NOTICES

85th Semi-Annual General Council Meeting POSTPONED

VOTE JUNE 20th 2020

FROM THE ELECTION COMMISSION: Tribal Members:
The Annual Election will be held on Saturday, June 20, 2020. The voting polls will be located at the Little Axe Resource Center on Peebly Road and at the AST Health Multipurpose Building on the Tribal Complex in Shawnee, Oklahoma. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at both locations. A sample ballot is published in the newsletter. PAGE 3

AST Health System now is providing a 24/7 AST Health System 24 hour LIVE Corona Virus (COVID-19) Information Number: (405) 695-1787 to help tribal members

TIGER REUNION

Due to the Covid-19 virus, we have changed the date of our reunion to June 21, 2020. At the same place, Little Axe Shelter at Thunderbird lake. Will send out another reminder in June. Hope to see everyone then.

Thank you, Jan Maxwel

By KEN MILLER
May 12, 2020
OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Hundreds of people stood in line Tuesday waiting to enter a casino in central Oklahoma that has been allowed to reopen with social distancing restrictions and sanitation safeguards in place to protect against a resurgence of the coronavirus.

“It was time for everyone to get back to work, we were ready to get back to work,” said Sam Caruso, general manager of the Thunderbird Casino in Norman. “It just seemed like the right time to do it. We decided to do what we call a soft opening without a lot of fanfare.”

The reopened casino in Norman limited the number of patrons to 200-225, while a sister facility in Shawnee allowed about 100 inside — both about one-third of capacity, Caruso said. No table games are open, he said.

Those inside must wear masks and maintain 6-feet of distance from others, although couples are allowed to sit together, he said. “Every guest that has come in the facility has been very appreciative. They understand and when we tell them to put a mask on they put their mask on,” Caruso said.

Several other tribal casinos in the state remain closed. Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby said in that tribe’s casinos will remain closed at least through Friday.

“Health professionals advise that recent measures enacted to help mitigate the spread of the virus are beginning to work because of widespread participation,” Anoatubby said in a statement.

The Cherokee, Choctaw and Muscogee (Creek) nation casinos also remain closed.

“Local health benchmarks do not suggest that now is the time to reopen ... the Muscogee (Creek) Nation casinos,” Principal Chief David Hill said in a statement.

Of approximately 130 tribal casinos statewide, five have reopened on a limited basis, according to Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association director Sheila Morago. Nationwide, some 500 Native American casinos have shut down.

All Cultural Preservation activities have been canceled until further notice.

Thank You
Carol Butler
Cultural Preservation Director
Greetings Tribal Members:

I hope that everyone is safe and healthy. The spring weather has been nice enough to grant time to plant gardens and plenty of rain and sunshine to boost the garden growth. If you don’t have a garden, then just sitting and watching this ever changing Oklahoma weather is a joy as well. Regardless, my hope is that all Tribal Members enjoy each and every day to its fullest.

During this pandemic, I have continued to perform my duties as an elected official of the tribe.

• I have continued to work with each of my directors to ensure that the essential day-to-day operations are performed;

• I have responded to various Tribal Members’ emergency issues, requests and questions;

• I have also continued participation in Oklahoma Tribal Leaders conference calls to discuss various topics that all tribes are facing at this time;

• Continual participation in all of AST Emergency Management meetings monitoring the developments during this crisis;

• Work alongside Governor Johnson on all issues that arise during the pandemic; and

• Continue work on the current projects that I have undertaken.

I will continue to fulfill my obligations as an elected official. Following is a brief summary of all other activities.

Cultural Preservation

The Cultural Preservation Department has continued to carry out essential day-to-day operations to ensure the department continues to function properly. Ms. Carol Butler, the Cultural Preservation Director, and Ms. Merry Rodriguez, the Gift Shop Manager, have been working on a plan to open the gift shop that will ensure safety and protect the health of all once the complex fully opens to visitors.

The department in conjunction with the Grants Department has also been working diligently on a few grants. Ms. Devon Frazier, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, continues to answer all emails from Federal Agencies concerning the health of all once the complex fully opens to visitors.

The THPO program has continued working from home to make sure federal projects do not go un-reviewed. Ms. Ashley Brokeshoulder, the THPO Specialist, continues to review, research and send correspondences for Section 106 projects as well as continuing to take part in teleconference calls with different Federal Agencies. Ms. Ashley Brokeshoulder, the THPO Specialist, continues to review, research and send correspondences for Section 106 projects.

