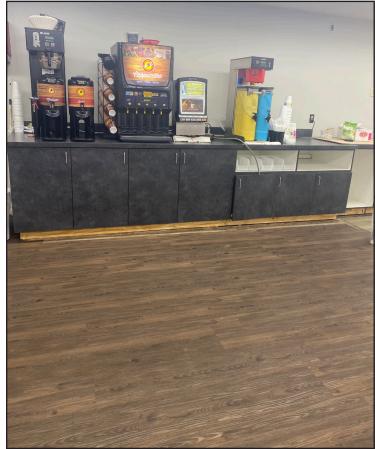


THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE NEWS

www.astribe.com Volume 31, No. 12 December 2021

Tribal Store Receives Storm Damage Repairs





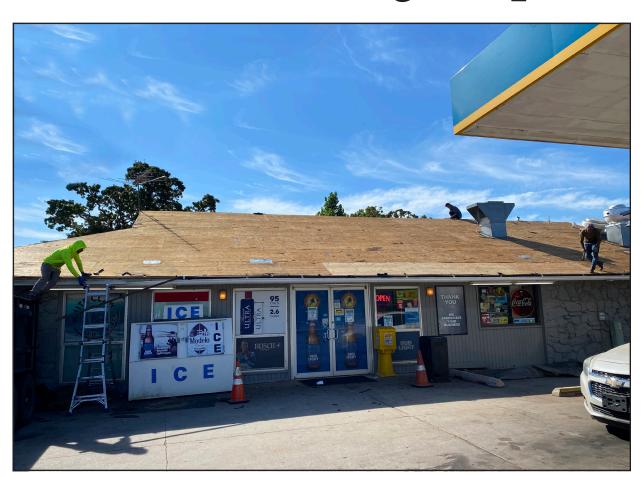


Photo: Roofers working on AST Tribal Store roof.

The massive ice storm that hit Oklahoma in February of 2021 did significant damage to Thunderbird Express. Renovations to the Tribal store at 15700 East Highway 9 in Norman are almost complete.

The ongoing project is the result of a more than \$100,000 insurance claim. The ice storm caused over \$196 billion in damage and is the costliest winter storm on record

The store was hit with hail damage to the roof and the inside was flooded. The water damage caused the need for new flooring, appliances and office furniture.

The project includes a new roof, guttering, cabinets, flooring, appliances and office furniture. The inside and outside of the store was

also repainted. The entire project was completed as a result of the insurance

The tribe did help pay for part of the kitchen expansion and the upgrade of the air conditioning units. The kitchen was expanded and has three times more space. Kitchen renovations included gutting and remodeling the entire space.

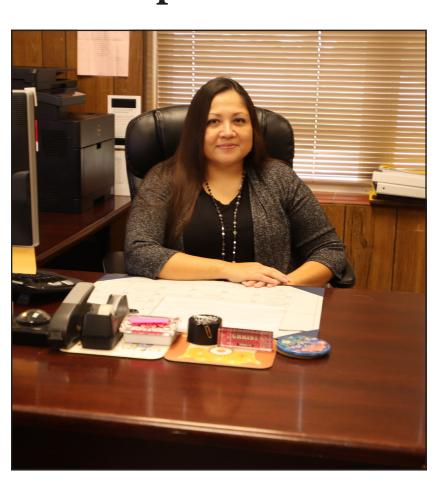
"The store really appreciates the Executive Committee so much", said tribal store manager Patsy Haeffner. "The Governor, Secretary and Treasurer were a big part of getting this project done. We couldn't have done this without them."

The renovations began in the summer. Work should be complete in the next few months.



Photo: New roof completed.

Tresha Spoon Celebrates 20 Years of Employment with AST



Education Director Tresha Spoon

For over 20 years she has assisted tribal members across the nation from pre-kindergarten through doctoral degrees with their educational needs.

Tribal member Tresha Spoon started her career with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe as a temporary adult WIA worker in 2001. That October she was hired as a regular full-time employee for ICW as the child protection/foster care worker. In 2002 she became the Director of Education and in 2007 she added Family Services Director to her title.

As Director of Education, she currently administers eight Education programs. The Education programs assist tribal members across the nation from Pre-Kindergarten through Doctoral degrees. She also oversees the Tribal Youth Program offered at the Brendle Corner Community Building in Little Axe. She is the grant administrator for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Tribal Youth Program grant the Education department received in 2019. The OJJDP Grant targets youth ages 11-14 with a variety of services and supplements the annual summer day camp-Camp Nikoti, the Little Axe Afterschool program, Youth Diversion program, Melokami (Spring Break) Youth day camp, and the Little Axe Soccer program.

Spoon is passionate about advocating for the youth of the tribe and this passion is what has kept her here for 20 years. "Many people say they value our youth, I get the opportunity to show them by the hard work we do in the Education department through our different programs and services. I do my best to support and encourage them through the Tribe's programs. I'm proud of the students that go through our programs. I enjoy seeing their successes." she said.

During her time at the Tribe, she has served on the numerous boards and committees in an effort to better serve tribal members. She has served on the AST Domestic Violence Advisory Board for three years beginning in 2018, the REL Southwest Governing Board of SEDL for four years ending in 2018, the AST Foster Care Licensing Committee for a total of eight years ending in 2014, and the Oklahoma Council on Economic Education's Board of Directors beginning in 2006 and is currently on the Finance and MEE Competition committees.

She has a Bachelor's degree in Management from the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma and a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Tresha Spoon we commend you for your 20 years of service with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.



GOVERNOR John Johnson



Lt. GOVERNOR Ezra DeLodge



SECRETARY Alicia Miller



TREASURER Joseph Blanchard



REPRESENTATIVE DeWayne Wilson



GOVERNOR'S REPORT

John Johnson, AST Governor

Hello fellow tribal members. I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with lots of food and family fun. It is hard to believe it is the last month of the year. This year has been challenging in many ways but the tribe has continued to grow and make steps forward throughout 2021.

On October 23rd the 87th Semi-Annual General Council was held at the Thunderbird Casino in Little Axe. We had a good turnout with safety protocols in place. It was great to see all the tribal members that attended. Questions and concerns that tribal

members expressed were addressed by the Executive Committee. I believe this meeting went well and I am excited for the next General Council in April 2022.

This year for the children's Christmas gift, we have decided to give a \$25 gift card. If you have an enrolled AST child 0-17 fill out an application on the AST website and a gift card will be mailed to your child on December 17th. The application deadline is December 10th, so be sure to get your application in for your child.

Since the opening of the AST Food Pantry on September 29th, I am proud to announce we are now serving over 100 tribal members. Also for

the month of December the amount of food has increased and you will get more holiday items along with the regular items that are giving monthly. If you have not applied please go by the Food Pantry and turn in your application. Income guidelines are not being used at this time so all AST households qualify (it is one box per household).

As I come to a close, I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope this New Year brings health and happiness to all tribal members. I am excited for the new adventures that the tribe will be undertaking in 2022.

LT. GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Ezra DeLodge, AST Lt. Governor

Tribal Members,

I hope we are all doing well and getting back to some sort of normal, within the safety and precautions which we have been advised to follow. I honestly feel Covid is something we will be dealing with for some time if not becoming a part of our "new" normal. I just want to report a few department updates within my oversight.

Woodcutting Program

As of 11/10/2021, we have 11 ricks, 3 stacked at Resource Center and 8 at the south side of camp. We still have wood to be blocked and split at the camp; hopefully we'll get about 6 to 8 additional ricks by end of next week. Phase 4, play ground has about 3 hours of work left which include cutting and hauling off trees. Once this is complete we will be ready for stump removals. A work order was issued about a down oak tree on the driveway of the old south ceremonial ground, Donnie and David completed order and stacked wood as requested. **BIA Roads Program**

As of today, we have served 19 driveway applicants and we have several more that are nearing completion that I will be working on next week. On the county road side, we currently have 9 miles of roads approved for Cleveland County. One of those miles has been completed, minus the striping, which will be completed soon; the other 8 miles will follow (including the road leading to the youth camp.) I do not have anything scheduled currently with Pott. County but I would like to schedule a meeting with the Commissioners in the near future.

Maintenance Dept. Update

The campus maintenance crew has been keeping up with all work orders that comes in for the campus while mowing and trimming tree limbs. We

are also helping move some office furniture for Tax Commission into their new building. Since November 1, 2021 we have completed 18 work orders that is actually in 7 business days **OEH Update**

From January 2021 to November 2021, OEH has assisted Tribal members with 60 different septic renovations and installations, water well drilling and installations, well renovations, and community water connections.

For 2021, we have collected, processed, and recycled 54 bales of shredded office paper and cardboard equaling roughly 40 tons of recyclable waste that has been diverted from landfills.

128 Tribal Response, 106 Water Pollution, 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution, and GAP Grant Applications have been awarded and we are now operating under EPA Fiscal Year 2021. We are currently working with EPA on developing our budget narratives and work plans for each grant to submit for Fiscal Year 2022.

