Happy Mother’s Day
Governor’s Report

I want to thank everyone who attended the General Council meeting on Saturday, April 17th, and thanks for the continued support you have shown. I want to thank the “ELDERS COUNCIL” for providing breakfast and lunch for the meeting.

As I stated at the meeting, I will continue to inform you of the goings on in the Tribe, as long as it is the truth and not rumors, and all issues can be properly documented and are correct.

I appreciate all the questions everyone had, and I will try to get more information to those who asked for personal issues that needed answering. I will do my best to get answers for you.

I will continue to seek financial means to help all of you in your everyday needs. If there are any questions that you didn’t get a chance to ask at Saturdays meeting, please feel free to contact my office.

I can’t say “THANK YOU” enough times to express my true gratitude to all of my friends and relatives.

George Blanchard
Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Lt. Governor’s Report Part I

My Unfinished Business

There is one thing that the Executive Committee have not taken any positive action on and is of dire importance to me and the tribe, as the Lt. Governor. This has to do with the resulting consequences of the Collier Case as it affects the current and future economic development of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. This Case is in regard to the Citizen Potawatomi vs the Bureau of Indian Affairs Case wherein, the Federal Court ruled that the Absentee Shawnee Tribe have no Claim or Jurisdiction in the Tribes Former Reservation in Oklahoma which included Pottawatomi and Cleveland Counties. The Court determined that although, the government was aware the Absentee Shawnee had been in the area long before the Reservation was selected by the Pottawatomi as their reservation, the government did not include any provisions recognizing this fact.

Later, when the allotments were made to individuals of both tribes, the allotment agreements were first agreed to by the Potawatomi and then by the Absentee Shawnee the following day, The Allotment Agreements were identical and for the same reservation area.

I do not understand why the Court did not acknowledge the fact the allotment agreement signed by the government and our tribe for the now former reservation area, provided and recognized the governments intent that both tribes shared the former reservation area. I’m of the opinion the Court violated the Federal governments Trust Responsibility to the Absentee Shawnee.

Here is the Bad News. A: The Absentee Shawnee have no jurisdiction in the former reservation except on our allotted lands. B: Our jurisdiction on our allotments may be in question because the BIA have taken the position that the Pottawatomi, not the Absentee Shawnee, are direct beneficiaries in Pend-
mand to alleviate this stranglehold this Potawatomi vs Collier Case have put us in. This is a very important matter that should have been addressed 10 years ago when this case was decided by the Federal Court. Now, it has become serious now that the BIA is setting the Potawatomi as beneficiaries in our tribal member Probates. We cannot continue to leave this issue alone.

Lt. Governor's Report Part II

I’m going to follow up on my previous newsletter report and the report I will be providing at the General Council Meeting on April 17th, 2010. As of this writing, I and Governor Blanchard are continuing to try and arrange a meeting with the Assistant Secretary, Larry Echo Hawk who is the top official in the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington DC. Two weeks ago, his scheduling official had advised us that a meeting was arranged for May 12th, for 30 minutes. We told them this issue will require a little more time. They called back a few days later and said Mr. Echo Hawk will be coming to Oklahoma shortly and he can make arrangements to meet with us at that time.

As I previously reported, I had visited with Mr. Echo Hawk during his meeting with Tribal officials at Pawnee last fall. We discussed how the Collier Case have impacted everything the Absentee Shawnee Tribe can ever do as a Tribal Government. This is so serious that it is next to Termination of our people as a government. We cannot expand our land base in the Former Reservation Area unless the Pottawatomi agree to let do it. Most of us know that this will never happen. Assistant Secretary Echo Hawk, who is a member of the Pawnee Tribe, told me he was very moved by this and indicated he would do what he can do help.

Another serious concern is what effect this Case had on our Tribe’s Constitution. The Courts decision stating the Shawnee had no rights to the Former Reservation also makes our constitutional claim of jurisdiction in this Former Reservation void. Thus leaving our tribe with jurisdiction only on Shawnee trust land.

Further, in Probates of deceased tribal members, the BIA have taken the position that the Potawatomi have beneficiary interest in these Absentee Shawnee Allotments, not the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Our tribe have submitted letters of protest in each of the current 9 or 10 pending Probates Cases and have not received any response from the BIA. I'm very concerned of the fact that previous Executive Committees have not taken up this very serious issue previously, since the Collier case is now 10 years old. I have serious doubts of the capabilities of some candidates for the Executive Committee to carry this issue forward and to come to some resolution in favor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. I would urge tribal members to take a serious look at the issues affecting our tribe and consider which candidates have the best capabilities to resolve these issues.

Issues? What issues? Let me advise you that there are many in just about everything the tribe is now doing or not doing. Here are a few examples; the above Pottawatomi issue, the Joint Venture Project, the Thunderbird Casino, Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc., The proposed Casino on the Tribal Complex, ASED, The Tribal Store and Restaurant, Oklahoma and TEC gaming Compact, Various Contracts by Former Governor Miller without authorizing EC resolutions, EC administrative organizational structure, and on and on. Again, the most serious issue in my mind, is the Collier/Pottawatomi Case. We do not need the two candidates who previously served on the Executive Committee and did nothing about this, instead drew the double salary for personal gain. Help me to protect our Tribal Rights and Interests.

Respectfully Submitted, Lt. Governor Dan Little Axe
Secretary’s Report

Hello Everyone

I hope all is good, and everyone enjoyed the Easter Holiday. I would like to thank the Health Department for putting on the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and for all of their hard work. Great Job!

I would like to apologize for not being able to attend the April General Council. I was attending school on April 17th all day and received my Medication Administration Technician – MAT Certification. I had put a formal request into the Governor’s Office back on March 10th to either move the General Council back one week or to move it up one week so that I could attend and this was voted down at the March Regular EC Meeting.

It has been very busy in my office with meeting after meeting with other Members of the Executive Committee and with other departments. We have met to seek innovative ways to get our Tribe back on track. As we progress, hopefully to have some new and exciting news for our tribal members in the near future concerning the new Health Clinic. Currently, we are waiting on the rating from the Fitch Rating Group then proceed with selling the bonds. This has been a long awaited process but it will be all worth it when we see the new clinic open for business.

In the Representative’s last news article she mentioned that a second meeting with the Tribal Members that were subject to disenrollment didn’t occur. The ones who attended the first hearings were asked if they had any other information that was not presented during the hearing to submit it to enrollment for further research. Only a few did so.

Enrollment Ordinance Article VII, Loss of Membership.

There is two ways in which membership in the Tribe may be lost. One is voluntary called Relinquishment. The other is involuntary called Disenrollment. Article VII, Section B. Disenrollment: The burden of proof in disenrollment actions rests with the Tribe. The Enrollment Office did the necessary research and did not find anything that changes our decision on disenrolling these individuals. We requested from the individuals who showed up at their hearing to please bring any information they may have to help prove otherwise. Which some did and some didn’t. Still there is no change in the research to prove otherwise.

Article VII, Section 1. Who may be disenrolled? - A tribal member shall be disenrolled when it is discovered that he/she was erroneously enrolled in that he/she did not submit adequate documentation proving he/she met the constitutional membership criteria at the time of enrollment. This “erroneous enrollment” may have resulted from fraudulent submissions, mistakes in blood degree computations or inadequate research;

Article VII, section 2 Procedure for Disenrollment - A member identified as subject to disenrollment pursuant to the above sub-sections shall be notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the intent to disenroll. Included in the notice shall be the date set for a hearing before the Executive Committee to consider the matter. Following the hearing, whether or not the affected member makes any appearance or response, the Executive Committee shall determine if the member is to be disenrolled. Such decision shall be documented in an Executive Committee resolution. The disenrolled member shall be notified of the action taken by certified mail, return receipt requested. Such notice shall include the appeal rights outlined in section VIII of the ordinance.

Article VIII Appeals

Eligible applicants- The following persons shall be eligible to file an appeal: Any applicant who has been rejected for membership, or Any person who has been disenrolled. Timing of appeal- Each notice of rejection or disenrollment shall provide that an appeal must be received within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the notice in order to be considered. The date stamped on the receipt of the certified letter shall be considered the beginning of that 30 day period.

