

"AMONG THE SHAWNEES"

INSIDE

Me Ausentee Shawnee News

DECEMBER 2014 - VOLUME 27 No. 34

Attorney General Office Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker, LLP

During the October General Council meeting which we were pleased to attend, discussion among individual Executive Committee members and tribal members brought to our attention the need to provide some detail regarding our firm – Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP ("Hobbs Straus") – which currently serves at your Attorney General, along with a brief summary of some of the important work we have been engaged in on your behalf.

Background

Hobbs Straus is one of the oldest law firms in the United States solely dedicated to representing tribes and tribal interests. We are a national firm with offices located in Washington, DC, Oregon, California, and New Mexico, in addition to our Oklahoma City office. Hobbs Straus attorneys have a history of prestige in Indian law, from successful land and trust claims, including the first Supreme Court case authorizing money damages for the United States' breach of its trust responsibility, to drafting, lobbying for, and assisting with tribal implementation of many important laws including the Indian Self- Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act and many others. Our tribal clients reach from Florida to Alaska and the scope of our work for them is equally broad, from Indian Child Welfare matters to multi-million dollar hotel/ casino financing and development projects. To learn more about us, visit our website at www. hsdwlaw.com.

We have had the good fortune previously to engage in very important work with the Tribe. Some may recall a little over a decade ago when, following a series risky moves on the gaming front, the Tribe faced federal closure of Thunderbird and fines approaching \$10 million. Tribal officials reached out for our assistance and after a long, hard battle on several fronts, we were able to keep the Casino operating, reduce the fine by \$7.5 million, and obtain the first class III gaming compact in Oklahoma for electronic gaming machines without limiting the Tribe's right to engage fully in class II gaming, while prohibiting the State from expanding

non-Indian gaming. This was a tremendousvictory for all Oklahoma Tribes, but the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, in particular, which led the fight and we were delighted to assist you.

Current Challenges

When invited last year to renew our relationship, which we were glad to do, we unfortunately found significant neglect on a number of legal fronts. Most concerning were three key areas: (1) adherence to the Tribe's Constitutional framework for Executive Committee decision-making; (2) proper role of Executive Committee members; and (3) gaming operations. Regarding the former, an unconstitutional pattern had developed among Executive Committee members over time of attempting to take governmental action informally through the mere signature of three individual committee members. Apparently, the logic was that the constitutional requirements for meeting and conducting business need not be followed if three individual committee persons agree – in other words, no set agenda, no notice, no convening of a quorum for transacting business, and no formal vote. While it may be proper on occasion to send information via letter, for instance to notify someone of action taken, the letter does not eliminate the need for the formal action to take place. A prime example of this occurred this summer when the former Comptroller, Belinda Collins, proposed to refinance the Little Axe clinic. On the basis of three Executive Committee signatures, without any presentation to or official action from the Executive Committee, Collins directed the Bank to proceed with the multi-million dollar refinancing. Despite multiple requests for information, the Attorney General and Executive Committee members were refused information concerning the refinancing, until the last minute when Executive Committee action was required. Upon review of the details, the financial benefit to the Tribe was questionable, compared with what we had been led to believe, and there were structural problems with the transaction that caused the transaction not to close. The underlying practice of three person signatures remains a point of concern.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



AST Elders Ehristmas Party

Saturday, December 20, 2014 at AST Resource Center

Governor's Report

Hello my Absentee Shawnee people!

In September I thought the cooler weather had arrived. As usual Oklahoma weather is proving to be as difficult as our elected body – hard to determine what will come next. I hope you are all prepared for the upcoming cold weather as it appears to be well on its way. This month I am going to speak to you about our budgets, the business of the Tribe and our elected body.

BUSINESS OF THE TRIBE

There continues to be confusion by our elected body on what role they are constitutionally enabled to do. I am no longer just concerned but mortified by the actions of three of our elected body. These three individuals are not acting in the best interest of our tribe – it appears they are deliberately misinterpreting the law, the constitution, and the Administrative Systems Manual policies of our tribe for their own personal gain and benefit. At the last Regular Executive Committee Meeting (which you may view on the AST tribal member's only website area now) these three individuals openly admitted to having their own legal counsel and to having unconstitutional meetings with neither I nor the Representative being invited.

Finance

It is my understanding the Treasurer works for the Tribe and is to give guidance to Finance staff to ensure that all actions are in accordance with National Accounting Association practices and standards as is cited in our constitution. Yet our Treasurer is refusing to put into place the Salary Ordinance, pay certain bills, and is hindering financial transactions by appearing to be creating a hostile work environment for employees by continuing to endorse the former Controller whose actions are under FBI investigation, by advising employees that 'if the Controller goes then you go'. She also refuses to get bonded by a Bona Fide bond as is cited in our constitution. The Tribe's current bond covers all employees for certain actions but does not meet the specific needs for those of the Treasurer in her elected role. This is why specific language is incorporated into surety bonds. Not all bonds offer the same coverage just like not all insurance policies cover the same things. Let me be clear: The current policy held by the Tribe does cover the Treasurer, as an employee, but not in her capacity as Treasurer and does NOT meet the constitutional requirements of her position. So the real question is "Can She Be Bonded"? We are aware that she had a bankruptcy in 2012 so can she meet constitutionally defined requirements of being bonded by a Bona Fide bond?

<u>Maintenance</u>

When I think of the Maintenance department an image comes to mind that is a popular game among youth: "Where's Waldo" this popular game is one where you try to find a particular character in a vast array of scenes and characters. That is what it seems like for those of us here on the campus when we try to get repairs on campus buildings and landscaping done. That should not be the case. In review of our 2013 indirect cost (IDC) proposal it indicates 28 maintenance staff and 5 Security. In the 2014 IDC proposal there is 37 maintenance staff. When I looked at the 2014 General Council handbook it showed that there are 14 maintenance staff in Shawnee and 12 at the Little Axe clinic. And it remains unclear how many are at the Little Axe Resource Center. The Lt. Governor shared with me that he has maintenance staff under contract and one of those is his own brother.

How is it that a department this size can't get our Shawnee tribal complex buildings and landscaping needs taken care of? In a meeting I recently attended down at the Shawnee City Hall a presentation was given by their Parks department. They advised they had 10 staff. When asked what all they did this is what I was given: Playground inspection and repairs - monthly; mosquito control; maintenance and repairs of 7 city buildings; mowing, weed eating, trimming of downtown area, parks and lake areas and trash clean-up. This is for ALL of Shawnee. How is it that we have a campus of less than 5 acres and we can't get this done? Is it because the Lt. Governor entered into an unauthorized contract with the state of Oklahoma for maintenance staff to do work at Lake Thunderbird? Is it because of the 'special work' he is doing on certain property owner's homes? These types of actions place the Tribe in a position of liability. The Lt. Governor is the individual who has oversight of maintenance and I would think that he would want the area he is responsible for to be well maintained and for repairs to occur in a timely manner.

Our buildings and grounds in Shawnee need our maintenance staff's full attention. If we are going to state in our indirect cost proposal that staff work here in Shawnee then they need to be allowed to do that. If you have visited our campus lately you would be saddened by the neglect and deterioration of our buildings and landscape. The winter season is now upon us yet our buildings and grounds aren't ready for it. We have trees and bushes that have not been pruned, our 'S' in the middle of our campus has gone weeks on end without being trimmed and our grass needs aerated and fertilized and could have benefited greatly this summer from a sprinkler system. We have no rose bushes, annual or perennial plants on the campus as that would take landscaping effort. If our campus was maintained well, our campus could become a tourist attraction based on its historic buildings and could draw people to our casino and gift shop. Yet instead our buildings; work done on our plumbing, central heat and air upgraded. We need

paint work done, tile replaced, bathrooms modernized, new carpet or flooring put into our buildings, the main building needs the elevator repaired and we need our campus to have better lighting - yet none of this is

happening here in Shawnee. Shouldn't we want to preserve our campus and the small piece of history that it affords us



for our children? I would like to have the Maintenance Director provide a monthly list to the Executive Committee on what

services is being done both in the Shawnee and Little Axe areas.

SALARY SCALE

Salary Scale – When an action by the Executive Committee is put into place it has been enacted. Sometimes it may cite "Effective Immediately", "Declared an Emergency", or be based on the language of

the action. It is unclear to me how a referendum vote and then 'adopting' the salary scale through resolution calls for more guidance.

The following dated emails were sent out by the former HR Director to the Executive Committee:

August 22 – "...Please provide my department any all documents you wish to be used for review and evaluation no later than Monday, September 8, 2014. Starting Monday, September 8, 2014, Human Resources will start the process of reviewing and confirming the submitted information ending on Monday, September 22, 2014.

August 22 - "...The process of reviewing and confirming submitted information will consist of, but not be limited to, verification of resume information pertaining to previous employment experience, diplomas, business experience, years of college, official transcripts, etc. The requirements and definitions for each Tier for each elected EC member was attached to the passed Resolution. Please notice that the only "official" required document is an official transcript from a college or university. You can obtain official transcripts from any college or university attended – usually at no or very limited cost. Copies of additional information should be sufficient..."

September 4—"...This is just a reminder that any information you want to be considered for the Salary Scale Resolution, please get it to HR by this Monday. Starting Monday, HR will be reviewing the provided information and information in the file to help determine the salary scale..."

October 6 – "Governor: As you are aware, Resolution #E-AS-2014-39, which resulted from referendum vote in June, was passed and signed into effect by the EC on August 20, 2014. The resolution stated that HR would be responsible for all salary determinations for all EC members. Based upon information within your personnel file and submitted documentation, it has been determined that you are within the Tier 4 pay scale. Subsequently, an EAN has been issued and forwarded to Finance…"

The Human Resource department did their job and gave timely notice to us as elected officials and to Finance to put the Tiered salaries into place. On November 6, 2014, I sent the following memo to all Executive Committee members and Finance:

"The Executive Committee passed Resolution E-AS-2014-39 on August 20, 2014. This action recognized and enacted the Executive Committee Salary Scale pursuant to the Tribal referendum where Tribal membership voted affirmatively to enact the Executive Committee Salary Scale. As-to-date the adopted salary scale has not been put into place by the Finance Department. Each Executive Committee member has been communicated with by HR and given adequate time for their professional work experience and education to be verified. The Human Resource (HR) Department initiated EAN's on September 29, 2014 based on their review and as-to-date this still has not been put into place..."

At the October General Council meeting you asked that the elected leaders pay levels be made available to you. Once the salary changes

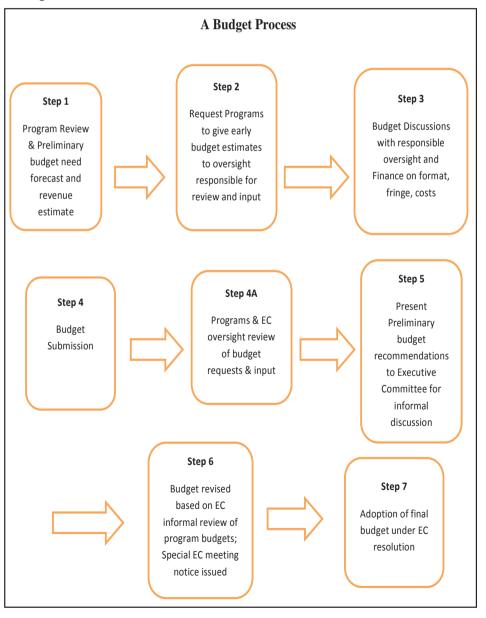
occur mine will be at Tier 4 as I believe the Representative's may be. The Treasurer, Lt. Governor, and Secretary could possibly all be at Tier 1 which means these Executive Committee member salaries will need to be adjusted and payback made to the Tribe. As you have seen by the email guidance given by the former HR Director, the Executive Committee have been given ample time for implementation. These salaries were arguably in effect upon certification of the referendum election. Reluctance or failure of Executive Committee members to implement the law, which they were advised is in effect, is a failure of their duties of office, and even more problematic than that is they seek to avoid implementation of this law simply because it would negatively impact them personally.

PROGRAM BUDGETS

The budget process should be based on program review and preliminary budget needs and revenue estimates.

As I write this my Office still has yet to hear or receive any communication on holding budget meetings. Last week my Office received year to date expenditures but no guidance from Finance on what the new fringe benefit rates are to be; nor have we received any assistance from the Treasurer or Finance on next steps. I will not place budgets on the agenda until we, as the EC, have held meetings with programs, included Finance in those discussions and the elected body has all set down and reviewed our budgets prior to the Executive Committee passing them under resolution. We need a chance to review and understand how the Tribe's funding is being used. We need to discuss what new and innovative programming our department heads are considering in 2015 and we do not need to blindly put budgets into place as we did last year based on the advisement of Belinda Collins, Controller.

Here is what I am trying to do and hope we can adopt a similar approach through Finance:



Based on our 2013 audit, the 2013 indirect cost pool and direct cost base we have a variety of funding streams such as the Department of Interior: Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) contract pursuant to the Indian Self Determination Education & Assistance Act (ISDEAA) – P.L.93-638, as amended – with funds for Education, Police, ICW, Roads, OEH/OEP, Enrollment, Realty, Probate; EPA, GAP Brownfield Response; Department of Justice; Department of Energy; Institute of Museum and

Library Services; Department of Labor; Department of Energy; Health & Human Services: Indian Health Service (IHS) pursuant to ISDEAA, P.L. 93-638, as amended with grant awards for Injury Prevention, Special Diabetes Program Initiative (SDPI); Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI) funded through the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA), Administration for Children & Families – CCDF; Community Development Funding Initiative (CDFI); Thunderbird Entertainment Center; AllNations Bank; ASEDA, Inc.; Absentee Shawnee Tribal Housing Authority (ASTHA) which is under Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); AOA - Title VI - nutrition services; Absentee Shawnee Tax Commission; ASEDA, Inc.; ASEDA Enterprises, Inc.; Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) grant funds; cattle program; SORNA; COPS grant; CHIP program; Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF); Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) - Medicare Improvements for Patients; Federal Emergency Management Assistance (FEMA) Program. So if we say our funding is limited to BIA, IHS, Indirect Cost and smaller grants would be both inaccurate and misinformed. So it is important as we budget that we ensure we focus on each funding source, its specific requirements such as reporting and measurable outcomes and meet the needs expressed in that contract, grant, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Memorandum of Agreement

Budgets provide balance and stability. It is also important to keep in mind that the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Authority (ASTHA), Inc. is wholly owned by the Tribe and all the net earnings of ASTHA belong to the tribe - not the health board(s). These net earnings, when not restricted, may be used based on tribal priorities.