Our new environmental manager, Kevin Arthur, began his new position on October 4th. He is doing a fantastic job with managing our EPA grants and staying in contact with our EPA project officers to ensure our EPA grants programs are reaching their maximum potential.

The cabins and bathhouse at Camp Nikoti are currently being framed. The contractors are making great progress and construction is expected to be completed by January. All project construction and closeout documentation is expected to be completed well ahead of the HUD Designated deadline.

We are currently in the process of requesting proposals for architects to develop engineering specifications and plans for the new Police Safety Center. Once all proposals are received we will be working with the

Police Department and the Architect Firm to develop the specs and plans and then will begin the process of requesting bids for contractors. Ideally, we will have a general contractor under signed contract by January and will begin construction.

Agriculture Dept. Update

The Ag Department is starting operation for the preparations of the lands for planting next Spring. The staff has identified 4 different plots in which seed will be planted on. These plots total around 100 acres of land that can be used for production. The preparation will begin with cutting firebreaks, then applying Prescribed Fire to clean the surface area and then plowing to allow the area to absorb all the winter moisture as possible.

An information board is in the creation to provide the necessary information to all tribal members that are interested in gardening next spring. Working with several entities- the NRCS, OSU Extension Office- literature, planting schedules and other types of info will be available to assist with your planting efforts.

Along with the information board, we will be trying to work in conjunction with different presenters and educators from the Extension Office to host classes about planting/gardening. We will send out notices when these sessions are scheduled. We look forward to assisting and working with anyone interested in gardening next spring, any questions or suggestions, contact Admin Assistant Jennifer Howell (405) 827-6545, or Andy Warrior (405) 432-6257.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me by email ezrad@astribe.com, call my office 405-275-4030 x 6253 or cell 405-432-0733.

Respectfully, Lt. Governor DeLodge

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Alicia Miller, AST Secretary

Ho wa se ke sa ke!

I would like to begin my article by wishing all my relations a very Merry Christmas! The Executive Committee has had a busy productive year, and closing out this last quarter of 2021, particularly this year due to CARES, and preparing for 2022 - is just as fast and furious as the whole year com-

At the November regular monthly meeting, the EC formally passed resolutions accepting the ARPA Enrollment Allocation, Employee Allocation, and the Homeowner Assistance Funds from the Treasury. This move was a formality; however, this documentation aids the Tribe in building budgets and to better track expenditures of these funds. We had some lessons learned (internally) regarding the approach of these new monies and the EC wanted to have a better-established administrative process. Overall, what helps us, helps you.

During the same meeting, the EC passed a resolution to provide additional (ARPA) funds to the AST Children's Clothing Program (K-12th) for CY 2022. Each eligible school-aged child will see an increase to purchase clothing from \$200. to \$500. This will un-doubtly help parents when purchasing school clothing for their children. To me and to many of our tribal members, this was a common sense move to provide increase assistance to our tribal families in a highly utilized and existing program. This will take effect January 3, 2022. Please contact Social Services to complete your annual application and please be sure to attach your child's updated CDIB with the application so there is no delay for their assistance.

The EC also held a special meeting to take care of our tribal members and staff. The EC passed resolutions to provide a tribal member winter general assistance in the amount of \$500 for those who were enrolled prior to June 1, 2021, and for the retention

of our current staff (we did not offer Hazard Pay after the 1st quarter of the CY 2021). Due to the date the special meeting was held and this newsletter submission deadline, we will be placing the winter general assistance communications on the tribal website and on the tribe's social media. The information will be released at the beginning of December, so please be sure to be on the lookout! The intended plan is to put out a quicker process, so payments are received timely. Again, just be sure to be on the lookout.

I look forward to continuing good things for tribal members in 2022 and I also have continued hope for normalcy from this pandemic.

Wishing you all good tidings during this very Merry holiday season!

Si li no ke ka no la. Ne yi wa.

Respectfully, Alicia Miller **Tribal Secretary** (405) 287-5247

December 2021 www.astribe.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joseph Blanchard, AST Treasurer

Hello Fellow Tribal Members,

I hope all is well with you and your families. It is finally December and many of us will be creating memories throughout the next few weeks as we move into 2022. Take a moment to reflect upon all the good things that have happened this year. Also, remember and pray for those who have had hard times and may not be in a celebratory mood.

First, I want to report, by the time of this submission, the Executive Com-

mittee will have met to discuss a final disbursement from the remainder of the CARES funds. This is an effort to assist our members with unexpected expenses and distribute before the Federal Government's December 30th deadline. This action prevents the Tribe from sending back any of the monies received.

In other news, my office had been working with Health and our other departments to submit a proposed budget for approval in November. We were able to pass Health but had issues with the Tribe's portion due to recent changes in rates. Subsequently,

this caused a delay and I agreed with Finance to complete this process by the December Regular Meeting.

Other information I want to pass along includes updates from some of my oversight departments. In a recent Department head meeting, the Grants Director informed the Leadership they had submitted grants applications in excess of \$20 million dollars. This is great news for the Tribe as it provides additional funding and job opportunities for our community.

In Procurement, there was a job opening for an Assets/Fleet Coordinator position. I am happy to announce, new Director, Rebecca Kennedy has filled the position with another qualified, tribal member. I want to quickly "Welcome" Leonard Foreman, Jr to our team as we look forward to his contribution and believe he will be a great benefit to the Tribe.

That is all I have for this month but I want to end by wishing everyone a "Merry Christmas!" Enjoy this season with your loved ones as we all hope and look forward to a prosperous New Year in 2022.

Happy Holidays!

Joseph H. Blanchard

REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

DeWayne Wilson, AST Representative

Hello Tribal Members,

I hope everyone is staying healthy. The Tribal Complex is at Phase 3 Modified due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The Executive Committee has approved and started the Tribe's Vaccine Incentive Program for any Tribal member/ employee who wants to be vaccinated. Lt. Gov. Ezra Delodge and I attended the 1st OSU-OKC Tribal Education Advisory Council at the First American Museum in OKC. This council's goal is to create education and training programs to assist Tribes. These programs may include Tribal Gov./ Admin., Operations, Cultural Tourism, Economic Development, Finance/ Budget, Gaming, Again, I want to send out my heart- felt condolences out to all Tribal families who have lost loved ones. I want to acknowledge that I have hired Mr. Eddie Brokeshoulder as my Administrative Assistant.

Education Department: Education Director Tresha Spoon and I have been discussing the implementation of the AST Workforce Development and Career Initiative. We have been discussing developing meetings, who and how many people we want to invite, the criteria for applicants and the type of career opportunities that will be of benefit to the applicant/ Tribe. We are also discussing how ARPA funding can be used/ utilized in the Education Department over the next three years. We are discussing increases in stipends or the addition of personnel.

Cultural Preservation Department: Ms. Carol Butler (Director) and I have had meetings with MIS and the Grants Departments. With our meeting with MIS, we found we have room on the Tribe's website to promote some of the Language resources. Cultural Preservation Dept. plans on doing this in the near future. By doing this, we can accomplish some goals/ objective of the ANA grant. As for the ANA Language grant, we met with the Grants Department. We discussed the goals/ objectives we can accomplish to keep this grant moving forward. We will continue to look for a candidate for the Linguist position.

Gaming Commission: Gaming Commissioners and I have filled the Executive Director and two Compliance Officers positions. I continue to attend the Gaming Commission meetings, where we approved/ disapproved Employee/ Vendor Licensing requests. We continue to look/ research training opportunities for our employees.

Youth Camp: There is a lot of construction going on at the Youth Camp from tree cutting and removal, road construction, and the construction of camp cabins/ bathhouse. We continue to look for other funding sources for the different projects that we would like to accomplish.

At the recent General Council, it was good to see/ speak with some of my family and other Tribal member that I haven't seen in for a while. As always, I am honor to be here representing our tribe and our tribal membership. If anyone has any questions/ concerns feel free to contact me at office phone #405-275-4030, Ext. 6239 or by email: dewayne.wilson@astribe.

"HAPPY THANKSGIVING EV-ERYONE"

Respectfully, DeWayne Wilson

Agriculture Department

The Ag Department is starting operation for the preparations of the lands for planting next Spring. The staff has identified 4 different plots in which seed will be planted on. These plots total around 100 acres of land that can be used for production. The preparation will begin with cutting firebreaks, then applying Prescribed Fire to clean the surface area and then plowing to allow the area to absorb all the winter moisture as possible.

An information board is in the creation to provide the necessary information to all tribal members that are interested in gardening next spring. Working with several entities- the NRCS, OSU Extension Office- literature, planting schedules and other types of info will be available to assist with your planting

Along with the information board, we will be trying to work in conjunction with different presenters and educators from the Extension Office to host classes about planting/gardening. We will send out notices when these sessions are scheduled. We look forward to assisting and working with anyone interested in gardening next spring.

Any questions or suggestions, contact Admin Assistant Jennifer Howell (405) 827-6545, or Andy Warrior (405) 432-6257.

