WE APOLOGIZE FOR THE NEWSLETTER DELAY
IT WAS UNAVOIDABLE DUE TO DEPARTMENT RE-ORGANIZATION
NEXT EDITION SHOULD RESUME AS NORMAL
GOVERNOR’S REPORT

Good morning fellow Tribal members:

I hope everyone had a good Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

First and foremost, I want to thank the new members of the Executive Committee for the support they have given me, so that we can help our fellow Tribal members. We have done more in the past seven months than I had been able to accomplish in the entire first year I was in this office. I thank them for having the same goals as I have: TO SERVE OUR PEOPLE THE BEST WAY WE CAN!

In December I participated in a telephone conference meeting during which the Tribe acquired $4,200,000.00 for the Health program, and $180,000.00 for the housing program. By tele-conferencing, we saved several thousand dollars in travel expenses and saved valuable time as well.

All Nations Bank is in the final stages of preparation for opening the branch bank office at the Tribal Complex. The scheduled opening date is Feb. 1st, 2011.

In 2011 the Executive Committee is committed to work side by side with our ASED A program to bring additional business opportunities to our Tribal communities, so that we can employ more of our young Tribal members.

In closing, I want to say THANKS for all the support you all have given me in the past two years, and yes I will be a candidate for this office again, and will serve all of you to the best of my ability.

NE YI WA
George Blanchard,
Governor

energy to our Tribal members and also employ several Tribal members as well. The Solid Waste Transfer Station that we were working on in 2010 unfortunately did not come to fruition due to an insufficient amount of tonnage. However, the ASED A board is at this time contacting several local trash companies in order to obtain a substantial increase in tonnage which will make the transfer station a more viable business enterprise. When completed this project will allow us to hopefully clean up more of the open dump sights, allow us to institute recycling programs at Horseshoe Bend and Little Axe and employ several Tribal members as well.

The ASEDA board is enthusiastically pursuing a feasibility study to determine if forming a Propane distributorship is a viable option that can provide low cost energy to our Tribal members and also employ several Tribal members as well. The Solid Waste Transfer Station that we were working on in 2010 unfortunately did not come to fruition due to an insufficient amount of tonnage. However, the ASED A board is at this time contacting several local trash companies in order to obtain a substantial increase in tonnage which will make the transfer station a more viable business enterprise. When completed this project will allow us to hopefully clean up more of the open dump sights, allow us to institute recycling programs at Horseshoe Bend and Little Axe and employ several Tribal members as well.

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NE YI WA
George Blanchard,
Governor

LT. GOVERNOR’S REPORT

I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year. The holidays have been a time consuming part of the year. This last month, my staff and I have been pulled in many directions trying to get several projects moving or completed as well as attending the holiday activities sponsored by different departments of the tribe.

The main project we have been focusing on is the Horseshoe Bend renovation. At the time of this printing, we will be 75% to 80% completed. Due to certain unforeseen delays, we are not as far along as we had anticipated. Pictures of the before and after progress will be posted in next month’s newsletter.

We are also in the process of renovating the Brendle Corner facility. Our intentions for the renovation are to house an afterschool program that will serve and benefit our tribal and nontribal youth of the community.

In closing, I want to say THANKS for all the support you all have given me in the past two years, and yes I will be a candidate for this office again, and will serve all of you to the best of my ability.

NE YI WA
George Blanchard,
Governor
mediate assistance when needed. The system of communication I have with the other EC members is very beneficial as we all work together to provide for our tribal members. I would like to thank the staff in the departments I have oversight of: OEH, Realty, BIA/Roads, Maintenance, and Health Programs for their assistance in helping me accomplish the objectives to this point. I also send a thank you to all the departments of the tribe for their cooperation, as we give direction in which way we want the tribe to progress.

Thank you and we look forward to a progressive New Year.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Hello Tribal members. Well it’s a new year and this one is going to be a better and more prosperous year for us all. We have to keep a good spirit in our hearts. We have big things happening for our tribe. I was surprised when I received a plaque in the mail stating that I was selected for Woman of the Year for 2010 and 2011 from the National Association of Professional Women. Still don’t know who nominated me but thank you very much. It is a great honor to be working for our tribe and to be selected for this as a Native American Women and Elected Official of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

Now for updates on some of the projects that the tribe is moving forward on. New Casino is still in the early stages of development with working on the Liquor license and the Architect has the final renderings of the new casino and hopefully we will be seeing some construction soon. The name of the New Casino will be Thunderbird Casino Shawnee.

The New Bank will be opening up soon here on the complex. Gene Davis has been here at the bank checking out everything to make sure things go well when it does open. He is from the Calumet location. This will be a big step for the bank to finally open up after all this time. It seems like that building has been sitting there forever with the hopes of some day opening and it finally is becoming a reality for this tribe to have its own branch here on our complex.

Horseshoe Bend Community Center is finally remolded and we will be having a grand opening soon. Please come see our newly renovated community center. The new center is equipped with a new Storm Shelter, Basketball Court, Playground, Walking Track and Parking Lot. I have been working on this project for some time now with Mr. Ed Little and with the new EC members they just help get this progressing and now it is ready for the new Grand Opening. Thanks to the new EC members we could not have done this without you. It takes a team to work together and that’s why we are progressing. WILL LET YOU KNOW WHEN THE GRAND OPENING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED.

Back on December 6th through the 9th Treasurer Deere and I attended the 9th Treasurer Deere and I attended the 12th Annual Native Women’s Tribal Leadership Conference in Las Vegas. This was a great conference we really learned a lot on how to Micro Manage, and we met Women all over the US.