Our indirect cost represents recoverable overhead costs charged to both federal and nonfederal programs by the General Fund in connection with administering and accounting for activities of the Tribe. The indirect cost rate is a percentage of total direct costs, less capital expenditures and pass-through funds. In 2014, the rate we use is 32.09% and this is based on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 direct cost base and indirect cost pool. This is not a funding stream but a recoverable cost.

MEETINGS ATTENDED

White House Listening Session at OKLAHOMA City Public School Administration - November 18, 2014 Governor Butler-Wolfe gave a Tribal Leader Testimony of Indian Education in Public Schools in Oklahoma



William Mendoza, White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education. Governor Butler-Wolfe, Dan Greenspahn, Attorney at Law US Dept. Of Education Office for Civil Rights

I was invited to speak during FEMA's Native American Heritage Month. I presented on:

- Tribal History
- Background: family, education, personal aspirations; political focus: Education and Politics, and positions held.
- Goals Tribal youth mentoring/education, improve tribe's preparedness for disasters/EM support.

I met with the FEMA Region VI Director, Tony Robinson, and other Region VI officials. This was arranged by Norma Reyes, Tribal Liaison.

The items discussed by the Region VI officials were:

- Need for Tribal consultation regarding disaster declarations.
- Emphasis by Region officials of program opportunities for tribes: mitigation, recovery, preparedness, grants, and training.

I was given a tour of the Emergency Operations Center and briefed on how they operate. This was a good meeting and from it I believe both Linda Day, AST Emergency Management Manager, and I came away more aware of our needs and more knowledgeable of FEMA. Conclusion

I have 6 months to go. My door is always open (unless I am in a meeting or at a meeting) and I welcome your visits. We have much to do to get our Tribe back on track and I want to do the best I can for all of our tribal members.

Help me to make a difference – stand beside me and Let's Build for the Future (BFF) - united and together!

Thank you for your support.

The Treasurer's office currently has oversight of the

following departments: Finance, Procurement, MIS, and Human Resources per the approved organizational chart. It is no surprise that with each administration change, the newly elected Treasurer encounters dilemmas within the Finance department. Since taking office, I and numerous Finance staff have been addressing various issues which some, unfortunately, have needed my immediate attention.

To date, the following is a list of issues I have immediately addressed to ensure departments function accordingly and successfully regardless of the political issues.

➤ Salary Scale: The Executive Committee (EC) Salary Scale was presented to the General Council in April and was placed on ballot, June 21, 2014. This was passed by majority vote and on August 20, 2014, the EC passed the Salary Scale by a resolution written by our Attorney General Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP. However, the resolution did not include an effective date for implementation.

The Human Resource (HR) department was placed in a position to determine what EC member qualifies for what salary tier and, in fact, submitted documentation reflecting an effective date as September 29, 2014, without any guidance.

2014, without any guidance.

On October 17, 2014, at approximately 4:48pm, the HR Director, at the time, resigned, exactly 12 minutes before he permanently left the Tribal complex, he changed the Lieutenant Governor's, Secretary's, and Treasurer's salary to Tier One due to lack of requested documentation that was requested after consulting with the AG office. The HR Director told the Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, and Treasurer they did not need to submit a high school diploma, resume, or official college transcript since HR already had the majority of their documents. This is not a huge issue for the Treasurer's office since the Salary Scale had no official date of implementation; therefore, the action was not valid.

Furthermore, two major factors have hindered the implementation of this salary scale outside of no approved implementation date. The **FIRST** factor addresses the actual date that will be used to implement the new salaries, and will there be retro pay given once the implementation date has been established. When this question was presented to the current individual "in-charge" of the HR department, this individual decided to change the preexisting date (submitted by previous HR Director) to August 20, 2014, without any official documentation indicating when the new Salary Scale is to be implemented. The **SECOND** factor addresses each EC members approved 2014 General Fund (GF) budget, and whether there is enough money in their approved 2014 GF budget to even cover this new salary scale. In other words, what if the EC member's 2014 GF budget is already in the negative ... how will that EC member be able to increase their salary if there is no money?

Thus, four (4) different 'implementation' dates have been provided regarding the new Salary Scale; however, had the tribe's Attorney General (AG) included an implementation date on the passed resolution, this would not be an issue.

▶Budgets: In the October 2014 newsletter, the Governor stated:

"In the years prior to the former Governor's administration it was expected that all funds regardless of their source (grant, BIA, IHS, etc.) would be executed through resolution by the Executive Committee."

In the above-mentioned quote, the Governor implies that we, the Tribe, receive funding from numerous sources. In reality, the Tribe's funding sources come from these federal grants – **IHS**, **BIA**, **smaller grants**, and the **Indirect Costs** associated with these grants – and the General Fund. **ALL** federal money is ear-marked for those specific programs and can only be spent by those specific programs. The Governor further stated:

"... over the past 5 years this process changed and our Finance department only request the IHS, Bia, Indirect Cost and General Fund budgets to be approved. This is not an acceptable practice and one that must look at changing to retain stability in our budgets."

The Tribe receives no other sources of funding other than the bolded items in the above- mentioned paragraph. Furthermore, the Executive Committee reviews and discusses the next year's proposed budgets (IHS, BIA, smaller grants, Indirect Costs, and General Fund) during a scheduled executive committee meeting and then approves said budgets through a resolution. What is not elaborated on is that each of these budgets umbrella over a breakdown of individual departmental budgets that is associated with those particular funds, and the EC reviews each departmental budgets before the resolution is passed. **The current 2014 budgets were approved by resolution on December 30, 2013.**

The Treasurer's office is currently researching: (1) the ramifications associated to an Executive Committee member exceeding their approved budget (having a negative balance) per IRS rules, federal grant related guidelines, tribal rules and regulations, and governmental accounting standards, as well as how this type of budget monitoring can affect the Tribe, as a whole, in relation to continued funding; (2) how effective the budget medication process is in relation to each Executive Committee member understanding their approved budget through resolution; and (3) the analysis process on how an Executive Committee member receives additional money from the General Fund in order to eliminate a negative budget balance so the Tribe will not encounter any future unnecessary audits or FBI investigations.

Attorney: An on-going concern with the current AGs contract addresses to whom the AG is to report to. Currently, the AG reports only to the Governor on all matters believing the Governor will forward pertinent information to the remaining Executive Committee members in a timely manner. However, this process is not being adhered to so a letter, with four EC members signature, was sent to the AGs, in February 2014, requesting the current Memorandum of Agreement be changed from:

"It is our understanding that, in the performance of duties required of us under this Agreement, the Attorneys will receive legal assignments from and report to Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe" TO "receive legal assignments from and report to the Executive Committee".

This changed did not ever occur. Thus, the AG continues to answer solely to the Governor and not the entire Executive Committee as their contract stipulates. This became evident as the AG's office filed a petition on three of the EC members which according the resolution E-AS-10-29, "the AG's office must utilize the services of a Special Prosecutor for the purpose of handling conflicts as to the civil or criminal prosecution of EC members" further clarifying "the AG's office represents the EC and prosecution either in a civil case or criminal case against an EC member would be a conflict of interest". The tribe is paying for quality as once stated and this quality creates a huge bill monthly for the tribe.

The AGs billing charges to the Tribe continue to grow and are currently estimated \$63,000 over the 2014 approved budgeted amount for IDC and General fund budget only. In fact, since 2013, the Tribe has paid over \$741,000 total to the AGs, and that dollar amount could easily reach one million dollars (\$1,000,000) since the AG's billing process has been continually 3 months behind. The Finance department, through detailed analysis of submitted invoices, has discovered several duplicate billings for the same item, as well as multiple individuals working on the same issue but being paid at a different hourly rate, thus, encumbering more of the Tribe's money. Not to mention some questionable charges that the Tribe should not have been billed for. These invoices and budget have been presented verbally to the EC since July of 2014 and continued with monthly updates. The Treasurer has continuously advised the EC to only use Hobbs, Strauss, Dean, & Walker with larger cases and it would be feasible to hire and in-house attorney to handle everyday issues. These reports went unheard and a resolution to rescind or renegotiate the contract was ignored when presented to be placed on the EC meeting agenda in September.

On Monday, October 13, 2014, I issued the first letter to the AGs

citing delayed billing of three (3) months, over spending of the approved budget, a much needed reevaluation of the Tribe's finances before any further accrued charges could be authorized, and to cease working on tribal issues until the Executive Committee could meet and evaluate this ongoing debt. However, the AGs did not adhere to the request and continued to work for the Governor especially after the petition was filed, as well as seeking work from other Tribal departments who were not aware of the current situation with the AGs. On Thursday, October 16th, 2014, the Treasurer's office sent another letter to the AGs stating that their contract was terminated with three (3) Executive Committee member signatures. This letter, too, was ignored, and the AGs continued to perform work for the Governor to this day.

According to the Governor's November 2014 newsletter article, she states:

"... Treasurer attempted to ... cancel the Attorney General contract through a memorandum signed by three Executive Committee members instead of obtaining the required 5 signatures or through an approved Executive Committee resolution."

What is not mentioned in her article is that she, the Governor, and two other EC members mailed a termination letter to the Tribe's then AGs Legal Advocates which they received on August 31, 2013, and no resolution to bind that letter. Therefore, by the Governor's own admission, the Tribe now has two (2) – yes, TWO – law firms working as the Tribe's Attorney General because she did not adhere to her own words as stated in the November 2014 newsletter.

Through diligent current research from 2014 up until 1993, only two (2) law firms contracts have been rescinded by resolution, so in realty, the Tribe has an estimated 40 law firms 'working' as the Tribe's AGs since their contracts did not follow what the Governor stated in her November 2014 article – not to mention that any previous decision(s) made by three (3) EC members must now be considered invalid which could possibly open numerous issues the Tribe, especially the Finance department, will have address. Continuous research and questionable actions are prohibiting this tribe to function as a reputable leading native nation.

Atoka Water Line: On March 17, 1961, the City of Oklahoma City signed a 50-year right-of-way lease pertaining to nineteen (19) tracts on land under the jurisdiction of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe in order to construct the 100-mile Atoka pipeline.

In January 2011, the City of Oklahoma City sent a letter to the Realty Director to begin the renewal process for easements on the nineteen (19) tracts that would expire on March 16, 2011. Since then the Realty Director has been in contact with the affected landowners, Mr. Donnie Smith, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Mr. Lloyd Chism, Southern Plains Regional Office, Mr. Robert Hatfield, Regional Chief Appraiser, Ms. Marsha Slaughter, Utilities Director for the City of Oklahoma City, Ms. Patricia Mann, Assistant Municipal Counselor to the City of Oklahoma City, and Mr. Lloyd Chism, Southern Plains Regional Office, to arrive at a new lease that benefits the land owners, as well as the City of Oklahoma City.

However, on June 5, 2014, the Realty Director received a letter from Ms. Marsha Slaughter stating that "the City of Oklahoma City would be filing condemnation proceedings to acquire the necessary temporary and permanent easements for the pipeline and all pump and surge stations." The Realty Department has not received notice on the court hearing and continually remains in contact with the BIA for further action. The Representative's office was tasked with the leadership of the Atoka Waterline, but declined those assigned task when action of three EC members sent a letter stating his office would take charge.

- Administrative Manual: Due to numerous conflicting parts/sections, nonconformity, ambiguity, and outdated information, the Administrative Manual is in the process of being revised and updated. Furthermore, per the recommendation of an outside audit firm, the Administrative Manual will have differentiated sections pertaining to employees and Executive Members to alleviate any further FBI investigations.
- Media: There have been articles and emails pertaining to the statement of payment to the Editorial Board. Finance department can back the statement of the Editorial Board that they do not receive payment for volunteer services. What is not mentioned or rebutted is that these volunteer services, including emails and meetings, are happening on company time. This can be viewed as violating company time with services outside the scope of job duties unless documentation can be presented through the payroll system indicating time taken off to perform these volunteer services.

In conclusion, the Treasurer's department continues to monitor day to day operations and the shortfall of the Tribe's success. Questionable leadership decisions, based on personal agendas, have squandered the ability for the Tribe to prosper into the millions this past year. The AG's office has continually presented issues to the present Executive Committee members as far back as February 2014 pertaining to the actions of previous elected officials. I, nor the other current elected officials, can change or correct the actions of these previous elected officials. All, I and the current elected officials, can do is adhere to the duties that we, as elected officials, swore to uphold per the Constitution and move forward by correcting areas of concern or deficiencies within the departments we are responsible for per the organization chart.

I understand the importance of having policy and procedures in place to ensure processes are being adhered to per state and federal guidelines. Thus, each department has been steadily researching historical data in order to provide as much accurate information as possible which in turn is a tedious and time consuming process. So as we progress in a positive manner, each department - especially the finance and procurement departments -- are learning regardless of the continuous chastising within our own newsletter that provides limited and inaccurate information or none at all.

