HAPPY FATHER’S DAY

June
www.astribe.com
Treasurer’s Report

Joint Venture

I hope each of you had the chance to read the Joint Venture article in April Newsletter. Whether you approve or disapprove of the joint venture project here are some hard truthful facts we all need to understand. If you have questions about any of these statement please call me or Belinda Collins at 405-275-4030. Or call the AG’s office at the same number. We can answer your questions from the legal and financial perspective about the joint venture.

The Joint Venture is funded by a loan from BancFirst. BancFirst would not have approved this loan of $26,000,000 if they did not know and believe that the ASTribe could repay this loan. This loan was based on actual facts/figure of our estimated third party revenue from the Health Department. Bank people do not make loans without thoroughly checking the financial background of the company/business they are loaning to. BancFirst will retain 10% of the debt. The remaining 90% of the debt will be sold to investors in the form of 100% guarantee Certificates of Participation by Wells Nelson Banking Investment Company. These bonds are rated AAA by Fitch; just this month. The bonds will be sold by the end of May. The Department of Interior (DOI) will guarantee 90% of this loan of $26,000,000. If for some reason the ASTribe defaults on this loan, DOI will pay repay 90% of the loan. A business plan is in place and that shows the Health Department will have the necessary funds to make the two semi-annual interest payments each year and the one annual principal payment of approximately $1,900,000 a year.

Third Party revenue projection for 2009 was $1,800,000; the year ended with actual collections of $2,200,000. Estimated revenue for 2010 is $2.5; and for 2011 is $3.0. Thus, the Third Party revenue will be sufficient to retire the loan debt. Third party revenues are projected to increase the following amounts for the years of: 2012 $3.2 million; 2013 $3.5 million; 2014 $3.7 million; and for 2015 $3.9 million. You can see it is projected that the Health Department third party revenues will be more than sufficient to pay this loan back. During the past three years, health programs have built up a reserve of Third Party revenues to support this loan and 2010 and 2011 estimated revenues will be more than enough to cover the loan payments.

At completion of the new clinic, the tribe’s health compact dollars will increase by approximately $13,000,000 for a total of $22,000,000. Currently, the tribe’s health compact dollars are approximately $9,000,000 (I say approximately because throughout the year additional funds are sometime allocated). You can easily see that the new clinic will create jobs and more services. Not to mention the added business to the current businesses in the Little Axe community and potential for new businesses due to the increased employment in the area.

When the new clinic opens and Health programs are giving more services it will simultaneously create more Third Party Revenues, which will allow for the $26,000,000 loan to be repaid sooner. The Third Party Revenue created by health dollars, can only be used to support health programs thus, it will be used to build the new clinic.

Why were two boards set up? The Absentee Shawnee Tribal healthcare Authority, Inc is a non-profit corporation created under the Corporate Code of the AST. The purpose of this corp. is to manage and oversee the health care operation of the SHAWNEE CLINIC in order to provide an additional layer of Liability protection to the Tribe. The second board is called Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health, Inc., a for-profit corporation to manage and oversee the operations of the LITTLE AXE CLINIC AND NEW CLINIC. Each of these corporations requires a separate board. Because of the health expertise of the board members both boards are served by the same people. It was necessary to form Li-Si-Wi-Nwi, Health, Inc., so that the tribe could access Oklahoma State Tax Credits. The tax credits could be as much as $5,760,000 and Li-Si-Wi-Nwi, Health, Inc. will get $2,880,000. These amounts can be used for the following activities: (building expense, loan closing fees, etc.). Each board has people serving who have a great deal of health expertise. Each board member has their personal reputation to uphold and will do their very best to ensure the boards operation efficiently and effectively with the utmost degree of professionalism.

The Tribe is not operating in a deficit. We are holding our own. We do not have ad-
ditional monies to pay per cap. If anyone promises you per cap money to get your vote don’t believe it. Let’s pretend and say the tribe paid every member of the tribe just $200 each for a per cap payment that would mean the tribe would have to pay out some $600,000 dollars. The tribe does not have additional monies to do that. It can’t happen. Don’t believe it! These are empty promises. Some people will do anything and promise anything even when it isn’t true. I do believe the AST will be able to make per cap payments to all the tribal members in five years or so from now; if we continue in the positive direction we are currently headed in. It is my hope that we will have passed the current crisis and will have funding for the basic programs of our tribe.

The tribe does have investment which amount to the approximately $(1,023,000) of which the majority are health program funds. These investments are with Redstone Investments. Our broker, Mike Kelley, meets with the Controller and Treasurer and Investment Committee monthly to monitor these investments to ensure the best possible growth of the funds. Because of the national economy investments are slowly growing. If you want a copy of this information let me know.

TEC, Inc Board

This is my response to the action that was taken during the General Council meeting on April 17, 2010 to dissolve the TEC, Inc. board. This response also covers the Special meeting on April 21 where the Governor and Lt. Governor ask for this vote of disbandment of the TEC, Inc. Board.

My objections to both of these actions are:

1) Both the Governor and Lt. Governor failed to present their plan to dissolve TEC, Inc. board to the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Representative prior to both dates. 2) This proposed action was never discussed to see what the pros and cons of what would happen to the tribe if such action occurred. 4) No research and or studies were done to consider what all the legal and financial ramifications to the tribe would be if this action actually occurred. 5) As of this date no business plan is in place. This process could take months and who would manage the casino in the interim. A business plan should always be considered and thought out carefully before such an important decision takes place. 6) We have the public, the tribal members, venders, National Indian Gaming, financial people etc. to think about in terms of what type of picture would be portrayed in terms of the tribe’s stability.

It is not my desire to be disrespectful to anyone and especially our tribal members. But it is my duty to check into all decisions that could ultimately have a great financial burden to the tribe.

Here are the financial questions you need to consider for yourself before voting to dissolve the TEC, Inc. Board.

1) First and most important: what is the business plan for running the casino? We understand that of 5/13/10 there is no business plan in place at this time. If the Governor and Lt. Governor have a business plan the rest of the EC has not seen it. This plan should have been discussed by all EC members and approved and put in place months ago. We all should have been working on it. You don’t start a business plan while you are trying to disband an organizational structure. You think ahead and plan so that all aspects run smoothly and efficiently and meet projected deadlines for accomplishment.

2) Who will hold the liquor license for the casino if the TEC, Inc. is dissolved? In order to sell alcoholic beverages, we need some entity or someone to hold the liquor license. If we cannot sell liquor, then we lose that piece of the customer base that go to gamble and who like to drink while gambling. The Casino and ultimately the tribe would lose that income. A liquor license is not something that is easy to get. Who will be responsible financially for this liquor licenses? Will all the EC members need to have liquor licenses? Will the new EC members want to apply for a liquor license? Who will be responsible for lawsuits that could follow from having a liquor license? Will each EC member be responsible?