Indian Child Welfare (ICW)



ICW staff with the Thanksgiving gift baskets they will deliver to the Angel Tree recipients.

Photo (L-R): Shawnee Martinez, ICW Case Manager; Paige LittleCharley, ICW Caseworker; Shelia Wilson, ICW Caseworker; Chanci Peterson, ICW Director



Children's Christmas \$25 Gift Card



Applications will be available starting November 10th, 2021 ***Deadline for applications is December 10th, 2021 at 5pm.***

Application received after the deadline will not be accepted and a gift card will not be issued.

Qualifications and documents needed to apply:

- Children must be between the ages 0-17 and be an enrolled member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Complete Children's Christmas Gift application.
- Must attach a current copy of child's CDIB card.
- Must attach a copy of Parent/Guardian State ID and CDIB card • Children living with Custodial Parent or Legal Guardian or an Out-of-home placement, must provide:
 - CDIB and State ID for the adult applying on child(ren) behalf; and Custody Documentation (need minimum of 1 document indicating custody status)
 - Divorce Decree Guardianship

 - Legal or Notarized Custody Agreement Letter from Child(ren) School (Proof of Residency)
 - OKDHS Letter (TANF, Food Stamps, ect.)

Please Print: Name of Child

CDIB# Date of Birth Age **Address** City State Are you the parent of the applicant Yes__ No_

Are you legal guardian of the applicant Yes__ No __ (Please provide proof of guardianship)

Parent/Guardian Date of Birth_ City Address **Email**

- O I am a parent or guardian entering this information for my child and will not claim the gift card for a child not in my custody.
- O I understand there is only one gift card per qualifying tribal member who is 0-17 years of age. O I will not provide false information in order to receive this gift card.
- O I understand this is a voluntary and first come first serve program.

We are not responsible for lost or stolen gift cards. For questions: giftcardhelp@astribe.com or call (405) 275-4030 x6269

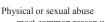
2.8 million teens run away every year 1 out of every 7 kids between the ages of 10-18 will choose to run away from home at least once

47% of children experience conflicts with parents or guardians at home.

34% of runaways experience sexual abuse at home with 80% of those being girls.

43% of teens reported physical abuse as one of the main reasons they left home. 17% of runaways have been involved with the local juvenile justice system in some wa

Risk Factors That May Cause Youth to Runaway:



most common reason why kids run away 17% of runaways reported they were subjected to unwanted sexual activity by a member of

- Family conflict
- Struggling to manage mental health 56% of teens that run away reported having some sort of mental illness issue at some point in
- Drug addictions that affect teens are the second most common reason why kids decide to run
- 17% of runaway teens were found using hard drugs. To be with a friend, romantic partner, or biological family





Do not interrupt when they are explaining something, even if you disagree, wait until they are done

Establish good communication with your child. Always tell your child that you love them and they are important to you.

Talk with your child about the dangers of running away from home.

Invite your child's new friends to the house to get to know their social network.

Camp Nikoti Youth Programs Provided: Afterschool Program-Tutoring, Prevention, healthy lifestyle

Explorers Program-Working with the tribal cops and emergence

Spring Break Camp-Five day camp for 6th-12th graders Activities and prevention all week.

Soccer League-8 week league, 3-18yr old broke up into differe

Contact information: Blake Goodman – <u>bgoodman@astribe.com</u> or 405-275-4030 ext. 6432

sfixico@astribe.com or 405-275-4030 ext. 6433 Or call TYP Cell @405-617-6231

Nation Wide Education Statistics During Pandemic:

- By the end of the school year of 2020-2021,
- students were three to six percentile points behind in reading and eight to 12 points behind in math. First grade through sixth grade students were on
- months behind on reading. Reading achievements for Native American students during 2020-2021 were down an average of 1 to 7 percentile points. In math, their achievements were down by 17 points.

average five months behind in math and fourth





4 www.astribe.com

December 2021

Veterans Association



The AST Veterans Association participated in the Veterans Day Parade held by the city of Norman on Sunday, November 14, 2021.



The AST flagpole was recently refurbished by The AST Veterans Association. A solar powered light on top was installed and will illuminate the flags up to 12 hours.

The Search for Shawnee DNA

Deoxyribonucleic acid also known as DNA is defined as self-replicating material that is present in nearly all living organisms as the main constituent of chromosomes. It is the carrier of genetic information.

Every living person has DNA. But how can you distinguish Absentee Shawnee DNA? Dorene Soiret is on a mission to do just that. She has spent over 40 years researching genetics and native DNA. She wants to determine the markers in DNA that show Absentee Shawnee lineage.

What began as a quest to prove her own heritage, has evolved into the first ever Shawnee DNA Project.

"About six years ago I decided I wanted to find a DNA company that was more "forensic" in nature, especially one that specialized in Native American DNA. I found and researched extensively DNA Consultants who has been in business since 2003. "Soiret said.

"I researched their company for almost two years before I personally decided to test with them. I found that their tests are more reliable, in that the technology they use is more exacting than other DNA tests offered to the consumer and they have one of the largest population databases available to match customer's DNA, over 500 worldwide, including many Native American populations." She explained. "Because of my blog and my involvement in the Phase 3 mitochondrial study, I have

been peppering DNA Consultants with questions about who would conduct such studies and how would I contact the geneticists necessary to get a study started so that we don't lose that unique DNA signature (preferably elders' DNA for obvious reasons) before it is admixed to such a point that its uniqueness is lost. To me, I realize how important it is. I feel it is like oral tradition, it is so important and it needs to be saved for future generations."

Most genetic tests only determine the ethnic groups that make up a person's DNA but Soiret wants to identify the exact genetic marker to determine if a person is Shawnee. There's not a lot of tests that break down the types of Native American diversity in DNA. Soiret and DNA Consultants are specifically looking into mitochondrial DNA, the DNA passed down from the mother.

"I'd love to get as many elders tested as possible to give us (Shawnee) a good representation of what our DNA looks like. It would be one or two generations closer." Soiret said.

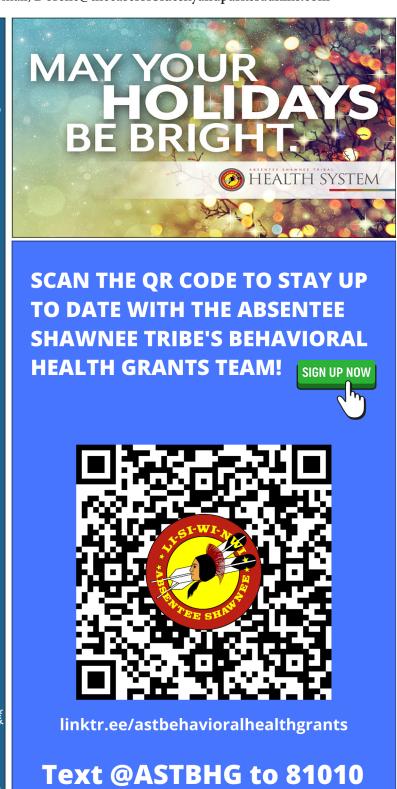
In collaboration with DNA Consultants she is working to test 30 participants to identify their DNA fingerprints. Testing is being done on Absentee Shawnee tribal members along with Eastern Shawnee and the Shawnee tribe.

Dorene Soiret (Left) and Tribal member Sharon Shawnee who participated in the Shawnee DNA Project.

Participants will receive a personal confidential Basic American Indian DNA Ancestry Report in exchange for contributing their alleles anonymously to the project. For those who would like to participate who prefer to purchase their own test kit, DNA Consultants will give them a 20 percent discount. The cost of the kit is \$135.

Interested Tribal members can contact Soiret by email, Dorene@thecaseforblueskyandparkeradkins.com





December 2021 www.astribe.com



ASTHS December 2021 Monthly Update

Remembering our Native American Heritage: Healthy Living - You're in Charge!

As Native Americans, we are very fortunate today to have the healthcare we do. It is very easy to forget, and often we do in our busy lives forget, how all of our ancestors suffered greatly for us to have what we have today. Every Tribe in Oklahoma today is not here without historical struggles and strife. There are even serious studies about the generational effects upon Tribal members with historical trauma as the result of reloca-

tion and other abuses and treatment during relocation to Indian Territory, what we all know now as Oklahoma today, and the years in-between. The bond of care between Tribes and the United States Government through treaties, compacts, and other codified agreements, secure funding for either direct care or indirect health care services we all enjoy now as Native Americans. There has never been a greater time than today for Tribal members and their healthcare, historically underfunded and many times with needs unmet. With Marketplace expansion for Americans in general and also Native Americans, including Medicare and Medicaid programs also touching more lives than ever, these health insurance coverages combined with our healthcare with the Indian Health Service (I.H.S.) provide the best array of healthcare Native Americans have ever enjoyed. As horrible as the pandemic has been, it is also extremely fortunate our Government has provided Tribes with both CARES Act and ARPA funds to extend care and services, not only in healthcare, but to all Tribal members with various needs due to the ravages and negative impacts heaped upon Tribal communities from the pandemic.