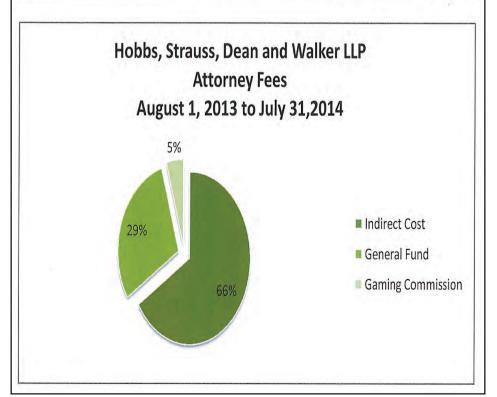
Please feel free to contact the Treasurer are any time via email: lbates@ astribe.com, facebook, or cell 405-618-7979.

Have a great month!

Treasurer Leah Bates

Hobbs, Strauss, Dean and Walker LLP **Attorney Fees** August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014

	August 1 - December 31, 2013	January 1 to July 31, 2014	Total
Indirect Cost	213,689.00	275,218.00	488,907.00
General Fund	108,926.00	108,626.00	217,552.00
Gaming Commission	10,927.00	23,667.00	34,594.00
	333,542.00	407,511.00	741,053.00



DISCLAIMER:

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



I have good news to report to you concerning proposed revenue streams for the Tribe that I keep talking about.

We will be leasing vacant buildings the Tribe owns to an outside entity. The lease is for a three-year time frame and will generate revenue to the Tribe during this time.

This is the first time since I assumed my office that the full Executive Committee met and agreed to a positive decision which wholly benefits the Tribe.

Now, if we can parlay that one instance into positive actions by the full Executive Committee on a daily basis, we should start to make headway on some of the most important issues facing the Tribe.

Let me know what concerns you.

To contact me at the Tribal Complex, please write to Representative Ken Blanchard, 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801, or by phone at (405) 275-4030 ext. 202. Respectfully,

Ken Blanchard

RESOLUTIONS THROUGH NOVEMBER 19, 2014

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:

E-AS-14-50 11/19/14

That the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma amends the Building Blocks Parent Handbook and Supplemental Personnel Policy Manual, as provided for in the attachment Exhibit A, effective immediately.

11/19/14

Authorizes and approves the Employee Benefit Group Health and Welfare Program for 2015 and further authorizes Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe to sign any and all documents necessary to execute and deliver the Employee Benefit Group Health and Welfare Program.

E-AS-14-52 11/19/14

Enters into a Lease Agreement with Hall, Nalley, & Holloway PLLC, as attached, and authorizes Governor Butler-Wolfe to sign and execute said Lease Agreement on behalf of the Tribe. (North Kickapoo Street property)

E-AS-14-53 11/19/14

Approves and accepts Corbin Ash Bryant, Isis Aponi Bryant, Jonah Azariah Thorpe, Drayton Scott Hill, Blake Garrett Keith, Sustina Marie Blanchard, Addison Marie Kelly, Ryan Michael Kelly, Skyler Madison Robison. Zachary Reid Alford, Brittani Maelynne Holt-BelvinTimothy Dale Jones, III. Matthew James Holderness, Jordan Dekota Holderness, Summer Lynn Clark, Autumn Marie Clark, Emiley Ann Clark, Nathan Allen Clark, Alexis Pearl Adams, Louis-Renee Sarah Miller, Talia Jade Barbosa, Alex J. Burns, Sheelby Ahkeynay Jamese Thorpe, Alfred Ralph Garbarini Jr., Mary June Jim, Isaac Dean Gibson, and Brayden Louis Sampson, as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

E-AS-14-54 11/19/14

Acknowledges and authorizes the corrected blood degree change for Nicole Lynn Conley, and hereby makes it known that this individual is an enrolled Tribal Member and is now and forever

1/8 degree of Absentee Shawnee Indian blood as corrected and shown above.

E-AS-14-55 11/19/14

Removes any and all previously recognized signatories and/or previously authorized and now former Executive Committee members as signatories to all bank accounts, all investment accounts including, but not limited to, LPL Financial (Linsco Private Ledger) and Merrill Lynch, and all Bureau of Indian Affairs accounts for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and hereby authorizes solely the following sitting Executive Committee members as signatories to said accounts to include: Lieutenant Governor Isaac Gibson Jr., Secretary Vera M. Dawsey, Treasurer Leah Bates and Representative Kenneth Blanchard, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

> No reports submitted for Lt. Governor and Secretary

FY-2014 YTD TAX COLLECTIONS (thru 10/31/14)

RUN DATE: 11/21/14

TAX CATEGORY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL	% OF TAXES Collected	
Sales (6%)	\$5,532.03	\$5,205.95	\$6,535.34	\$5,180.06	\$6,870.96	\$4,397.76	\$6,237.06	\$9,715.49	\$709.77	\$4,615.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55,000.38	2.36%	
Gaming % of free cash	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,950,000.00	83.59%	
Employee (1%)	\$10,095.26	\$602.94	\$22,804.85	\$4,159.08	\$3,805.88	\$24,535.57	\$3,805.02	\$13,537.64	\$5,895.29	\$9,597.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$98,839.01	4.24%	
Severance (8%)	\$8,940.31	\$7,025.79	\$6,689.81	\$7,561.69	\$8,985.65	\$10,246.81	\$8,556.30	\$6,767.94	\$4,582.79	\$8,244.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77,601.37	3.33%	
Motor Vehicle	\$13,670.11	\$11,971.21	\$14,216.75	\$11,780.39	\$9,804.65	\$15,890.15	\$17,011.63	\$14,773.49	\$12,928.61	\$18,007.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$140,054.42	6.00%	
Tobacco Refund	\$9,303.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,303.52	0.40%	
TOTAL TAXES	\$297,541.23	\$274,805.89	\$300,246.75	\$178,681.22	\$329,467.14	\$105,070.29	\$135,610.01	\$294,794.56	\$224,116.46	\$190,465.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,330,798.70		\$2,330,798.7
Miscellaneous	\$600.00	\$130.00	\$65.00	\$350.00	\$80.00	\$140.00	\$85.00	\$195.00	\$250.00	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,075.00	0.09%	
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$298,141.23	\$274,935.89	\$300,311.75	\$179,031.22	\$329,547.14	\$105,210.29	\$135,695.01	\$294,989.56	\$224,366.46	\$190,645.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,332,873.70	100%	\$2,332,873.7

From the Media Department

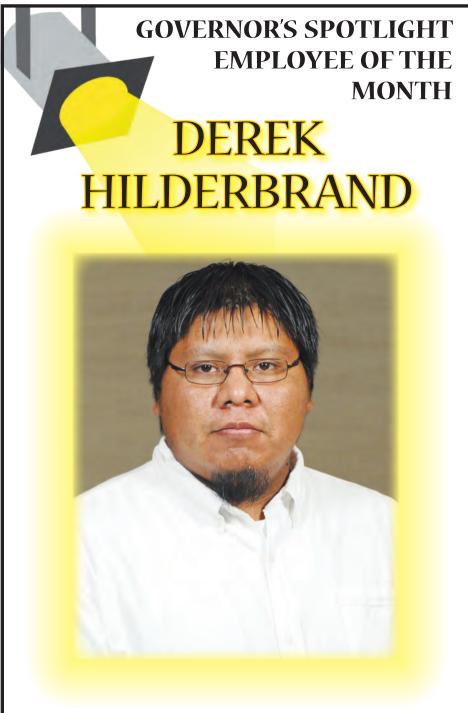
Ho! Hi Gi Ke Ya Fi Hon wa se li si mi mo? Hello, Is every one doing well?

There are a few concerns about our Media department that have been expressed that I would like to clarify on. Why it is that we in Media have to hear through a secondary source is unclear. It is also unclear why these EC members won't contact me directly. Let me start with the comment made by Secretary Dawsey on why it is that we do not print the newsletter in-house? This is a good question and one that I have shared with tribal members many times over the years. If I had been directly asked by Ms. Dawsey then I could have told her simply there would be added cost to do so. Here are a few reasons that occur:

- 1) Cost to print the newsletter in-house would require us (Media) to use a more expensive paper.
 - a. Using an 80# high gloss paper would also increase the cost of mailing the newsletter out by approximately \$250-350
 - b. An added cost to the rate of \$585 for mailing
 - c. Added employee cost, based on paying overtime to get this done in a timely manner as it has been stated by Treasurer Bates the Tribe needs to cut back on spending.
- 2) Using the copiers, on hand, would increase the printing price by an added \$.55 per page x 36 pages, front and back, x 1800 copies this is a total of 64,988 printed pages. The cost of printing in-house, mind you, for just the cost of printing is \$3250
- 3) Is this in the best interest of the Tribe? Is this what Secretary Dawsey wants???

Now let me address Treasurer Bates comments about Media and our AST Editorial Advisory Board in using the tribes email system. As I've said in the past we want to produce a quality newsletter and the email system helps us in doing just that, why it is that Ms. Bates has a problem with that I do not know. In recent emails Andy Warrior, Project Coordinator for the Lt. Governor, used the email system during working hours to host an AFTER hours, non-sanctioned, non-work related party in which ALCOHOL was present; Another instance of inappropriate email use is Julianne Wilson conducting GAMES during working hours on the same email system. Where is Ms. Bates comments to those individuals? My question is 'WHY' has she not directly contacted me to address these questions

and/or problems that she believes are there.



Derek, Media Assistant, graduated from Shawnee High School and has an Associate degree. His prior work experience has been with the Shawnee News Star Newspaper. Derek is pursuing his education in the field of printing. He began as a WIA employee and was hired on full-time January 2014 in the Media department. Derek is an enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribal member.

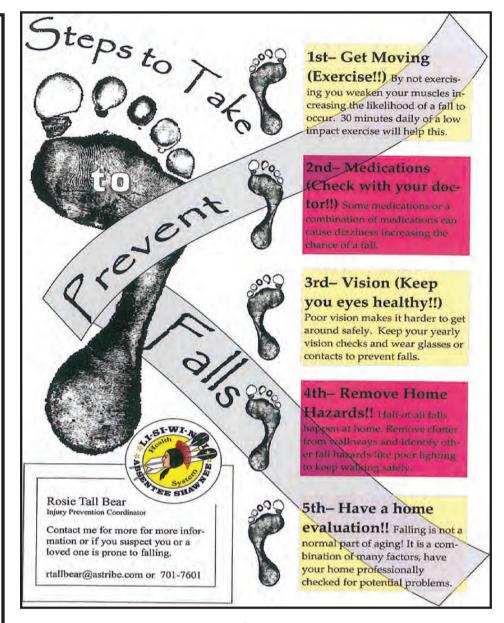
Derek has shown dedication and a strong commitment to the Tribe, as when asked to attend various functions on weekends and past 5 pm on weekdays, he has done so. We are pleased to have a young man with his skill set and dedication.

Thank you, Derek.

Let's Build For the Future (BFF)!

GOVERNORS SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE

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



Netherlistes Pa

The AST Health System values ALL feedback.
We will listen....
*Patient Advocate Jim Robertson
405-447-0300
*Customer Service Line
405-701-7623
*Patient Questionnaire located in each of our clinics or on our website www.ASTHEALTH.ORG



Little Axe Health Center

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System
15951 Little Axe Drive
Norman OK, 70326
405-447-0300

Shawnee Clinic

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System 2029 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee OK, 74801
405-878-5850

CONGRATULATIONS SHARON ROLLTTE OSTER

SHARON ROLETTE OSTER IS AN ENROLLED MEMBER OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE ALSO KIOWA, CHEYENNE, ARAPAHO. DAUGHTER OF ANTONE & LORENE ROLETTE OF WHEATLAND, OK.

SHARON WAS PROMOTED ON NOVEMBER 5 TO CAPTAIN OF THE OKC POLICE DEPARTMENT. A GRADUATE OF YUKON HIGH SCHOOL AND OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY, SHE HAS BEEN IN THE OKC POLICE FORCE FOR 23 YEARS.

SHARON SAID VERY FEW NATIVE AMERICAN INDIANS ARE IN THE OKC POLICE FORCE AND SHE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE INDIANS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.



COMMUNICATIONS

SAMUEL BYERS

For making the DEAN'S HONOR ROLL at Haskell.

We are so very proud of you, & keep up the hard work.
We love you!
Auntie Sherry, Uncle Shawn and family.



New Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI)

The new Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) would like to announce the start of a specialized financial institution that focuses on providing services to the Native American community that will offer fair lending and financial education. Heather Napier, CDFI Executive Director has started the initial steps in getting the office open to the public and has started the process of implementation. Heather Napier has a Bachelors Degree in Management, Associates Degree in Business, 8 years of working in the non-profit sector, and 12 years of grant management/compliance. The new Executive Director has served on numerous Boards and has worked in the Tribal Government for 7 years. Heather Napier is a Seminole Nation Tribal Member who has been privileged to work with Native communities and is looking forward to working with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma community.

The newly emerging Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) is a nonprofit 501©3 entity. The CDFI is sponsored by the Absentee Shawnee of Oklahoma. Currently the Community Development Financial Institution is working towards providing small consumer loans initially to Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma employees that will offer much lower interest rates and allow for Absentee Shawnee employees to have access to affordable financial lending. The goal of the small loan lending is to alleviate the burden of being in debt to predatory lenders. The term predatory lending is any unfair credit practice that harms the borrower and eventually will affect the credit or ownership interest of the borrower. Unfortunately many communities rely on the image of convenience of payday loans and other loan companies that impose an average interest rate of 200% to the borrower. According to the 2007 Survey of Consumer Finance the

Center for American Progress reported that "a number of 38% of families who had borrowed a payday loan in the last year were non-white while only 22% percent of families that did not take out such loans were non-white." This is why the first initial step to the Community Development Financial Institute is to provide small consumer loans. Loans will be paid back in installments that are affordable and that do not have predatory interest rates. Offering borrowers better financial options along with financial education. The anticipated date of acceptance of small loan applications is December 20, 2014.