The department has continued working on the current projects that I have undertaken.

• Work alongside Governor Johnson on all issues that arise during the pandemic; and

• Continue work on the current projects that I have undertaken.

I have also continued participation in Oklahoma Tribal Leaders conference calls to discuss various topics that all tribes are facing at this time; continued to fulfill my obligations as an elected official and to ensure the correct department or employee is available to assist you with your issue.

As far as the State of Oklahoma, they are moving into Phase 2 of the Open Up and Recover Safety (OURS) Plan. There are still limits on social gatherings, but they will increase from 10 to 50 people. All activities will need to follow guidelines for safety, which includes masks and other standards. Everyone should continue to maintain social distancing practices when they are out. All nursing homes and hospitals remain closed to visitors.

Also, as many of you have probably either read or heard, the tribes across the United States have started to receive the first pay-out from the funding promised through the CARES Act. These dollars are restricted. Numerous guidelines and regulations are attached to these funds, and they are to be used to cover costs that we sustained while fighting the virus and through the recovery. We are hopeful that this funding will allow our Tribe to recover a portion of our losses.

Lastly, please continue to follow CDC guidelines – wash your hands and stay home if you do not feel well. It is also important to continue checking on your family and friends, particularly those that fall into the high-risk category.
Congratulations to Mady McDowell for graduating from Joplin High School!

He has received his Bachelors Degree from California State University Stanislaus. Michael is proof that hard work pays off, never losing sight of his goals and excelling every step of the way. He, along with a team of his peers have taken part in and WON numerous competitions in his field of study. Traveling throughout California, he has always represented himself, his school and his team with great respect, maturity and pride.

Michael, you deserve to be celebrated for all that you have achieved. Keep going for everything that you want in life. What you have accomplished is just the beginning. You make your family enormously proud and you are loved beyond words or measure.

Congratulations Michael!! You did it!!! We can’t wait to see what’s next for you.

Sending out a huge Congratulations to Michael Hastings!

INFORMATION + UPDATES
CORONAVIRUS.HEALTH.OK.GOV
CALL CENTER: 877-215-8336 OR 2-1-1

Public Health officials are asking for your help. Your local 911 system (Police, Fire and EMS) may become overloaded because of patients requesting assistance when it is not a real emergency.

When to Seek Medical Attention:
If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. Emergency warning signs include*:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

*This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

STAY HOME.
STAY SAFE.
STAY INFORMED.

VOTE
Alicia (Aly) Edwards Miller
Absentee Shawnee Tribal Representative

She possesses the tribal experience we need, the leadership you demand and the integrity the tribe deserves.
VOTING INSTRUCTIONS: Cast your vote by placing an [x] or [✓] mark in the box next to the candidate of your choice.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LT. GOVERNOR (4 Year Term) Sacha Almanza --------------------------------amura
Anthony “Tadpole” Johnson ------------------ [  ]
Isaac Gibson, Jr. ---------------------------------[  ]
Kenneth Blanchard --------------------------- [  ]

TREASURER (4 Year Term) David Deer --------------------------- [  ]
Leah D. Bender -------------------------------- [  ]
Joseph Blanchard --------------------------- [  ]
Betty L. Watson -------------------------------[  ]

REPRESENTATIVE (4 Year Term) Atheda W. Fletcher --------------------------- [  ]
Andrew Warrior ------------------------------- [  ]
Alicia “Aly” Edwards-Miller ----------------- [  ]

ELECTION COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEMBER #1 James Cody Spimbuck, Jr. --------------------------- [  ]
COMMISSION MEMBER #2 No One Filed
ABOUT ATHEDA

I am a proud Shawnee Elder. During my term I have honorably served as your Tribal Representative. I stand for preserving our CULTURE, supporting PROGRESS for our Tribe, and upholding INTEGRITY within our government. I am a self-motivated and action-oriented type of leader.