I along with the Enrollment Staff have followed the Enrollment Ordinance. The Enrollment Staff sent certified letters with return receipt to the tribal members along with the letters from the Tribal Attorney, Department of Interior, and the disenrollment letters signed by me the Tribal Secretary. The hearing date was set and sent to these Members. Three out of the fifth-teen showed up and presented some information and was asked to get with the enrollment office to combine the research and maybe change the outcome of these particular cases. Only one met with the Enrollment Office. I then presented the Resolution to the Executive Committee for approval and was tabled for reasons of certain EC members asking the Enrollment to put these names in the newsletter to notify the ones who did not come to the hearings what was about to happen with the disenrollment. We can not do this because of confidentiality.

So we were asked by the Treasurer to go above and beyond our duties to try and contact these Members again so the Enrollment Staff tried to contact them by phone and by sending out one more set of letters certified mail and return receipt. Still nothing. I presented this to the General Council in October of 2009 to inform everyone what we were doing and that each Member had been notified. Then presented another Resolution to the EC and it was removed. At this time I just gave up on the ideal of doing my job that was required by the Constitution. If you can’t get the EC to work with you then there is nothing more to do. At the Special General Council held in February, I was asked to entertain a resolution to the Department of Interior to host a Secretarial Election to lower the blood quantum so I submitted a Resolution to the EC asking the DOI to host the Secretarial Election and it was tabled because it was not specific enough. I am currently submitting another resolution to the EC for approval for the DOI to do a Secretarial Election and maybe this time it will get approved so that we may get this matter cleared up and then we won’t have to disenroll anyone. The question I will propose as follows:
Treasurer’s Report

TREASURER APRIL NEWSLETTER 2010

Do you want to lower the blood quantum to one eighth (1/8)? Yes or No
On another note we are in the progress of submitting for a grant that will help rural areas with Broadband Services. The application and project relies solely on the tribe partnering with Aero-Surf Communications, Inc. Aero-Surf is willing to enter into an agreement which would provide services for tribal programs and services to tribal members and low income Native Americans and a graduated scale payment system based on service speeds. There will be multiple levels of service available including a no-obligation, pay as you use option that may be of benefit to tribal members who are reluctant or financially unable to commit to longer term contracts. Aero-Surf will operate the system and will provide the tribe a portion of the profits without the Tribe having to be involved in the day to day operations of the service in addition to the free tribal access and reduced (cost of bandwidth based) cost to the tribal community members. These services will also include discounts to tribal members.

I would like to say thank you to all the Employees that worked on this Broadband Grant, great job. It was a last minute grant to get in and they pulled it off. Thank you again for your hard work and your dedication.

Along with the Broadband grant we are also in the process of working with International Conference Group, LLC, for providing telecommunications services. Will keep you updated as progress is made on these two projects.

Hope to have more in my next article. If you should have any questions or concerns please feel free to call or come by the office.

Secretary Lopez

Wow! I don’t even know where to begin after reading all the news from the various candidates running for office. I am quite astounded at some of the comments made by some. The only thing I can give is my version of what I feel is the truth. Hopefully, I’ll do just that in this article.

First and most important the AST budget is not in chaos as stated by others. Although I must admit after reading some of the comments from others I can see why they feel chaos. I felt confused and chaotic because of the misrepresentation of facts or perhaps they just didn’t know.

Second and most important is the fact the AST tribal budget is NOT one million dollars in deficit. The Controller, the Assistant Controller and I will continue to look for that deficit, but I can assure you when the 09 audit is done it will NOT reflect a one million dollar deficit. I think those statements could be called “bad politics” or as some would say “hate mail” before an election.

We did have a deficit of $57,892.94 At my last news article I had felt hopeful we would end the year with a small increase. We did not. Our controller, Belinda Collins warned the EC that we could not afford to increase a few budgets. The EC increased funding of a few programs that required immediate assistance for tribal members. We felt we had to do that but the results were in the expenses/revenue line item we had the deficit of $57,892.94. Overall and the bottom line for the tribe we did end the year with a $337,000 in the black. We sold small investments from the general fund which gave us the $337,000.

A statement was made by the current Lt. Governor that “Treasurer C” didn’t file for reelection because of this deficit. If I were afraid of a deficit I don’t think I would have come into office as Treasurer in July 08 and faced the task of reducing an approximate deficit of $850,000. From July of 08 to December 31, 2008, I worked diligently with the Finance department, the EC and the employees of this Tribe and we were able to reduce that $800,000 deficit so that we ended the year with no deficit. I am not the run away type. But I am the type that tells the truth.

I am retiring because I want to take better care of my self, smell the roses more, drink more coffee, go to the mall when I want, sleep late in the morning and spend more time with family and friends. I loved being retired in 2003-2007 and plan to love it again. I hope I see some of you at the mall walking. I’ll be there very soon. These are the reasons I am retiring.

I don’t know what your work ethic is; but here is my mine. I believe that when you are hired to do something or elected to do something you must do that job to the best of your ability. Work hard, do you best and be at work at the hours required and more if that is what it takes. That is what I believe it and I feel I have done that as your Treasurer. Our Finance department has come along way since July of 08. All our accounts are update/reconciled in a timely way. Because of this we on target for finishing our 09 audit in the next few months. I do see our Tribal budget ending the 2010 in the black. Our financial picture is not in chaos. We are slowly making progress. Chaos happens when there is a lack of understanding.

The All Nations Bank is still on target to open the branch on our campus in FY 10. The EC will be getting an update on March 15. I’ll be sharing that information in the next newsletter. The loan portfolio continues to increase with the new management.

The joint venture is still in place. We should have the bonds rated by Fitch and sold by the end of March. Today is 3/10/10 hopefully we’ll hear something this week. We had an investment company in the fall of 09 that failed to meet the deadlines established and upon recommendation by the BancFirst (our lender) we made an agreement with Wells Nelson Associates to handle the process. This change which was necessary made everything run behind several months. When the bonds are sold we will begin construction. A lot has been said about the Joint Venture. I’ve asked the Health Department, the AG’s office, the Finance Department and my office to put together an overall chronological
The Finance Office has made great progress in getting 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 process for transacting business. Thanks to the Executive Committee and all the programs for their support and understanding during this endeavor.

Our 2009 Audit is underway and began March 8, 2010. The expected completion date is April 30, 2010 and we are on track. Accounting is caught up and Financials are being completed Quarterly and being reported to the Department of Interior – December 31, 2009 reports were submitted on February 12, 2010; and 1st Quarter 2010 will be submitted by April 30, 2010.

The National Business Center has completed the review of the Tribe’s 2010 indirect cost proposal and we have an approved rate; which was sent to all program directors for Grant writing so they can include indirect cost in all grants.

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 the ability to submit indirect cost proposals which affects grants. We expect the audit to be completed by the end of April so that we can prepare the indirect cost proposal; which is due by June 2010.

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 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

Hello From ALLNATIONS Bank:
April, 2010

All is well in Calumet, Oklahoma. The wheat crop looks good. Wheat prices are not so good, but prices may improve by harvest time. Cattle prices are good so all of the cattle ranchers are happy. Everyone can use a little rain; it’s coming. Banking has been very good. Deposits continue to grow and are now at $21,300,000. Loans have grown almost $1,000,000, and we now have $13,200,000 in loans. Profits are maintaining good growth despite the low interest rate environment that we find ourselves in. The interest rate scenario is a double-edged sword that we live with. We, as consumers, like low interest rates on our loans, but we hate the low yield on our savings accounts, CD’s and other investments. As consumers, we are hoping that low interest rates prevail on loans, but, on the other hand, as shareholders in AllNations Bank, we will reap a greater profit in a raising rate environment. So when rates start to rise, you will have some consolation because of your ownership in the bank.

It is still our plan to make application with the Oklahoma State Bank Department in May to open the branch in Shawnee. It will take the bank department several months to approve the request. We will use that time to further prepare for the hopeful year-end opening.

It appears that the current proposed financial
regulatory restructuring bill that is before the US Senate does not address the “too big to fail,” adequate regulation of nonbank lenders and revisions in consumer protections rules adequately. We fear that the bill that is on the table for the US Senate will burden community banks with regulations that will make it more difficult to serve the “average consumer and small business.” Small community banks are not responsible for the current crisis, so we are supporting our banking trade associations in the fight to protect small community banks from “over regulation.” Once again, Gene and I continue to wish all the members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma good health and financial success.