They came as far as Alaska to learn about how to be a great leader and to respect others in the professional world. I really enjoyed my experience and look forward to attend the next conference.

December was full of meetings: Health Christmas party was at the Resource Center on the 15th and it was very nice to see all the employees that keep our health facilities going. I really appreciate all their hard work.

Regular EC meeting was also on the 15th where there were Thirteen new enrollees added to the roll and on the 28th a Special EC meeting was called to enroll Twenty one new enrollees. This was Thirty Three so far and we have around One hundred and eighteen more to do. If you have an application on file to be enrolled or getting ready to submit an application to be enrolled please submit a photo with the application so that enrollment can put this picture on your new card. Right now we are issuing cards without photos. We would much rather see a photo on your card and its one way of helping us out on identifying you when you need services. Thanks to the Enrollment Staff for all their hard work and getting these new applications done in a timely manner.

December 16th I had a TEC board meeting and we received a new casino update along with the current financials for Thunderbird. They are currently working on Liquor license for the new casino and once this is obtained we can move forward on the rest of the paper work. There is a lot of paper work to be completed so that we can start construction on the casino. Hopefully it won’t be much longer.

December 21, 2010, I along with Treasurer Deere attended the Health Care Board meeting. I brought up the issue of having a nurse or someone CPR certified at Title VI and LA Resource...
Center during lunch hours. I just think that this would make our Elders feel safe. They said that they would look into it and see if this would be possible. I did tell them that this was the wish of the Entire EC. If there are any retired nurses or anyone that is CPR certified that would like to volunteer to help with this please contact me here at the office.

On the 30th My-self along with the HR staff interviewed two different Health Insurance Companies to see if this would help save the tribe any money if we switched the companies and to get better benefits for our employees and after the interviews we came to the conclusion to stay with the current company. There were no cost savings. Will continue to keep you updated as these projects progress.

We have new members on our ASED A Board: Dan Little Axe, President, Adam Proctor, Vice-President, and Lyndale Waller, Secretary. Please join me in welcoming them to this very important board for economic development for our tribe. Between them all they have many, many years of business experience to help our tribe progress! Also, the ASED A board has their own direct telephone line where you can talk to a board member, if you have questions or suggestions for Economic Development, 405/878-6782. The Treasurer’s office has acquired Arlene Herrera ext., 148, as the office clerical support and she is doing a wonderful job. If I’m not available, please call her and leave a message with her. Treasurer’s office has had a position open for a Financial Consultant since July and by the time you read this article; hopefully, I have one starting. Next month’s article I will have an update. See below Finance Department’s article. The Executive Committee appreciates the Finance Department and all they do to keep our accounting and financial records flowing daily, monthly, and annually. Thank you all!

As always I appreciate our tribal members for their input, questions, issues and concerns for our tribe. Please continue to give us, your elected officials, your opinions and concerns. When you can attend, come to our monthly Regular Executive Committee Meetings on the third Wednesday at 10 am. Call, email, or stop by to visit with me when you can, my extension is 118.

Respectfully, Kathy Deere

HAPPY NEW YEAR - JANUARY 2011

Happy 2011 New Year! Hope everyone had a wonderful time with family and friends during the holidays! As we move forward into 2011, we should see new businesses begin to open such as the All Nations Branch Bank and Thunderbird Casino-Shawnee. The construction progress of our new LI-SI-WI-NWI Health Clinic (formerly the Little Axe Clinic). These are exciting and progressive times for our Tribe and their members. We are in the process of preparing for the 2010 Audit which is scheduled mid-February. By the time, tribal members read this article we should have our Indirect Cost Proposal Rate approval letter. Tribal Investment Portfolio is continuing to grow. Our monthly income and expenses are staying on track. As we grow with newly added Tribal Members, our present businesses and new businesses will provide the same services and/or even more and better services in the months and years to come.

The Finance office continues our efforts in keeping the day to day activities flowing efficiently and effectively through communication between the Finance office and Programs. In working together, we have found the most time effective and cost effective processes for transacting business. A continued thanks to the Executive Committee and all the programs for their support and understanding in the Finance Department’s continued efforts to stay caught up; as it is a constant flow of business transactions.

Our 2010 Audit is scheduled for mid-February and will include the MD&A (Management Discussion and Analysis). The MD&A report is an informative report within the 2010 Audit; which is a brief review and explanation of the Audit. The third financials are complete; November 10, 2010 quarterly reports...
The Indirect Cost Proposal for 2011 has been submitted to the Department of Interior’s National Business Center and we were notified of the receipt on August 3, 2010. This is a 3 to 4 month process for negotiation and approval, and we expect an approval letter by the end of this week (December 17, 2010); which means we will begin 2011 with an approved rate. This is the first time in several years that we have been on time with audits so that the Indirect Cost Proposal could be submitted timely thus an approved rate before the beginning of the subsequent year.

It is imperative the accounting / bookkeeping continue to stay ahead of all of the accounting so that audits go smoothly so that Indirect Cost rates will stay up to date as well. Audits affect the ability to submit indirect cost proposals.

There are many processes in place in your Tribe’s accounting department that ensure we keep accurate records of transactions. The Tribe’s accounting processes must be in compliance with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board). In complying with GAAP and GASB, there are many internal control functions that mandate a need for qualified accountants which dictates the need for more than one accountant to be involved with a transaction; i.e. the same person writing up the Tribe’s deposits should never be the same person who reconciles cash. The main objective of finance is to prove and ensure proper back-up documentation accompanies every single payment/transaction, no matter if the transaction is $1.00 or $1,000.00, and of course we must ensure that any transaction of the Tribe is an allowable expense and this is proved by the back-up documentation. There are many functions of the Tribe’s finance department and this is just one that I wanted to share with you.