I have gained broad experience in the private sector working for a billion dollar organization. I have a Bachelor’s Degree in Human Resource Management and a minor in Finance from an accredited university.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

✓ Enhanced our Cultural Preservation Department to incorporate additional cultural activities for our Tribal members and youth
✓ Expanded the Gift Shop to offer services to Little Axe Community
✓ Implemented a subsidy that produced $209,000 of revenue to our tribe in 2019
✓ Reviewed and overhauled the employee benefit packages resulting in a 14.8% savings to the Tribe
✓ Reduced legal fees for the Gaming Commission by more than 50% for a savings to the tribe
✓ Continued to lead and support tribal operations during COVID-19 and assisted with Recovery Plan

MISSION

1 SUPPORT OUR HERITAGE AND CULTURE by preserving our language. Our sovereignty is strongly dependent upon the survival of our language. We must pass it down to our youth to ensure that our culture and traditions are protected. In my term we have made great strides to bridge these gaps. But there is so much more to achieve. If re-elected I plan to progress this endeavor by continuing my work with the Tribal Youth, Elders and Community. I will continue to seek avenues to serve our Tribal People and build a bright future for generations to come. This starts with teaching our traditions and language to our youth.

2 UNITE AND LEAD OUR TRIBAL PEOPLE into a sustainable future. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe has continued to stay stagnant due to political strife. Our Tribe is at a critical time, and we need leaders who are ready to work beyond differences and move forward. As a Tribal Leader, I will focus on a strategic economic development plan that will move the tribe toward self-sufficiency. I have worked tirelessly in my term to push for progress and stability for our People. If re-elected I will continue to fight for the voice of our people and the progression of our Tribe.

3 ENSURE OUR ELDERS HAVE SUPPORT though our Tribal programs. There are many opportunities for our Tribe to create programs to better support our Elders. One that is near and dear to my heart is the Assisted Living Center. I have been spearheading this project and if re-elected I will see this to its completion. We must do better.

SUPPORT OUR HERITAGE AND CULTURE

ENSURE OUR ELDERS HAVE SUPPORT

SUPPORT OUR LANGUAGE

2020 PROGRAMS

- Low Rent Housing
- Lease to Own Housing
- College Housing Rental Assistance
- Over Income Lease to Own Housing
- Over Income Rental Housing
- Transitional Housing
- Home Rehab Assistance – AST Members ONLY
- $5,000 Down Payment Assistance – AST Members ONLY

PROGRAMS ARE DEPENDENT ON FUNDING AVAILABILITY

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SERVICES

PLEASE CALL, (405) 273-1050 OR COME BY OUR OFFICE TO PICK UP AN APPLICATION

LOCATED AT 107 NORTH KIMBERLY IN SHAWNEE, OK.

WEBSITE: WWW.ASHPHOUSINGAUTHORITY.COM

ATHEDA FLETCHER for REPRESENTATIVE

JUNE 20th

ATHEDA FLETCHER for REPRESENTATIVE
In uncertain times unexpected changes may occur for the safety and wellness of our patients. Here are ways to find out about our closures and updates:

• Check our website asthealth.org
• https://www.astribe.com/office-emergency-management (register for “AST Emergency Alert and Critical Information Program”)
• Following us on Facebook “Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System” & “Absentee Shawnee Tribe”
• Call registration to ensure your phone number is up to date in our system & request you are enabled for text alerts
• Calling ahead to the facility: Little Axe- 405.447.0300, Shawnee-405.878.5850, & PlusCare-405.447.0477
• Current patients can sign up for the Healow app to check their appointment statuses and receive notifications (use practice code: JEDEBD, if you need assistance call patient registration)

○ SEE HEALOW INFORMATION ADDED

With healow you can:

- View lab results online.
- View immunization records online.
- Send and receive messages securely.
- Access your family’s health information with a single app.
- Book appointments online.
- Get statements and receipts online.
- Make payments online.
- Review the doctor’s notes.
Domestic violence is not a Native American tradition.

June 2020

NEW FOSTER CARE LICENSING COMMITTEE

QUALIFICATIONS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(a) A Committee Member may be a member of the Tribe.

(b) No person shall be barred from serving on the committee because s/he is an employee, or operates a Foster Home under a State or Tribal license.

(c) Each Committee Member shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and legally capable of entering into a binding contract.

(d) No person who has been convicted of a felony or other crime involving embezzlement, fraud or moral turpitude shall serve on the Foster Care Licensing Committee. As of May 30th 2001, background checks will be necessary for each new and/or reappointed existing committee member.

(e) Each Committee Member shall take an oath to support and defend the constitution, rules and regulations of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

(f) It is strongly recommended each Committee Member complete the application process to become an Emergency Protective Foster Home and therefore be licensed through the Tribe.

Applicants can apply by picking up the application with your letter of intent at the Secretary’s office.