The CDFI will be working towards future goals of the organization providing more access to credit, capital, and financial services. Please contact the CDFI Office for any questions or information. We welcome all ideas/suggestions so that the CDIF can take those to the Board of Directors and come up with market needs that will help our Native American community reach their own personal or business goals. The CDIF Office can be reached at (405) 275-4030ext. 158. The Development Financial Community Institution works under the direction of the CDFI Board of Directors. Twila Parker serves as the Chairperson and can be reached at (405) 229-8052. At the present time the CDFI office is located on the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Complex in Shawnee, OK. in building #1 room 114. Office hours are Monday thru Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm. The Executive Director can be reached at (405) 275-4030 ext. 158.



Front page: Attorney General Office Hobbs, Straus, Dean and Walker, LLP...

Regarding the proper role of Executive Committee members, again, a pattern of misunderstanding has developed regarding the proper responsibilities of specific Executive Committee roles. For example, regular instances have been reported wherein individual Executive Committee members responsible for general oversight of corporate matters via the Tribe's organizational chart, have construed the general oversight as having the authority to dictate and govern the day to day operations of the federal and/or tribal corporations – rather than the board members of the corporations, themselves. This poses a host of legal problems and risks for the Tribe. We have recommended and offered to provide much needed training in this area.

A second example of the misunderstanding of roles would be that of the position of Treasurer. It would appear that over time the position of Comptroller became the primary source of power and authority within the tribal government due largely to the Constitutional responsibilities of the Treasurer which oversees Finance. Accordingly, for instance, the current Treasurer takes the position, apparently under the advice of former Attorney General Alyssa Campbell, that she possesses the sole authority to permit or refuse the payment of payroll or vendor invoices, or to permit or refuse the sharing of financial information from the Finance Department with other members of the Executive Committee or even law enforcement. A simple examination of the Constitutional duties of the position of Treasurer, however, make clear that the Treasurer's obligation is to the rest of the Executive Committee and the Tribe, not to that individual office solely. The Treasurer is the "custodian" - not the owner and is responsible to report to, account to, obtain approval from, and be bonded in accordance with the requirements of, the Executive Committee. The responsibilities are indeed significant, but the responsibilities are owed to the Executive Committee and the Tribe. Accordingly, where concerns have arisen regarding past practices and policies and procedures, we have encouraged the use of outside accounting firms to identify and

correct the problems. The third area of primary concern involved gaming operations where there had been a recent history of prior attorney general decisionmaking participation on the gaming board (as on the health boards), followed by key vendor and management personnel participation on the board, a series of by-law revisions and financial transactions. Recent audits showed significant need for change and, fortunately, with the assistance of all of the stakeholders (though with some initial resistance), some major changes have been accomplished which should greatly benefit the Tribe. For example, in one instance, we were able to unwind the Casino from a questionable vendor agreement, saving upwards of \$2 million over a five-year period, avoid litigation with the vendor, and put in place a form vendor agreement to reduce the potential for a similar occurrence in the future. Moreover, we were able to make recommendations and facilitate working sessions between the Thunderbird Entertainment Center board, the Executive Committee, and Gaming Commission to revise the TEC, Inc. by-laws and establish a new board capable of correcting the

many issues still facing the operations.

The challenges members of the Executive Committee have had working together have, of course, presented challenges for us. Despite what some have heard, however, we have continuously been available to answer legal questions and advise the Tribe's officials, though some have regularly declined to avail themselves of our services. We have also regularly encouraged the Executive Committee to set and commit to some specific legal priorities and work with us to establish a budget for accomplishing those issues. Though the neglect of recent years has been costly to work to resolve, as we advised the Executive Committee it would, we have held back some of our billings and recently committed to a self-imposed monthly ceiling and significant write-off as part of our good faith continuing effort to assist to the greatest extent feasible.

Accomplishments

In spite of the challenges, and in addition to a few of the gaming accomplishments mentioned above, we have assisted the Tribe on a number of other important fronts, including:

- Drafted the Tribe's own Business Site Leasing Ordinance, which is nearing federal approval under the HEARTH Act;
- Successfully defending against efforts by the City of Shawnee to tax the Tribe;
- Worked with Red Cross on Storm Shelter Grant Agreement for tribal members;
- Developing MOU with the Red Cross for emergency services;
- Developed MOU with the Housing Authority for police services;
 - Revised ASTHA Health Board bylaws;
 - Revised Traffic Code;
- Regularly advise tribal departments on a wide range of issues;
- Prosecute all criminal cases in tribal court; and
- Represent Tribe in Indian Child Welfare matters, including Baby Girl T case.

There are still many issues we have worked toward addressing, which have yet to be resolved. For example, revisions to the Juvenile Code and requests for information to prepare applications for the federal government to take land into trust on behalf of the Tribe were submitted several months ago to the Executive Committee members with oversight over those particular areas. Unfortunately, many of the Tribe's issues remain unresolved due to political contention within tribal leadership.

Another issue involves the Executive Committee salary, which was approved by tribal referendum in June. We advised the Executive Committee that if the salary law were passed, it would be effective upon certification of the election results. However, after the law passed, there was no action to implement the law. The Human Resources Department drafted an implementation policy that was approved by Executive Committee resolution in August. However, the Finance Department has reportedly been advised by the Treasurer not to follow the law and process the salary changes.

Unlike other Indian law practitioners with which you may be familiar, we do not represent non-Indians against tribal interests, or serve on boards which our firm is employed to advise. As Attorney General, our role is to advise on the law and defend the law. In that regard, we have an obligation to advise tribal officials what they need to hear from us as their advisors, rather than what they may want to hear from us. We look forward to continuing to serve the Tribe, to the benefit of its members.

Financial Investigation

As you may know, a financial audit was recently conducted on the Tribe, which has led to a criminal investigation by the AST Police Department and the FBI. Based on questions and misperception throughout the Tribe about the circumstances surrounding the Tribe's recent financial audit, related court action and criminal investigation, we provide a summary of the events leading up to this point.

In September of this year, documentation was provided to our office, showing irregular financial transactions involving tribal employee sick and annual leave payments. During September's regularly scheduled Executive Committee meeting, the information was provided to the Executive Committee members in attendance. During this meeting, the Executive Committee made several motions to address the situation, including the initiation of a financial audit and the placement of the Tribe's Controller, Belinda Collins, on administrative leave.

The auditing company of Finley and Cook began conducting an audit of the Tribe's financial records regarding sick and annual leave payments. While the audit was ongoing, Finley and Cook produced a preliminary audit report, which revealed a significant misappropriation of tribal funds. The misappropriation mostly benefited several former Executive Committee members and one current Executive Committee member.

after the publication of this Shortly preliminary report, three current members of the Executive Committee (Lieutenant Governor Gibson, Secretary Dawsey, and Treasurer Bates), being advised by former Attorney General's Office attorneys, took steps to try to obstruct the completion of the audit. (Reports indicate that Alyssa Campbell had recently advised the Treasurer on a related matter to require a subpoena before sharing further financial information.) The auditors were refused any further access to the Tribe's financial files, and letters were produced by the three Executive Committee members purporting to terminate the Finley and Cook audit contract and terminate the Attorney General's Office contract. The Attorney General's Office contract was approved by an Executive Committee resolution in 2013.

In order to prevent further obstruction and potential destruction of evidence, the AST Police Department executed a search warrant at the Finance Department to obtain the financial records necessary to complete audit and to investigate the suspected theft of tribal funds. Additionally, a civil case was filed against the three Executive Committee members and a Temporary Restraining Order was granted by the tribal court to prevent further obstructive actions.

This is an unfortunate situation that has required the Attorney General's Office to take steps necessary to protect the interests of the Tribe. At this point, the matter is under active investigation by the AST Police Department and the FBI. When additional information becomes available, the tribal membership will be informed.

Finance Department

The Finance department continues our efforts in keeping the day to day activities flowing effectively and efficiently through communication between the Finance department and all other Tribal Programs. In working together, we have found the most time effective and cost effective processes for transacting business.

The Tribe's 2010 through 2012, and 2013 Audits are "unmodified" opinion. The 2013 Audit had no findings and the Tribe was congratulated by the BIA, Office of Self Governance, and US Department of Housing and Urban Development on a job well done. The 2015 Indirect Cost Proposal was submitted to the Interior Business Center on September 30, 2014. The 2015 Provisional rate is 31.19 percent. The Tribe's Approved Indirect Cost rates are: 17.74% for 2010, 21.98% for 2011, 22.35% for 2012, 27.39% for 2013; and 32.05% for 2014.

The Tribe's Audit consists of the Tribe's entities: Casinos; Store; Restaurant; Smoke Shop; ASEDA, Inc.; ASEDA, Enterprises; ASTHA & LSWN (which make up Absentee Health Systems); and the Tribal Government. All of the Tribe's entities must be audited first and then they are combined with the Tribe's Governmental Audit.

The Finance department is completing accounting by the 10th day of the month. Financial reporting for the Tribe, Health Authority and Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Inc. boards and the Executive Committee for Absentee Health Systems, Shawnee and Little Axe (LSWN) continues monthly. The Finance staff has completed the October reconciliations and financials. The new clinic building payments are current and have not been late and projections are that they will continue to be current going forward.

The Tribe's accounting processes must be in compliance with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) and these rules are updated annually.

It is crucial the Finance staff continues to stay ahead of all of the accounting standards. It is necessary to promote high quality financial reporting. The fundamental role of the Finance Department is to communicate financial and economic information of the Tribe's businesses and operations to the Executive Committee and Tribal Members. The financial information is used to make decisions, assess the stewardship of assets, and to manage the Tribe effectively. If this information is not of a high quality standard, then the Executive Committee, Management and Tribal Members would be unable to make effective decisions that will benefit the Tribe. Accounting standards promote the integrity of the accounting, thus ensuring uniformity in reporting transactions and also in preparation of the financial statements. The Tribe's Finance Department follows accounting standards to promote the understandability, comparability, relevance and reliability of financial reports.

The Tribe currently has compact funds from the BIA, I H S, and approximately 51 Grants. In addition, the Tribe operates a General Fund and an Indirect Cost Fund.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Finance Department has a very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them and the Treasurer's office at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The Finance Department consists of 14 employees: with 6 (43%) being AST Tribal members, 2 (14%) non-AST Tribal members, 6 (43%) being non-natives. The Finance staff is intelligent and professional, 7 staff members have a Bachelor's Degree, 2 staff members have an Associate's Degree, and years of experience. The Finance staff members are loyal to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and do their best to support the goals and objectives of the Tribe to provide the best possible services to its people. The Finance department employs staff that has worked here for years, 3 Finance staff members have worked with the Tribe for 10 years or more and 5 staff members have worked with the

Tribe for 5 years or more. One of the most critical components of success for Indian Tribes is the ability to keep the cost of doing business at a minimum; and high employee turnover can represent one of those very substantial costs.

The Finance department appreciates all of your support, cooperation, and patience.

If you have any questions or needs, please call 405-275-4030 ext. 161, and I will be glad to assist you. Thank you,

Genevieve Foster, Assistant Controller.

UPDATE ON ATOKA RIGHT-OF-WAY

The 100 mile Atoka pipeline was constructed and maintained by the City of Oklahoma City to transport water from Atoka Lake in Atoka County, Oklahoma to Lake Stanley Draper Reservoir. There are nineteen tracts of land, under the jurisdiction of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, involved. The City of Oklahoma City tried to renew the right-of-way easements on nineteen (19) Absentee Shawnee allotments but wanted to change the term from 50 years to perpetual and include two additional lines. The original term began on March 17, 1961 and ended on March 16, 2011.

After many landowners (eleven out of nineteen tracts) signed consent forms in order for the City of Oklahoma City to renew their water line right-of-way, the City of Oklahoma City submitted their casework to the AST Realty office. This office then submitted the casework for review and/or approval to the Southern Plains Regional Office (SPRO) within the Bureau of Indian Affairs. SPRO has made several recommendations to the City of Oklahoma City on the steps needed to obtain approval from them. We notified the City of Oklahoma City of these steps. The City of Oklahoma City chose not to follow these recommendations but to utilize condemnation. Condemnation is the judicial process by which property of a private owner is taken for public use, without his consent, but upon the award and payment of just compensation. Government entities exercise this right through the power of eminent domain.

There are two reasons why the City of Oklahoma City is taking the landowners through the condemnation process. One reason is because some of the landowners could not agree on a price with the City of Oklahoma City and second reason being the City did not wish to follow recommendations set out by the SPRO. It is very vital to the renewal process to get everyone to agree otherwise, the only option left is to take the issue to court.

This office has asked the City of Oklahoma City what their intent was to renew the water lines currently in the ground. On June 5, 2014, the City of Oklahoma City responded by stating their intent was to go through the federal court process of condemnation through eminent domain. Therefore, the AST Realty office prepared and submitted nineteen (19) condemnation packets to the SPRO in preparation of federal condemnation by the City of Oklahoma City. These packets contain information such as: an appraisal determining the fair market value for each tract; if the land is currently leased and to whom; names and addresses and percents of interest of Indian landowners; identifying those who reside on the property; and those whose whereabouts are unknown; names and addresses of tenants, if any; tribal interest; property access; agricultural lease; mutual help homes; cemeteries; religious sites; tribal memorials; etc. The AST Realty office is comprised of two staff members and preparing these packets was time consuming and

There are two reasons why the ity of Oklahoma City is taking the indowners through the condemnation rocess. One reason is because some of the landowners could not agree on a required 100% effort by this office. We have completed our part of the process and now we are waiting on the Tulsa Field Solicitor to review one sample packet to determine if anything else is required or needed.

One of the questions to be answered by the Tulsa Field Solicitor is whether or not the City of Oklahoma City can condemn the tracts owned by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The City of Oklahoma City should negotiate with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and the majority of the landowners on a price for these five tracts of land listed above. It is recommended the Tribe form a negotiation team to represent their undivided interests.