3) Any legal actions/law suits such as the Dram shop Case, against Thunderbird, if we disband TEC, Inc. We would lose the protective veil and therefore any legal actions against the Casino would come directly after the tribal assets. They cannot touch the Absentee Shawnee Tribe while the TEC, Inc. is in place. If we lose that protective veil basically the sky could be the limit for potential money loss. The tribe does have not that type of assets in place to pay millions of dollars if someone won a lawsuit against the tribe. Who will pay for this? Why weren’t all these important questions discussed and answer before bringing this issue of disbandment to the general tribal council meeting?

4) All the EC members will need to have a gaming license. This is a requirement by NIGC. Currently all the EC have a gaming licenses except for the Lt. Governor. Will the new EC members be willing to apply for a gaming license?

5) NIGC (National Indian Gaming Commission) what will their view on this be? The tribe currently has oversight over the Gaming Commission. Will there be a conflict if the EC become managers/total oversight over the Casino as well? Yes, a conflict would exist. This can’t be done.

6) The tribe currently regulates the Gaming Commission. Someone suggested that the Gaming Commission run the Casino. This is not possible. It is against NIGC rules to do that. The EC had a discussion with the Gaming Commission recently (Gov., Secretary, Representative and Treasurer) and the Gaming Commission felt that the tribe needs the TEC, Inc. and/or some business entity in place to provide that legal protection from law suits.
7) All these important questions/concerns need to be discussed with many different people in attendance in the same room talking about these issues and more (EC, Gaming Commissioners, Gaming Director, Casino managers, Attorney General—to name a few) to make sure the decisions to disband the TEC, Inc. Board is in the best interest for the tribe. We should not make decisions based on personal vendettas against former EC members or employees.

8) It is my understanding that EC has the authority to name people to the TEC, Inc. board. The EC also has the opportunity to meet monthly with the TEC, Inc. board and give input to the business at hand. It is also my understanding that the current members on the TEC, Inc. board were all appointed by the EC. The current EC members on the board were appointed to ensure the stability of the board. Those EC members should rotate off the board in the next year or so. I believe we should have at least one EC member on the TEC, Inc. board at all times. This way we can be assured that information about the business of TEC, Inc. does get back to the EC members. The EC and the TEC, Inc board should be a cooperative effort between the two entities.

General

All decisions that relate to AST tribal government should be based on good sound organizational and business principles. There should be no place in those decisions made on personal vendettas, personal hatred of board members and employees whether he be staff or EC members. Personal agendas need to stay out of the business decisions of this tribe. Good leadership (men and women who are EC members) who know and understand the principles of organizational structure, policies and procedures and protocol, will utilize the tools provide for them. When EC members know and understand the importance of doing the right thing no matter what then this tribe would have true and good leadership.

In any organization you have the good times and the bad ones. I think that both times make you grow as an individual. I think that a person should appreciate the good in any individual. I feel I have done that with all the EC members current and past that I have worked with. None of the EC members are perfect; we all make mistakes and could do better. If the current EC members and the new ones that are coming in would commit themselves to promote cooperation, communication, time and effort to the tribe the new EC could be a dynamic group. I hope they do. They need to set aside their personal agendas and set forth a good positive agenda for the tribe.

All in all I have really enjoyed my tenure as the Treasurer of the tribe from July 08 to June 10. My main goal for the past two years was to see the Finance Department become a top notch department with all accounts reconciled and up to date. That goal has been completed at 100% and more. This occurred because of all the fine hard working employees in that department. Thank you, Finance Department. A second goal was to revamp the administrative manual which has been done but still needs to be completed. Changes have been made accordingly over the past two years. We did start the revision of the Constitution. The committee has come a long way and still will have way to go. Many other changes have occurred due to the fact that the ASTribe have many outstanding hard working and committed individuals who want the best for the tribe. I certainly salute them all. I shall continue to attend general tribal meetings and voice my opinions. It has been my privilege to work for the tribe. I pray for our tribe to have good financial managers, outstanding and educated leaders who know how to plan for the future, manage people and promote open and thoughtful cooperation among the EC and all others. Expect the best, pray for the best and some of you younger generation AST men and women who have these qualifications plan to run for office. Help us be better. We need your presence. Thank you and God bless all of you.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
JUNE 2010

The Finance office continues 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. 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.

Our 2009 Audit is in the final stages of completion. The expected completion date was April 30, 2010 and there were a few unexpected hurdles that had to be addressed causing a short delay in the completion. We will include an informative MD&A (Management Discussion and Analysis) report with the 2009 Audit; which is a brief review of the Audit and explanation of the audit. Accounting continues to stay caught up and Financials are being completed Quarterly and being reported to the Department of Interior – March 31, 2010 1st Quarter 2010 reports were submitted on May 2, 2010.

Once the 2009 Audit is completed we will begin the Indirect Cost Proposal for 2011. It is imperative the accounting / bookkeeping be caught up and continues to stay caught up so that audits go smoothly. Audits affect
Thank you,

Belinda Collins, Controller

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Finance Department has a very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them and at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. This department would like, again, 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 accomplish what has been accomplished. 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

FY-2010 YTD TAX COLLECTIONS
(thru 4/30/2010)

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<tr>
<th>TAX CATEGORY</th>
<th>JANUARY</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>% OF COLLECTIONS</th>
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<td>Sales (6%)</td>
<td>$6,427.61</td>
<td>$6,733.05</td>
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<td>Motor Vehicle</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td><strong>$262,686.85</strong></td>
<td><strong>$842,035.10</strong></td>
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NOTE:
The following are Resolutions passed March 29, 2010 thru April 21, 2010

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:

E-AS-10-25 03/29/10

Approves the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to apply for the Broadband Infrastructure Program Grant. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Absent; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-26 03/29/10

Approves the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma entering into negotiations with Airosurf to provide services in accordance with the Broadband Infrastructure Program Grant; provided that the final contract approval will be contingent upon the grant being awarded to the Tribe. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Absent; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-27 03/29/10

Approves the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to apply for the Family Violence Prevention Grant. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Absent; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-28 03/29/10

Approves the service agreement between the Tribe and International Conference Group, LLC, and authorizing the Governor or his designee to sign the service agreement, effective immediately. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Absent; Representative: Abstain

E-AS-10-29 04/06/10

Directs the Attorney General’s Office to utilize the services of a Special Prosecutor for the purpose of handling conflicts as to the civil or criminal prosecution of Executive Committee members for violations whether they be civil or criminal in nature, effective immediately. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-30 04/21/10

Authorizes the request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs that the funds in the total amount presently in the estate accounts of Walter Shawnee and Eva Shawnee be returned to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe for use in education, health, economic, and related programs which will benefit the entire tribe. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-31 04/21/10

Authorizes the request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs that the funds in the total amount presently in the estate account in the name of Ollie Shawnee be returned to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe for use in education, health, economic, and related programs which will benefit the entire tribe. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-32 04/21/10

Accepts Michael Brooks White, Caitlyn Rose White and Brooklyn Dee White as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-33 04/21/10