Foster Care Licensing Committee Application of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Name: _______________________________ Phone: ___________ How long have you known? ____________

References
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Have you served on any other committees? _____________________________________________________

What is your Highest Education Level? ___________________________________ Major: ________________

Are you willing to undergo a background check? ________ Do you have any felony’s?  If yes explain: _____

Willing to become a Foster Care Emergency Home and therefore be licensed through the Tribe.

Each Committee Member shall take an oath to support and defend the constitution, rules and regulations of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

It is strongly recommended each Committee Member complete the application process to become an Emergency Protective Foster Home and therefore be licensed through the Tribe.

Applicants can apply by picking up the application with your letter of intent at the Secretary’s office.

Foster Care Licensing Committee Application of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Name: _______________________________ Phone: ___________ How long have you known? ____________

References
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Have you served on any other committees? _____________________________________________________

What is your Highest Education Level? ___________________________________ Major: ________________

Are you willing to undergo a background check? ________ Do you have any felony’s?  If yes explain: _____

Willing to become a Foster Care Emergency Home and therefore be licensed through the Tribe.

The Education Department is seeking up to three (3) Members to serve on the Education Committee.

The paper is no longer able to continue with free advertising space. Thank you! Your continued support and understanding is a valuable asset!

Domestic violence is not a Native American tradition.
PROTECT BOTH YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS FROM CANCER WITH THE HPV VACCINE

Each year, there are 12,000 cases of cervical cancer leading to 4,000 deaths in women.

Each year, there are 3,900 cases of HPV-related cancers in men.

THE HPV VACCINE

It is important to protect your child from the disease early.

- Prevent your child from spreading HPV to sexual partners.
- Reduce risk of HPV-related cancers by up to 97% when fully protected with all recommended doses.
- The recommended age to receive the HPV vaccine is 11 or 12, however it is not too late for 13-26 year olds to get vaccinated as well.

11-12 FROM HERE

The HPV vaccine is safe and effective.

- Clinical trials and ongoing research have shown the HPV vaccine is very effective for at least 10 years.
- There is no evidence to suggest this level of protection changes over time.
- Since the vaccine was licensed, only 0.0003% of patients reported side effects and most of those were “transient” (short-term) reactions such as fever, nausea or diarrhea.

Your health is our first order.

Prescriptions, medical supplies, helpful advice. The trained pharmacists and support staff at each of our AST pharmacy locations are happy to serve you. Call them at the number on the phone.

Please allow 24 hours for refills. When you call or refill, have your medication numbers ready and use our automated system. If you’d like to receive a text when refills are ready, share your current refill phone number with a pharmacy staff member. It’s also important to let us know about changes in address, phone numbers, insurance and other contact information.

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER
13051 Little Axe Drive Norman, OK 73066
405.392.8510

Lobby: Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Emergency Department: Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Pharmacy: Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

JMAHNEE CLINIC
2023 South Gordon Cooper Drive Shawnee, OK 74804
405.876.2819

Lobby: Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Emergency Department: Mon.-Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Pharmacy: Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

24-HOUR EMERGENCY PHARMACY ACCESS

If you experience an emergency at an AST location and need a prescription that needs to be filled, call us any time.

We will fill your prescription and deliver it to the hospital or medical facility of your choice. We will call you when your prescription is filled and delivered. Please keep the pharmacy contact information for all AST locations.

The AST Support Services program provides tribal smoke-free housing and help in covering the cost of your prescriptions. If you are interested in participating, please call 1-877-304-6425.

For more information, visit www.asttribe.com.
June 2020

Dear Colleague,

Beginning today, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will issue Economic Impact Payments (EIP) to approximately 1.4 million SSI recipients with representative payees and 10.4 million Social Security beneficiaries with representative payees.

The IRS will issue the EIPs via direct deposit and Direct Express starting today, May 22, to the same direct deposit account or Direct Express card as the recipient’s monthly Social Security or SSI payment. Paper check EIPs will be mailed starting May 27.

Visit www.ssa.gov/coronavirus/#reppayee to learn about EIPs and representative payees. You can find the eligibility requirements and other information about the EIPs at the IRS’ Economic Impact Payment Information Center.