The rules and regulations of accounting are forever changing; there are rules and regulations in place today that may not have been in place 5 to 10 years ago which makes the accounting department today somewhat more complicated that it may have been in past years. In addition, the Tribe is a Self Governance tribe which also adds more work to the finance department whereas before the BIA and I H S handled a large portion of the Tribe’s business. Not to mention the increases in BIA and I H S funding over the years, 51 Grants, and the new Clinic business.

The Bond Financing closed May 27, 2010 so the funding for the new health clinic is complete. With this completion there is a need for the accounting for the Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Clinic (formerly the Little Axe Clinic) to have its own financial reports. The finance department has been completing accounting by the seventh day of the month since August 2010; so that financial reports can be created for the Health Authority and Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Inc. boards for health programs both Shawnee and Little Axe.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe’s Finance Department has a very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them, the Treasurer’s office and at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

This department, as always, would like to extend a special thanks and note of appreciation to the Executive Committee for providing the tools, resources and support to enable the finance staff to reach its accomplished goals and to continue with this effort. A special thanks and note of appreciation to Program Managers and Employees of the Tribe for their assistance and dedication in our group effort toward accomplishing our goal. Now that we are caught up, we are dedicated to continue our efforts in this direction.

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

Thank you,
Belinda Collins, Controller
The following are Resolutions passed thru December 28, 2010

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:

E-AS-10-101 12/15/10
Establishes Holidays for Calendar Year 2011 as set out herein.

E-AS-10-102 12/15/10
Authorizes and accepts access to all Trust Asset and Accountability Management System (TAAMS) modules and hereby agrees to maintain said modules in a manner that lends itself to carrying out the day-to-day requirements of the programs administered.

E-AS-10-103 12/15/10
Approves and accepts Wisper Dawn Murdock, Julius Alexander Davis, Ryan Kyle Davis, Alyssia Lynn Deere, Marcel Andres Almanza, Langston Deshun Alberty, Eric Nelson Byers, Melissa Sue Byers, Kyler Jesse Blackbear, Tegan Quinn Blackbear, Jorey Rian Blackbear, Holland Thomas Ryder and Mikayla Jo Campbell as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

E-AS-10-104 12/15/10
Adopts the organizational chart, attached as Exhibit “A” EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, of which supersedes all previous organizational charts. (Places Media Dept. under Lt. Governor)

E-AS-10-105 12/15/10
Grants voluntary relinquishment of membership of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to Susie Louise Neash provided that she is accepted into the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

E-AS-10-106 12/28/10
Authorizing and declaring that Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. is a tribal corporation that is wholly owned by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and recognizing Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. as a tribal entity.

E-AS-10-107 12/28/10
Approves and accepts Ethan Daniel Price, Jasmine Consuelo Martinez, Efren Adam-Dean Martinez, Brandon Paul Martinez, Jaxon Avery Shawnee, Esella Mia Starr, Xochitl Olivia Gonzales, Michael Thomas Musick, Sheyenne Nicole Megehee, Leonardo Cruz-Larney, Famela Guadalupe Cruz-Larney, Noah Cruz-Larney, Thomas Ray Judd, Jr., Sandra Lilrene Judd, Misty Dawn Adams, Gina Lanette May, Daleana Lee Smith, Tyler Michael Granstrom, Brandon Thomas Granstrom, Cody James Granstrom and Karsen Renee Granstrom as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

E-AS-10-108 12/28/10
Authorizes and approves the agreement between the Tribe and David Echohawk and authorizing the Representative or his designee to sign the service agreement, effective immediately. (Attachment)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS:

L-AS-10-37 12/15/10
Authorizes and approves the purchase of the interest held by Katie Breeden being one and the same as Katie Marie Armstrong (Hamon) Breeden within the original allotment of Katie Ellis, described as number 820 S 259, more specifically, the surface and surface rights only in the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 6, Township 10, North, Range 5 East of the Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma, at a negotiated price not to exceed its appraised value and authorizing and approving the appropriation of funds from the general fund for said purchase.

L-AS-10-38 12/15/10
Authorizes and approves the purchase of the interest held by Katie Breeden being one and the same as Katie Marie Armstrong (Hamon) Breeden within the original allotment of Henry Jones Ellis, number 820 261, more specifically, the surface and surface rights only in and to the N/2 SE/4 of Section 36, Township 11 North, Range 4 East of the Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma, containing 80.00 acres more or less at a negotiated price not to exceed its appraised value and authorizing and approving the appropriation of funds from the general fund for said purchase.

L-AS-10-39 12/15/10
Authorizes and approves the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Budget for calendar year 2011 in the amount of Two-Million
Two-Hundred Eighty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Seven Dollars And No Cents ($2,288,587.00) as reflected in the attached budget document, "Exhibit A", effective immediately.

L-AS-10-40 12/15/10
Authorizes and approves the General Fund Budget for calendar year 2011 in the amount of Two Million Eight-Hundred Eighty-Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Eight Dollars And No Cents ($2,888,658.00) as reflected in the attached budget document, "Exhibit A", effective immediately.

L-AS-10-41 12/15/10
Authorizes and approves the Indirect Cost (IDC) Budget for calendar year 2011 in the amount of Two Million Eight-Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars And No Cents ($2,836,381.00) as reflected in the attached budget document, "Exhibit A", effective immediately.