We need to honor our ancestor's struggles by taking full advantage of what their pain and struggles earned us today. Taking charge of your health means keeping your appointments, taking your medications as prescribed, following your provider's instructions with self-care, and maintaining routine check-ups. It also means ensuring you keep your patient information current, so if you are in need of contract health services or you need help from a family member or a caretaker, that you have that caretaker or family member listed in your records to help you with medical issues and information that you authorize ahead of time to be released to them when you need help. This may change for patients' year over year, so that is another reason keeping your information current is so important. One of the top reasons for PRC, (formerly called Contract Health), not approving claims is due to outdated information, wrong phone numbers or outdated contact information, and not updating current addresses or dependents. Failing to do these important "little things" can cause delays in coordinating care for you or your family. Please continue to take care of your health tomorrow by *taking charge* of your health today! Doing so not only provides for early disease detection, treatment, and prevention, it honors our ancestor's memories for what they suffered and the services we enjoy today as a result of what they went through. Let's all honor our ancestors, not only during Native American Heritage Month each November, but all year long by taking charge of our health today!

Join us in celebrating our December Monthly Employee Award Winners this month! These outstanding professionals and team players lead the way in making our programs succeed and with taking care of our patients!

December 2021 Health Employee Awards of the Month

Employee of the Month: Quentin L. Creek, AST Health System's Patient Registration Department

Team of the Month: AST Health System's Patient Benefit Advisors Team

Special Leadership Award: Connie Bottaro, AST Health System's Patient Benefit Director

Mark E. Rogers, MAL, FACHE, CMPE, CHC **Executive Director**

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL HEALTH SYSTEM SCHEDULED CLOSINGS





- Don't forget to request medication refills before closure: LAHC Pharmacy 405.292.9530/Shawnee Pharmacy 405.878.5859
- In the event of a predicted severe weather forecast, please call ahead for possible health system closure or delay:
- LAHC 405. 447.0300/ Shawnee Clinic 405. 878.5850/ PlusCare 405. 447.0477 Health closures/delays are posted on the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System on Facebook and on ASTHS website at www.asthealth.org.
- Please remember the 1st Wednesday of each month our facilities are closed from noon to 5PM. PlusCare & Shawnee Clinic OPEN 5pm until 8PM (last patient at 7:30PM).



Traditional holiday gatherings with family and friends are fun but can increase the chances or spreading of COVID-19 or the flu. The safest way to celebrate this year is with people in your own household. Consider visiting with extended friends and family virtually. If you do host an event, or aftend an event, remember the three Ws: (1) Wear your mask; (2) Watch your distance. Stay at least 6 feet away from others who do not live with you; And (3) Wash your hands. Together, we can keep our community more healthy this holiday season.





It is our mission to provide quality health care. To do this, we need some help from you. Share your needs, concerns and care experiences. Call patient advocate Jim Robertson at 405.447.0300 or Customer Service at 405.701.7623. Complete a Patient Questionnaire in one of our clinics or online.

Together, we will fulfill our mission.





www.astribe.com December 2021

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2021

AFTERHOURS COVID-19 & ANTIBODY **TESTING & VACCINE CLINIC**

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER 405.447.0300

- <u>Testing</u>- 5:30pm-6:30pm: Thursday, Nov. 18th, Dec. 2nd, & Dec. 16th
- ANTIBODY testing 5 pm 6 pm (LAC only): Thursday, Nov.18th, & Dec. 30th
- Vaccinations 5pm 7pm: Thursday, Nov. 18th, Dec. 2nd, & Dec. 16th

SHAWNEE CLINIC 405.878.5850

- <u>Testing</u>- 5:30 pm-6:30 pm: Tuesday, Nov. 9th, Nov. 30th, & Dec. 14th
- <u>Vaccinations</u>- 5pm-7pm: Tuesday, Nov. 9th, Nov. 30th, Dec. 14th, & Dec. 28th

For Your Visit...

- cloth masks permitted).

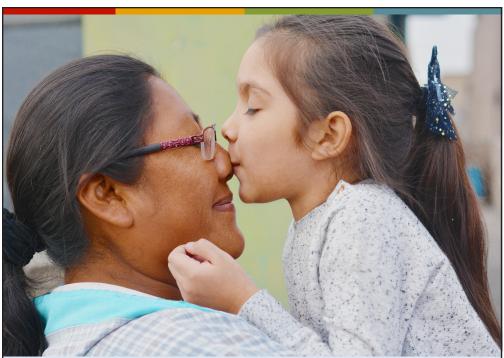
For Antibody Testing...

- Be prepared to have blood drawn.
- Testing is available to anyone ages 10+.

Clinic...

- to anyone ages 5+
- administered in two shots 3-4 weeks apart.
- monitored 15-30 minutes after receiving.

In the event of adverse weather, testing may not be conducted. *Follow* the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System on Facebook or our website for updates at asthealth.org.





The Absentee Shawnee Health System is now administering the COVID-19 vaccine to all individuals ages 5 years and older.

> TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT CALL 405.701.7190

> > 405.701.7600

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A \$0 COST HEALTH PLAN UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN.

Help yourself, help your tribe and see if you will qualify for coverage that will provide you and your family with immediate access to specialized healthcare at no cost to you or your tribe.

Did you know? The American Rescue Plan (ARP), recently signed into law by President Biden, increases and expands eligibility for cost-savings programs under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in the form of premium cost assistance for individuals enrolled in Health Insurance Marketplace plans.

The premium assistance is in the form of a IRS Advance Premium Tax Credit taken in advance of the tax year, lowering or eliminating health insurance premiums for lower-and middleincome families. Signing up for a low-or-zero cost health plan allows tribes to receive reimbursement for services, which frees up more dollars to help those who are not eligible for costsavings programs, helping Purchased Referred Care dollars go



TO APPLY:

Health Insurance Marketplace www.healthcare.gov 1.800.318.2596

WE CAN HELP

Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate 405.447.0300 405.878.5850





• Wear a mask (no

- Bring identification.
- All clinics are open to the public, walk-in only, no appointment needed.

For Vaccine

- Vaccine is available
- Vaccine will be
- You will be



TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT CALL 405.701.7190 405.701.7600



WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A 3RD DOSE OF **A COVID-19 VACCINE?**

MODERNA:

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive an additional dose. This includes people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood.
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system.
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system.
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection.
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response.

PFIZER-BioNTech:

The CDC is recommending that only certain populations initially vaccinated with the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine can get a booster shot at this time:

- Older adults and 50-64 year old people with medical conditions.
- Long-term care setting residents aged 18 years and older. • People with medical conditions aged 18-49 years.
- Employees and residents at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission.

People should talk to their healthcare provider about their medical condition and if they meet the above criteria for getting an additional dose.

For more information, please visit www.asthealth.org

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html







Help Yourself, Help Your Tribe

SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR A \$0 COST HEALTH PLAN AT NO COST TO YOU OR YOUR TRIBE

2022 Open Enrollment

OPEN ENROLLMENT Oct. 15-Dec. 7, 2021 **OPEN ENROLLMENT** Nov. 1-Dec. 15, 2021



- Patient Benefit Advocates and our contracted benefit advisers can help you qualify for a \$0 cost health plan via Health Insurance Marketplace or Medicare
- You may also qualify for extra benefits such as Dental (including dentures or major services), Vision (exam/lenses),
- Enrolling in a health plan expedites the Purchase & Referred Care referral process, providing you immediate access to specialized healthcare services and gives you peace of mind when you travel at zero cost to you and our tribal community,
- Per Purchase/Referred Care guidelines, all Native American patients must apply for all available resources, if elegible.

Did You Know?

- The Tribe is only funded approximately 40% of cost to render care to patients? Most people think it is funded 100%.
- To add services, equipment, or help more people, we need your assistance.
- By signing up for a zero cost plan, you allow the tribe to bill for services and to be reimbursed by insurance companies. This frees up more dollars to help those who are not eligible for a zero cost plan helping Purchase & Referred Care dollars go further.

We Can Help Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate

A contracted benefit adviser is also available

Little Axe Health Center

Shawnee Clinic

Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate to see if you are eligible for Native American Cost-Savings under the Affordable Care Act.

To assist our tribal community with their open enrollment options free-of-cost.







Working Together to Serve Our Veteran Warriors

VA Healthcare Services at ASTHS

- ✓ Primary Care Medical Services
- ✓ Behavioral Health Services Service-Connected Disabilities
- ✓ Dental Services
- **✓** Vision Services

VA disability assessments and re-assessment exams and VA Compensation and Pension Exams must be scheduled at a VA facility.

Did You Know?

American Indian and Alaska Native Veterans now have increased health care options through reimbursement sharing agreements with the VA, and you can choose to seek care through VA or through the ASTHS Tribal Health System for your VA healthcare needs? These agreements mean more resources are available to support the collective health and wellness of tribal veterans.