I encourage you to share this information with your members, colleagues, affiliates, and other interested parties. I appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Buckner
Associate Commissioner
Office of Strategic and Digital Communications
(T) 410-965-1804
@SSAOutreach

SocialSecurity.gov  
Produced at U.S. Taxpayers Expense

SAY YES TO SUN PROTECTION
SAY NO TO SKIN CANCER

Since exposure to the sun is harmful. UL is the most preventable risk factor for skin cancer. Protect your skin by:
• SEEKING SHADE
• WEARING PROTECTIVE CLOTHING
• APPLYING SUNSCREEN TO ALL SKIN NOT COVERED BY CLOTHING

SKIN CANCER IS THE MOST COMMON CANCER IN THE U.S. One in Five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime, and one person dies from melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, every hour.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF SUNSCREENS:

PHYSICAL SUNSCREEN
This sunscreen WORKS LIKE A SHIELD to reflect the sun's rays, protecting your skin. Look for the active ingredients: ZINC OXIDE and/or TITANIUM DIOXIDE.

CHEMICAL SUNSCREEN
This sunscreen WORKS AS A SPONGE, absorbing the sun's rays. Look for the active ingredients: OXYBENZONE, AVOBENZONE, OCTISALATE, OCTOCRYLENE, HOMOSALATE, and OCTINOXATE.

If you have questions about how to protect your skin, our local experts talk to a board certified dermatologist. For more information go to SayNoToSkinCancer.org

SUPPORT GROUP FOR SURVIVORS OF ELDER ABUSE, CHILDHOOD SEXUAL OR PHYSICAL ABUSE, DOMESTIC ABUSE, STALKING, SEX TRAFFICKING AND FAMILY SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS

TALKING CIRCLE
Our support group encourages personal healing while providing you with space to speak freely and honestly about life experiences while participation in a culturally specific healing option.

All groups are confidential & all are welcome

First Tuesday of every month
6:00PM - 8:00PM  (Shawnee)

Pre-registration required call for location and details- all are welcome every first Tuesday of the month

TRIBAL VICTIM SERVICES
WENDY STAFFORD
(405)995-9125

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SUPPORT GROUP FOR SURVIVORS OF ELDER ABUSE, CHILDHOOD SEXUAL OR PHYSICAL ABUSE, DOMESTIC ABUSE, STALKING, SEX TRAFFICKING AND FAMILY SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS

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(405)995-9125

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TAX COMMISSION
~ TAG AGENCY ~
NOW ACCEPTING
Credit/Debit

Effective May 1, 2019, the tax office will be accepting credit and debit cards.

Please note: a convenience fee of 2.75% will be added.

Fiscal Year 2020 - YTD Tax Collections (through 4/30/2020)

The AST Tag Office has New Hours!

We are open through lunch! All day 8:00am - 5:00pm
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL HEALTH SYSTEM’S
2020 SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Are you a Native American student who is seeking a future in a healthcare related field?

If you are in College or Vo-Tech or are a High School Student who is College/Vo-Tech bound and want experience, apply for our 8-week Summer Internship Program.

HERE ARE THE FACTS:

- We will have 8 internship positions available to Native American (AST Preferred) students- must have CDIB.
- The internship is a rigorous 8 week program, up to 20 hours per week, at $10.00 per hour, designed to familiarize you with a variety of professions and technical careers in the healthcare field.
- The program starts June 1st through July 24th. Graduation will be July 24th, 2020.
- Must have current GPA of 3.0 or above in either High School or College/Vo-Tech and a desire to serve in the healthcare field
- Age range: 16-22 years of age (High School students preferred or College/Vo-Tech students 22 years or younger)
- Must be available Tues-Thurs during normal business hours

Applications can be found on the AST Tribal Website at www.astribe.com under “Employment Opportunities”. Please submit a cover letter and resume along with the employment application located on the website.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED MARCH 1-APRIL 30, 2020

If you have questions about the application or need assistance please contact Ms. Dayna Dick with AST Health Human Resources at 405.701.7638.

Please contact Mr. Mark Rogers, AST Health Executive Director, at 405.532.6286 with any questions or for information regarding this program.

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VOTE

BETTY WATSON
TREASURER
JUNE 20

EXPERIENCE • WISDOM • KNOWLEDGE
Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist III
405-574-1704

Behavioral Health Services

A guiding hand on your shoulder.