Grants voluntary relinquishment of membership of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to Albert Creek, Sr. provided that he is accepted into the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-34 04/21/10

Approves an amendment to the Constitution of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma to amend Article III-Membership, Section 1 (b) to read: “All individuals with at least one-eighth degree of Absentee Shawnee blood” and pursuant to Article VI—Elections, Section (f) Constitutional Amendment and Article XII—Amendments, the Tribe requests that the Bureau of Indian Affairs conduct a Secretarial Election in regard to this amendment. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-35 04/21/10

Authorizes and approves the change in Providers for the 401(k) Plan from Merrill Lynch to Nationwide Retirement Plans. Vote: Lt Governor: Abstain; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-36 04/21/10

Authorizes and approves the proposal with Bledsoe & Associates, P.L.L.C. to complete the Absentee Shawnee Tribe 2010, 2011, and 2012 Annual Audits as attached in “Exhibit A”. Vote: Lt Governor: No; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

E-AS-10-37 04/21/10

Authorizing the requirement that all persons who are employed or shall become employed with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma....shall be required to complete a form of consent to the Civil Regulatory Jurisdiction of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.... Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS:

L-AS-10-14 04/21/10

Amends the Civil Procedure Code, Section 4 Civil Jurisdiction, effective immediately. Vote: Lt Governor: Yes; Secretary: Yes; Treasurer: Yes; Representative: Yes
The following candidates will proceed to the Run Off Election to be held on June 19, 2010

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Lt. Governor
Isaac Gibson, Jr.
Dan Little Axe, Sr.

Treasurer
Scott Miller
Kathy Deere

Representative
Jeff Gibson
Betty Watson
MAY:
Tribal members, family, and friends....thank you for the opportunity to allow us to run in our tribal election.

We didn’t have the chance to get out and visit anyone before the primary, but since the primary election we have had tribal members all over the state who have given us their thoughts on different issues...and we have listened with an open mind. It’s time now that we go out and visit all of you we can, so you can give us your personal opinion on what you think about the tribe...

Both Jeff and I believe the tribe as a whole is ready to move forward leave the past behind... Now is the time to build the casinos, and to explore other business ventures that will financially benefit the tribe.

If you would like to talk to one or both of us, give us a call we will gladly stop by...looking forward to talking to you before the election...thanks

Isaac Gibson Jr. for
AST Lieutenant Gov
405-596-7129

Jeff Gibson for
AST Tribal Representative
405-476-1562

JUNE:
Due to the recent tornados, we have devoted an enormous amount of our time working with the tornado damage in the Little Axe area and were not able to write a report for this month. However, both Jeff and I strongly encourage all of you to vote Saturday, June 19th....thanks

VOTE JUNE 19th ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL ELECTION
Scott Miller

Ho wa se li si mi mo gi ke li ko te yi ke wi

I hope everyone is safe and without injury after the recent storms that passed through areas where Tribal Citizens live. It is my sincerest hopes that everyone who may have suffered damage, property loss, or injury will recover stronger than before. Commendation should be given to the individuals who were quick to act in gather resources for food, shelter, and other vital needs immediately after the storms.

The run-off election is fast approaching and it one of the most crucial in our Tribe’s history. This election could be the difference between progress and growth or a slip back in time. It is sad to see that one election could determine the fate of out Tribe, especially in today’s world.

As a candidate for Treasurer, I would like to take this opportunity to briefly mention three immediate goals I have in order to come out of our economic slump;

Business development and implementation
Career opportunities for Tribal Citizens
Generating additional tax revenue and other forms of revenue for the Tribe

Without these, our Tribe will maintain its current status quo of just getting by.

If elected, I will immediately work hard to reach these goals to turn our Tribal economy around. It will not be easy, but I am up to the challenge of continuing to improve our financial status. I believe our Tribe has many opportunities ahead of us, but we must not be afraid to take chances to improve.

Several programs within our Tribe heavily depend on Tribal tax revenue for funding. It is important to increase tax revenue and create supplemental revenue sources to insure the existence of the tax revenue base programs and provide an opportunity to expand services. To create supplemental income, we must quickly develop and implement businesses on lands the Tribe owns. From retail business to manufacturing to construction, each can provide a long term revenue stream, which would supplement current Tribal tax revenues. This would also provide career opportunities for Tribal Citizens who may be in trade school, graduating college, or effected by the slow economy.

Along with development and implementation of businesses is the need for the Tribe to get back into the world of government contracting. Government contracting has its advantages for tribes. Having minority owned businesses, tribes have the ability to bid and be awarded government contracts most private sector companies compete for year in and year out. If planned correctly, government contracting can become the foundation of Tribal revenues.

As you know Thunderbird Casino is the major source of tax revenue for our Tribe. It is now very important we open a second gaming facility to add to the gaming tax revenues from Thunderbird. We all saw the reality of a natural disaster destroying structures and disrupting lives. Thunderbird was fortunate to escape the recent tornadoes with minimal damage, however if Thunderbird would have taken a direct hit, there is no other substantial tax resource for the Tribe to rely on.

These are just a few goals and ideas I believe would change our Tribe for the better. I am proud to be a candidate for Treasurer and I hope I get the opportunity to help make our Tribe prosperous.

When choosing candidates for this election, look at who wants to sincerely progress our Tribe without hidden agendas, ulterior motives or unfinished business. We need individuals with new ideas and the drive to make our Tribe successful!

Please do not forget to vote on Saturday June 19th. This election is very crucial for the progress of our Tribe.

Ne yi wa!

Vote for Scott Miller
Absentee Shawnee Treasurer
Greeting Fellow Tribal Members,

Hope this letter finds you all safe and thanking the Creator for mercy and grace!

May 10-16, 2010, has started out with tremendous loss to some of our tribal members in and around the Little Axe community. Words cannot express my concern over their loss of homes, personnel belongings, vehicles, etc. due to the E-F4 tornados that came to this area and then a few days later severe thunderstorms with hail anywhere from marble to softball size causing more damage. We are saddened about he one loss in this community, but thankful that many more lives were not lost. Our thoughts and prayers go out to our tribal members, families, and communities affected by these storms.

We applaud our Governor & his family, Lt. Governor & Georgia, Donna Butler, Johnnie Mae Bettleyou, Meredith Wahpekeche, Betty Watson and family, and many others whose name I don’t know (forgive me if I left your name out) for giving their time, talents, and tireless voluntary efforts in helping all the victims by cooking, serving meals, offering assistance anyway that they can to help every day this past week. It takes all of us to work together to assist in times of emergencies and disasters.