L-AS-10-42 12/15/10
Authorizes and approves the Indian Health Services (IHS) Budget for calendar year 2011 in the amount of Eight Million One-Hundred Forty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-One Dollars And No Cents ($8,143,791.00) as reflected in the attached budget document, "Exhibit A", effective immediately.

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ELECTION COMMISSION

ELECTION TIMELINE
Abstentee Shawnee Tribe

ELECTION ABSTRACT 6-75 CONSTITUTION

ELECTION COMMISSION
PLEASE fill out EACH BLANK completely and return by the Deadline.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

I, _______________________, hereby certify that I am or will be an Eligible Voter of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe on or before March 19, 2011. I cannot physically be present to cast my Vote at the March 19, 2011 Primary Election, therefore, I am requesting an Absentee Ballot be mailed to me at the following address.

Name (please print): ____________________________
(first) (middle) (maiden) (last)
Address: ______________________________________
City: ______ St: ______ Zip: ______
CDIB#: ______________________
Date of Birth: ____________________
Signature: ________________________
Date: _________________________

All REQUESTS must be returned to the Election Commission by the deadline of February 27, 2011

Mail to:
Absentee Shawnee Election Commission
P.O. Box 741
Tecumseh, OK 74873

Fax to:
Fax # (405) 273-1337 (Do not fax to any other fax #)
Phone: (405) 275-4030 ext. 150
Toll free number 1-800-256-3341 ext. 150

Deliver in Person to:
Election Commission Office located in the Tribal Court Building

All eligible voters are entitled to vote either at the Polls or by Absentee Ballot. For your convenience - This request may be duplicated

ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY

Received: ______________ Approved: ______________ Disapproved: ___________
If Disapproved (reason): ________________________________________________

Denial Letter Mailed: ______________________ Ballot Mailed: ______________________

_________________________ Election Commission/Representative
If You Are a Native American Who Tried to Get a Farm Loan or Loan Servicing from the USDA, You Could Receive Benefits from a $760 Million Class Action Settlement.

A class action Settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) has been reached. The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans who applied for or tried to apply for farm loans or loan servicing. The USDA denies it did anything wrong.

Am I included?
The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:
• Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between January 1, 1981 and November 24, 1999;  
• Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA during that period; and
• Complained about discrimination to the USDA either on their own or through a representative during the time period.

You are not eligible for this Settlement if you filed a claim, or intend to file a claim, in another USDA discrimination case like Pigford I or Pigford II (Black farmers), Garcia (Hispanic farmers) or Love (Women farmers).

Because of a law passed by Congress, you are also not eligible for this Settlement if you either:
• Experienced discrimination only between January 1 and November 23, 1997; or
• Complained of discrimination only between July 1 and November 23, 1997.

What does the Settlement provide?
The $760 million Settlement will pay cash to Class Members for valid claims as well as attorneys’ fees (between 4% and 8%, subject to Court approval) and awards. The Settlement includes up to $80 million in USDA loan forgiveness for Class Members who qualify. The USDA will pay an additional $20 million to implement the Settlement and will make some changes to their farm loan programs. Any money left after all payments and expenses have been made will be donated to one or more organizations that help Native American farmers and ranchers.

What can I get from the Settlement?
The amount of money you will receive will depend on whether you file a claim under Track A or Track B. It will also depend on the total number of claims that are filed and approved.

Track A – You can get a payment up to $50,000 for your discrimination claim plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

Track B – You can get the amount of your actual damages up to $250,000. Track B requires more proof than Track A.

USDA Loan Forgiveness – Under both Track A and Track B you can get forgiveness on part or all of your eligible USDA farm loans plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

How do I get benefits?
You will need to file a claim by December 24, 2011 to get benefits. After the Court approves the Settlement, meetings will be held across the country to help Class Members file claims. You can register for a Claims Package at the website or by calling the toll-free number.

What are my other rights?
• If you want to keep your right to sue the USDA about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by February 28, 2011. Unless you exclude yourself, you will be bound by the terms of this Settlement.
• If you stay in the Settlement, you can object to or comment on it by February 28, 2011.

The Court will hold a hearing on April 28, 2011 to consider whether to approve the Settlement and the attorneys’ fees. The Court has appointed attorneys to represent the Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

Native Business: Economic Prosperity for a New Year.

Let us start with an established fiscal principle, the economic multiplier. This is where money changes hands and one person’s spending is another person’s income. When buying and selling occur in a closed system the money circulates through the hands of people and businesses. Goods and services are exchanged, business and personal incomes are more likely to be stable, and over time capital is available for investment. Naturally and eventually money leaves the system through outlets like vacations, the purchase of imports, and utilization of services not supplied inside the closed system. The longer money can stay within the system the greater the multiplier effect.

Economic Development is a widely accepted movement across Indian Country and the way to bolster a tribal economy is to find ways to keep money in the local system. The total solution is unique to each respective tribe, pueblo, band or first nation but the universal truth is that success in improving a sovereign economy is the mobilization of individuals to provide goods and services internal to the tribal system. Economic success starts when one person takes action upon a good idea and brings it to life in a way that is profitable.