Life comes with its share of challenges. As individuals, family members, friends, there are times when we all need some help to clear our minds and better the days ahead. The resources are here; the people are kind. If you need us, please call us, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER
3020 SW Hwy 9, Little Axe, OK 73061
405-574-1704

SMOKE FREE LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER
3020 SW Hwy 9, Little Axe, OK 73061
405-574-1700

MARIJUANA COUNSELOR
Rebecca Cooper 405.574.9774

www.asthility.org
Elderly man plays a game at the Thunderbird Casino for its soft reopening on Monday, May 11, 2020, in Norman, Okla. The casino is operating at a third of its capacity and spacing out machines six feet apart while implementing temp checks at the door and enforcing masks. [Chris Landsberger/The Oklahoman]
June 2020

The Election Commission has been busy trying to figure out a safe way to conduct the June Election. Contrary to what had been circulating out there, this is truly what has transpired since March Primary. The Primary Election was scheduled in March for the 21st. But in our Monthly meeting we had scheduled when COVID19 was spreading rapidly in Oklahoma and all over the United States, the Health Director and the Health Board emphasized the danger of having this election for our tribal members so we voted to have our attorney submit for a declaratory judgement or ruling on what we should do without violating the state orders to shelter in place and our concern for the health of our tribal members. The judge ruled on March 17th for us to cancel the Primary and only have an Annual Election. We have had only one election in the past due to having only 2 candidates run in each position, therefore no Primary was necessary but never had we had a pandemic situation and this has been unprecedented.

Realizing that this virus will always be here, we are trying to make this Annual Election in June a safe one for everyone. We are developing our own policies and procedures based on the CDC guidelines on how to do this safely but effectively as other tribes look to our Election Commission for guidance and how to do tribal elections. We realize we may be setting a precedence for them. Due to the lack of time and resources, having a total absentee ballot or voting done with no polling sites, this was not feasible due to Constitution and Ordinance requirements. So, in general, we will give our tribal members several options on how they can participate but do it safely: See below:

1) **Submit for an Absentee Ballot Request** so that they can vote without going to the polls on election day. (This is nothing new, we have always allowed this and have done it in the past)

2) **Cast their vote at the polls from their car.** (This is not really new because we have again always had this in place for our handicap people or anyone who has a hard time getting around) *The big difference now is everyone has this opportunity now, they will just have to honk horn twice which will be sign for voting from car. Please wear a mask for this if possible. This will be posted in big bold print in front of the polling place. Paperwork will be taken out to them to verify the registration process and then a ballot will be given to them for voting. They can watch thru the window their ballot being placed in the ballot box by an officer before leaving.

3) **Cast their vote in person at the polling site but only one person at a time entering facility.** (This again, is not really that new either because we have incorporated this policy during the last few years as well due to privacy concerns) **One Big Requirement will be everyone will have to wear a mask** and hopefully, we will have someone taking temperatures of those people wanting to cast their vote in person. Sanitation of voting booth, pens, or table will be done after voter has exited the building. You must wear your own mask. One will not be provided for you. If you don't have one, please vote from your car. Hand sanitizer must be used by the voter upon entering and exiting. We will provide the hand sanitizer. Gloves will be worn by the Election Commission members and officers handling papers or items touched by a voter.

Again, we are sorry we didn’t get to do a Primary so if you want your vote to count for your candidate, please show up and cast your vote!

Please **STAY** in your vehicle until you are notificed, Thank you!
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Title VI Department

Mr. / Mrs. Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Phone

Finding Directions to Home:

Email:

Name:

City:

State:

Zip:

Address:

Phone:

Message Phone:

Home Phone:

City:

State:

Zip:

Name:

City:

State:

Zip:

Any questions you can reach me at 405-275-4030 ext. 6227 or email me at dowings@astribe.com

Guidelines:

1. Must be an Absentee Shawnee Member
2. Must be 55 years and older
3. Must be Title VI Member have an current intake form for the current year.
4. Hardship/Disability
5. Must provide Proof of Residency (utility bill - in the applicant's name)
6. NO RENTAL PROPERTY WILL BE MOWED

As a Title VI Member so long as you are within the guidelines you outlined in your application and turn in your applications to the Title VI Department. As stated on the application: Maintenance will only move and weed the applicants lawn. Maintenance will move every two (2) weeks weather permitting. Also, the maintenance workers will not trim trees, shrubs, and will NOT move any items that are in the way of cutting your lawn.

The year we are trying to get an early start on our grass mowing list.

Any questions you can reach me at 405-275-4030 ext. 6227 or email me at dowings@astribe.com

Thomasine Owings

Title VI Elderly Nutrition Program

Dear Absentee Shawnee Tribal Member,

For many years The Title VI Department has provided grass and weed service. We are updating the guidelines. The Title VI Grant provides gas as supplemental services and the tribe to provide supportive services you must be a participant in the Title VI Program.