Robert P Billy, President and Gene Davis CEO, Chairman

## Joint Venture Project

The Executive Committee receives a lot of questions on the Joint Venture Project, which is the project to build a new health care clinic in Little Axe. In order to address some of these questions, the Executive Committee has prepared this list of questions and answers. If you have any additional questions, please contact an Executive Committee member.

### What is the joint venture project?

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and the Indian Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services jointly enter into a Joint Venture Construction Project for the construction of health care facilities. The Tribe will design and construct the Facility and provide the initial equipment. IHS will lease the facility and the land incidental thereto under a no-cost lease for a minimum of 20 years thereafter and include in its annual budget requests funding for staffing and supplies to operate and maintain the facility, which is added to the Tribe’s Compact.

### Why is it called the joint venture?

It is called a joint venture because it is an agreement between the Indian Health Service and the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to enter into an IHS Joint Venture Construction Project. A project that is to be completed with responsibilities from both parties.

### Where will the joint venture be located?

The Tribe will construct a 72,597 square foot outpatient health care facility which will be located on 25 acres in Cleveland County, Oklahoma. This facility shall be located across Highway 9 from Thunderbird Casino and the current Little Axe clinic.

### How did the location of the joint venture come about?

The Executive Committee selected the location by resolution on January 16, 2008. Additionally, the Tribe prepared a feasibility analysis as part of its application process and the Little Axe Replacement Clinic provided the Tribe with the best opportunity to be selected for a joint venture project.

### Why is the new clinic 72,597 square feet?

It is based on the known user population in that area and their respective health care needs.

### How will the joint venture be funded?

A. To construct the building: the Joint Venture will originally be funded by a loan from BancFirst. BancFirst will retain 10% of the debt. The remaining 90% of debt shall be sold to investors in the form of 100% guaranteed Certificates of Participations by Wells Nelson.

B. To fund staffing and supplies: IHS will provide a reoccurring $11.9 million a year in addition to our compacted IHS dollars with an additional 125 staff members being funding.

### What funds will be used?

The $26 Million borrowed from BancFirst will be used to construct.
What has been used thus far?
Only internal funds of $2,924,286.23 has been spent so far. Health has spent $2,227,160.76. Roads has spent $300,000.00. Indian Community Development Block Grant has spent $397,125.47.

Why has the Tribe funded part of the project?
The Department of Interior required the Tribe have 20% equity share in the funded project.

How will the joint venture improve services, business for the Tribe?
It will create employment opportunities for Tribal citizens.
It will create a need for a day care in the area.
The construction agreement will provide $440,000.00 to the Tribe’s new TERO Office.

When will the joint venture be completed?
Approximately, January 2012.

Do you have a completed view of what the AST clinic will look like?
Yes, we have artist renderings and full complete construction designs and documents.

Who is BancFirst?
BancFirst is the lender for the Joint Venture Project.

What part will they fund?
BancFirst will provide the $26 million loan that is necessary to complete the process based on the fact that the Department of Interior (DOI) has guaranteed 90% of the loan.

What is the amount that DOI will guarantee?
DOI will guarantee up to $23,400,000.00 of the borrowed amount.

What is significant about the DOI guarantee?
The 90% guarantee given to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe is the single largest loan guarantee that the Department of Interior has ever guaranteed.

What does this guarantee mean?
It means that if the Tribe is unable to make its payments, the DOI will step in and pay 90% of the loan.

What happens if the Tribe defaults on its loan payments?
If the Tribe cannot make its loan payments, then the DOI guarantee will go into effect and pay off 90% of the loan. In addition, IHS would step in and run the clinic. Any proceeds from the IHS run clinic would be paid to the DOI to re-pay any funds that the DOI had to pay as the guarantor of the loan. Tribe will retain ownership of the land.

What will the payment be for the joint venture?
There is an amortization schedule that dictates what the Tribe’s payment will be each year. The average payment will be approximately $1,900,000.00 a year.

From what source will this payment be paid?
The Tribe shall make its payment from revenues collected from third party billing.

Will the payment be monthly, yearly, etc.?
There will be two semi-annual interest payments each year and one yearly principal payment made each year.

Who will hold the first mortgage on the land?
Nobody has a first mortgage on the land. BancFirst has a leasehold mortgage meaning that they have an interest in the lease between IHS and the Tribe.

What is a leasehold mortgage?
It is a mortgage on the lease between IHS and the Tribe. It is not a mortgage or interest in the land.

Why is this mortgage necessary?
The leasehold mortgage is necessary as BancFirst required some type of security interest in the project in order to get approval from the Lending Committee. It was also a requirement of the DOI Loan Guaranty.

What is the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Healthcare Authority, Inc.?
The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Healthcare Authority, Inc. is a corporation created under the Corporate Code of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. It was established to manage and oversee all of the health care operations of the Tribe as well as provide an additional layer of liability protection to the Tribe. It is overseen by the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Healthcare Authority, Inc. Board of Directors. This Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Tribe.

What is the Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health, Inc.?
Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health, Inc. is a corporation formed under the laws of the State of Oklahoma. It was created to manage and oversee the operations of the Little Axe Clinic and new clinic. This Board was created specifically to allow the Tribe to be eligible to purchase Oklahoma State Tax Credits. This Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Tribe.
Why are there two boards?
There are two boards because there are two corporations and each corporation requires a separate board.

Who selected the board members?
The Executive Committee sitting as Shareholder’s Representative appointed the members of each Board of Directors.

Who is on the two boards?
Nathan Boren, MD – currently serves as the Medical Director of the Absentee Shawnee Little Axe Clinic. A practicing physician with the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Program.
Greg Terrell – currently serves as the Sr. Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Norman Regional Health System in Norman, Oklahoma. Mr. Terrell has approximately 29 years of experience working in the health administration field. 25 of those years have been in a health management capacity.
Chuck Skillings – currently is the President/Chief Executive Officer of Unity Health Systems, Shawnee, Oklahoma and has been for approximately 10 years. He is a member of the Oklahoma Hospital Association and American College of Healthcare Executives
Representative Lisa Johnson-Billy – currently serves at an Oklahoma State Representative for District 42 out of Purcell, Oklahoma. She served on the Oklahoma Legislative Public Health House Committee and the State Tribal Relations Joint Committee; the Legislative Subcommittee on Public Health and the Social Services House Committee. She is a member of the Chickasaw Nation.
Tim Tall Chief – recently retired from being the Deputy Commissioner of Administration for the Oklahoma State Health Department. He serves on the Osage Nation Health and Wellness Advisory Board. He is a member of the American Public Health Association. He is a member of the Osage Nation
Beverly Felton – is an Absentee Shawnee Tribal Citizen and registered nurse. Ms. Felton is the Practical Nursing Coordinator for the Moore Norman Technology Center, Norman, Oklahoma. She is a member of the American Nurses Association and American Association of University Women.
Troy Little Axe, Jr. – is an Absentee Shawnee Tribal Citizen. He is a licensed attorney and Partner in Legal Advocates for Indian Country, LLP, law firm. He is also a founding Board Member of the Northeastern Tribal Health System in Miami, Oklahoma.

The Boards have had their first meeting and selected Chuck Skillings as President of both Boards and Beverly Felton as Secretary of both Boards.

How many board members will there be?
There are seven board members, with two of the seven board members being Tribal citizens. There is one non-voting board member who is a member of the Executive Committee. There is a total of eight (8).

What is their role on the two boards?
Fiduciary responsibility.

What is their authority?
To complete their duties as defined in the service agreement.

Who is Wells, Nelson?
It is the investment banking company that was contracted with to complete the sale of the Certificates of Participation and purchase/sale of the Oklahoma Tax Credits.

What is their role in this project?
Complete the sale of the Certificates of Participation and complete the purchase/sale of the Oklahoma Tax Credits

What is the Fitch rating for the bonds?
The rating is pending, but expected to be AAA.

Why do we need to set up a for profit Oklahoma corporation?
We needed to set up a for profit Oklahoma corporation to be eligible for the Oklahoma tax credits.