Sometimes before a board meeting I will drive through my Village to talk to some of the locals. On one occasion I ran into Maryann and asked her how she liked the new store layout. The enterprise board had approved a remodel and it had just been completed for the Taholah Mercantile, a community store. Maryann was sharing what she thought and asked something that surprised me. She said, “Why don’t you guys have a section for prepared meals?” Maryann explained that a lot of times families need something quick to fix but should not cost too much but still be healthy since nutrition is important. She thought the store should have pre prepared meals that you can throw into a crock pot. She went on to explain that in addition to healthy meals we could run contests in the community for the best recipe which would create “buzz” and get people to try them. I told Maryann that she had a great idea and I encouraged her to think further on how to make it happen. Maryann had just one of many ideas that solve a problem and I know there are many more ideas out there in Indian Country. I imagine, what would happen if 1% of all the ideas held by tribal members could be manifested into reality. I think problems would be solved, dollars could be cycled more frequently and kept longer in a tribal economic system than they are today.

Jim Stanley is a tribal member of the Quinault Nation, Vice President of the Quinault Nation Enterprise Board, and board member of the Northwest Native American Chamber. He freely shares his knowledge with you, his business minded cousin. Jim can be reached at sovereigndevelopment@hotmail.com.
Cultural/Tribal Historic Preservation Department
AST Cultural Center

After months of waiting, renovating and weathering the Cultural Preservation Department finally got moved to their new home in the former finance building, the two story brick building northwest of the Governor’s building. The Gift Shop is now located on the first floor on the west side of the building and the Library on the east side. The staff offices are located on the second floor, but a phone is located at the front window, so that one can dial the extension of the staff that they want to see and not have to go upstairs.

The Heritage month activities we offered were finger weaving, a Hair ribbon accessory, and the favorite Beaded Christmas ornament. We had an Open House (Grand Opening) on November 19th, and an Arts & Crafts Market of gift shop vendors and tribal members, throughout the building.

We served a meal of corn soup, grape dumplings and fry bread. We would like to say Thank you to tribal members Augustine Johnson, CAC member Christy Pack and staff for the Corn soup, Sara Little Head for the fry bread, and especially to 11 year old Montana Little Head for the delicious grape dumplings. We estimate that we served over 100 visitors.

We want to thank Augustine Johnson, Gene Parker and staff for loaning us items that belonged to and/or made by grandparents or worn by family members to display in the display room.

We held a raffle for most of the month on a “Shawnee Ribbon” Pendleton Blanket, a Canadian Monopoly Game (Boardwalk was the Tecumseh Memorial in Canada), purple shawl and a $25.00 Gift Shop Certificate. After much anticipation, the tickets were drawn during the Open House and the winners of the raffle were:

Shawnee Ribbon Pendleton Blanket: Shalah Rowlan
Canadian Monopoly Game: Johnnie Mae Bettelyoun
Purple Shawl: Margie Kaniatobe
$25.00: Mike Blanchard

We would like to thank everyone who bought and sold tickets to make this event a success and also to the Executive Committee for their support.

Karen Kaniatobe resigned her position as Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, December 3rd. She is going back to school to get her Master’s. We wish her all the best and she will be greatly missed.

ATTENTION: We have two positions available on the Cultural Advisory Council. An additional three positions will open in 2011. Please contact Secretary Michelle Lopez’s office to fill out an application as soon as possible.

On December 8th at Thunderbird Casino 23 veteran members and guests came together to celebrate the 5th annual AST Veterans Association Christmas Dinner. Those in attendance enjoyed smoked brisket from Van’s Pig Stand and other home cooked favorites. The evening was more personal this year, then in years past, as attendees were asked to share what they are most grateful for.

The dinner was simply titled "A Family Christmas Dinner". Administrations Officer John Vanderburg said he felt the title appropriate because he considers each member to be like "family".

Though most people understand and know what the Christmas season represents, many would be quick to tell you that what they value most is the time spent with family and close friends, which was the most common answer among those on hand.

Mentioned more than once was how much members value the comradery and friendship they’ve shared over the years with each other. Happy Holidays from The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Veterans Association.

The next AST Veterans Association meeting will be held Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at Thunderbird Casino - in the Southeast meeting room. The meeting will begin at 7PM.
Do you have dry, red, itchy, burning, watery or sensitive eyes? Contact lens discomfort? Maybe you have dry eye syndrome.

Dry Eye Syndrome is also called Kerato-Conjunctivitis Sicca or Dry Eyes. It is a common reason for people to go to their eye doctor for relief. The condition is caused by decreased tear production or increased tear film evaporation. The phrase “Kerato Conjunctivitis Sicca” is Latin and its literal translation is dryness of the cornea and conjunctiva. Patients come into the office complaining of dry, red, itchy, burning, watery or sensitive eyes. Sometimes they complain of contact discomfort or contact lenses sticking to their eyes. Some say eyes lubricating drops help, others say they don’t.

What are the causes of Dry Eye?

Dry Eye Syndrome is usually caused by inadequate tear production. The lacrimal gland does not produce sufficient tears to keep the entire conjunctiva and cornea covered by a complete tear layer. Increasing age is associated with decreased tearing. This is the most common type found in postmenopausal women. There can be many reasons for insufficient tears or not complete coverage of tears on the cornea or conjunctiva. I’ll list a few:

1) Collagen vascular diseases, including rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, sjogrens syndrome, and auto immune diseases.
2) Drugs such as nasal decongestants, sedatives, oral contraceptives, antidepressants, beta blockers, atropine, and some pain relievers such as morphine
3) Lack of good nutritious foods, food allergies
4) Oxidation to various parts of the body due to lack of exercise and poor nutrition
5) Sun, wind, dry air
6) Abnormal tissue growth on the conjunctiva and cornea of the eye
7) Contact lens wear, especially sleeping while wearing the contact lens
8) Environmental factors, such as smoky environments, heaters, air conditioners.
9) Computer use, which will sometimes slow the blink rate

Dry eyes can also occur or get worse after lasik or other surgeries. Dry eyes caused by this is usually resolved after a few months. People considering retractive surgery and know they have severe dry eyes should alert the doctor and in severe cases, consider delaying or cancelling the surgery. Bulging eyes from thyroid problems to drooping eye lids will also cause experience problems.