VA Benefits

ASTHS Patient Benefit Advocates and our local area VA Native American Nurse Navigator can help tribal veterans navigate VA benefits for which they may be eligible, such as health benefits, disability, pension, education and training, NA housing loans, survivors' benefits, and more.

OKC VA Native American Nurse Navigator:

405.456.3808 **Apply for VA Health Benefits:** 800.827.1000 Apply for VA Benefits: 855.488.8441 www.va.gov

Little Axe Health Center

Shawnee Clinic 405.878.5850









www.asthealth.org

Relations a.gov/tribalgovernment | 405.456.3876

Office of
Tribal Government

ASTHS PHARMACY IS HERE TO SERVE YOU WITH NEW UPDATES



As of October 11, 2021, Pharmacy is no longer utilizing the RXtoGo Application for medication refills. Patients are now able to request refills with the RefillQuick Application available on Apple and Android devices. In the RefillQuick app you are able to select and save your default pharmacy by adding the phone number when you first open the app (LAHC- 405.292.9530 or Shawnee Clinic- 405.878.5859)

It is anticipated that wait times for the next few weeks may be longer than usual while staff gets familiar with the new refill system. We appreciate your anticipated patience during this transition. Thank you in advance.

Refill Requests can be made the following ways:

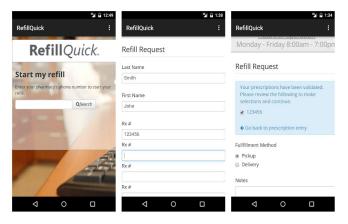
- 1. Calling via phone: LAHC 405.292.9530 & Shawnee Clinic 405.878.5859
- 2. Go to https://www.asthealth.org/services/pharmacy
- 3. Downloading the RefillQuick app on your Apple or Android device



REFILLQUICK APP STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Download the RefillQuick App on your Apple or Android device
- 2. Open the app and enter your preferred pharmacy phone number, this will be saved as your default pharmacy in the future: LAHC 405.292.9530 Shawnee Clinic 405.878.5859
- 3. Enter your information in the refill request boxes and submit
- 4. Once submitted you will see a prescription validation message. If you do not see this check your prescription numbers and for correct spelling of name

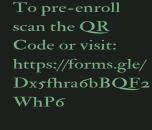




**For a "Pocket Profile" (list of all your medications) please request this verbally to our pharmacy staff



MEDICINE WHEEL & 12 STEPS PROGRAM









FATHERHOOD IS SACRED; MOTHERHOOD IS SACRED **PARENTING CLASS**

PURPOSE

The fatherhood is Sacred & Motherhood is Sacred Parenting Enrichment Program was created by the Native American Fatherhood & Families Association (NAFFA) for fathers and mothers using a Native American approach. The purpose is to create positive change & to build a safe & happy family.

Outcomes

- Increase families and individuals ability to face life's challenges
- Build Person character & Integrity
- Become a more confident individual/parent
- Understand the importance of vision and how powerful it is
- Use critical thinking skills to explore ideas and solve problems within the family and

COURSE CONTENT

SESSION ONE: INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAM SESSION TWO: LAYING THE FOUNDATION SESSIONT THREE: THE CREATOR **SESSION FOUR: CHOICE** SESSION FIVE: ESSENTIAL PART OF CHOICE **SESSION SIX: TEACHABLE**

SESSION SEVEN: BARRIERS TO BEING TEACHABLE **SESSION EIGHT: WISDOM SESSION NINE: SERVICE SESSION TEN: SELF-IDENTITY SESSION ELEVEN: RELATIONSHIPS SESSION TWELVE: NURTURING**









Under 65? Apply for SoonerCare With New Medicaid Expansion.

AST Tribal Health System and the Oklahoma Health Care Authority are pleased to announce effective July 1, 2021, Oklahoma is expanding Medicaid for adults ages 19-64 with incomes at or below 138% of the federal poverty level. Per Purchased Referred Care guidelines, all patients under 65 years old, whether insured or uninsured, must apply for Medicaid Expansion benefits effective July 1, 2021 to help augment the cost of tribal healthcare services. Help yourself, help your tribe and see if you and your family will qualify to get coverage at no cost to you or your tribe.





WE CAN HELP

Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate Little Axe Shawnee Health Center Clinic 405.447.0300 405.878.5850

www.asthealth.org





Prevention. Progress. Pride. **ENSURING HOPE PROJECT**

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

ELDER SUBSTANCE USE



Are elders impacted differently by alcohol and drugs?

Aging could possibly lead to social and physical changes that may increase vulnerability to substance misuse. Elders may be more likely to experience mood disorders, lung and heart problems, or memory issues. Drugs can worsen these conditions, exacerbating the negative health consequences of substance use. It can also result in accidents and injuries which pose a greater risk to health in elders

Prescription Medications

aging, and elders are often prescribed more medicines than other age groups, leading to a higher rate of exposure to potentially addictive medications. Other risks could include accidental misuse of prescription drugs, and possible worsening of existing mental health issues Persistent pain may be more complicated in elders experiencing other health conditions. Up to 80% of patients with advanced cancer report pain, as well as 77% of heart disease patients, and up to 40% of outpatients 65 and older.





Do you know the risk factors for substance use in elders?



- Chronic Pain
- Physical Disabilities
- Reduced Mobility
- Transitions in
- living
- Chronic Illness
- Avoidance
- coping style Previous or
- current mental illness
- Loss of a loved one
- Forced
- Retirement
- Change in Income Poor Health
- **Status** Taking a lot of medications and supplements
- History of substance use
- disorders Social isolation



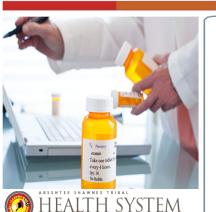
If you or a loved one would like more information about elder substance abuse or mental health, please contact us or visit our

 $\underline{https://www.asthealth.org/services/behavioral}$ -health

Ensuring Hope Project Director, Crystal Springer: (405) 878-4716 Little Axe Health Center: (405) 447-0300 Shawnee Clinic: (405) 878-4716



Pharmacy Reminder



3 WAYS TO REFILL YOUR PRESCRIPTION

Call us with your prescription number ready at: Little Axe Pharmacy- 405.292.9530 Shawnee Pharmacy- 405.878.5859



Visit our website for quick and easy access at: www.asthealth.org/request-rx-refill

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Building Blocks C.D.C. 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee, OK 74801 (405) 878-0633

Fax: (405) 878-0156

Building Blocks II

Building Blocks is excited to be back to fully open. We are currently taking waiting list applications for children. If you are interested in our child care program please call for us to email you a waiting list application and to inquire about availability in our age groups.

We gave out Thanksgiving Dinners to our Building Blocks families. Hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving.

We are excited about Christmas Holiday Season. Our staff and children will be preparing lots of projects for Christmas. We will have 'Spread a Little Holiday Cheer' Dress up/activities during December 16th-24th. Building Blocks will be closed December 24th.



Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Building Blocks C.D.C. 16051 Lttle Axe Dr. Norman, OK 73026 (405) 360-2710 Fax: (405) 360-2726

Building Blocks III

We are currently enrolling to the public. We care for children ages 6weeks up to 11 years old. Our hours of operation are 7:00am – 6:00pm, Monday thru Friday. If you are interested in your child attending Building Blocks III Child Development Center in Norman, OK please call (405) 360-2710. You can find us on Facebook @ AST Building Blocks Child Development Center III-Little Axe Page to see all the latest updates.

Please enjoy a few of the moments we captured this past month from the pumpkin patch and the Halloween party.





Can you check off all of the boxes on this bingo chart? Keep track and challenge your family and friends to complete the boxes also! If you check off all of the boxes and take pictures of yourself completing them, you are eligible to win a small prize! When you have completed all of the squares, send your completed bingo card and pictures to kmccrary@astribe.com to get more information about your prize!

Cook 5 Dinners at Home a Week	Make a Healthy Plate with MyPlate	Drink Water or Sugar-Free Drinks EVERYDAY
Learn How to Read Food Labels	Eat Fruits or Vegetables as a Snack	Eat a Healthy Breakfast Every Morning
Choose a Heart Healthy Protein	Exercise 3-5 Days a Week	Eat Less Than 2300 mg of Sodium a Day



Vaccine Incentive Program Drive-Thru Event

Tribal member Leam Johnson with his t-shirt he received at the Vaccine Incentive Program Drive-Thru Event. The events were held October 15th & 22nd.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe will offer Tax Preparation Services for Tax Season starting in February 2022.

December 2021 www.astribe.com 9

Cultural Preservation Department

The Cultural Preservation Department has continued to carry out essential day to day operations to ensure the department continues to function properly. Since the last week of August, we have moved to a split shift schedule in which three staff members are available in the office every day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Gift Shop

In accordance with the change in operations, the gift shop is now only open to <u>Tribal members</u> for shopping. If possible, we do encourage curbside and porch shopping. We ask if you are wanting to shop <u>please make an appointment</u> with the Gift Shop Manager, Mrs. Merry Rodriguez, <u>24 hours in advance</u>. Also, upon arrival please check in at the checkpoint. Mrs. Rodriguez can be reached at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6310.