Runoff election is Saturday, June 19, 2010. Please exercise your right to vote for candidates of your choice. Make this the biggest and grandest voting year for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Our average is only about 200 to 300 plus voters. These numbers don’t very well represent out eligible voters. We should have 700 to 1,000 votes each election. Voting is a privilege and we should teach our young voters that this is a time that they can participate in electing qualified candidates to represent them in local, state, and nationwide tribal issues that affect the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

We have been attending various tribal board meetings to learn about heir issues, policies, and standards these boards strive to meet. We have been visiting tribal members to see what concerns, issues, complaints, etc. that they see or have experienced. Many concerns over services that are not being done, due to lack of money, such as:

* Housing maintenance that does not fall under housing authority due to trust land issue.
* Need gravel for driveways for many elderly tribal members.
* Illegal dumping and cleanup needed around tribal members’ homes.

Health Issues/Concerns:

* Medication delivery or home care visits to elderly.
* Physician concerns at Shawnee Health Facility.

Education/Employment Issues:

* Need more trade/vocational training.
* Need to increase tuition and books assistance for college students.
* Need counselors and tutors to follow our children and youth throughout elementary, middle and high school to help them to stay in school and decide on a career.
* High unemployment for tribal members and that should not be a problem.

These items listed are just some of the issues, concerns, and complaints. If we don’t get more revenue and business ventures established, we are in danger of losing more services for our tribal members. This would affect our children and future of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. As a candidate for Treasurer, my goals are to search out viable business opportunities and fund more grants (there are many grants available that are not being utilized) that will help establish our tribe, once again, as one of the top expanding and leading tribes in Oklahoma, as well as, Nationwide.

Also, wanted to let you all know I received a plaque and certificate from the Oklahoma Federal Executive Board, as “Employee of the Year” representing Tinker Air Force Base. An award banquet was given in honor for all nominees throughout the state from many different federal offices throughout the state on May 3, 2010, at the Postal Center in Norman off HWY 9.

Make your vote count for me as Treasurer of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe! Thank you.

Blessings to all,

Kathy Deere

email address: shwneturtle56@yahoo.com

cell # 405-816-7874
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 June 19, 2010. I cannot physically be present to cast my Vote at the June 19, 2010 Run Off 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 May 30, 2010

Return this Form:

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

or

By Fax to: Fax# (405) 273 1337
Phone: (405) 275-4030 ext. 150
or
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
The Shawnee Room at the Independence Regional Museum in Batesville, Arkansas. The exhibit consisted of reconstructed scenes of daily life in a Shawnee village. This exhibit was set up around 1997.

Shawnees return to Arkansas
Tribal Historic Preservation Office

In April we had an opportunity to begin participation on a National Park Service (NPS) Special Resource Study team to begin evaluation on the Jacob Wolf House in Norfork, Arkansas. The evaluation and study process includes, among other things, researching the property and gathering the public’s feedback which can take upwards of two years. So who is Jacob Wolf and what does he have to do with the Shawnees?

Jacob Wolf rose to prominence in Arkansas Territory in the early 1800s. He was reputed to be a shrewd businessman and his perception led him to build his house on the east side of the White River, not just for the surrounding scenic beauty and the breeze off the river, but because on the west side of the river there was an Indian settlement, specifically a Shawnee Indian settlement. According to some accounts, Jacob Wolf initially lived in the Shawnee settlement and made his living as a blacksmith. It was through his burgeoning trade with the Shawnees and other tribes in the area that his business first began to flourish and prosper.

Beginning in the late 1770s many Shawnees began to settle east of the Mississippi River which was claimed by the government of Spain. In 1793 they were granted a tract of land by Spain’s Government. At this time the Mississippi River served as a boundary of separation between Spanish and American lands. Through the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 the American government acquired Spain’s territory and once again American settlers began encroaching upon Indian lands. After the Cherokees were granted a parcel of land in 1817 between the Arkansas and White Rivers west of a line running from the mouth of Point Remove Creek on the Arkansas River to Chatunga Mountain on the White River (near present day Batesville, Arkansas), the Cherokee invited the Shawnee to settle the northern portion of this grant. Historic accounts also note Shawnee settlements along the White River and other tributaries in northern Arkansas. In fact, the modern day town of Yellville, AR was originally called Shawnettow. By 1832, the occupants of the varied Shawnee settlements had dispersed.

Besides the written accounts of Shawnee settlement in Arkansas, today there is no standing structure that is evidence of our previous presence there. During a public meeting regarding the Wolf House in the town of Norfork (about 3x the size of Pink) several local residents expressed their interest in seeing more participation from the “Indians” if Wolf House meets the criteria to become an NPS unit. Whether the Wolf House will be under the arm of the NPS remains to be seen but hopefully the memory of the Shawnees in Arkansas will be remembered – at least among the Absentee Shawnees.

According to a resident, local lore explains that the “teacup” rock on top of the limestone bluff to the right allegedly marked the southern boundary of the Indian settlement.

A back view of Jacob Wolf’s house, a property on the National Register of Historic Places.

In the 1800s the view from the back porch of the Wolf house would have featured a Shawnee village on the opposite side of the river.

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION
To find out more about the AST Veterans Association, schedule the Color Guard or request a Military Funeral Honor call:
David (405) 245-4802
Walter (405) 683-1247
John (405) 481-3822
astveterans@gmail.com

Address: Absentee Shawnee Tribe Veterans Association
P.O. Box 247
Tecumseh, OK 74873

The next membership meeting will be Wednesday, June 9th at the OEP Building. The meeting will begin at 7pm. A pot-luck dinner will follow the meeting.
On Monday, May 10, 2010 severe weather caused an outbreak of tornados in parts of Oklahoma. There were tribal members whose homes, belongings, and establishments were damaged if not swept away from these storms. Our thanks to various AST employees, tribal members, and the staff at the AST Country Kitchen for their support and time given to help these victims.
THE MAY TORNADO

"There's NO disaster that can't become a blessing"
Thank you!!

On the evening of May 10th my house was destroyed by the tornado in Tecumseh. With the help of family and friends assisting me in retrieving what was left of my belongings this difficult time was a bit easier to bare.

Thank you Ashley McMahan, Chris Pack Tige, Shirley, Joey Hutchinson, Tobin and Heather Warrior, Leroy and Henryetta Ellis, and Andrew Ellis, I want to tell you I am forever grateful and appreciative of the time you took out of your day to help. You helped me more than you think you did that day.

Thank you to my parents Mac and Vicki, my sister Martha, and my Aunt Bernice without your presence, love, comfort and encouraging words this difficult ordeal let me know I was not alone.

Special Thank You to the Sac & Fox Tribe Indian Welfare, the Sac & Fox Police Department and the Sac & Fox Casino. Your tremendous generosity, friendship and encouraging words also allowed me to feel I am not alone and relieved me of the stresses of what to do. Thank you whole heartedly.

Ne-yi-wa
Charles Gibson and Holly Starkey

My ride between two Tornadoes

The evening of Monday, May 10, 2010, I left my Shawnee office at 5:05 p.m. After I opened the back door to building 16 (Contract Health Service building) I peeked back in and yelled to Chris Walker, “It looks bad back west, better be careful.”