How will these tax credits be used for Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health, Inc.?
The tax credits will capitalize the corporation as $2,880,000 dollars. It provides a base of funds for the Tribe to purchase the B Series Certificates of Purchases.

How soon will Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health, Inc. get these tax credits?
They will get the tax credits at the sale and funding of the transaction.

What is the amount of the tax credits?
$5,760,000.00 million when they are sold; Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health, Inc. will get $2,880,000.00.
Who purchases the A Series Certificates of Participation and the B Series Certificates of Participation?
Private purchasers shall purchase the A Series Certificates of Participation and the Tribe shall purchase the B Series Certificates of Participation.

Who signed the $3 million construction contract?
Governor Scott Miller

Why was the construction contract $3 million only?
It was the amount of funds that the health programs, BIA Roads fund and ICDBG had internally to fund the construction.

Who signed the $18.6 million contract?
Governor George Blanchard

What date was the contract signed?
July 6, 2009.

What did this cover?
The remaining balance of the construction costs.

What funds were used to pay all the expenses to date?
Health funds, Bureau of Indian Affairs roads funds and Indian Community Development Block Grant funds.

How will the health department make payments for this loan?
Health department collects Medicaid and funds from 3rd parties, i.e. 3rd party insurance.
Health programs collected $2,162,000 in third party collections for 2009.

Did we use Indian Health Service funds for construction costs?
No, we used historic health fund balance and third party revenues.

Has any General Fund monies been used for the Joint Venture Project?
No, no general fund monies have been committed or used.

What did the Referendum Election on May 17th, 2008 mean?
The question voted on at the Referendum Election read as follows:
*Effective immediately, General Council hereby approves and delegates authority for a period of one year from the date of this election to the Executive Committee to apply for and obtain a loan not to exceed the amount of twenty-five million dollars ($25,000,000.00) to design, construct and equip a joint venture construction program in association with the Indian Health Service, by encumbering the to be constructed building(s) and up to twenty-five (25) acres, where the facility will be built.*
The meaning of the statement is (if it had been approved) General Council was giving the Executive Committee authority to borrow money and encumber the new clinic and land.

What does encumber mean?
It means the Executive Committee would directly mortgage the property and clinic and use it as collateral on the loan. Just like when one buys a home or a car.

Why did the Executive Committee ask for this authority from General Council?
The Constitution of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma expressly reserves to General Council the authority to encumber trust assets of the Tribe, therefore the Executive Committee, through the referendum, requested permission to encumber trust assets. The question placed on the referendum ballot did not request approval to proceed with the Joint Venture Project. Since the Referendum Election did not pass, the Executive Committee pursued other avenues for funding the project without encumbering the land and property.

Will Indian Health Service own the building?
Indian Health Service will not own the building or the land where the clinic is built. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma will own the building and the land.

Will Indian Health Service be running the clinic after it is built?
No, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma will be operating the health clinic.
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
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

VOTE JUNE 19th ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL ELECTION
I hope everyone is well and in good spirits. The run-off election is fast approaching and it is very critical everyone goes to vote on Saturday, June 19th. This is a very important election with three offices up for election and the direction of our Tribe in the balance.

I am running for Treasurer, but I must say to you, the tribal citizens have been cheated when it comes to the productivity from certain tribal officials. No written reports of activities while in office, no accountability to the people even while performing their constitutional duties of the AST. When information is given it is archaic & something we already know, i.e. the CPN vs. Collier case [1998].

The case has been decided by the U.S. Supreme Court and cannot be changed unless the U.S. Congress makes a law overcoming the decision. We would not be in this situation if a Tribal Treasurer in the 90’s would have not refused to pay for an attorney to defend the Tribe in the case, but here we are today. Yes it would be great if we could get a new law on the books to allow us to put lands into trust, however it will take time and money. A candidate in this election speaks of his “unfinished business” on this issue, but we have not seen any plan or time frame of how this issue would be resolved, much less any dedication to his duties.

I attended the recent General Council and came away with the impression some folks may not understand what it takes to make progress for our Tribe. I feel there is too much concern with who controls what instead of what are members of the Executive Committee doing to progress our tribe. There are many opportunities passing by our Tribe because we get too distracted with who has power.

I find it disturbing progress has come to a grinding halt due to the lack of understanding and unwillingness to understand processes and project workings. I am for progress, but I cannot see where our top two elected officials talk about progress [if there is any—it is certainly not being put in writing-informing the Tribal citizens].

Progress is sometimes difficult and requires initiative and persistence to make it happen. Sometimes it is complicated and difficult to understand for some, especially when it comes to funding. A good example is the Joint Venture project. Not everybody totally understands how the funding is structured, some even refuse to understand how the funding is structured and will go as far to tell you it will fail. Three candidates in this election appear to want this project to fail. Why? Who knows why, maybe because they refuse to understand the funding structure and the positive impact our Tribe can have by expanding health services. I would question those persons on why they want something positive to fail for our Tribe and what they would different.

I hope those of you who could not attend General Council request a book to see what is going on with our Tribe. Additionally, someone took the time to dedicate a section to Q&A about the Joint Venture and a timeline of events (p. 88-96), so that everyone will understand.

There are three important areas I feel our Tribe needs to work on immediately:

1. **Gaming.** A second gaming facility will bring additional tax revenue for General Fund programs.
2. **Economic Development.** Become 8A certified again and compete for government contracts. Use Tribally owned properties to create businesses or attract reputable companies to bring their business to our lands.
3. **Health.** Complete the Joint Venture Project. We will gain funding from Indian Health Service and provide our people with new services.

All three areas can have a positive economic impact for the Tribe’s economy. They can provide job opportunities; business opportunities for Tribal citizens who may own a company; and additional sources of income to the Tribe.

It is important we elect the person who understands the Tribe’s budgeting process and how governmental accounting functions. It can be difficult for people to understand if they have not worked in the tribal world or worked for the tribe many years ago before self-governance. There are many more controls in place now and federal regulations to follow. The tribe itself
has procedures established for finance to follow in the Administrative Systems Manual. These are in place to protect the finances of our Tribe and make each program accountable for operation and expenditures.

Every election a candidate or two use the per cap promise to get your vote, knowing good and well you will not receive one. Has anyone received a per cap payment since the last two elections? No! Everything you have been promised in the last two elections is not for your benefit. Instead, examples of questions you should consider about the candidates are; are they willing to put in their full time and effort for the tribe? Do they have what it takes to protect and progress our Tribe? Are they truly sincere about helping ALL TRIBAL CITIZENS?

The duties of an elected office are far more than being “customer relations”. It’s about making decisions on behalf of the people and FOR THE PEOPLE, AS A WHOLE. It’s about dedicating your full time and attention to your duties and issues of the Tribe. It’s about developing businesses and business relationships. It’s about fighting for our people when our sovereignty is threatened.

When going to the polls on Saturday, June 19th, think about who you want to represent you; individuals who are not fully committed to the people and have trouble understanding how the Tribe works today or individuals who are willing to fully dedicate their time and ready to make progress for the Tribe.

This is a very important election please remember to vote! I appreciate your support on Saturday, June 19th.

Ne yi wa!

Vote for Scott Miller
Absentee Shawnee
Treasurer 2010

Dear Tribal Members:

I want to thank all the voters who braved the "rare Oklahoma" snow storm and icy roads to go to the polls and vote in the primary election that was held March 20, 2010. The results of the primary election have the following candidates in a run-off election to be held June 19, 2010:

Lt. Governor-Dan Little Axe and Isaac Gibson, Jr.  
Treasurer-Kathy Deere and Scott Miller  
Representative-Betty Watson and Jeff Gibson

There were over 300 voters, which was a great turn out in spite of the snow and the icy roads. In addition, there were many absentee ballots that were spoiled and could not be counted for various reasons. So, please, if you vote by absentee ballot, please follow the instructions for completing and returning your ballot.

I do not want to point fingers in this article, but I feel like the truth has to be told in order for you, the membership, to know what is at stake in this election.

The past Governor has attempted to put your/our tribe in debt by borrowing 26 million dollars for a Joint Venture Clinic that was voted down by our members. As Governor he went against and around the membership vote by mortgaging our land and borrowing the 26 million dollars for the joint venture. He signed a construction contract for this venture before he had secured the loan to build the clinic and has spent $3,484,517.95 on the start of construcion on the Clinic without completing the loan to build the Clinic. The present Executive Committee is still attempting to secure the loan but has been able to arrange the bond financing for this project to date.