To date, we are waiting on the Tulsa Solicitor's office to review one sample condemnation packet and for the City of Oklahoma City to advise us on a court date. A hearing notice (court date) will be sent to all landowners from the Western District Court. The Tulsa Field Solicitor will be representing the landowners in this case. federal law judge assigned to the case will decide how the landowners will be compensated. Condemnation proceedings involving restricted and Indian trust property must be brought See Town of into a federal court. Okemah, Okl. v. United States, et al., 140 F 2d 963, 966 (10th Cir. 1944).

We will keep landowners advised if any new information develops in the Absentee Shawnee tribal newsletter and tribal webpage. The information will be kept brief and to the point.

AST STORM SHELTER PROJECT

The Red Cross providing the tribe with funding for 92 storm shelters and as of November 21, we have received 70 applications. We have extended time submit applications since there are 22 shelters left to apply for. If you live in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, or Oklahoma County, you are eligible for a storm shelter.

The applications are on the tribal website, in last month's tribal newspaper, or if you would like an application mailed to you, contact Arlene Herrera at (405) 275-4030 ext. 112.

LANGUAGE SURVEYS General Council

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Native Language Surveys were placed on the "Hand- Out" table at the October 18, 2014 General Council by Diane Ponkilla, Police Specialist to allow the tribal members to have input into a possible Language Grant Application that will be coming out in early 2015.

The Grants people failed to state on the survey who to submit the survey too. Sorry for any confusion this may have caused. Thank you.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO SUBMIT AN AD OR ARTICLE:

Give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or (405) 481-0558 or send us an e-mail to stiger@astribe.com

ALL ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE ARE DUE BY THE 20th OF THE CURRENT MONTH

Unfortunately, we can only accept one picture per birthday person, NOT PER BIRTHDAY WISH.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE ELECTION COMMISSION

2013 AUDIT

1.1.13	Begi	nning	Bal	lance
--------	------	-------	-----	-------

\$ 1,215.91

			-
Month	1.2	Deposits	Checks
January	\$	2,625.09	\$ 943.15
February	\$	0.11	\$ _
March	\$	23.21	\$ 2,545.00
April	\$		\$ 100.00
May	\$		\$ -
June	\$	-	\$ -
July	\$	-	\$ 0.20
August	\$	_	\$
September	\$	-	\$
October	\$		\$ -
November	\$	-	\$ 0.30
December	\$	-	\$
Totals	\$	2,648.41	\$ 3,588.15

12.31.12 Ending Balance

\$ 276.17

COMMENTS/FINDINGS:

1/10/2013 Check #494 was written to Meredith Wahpekeche in the amount of \$943.15. The payment voucher states \$600.00 was used for the Commissioner's per diem. Documentation to verfiy this expense was used for per diem was not provided.

Bcollins - 6.4.14 Please provide documentation of \$600 per diem expense.

4/11/2013 Check #496 was written to Shirley Adkins in the amount of \$100.00. The memo description on the check states, "Certif Meeting." Documentation to verify this expense was not provided.

Bcollins - 6.4.14 Please provide documentation of expense.

11/30/2013 Did not receive a bank statement for the month ending 11/30/13.

Bcollins - 6.4.14 Please provide November 30, 2013 bank statement.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Detailed documentation should be maintained in order to justify expenses.

Audit performed by:

Date	
	Date

Audit reviewed by:

Belinda Collins - Controller	Date

FROM THE ELECTION COMMISSION:

The filing period for Elective Offices in 2015.

A tribal member may file for office, January 1 to January 10 (excluding weekends and holidays.) Hours to file are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon) and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Potential candidates please consult the Election Ordinance for the procedures and qualifications when running for elective office.

The following positions will be open for the Elections to be held in 2015.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<u>Position</u>	<u>Filing Fees</u>	<u>Term</u>
Governor	\$500.00	Two (2) Years
Tribal Secretary	\$500.00	Two (2) Years

ELECTION COMMISSION

Position	Filing Fees	<u>lerm</u>
Deputy Commissioner	\$125.00	Three (3) Years
Commission Member #2	\$125.00	Three (3) Years

Health System Monthly Update December 2014

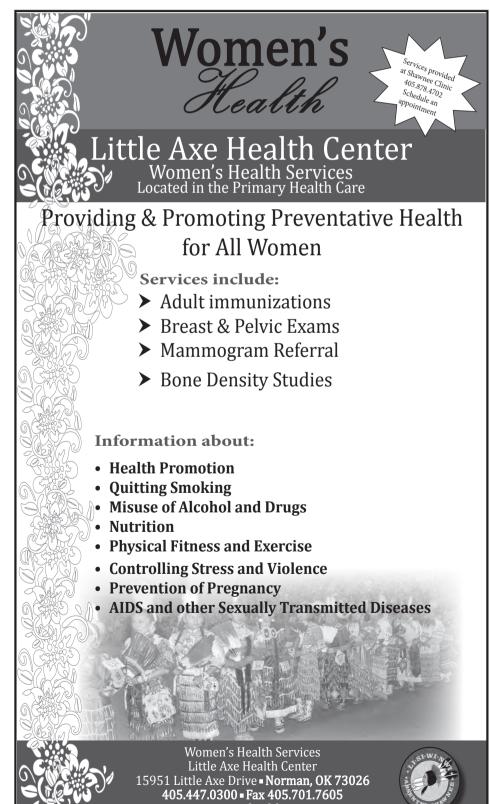
The AST Tribal Health System maintains a constant focus upon patient improvements in access and quality of care in all of our service areas. We are excited with our improving access to care and services. While we still are not where we want to be, patient access to care and patient satisfaction has substantially improved and continues to do so thanks to our great staff of providers, professional support staff, and our health system's employees. It is imperative you get your flu shot if you have not done so already this year. The flu has hit Oklahoma with several cases being reported in the OKC Metro area. We are now providing the flu shot at both of our clinics with nurse visits. The health system encourages everyone in the community to stay healthy this year by utilizing good personal hygiene, especially with hand sanitation procedures. The employee of the month for November was Mrs. Kasey Dean, Behavioral Health. The team of the month award was the Zombie 5K Volunteer Team. Our Special Leadership Recognition Award went to Ms. Autumn Pate, Executive Assistant. We are very proud of our outstanding star performers and thank them all for their contributions to our patients, their fellow employees, and the Tribe!

A few other key bits of information for this month:

- Ebola Public Health Messages and Updates: You can access this up to date information today on the AST Health System webpage: http://www.asthealth.org. Breaking news and information from the CDC and OSDH are located on our webpage along with other pertinent information for you to protect yourself and your loved ones.
- AST/Serviced Health System Native American Veterans: If you are currently receiving services with the area VA Medical Center, please contact us today to set up an appointment for getting your services here with the AST Health System. We have been approved to begin our program within the health system to bill the VA now for services you previously received, or currently receive, with the VA. Please contact a Patient Benefit Advisor (PBA) today to discuss at (405) 447-0300.
- If you need CPR training, please contact the AST Health System's Public Health Office at (405) 447-0300 for scheduling and training opportunities.
- The interactive phone menu for the Contract Health Services (CHS) helps patients access the most appropriate service provider by calling (405) 701-7951. This feature will speed up access to the patients seeking services and follow-up to their care.
- The AST Health System continues to improve its customer service. The Customer Service Line is (405) 701-7623. Please direct all complaints or compliments to this line for appropriate attention and/or response. Please be assured this is the best way to have each situation addressed, with consistent updates from our health staff. After the investigations of all issues are complete, our Health Director or a Clinic Administrator will personally contact you with updates, decisions, or questions pertaining to your case.
- The AST Anti-Bullying Prevention "HOTLINE" is (405) 701-7987 during work hours 8-5, M-F, and for added confidentiality or after hours you may contact Mrs. Dara Thorpe at either (405) 701-7992 or via cell (405) 481-0815 to start intervention assistance for tribal youth. If it is an emergency or someone is at risk of harming themselves or others contact 911.
- The Affordable Care Act Decision Tool continues to be a valuable tool with helping you decide what you need to do for

compliance with the act. Please see the ACA tab at the ASTHA Health Program's Website: http://www.asthealth.org/aca (Please visit our site today to find out what you need to do to protect yourself and your family!)

- Pharmacy After Hours Process: After hours and weekends/holidays, did you know you can go to Walgreens in either Shawnee or Norman, and have a five-day limited fill on prescriptions? All you have to do is submit your prescription, identify yourself with your AST CDIB Card and other appropriate ID, and then they will fill your prescription! Upon the first workday, you can have the remaining balance of your prescriptions transferred to your pharmacy in either Shawnee or LittleAxe, and they will fill your remaining balance. This is an emergency convenience for your benefit and to save the contract health dollars as well, so please be aware of this and other benefits your tribe provides you.



www.asthealth.org

Martial Arts





Camp





On November 8th, the Absentee Shawnee Diabetes and Wellness Program hosted a martial arts camp for the tribal youth at the AST Health Facility in Little Axe. The kids participated in learning about the discipline of Taekwondo, a Korean martial art. Children and parents participated in learning the basic self-defense methods of taekwondo. Other camp activities included instructions on how to perform a proper warm-up, how to pull away from strangers, and breaking boards. The Absentee Shawnee Diabetes and Wellness Program would like to thank all of the parents and children that participated in this fun and active event.













December 2014 Birthdays

Adams, Alexis Pearl Adams, Misty Dawn Aguirre, Carlos Eriberto Alaee, Beverly Jo Alford, Blake Tyler Allen, Annabelle Marie Anderson Reading, Alecia Dawn Armstrong, Hobart Ash, Roger Wayne Atabaigi, Roberta Lynn Atwood, Crystal Dawn Ayers, Delana Sue Ballard, Debra Ann Ballard, Donald Gene Barnett, Laketa Kaye Bates, Aria Belyn Bates, Howard Eugene Beartusk, Brian James Bender, Maecie Raelene Berry, Dakota Trah Bierd, Jamie Chereese Bigpond, Bobby Gene Blackburn, Leland Paul Neasbitt Blanchard, Ashley Gabrielle Blanchard, Camenah Joe Blanchard, Crystal Raylene Blanchard, Erika MaCale Blanchard, Johnathan Cole Blanchard, Mya Aileen Blanchard, Sustina Marie Bond, Delsin Wyatt Bradley, Micah Joel Bradley, Phillip Monroe Bradshaw, Mitchell Bryan Breeding, Matthew Thad Brokeshoulder, Elk Eli Brokeshoulder, Glenda Mae Brokeshoulder, Katrina Sue Brokeshoulder, Vickie Robin Brophy, Callie-Kaye Ellice Brown, Braxton Gilbert Brown, Charlotte Elaine Brown, Cochanna Christine Bryant Jr., Robert Wesley Bui, Noreen Fay Bui, Wiley The Bullen, Shelly Lisa Bump, Tonya Lynn Butler, Wosey Jane Byers, Sherry Levon Byington, David Adam Carpenter, Whitney Rochelle Chafin, Sierra Nicole Charley Whatley, Marrissa Ashley Chisholm, Keegan Conner Coddington, Emily Elizabeth Coddington, Krystal Renee Cody, Dakoda Hunter Coffee, Larry Ben Colbert, Braylon Dean Colungo, Wilma Wildena Conner, Robert Neal Coon, Vannessa Rae Cooper, Beverly Rose Cortez, La Donna Marie Cravens, Christopher Dale Creek, Christopher Samuel Creeping Bear, Bobby Crosswhite, Donna Elaine Crow, Kimberly Kay Csoma, Amber Blanchard Cuellar Jr., Clifford Eugene

Darrington, Taliyah De'Vine Daugherty, Samuel Edwin Davis, Holly Ann Davis, Julius Alexander Davis, Rex Keith Davis, Serenity Jean Day, Anthony Lee Day, George Michael Deer, Alena Rose Deere, Alyssia Lynn Deere, Gabriel Xavier Deere, Kathleen Ann DeLodge, Genesis Octavia Delodge, Wayne Lee Douglass, Christian Jayce Downs, Che' Kyle Duran, Anthony George Ellis Jr., Michael Frank Ellis, Ciara Renee Ellis, Jessica Marie Ellis, Justin Lee Ellis, Matthew Drew Elsloo, Lyla Lee Engledowl, Alexia Michelle Engler, Alicia Diane Evans, James Steven Evans, Steven E. Farris, Stacey Lynn Felton, Aiden Michael Florick, Krista Leann Foreman, Carole Jean Foreman, Elysabeth Lesleigh Foreman, Zelda Mae Fowler, Joanna Marie Frye, Zoe Ann Galloway, Daisy Jade Galloway, Kory Damien Galloway, Skylar Matthew Garretson, Christopher Ronald Garretson, Janis Marie Gibson, Davanee Mina Paralee Gibson, Garret Henry Gibson, Lita Danielle Gibson, Lousetta B. Gibson, Willie Ray Goodman, Edith White Goodwin, Alissa Mae Graham, Jordan Michael Grant, Jayden Dewayne Grass, Billie Jean Grass, Gage Owen Griego, Aiyanna Che'la Gurrola, Arturo Jr Guzman, Ginger Gaile Hackbarth, Riley Rain Hadjiconstantinou, Ty Lucas Hall, Sarah Jean Harrison, Andrea Layne (Ellis) Hartley, Carolyn Curtis Harvey, Nevaeh Nicole Hatcher, Wade Jeffrey Haumpy Sr., Willliam Allen Hawk, Jordyn Marie Hayes, Jackson Elias Haymond, J-Lynn Lanea Hernandez, Landon Jayse Herrera, Precious Lara Hill, Dominick Allen Hill, Keevan Jones Holt-Belvin, Brittani Maelynne Hood, John Michael

