native American children in the foster care program with a majority of these children placed in non-native placements. Now imagine if your son, daughter, grand children were placed in another home that didn’t teach or understand the Absentee Shawnee traditions. What would happen to their identity, their sense of being a Absentee Shawnee?

The AST ICW dept are in need to foster homes. Emergency homes, temporary homes, it doesn’t matter. We have made it a goal to get certify at least 5 homes to be foster homes for the AST. With obtaining more every year from this point on. It takes ONE TRIBE to care for ONE CHILD. As the great Tecumseh said, “A SINGLE TWIG BREAKS BUT A BUNDLE OF TWIGS IS STRONG.”

For more information about being a foster home, please contact the Indian Child Welfare Department at (405)275-4030.
Safety Tips from

√ Never leave children alone in or around cars; not even for a minute.
√ Put something you'll need like your cell phone, handbag, employee ID or brief case, etc., on the floor board in the back seat.
√ Get in the habit of always opening the back door of your vehicle every time you reach your destination to make sure no child has been left behind. This will soon become a habit. We call this the “Look Before You Lock” campaign.
√ Keep a large stuffed animal in the child's car seat when it’s not occupied. When the child is placed in the seat, put the stuffed animal in the front passenger seat. It's a visual reminder that anytime the stuffed animal is up front you know the child is in the back seat in a child safety seat.
√ Make arrangements with your child’s day care center or babysitter that you will always call if your child will not be there on a particular day as scheduled.
√ Keep vehicles locked at all times; even in the garage or driveway and always set your parking brake.
√ Keys and/or remote openers should never be left within reach of children.
√ Make sure all child passengers have left the vehicle after it is parked.
√ When a child is missing, check vehicles and car trunks immediately.
√ If you see a child alone in a vehicle, get involved. If they are hot or seem sick, get them out as quickly as possible. Call 911 or your local emergency number immediately.
√ Be especially careful about keeping children safe in and around cars during busy times, schedule changes and periods of crisis or holidays.
√ Use drive-thru services when available. (restaurants, banks, pharmacies, dry cleaners, etc.)
√ Use your debit or credit card to pay for gas at the pump.
For additional information about ways to keep children safe in and around vehicles, visit our website at www.KidsAndCars.org.

RAFFLE TICKETS

On sale for $5.00 each or 5 tickets for $20.00

Raffle item: 50” HiDef Flat Screen TV
Donated by Thunderbird Entertainment Center
Drawing to be held at the AST Elders Veterans’ PowWow

November 10, 2012
Contact any AST Elder to purchase your tickets.

AST COUNTRY KITCHEN

Open 7 Days A Week!

Sunday - 7am to 7pm
Monday - 7am to 3pm
Tuesday - 7am to 3pm
Wednesday - 7am to 8pm
Thursday - 7am to 8pm
Friday - 7am to 9pm
Saturday - 7am to 9pm

Early Bird Breakfast
$4.99
2 Eggs/Bacon or Sausage/Hash Browns
Biscuits & Gravy or Toast & Coffee
(Not valid on Saturday or Sunday. 1 coupon per customer. With coupon. No substitutions

Check out our daily homemade lunch specials!
Something different every day!

366-7220

(In Front of Thunderbird Entertainment Center Next to AST Smoke Shop)
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEPARTMENT

Victim Advocacy

Assist victims by offering educational classes that focus on the dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault, stalking and dating/violence. Each victim is helped with emotional support and resources both from Tribal programs and local community programs.

Court Advocacy

Assists survivors with domestic violence court related appearances as well as filing for emergency protective orders (EPO) or restraining orders.

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.

Transitional Housing

The AST DV Transitional Housing Program serves victims of Domestic Violence. Participants have up to two years to obtain education and job skills needed to begin a new life. Services include case management, counseling, and transportation. There are four homes all equipped with furniture and basic household items.

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.

Sexual Assault Advocacy

The AST DV Sexual Assault Program is on-call 24 hours per day to provide emotional support, advocacy and crisis counseling to sexual assault survivors at hospitals, police stations and throughout the legal system. The Program also serves as a resource center to the community by offering educational information and referrals.

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.

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) 275-4030.
Cover art is a selection of Earnest Spybuck painting, “Chicken Dance” circa 1908-1910