Just how did they get this done after the membership voted this Joint Venture down by a referendum vote? Here’s how they circumvented the vote of the people. They created a newly formed State Health Board, "LiSiWiNwi Health Inc.", and used this newly created health board to borrow this
money. Then they transferred the property where the joint venture is to be built to the Realty Department with the full authority to use it as collateral in borrowing the 26 million dollars. The Executive Committee did not have the authority to transfer the use of the property to the Realty Department and then use it as collateral, when it clearly states in our Constitution that those powers are reserved to the General Council, who meets twice a year. The General Council never voted to use this land as collateral for the $26M loan. But the Executive Committee circumvented the vote of the people and approved the use of the land as collateral for the $26M loan according to the 2008 Resolutions passed by the Acting Lt. Gov. Lopez, Secretary Carpenter and Representative Isaac Gibson, Jr. all voted YES. The Treasurer E. Longhorn was absent during there Special Executive Committee meetings.

What the past Governor and the rest of the Executive Committee voting for this Joint Venture failed to the membership is the effect this Joint Venture could possibly have on our health programs, if we cannot repay this $26M loan. They said that third party revenue will pay for this loan. The real truth is that we currently use third party revenue to help pay for the Clinic and Pharmacy in Shawnee. If you use this money to pay for the Joint Venture loan, the Clinic and Pharmacy in Shawnee will have to be closed.

If the third party revenue is not enough to pay for the loan, ask yourself "Where will the money come from to pay the loan?" That answer is the tribe and its general fund. Just think for a minute, what make up our general fund? It is the revenues that we get from taxes, gaming revenue, rental income and investments. Is this enough to pay the loan? The answer is NO. At the present time, our tribe is operating in a deficit after spending more than what we are currently bringing in through our general fund. Our gaming is not generating any revenue, (look at the tax report in the newsletter) and we don't have any other investments or other economic development projects to repay the loan.

It is time to ask this important question. Was this Joint Venture Clinic really necessary for the Tribe to go into debt to borrow $26M and was this in the best business interest of our Tribe? And, how is this going to generate any income to our Tribe? I did not support this Joint Venture project and the membership of our didn't either by voting it down. Let's not move forward with the $26M loan that the EC is attempting to secure by selling bonds for this project.

In last month's newsletter, Mr. Miller spoke of budgets. I would disagree with his comment that our tribe's budget is different from your or mine because your budget depends on the amount of money in your paycheck. You would not spend more than what you make. The same is true with the Tribe, do not spend more than what you have coming in. Ask yourself this question, "As Treasurer will Mr. Miller continue to spend more than we bring into our General Fund?" What will he do as Treasurer, if elected, and we cannot repay the loan and where is the money going to come from?

This is a very important election and you need to consider and evaluate each candidate as of you are hiring them to run your business for you. Because, in essence, that is exactly what you are doing. Tribes are multi-million dollar companies and you should elect qualified individuals with the experience to this business for you. If you had a successful business, would you hire someone with very little experience or hire someone to "learn on the job" at your expense? I certainly wouldn't. I would select the best qualified and experienced individual I could find.

Vote for someone that cares about an honest and open government, where everyone knows the difference between what is right or wrong and has no "hidden agenda", a person who will follow the wishes of the people. It is time to go in another direction with honesty, integrity and clear leadership for our future! Thank you for your consideration and I would appreciate your vote on June 19, 2010.

Betty Mahardy Watson, Candidate for Representative Absentee Shawnee Tribe

Support the Candidates (Dan -Kathy-Betty)

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2010
Time: 1:00-7:00 pm
Contact person: Kathy Deere, 918-7874

Come and enjoy a time of fellowship, food, and fun with us.

SILENT AUCTION
SURPRISE BOXES AUCTION
50/50 BINGO

Absentee Shawnee Resource Center, Little Axe, OK
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): ____________________________

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
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
CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 22, 2010

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

LITTLE AXE RESOURCE CENTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
BRIANA PONKILLA (405) 275-4030 or bponkilla@astribe.com

My Friends and Relatives
ne we ki ni ke no ke na hi le wa la mi ke
always ask these questions.
ki mo ge ni ni to ti ko ke hi se
ne ho yo wi ge yo lo mi
1. Hello or hi
   a-ho Or Huh-ho
2. How are you?
   hi ke ho wa se li si mi mo
3. How are the kids doing?
   hi ta pe ho wa se li si mi mo ke
   ke ti pe lo la mi ke
4. Everything good at home?
   ya ti yi ne hi we yi se ki gi ke we ya he ho wa
   se
5. How are your brothers and sisters doing?
   na he wa se li si mi mo ke ke ga ne ni ke
6. How many grandchildren do you have?
   ka fe we ke ho se ta fi ke ke po ni ke
7. Have you planted your garden yet?
   hi na ki ke ma ge ma ke ne ge ka
8. What did you plant?
   na he wa ke ti ge ka
9. Did you get rain yesterday?
   hi ke mo wi ne ne ti se ho li ko
10. You live at the old home place?
    hi we yi se ki na ke mi ya pi ti ya qa
    ke ti pe
Metabolic Syndrome: What Is It and What Can I Do About It?

What is metabolic syndrome?
Metabolic syndrome (sometimes called syndrome X) is a group of risk factors for heart disease. You may have metabolic syndrome if you are overweight and have high blood pressure and high levels of sugar or fats in your blood. Many patients with adult-onset diabetes also have metabolic syndrome.

Why is it important?
With each risk factor you have, your risk for heart disease goes up. If you have all of the risk factors, you are six times as likely to get heart disease. Even if your cholesterol level is normal, you still may be at risk for a heart attack or stroke.

How can exercise help reduce the symptoms of metabolic syndrome?
How much exercise and what kind of exercise you should do depends on your fitness level now. Not being active is the biggest risk factor for heart disease. If you don’t already exercise, start by walking for five minutes every day. It may be hard at first, so go slowly. If you have a medical problem, talk with your doctor before you start walking.

Once you are walking regularly, you should slowly increase how fast and how far you walk. Eventually you should walk for 30 to 60 minutes at least five days a week. If you already exercise this much, consider adding resistance exercises to build muscle strength.

Can my diet reduce the risk of metabolic syndrome?
Yes; what you eat can affect how you feel. See the table on the next page for some healthy food choices. To lower your risk, try to make the following changes to your daily diet:

Eat fewer calories. Try to eat less at each meal, and skip dessert. Snack on low-calorie foods such as carrot sticks or rice cakes. Try not to eat fried foods. When eating out, ask that gravy, sauces, or salad dressings be served on the side, and use only a little of them. Cut down on the amount of fat added to your starchy foods (for example, don’t put butter on a baked potato or a slice of bread). Remove the skin from chicken after cooking and before eating.

Eat less saturated fat. Change from full-fat dairy products (such as whole milk, cheese, yogurt, cottage cheese) to reduced-fat and then low-fat (or skim) versions. Use only small amounts of butter or use a margarine that has no trans-fatty acids (such as tub or squeeze packages of margarine). Eat smaller portions of red meat (4 to 6 ounces instead of 6 to 8 ounces). Buy leaner cuts of meat. Eat chicken breasts instead of dark meat. Have at least one meatless dinner per week (but do not use eggs or cheese instead of meat in this meal).

Eat whole grains. Eat whole wheat bread, brown rice, oatmeal, and puffed-grain cereals. Whole-wheat pasta or pastas made from quinoa (say: keen-wha) or other grains are sold in health food stores and some supermarkets. Eat whole grain crackers and side dishes such as bulgur wheat.

Eat more fruits and vegetables. We should all eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables each day. Eat fruit for snacks instead of chips. Count how many fruit and vegetable servings you eat each day. Look for ways to get your “five-a-day” (two servings of fruit and three servings of vegetables).

Eat fish. Fish has omega-3 fatty acids, which are good for your heart. Adding fish to your diet is healthier than red meat or cheese. Tuna, salmon, white fish, and mackerel are good choices. Baking, broiling, or poaching fish will help you avoid extra calories from breading and frying.