We have two locations for your shopping. Our Shawnee Gift Shop is located at the complex in the Cultural Preservation building, and our Little Axe Gift Shop is located in the lobby of the Little Axe Health Center. We are open in Shawnee Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and twice a month in Little Axe from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also, currently, we do not offer online shopping. However, we are looking into possibly making this an option for you in the future.

Further, to ensure the safety and protect the health of all, the Gift Shop has implemented the following 5 safety protocols that we ask visitors to follow:

- 1. All are required to cover their mouth and nose with PPE (masks) when shopping in the Gift Shop.
- 2. Occupancy Control for your safety and the safety of our employees, we are limiting the number of customers in the gift shop.
 - a. Only <u>2 customers</u> will be allowed in at a time
- 3. Avoid close contact (Social Distance)
 - a. Please keep 6 feet between you and other customers
- 4. Use hand sanitizer as often as possible
- 5. Sorry...**NO** public restroom is available. Temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

We continue to make progress in new inventory, but please be patient with us if we are unable to get what you are looking for in-stock. Like other stores, we are experiencing shortages and delays with our vendors. However, some of the new items we have received can be seen to the left.

If you haven't been in our store recently, please make an appointment and get some early Christmas shopping done!

Library

Like the Gift Shop, the Library is open to **all visitors**. We ask that you follow all the protocols mentioned above, and that you call Ms. Casey Wilson, the Librarian, to make an appointment 24 hours in advance. She can be reached at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6416.

Further, for your safety, individuals are asked to use gloves while viewing books in the library, and to ensure that checked out books are properly sanitized, books are placed in a Ziploc bag and quarantined for four days upon return to the library.

Over the past month, activity in the library has included 11 books being checked out, 6 hotspots checked out and 21 guests have visited the library. Also, Ms. Casey Wilson has held an individual moccasin workshop, and she showed an individual how to bind leather to an object.

On November 9th, 5 individuals came into the library to research genealogy. These individuals were from near and far including Oklahoma, California, West Virginia, and Ohio. Ms. Wilson assisted them with all their needs.

THPO

The THPO Program continues to make great strides and advancements. The THPO staff has steadily been receiving Section 106 projects from various Federal Agencies. Over the past month, the THPO Officer, Mrs. Devon Frazier-Smith, has received 203 new Section 106 projects for review. In conjunction with receiving projects, the program has consulted on 158 projects. These projects were completed in 17 of our 25 areas of interest/states. The THPO has also taken part in 7 teleconference calls as it concerns Section 106 projects.

FCC/TCNS

In lieu of the shutdowns from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the incoming workflow of new and modified telecommunications projects has been steady for the TCNS program. The THPO Specialist, Ms. Ashley Brokeshoulder, has been busy reviewing, researching and given recommendations to the telecommunications industry. Over the past month, she has received 98 new telecommunications facility projects for review. These 98 individual projects will be completed in conjunction with 9 consulting firms in 9 of our 25 areas of interest/states.

In conjunction with receiving projects, she has reviewed, researched and gave recommendation for the clearance of 87 telecommunications projects. These 87 individual projects were completed in conjunction with 9 consulting firms in 9 of our 25 areas of interest/states. Also, 11 projects are awaiting clearance because their packages are lacking some information such as full archaeological reports, SHPO responses, or clear pictures.

EVENTS

It is that time of year again Red Earth Treefest! This year celebrates the 7th year for the display of tribal trees. Like last year, to help with proper social distancing, the event will be held at NorthPark Mall in north Oklahoma City. The different tribal trees will be displayed and open to public viewing from Thursday, November 18th through Sunday, January 2nd. If you are in that part of Oklahoma City, please go and look at the different tribal trees. The tree for the Absentee Shawnee can be seen to the right.

Also, we are planning some workshops for December, so please be on the lookout for flyers on the website and Tribal Facebook

Your concerns are important to us. We thank you for the continued support of our department as we continue to make changes to our programs to better serve the Tribal community. My door is always open so please feel free to contact me, Carol Butler, at 405-275-4030 ext. 6245 or cbutler@astribe.com.





Tribal member Jackie Denny shows off the ribbon skirt she made. If you are interested in making a skirt or other projects, the library is open by appointment only. Please call (405) 275-4030 x6414 for appointments



AllNations Bank

Put a Powerful Financial Tool in Your Pocket with the AllNations Bank Mobile Banking App. Deposit Checks Securely from Anywhere with the **Mobile Deposit Capture** feature.

Today's smartphones have more processing power than the computers NASA used to put a man on the moon. And now you can put that power to work for you with the mobile banking app from AllNations Bank. It's the smart, simple and secure way to manage your money.

WHAT YOU CAN DO with the app:

Securely make bill payments anywhere. View all your upcoming bills, make payments, add payees and access your payment history.

View transactions anytime. Check on your cash flow and finances.

Make transfers anyplace. Securely move money between your accounts so funds are where you need it, when you need it.

Deposit checks. Deposit checks securely from anywhere, at any time, using mobile deposit capture.

WHERE TO DOWNLOAD the app:

Download the AllNations app, by searching "AllNations Access" on the <u>App StoreSM</u> or <u>Google PlayTM</u>.



Contact us today at (405) 273-0202 or (405) 893-2240 with any questions or to discuss our account options.

FDIC

Member



Office of Environmental Health Brownfield Response Program



What is a Brownfield?

The term brownfield typically refers to land that is abandoned or underused, in part, because of concerns about contamination.

The EPA defines a brownfield site as "...real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, controlled substances, petroleum or petroleum products, or is mine-scarred land."

Do you possibly have a Brownfield site on your land?

Typical Brownfield Sites Include:

- Abandoned Factories/Buildings/Homes
- ◆ Burned Homes
- ♦ Buried Dump Sites
- Open Dump Sites
- A Large Amount of TiresFormer Cattle Dip Pit Sites
- Barrels of Unknown Substances
- Barreis of Unknown Substances
- Old Service Stations
- Oil Storage Facilities
- Oil/Gas Well SitesOld Dry Cleaning Businesses



If it's possible you have a Brownfield site on your property, or if you know of a possible Brownfield Site, please contact:

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Brownfield Response Program 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee, OK 74801 (405) 214-4235



10 www.astribe.com December 2021

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Adams, Alexis Pearl Adams, Misty Dawn Aguirre, Carlos Eriberto Alaee, Beverly Jo Alford, Blake Tyler Alford, Larry Dean Alford, Teldon Blake Allen, Annabelle Marie Alvarez Jr., Jesus Justin Ray Anderson Reading, Alecia Dawn Anderson, Alexander Dewaine Armstrong, Hobart Atabaigi, Roberta Lynn Atkinson, Joshua Dean Atwood, Crystal Dawn Ayers, Delana Sue Ballard, Debra Ann Bates, Aria Belyn Bates, Howard Eugene Batton, Kayden Marie Belvin, Luna Maelynn Bender, Maecie Raelene Benish, Madelyn Katherine Berry, Dakota Trah Bierd, Jamie Chereese Bigpond, Bobby Gene Bills, Jonell Lynne Blackburn, Elliott James Blackburn, Leland Paul Neasbitt Blackshire, Everleigh Sue Blanchard, Amber 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 Bradshaw, Mitchell Bryan Breeding, Matthew Thad Breeding, Woodlyn Saige 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 Bruner, Mason Harjo Bryant Jr., Robert Wesley Bryant, Andrea Gail Bui, Noreen Fay Bui, Wiley The Bullen, Shelly Lisa Bump, Tonva Lvnn Butler, Wosey Jane Byers, Sherry Levon Byington, David Adam Calladitto, Annika Mone'L Carpenter, Whitney Rochelle Chafin, Sierra Nicole Charley Whatley, Marrissa Ashley Chisholm, Keegan Conner Cloud, Cain Allen Coddington, Emily Elizabeth Coddington, Krystal Renee Cody, Dakoda Hunter Coffee, Larry Ben Colbert, Braylon Dean Colungo, Wilma Wildena Coon, Vannessa Rae Cooper, Beverly Rose Cortez, La Donna Marie Cravens, Christopher Dale Creek, Jaxon Lee Creeping Bear, Bobby Crenshaw, Christian Lee Crenshaw, Mila Elle Crosswhite, Donna Elaine Crow, Kimberly Kay Cruz, Debra Ann Cuellar Jr., Clifford Eugene Darrington, Taliyah De' Vine Daugherty, Samuel Edwin Davis, Guenevere Tess 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, Dexter Lee