Traveling west on Hwy 9, I passed by Country Boy grocery and the tornado had not yet hit there because I looked over there thinking maybe I should stop for gas, but I drove on toward Norman. A couple minutes after I passed by the grocery store, my husband called, he said the weather report showed tornado activity in towns south of Norman. He mentioned Ardmore and Purcell. I noticed the wind had picked up quite a bit after passing the Little Axe Clinic because my van swayed slightly. Nearer to Norman, about a minute or so past the convenient store I noticed the trees swaying crazily, not like they do when the wind is strong from one direction. My husband called again. He said “there is a tornado going across Hwy 9.” I lost cell phone connection with him. I noticed the clouds were moving in a northeast direction and the clouds were darker toward Norman. As I approached 48th St. an SUV was oddly parked facing norward. I saw on both sides of the road that the wooden power poles were snapped in two. The cables were haphazardly lying across the highway. At the interaction two cars in front of me slowly crept through a triangle shaped opening formed by the cables. Next it seemed the people in cars behind me thought it was my turn to drive through because they began honking. I glanced back at them and as I turned back considering to drive through I noticed something different. There was a heavy line directly in my line of vision about 5 inches from my front window. I thought for a moment and looked closer and realized it was a large black cable that must have dropped when I glanced back toward the honking cars. There was no way to proceed forward, so I slowly backed up causing the little car behind me to back up, then I barely had room to turn around. I drove a mile or so back east and turned off and headed north until I came to Lindsey street.

Later in visiting with my husband he said that there were two tornadoes, one hit just after I passed Country Boy grocery, and another tornado hit going across Hwy 9 at 48th street just moments before I got there. I tried to tell my husband in my scared excitement that “I was in the eye of a tornado!” He said, “They don’t have eyes.” I then said, “I was then in the vortex of a tornado!” He disagreed. He said, “You actually were between two tornadoes that hit while you were driving down Hwy 9.” I said, “Oh.”

by Modina Waters
RECOVERING FROM TRAUMA

Oklahoma has certainly seen its share of natural disaster and felt the impact on families and communities. This past week was yet another example of the devastating aftermath of tornados in Oklahoma. While there are always immediate needs involving the basic necessities the therapists and case-managers of the AST Behavioral Health Department are all too aware of how trauma can impact individuals.

Traumatic events such as this are certainly cause for tremendous fear and anxiety. Everyone is different and will react to the devastation in various ways. Some people will react within days, weeks and maybe even months of the traumatic event. The following are common feelings and reactions people experience:

- anxiety or fear of being alone or in the dark (especially for children)
- fear of uncertainty or situations not familiar
- avoidance of places which remind of the trauma
- sleep disturbance and/or flashbacks
- loss of interest in usual activities
- separation anxiety
- difficulty thinking or concentrating
- irritability or anger often directed to those close such as friends and family
- some people will also feel physical symptoms such as fatigue, loss of appetite, headaches, or muscle tension

There are things people can do to help these reactions to trauma decrease and sometimes resolve completely. Again, everyone is different and will react in a variety of manner. Some suggestions include:

- Talk about what happened, preferably someone willing to listen and be sympathetic and someone comfortable with the range of emotions you might experience such as crying, fear and even anger.
- Remind yourself that the traumatic event is over and you are safe. Self talk is a very healthy coping skill and is an important part of trauma recovery.
- Try to get physical exercise which helps to relieve tension and anxiety.
- Avoid self-medicating. Some people will try to use sleep aids, alcohol or even caffeine to try and “feel better” and these can actually have the opposite of the desired affect.
- Eat regular meals even if you do not feel like eating.

In general it is encouraged that people resume their usual activities as soon as possible such as returning to school, work, etc. Keep in mind suggestions for incorporating healthy lifestyle activities such as those listed above and do not be afraid to ask for professional help. Having a professional counselor to talk with can provide an opportunity to process the traumatic event with a neutral party and if desired, learn methods of coping which can assist with recovery from the traumatic event.

If you would like more information on obtaining counseling services through the AST Behavioral Health Department, please do not hesitate to ask by calling 405-878-4716. Counseling services are provided to all Native Americans and all ages. We encourage you to take care of your emotional health as well as your physical health.
Crisis Counseling services offered by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Behavioral Health Services. Services are available for anyone affected by the recent disaster. We can take appointments at the Absentee Shawnee Resource Center, Shawnee Clinic, Little Axe Clinic, or Home Bound.

Please contact Behavioral Health @ (405) 878-4716 or (405)-447-0300
Staying in Touch
A note from Following in Our Footsteps

The children in the “Following in Our Footsteps” program are growing strong and looking toward their future. They have been to the spring break camp working on videos and now many are making music and have great creative art talents. We have seen children that have tried their hands on drawing, such as our new web site logo! Some have discovered the art of music, playing guitar, piano, bass guitar, drums, as well as vocal lessons. “The Following in Our Footsteps” program has just got started, with many years and children ahead. Our Native culture has so many talented people. There is no end to the wonderful arts, crafts and abilities. We would all do good to look inside ourselves and seek the rich Native heritage given to us by our ancestors. Parents, please help your children be the best they can be by helping them stay engaged in our program.

We look forward to your participation!

Thank You,

Phil Bradley
Following in Our Footsteps
Music Dept.

Following in Our Footsteps

Our spring break retreat was amazing...to say the least. We had digital imagery, photography, making dream catchers, beading key chains, guitar, drums, museums, hiking, and horseback riding. We are starting a baseball league this summer and want you and your children to be involved. Additionally, we are planting a garden and need Following in Our Footstep participants to volunteer for “sweat equity” to be able to be involved in the float trip this summer. It is so imperative to keep our young children from methamphetamine and other drug use. We are educating our youth in alternative ways and exposing them to positive alternatives that will give them something to do that is valuable. Suicide is something that no one wants to address; especially when thinking of our youth. When suicide impacts our lives it is tragic. As most of you know Pottawatomie County is ranked 3rd in suicide completions in the State of Oklahoma. Following in Our Footsteps offers counseling services, education, and activities to help decrease meth and suicide; together our Native Youth become motivated and learn healthy lifestyle changes.
HOLD HARMLESS Event Lesson AGREEMENT

Name of Student: ______________________________________________________________________________

Address:_____________________________________________________________

City:_________________________ State:__________  Zip:__________

Phone:____________________ Cell:___________________________________

List any known allergies or medical conditions of student._______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Upon my acceptance of this agreement, I acknowledge full responsibility for my safety and the safety of the aforementioned animal, per Oklahoma Livestock Limited Liability Act. It is my understanding that there are inherent risks in riding and being around horses. I therefore, do further agree in consideration for Neil Gwaltney Ranch boarding my horse that any horse I ride or handle on said premises, I ride or handle at my own risk. I agree to hold Neil Gwaltney Ranch, its owners, officers, employees, agents, coaches, trainers, instructors, etc. harmless and indemnify them from any and all liabilities or claims which may arise in favor of myself, my heirs, representatives, or dependents; from injury to myself and third person whom I bring upon the premises, or which may arise from injury or death to my animals or which may arise from damage or loss of property. I do further agree to indemnify Neil Gwaltney Ranch, its owners, etc. from any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, losses, damages, recoveries, judgments, attorney’s fees, costs, and expenses in any manner arising out of or in connection with injury or death to myself or my invitees, or damage to property of myself or invitees as a result of use of said premises, or riding on said premises, consideration being the use of said premises and facilities and for board.