Use healthier fats. Olive oil, canola oil, and sesame oil are healthier than corn oil or vegetable shortening. Use only small amounts of lard, pork fat, or vegetable shortening for cooking. Try using the healthier oils in your recipes. These small changes will bring you large health benefits.

Making Better Carbohydrate Choices

Poor carbohydrate choices (low in fiber, some high in sugar and/or fat)

Better carbohydrate choices (high in fiber, low in sugar and fat)

Apple juice (presweetened)

Apple (whole, with skin)

Bran muffin

Oatmeal (rolled oats)

Carrot cake

Angel food cake with fresh fruit

Chocolate chip cookies

Oatmeal cookies

Corn flakes cereal

Raisin bran cereal

Corn, sweet (cooked)

Lentils (boiled)

Crocissant

English muffin

Doughnut

Whole wheat waffles

Fried tortilla or corn chips

Baked tortilla or corn chips

Potato (russet, baked)

Sweet potato, yam (baked)

Rice (white, long grain)

Brown rice (steamed)

White bread or bagel

Seven-grain or whole wheat bread

This handout is provided to you by your family doctor and the American Academy of Family Physicians. Other health-related information is available from the AAFP online at http://familydoctor.org.

This information provides a general overview and may not apply to everyone. Talk to your family doctor to find out if this information applies to you and to get more information on this subject.

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N.Y.P.D.

Native Youth Preventing Diabetes Camp

June 14-18, 2010

What: 5 day/4 night camp
Where: North of Wagoner
Camp Activities: Archery, Rock Wall Climbing, Swimming, Fishing, Hiking, Story Telling, Cultural Games, and Native American Dancing

Who’s Eligible?
- Kids Ages: 8-12
- Native American Children with a CDIB
- $25.00 registration fee
- Limited to the 1st 25 children

For more information please contact: Leah Bates 405-360-0698

Applications due by MAY 14th at Noon
American Indian people face many unique challenges in accessing quality estate planning services. In an effort to address some of these challenges, the Oklahoma City University School of Law is pleased to offer free estate planning services through the Jodi Marquette American Indian Wills Clinic.

**What Is Offered?** - Estate planning provided by Oklahoma City University School of Law students under the supervision of a licensed attorney and clinical law professor.

**Who Is Eligible?** - Any American Indian who is a resident of the State of Oklahoma. Preference is given to those who own Indian land.

**How Much Does it Cost?** - No cost. Thanks to a generous anonymous donation, the work of the wills clinic is provided to clients free of charge.

**Who Do I Contact?** - To schedule an appointment or for more information contact the Native American Legal Resource Center at (405) 208-5017.
Free Estate Planning Services

for American Indians

Who Are Oklahoma Residents

Preference will be given to those who own Indian property.

What Is Offered? - Estate planning provided by Oklahoma City University School of Law students under the supervision of a licensed attorney and clinical law professor.

Who Do I Contact? - To schedule an appointment or for more information contact the Native American Legal Resource Center at (405) 208-5017.

Native American Legal Resource Center
2501 N. Blackwelder - Sarkey’s Suite 209
Oklahoma City, OK 73106
Phone: 405-208-5017
Fax: 405-208-5185
IF I DON'T SAY IT, WHO'S GOING TO SAY IT FOR ME?

Remaining silent will not allow our voice to be heard in the 2010 Census. The 2010 Census helps determine resources such as schools, housing, roads, and hospitals.

WE MOVE FORWARD WHEN WE PARTICIPATE | 2010CENSUS.GOV

PAID FOR BY U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

IT'S IN OUR HANDS
The Cultural Preservation Department was recently invited guests of Pleasant Grove School in Shawnee. The week of April 5-9 was Native American Heritage Week as observed by Pleasant Grove. Pleasant Grove’s Mrs. Coker extended the invitation to Cultural Preservation Director, Andy Warrior. As part of the learning and enlightenment, the Cultural Preservation Department was able to share and expose the students to different tribal customs and identities. Director Andy Warrior gave a brief talk about the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Those that attended the Cultural Preservation demonstration are pictured: L to R Levi Littlecreek- Absentee Shawnee tribal member, Andy Warrior- Cultural Preservation Director, Clay Martinez- Absentee Shawnee tribal member, Henryetta Ellis- Cultural Preservation/AST Library, Tresha Spoon- Director of Education, not pictured Alicia Engler- Cultural Preservation, Michael Mann- Cultural Advisory Council Vice President.
The Personal Meaning of our Absentee Shawnee Ceremonial Dances

To any outsider looking in at the Shawnees, it might appear these ceremonial dances are an act of congregating to perform a simple dance, sing some simple songs, followed by a speech in our language but all of these efforts cannot truly be appreciated unless you live the lifestyle that has been passed down from generation to generation. It is when you live this way of life that you begin to realize these ceremonial dances have spiritual meaning.

Any race of people has created a means to find connection to some supreme being. When we are able to recognize and give praise for all the creations around us, it is then we are able to realize the things we use in our everyday lives are given to us from God. Then we are prone to create a means of giving thanks in a form we create and practice because of the faith that has been instilled in us through our parents, grandparents and all others who are believers of our way of life. It is the faith in this lifestyle that pushes us through the hardships that go along with the ceremonial way of life that we choose to follow. And at times, it is faith that will be the self-persuasion we need to continue to push ourselves to participate and do these things, that sometimes we just don’t quite understand why we do them.

While the following does not convey the full meaning of our dances it provides a basic explanation:

We perform the Spring Bread Dance in order to recognize the return of life through Mother Nature. This time of the year brings rejuvenation of life in all manners of existence. The return of the green grass, the budding of the trees, new animal life and the mere presence of surviving the harsh winter time of dormancy. It is at this dance we give praise to what lies in our future and ask that what lies in our future be beneficial to our people.

The War Dance is a representation of remembrance of another time and lifestyle of old. This dance pays respect to the members of the Warrior clan that at one time were the protectors of our tribe. Through the years this respect has changed to include the men who have served in the military, but who still fill that role as protector, and thru the dance recognize their contribution in defending the rights of our country.

The Fall Bread Dance is a time to reflect back on the recent year of prosperity that has been beneficial to our people and to give thanks through the manner of dance and song. We recognize what has been given to us for our survival and as we prepare to hibernate for the winter time we take time to talk to God, just as we would at the other dances, to thank him for what has been provided to us and ask for continued protection over ourselves.

As you can see, each one of these dances has a significant meaning in its own particular way. If each are looked at individually, then every one of them looks in a certain direction of the existence of our people, one to the future, one of a time long ago and the other of the near past.

The reason we do these dances could be explained with a more philosophical approach. Again, it reverts back to Faith. Our faith in these ceremonies goes so far back in time that we, the people of today, have no means to refute it and this faith has become the basis of our morals and values as a people. The ceremonial way of life has been taught to us in a way that is not only practiced at the dance ground, but it also spills over into our everyday way of living. Our actions are influenced by our faith in the spiritual meaning these dances represent, and by that, it influences the decisions we make in our lives.

As we become older and begin to see the significance our ceremonies hold for us spiritually, we begin to realize the cycle our ceremonial life takes us through focuses on our generation for a period of time, but then the focus shifts to our children, nieces, nephews and younger generations. It is because of them we eventually realize we want to provide something for them, just the same way our parents and grandparents provided a way for our generation. And in order for us to pass on this identity, we have to participate and practice these dances so that the next generations will witness what is done and be influenced by our actions. By providing them the opportunity to participate, then they will begin to develop a feeling of possessing something that is truly meant for them and grasp the concept of how important these dances are to our people. It will also create a spiritual bridge to what we as Shawnees consider appeasing to God in the manner that we believe he gave to us to distinguish us as Shawnees.