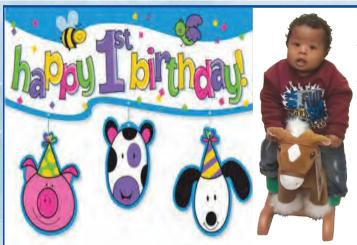
Hooper, Steven Joe

Huckaby, Mary Louise Tyner Innis, Quanah Guy Isaac, Frances Jane Jackson, Cheyenne Marie James, Constance Logan James, Gregory Dale Jantz, Evan Blake Jimerson, Magan Christina Johnson Jr., Anthony David Johnson, Brodie Wade Johnson, Byron Mack Johnson, Camille Marie Johnson, Fawntayne Catara Johnson, George Benjamin Johnson, Guenevere Tess Johnson, James Christopher Johnson, Kayla Ryan Johnson, Marlene Jane Johnson, Steve Allen Kaniatobe, Guy Willis Kastl, Scott Christopher Keith, BlakeGarrett Kennedy, Deborah Leigh Kilmer, Sandra Lynn Kishketon, Malaki Allen Kisor II, Jesse Devon Kringlen, Faibian Eugene Lamb, Caden James Charley Landrum, Rachel Erin Larney, Darnell Maxine Larney, Flora Jean-Kent Larney, Shawnee H. Lester, Mackenzie Danielle Limon, Jennifer Nell Little Axe Sr., Ricky Lee Little Axe, Jaydell Chance Little Axe, Kamyrah Lemarea Illiana Little Axe, Maxine Little Axe, Slayer Dane Little Axe, William Dennis Little Charley, Newman Little, Richard Wayne Littlebear, Calvin Littlebear, Jonathon Littlebear, Patrick Littlebear, Paul Jaccob Littlebear, Susan Gail Littlebear, Waleen Tenae Littlecreek, Ronnie Joe Littlecreek, Sarah Denae Locke, Tristan Daniel Logan, Glenda Sue Longhorn Jr., Keith Warren Longhorn, Kaselyn Diane Longhorn, Stuart Kyle Longman Sr., Clyde Bennie Longman, Collin Jay Longman, John Wayne Lopez, Ruby Ann Lowe, Preston Gavin Mack, Makenna Dawn Mammen, Deann Marie Martinez Jr., Timothy Andrew Martinez, Efren Adam-Dean Martinez, Tewa Marie Masquat, Dana Lanelle Maxfield, Joseph Thad McBride, Anthony Daniel McBride, Damien Nicholas McBroom, Garrett Allen Trece McCoy, Ramona Cadue (Sloat)

McGuffin, Vickie Ann McGuire, Mary Ann Masquat Megehee, Dakota Micheal Merrell, Cass Adam Merrell, Cruz David Miller, Alicia Le Waine Edwards Miller, Madilyn Neveah Mills, Hanna Frances Mitchell, Qiana Skye Mizell, Janice Maria Molina, Deanne Jo Mooneyham, Andrea Gail Morgan, John David Morlan, Debra Jean Morris III, John Gilbert Morris, Cecilia Renee Murdock, Brian Lee Neash, Alecia Lucinda Neash, Bobby Joe Neash, Nekkia Christine Nelson, Debra Ann Neske, Kyle Logan New Moon, Melissa Elaine Nicholson, Lee Anna Odell, Travis Dewayne Oles, Robin Jewel Olsen, Tonya Lynn Ontiveros-Adame, Tina Marie Onzahwah, Brian Neil Parker, Hunter Caleb Chase Parker, Teresa Erin Patton, Erionna Marie Pawpa, Jacey Tatum Perry, Savannah Jade Pewenofkit, Jay Patrick Pickens, Irma Juanita Pine, Jacob Lawrence Pitchford, Chayton Baeze Pitner, Shane Thomas Ponkilla, Orrin Heath Price, Ciara Davon Delodge Price, Ethan Daniel Puckitt, Cody Michael Purcell, Desmond Lee Ramirez, Alejandro Andres Ramirez, Alye Tatum Reid, Parker Gabriel Robertson, Drew Hayden Robertson, Kyle Scott Robinson, Star Dionna Rodas, Klay Arnoldo Rolette Sr., Larry James Rolette, Lawrence R. Rolette, Ryan Adam Rolette, Tiffany Renee Rutledge, James Aiyden Ryan, Crystal Gay Sanchez, Sofia Magdalena Sanchez, Tommy Shawnego Schmidt, Sammie Anne Self, Katelyn Lynel Shawnee, Arla Nicole Shawnee, Carrah Dawnell Shawnee, Corey Wayne Shelton, Jonell Lynne Sherrill, Cody Michael Shields, Ty Xavier Simpson, Caden Marshall Simpson, Thurman Ray Sinks, Tammy Relin Sloat, Arthur Wayne Sloat, Jennifer Lauren

Smith, Cheryl Renae Smith, Kyle Lee Snow, Brianna Margaret-Faye Solis, Adrianna Clavel Solis, Jose Maria Spears, Catherine Renae Spoon Jr, Carl David Spoon, Desirae Roxanne Spoon, Jiliyan Jade Spoon, Michael Brody Spybuck, Barbara Ann Spybuck, Deborah Ann Spybuck, Nicholas Lawrence Squire, Christopher Lane Squire, Johnnie Larue Squire, Marvin Lee Stanley, Denelle Mae Starr, Jack Eugene Stevens Jr., Houston Stinger Jr., Jack Theophilus Stone, Sherry Darlene Sultuska Jr., Jerome Ray Switch, Ezequiel Switch, Herbert Clifford Teehee, Penny Lynn Tello-Faz, Jennie Rebecca Tenner, Kirsten Elizabeth Thorpe, Dara Beth Thorpe, Jamie Lee Thorpe, Matilda C. Masquat Thorpe, Preston Barrett Tiger, Ashlee Jean Tiger, Joseph Aaron Tiger, Kane Matthew Tolbert, Justin Wade Torres-Salazar, Mary Ellen Trammell, Lisa Michelle Valdivia, Shirley Ann Villalobos, Constantina K. Wabaunasee, Mary Ellen Warrior, Whitney Michelle Warrior-Benson, Josiah Clark Watson, Zachary Miles Webb, Charles Kenneth Webster, Ryan Bennett Whims, Lawanna Jo White Sr., Robert White, Beckie Lynett White, Edward Leon Whittaker, Dominique Marie Wiles, Mitzie Arlene Little Creek Williams Jr., Joseph Edward Williams, Adrian Thomas Williams, Benjamin Michael Williams, Billy John Williams, Chance Michael Williams, Daniell Anissa Williams, Michelle Lee Williams, Okah Melina Wilson, Alvin Blaine Wilson, Dwayne Alan Wilson, Jessie Lee Wilson, Kaitlyn Nicole Wilson, Kamren Patrick Wilson, Raylin Amelia Wilson, Retha Ann Winrow, Ashley Dionne Wolf Jr, Eric Wayne Womack, Cody Lee Wyatt, Vance Allen Yeahpau, Trevian Alexander Youngbear, Curtis Joshua

McCulloch III, Grant Howard



JAMES AIYDEN!

This first year has been a joy, don't grow up too fast! Mommy and Dada love you beyond the moon and stars! Kisses and hugs to our baby boy!

Love Mommy and Dada

Lil

Sister, I'm glad

you're my sister! Happy

10th Birthday to

ou. I love you!

Love Justin

Jiliyan,

You're a very

sweet young

lady!! Happy 10th Birthday!

Love, Aunt

BJ





Happy 10th Birthday Jiliyan!!!

Big Sister, You always make What me laugh like a beautiful crazy, Happy girl you've grown into!! Birthday!

I'm so proud that ou're my daughter!! You'll always be momma's Beast! I love you so Love.Mom

We love you! Auntie Beverly and Uncle Stacey



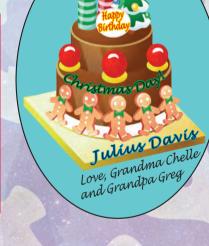
Hope you have a blessed day.

Trina and Kevin

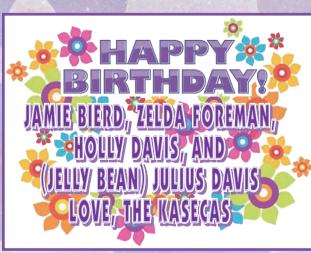
Love.

LOVE. UNCLE JAY **ALICIA**

Julius Davis Love, Grandma Chelle and Grandpa Greg

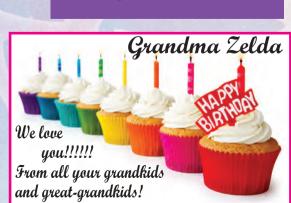












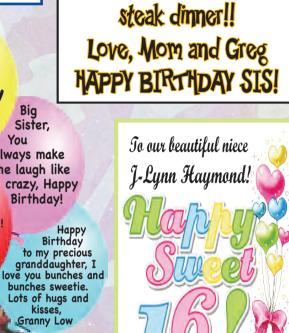
To the perfect Mom and

Mema anyone could ask for Happy Birthday

> **Beverly!** We love you!

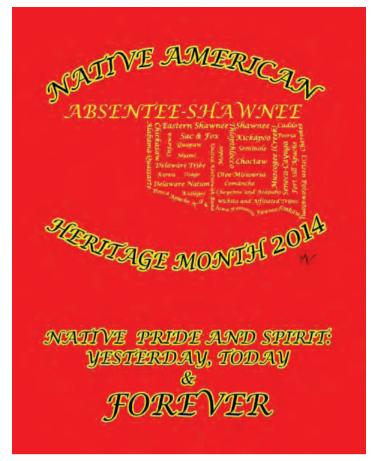
From Emily, Jake, Shy, Dade, and your

grandbabies



If you smile we might take

you to Cattleman's for a



HERITAGE MONTH 2014



November 20, 2014

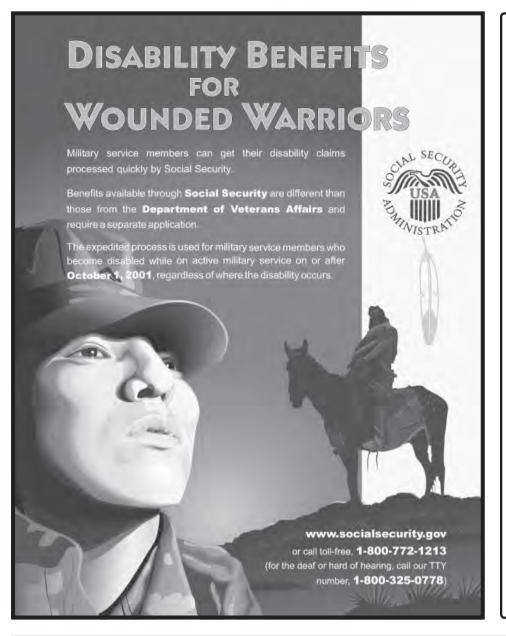
A cultural demonstration at South Rock Creek School in Shawnee.

Departments represented were Cultural Preservation, Education, and BIA Self-Governance



Dancers:

Leon Bell, Scott Miller, Cecil Wilson, Joseph Blanchard, Kyerra Blanchard, and Tresha Spoon



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:

- Handicapped/Disabled and Elderly
- b.
- Family Size/Overcrowded Living Conditions C.
- 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

















FITNESS CENTER HOURS

Monday—Thursday 6:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

Friday 6:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

> Saturday/Sunday **CLOSED**









The AST Diabetes and Wellness Fitness Center provides state of the art fitness equipment, including: treadmills, elliptical cross-trainers, recumbent bikes, free-weights, kettlebells, and isolation strength machines. The AST Fitness Center is available to all Native Americans and their household family members. AST employees are also





eligible for membership. The AST Diabetes and Wellness Fitness Center strives to deliver a well-trained staff that seeks to help clients reach their personal fitness and health goals. Our staff takes pride in providing appropriate and educational fitness training to all clients, providing guidance in developing a successful plan to help prevent or manage diabetes and/or other health conditions, and providing clients with a fun and positive experience working with our staff. Please take some time to come by and visit the AST Diabetes and Wellness Fitness Center today!

Recycling Containers Now Available

OEH now has recycling containers set up for public use. These recycle

containers, which are cardboard only containers, are located on the south side of the Title VI building at the main complex and the other container is located at the northeast corner of the Little Axe Clinic.

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





ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

RECYCLING MA-TERIAL THAT WE ACCEPT.

ENVELOPES, COLORED PAPER, JUNK
MAIL, FAX PAPER,
MAGAZINES,
NEWSPAPER, CARDBOARD, AND ALUMINUM CANS.

MATERIAL WE DO NOT AC-CEPT.

TONER, CARBON PAPER, FOOD WASTE, AND PLASTIC.

REMEMBER, WHEN IN DOUBT THROW IT OUT.

CONTACT INFORMATION

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROGRAMS.

2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR. SHAWNEE, OK 7480 I

PHONE: (405) 214-4235

FAX: (405) 878-4701

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Recycling Program

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

The Office of Environmental Health and Environmental Program is proud to announce the start of a new recycling program for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The recycling center is located in the yellow metal building adjacent to the OEH Department. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe (AST) Recycling Program Program declares that waste reduction and recycling are the preferable to the

or processing of municipal waste, and that removing certain materials



waste stream will decrease the flow of solid waste to municipal landfills. AST Recycling Program used the knowl-

edge and information about recycling markets and market demand as well as information obtained from various publications and the internet to comprise an analysis of material the recycling program will address at the start of the program. AST Recycling Program Plan establishes a goal that, by year's end 2013, at least 25 % of the recyclable material produced by the Tribe will be recycled.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

The AST recycling Program will initially focus on the following waste stream material; High-Grade shredded paper, Assorted office paper,

Phone books, Magazines, Cardboard, Newspaper, and Aluminum cans. As the program and market develops, other recyclables will be sought.

There is a cost associated with recycling, However, economic, social, and environmental benefits exceed these cost.



Register Now!!!

www.asthealth.org/patient-portal

New Patient Portal

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System

Little Axe Health Center Shawnee Clinic

Follow My Health

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

Visit your app store and install the Follow My Health app



for real-time access to your health information

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

MEDICARE OUTREACH & EDUCATION 2015 OPEN ENROLLMENT EVENT



Sponsored By Richardson Insurance



Are You Turning 65?

Do You Want to Explore Your Current Medicare Options?