Delodge, Wayne Lee

Deere, Tavia Mi'Zhinga

DeLodge, Genesis Octavia

Doss, Jacobi Ezra 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 Ellis-Harrison, Andrea Layne Elsloo, Lyla Lee Embery, Isaiah Dwayne Engledowl, Alexia Michelle Engler, Alicia Diane Evans, James Steven Evans, Steven E Felton, Aiden Michael Florick, Krista Leann Foreman, Carole Jean Foreman, Elysabeth Lesleigh Foreman, Zelda Mae Fowler, Joanna Marie Frye, Zoe Ann Fullbright, Debra Jean Galloway, Daisy Jade Galloway, Kory Damien Galloway, Skylar Matthew Garretson, Christopher Ronald Garretson, Janis Marie Gibson Jr., Jeremy Lee Gibson, Davanee Mina Paralee Gibson, Garret Henry Gibson, Lita Danielle Gibson, Willie Ray Gibson, Zoli Layne Gonzalez-Freed, Anthony Wayne Goodwin, Alissa Mae Gouge, Jace Joaquin Graham, Jordan Michael Grant, Jayden Dewayne Grass, Billie Jean Grass, Gage Owen Griego, Aiyanna Che'la Gurrola, Arturo Jr Hackbarth, Riley Rain Hadjiconstantinou, Ty Lucas Hall, Sarah Jean Hanson Jr., Andrew Joseph Jin Harjo, Laketa Kaye Hartley, Carolyn Curtis Harvey, Lisa Michelle 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 Hicks, Layla Cleona-Louise Hill, Dominick Allen Hill, Keevan Jones Hinds, Vickie Ann Hixon, Eli James Holt-Belvin, Brittani Maelynne Hood, John Michael Huckaby, Mary Louise Tyner Huerta-Carrillo, Jaenny Denaya Hunt, Royal Xavier Hunt, Victory Xyler Hunter, Sarah Denae Innis, Quanah Guy Isaac, Frances Jane Jackson, Cheyenne Marie James, Constance Logan James, Gregory Dale Jantz, Evan Blake Jimerson, Magan Christina Johnson III, Fauster Calvin Johnson Jr., Anthony David Johnson, Brodie Wade Johnson, Bryan Mack Johnson, Camille Marie Johnson, Fawntayne Catara Johnson, George Benjamin Johnson, James Christopher Johnson, Kayla Ryan Johnson, Marlene Jane Johnson, Steve Allen

Kaniatobe, Guy Willis

Keith, Blake Garrett

Kastl, Scott Christopher

Kennedy, Deborah Leigh

Kennedy, Kolton Clint

Kilmer, Sandra Lynn

Kisor II, Jesse Devon

Kent-Larney, Flora Jean

Kishketon, Malaki Allen

Klein, Madelynn Grace

Kringlen, Faibian Eugene

Lalehparvaran, Lilah Parvin

Lamb, Caden James Charley

Landrum, Rachel Erin Larney, Darnell Maxine Lasarge, Susan Gail Lemaire, Deann Marie Lemke-Rochon, Andrea Kay 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, Dakota Micheal Little Charley, Newman Littlebear, Calvin Littlebear, Jonathon Littlebear, Paul Jaccob Littlebear, Waleen Tenae Littlecreek, Ronnie Joe Locke, Tristan Daniel Logan, Glenda Sue Longhorn Jr., Keith Warren Longhorn, Kaselyn Diane Longhorn, Stuart Kyle Longhorn, Tokahey Pipakey Longman, Collin Jay Longman, John Wayne Lopez, Ruby Ann Lowe, Preston Gavin MacK, Brynlee Susie MacK, Makenna Dawn Martinez Jr., Timothy Andrew Martinez, Efren Adam-Dean Martinez, Shawnee H. Martinez, Tewa Marie Masquat, Dana Lanelle Maxfield, Joseph Thad McBride, Anthony Daniel McBride, Damien Nicholas McBroom, Garrett Allen Trece McCulloch III, Grant Howard McGuire, Mary Ann McKee, William Kirby Zakkariah Medina, Sophia Katherine Lily Merrell, Cass Adam Merrell, Cruz David Miller, Alicia Le Waine Miller, Hollis Cade Miller, Madilyn Neveah Mills, Hanna Frances Mitchell, Janice Maria Mitchell, Qiana Skye Moore, Alexander Lee Morgan, John David Morris III, John Gilbert Morris, Cecilia Renee Murdock, Brian Lee Narry, Eleanor Luna-Rose Neash Rodriguez, Nekkia Christine Neash, Bobby Joe Nelson, Debra Ann Neske, Kyle Logan New Moon, Melissa Elaine Nicholson, Lee Anna Odell, Travis Dewayne Oles, Robin Jewel On-The-Hill, Tonya Lynn Ontiveros-Adame, Tina Marie Onzahwah, Brian Neil Onzahwah, Chloe Sarai Onzahwah, Hailia Brielle Parker, Hunter Caleb Chase Parker, Teresa Erin Patton, Erionna Marie Pawpa, Jacey Tatum Pearman, Retha Ann Perry, Savannah Jade Pewenofkit, Jay Patrick Pickens, Irma Juanita Pine, Jacob Lawrence Pitchford, Chayton Baeze Pitchford, Satoria Chayne Pitner, Shane Thomas Ponkilla, Orrin Heath Powell, Alivia Jordan Price, Ciara Davon Price, Ethan Daniel Puckitt, Cody Michael Puckitt, Steven Austin Purcell, Desmond Lee Ramirez, Alejandro Andres Ramirez, Alye Tatum Ramirez-Beavers, Shakiya Darlene Danae Reid, Lilith

Robertson, Drew Hayden

Robertson, Rachel Deanne

Robertson, Kyle Scott

Robinson, Star Dionna

Rodas, Klay Arnoldo

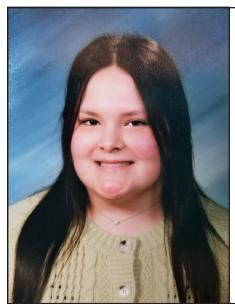
Rolette, Lawrence R.

Rolette, Ryan Adam

Rolette, Tiffany Renee Rutledge, James Aiyden Ryan, Crystal Gay Sanchez, Tommy Shawnego Schmidt, Sammie Anne Schwarz, Lionel Teniola A. C. H. D. Self, Katelyn Lynel Shawnee Swimmer, Carrah Dawnell Shawnee, Arla Nicole Shawnee, Corey Wayne 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, Keana Tempestt Smith, Kyle Lee Smith, Skylard Marcus Snow, Brianna Margaret-Faye Solis, Adrianna Clavel Solis, Jose Maria Spoon, Desirae Roxanne Spoon, Jiliyan Jade Spoon, Michael Brody Spybuck, Barbara Ann Spybuck, Nicholas Lawrence Squire, Christopher Lane Stanley, Denelle Mae Starnes, Mekia Ladawn Starr, Jack Eugene Stevens Jr., Houston Stinger Jr., Jack Theophilus Stone, Sherry Darlene Sultuska Jr., Jerome Ray Swenson, Sofia Magdalena Switch, Ezequiel Tebe, Jabril Rylen Teehee, Penny Lynn Tello-Faz, Jennie Rebecca Tenner, Kirsten Elizabeth Thompson Jr., John Michael Thorpe, Dara Beth Thorpe, Jamie Lee Thorpe, Kotah Nayeli Gustavo Thorpe, Matilda Carol Thorpe, Preston Barrett Tiger, Ashlee Jean Tiger, Joseph Aaron Tiger, Kane Matthew Tiger, Lyric Danyl Tolbert, Justin Wade Torres-Salazar, Mary Ellen Turtle, Kendall Jose Thomas Reece Valdivia, Shirley Ann Villalobos, Constantina K. Wabaunasee, Mary Ellen Wagner, Kaya-Mae Cristine Wakley, Kylie Ann Walker, Braylen Sincere Walley, Dallas Jeffery Warren, Linda Sue Warrior-Benson, Josiah Clark Watkins, Ginger Gaile Watson, Zachary Miles Webb, Charles Kenneth Webster, Ryan Bennett Whims, Lawanna Jo White Sr., Robert White Thunder, Nakiaus Sage White Thunder, Nanami Brielle White, Beckie Lynette White, Edward Leon Whittaker, Dominique Marie Wiles, Mitzie Arlene Little Creek Williams Jr., Joseph Edward Williams, Benjamin Michael Williams, Brexon Apakus 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, Stacey Lynn Winrow, Alexandra Nicole Winrow, Ashley Dionne Winrow, Jayden Lee Wolf Jr., Eric Wayne Womack, Cody Lee Wright, Randall Justin Wyatt, Vance Allen Yeahpau, Trevian Alexander

Youngbear, Curtis Joshua

December 2021 www.astribe.com



Jiliyan Jade

Happy 17th Birthday my most beautiful daughter. Hope your day is as amazing as you are. Granny would be so very proud of you.