The faith, we as a people, have in these ceremonial dances are our means of tying our existence to God. Just as Christians have belief in the Bible and through the Bible they have tied their existence with God through Jesus Christ, we have these dances that are on a comparable equal level of importance. It is through song and dance we worship in the most simplistic and humblest manner that our people have followed for centuries.
“Modina was one of the guest speakers at Riverside Indian School, Anadarko, Oklahoma on March 27th for "Believing in Native Girls (BLING) project." The meeting was a Native Power Women’s Tea Party. It is a health promotion project for girls 12-18 years of age. The program holds weekly teachings with the girls on sexual and mental health and well being. "We talked about the road to success, and mostly about goals and key character traits that contribute to success, as well as my own personal history that included boarding school attendance, how my experiences contributed to developing my philosophy as a young girl, a woman, a mother, and grandmother. To help make my presentation more personal, I actually wrote the young girls a letter that I used as a handout," Modina stated.
Dear Shawnee tribal members,

Hello my name is Shawnee Antonio Tapia I am a U.S. Army Infantry soldier currently serving in Afghanistan. I just wanted to tell everyone thank you for your support, prayers, and words of kindness you all have given for my brief visit back in December. Recently I have given great thought about being inducted into the Veterans Assoc. It gives me great pleasure to know I am now apart of the great many warriors who have served and fought for our nations freedoms, beliefs, and various things we as American Indians and citizens enjoy on a daily basis. I am also proud to be apart of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. I also want to say I am proud to be fighting for my people and our freedom. As an Infantryman I have overcome many challenging things as a soldier and as a person. The mental and physical challenges I face daily as an infantry soldier have made me a stronger person overall. I just wanted to write and give thanks to my mother Linda and the rest of my family in Oklahoma. I cannot forget my wife Sonya and my son Carlito the thought of coming home to them alone has put my heart at ease and has given me the strength to carry on. I also wanted to thank the tribe for all the help you have provided for me. As I continue my tour in Afghanistan I wanted to ask for your continued prayers and support it will be much appreciated. I only have around 10 weeks left and I am excited to be back home there is nothing like it. I can’t wait to be back home with my friends family and friends alike. One last thing, I love my country and my job so much I re-enlisted today for four more years and I couldn’t imagine a better job to have than serving you all and my family, much love to you all.

Si-li-no-ke ka-no-la,

Specialist Shawnee A. Tapia
U.S. Army Infantry.
Operation Enduring Freedom 2009-2010

Happy Birthday Grandma!! We love you.
Skyla, Liiyah, Mikaylah, Robyn, Shawn, Joaquin, and Silas

Happy Birthday and Mother’s Day Mom!!!!
Love,
Jac and Lance

Happy Birthday and Many More!!!
ROY GENE GIBSON
From
Marvin & Sherry

Happy 8th Birthday
Christian Daniel Byers
We love you very much!
Auntie Sherry & Uncle Marvin

Happy Birthday
Chubs Foreman
From
Sherry & Marvin

Grandpa Roy Happy Birthday
On May 7 we love you bunches
Kantynn and Kanyynn

Happy Birthday (Chubs)
May 28th
To a very special mom
Velma Blanchard
We love you!
Marvin & Sherry
"Almost" is the longest word in the English language with all the letters in alphabetical order. 

www.nationmaster.com

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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"Thank You for Caring"

Special congratulations go out to our very own Contract Health Specialist, Flora Mann. Because of outstanding character and achievement she was elected into the National Technical Honor Society at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. We are all so proud of her as she works towards her LPN license. Keep up the good work!

"Your Work is Appreciated"

We would also like to acknowledge Tina Ontiveros-Adame for her academic achievements. As a result of her dedication to scholarly success, the Phi Theta Kappa chapter at Seminole State College invited her to accept membership into the international honor society. We commend her on her hard work, great job!

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***Nurses names are:***

Holly Ellis, RN
Roxann Patterson, RN
Debi Sloat, RN
Valene Bartmess, RN
Sylvia Swanson, RN
Newton Sloat, LPN
Nancy Ward, LPN
Angela Green, LPN
Tammy Simmons, LPN
Dian Osburn, LPN
Christina Fullbright, LPN

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**THE MEDIA DEPARTMENT'S**

**Fact of the Month...**

“Almost” is the longest word in the English language with all the letters in alphabetical order.

www.nationmaster.com
AST Education Department holds EOC Tech Fire Academy Meeting

Robert Lincoln (Instructor), Mark Masters (Instructor), and Joe Bennett (Instructor) present fire academy information to those in attendance.

The AST Education Department held an informational meeting on April 13th at the Little Axe Resource Center to provide tribal members with information on the Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center’s full-time, Summer, Fire Academy specializing in Structural and Wild Land Firefighting presented by Robert Lincoln, Mark Masters, and Joe Bennett, all are Instructors at the EOC Tech Fire Academy.

The program was designed to introduce and prepare Native Americans for a position in the fire service as a career Firefighter or volunteer Firefighter. This program available to tribal members as a means to prepare them for the workforce in the above mentioned fields.

Fire Academy Core Curriculum
- First Responder
- Firefighter I
- Firefighter II
- Hazardous Materials Awareness
- Hazardous Materials Operations
- Liquefied Petroleum Gas
- Flashover
- Wild Land
- Basic Auto Extrication
- IFSAC testing (National Certification)

The Course is 12 weeks in length, M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
The Fire Academy will begin May 26th, 2010 and end August 20th, 2010

“The Fire Academy is an all Native American Fire Academy”

The process begins with an application from the candidates which EOC Tech will provide, followed by selection process through interviewing and a physical agility test at our facility.
If you have questions, please contact the Education Department or Robert Lincoln Fire Academy Instructor (405) 788-7767, or Mark Masters Fire Academy Instructor (405) 747-1887, or Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center, 4601 N. CHOCTAW RD. CHOCTAW, OK.
Tribal Youth Program sponsors Spring Break Camp

The Camp Nikoti-Tribal Youth Program sponsored the 2nd annual Melokami Youth Camp in collaboration with AST Cultural Preservation, AST Domestic Violence, AST Indian Child Welfare, AST Office of Environmental Health and Engineering, and AST Diabetes and Wellness. This camp was held during the week of Spring Break, March 15-19, 2010 at the Brendle Corner Community Building in Little Axe.

Melokami Youth Camp included daily activities like Absentee Shawnee Language instruction, team building games, cultural arts and crafts, physical fitness games, and a time of reflection for the youth to document anything they wanted to about their day. Presentations were given on various topics like: leadership, personal finance, teen dating violence, tobacco prevention, educational options after high school, internet safety, and water quality and conservation. Youth completed photo collages and wrote a list of five positive things about themselves to end the busy week on a very positive note.

Camp Nikoti Counselors and Volunteers Needed!
Applications Available Now and are Due by May 14th.

Counselors must be at least 16 years of age to apply.
Volunteers must be at least 15 years of age.
You may pick up an application at the Absentee Shawnee Tribal complex in the basement of building #3.
Questions? Call 275-4030 ext. 193 and ask for Margaret Ellis.

THE OUTBACK

Summer Leadership and Recreation Camp

Call 275-4030 ext. 193 and ask for Margaret Ellis.
Ages 11-14 yrs.
Sign Up Will Begin May 17th!
LIMITED SPACE IS AVAILABLE. FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE
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.
ALL NATIONS BASEBALL
Coming together as one building strong morals and confidents as one nation!

AGES 7-19
League Breakdown: Coach Pitch 7-10 Kid Pitch 11-15 Fast Pitch 16-19

PRICES
- No costs only requires dedication and fun!!!!

DATES
- Sign up deadlines: TBA
- Coach meetings: TBA
- Season Starts: TBA

Baseball registration form
Fill out and return to ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE, or call (405) 585-3133.
Age______ M/F_______ Special Requests______
Name________ Birth date_______________
School_______ Parents name________________ Birth date________ Email________
Address________ Phone(home)_______ cell________ city________ state________
Zip________

Shirt size(CIRCLE): YXS YS YM YL YXL AS AM AL AXL
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE will not assume responsibility for any injury incurred while participating in any athletic events or any athletic sporting events. Nor will ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE be responsible for any lost or stolen property. I read and understand this agreement and hereby agree that ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE is not responsible for any injury or lost or stolen property and agree to release any photography or footage relaying baseball activities.

____________________      ____________________    ____________________     Print Name                 Sign Name                   Date
Interested in coaching?_________
Assistant coach_____________
Shirt size________________ phone number __________
The Domestic Violence Department had a busy month. April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence (focusing on sexual assault and rape) and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. The teal ribbon is worn throughout the month of April in support to promote the prevention of Sexual Assault.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Domestic Violence Department would like to thank everyone for helping to bring awareness to Sexual Assault for the month of April. Please continue to bring awareness to this problem throughout the year.