COME SEE US!





2015 Annual Open Enrollment

Explore Your Medicare

October 7 - December 15, 2014 Insurance

courtesy of Richardson

- Medicare Basics
- Annual Open Enrollment Info
- Medicare Enrollment Assistance
- Personal Medicare Plan Comparison
- Part D Drug Plan Comparisons
- Medicare Savings & Extra Help Info
- Explore Medigap or Part C&D Plans
- Understanding Tribal Benefits

Coordination

Richardson Insurance is an Indian-owned and family-operated Oklahoma state licensed insurance agency specializing in assisting Native Americans find the best medical plan for their specific needs. Tanya and Tommie Ann Richardson have been in the insurance



AST COUNTRY

wut our

Sunday - 7am to 7pm

Monday - 7aprto 3 Tuesday - 7a

to

n to

ursday

Satur

Open 7 Days A Week!



366-7220

(In Front of Thunderbird Entertainment Center Next to AST Smoke Shop)

IF IZ Contract Health Service News

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health

The AST Contract Health Services Team are here to assist you ... follow the CHS Guidelines!

Get a copy of the CHS Guidelines and update your information

Contract Health Services for AST members with Insurance

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

- Complete CHS Patient Update form and update all information every 6 months.
- Notify CHS at least 48 hours prior to appointment date for a (COB) Coordination of Benefits to be sent to provider
- Inform Provider/HealthFacility that AST CHS is secondary payer/payer of last resort.
- 4. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.



Contract Health Services for AST members without Insurance

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

- You must apply for any alternate resources for which you may be eligible - Medicare, Medicaid, SoonerCare, insurance, etc.
- 2. Complete CHS Patient Update form and update all information every 6 months
- 3. You must utilize the services provided within the AST health clinics prior to being referred out.
- 4. Referrals for outside services must be sent to CHS. Services must be medically approved by an AST Health provider.
- 5. An appointment will be scheduled and a COB will be sent to the outside provider.
- 6. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.

Emergency and Urgent Care Services

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

- 1. Call the On-Call nurse at (405) 447-0300 option 9 for "triage".
- 2. Notify CHS on the next businesss day or within 72 hours after the ER visit. Notification does not assure authorization of payment. However if you do not notify CHS within 72 hours, your bills will not be paid.
- For AST members with no insurance evidence must exist that the visit was medically necessary. Medical priorities have been established for determining which referrals can be authorized for payment.
- 4. For AST members with insurance, evidence must exist that a third party resource has made determination such services were "emergency care" or "urgent care" (such evidence may include payment from private insurance).
- 5. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to CHS. You may leave bills with Rhonda Kaseca at the Shawnee Clinic and Glendine Blanchard at the Little Axe Health Center.



Debi Sloat



Glendine Blanchard



Flo Mann



Sharon Ponkilla



Darla Gatzman



Jayne Werst





AST PHARMACY NEWS

- Upcoming Pharmacy Department closures are as follows:
 - ✓ October 1, 2013 for inventory
- ✓ November 11, 2013 to observe Veteran's Day
- Deliveries of controlled medications are not allowed.
- > Both Shawnee and Little Axe pharmacy locations 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.
- When requesting refills, please provide 24 hours' notice until pick-up. We will need your refill number, located above your name on the prescription label, or the names of your medication in order to fill.
- ➤ Present <u>insurance cards each time</u> you pick up or drop off a prescription.
- Keep us informed of changes in address, phone number, and other contact information (changes at registration do not flow to pharmacy).

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

Hours of Operation:

Little Axe: 8am-5pm (& 7:30a-5:30p Drive-Thru) Monday - Friday

• Phone - (405) 292-9530

Shawnee: 7am-5pm Monday-Friday

• Phone - (405) 878-5859

We are open through the lunch hour!!

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

> -Thank you, Pharmacy Staff



Personal Banking:

AllNations Bank offers a wide range of products and services to meet today's

consumer demand including

our AllNations Bank Free Checking Account; Savings Account; Certificate of Deposit Accounts; Individual Retirement Accounts; Money Market; Now Accounts & Consumer Loans including Auto, Boat and more.

AllNations Offers Free ATM/Debit Card with each personal account that can be used at our Shawnee OK Drive Up ATM. In addition, we offer a wide selection of Safe Deposit Boxes for rent at competitive prices.

Contact Us for Details As Follows:

Calumet Office - Gene Davis or Dixie Smith 405-893-2240;

114 E Main, Calumet, OK

Shawnee Office - Gene Davis or Eugene Stidham 405-273-0202;

2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK

Business Banking:

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

Contact Us for Details As Follows:

Calumet Office - Gene Davis or Dixie Smith 405-893-2240;

114 E Main, Calumet, OK

Shawnee Office - Gene Davis or Eugene Stidham 405-273-0202;

2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK

Banking Hours:

2023 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

Lobby Hours 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Friday

Drive In Hours 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Monday - Friday

Saturday: 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Injury Prevention Program

The Mayo Clinic and the Center for Disease Control & Prevention say that if you're physically active it may help prevent you from falling. The following activities: Walking, chair exercises and Tai Chi, can improve your leg strength, balance, coordination and flexibility. Remember to check with your doctor before starting any of these activities!

Here are some tips on how to stay safe while getting back into the spring of things.

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

For more information contact: Rosie Tall Bear at 405-701-7601 Little Axe Health Center









Are you at risk for diabetes, have diabetes or know someone who does? Type 2 diabetes is the most common type of diabetes and affects millions of Native Americans. Many people are unaware that they have diabetes or pre-diabetes. Native Americans are twice as likely to develop

Type 2 diabetes than others. Some common signs and symptoms include:

- Frequent infections
- Blurred vision
- Cuts/bruises that are slow to heal
- Tingling/numbness in the hands/feet
- Recurring skin, gum, or bladder infections

Often people with type 2 diabetes have no symptoms.

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

FOSTER CARE

WHAT IS A FOSTER CARE WORKER?

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

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

Some aspects of this relationship include the following:

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

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

Foster Care Payments are as follows:

0-5 age \$14.73 day \$441.97 month

6-12 age \$17.12 day \$513.57 month

12 and over \$19.30 day \$579.13 month

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

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

Why do we need Indian Child Welfare? Why do we need Tribal Foster Homes?

Foster-Care System Stretched Too Far

Recent news reports reported on July 2 that Sally Schofield, the foster mother of Logan Marr, was found guilty June 25 of wrapping the 5-year-old's body with 42 feet of duct tape during a "timeout," causing the little girl to suffocate.

Schofield could face up to 40 years in prison for the child's death.

"The child-welfare system failed Logan Marr in every possible way," said Richard Wexler, the executive director of the National Coalition for Child Protection Reform. "They failed her ... by ... ignoring her cries of abuse and they failed her by letting her die in that foster home."

Six weeks before she was killed, Logan was on a visit to her birth mother when, in the presence of a child-welfare worker hired to supervise the visit, she complained that her foster mother was hurting her. "She did this to me and I cried 'cause it hurts me," the child is heard saying on a videotape, although she isn't seen.

The truth is that we must protect our tribal children; we must protect them from a system that is overworked and in desperate need of an overhaul. We must have a voice in the child welfare system for our tribal children. As tribal child welfare workers there is not a day that goes by where we are not fighting for the rights of one of our tribal children and working to make sure that employees of the State are following OICWA and ICWA. Silence will not ensure the rights of this generation, or the next generation of Absentee Shawnee Children. The Absentee Shawnee Foster Care Program is in need of tribal foster care homes for AST children. A strong tribe must have a system in place to protect the youngest of its members when they need protection. If we do not have tribal foster homes, our Absentee Shawnee children go into State homes. We have not control over these homes; therefore, the children placed in these homes are more vulnerable. Some will say that no one can love their child as much as a parent, but when parents are unable to care for their children properly, we as a tribe need to be there for the children....We must love that child as their parent.

We use a Native American tradition of the talking stick. You sit and pass it around and whoever has the stick has to talk. Some people just hold it.

Others really share.

Let us be a tribe that protects the youngest of our tribal members, let us just not say the words, but open our homes to those children who need us to protect them and offer them safety. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent please notify:

Julie Wilson AST/CPS/FOSTER CARE

405-878-4702

The Child Welfare Department would like to welcome Glenna Jones and Dara Thorpe as new members of the Foster Care Committee. We appreciate their dedication and willingness to advocate for our children.

Preservation of American Indian culture starts with protection of our most precious resources -- American Indian children and families. Only when our children and families are healthy and happy can there be harmony in our world.

Problems Facing American Indian Children and Families

Today, 5.2 million American Indians and Alaska Natives (Al/AN) live in the United States

- American Indian children have the third highest rate of victimization
- •American Indian/Alaska Natives have the highest rate of poverty of any other racial group in the nation
- •In 2006, suicide was the leading cause of death for Al/AN males ages 10-14.
- •A 2006 study found that, compared to other groups, AI/AN youth have more serious problems with mental health disorders.
- Alcohol-use disorders were more likely among American Indian youths than other racial groups.
- •The AI/AN youth population is more affected by gang involvement than any other racial population.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Children often get lost in a system that is supposed to protect them when their parents can't take care of them. They need someone who can provide a home that is safe. They need their emotional needs met by an adult who can act as if they are their parent. These children need love, shelter, safety, and a place that they can belong, they need a home. They need to know that they are not alone. If you are able to provide these things to one of our tribal children please contact: 405-878-4702 (ext. 133) Julie Wilson ICW/FC.

FOSTER CARE

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

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

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

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



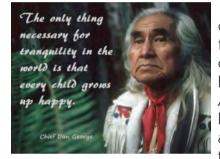


Native American youth have two distinct influences, that of their family of origin and that of their caregivers. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Foster Care is in need of homes for children that are in our child welfare system. Your participation in being a foster parent helps to ensure that these children have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

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

have our future be?





Native American youth are facing a crisis. These children are being removed from their homes and placed into the child welfare system at rates much higher than any other population. Native American children are often placed in homes outside of their families, tribes, and Native American culture and all this contributes to significant social

problems. The story of Native American people is a complicated one marked by significant trauma and atrocities. Often times this trauma consisted of the removal of abuse which happened to these young and vulnerable children in many of these schools resulted in overwhelming intergenerational trauma and unresolved grief. This trauma which interrupted the ability to parent has led directly to the most current social problems that plague Native American communities today including alcohol/drug abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, sexual abuse and parenting deficiencies. All of these problems have contributed to the break-down of the family unit, leading to the removal of large numbers of Native American youth from their families. The journey of healing and breaking the cycles which have been put in place by the historical trauma experienced by generations of Native Americans requires that the cultural identity for so long denied to these children be returned. Native American youth have two distinct influences, that of their family of origin and that of their caregivers. Absentee Shawnee Tribal Foster Care is in need of homes for children that are in our child welfare system. Your participation in being a foster parent helps to ensure that these children have positive connections to their culture which in helps nurture a positive sense of identification as a Native American. By being willing to do this, you can be a valuable part of the healing journey that will help strengthen this next generation of Absentee Shawnee children; in turn, helping those children become the parents that their children will need them to be. Our children are our future, what will we have our future be? Will you, as Absentee Shawnee member, do your part if you are able? If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact Juliann Wilson ICW/CPS/FOSTER CARE at 275-4030, ext. 133.

"I don't want a family. I need one."

- Current Waiting Child

<<<NOTICE>>>

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

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Building Blocks C.D.C. 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.

Shawnee, Ok. 74801

P: (405)878-0633 F: (405)878-0156

Building Blocks News...

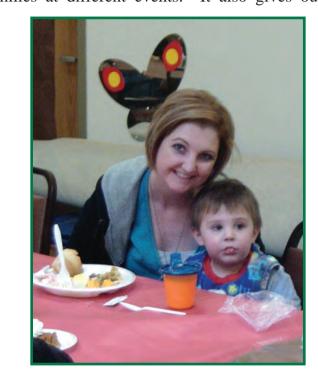
It's hard to believe this year is almost over. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Now onto Christmas!!

We want to thank Kristie McGuire for assisting in our flu vaccination clinic. Many of our children had already received their flu vaccines through their doctor but we were able to service a few of the children and eleven Building Blocks employees. This service is much appreciated and will help in our efforts to decrease illness within our center.

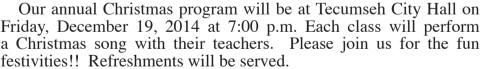
We also want to thank all of the families who joined us for our annual Thanksgiving luncheon. We had a great turnout!! We love involving the families in activities and the children get so excited to spend time with their families at different events. It also gives our staff

the opportunity to strengthen their relationships with the families we serve.











Currently, I am working with Briana Ponkilla, CCDF Coordinator, on budget planning for the next year. Our budgets will include both the Shawnee and Little Axe locations.

Dates to Remember:

Friday, December 19th:
Thursday, December 24th:
Friday, December 25th:
Thursday, January 1, 2015:
Christmas program @ 7:00 p.m.
Closed for Christmas Day
Closed for New Year's Day

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy & safe New Year!!!

Thank you, Billie Thompson Director

4 Horse Shoe Bend After School Program &

Tutors and students are looking forward to the upcoming holidays and the breaks from their busy schedule at school. We continue to enroll students into the Horse Shoe Bend after school program and now have up to 20 students. These students may choose to come one or more days. The average number per day is approximately 12.

So far this year we have had one snow day on November 17, 2014. There was no after school tutoring due to inclement weather conditions.

Students are staying busy with activities at school and their daily studies. In mid-October North Rock Creek School started their after school program, which is Monday through Friday, and runs till 5:30 pm. North Rock Creek was selected for a 21st Century Grant, This grant will help all students, first through Eighth Grade, with homework and a variety of programs such as: cultural activities, sports, exercise, sewing and cooking classes.