XOXOXO Always Momma

Jils – Happy Birthday to our ornery sister. We really do love you! LOL Love Joplin & Justin

Jiliyan – To my most precious niece, I wish you the most wonderful kind of day! Happy Birthday! Love you much Aunt B C & D

NaNomi Brielle White Thunder

Happy Blessed 1st Birthday (Our lil NICU baby) Love Mom, Grandma/Grandpa, Shelsie, NaKiaus, **Sheldon and Bryson**

NaKiaus Dudley White Thunder

Happy Blessed 4th Birthday Love Dad, Grandma/Grandpa, Shelsie, NaNomi, **Shelby and Bryson**





Baryn and Coltin Wallis proudly represented the Absentee Shawnee Tribe by carrying the tribal flag during Native American Pride Night at halftime of the Sr Night football game at Cache High School on November 5, 2021.

flowers. Prayers for all that had a hand in making this all possible sending our love one on her journey.

From the family of Clara Jean Masquat Whiteshirt

Thank You

We would like to take this time to extend our sincere gratitude to the Governor and Lt. Governor's and the Representative Department staff for all the help during our loss of our mother, sister, aunt "Clara Jean Masquat Whiteshirt". We would like to thank everyone that took the time to bring food, drinks and all the prayers and kind words for the family. And all the beautiful plants and

OBITUARY



Michael White

Toni White

Notary Public - State of Oklaho mission Number 2000749

Commission Expires Jun 23, 202

Arthur Wayne Sloat, 88

Arthur Wayne Sloat, 88, a resident of Irving since 1957 died Saturday, October 30, 2021 at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital in Denton. Born December 6, 1932 in Checotah, Oklahoma, he was the son of the late Arthur James Sloat and Thelma Phelps Sloat. He grew up in Shawnee,

Oklahoma, served in the U S. Navy during the Korean Conflict and married Karen Kay Morse November 10, 1957 in North Kansas City, Missouri. He was in Trucking before his retirement. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Irving.

Preceded in death by a son Donald Gene Sloat; a brother Newton Sloat; survivors include his wife Karen Sloat of Irving; two daughters Cheryl Dawn Fritsch and spouse Eric and Lorraine Falcone and spouse Pete of Denton; a son Douglas James Sloat of Denton; one brother Jerry Sloat; two sisters, Terry Logan and Zelda Brewer; grandchildren, Drew McBride, Aaron McBride with spouse Lucy, Master Sergeant Anthony McBride with spouse Johnele, Allison Robinson with spouse Joey, Chris Sloat, Jennifer Sloat, Morgan Sloat, Jerod Fritsch with spouse Teja, Joley Fritsch, Jadyn Fritsch, Jaxon Fritsch; and great grandchildren, Luke McBride, Liam McBride, Lyla McBride, Blake McBride, Noelle McBride, Cannon McBride, Jase McBride, Aria Robinson, Lily Robinson, Grant Robinson, Avery Gamez, Atticus Dominguez, and Landon Austin.

> IN THE TRIAL COURT OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

> > Case No. JFD-2021-39



Let us help...



With one of your Cooling/ Heating/Water bill Through the LIHEAP or LIHWAP Assistance Programs If you live in Pottawatomie or Cleveland counties And enrolled with any federally recognized tribe.

> **LIHEAP - Heating / Electric** LIHWAP - Water



Applications can be picked up at the Social Service Department or printed off the website of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. For any questions please call:

(405) 878-4723 Fax: (405) 273-7938 Email: awilson@astribe.com / NEdwards@astribe.com

Social Service Department

Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence Department



Our mission is to: Eliminate violence in **Native Country and to** strengthen Native families to end the cycle of violence.

We help with: **Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Dating Violence Stalking Sex Trafficking**

Our services are confidential and include:

Safety Planning Emergency Assistance Court Advocacy Shelter Placement Assistance Referrals

Must be intimate partner related violence and the victim must be fleeing the home/situation

Who we serve: **Natives and non-Natives** LGBTQ2S+ **Any Religion** Any income level **EVERYONE**

Where we serve:

Because we are federally funded we get to serve all populations within our *service area, which includes Cleveland, Oklahoma and Pottawatomie counties.

*If you are AST and outside the service area, please call our office and we will see what we can do to help

you. Contact Us:

Office Line 405.273.2888

Fax 405.273.1192

Webpage https://www.astribe.com/domestic-violence Link to intake https://www.astribe.com/forms/victim-intake **f** @ASTRisingWarrior

For emergencies call 911 or AST PD @ 405.275.3200

AFFIDAVIT TO OBTAIN SERVICE BY PUBLICATION THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA Michael White being duly sworn upon oath states: That she/he is the Plaintiff Michael White above-named, and that on the & day ,2021 , said Plaintiff filed in this Court a Petition against Defendant :and this is one of the class of cases prescribed by the Statutes of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, and is absent therefrom, and that with and after the exercise of due diligence, said Plaintiff is unable to make personal service upon said Defendant, Toni White within the jurisdiction of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, and that Plaintiff wishes to obtain service upon the said Defendant by publication as provided by law. (AST CODE OF LAWS, Section 205, Section 206 and Section 209) **PLAINTIFF** Subscribed and sworn to before me this _ _ day of November My Commission Expires: June 23 SEAL

12 www.astribe.com December 2021

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE - SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT EXTENSIONS (405) 275-4030

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Ğ		ENROLLMENT	Steven Crisp 6262
		Amanda Webb6292	· ·
	Lt.Governor Ezra DeLodge6253	Brittany Coughran6288	D 11 TT 1
Gov.	Diane Ponkilla6267	Elicia Ramirez6290	Russell Harjo
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ب	Andrew Warrior6263	Kyle Coody	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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ret	Tina Ontiveros	Tina Fixico6250	Tara Rattica 6281
ec		Courtney Green	6/10
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	Treasurer Joseph Blanchard 6280	Colleen Butler	Lica Camran 6232
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[re	6341	Sheila King	Dylon King 6744
	Representative DeWayne Wilson 6239	Conf. Room6397	
Rep	Eddie Brokeshoulder 6240		Cara Hamilton (Probates)
		FOOD BANK	Wasing Cations
DE	CEPTIONIST	Falon Powell	Vimborlos Dillio 6225
	nna Woodfork4030	SW Office	
וטע	111a W 00u101K4030	NW Office	SOCIAL SEDVICES
		TVV Office	Annie Wilson (Director) 6311
<u>A</u> T	<u>FORNEY</u>	GRANTS	Nancy Edwards6225
	ndall Homburg6313	Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi6338	
	S	Kryste Carter6284	Aliaia Englar
	/SELF GOVERNANCE	Bronte Pearson6295	Shelby White
	6325	HUMAN RESOURCES	
	ninli Billy6301	Michele Nowell6296	
Wh	itney Standing 6283	Casey Adams6337	
		Rebecca Hyde6222	
CC	DE	Jennifer Kinslow6252	Thomasina (Doss) Owings (DIP) 622
	ana Ponkilla6347	Lauren Parish6423	Lula Bettelyoun, Donna Butler, Robert
	Nora Buswell	<u>ICW</u>	Schoolfield, Ted Watson6270
Lai	101 a Duswell0346	Chanci Peterson395-4492	,
<u>Co</u>	<u>URT</u>	Shawnee Martinez395-4491	OTHER ENTITIES & TOLL FREE
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	ley Hudson6336	Kelly Seaton395-4490	Toll Free1-800-256-3341
		Paige Little Charley395-4493	
		MAINTENANCE	Building Blocks
	LT. PRES. / GIFT SHOP	Kevin Kaseca	S
	col Butler6245	Break Room	* /
	rry Rodriguez (Gift Shop)6310	SheilaOrphan	-
	t Shop6254	Robert Komacheet, Joe Morton, John Mann	Court Clerk481-8575
Dev	von Frazier(THPO)6243	Stephen Fife, Stacy Coon, Duke Blanchard,	Enrollment
Asl	lley Brokeshoulder6312	Cindy Carpenter6249	
	y Bemo6238	• •	Housing273-1050
Cas	sey Wilson (Librarian)6416	MEDIA Mindy Longhorn6435	Human Resources275-1468
	·	Derek Hilderbrand6435	Wieura
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	lissa Lopez	MIS	OEH/OEP
		HELP DESK	
-	visha Payne	Travis O'Dell	
	mine Rocha	Donna Cody	
Lac	cey Carey6298		
ED	UCATION	Randy Austin	
	esha Spoon		
			. , ,
	ke Goodman	<u>OEH</u>	LITTLE AXE CLINIC
	y Fixico	Jarrod Lloyd	
SII	17 1 14100	Kyra Underwood	
		Kevin Arthur6230	
		OTHER EXTENSIONS	Diabetes
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		Gov. Bldg. 2 Conf. Rm 6330	
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NOTICE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE OR STORY

Please give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or send an email to media@astribe.com

All articles for the next month's issue are **DUE** by the **15th of the current month**.

Unfortunately we can only accept **ONE PICTURE PER BIRTHDAY PERSON**,

not per birthday wish.

NOTICE

AST Complex
<u>Christmas Holiday Closures</u>
Thursday, December 23, 2021
Friday, December 24, 2021

New Year's Day 2022 (Observed) Friday, December 31, 2021