Guidelines:

1. Absentee Shawnee Member
2. Must be 55 years and older
3. Must be Title VI Member have a current intake form on file in the Title VI Program.
4. Must provide Proof of Residency (utility bill - in the applicant's name)
5. Hardship/Disability
6. NO RENTAL PROPERTY WILL BE MOWED

As a Title VI Member so long as you are within the guidelines you provide in your application and turn in your applications to the Title VI Department. As stated on the application: Maintenance will only move and weed the applicant's lawn. Maintenance will move every two (2) weeks weather permitting.

Also, the maintenance workers will not trim trees, shrubs, and will NOT move any items that are in the way of cutting your lawn.

The year we are trying to get an early start on our grass mowing list.

Any questions you can reach me at 405-275-4030 ext. 6227 or email me at dowings@astribe.com

Thomasine Owings

Title VI Elderly Nutrition Program

**DISCLAIMER**

Maintenance will not move any items that are in the way of them mowing your yard so if you are able or can get some help in getting your yard cleaned, will be very much helpful in maintaining your yard.

**IT'S JUNE ALMOST HALF WAY THROUGH THE YEAR!!!**

As of now our routine of serving meals is still on Mondays.

Drive thru on Mondays from 10 am to 2 pm

Be safe, wear your masks, wash your hands

Drink your water, stay hydrated!!

Wear your sunblock if you go outside!!

Exercise!!

If you have any questions or comments. Please feel free to call us at 405-075-4030 ext. 6227 or email us at dowings@astribe.com

Call and let us know at 405-275-4030 Ext 6227 or 6270 or notify your driver

Lunch served Monday through Thursday 11am to 1pm

Breakfast served Fridays 9am to 11am
Seeds of Hope DRIVE-THRU event, Shawnee Clinic Thursday, May 21st from 10AM to 2PM.

You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to PRC.

1. For AST citizens who have insurance, evidence must exist that your scheme consider the service as “emergency care” or “urgent care.” Such evidence may include a copy of an emergency room or urgent care receipt, or a denial of payment.

2. Notify PRC on the next business day or within 72 hours after your ER visit. Notification does not assure authorization of payment.

3. If you do not notify PRC within 72 hours, your bills will not be medically approved by an AST Health provider and/or CMMR Committee. Referrals for outside services must be sent to PRC. Services must be medically approved by an AST Health provider and/or CMMR Committee.

4. You must apply for all resources available to you, such as Medicaid, Workers’ Compensation, Veterans Affairs Benefits, or Medicare. Failure to exhaust available or potentially available alternate resources may result in denial of payment.

5. To complete existing PRC patient updates, please visit Patient Registration at either the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic during regular hours of operation.

6. If you are a Medicaid patient and cannot afford to pay co-payments, please provide a copy to PRC. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

PURCHASED REFERRED CARE NEWS

Shawnee Clinic Purchased Referred Care has moved.

We are now located in Shawnee Clinic (Bldg. 17). Our phone numbers have not changed.

PURCHASED REFERRED CARE FOR AST CITIZENS WITH INSURANCE

PRC is a convenient way for AST citizens who resides in the defined catchment area and needs emergent or urgent care.

1. Call the On Call nurse at 405-701-7951, option 3. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

2. Notify PRC at least 48 hours prior to appointment date for a Coordination of Benefits (COB) to be sent to the provider.

3. For AST citizens who have insurance, evidence must exist that your scheme consider the service as “emergency care” or “urgent care.” Such evidence may include a copy of an emergency room or urgent care receipt, or a denial of payment.

4. If you do not notify PRC within 72 hours, your bills will not be medically approved by an AST Health provider and/or CMMR Committee. Referrals for outside services must be sent to PRC. Services must be medically approved by an AST Health provider and/or CMMR Committee.

5. If you are a Medicaid patient and cannot afford to pay co-payments, please provide a copy to PRC. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

6. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to PRC. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

EMERGENCY AND URGENT CARE SERVICES

PRC is medically approved for AST citizens who resides in the defined catchment area and needs emergent or urgent care.

1. Call the On Call nurse at 405-701-7951, option 3. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

2. Notify PRC at least 48 hours prior to appointment date for a Coordination of Benefits (COB) to be sent to the provider.