On December 11, 2014, the White Turkey Band Committee, will sponsor a Christmas Party for the after school students and tutors. We would like to thank the White Turkey Band Committee for their support of this program for the past four years. Also, I would like to thank those who have donated items to the after school program. This program

impacts our Native American students and all volunteer work and

donations are greatly appreciated.

The Sac and fox Behavioral Health Program, Jamie Barse, has been working with our students twice a month with activities that focus on 'bullying' and what to do if they see or are in a situation of being bullied. It is my hope to host an evening in the near future for parents to attend a meeting on this very important topic.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!!!!!!!!

If you should have any questions, concerns or thoughtful advice I may be reached at 405-481-0397.

Thank you, Edwina Butler--Wolfe, Governor



HSB Kindergarten student at North Rock Creek 1st place basketball tour men at Tecumseh

KENNETH ATAUVICH



Kenneth Atauvich retired from the US Air Force as a Master Sergeant after serving from October 9, 1987 to October 30, 2011. He completed Basic Training at Lackland AFB, TX and Technical Training, as an Aircraft Armament Specialist, at Lowry AFB, CO. Other assignments include Holloman AFB, NM with the 49th Fighter Wing; Dvess AFB. TX with the 7th Bomb Wing; Sheppard AFB, TX with the 82nd Training Wing; Hill AFB, UT with the 388th Fighter Wing and overseas at Clark AB, Republic of the Philippines with the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing and the Royal Air Force Lakenheath Air Base, United Kingdom with the 48th Fighter Wing. In addition he has served numerous worldwide locations in support of Operations Desert Storm, Provide Comfort and Desert Thunder/ Fox during the Persian Gulf War and Iraqi Freedom twice and Enduring Freedom during the War on Terror. MSgt Atauvich earned the Air Force Master Instructor Badge, was a Weapons Safety Manager capturing the Air Combat Command's Explosive Safety Achievement Award in 2006 and was assigned to the Coalition Air Force Transition Team attached to the Multi-National Security Transition Command - Iraq efforts at rebuilding the Iraqi Air Force for self-sustainment. He has earned 60 Decorations, Medals, Badges and Campaign Ribbons to include the Master Instructor Badge, the Defense Meritorious Service, Meritorious Service, 4 Air Force Commendation, 2 Air Force Achievement, the Army Achievement, 9 Good Conduct, 2 National Defense Service, the Armed Forces Expeditionary, the Southwest Asia Campaign with/1 Bronze Service Star, the Afghanistan Campaign with/1 Bronze Service Star, the Iraq Campaign with/1 Bronze Service Star, the Global War on Terrorism Service, the Armed Forces Service, the NATO, Kuwait Liberation and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medals, 2 Joint Meritorious Unit, 4 Meritorious Unit and 7 Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards and 3 Air Force Overseas, 2 Air Force Expeditionary with/Gold Border, 6 Ire Force Longevity Service, 2

NCO Professional Military Education Graduate and the Air Force Training Ribbons. Of the 1,111 known Comanche veterans MSgt Atauvich is the second most decorated active duty Comanche veteran. Kenneth is one fourth Absentee Shawnee and the son of Mary Birdtail.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL HEALTH SYSTEM IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE NATIVE AMERICAN U.S. DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PARTNERSHIP

NOW ACCEPTING VETERANS HEALTH BENEFITS!
Schedule Your Appointment Today!

- » Basic Medical Eligibility
- » Behavioral Health Services
- » *Service-Connected Disabilities
- » *Dental Services
- » *Vision Services

CDIB required

*Veteran must be VA Service-Connected

Annual Required VA Hospital Visit must be current!

VA disability assessment and annual VA hospital visit must be scheduled at a VA facility



LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER
Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System
15951 Little Axe Drive
Norman, OK 73026
405.447.0300



Caring for AMERICA'S HEROES

www.asthealth.org www.va.gov



SHAWNEE CLINIC Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System 2029 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee, OK 74801 405.878.5850

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR ABSENTEE SHAWNEE CHILDREN

The Christmas party will be held at the Jones Theatre:



WHEN: DECEMBER 14, 2014

WHERE: JONES THEATRE, Cinema Centre 8, 3031 North Harrison Street, Shawnee, Ok

TIME: MOVIE STARTS AT 10:00 AM, DOORS OPEN AT 9:30 AM

MOVIE: PENGUIN

Each Absentee Shawnee Child will need to bring their CDIB Card with them to see the movie and to pick up their \$25.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card and will need to be chaperoned by one parent to be able to see the movie. Popcorn and drink will be provided to each child.

We will need to have parent call by December 12, 2014 to give a count as to how many children will be attending. Call Ashley Brokeshoulder at 275-4030, EXT. 307

If unable to receive your child's Wal-Mart Gift Card on December 14, 2014 you may pick gift card up at the Finance office. Ask for Courtney Green. Only parents and guardians of Absentee Shawnee children will be able to pick gift card up for their child or children.

YOU MUST HAVE THE CHILD'S CDIB CARD.

No exceptions are going to be practiced, again, only parents or guardians will be able to pick gift card up. Gift cards will be available through January 30, 2015.

Thank you

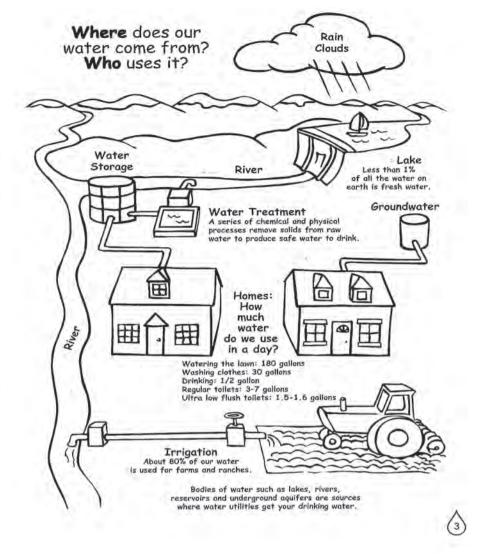
Governor Butler-Wolfe

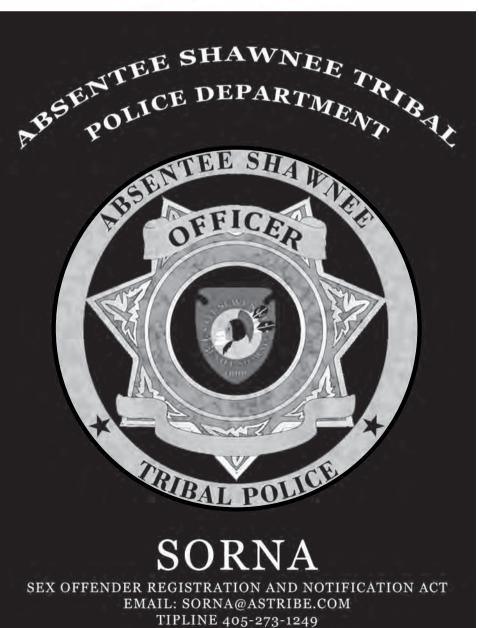


To all of our family we wish you all to stay healthy and safe.

Love. The Kasecas







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 at the Education Department office or for download at www.astribe.com.

- Academic (K-12) Program: assists with academic related expenses, and a portion of funds can be used for school-related athletic program expenses. Program
 has a maximum funding limit for the academic year.
- Zahn Program: established from a trust fund, program can help with some graduation expenses, and awards two (2) incentives: one for GED recipients and one for High School graduates. Program has a maximum amount of funding for graduation expenses.
- Job Training Adult Education Program: funds for vocational training at accredited vocational institutions. Program has a maximum funding limit for the calendar year or per program.
- Higher Education: Education Incentive Award Program: funds for undergraduate degrees, one associate or bachelor degree, at any accredited college or university. Funding levels are determined based upon grade point average and full-time or part-time status.
- Graduate Scholarship Program: funds for one master's degree or one doctoral degree, and can fund one graduate admissions test. This program has funding
 levels based upon full-time and part-time status.
- Big Jim Youth Award Program: annual incentive for High School Seniors for Academic Achievement and Athlete of the Year. Deadline for application submission is March 31st of each year.

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

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

For more information, please call Tresha Spoon at (405) 275-4030, Ext. 121 or 1-800-256-3341 or email to tresham@astribe.com.

Absentee Shawnee Housing Introduction

The information being provided is to help families understand what programs are offered through the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority and how to apply.

Our programs target low income Native American families

who need housing assistance. The programs currently being provided are Rental. Lease to Own and Down Payment Assistance

Application Process

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

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

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

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

Waiting List

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

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

Annual Updates required to remain on the waiting list.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Eligibility for each program has income requirements; please be sure and review the current income limits on your application.

We will not be able to process your application if you do not meet the income criteria



Low Rent Housi

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

In the Shawnee area, the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority In the shawnee area, the Absentee Snawnee Housing Authority has two elderly/handicap communities. These areas have fully and partial handicap accessible units. A laundry facility is located in the community for tenant use only. Tenants in our rental program are provided services through our Maintenance Department; if any maintenance issues should arise

you would contact the Housing Authority and a crew member will

Lease to Own Program

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

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

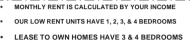
n Payment Assistance Program

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

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



- All applicants are required to attend a counseling class conducted by our Resident Counselor before signing a lease.
- Annual Recertification are required for Rental/Lease to Own programs
- Inspections are performed on our homes annually





NEW RENTAL HOMES AVAILABLE!

Applications are now being accepted for families that are over the income limits for our IHBG funded programs. Please contact our Programs & Admissions Department for further details. NOTE: There is limited homes available for this program.



Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority 107 North Kimberly P.O. Box 425 Shawnee, OK 74802-0425 Phone (405)-273-1050 Fax (405)275-0678

Down Payment Assistance Program for Over Income AST Tribal Members

This program is to provide Over-Income enrolled Absentee Shawnee Tribal members only with affordable homeownership financing oppportunites. The Over-Income Down Payment Assistance will include payment of reasonable closing cost associated with the first mortgage and the ASHA's second mortgage with the remainder of the money going toward the down payment. The maximum amount for each homeowner is \$5000.00.

Eligibility

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

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

ABSENTEE SHAWEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEPARTMENT

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocacy

The AST Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Programs are on-call 24 hours per day to provide emotional support, advocacy and crisis counseling to survivors at hospitals, police stations and throughout the legal system. The programs also serve as a resource center to the community by offering educational information and referrals.

Transitional Housing

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

Court Advocacy

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

Shelter Placement Assistance

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

Housing and Utility Assistance

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

Referral Assistance

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

Community Outreach

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

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

After School Program 2014/2015

Come join us at the AST Resource Center!!!

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



And much more!



OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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

Duration: Starts September 2nd and will run through the school year.

Monday-Thursday, 2:45pm-6:00pm

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





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

Coming soon! 2015 The Extended Hours Health Clinic will be located in the "old" Little Axe Clinic in the Casino Parking lot 15702 East HWY 9 Norman, OK 73026

Coming soon!

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





TITLE VI MENU

2% MILK SERVED DAILY

DECEMBER

2014

2% milk served, dnily

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Meny subject to change

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Beef Fingers Veggles Mashed Pot/Gravy Apricots	2 Chicken Strips Mashed Pot/Gravy Veggies Applesauce	3 Goulash Okra Salad Bar* Bread	4 Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Macaroni Salad Pineapoles	Scrambled Eggs Sausage Gravy Biscuits	Ď
8 Egg Rolls Veggies Oriental Rice Fortune Cookie	G Chili w/beans Crackers Onions, Cheese Peaches	10 Chicken Salad Lett., Tom. Chips Mandarin Oranges	Beans Steakfries Combread Crisp	Waffles Bacon Fruit	13
15 Hamburgers Lett., Tom., Onions Pork n Beans Pot. Salad Pudding	Hot Beef Sandwich Mashed Pot/Gravy Veggies Cookie	Salmon Patty Coleslaw Mac-N-Cheese Mixed Fruit	18 Chicken n Dumplings Green Beans Pears	19 Scrambled Eggs Sausage Gravy Biscuits	- 20
Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory	Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory	Christmas Eve	Merry Christmas	Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory	27
29 Kraut-n-Wieners Veggies Bread Plums	Spaghetti w/Meat sauce Breadsticks Tossed Salad*	Ham Black-eyed Peas Scalloped Pot. Combread Cookie			0
	Veggles Mashed Pot/Gravy Apricots 8 Egg Rolls Veggles Oriental Rice Fortune Cookie 15 Hamburgers Lett., Tom., Onions Pork n Beans Pot. Salad Pudding 22 'Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory 29 Kraut-n-Wieners Veggles Bread	Beef Fingers Veggles Veggles Mashed Pot/Gravy Apricots Egg Rolls Veggles Oriental Rice Fortune Cookie 15 Hamburgers Lett., Tom., Onions Pork n Beans Pot. Salad Pudding 27 Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory 18 Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory 29 Kraut-n-Wieners Veggles Bread Process Chiliken Strips Mashed Pot/Gravy Veggles Crackers Onions, Cheese Peaches 16 Hot Beef Sandwich Mashed Pot/Gravy Veggles Cookie 23 Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory 30 Spaghetti w/Meat sauce Breadsticks	Beef Fingers Veggles Veggles Mashed Pot/Gravy Apricots Begg Rolls Veggles Oriental Rice Fortune Cookie 15 Hamburgers Lett., Tom., Onions Pork n Beans Pot. Salad For Cleaning & Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Inventory 29 Kraut-n-Wieners Veggles Bread Plums Spaghetti W/Meat sauce Breadsticks Plums Spaghetti Spaghetti W/Meat sauce Breadsticks Forsed Salad* Scalloped Pot. Combread	1 Beef Fingers Veggles	Beef Fingers Veggles Mashed Pot/Gravy Apricots 8 Egg Rolls Veggles Onions, Cheese Fortune Cookie Peaches Pork n Beans Salady n Biscuits Scalabyet Bread Bread Breads Title VI Closed For Cleaning & Scalabyet For Cleaning & Scalabyet

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