Testing for Dry Eye Syndrome?

Doctors trained in Dry Eye can perform a 15 to 20 minute Dry Eye evaluation. After the test the doctor will know if you do or do not have Dry Eye. If you do, they can tell the severity and what you need to do. We have learned a lot about Dry Eye in the last few years. If you think you have a Dry Eye problem, schedule a Dry Eye evaluation with your doctor. You might just get some relief.

Forrest W. Shed, O.D.
Happy Birthday to
Marvin & Sherry
We love you
Happy Birthday
Grandpa Marvin & Sherry
Love
Happy Birthday
Pat Johnson
Elijah Foreman
Mary Foreman
"Happy 15th Birthday Cameron"
Mom, Dad, Ben & Derek

FOR BEING VOTED IN AS
HAPPY NEW YEAR  -  JANUARY  2011
Safe Kids Oklahoma and Absentee Shawnee Tribe Health Authority

WHO: Safe Kids Oklahoma 405.271.5695 and Absentee Shawnee Tribe Health Authority, Injury Prevention Program 405.878.4702

WHAT: Safe Kids Oklahoma and Shawnee Tribe Health Authority, Injury Prevention Program will hold a hands-on car seats safety check.

Certified child passenger safety technicians available to provide hands-on instruction on installing car seats and booster seats and answer any questions.

There are also a limited number of child safety seats for eligible families. You need proof of government assistance, i.e. WIC, food stamps, etc.

WHEN: January 14th
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: 2025 S Gordon Cooper
Shawnee, Ok 74801
Absentee Shawnee Tribe Health Authority
Injury prevention Program

WHY: Rural southeast and southwest regions of Oklahoma showed the lowest usage in 2009, with 76.9 in the southwest and 74.0 in the southeast. The Oklahoma City metro area showed a 94.2 percent usage rate; the Tulsa metro area showed 88.6 percent.

According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration research, the proper use of child restraints nationwide during the past 30 years has saved the lives of 8,325 children under age 5. An estimated 425 lives were saved by child restraint use in 2006. Research shows that child restraints provide the best protection for all children up to age 8; after age 8, seat belts provide the best protection.

About Safe Kids Oklahoma

Safe Kids Oklahoma works to prevent accidental childhood injury, the leading cause of death and disability for children ages 1 to 14. Its partners include Children’s Hospital at OU Medical Center, Oklahoma State Department of Health, and Oklahoma Highway Safety Office. Safe Kids Oklahoma is a member of Safe Kids Worldwide, a global network of organizations dedicated to preventing accidental injury. Safe Kids Oklahoma was founded in 1989.
CHILD SAFETY SEAT CHECK-UP

Results from previous safety seat checks have shown that four out of five car seats are used incorrectly.

Be sure yours is not one of them!

Friday, January 14th
8:00a.m – 10:00a.m.
AST Tribal Complex
2029 South Gordon Cooper
Shawnee, Ok 74801
405-878-4702

Have your car seat checked free of charge by a Certified Child Passenger Safety Specialist.
Get answers to these troubling questions:
“My child can climb out of the car seat. What can I do?”
“Why doesn’t my car seat stay tight in the car?”
“When can I turn my baby’s car seat around to face forward?”

Sponsored by:
Safe Kids Oklahoma and Absentee Shawnee Tribe Injury Prevention Program

There are a limited number of free child safety seats for eligible families. You need proof of government assistance, i.e. WIC, food stamps, etc.

Safe Kids Oklahoma
A program of Oklahoma Highway Safety Office
(405) 271-5695
www.oksafekids.org
JANUARY 2011

1. What
   na he wa
2. Who
   na fi wa
3. When
   ti ne wa li qi
4. Where
   ti ne wa ti se
5. What do you see?
   na he wa ken a ma? (na he wa se ya he ken a ma)
6. Who do you see?
   na fi wa ken a wi?
7. When did you see them?
   ti ne wa li qi ke na wi ke?
8. Where did you see them?
   ki ne wa ti se ke na wi ke?
9. What can I do for you? (can I help you?)
   hi ta pe ka ni ti mo la?
10. Who can drive?
    na fi wa ta pe wa pa ma se ki?
11. When can you sew my dress?
    ti ne wa li qi ta pe ka ke po qi ti
    ne pe ta ne ki
12. Where can we meet?
    ti ne wa ti se ta pe ka ni ke se ki te pa?
13. Why?
    na ho wig e?
14. Why me?
    na ho wi ge ne li?

The following are current programs administered by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Education Department:

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Attention:**

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

With the Spring 2011 semester fast approaching, anyone interested in taking vocational/adult education courses need to contact the Education Department as soon as possible. Classes will begin in early January.

Official transcripts for continuing students of the Education Incentive Award Program must be postmarked or received by January 15, 2011.