Attached are a few of the activities that the Domestic Violence Department had in conjunction with Absentee Shawnee Tribe Indian Child Welfare.

Listed below are a few statistics regarding Native Americans and Sexual Assault:

- Native Americans are victims of rape or sexual assault at more than double the rate of other racial groups.
- For Native American victims of violence, the offender was slightly more likely to be a stranger than an intimate partner, family member or acquaintance.
- Native Americans described the offender as an acquaintance in 34% of rapes/sexual assaults, and as an intimate partner or family member in 25% of sexual assaults.


Thank you,

Kimberly Stephens, Director/Domestic Violence Advocate
(405) 275-4030 Ext. 156

Rick Short, Domestic Violence Coordinator
(405) 275-4030 Ext. 156

Jackie Denny, Transitional Housing Manager
(405) 275-4030 Ext. 108

Linda Domingez, Sexual Assault Advocate
(405) 275-4030 Ext. 206

Margaret Ellis, Administrative Assistant
(405) 275–4030 Ext. 193

Sexual Assault Awareness Month
Events for April

April 6, 2010- Balloon Release & Proclamation 2:00 pm

April 14, 2010- Cookies & Refreshments 12:00 pm

April 20, 2010- Woman’s Self Defense with ASTPD 1:30-4:30 pm

April 27, 2010- Lunch & Scavenger Hunt/Challenge 11:30-1:00 pm
These are the winners of the scavenger hunt! On behave of ICW and Domestic Violence Departments thank you for your participation!

Anthony Johnson  
Mike Greenwood  
Debbie Onzahwah  
Emily Longman  
Tamara Tehauno

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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, **May 12th** at the **Thunderbird Casino** (far Southeast end, a.k.a. The meeting room.) The meeting will begin at **7pm**. A pot-luck dinner will follow the meeting.
Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. (TEC, Inc.) is a private corporation that was created under the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Corporation Code in 2000. The Incorporator and creator of Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. was Mickey Burke. When it was created Mickey Burke was the sole Board of Director and occupied the positions of President and Secretary. The sole shareholder of the corporation is the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

In 2000, Mickey Burke established TEC, Inc. with the initial purpose of obtaining a liquor license with the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Laws Enforcement Commission, like most corporations, the certificate of incorporation included the stipulation that TEC, Inc. could engage in any lawful business. TEC, Inc. entered into a management agreement with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe to operate the Jockey Club within Thunderbird Casino.

In 2008, the TEC, Inc. Board of Directors was expanded. Additionally, a management agreement to operate all casinos belonging to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe was signed between the Tribe and TEC, Inc. Originally, it was the intent of the Executive Committee to have Executive Committee members on the Board of Director to ensure proper set-up of the corporation’s Board of Directors and to establish rules and regulations. It was and still continues to be the intent of the Executive Committee to replace and limit Executive Committee members and replace them with business professionals once the corporation was established.

The Executive Committee sitting as the Shareholders’ Representative elects the Board of Directors of Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. Currently, there are five members of the Board of Directors who hold one-year terms. The current members of the Board of Directors are Scott Miller; Troy Little Axe, Jr.; Briana Ponkilla; Alecia Onzahwah; and Michelle Lopez. The members of the Board of Directors are not paid for their services. The Executive Committee has the ability to elect the members of the Board of Directors in June of each year and may select whomever they want to serve while maintaining the integrity of the corporation.

The day to day operations of Thunderbird Casino were delegated to the General Managers. The General Managers report to the Board of Directors, however, monthly financial reports are sent to Treasurer Anita Chisholm, Controller Belinda Collins, the Absentee Shawnee Tax Commission, the Tax Administrator Les Cusher and the Absentee Shawnee Gaming Commission. The corporate documents are held by the Corporations Secretary, while the Tribal Secretary’s Office maintains the incorporation documents.

The Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. Board of Directors meets once a month at Thunderbird Casino and the Executive Committee is invited to attend each meeting as well. The Executive Committee and the TEC, Inc. Board have had several joint meetings over the last year. In fact, on April 15, 2010, the Executive Committee and the TEC, Inc. Board of Directors met jointly.

It has come to the attention of the Executive Committee that there are tribal citizens who believe that TEC, Inc. should be dissolved. While it is a possibility, the Executive Committee believes that tribal citizens should all be knowledgeable about the reasons that TEC, Inc. was created as well as the pros and cons of dissolving the corporation, prior to that action being taken.

Pros for dissolving Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc.:

- By dissolving the TEC, Inc., the Executive Committee would have more control over the operations of Thunderbird Casino if the Executive Committee retained oversight of gaming.

Cons:

- While TEC, Inc. may have been created for the purpose of obtaining a liquor license, the real purpose of the corporation has been to provide increased protection of the Tribe from liability. Currently, the Oklahoma Supreme Court has ruled corporations, businesses and Tribe’s who hold liquor licenses have subjected themselves to the authority and jurisdiction of the State of Oklahoma in regards to liquor related torts. Having TEC, Inc. limits the assets that a defendant may seek to obtain in a tort lawsuit. If TEC, Inc. were dissolved, the assets of the Tribe would be at risk in tort claim cases.

- Currently, all contracts with vendors and businesses are contracted with Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. Again, the reason for this is to separate the Tribe from the business and limit the Tribe’s liability in the event of a contract dispute. If the corporation were dissolved, these contracts would have to be renegotiated or assumed by the Tribe. This would negatively affect revenue and profit as it would appear to vendors that Thunderbird Casino is not stable and vendors may renegotiate at less favorable terms.

- Currently, the liquor license is held by Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. If the Corporation is dissolved prior to another entity obtaining a liquor license for Thunderbird Casino, it could directly impact gross revenues as some gamblers may choose to gamble at a different casino that serves alcohol. This would negatively affect revenue...
and profit. Obtaining a new liquor license could be a lengthy process as there are requirements that must be fulfilled prior to the liquor license being approved.

• Gaming could be consolidated with all economic development under the Absentee Shawnee Economic Development Authority, Inc. This idea was suggested when ASEDA, Inc. was created, however at this time, it does not appear that the ASEDA Board is in a position to oversee the Tribe’s biggest asset.

• Dissolving the TEC, Inc. Corporation is a lengthy process that will require action by the Tribal Court to ensure that all business obligations and debts are properly handled. If the Tribe were to assume oversight of gaming and Thunderbird Casino, it is possible the Court would want the Tribe to assume any debts of Thunderbird Casino, too.

• Additionally, the National Indian Gaming Commission may have concerns with the Tribe having management oversight of gaming as well as oversight over the regulatory authority, the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Gaming Commission.

At the April, 2010 General Council Meeting, a motion was made to direct the Executive Committee to dissolve Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc. and a vote was held. The vote was 46 in favor of dissolving; 35 opposed to dissolving; and 2 spoiled ballots. While General Council voted to dissolve Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Inc., that vote did not have any authority and can only be considered a political request. Upon examining the corporate code, only a unanimous vote of the shareholders (every member of the Tribe), a court order, or a majority of the Board of Directors and majority of the shareholders may dissolve the corporation. Even with a vote approving dissolution by a majority of the Board of Directors and shareholders, a court order dissolving the corporation would more than likely be necessary. The Executive Committee cannot unilaterally dissolve the corporation.
Absentee Shawnee Tribe  

Enrollment office  
Address Change Request  

Date: ____________ CDIB# _____________ Birth Date: ________________  

Full Name: ______________________________________________________  

New Address: _____________________________________________________  

City: _________________________ State ________ Zip Code: _____________  

County: __________________________________ Home Phone (       )__________  

____________________________________ Cell Phone (_____)_________________  

Tribal Member Signature ___________________ Date ___________  

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Other Programs available:

- Sanitation Facilities Assistance Program

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

Applications are available online on the website: www.astribe.com.
Submit completed application to:

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

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

If you’d like to submit an ad or article give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or send us an e-mail at mediadept@astribe.com

ALL ARTICLES WILL BE SUBMITTED AS RECEIVED.
Some services that are offered include:

- Business Cards
- Invitations
- Announcements
- Calendars
- Banners
- Logo Designs
- Graphics
- Brochures
- Envelope Designs
- Copies