The provisions of this Hold Harmless Agreement will apply when on the premises of Neil Gwaltney Ranch, or off said premises when said animal is under the supervision of Neil Gwaltney Ranch, its owners, agents, trainers, etc. Miscellaneous shall include, but not be limited to, while in transit, at shows, at special exhibition, shipping, etc.

If any part of this agreement to indemnify and hold harmless be invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining part or parts thereof.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto set their hands on the___________ day of ___________________ 2010

Signed by Student or guardian(s): ______________________________________________________________________________

Signed by Neil Gwaltney Ranch Representative(s): ___________________________________________ Date: ___________________
MSPI Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
MSPI Youth Prevention Program
2029 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801
(405) 878-4716

Participation APPLICATION

ApplicantName: _____________________________ Date: ___________

Parent/Legal Guardian: _____________________________ Date ___________

Attending School: ___________________________ Grade _____ DOB ___________

Emergency Contact:

Name ___________________________ phone _________ / __________

Address ______________________________________________________

Finding Directions ________________________________________________

Name ___________________________ phone: __________ / __________

Address ______________________________________________________
Finding Directions: _______________________________________________________________

In Case of Emergency which do you prefer first? Please list 1-4 in preferred order.

___ Contact parent / emergency phone:______________________________________________

___ Take to Emergency Room/ Preferred hospital:_____________________________________

___ Contact PCP/ Name of PCP and phone:___________________________________________

___ Other/Please indicate: _______________________________________________________

APPLICANT’S TRIBAL AFFILIATION____________ CDIB#_________ DOB_____________

FINDING Directions_______________________________________________________________

I am the legal guardian of ___________________________________, I hereby release the Absentee Shawnee
Tribe of Oklahoma and the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Programs/Behavioral Health/MSPI from any liability
that may occur while my child(ren) attend meetings, functions, demonstrations, and other activities associated with
the MSPI program. This form includes transportation to and from functions and activities.

_____________________________________________________________________________
Parent or legal guardian                                                                                    Date

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
Participant signature                                                                                          Date

_________________________________________________________________________________________________
MSPI Coordinator                                                                                              Date
“May today’s success be the beginning of tomorrow’s achievements.”

(author unknown)

Congratulations Brent Shields on earning your associate’s degree in science!!

Love,
Your Family

JALYN WILLIAMS
Congratulations on receiving the following awards:
Oklahoma high School Honor Society
(top 10% of class) and Tecumseh High School Basketball
“Newcomer of The Year”
Love,
Mom, G-ma, G-pa and family

It was an exciting event on May 8, 2010 at St. Gregory’s University. When my mother, Harriet Tehauno and I graduated with a Bachelors of Science Degree. My mother just wanted the satisfaction of knowing that she could do it especially at her age of 64. She gives the Lord the praise and hopes it will help others know that there’s a will there is a way. She is grateful to all those that helped her along the way. As a teenager my parents encouraged me to attend college, that one day I will need it. Not realizing until I was older with my own family, I understood the importance of their concerns.

Megan June Larney is a Senior at Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah Oklahoma. She is the 17 year old daughter of Walter and Rebecca of Wewoka. She has 3 sisters: Angela, Jana and Kerri Larney and 2 nieces: Nataleigh Beaver and Isabella Larney.

Megan was also 2003-2004 Little Miss Seminole Nation, 2005 Seminole Chapter Honor/Color Guard Princess, 2006 Oklahoma Inter-Tribal Veteran Warriors Society Princess, 2007-2008 Jr. Miss Seminole Nation and 2010-2011 Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma. Her GPA is 3.8 After graduation, her plans are to attend the University of Tulsa and major in Micro Biology.

Happy Birthday
Darren Shields!!

(June 20th)
Love,
Your Family

Happy 90th B-DAY MOM
(Viola Harjo)

June 8th
Love you,
Tawanna Harjo

Happy Belated Birthday Alyass Ferrell

We love you
Mom and Dad, Ethan,
Nana and Papa Littlecharley
The Megehee Family

Happy Birthday
Mamacita!

We love you!
Aunt Bren, “Uncle Rick
Mickey & Ricky & Ash
June 18, 2010

Happy 1st Birthday June 18, 2010
Love Mama & Sister

Happy Father’s Day
Mac “What’s up Playa?” Gibson
Love Bud & Sis
Thanks for everything

Happy Belated Birthday Alyass Ferrell

We love you
Mom and Dad, Ethan,
Nana and Papa Littlecharley
The Megehee Family

Happy 17th Birthday
Samuel Byers

From
Aunt Sherry, Uncle Shawn & Families

Happy Father’s Day
Shannon, Shawn & John

From
Sherry

Happy Father’s Day
Marvin Smith

Love
Landon, Mal, & Ryder

Her Late grandparents are Rev. Arthure an deLisa Eco Coon of Sasakwa and Lee & Geneva Larney of Shawnee. Megan is Seminole/Absentee Shawnee and is enrolled with the Seminole Nation. She is a member of the Reweale Band and a descendant of the Kat-cv (Tiger) Clan. She attended school at Justice Elem. School, New Lima High School, and Sequoyah High School. Megan was the H.O.P.E. Club Secretary, Manager of Power lifting Football and wrestling, Jr. Class Treasurer, National Honor Society President, American Indian Science and Engineering Society President, Students Working Against Tobacco/Drug-Free youth Vice-President, Volleyball Captain, Mvskoke Creek Challenge Bowl Team Captain, Founder/Conductor of peer Counseling Group for Incoming Freshman, Rotary Student of the Month, Miss SHS, Page Program Participant at the Oklahoma House of Representatives, where she was appointed speaker of the house. Megan was also 2003-2004 Little Miss Seminole Nation, 2005 Seminole Chapter Honor/Color Guard Princess, 2006 Oklahoma Inter-Tribal Veteran Warriors Society Princess, 2007-2008 Jr. Miss Seminole Nation and 2010-2011 Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma. Her GPA is 3.8 After graduation, her plans are to attend the University of Tulsa and major in Micro Biology.
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.

There are no deadlines for the Job Training Adult Education Program, but you must submit your application documents at least three weeks prior to the beginning of the course to ensure funding is available and can be disbursed to the institution.

Applications for the Education Incentive Award Program are due July 31, 2010.