For more information, please call Tresha Spoon at (405) 275-4030 ext. 121 or 1-800-256-3341 or email to tresham@astribe.com.
College Horizons Update for Tribal Education Departments and Staff

College Horizons is reaching out to Tribal Education Departments and Offices throughout the country to help spread the word about our summer program for Native high school students. If you have any staff that works directly with high school students in your community, please forward this email to them or subscribe them to our mailing list. Additionally, if you have a newsletter, consider writing a blurb about our upcoming application deadline. College Horizons is a unique summer opportunity that is exclusively offered to Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students and is one of the only programs of its kind in the country with expert advise for Native students on how to navigate the college application process.

College Horizons is excited to invite current 10th and 11th grade American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian students to apply to our CH 2011 summer program. College Horizons is a pre-college program where 90 students work with 60 college admissions officers, college counselors, essay specialists, and other educators in a six-day "crash course" focused on helping students navigate the college application process.

This coming summer, College Horizons will offer 2 programs. We are proud to partner with and be hosted by:

- Colorado State University (Ft. Collins, CO); June 12 - June 17, 2011
- University of Rochester (Rochester, NY); June 26 - July 1, 2011

The downloadable application and information on applicant eligibility is provided on our website at: www.collegehorizons.org. The deadline for application submission is February 14, 2011. Please note that new this year, there is only one deadline instead of two. Since our programs tend to fill up quickly, it is highly recommended that students postmark their application by the deadline. However, late applications will be accepted as space remains available. Finally, as a reminder, we have significant financial aid available (covering tuition and airfare) for students who qualify.

We welcome your students' application and hope they become one of our accomplished alumni - each year, 99% of participants go on to college; 95% typically attend four-year institutions and a third of our participants matriculate into highly selective institutions. Moreover, 85% of our alumni graduate from college within five years!

Help us get the word out on the CH 2011 programs and forward this email on to any students, parents or educators whom may be interested. There is no better time to complete the CH application than during Thanksgiving and Winter breaks from school. Please see the attached flyer for a brief description of our program and please feel free contact us if you have any questions!

Thank You,

Carmen Lopez, Executive Director, EdM (Navajo)
Christine Suina, Program Coordinator (Cochiti Pueblo)
Hillary Abe, Recruitment Coordinator (Mandan/Hidatsa)

Contact Information
main office: 505-401-3854
As the Domestic Violence program our job is to provide advocacy to victims by offering educational material and support that focuses on the dynamics of domestic violence. Each victim is helped with emotional support as well as resources that are available to them through our program. Referrals are given whenever necessary. We provide emergency assistance to victims needing transportation, food, clothing and other concrete client needs. We also will help with rent and security deposits, emergency shelter needs such as placing a victim in a safe shelter or a hotel. We utilize local Domestic Violence shelters. We work with the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Court, Absentee Shawnee Indian Child Welfare, Absentee Shawnee Police Office and Absentee Shawnee Behavioral Health in every effort to help the victims of Domestic Violence. We will also work with other Tribal and State Domestic Violence agencies to eliminate the crimes that victims suffer.

We currently have four staff members: Linda Gouge is the Sexual Assault Advocate, Jackie Denny is the Transitional Housing Manager, Margaret Ellis is the Administrative Assistant and Victim Advocate, and Kimberly Stephens is the Director of the Domestic Violence Program.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office at (405)275-4030.

Thank you,

Kimberly Stephens
Linda Gouge
Jackie Denny
Margaret Ellis

January is Stalking Awareness Month. The color that is associated with Stalking is Silver.
What is Stalking?

While legal definitions of stalking vary from one jurisdiction to another, a good working definition of stalking is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

Stalking Victimization

- 3.4 million people over the age of 18 are stalked each year in the United States.
- 3 in 4 stalking victims are stalked by someone they know.
- 30% of stalking victims are stalked by a current or former intimate partner.
- 10% of stalking victims are stalked by a stranger.
- Persons aged 18-24 years experience the highest rate of stalking.
- 11% of stalking victims have been stalked for 5 years or more.
- 46% of stalking victims experience at least one unwanted contact per week.
- 1 in 4 victims report being stalked through the use of some form of technology (such as e-mail or instant messaging).
- 10% of victims report being monitored with global positioning systems (GPS), and 8% report being monitored through video or digital cameras, or listening devices.


Impact of Stalking on Victims

- 46% of stalking victims fear not knowing what will happen next. [Baum et al., (2009). “Stalking Victimization in the United States.” BJS.]
- 29% of stalking victims fear the stalking will never stop. [Baum et al.]
- 1 in 8 employed stalking victims lose time from work as a result of their victimization and more than half lose 5 days of work or more. [Baum et al.]
- 1 in 7 stalking victims move as a result of their victimization. [Baum et al.]
- The prevalence of anxiety, insomnia, social dysfunction, and severe depression is much higher among stalking victims than the general population, especially if the stalking involves being followed or having one’s property destroyed. [Eric Blauuw et al., “The Toll of Stalking,” Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 17, no. 1 (2002):50-63.]

[RECON Study of Stalkers]

- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victims at least once per week, many daily, using more than one method.
- 78% of stalkers use more than one means of approach.
- Weapons are used to harm or threaten victims in 1 out of 5 cases.
- Almost 1/3 of stalkers have stalked before.
- Intimate partner stalkers frequently approach their targets, and their behaviors escalate quickly.


Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide*

- 76% of intimate partner femicide victims have been stalked by their intimate partner.
- 67% had been physically abused by their intimate partner.
- 89% of femicide victims who had been physically assaulted had also been stalked in the 12 months before their murder.
- 79% of abused femicide victims reported being stalked during the same period that they were abused.
- 54% of femicide victims reported stalking to police before they were killed by their stalkers.