3. For AST citizens who have insurance, evidence must exist that your scheme consider the service as “emergency care” or “urgent care.” Such evidence may include a copy of an emergency room or urgent care receipt, or a denial of payment.

4. If you do not notify PRC within 72 hours, your bills will not be medically approved by an AST Health provider and/or CMMR Committee. Referrals for outside services must be sent to PRC. Services must be medically approved by an AST Health provider and/or CMMR Committee.

5. If you are a Medicaid patient and cannot afford to pay co-payments, please provide a copy to PRC. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

6. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to PRC. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

PURCHASED REFERRED CARE FOR AST CITIZENS WITHOUT INSURANCE

PRC is a convenient way for AST citizens who resides in the defined catchment area and does not have insurance.

1. You must exhaust all available resources before exhausting PRC services. You may then leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

2. Your request for PRC services will be reviewed by a member of the PRC staff and/or Patient Benefit Advocates. Failure to exhaust available or potentially available alternate resources may result in denial of payment.

3. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic during regular hours of operation.

4. If you are a Medicaid patient and cannot afford to pay co-payments, please provide a copy to PRC. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

5. In the event that you receive a bill from a provider, please provide a copy to PRC. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.

6. You may leave bills at the Little Axe Health Center or Shawnee Clinic.
To knock door to door or visit households. I called citizens on my phone list, made Social Media posts on Facebook, used word of mouth, and returned email from my Campaign account. As usual, I did NOT sling mud or talk bad about my opponents. I simply focused on my skillset and what I bring to the table.

Unlike in previous elections, you don’t have to select from the “lesser of two evils”. For once, there is a clear-cut, educated, dedicated, determined, and skilled candidate. The only promise I’ve made is to work hard for you, to always do what is in the best interest of our People, and to help move our Tribe forward.

For those who have openly come out to show support, “Thank you!” It really does mean a lot to me, personally, and it lets me know you care about the direction of the Tribe. A vote for me says you want the Tribe to progress. A vote for me guarantees I’ll have four years to complete the People’s tasks. And I’ll do my best to work with the other elected positions, making sure to uphold our Constitution, and follow our bylaws and ordinances.

Should you have any last minute questions, or want to share your concerns, feel free to contact me on my personal cell at: (405) 535-9422 or send me an email at jb4ast@gmail.com.

“Neyiwa!” for taking time to read my submission.

Sincerely,

Joseph H. Blanchard
American Heart Association OKC Heart Walk

Each year the American Heart Association supports education and research to help save lives and reduce the impact of Cardiovascular Disease. Did you know that cardiovascular disease occurs every 39 seconds and is the No. 1 killer of all Americans? Heart disease also kills more women than all forms of cancer combined. And congenital cardiovascular defects are the most common cause of infant death from birth defects. Native Americans also bear a heavy burden of heart disease:

- American Indians/Alaska Native adults are more likely to be obese than white adults, more likely to have high blood pressure, and they are more likely to be current cigarette smokers than white adults - all risk factors for heart disease.
- In 2018, American Indians/Alaska Natives were 50 percent more likely to be diagnosed with coronary heart disease than their white counterparts.
- American Indian/Alaska Natives were 50 percent more likely to be current cigarette smokers, as compared to non-Hispanic whites, in 2018.
- American Indian/Alaska Native adults were 10 percent more likely than white adults to have high blood pressure, as compared to non-Hispanic whites, in 2018.

Source: minorityhealth.hhs.gov

One of the main ways the American Heart Association raises awareness and funding for its vital research is the annual Heart Walk. When you join Heart Walk, you join more than a million people in 300+ cities across America in taking a stand against heart disease and helping save lives!

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System is partnering with the AHA this year, as they have in years past, to bring together the community and help support this worthy cause. If you are interested in joining the walk with us, please visit Heart.org and register to be a walker. Please join us in taking steps to becoming healthier, stronger, and saving lives!
The Criminal Court Dockets have moved from 2nd Wed. afternoons at 1:30pm to 2nd Wed. mornings 9:00am.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT A STORY OR ARTICLE
Give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or (405) 481-0589 or send us an email to stiger@astribe.com

All Articles for the Next Month’s Issue are DUE by the 15th of the Current Month.
Unfortunately, WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT ONE PICTURE PER BIRTHDAY PERSON, NOT PER BIRTHDAY WISH.

A STNGE TRIBAL - SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT EXTENSIONS (405) 275-4036

A Singer

You can't

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