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

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Dear Absentee Government Body, Tribal Employees and Members

We, at CTSA Head Start and Early Head Start staff, would like to thank everyone for their help this year. We had an awesome year due to you all. Without your help the children in our program would have not been able to have the year they had. This year we were able to have two Pow Wow’s, a Thanksgiving Dinner, a Christmas program and gifts for the children. CTSA also had a Fun Day for families to come enroll their children and get Health Screens through Contract Health and Dental with Little Axe Clinic.

We would also like to specially thank the Maintenance Staff for all they have helped our center with throughout the year. Please forgive us if we have forgotten anyone. We are very grateful to all who help us throughout the year. We could not have done it without you.

CTSA Head Start/Early Head Start Staff

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**AST Employee Committee New Officers**

This month, AST Employee Committee annual elections were held. The following officers were elected by the AST employees:

- Chairman- Randy Edge
- Vice-Chairman- Mary Ponkilla
- Secretary- Debra Nanaeto
- Treasurer- Glendine Blanchard

The newly elected AST Employee Committee would like to thank the previous Committee for all that they have done for the employees. The current AST Employee Committee will do their best to continue their work in promoting good morale and teamwork within the AST employees.
CURRENT JOB POSTINGS AS OF MAY 5, 2010

BUILDING BLOCKS
~ Director
~ (1) Food Service Preparation Specialist
~ Floater
~ Part-Time Teacher

COURT/LEGAL/POLICE
~ Supreme Court Tribal Judge

FAMILY SERVICES
~ (2) Part-Time Victim Advocate
~ Part-Time Victim Resource Coordinator

HEALTH
~ Dentist
~ Physician’s Assistant
~ Patient Benefit Advocate
~ Transportation Driver
~ Women’s Wellness Advocate

MIS
~ Programmer

TITLE VI
~ Director
~ Driver/Kitchen Assistant

Job descriptions will be available online:
http://www.tribe.com/Employment.html

If you have any questions about the job positions and their job descriptions you can contact Briana Ponkilla or Tricia Dietrich in the Human Resources Department at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at: (405)275-4030.

ELDERS COUNCIL

The Absentee-Shawnee Elders Council met in their regular monthly meeting on Saturday, May 15, 2010 at the Title VI Building on the tribal complex in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Twenty-seven (27) tribal members and nine (9) visitors attended the meeting. All officers were present, i.e., Gene Parker, President: Mary Birdtail Vice-President, Kathy Deere, Treasurer and Cynthia Longhorn, Secretary. The invocation was given by Lt. Governor (and elder) Dan Little Axe, Sr. Birthdays for the month of May were recognized for Elroy Alford, Barbara Wilkerson, Johnnie Mae Bettelyoun, and Richard Birdtail, husband of tribal member, Mary Birdtail. Announcements included the following items: a Thank You card for Dora Citty, Gene Parker announced an estate sale being held on June 4, 5 & 6th, Kathy Deere told of the Tinker Inter-Tribal council pow wow being held on Saturday, June 12 at Joe B. Barnes Regional Park in MWC, Sue Blanchard told of current scams being perpetrated on senior citizens where someone would call requesting money form a "grandchild" in trouble, Governor (and elder) George Blanchard informed everyone of the relief efforts now being provided at the Resource Center at Little Axe due to the recent tornados in our area. Currently, meals, showers, laundry facilities and cots and personal items are being provided with AST staff, programs and tribal members volunteering daily. Also, Iowa tribal members and staff are present and cutting trees in clean up efforts; the Eastern Shawnee Tribe had donated $5,000.00 and three portable generators. Many tribal members are working in this effort. Donna Butler and Bucky Little Charley received praise for their hard work and long hours. Anyone interested inn donation money or items can contact any BancFirst for information on a special account for this effort. Cynthia Longhorn informed those present of Esteline Schulenberg being hospitalized in Norman Regional Hospital.

Minutes for the April 10, 2010 Council meeting were available for those present to review and a motion to approve as presented was made by Sue Blanchard and seconded by Serena Daugherty. The motion carried. Next on the agenda was the Treasurers’ Report with copies of the financial information for the month ending April 30, 2010 being provided. A motion to approve the report was made by David Little, Jr. and seconded by Elroy Alford. The motion carried.

Old Business: Mary Birdtail expressed thanks to everyone who brought food for the General Council (April 17, 2010) and advised that breakfast food items had been donated by
Title VI program as well as Thunderbird grill. The upcoming Taco Sale (May 22, 2010) was discussed with food items discussed included: fund raiser event on AST Election day of June 19, 2010 was brought up and a motion was made by Sadie Low and seconded by Sue Blanchard to have a cake walk and bingo. The motion carried. There was more discussion and comments about having other activities on election day, also.

Open discussion: Gene Parker gave information about Palo Dura Drama near Amarillo, Texas a site to be considered for the Elders trip this summer. Dan Little Axe inquired about a previously suggested site of the Mississippi Choc-taw Festival in Philadelphia, Mississippi. There were many questions about both sites as well as others mentioned in previous meetings. A motion was made to table this items of business until next months meeting was made by Serena Daugherty and seconded by Mildred Switch. The motion carried.

Dan Little Axe inquired of the subject of the proposed golf tournament as mentioned in the April minutes and much discussion ensued. Points of concern was the amount of work required and everybody’s involvement in getting sponsorship for costs of this fund raiser event. A motion to “forget” the tournament was made by Gerry Roller and seconded by Sadie Low. Further discussion was had and following that, Gerry Roller rescinded her motion. A motion to table this item and to bring back at a later date with more information was made by Sue Blanchard and seconded by Emily Longman. The motion carried.

Emily Longman, an Elder and employee of the AST Election Commission stated that the Commission is developing plans for the installation of winners in the upcoming election and asked if the elders would like to be considered again this year in providing a meal for this event. Following brief discussion, and possible dates for this event, it was agreed that the Council would consent to this and a motion to that effect was made by Sue Blanchard and seconded by Sadie Low. The motion carried.

Mary Birdtail said that she has been in contact with Michael Jackson with the Expo Center in Shawnee as a possible site for the Elders Veterans pow wow in November and that she would be hearing from him next week for more details.

The next regular meeting date for the AST Elders Council is set for June 19, 2010 at the Title VI Building in Shawnee and it is open to all tribal members and their spouses. For more information, feel free to contact any Council officer. Gene Parker, President at 613-1139; Mary Birdtail, Vice-President at 386-7581; Kathy Deere at 447-1247 or Cynthia Longhorn at 273-4137.

“Gaming Commission response to questions raised during General Council Meeting”

May 7, 2010

The gaming commission was asked to respond to several questions that have come up during the General Council meeting and afterward.

Questions that directly relate to the Gaming Ordinance will be quoted, and those that require an opinion on the part of the Gaming Commission will be so noted. It should be said at this point, that opinions of the Gaming Commission are in no way meant to influence decisions that will be made by the Executive Committee, but simply stated to further the discussion so as to be as knowledgeable about the issue as possible.

In General Council, a motion from the floor was to disband the TEC and have the Gaming Commission take over the day to day operational authority.