[Judith McFarlane et al., “Stalking and Intimate Partner Femicide,” Homicide Studies 3, no. 4 (1999).]

Stalking Laws

- Stalking is a crime under the laws of 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Territories, and the Federal government.
- Less than 1/3 of states classify stalking as a felony upon first offense.
- More than 1/2 of states classify stalking as a felony upon second or subsequent offense or when the crime involves aggravating factors.
- Aggravating factors may include: possession of a deadly weapon, violation of a court order or condition of probation/parole, victim under 16 years, or same victim as prior occasions.

For a compilation of state, tribal, and federal laws visit www.ncvc.org/src.

The Stalking Resource Center (SRC) works to raise national awareness of stalking and to encourage the development and implementation of interdisciplinary responses to stalking in local communities across the country. The SRC provides training, technical assistance, and resource materials for professionals working with and responding to stalking victims so that communities are more aware of and better equipped to respond to the crime of stalking.

This document may be reproduced only in its entirety. Any alterations must be approved by the Stalking Resource Center.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Menu Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Turkey Sandwich, Lett, Tom, Chips, Mandarin Oranges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, Broccoli, Garlic Bread, Cake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chef Salad w/ Ham, Crackers, Apples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo, Greenbeans, Fruit cocktail</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Scrambled Eggs, Gravy, Biscuit</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Polish Sausage, Cabbage, Beets, Bread, Salad Bar</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cereal, Oatmeal, Blueberry Muffin</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Chicken Strips, Mashed Pot/Gravy, Veggies, Apricots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Stew, Crackers, Cobbler</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Manwich, Tator Tots, Cookie</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Pork Chops, Mashed Pot/Gravy, Asparagus, Bread, Applesauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Enchilada Casserole, Mexi-corn, Cake</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Ham Salad, Sandwich, Potato Soup, Pudding</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Biscuits, Gravy, Fruit</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>AST CLOSED, Martin Luther King Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Roast Red Pot, Carrots, Baked Beans, Pie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Hamburger, Lett. &amp; Tom. Baked Beans, Pie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Pinto Beans w/ ham, Steakfries, Frybread, Salad Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Biscuits, Gravy, Sausage links</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Chicken Pot Pie, veggies, Biscuit, Pears</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Chicken &amp; Rice Soup, Celery &amp; Carrots, Crackers, Pudding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOT GOING TO BE HOME
CALL AND LET US NOW AT 275-4030 EXT 169 OR NOTIFY YOUR DRIVER
It’s 2011; Title VI Staff wishes everyone a safe and prosperous year.
We would like to say Thank you to the Executive Committee for supporting us in 2010.
January 17, 2011 the AST Complex will be closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. No meals will be served or delivered.
During the winter months if the Shawnee and Little Axe School Systems are closed due to the weather we will also be closed.
If you have any questions you can call us at 405-275-4030 ext.169.

OEH personnel will provide and install smoke alarms and/or carbon monoxide detectors for enrolled Absentee Shawnee tribal members living in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, or Oklahoma County.

Please complete an application/short survey form and schedule a time and date for installation. Application/survey forms are available at the OEH office and at www.astribe.com.

Please contact OEH at 214-4235 for more information.

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### Absentee Shawnee Tribe

**Enrollment Office**

**Address Change Request**

Date: ____________ CDIB# ___________ Birth Date: ____________

Full Name: ____________________________________________

New Address: __________________________________________

City: _________________________ State ________ Zip Code: ___________

County: _________________________ Home Phone (_____)________________

________________________________________________________

Cell Phone (_____)________________

________________________________________________________

Tribal Member Signature ____________________ Date ____________________

Please Mail to:
Absentee Shawnee Tribe
Enrollment Office
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK. 74801
Foster Parents Needed!!!

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

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

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

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

If you find yourself and your family interested in Foster Care, please contact Melissa Lopez 405-275-4030 ext. 166.
Tribal Housing Improvements Application

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

THIP list all applicants by a priority list:

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

Other Programs available:

• Sanitation Facilities Assistance Program

Applications need to be completed and all necessary documents attached before the application will be processed.

Applications are available online on the website: www.astribe.com.

Submit completed application to:

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

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Complex
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering, Building 13
If you have any questions, you can reach us by phone at (405) 214-4235

If you’d like to submit an ad or article give us a call at (405) 275-4030 ext. 146 or send us an e-mail at mediadept@astribe.com

ALL ARTICLES WILL BE SUBMITTED AS RECEIVED.
2010
TRIBAL PHONE NUMBERS

Tribal Complex (405) 275-4030
or 1-800 256-3341
Building Blocks (405) 878-0633
Health Programs (405) 878-4702
or 1-877-878-4702
Little Axe Clinic (405) 447-0300
Little Axe Dental (405) 307-9704
Shawnee Clinic (405) 878-5850
Shawnee Pharmacy (405) 878-5859
Behavioral Health (405) 878-4716
LA Resource Center (405) 364-7298
or (405) 364-7569
LA Cultural Center (405) 447-3372
AST Police (405) 275-3200
or (405) 275-3432
OEH/OEP (405) 214-4235
AS Housing Authority (405) 273-1050
Thunderbird Casino (405) 360-9270
Or 1-800-259-LUCK
AST Media Dept (405) 598-1279
AST Media Dept Fax (405) 598-1294
AST Tribal Grocery &
SmokeShop Little Axe (405) 364-0668
AST Country Kitchen (405) 366-7220
AST Smokeshop in
Harrah (405) 454-0055