The responsibilities of the Gaming Commission by the Gaming Ordinance are:


“…the gaming commission staff shall monitor the tribe’s gaming enterprise(s) for compliance with all National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) and tribally prescribed rules, regulations, and policies, track, audit, and recommend annual external audit contracts, and verify all gaming revenues; prepare appropriate Annual Gaming Commission budgets, hire and staff all Gaming Commission departments and divisions for all Absentee Shawnee Tribal gaming enterprises; inspect and supervise the installation of all gaming equipment; perform background investigations of gaming enterprise employees and gaming enterprise vendors; recommend the issuance of, or denial of, Absentee Shawnee Tribal gaming licenses; recommend the suspension or revocation of existing gaming licenses”.

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“…the gaming commission staff shall monitor the tribe’s gaming enterprise(s) for compliance with all National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) and tribally prescribed rules, regulations, and policies, track, audit, and recommend annual external audit contracts, and verify all gaming revenues; prepare appropriate Annual Gaming Commission budgets, hire and staff all Gaming Commission departments and divisions for all Absentee Shawnee Tribal gaming enterprises; inspect and supervise the installation of all gaming equipment; perform background investigations of gaming enterprise employees and gaming enterprise vendors; recommend the issuance of, or denial of, Absentee Shawnee Tribal gaming licenses; recommend the suspension or revocation of existing gaming licenses”.

May 7, 2010

The gaming commission was asked to respond to several questions that have come up during the General Council meeting and afterward.

Questions that directly relate to the Gaming Ordinance will be quoted, and those that require an opinion on the part of the Gaming Commission will be so noted. It should be said at this point, that opinions of the Gaming Commission are in no way meant to influence decisions that will be made by the Executive Committee, but simply stated to further the discussion so as to be as knowledgeable about the issue as possible.

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Section 107. Duties and Responsibilities of Gaming Commissioners.

a. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Gaming Commission shall be charged with the sole responsibility of administering and enforcing the provisions of the Gaming Ordinance.

b. A Gaming Commissioners’ duties and responsibilities are limited and specific in order to enable such Commissioner to fairly and impartially review and adjudicate all matters relating to employees, vendor and gaming enterprise compliance with all National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), Compact requirements, and tribally prescribed rules, regulations and policies.

d. Gaming Commissioners shall not attempt to manage, control, manipulate, or influence Absentee Shawnee Tribal gaming enterprise operations in any way.

The Gaming Commission having management authority for the gaming enterprise would be a direct conflict of interest and a violation of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Gaming Ordinance. We cannot and should not have any such control.

The Gaming Commission was also asked to discuss the TEC and whether it was a good idea to disband the Corporation or continue it. As was discussed earlier, we are simply issuing an opinion that should not be construed to influence or dissuade the Executive Committee in their final decision in this matter. Our Ordinance is very clear in the matter of the Gaming Commission attempting to influence, manage, control or manipulate the gaming enterprise. With that said, we will try to impartially discuss what we think might be areas to consider in this decision. We will not discuss areas that the Attorney General has issued a legal opinion on, because we are not as well versed in matters relating to law as they apply here.

Most of the tribes have a board of some sort to oversee the management of their gaming enterprises. We have seen some tied to the tribes Economic Development Board, some have Gaming Operations Boards. There are several reasons that tribes have adopted these boards to oversee their gaming enterprises.

1. They reduce the political influence that might be applied to the enterprise.
2. They can reduce liability of the tribe by insulating the tribe from lawsuits.
3. They can require members of the board to have professional experience and knowledge about business, legal and gaming operations issues prior to being placed on the board.
4. The board makes decisions concerning the enterprise and reports to the Executive Committee, so the many frequent issues relating to management of the enterprise is not thrown on the Executive Committee.

The issues relating to the dissolution of the Corporation and the steps required to do this, we have left to our AG’s opinion and also the issue of liquor licenses and vendor contracts. We say again for the record, that the Gaming Commission is in no way trying by this discussion to influence the Executive Committee in their decision to either dissolve the TEC or keep it. We are however knowledgeable about other tribes and some of their reasons for having a board to oversee and have management control over the gaming enterprise. The Gaming Commission stands ready to answer or discuss any area the Executive Committee would wish.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Blanchard, Commission Chairman
Leroy Ellis, Commission Member
James Stuart, Executive Director
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL MEMBERS

WE HAVE A PROMOTION JUST FOR YOU

EVERY WEEK RECEIVE
$10 FREE SLOT PLAY

Just show your Absentee Shawnee Tribal CDIB Card, to take advantage of the offer.

See Player's Club Desk for complete details

Management reserves the right to change or alter any promotion.
Happy Father's Day
The Title VI Staff prays that all who was affected with the tornados, high wind and hail storm is doing fine and recovering.

Father's Day is June 20th!!!!!! Title VI is so thankful for the many workers and volunteers that put in many hours during this time.

If you have any questions call us at 275-4030 ext. 149 or ext. 169.

June 2010

2% Milk served daily

Menu subject to change
FOLLOWING THE TRAIL

October 9, 2010

Native American Men and Boys Conference

www.forministry.com/usoksobcooname
Some services that are offered include:

- Business Cards
- Invitations
- Announcements
- Calendars
- Banners
- Logo Designs
- Graphics
- Brochures
- Envelope Designs
- Copies
FREE Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors still Available!!

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 SignatureDate

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

FREE Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors still Available!!

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County: ______________________ Home Phone (       )________________

Cell Phone (_____)________________

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New Address:__________________________________________________

City: _________________________ State ________Zip Code: ___________

County: ______________________ Home Phone (       )________________

Cell Phone (_____)________________

Tribal Member SignatureDate

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.
**PHARMACY NEWS**
**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL PHARMACY**
**SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA**

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Pharmacy (Shawnee Location) can fill prescriptions for enrolled tribal citizens only.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Clinic Pharmacy in Little Axe can fill prescriptions for tribal citizens written by Physicians not located a Tribal Clinic under the following circumstances:

1. The prescription is for an Absentee Shawnee Tribal citizen who has an established chart at the Little Axe Clinic.
2. The prescription is on the formulary of approved medications and stocked in the pharmacy.

The following are a few tips to help us deliver pharmacy services to you more efficiently:

- Present insurance cards each time you pick up or drop off a prescription.
- Keep us informed of all changes in address, phone number and other contact information.
- Let the Pharmacy staff know if the prescription is going to be picked up or needs to be delivered.
- If you have any questions concerning your prescription please feel free to call and talk to our Pharmacist. They are here to assist you with your pharmaceutical needs.

**Office of Environmental Health & Engineering**

- **Tribal Housing Improvements Application**

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

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

Other Programs available:
- **Sanitation Facilities Assistance Program**

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

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

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) 598-1279 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

OEP (405) 273-9966

Building Blocks (405) 878-0633

Health Programs (405) 878-4702
or 1-877-878-4702

Little Axe Clinic (405) 447-0300
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 (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