



THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE NEWS

www.astribes.com

Volume 31, No. 05

May 2021

COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program

***** PLEASE NOTE: NO EMERGENCY CUT-OFF NOTICES & PROCESSING MAY TAKE UP TO 30 DAYS *****

On behalf of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Executive Committee has expanded the **COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program** in response to the pandemic. The Executive Committee understands the impact this pandemic has had on our AST community and wants nothing more than to help serve our people. With this being said, the **COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program** is designed to help alleviate the risk of utility service disconnection (i.e. electricity, gas, propane, heating or water).

The **COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program** is a one-time payment of **\$400** for eligible AST enrolled tribal members. This service can be used as a credit or full payment for one **(1)** utility bill. The Absentee Shawnee tribal members who meet the guidelines are eligible for this service. Any unpaid balances from previous residences, any re-connection fees or deposits of any kind that are not "utility costs" will not be paid.

The one-time payment of \$400 will be made to the vendor (utility company). No payment or reimbursement will be made to the applicant. **This one-time payment assistance will be used towards one (1) utility bill.**

For questions or additional information, please email: utilityassistance@astribes.com or call the AST CARES line @ (405)481-8625.

COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program Dates:

Application Acceptance Begins Monday, May 3rd, 2021 @ 8:00 AM CST
Application Acceptance Ends Friday, June 4th, 2021 @ 11:59 PM CST

COVID-19 Utility Assistance Eligibility:

- Must be an enrolled member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma **on or before June 1st, 2020**
- Must be 18 years of age or older **on or before June 1st, 2020**
- Must have a copy of AST tribal members updated CDIB card (attached to application)
- Must complete the **COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program** application for AST tribal member
- Utility bill must be in the enrolled AST tribal member and/or spouse's name (if in spouse's name, spouse must reside in the home. AST member & spouse must attach driver's license or state issued IDs) **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- All applications **MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2021 by 11:59 PM CST**

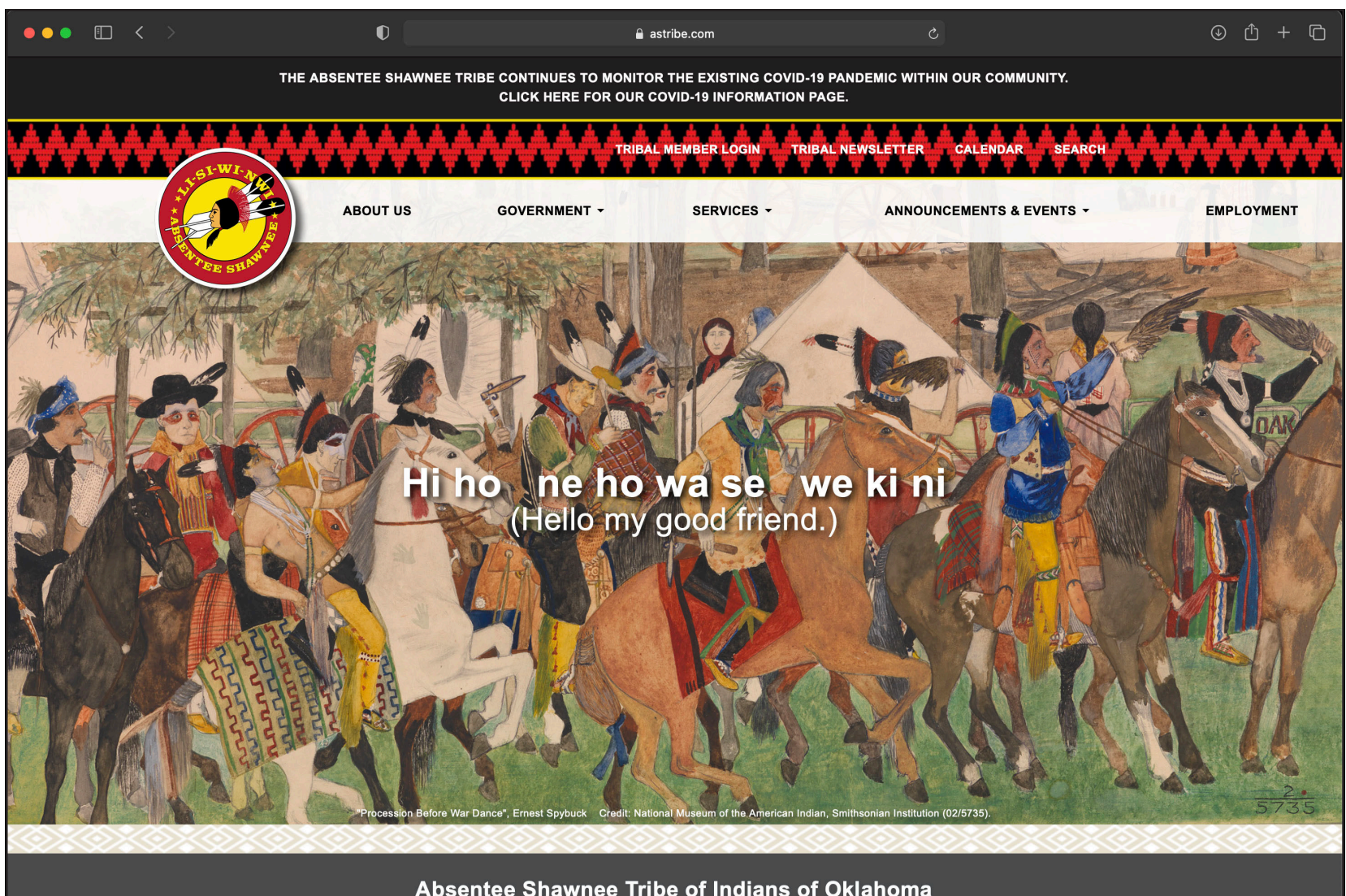
COVID-19 Utility Assistance Required Documents:

- ☐ A completed **COVID-19 Utility Assistance Program** application (online or PDF)
- ☐ Copy of updated AST CDIB
- ☐ Copy of Driver's License or State issued ID (AST member and/or spouse, as needed)
- ☐ Copy of full and most current utility bill (name must match what's on your CDIB)

COVID-19 Utility Assistance Application Submission Options: NO FAXES

- By snail mail to AST Enrollment Department, 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801
- By AST website electronic application (strongly suggested)
- By email to utilityassistance@astribes.com

New Website Launches



On April 16th, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe launched a new and improved website. The updates provide an upgraded look and make it easier for Tribal members to locate information. Be sure and check it out at www.astribes.com.



GOVERNOR
John Johnson



Lt. GOVERNOR
Ezra DeLodge



SECRETARY
Alicia Miller



TREASURER
Joseph Blanchard



REPRESENTATIVE



GOVERNOR’S REPORT

John Johnson, AST Governor

Greetings fellow tribal members,

April 17th, 2021 was the 86th annual General Council meeting. Taking all COVID-19 guidelines into consideration, the meeting was originally planned to be outside at the Pow Wow grounds but due to the weather the meeting was moved to the event center in the Thunderbird Casino. The meeting went very well and went lon-

ger than normal. There was a motion that passed to recess until the 3rd week in June to finish the last few items on the agenda. It was so good to see tribal members gather together talking and laughing, but still abiding by the CDC guidelines wearing mask and social distancing. The video and audio of the meeting can be found on the AST website.

The AST Food Bank continues to move forward. Staff members have been hired and will be starting May 3rd. This is very exciting

because we now have a projected opening date around the first part of June. Please watch the website and next month’s newspaper for days and times of operation. In the future we plan on applying for the USDA grant, which will give us the opportunity to have a bigger selection of food and to be able to help more people in the community.

With the warmer weather approaching and summer time events please continue to take COVID-19 precautions and wear your mask.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Alicia Miller, AST Secretary

Ho wa se ke sa ke!

On Wednesday March 31st, a special meeting was held by the Executive Committee to formalize the shift of Ezra DeLodge (former Secretary) to the position of Lieutenant Governor. Treasurer Joseph Blanchard chose to remain in his position as Treasurer and I shifted to the position of Secretary. Once the resolutions passed, the EC was able to formally declare a vacancy for the position of Representative. We are currently advertising for qualified applicants and if you are interested, please submit a letter of intent and your resume to secretary@astribe.com. Remember all applicants must be able to pass Election Commission background checks and the deadline is Friday, May 7th.

April was a fast and furious month with office and staff transition activities, General Council planning and attendance and preparing for the monthly EC meeting. I also managed to participate in meetings with FEMA officials, discussions about the space utilization and building expansions, the health shareholders representative’s quarterly meeting, gaming commission monthly meeting, CARES meetings for Phase II, reviewing new oversight programs, and joined the 2021 Shawnee Area

(schools) ESSA Virtual Tribal Consultation. My office oversaw the updated design and information procuring of the tribal website and its launch on April 16th. I am proud of the effort and work that went into the new website and I hope you find it useful and easier to locate information. It is also mobile friendly – much more than the previous.

I am also excited to announce as I write this article, we are preparing for the delivery of the tribal elders’ committee/veterans’ group and tax commission modular buildings. Staff will be working feverishly to have these properly placed and utilities functional so the groups can move in and become operational once again in a safe environment. The EC also passed a resolution (during April monthly EC meeting) for utility assistance for eligible tribal members during this pandemic. Please see the utility assistance program ad located in this newsletter for more information.

I was 18 days in as the new Secretary at General Council (G.C.) and I was pleased to see such a good turnout of tribal members – even with the uncooperative weather (rain, cold and wind). Because of the weather, we had to opt for plan B and have the meeting inside in the event center at Thunderbird Casino (Norman). Staff worked their hardest to make sure CDC guidelines were followed in the set

up to keep members safe. Overall, I think the set up and the meeting went quite well. There will always be room for improvements for subsequent G.C. meetings and we (the EC) will be sure to always strive for the best, safe and most positive environment for our tribal membership. Due to time and an extended G.C. agenda, we recessed till the 3rd Saturday in June. Additional information for the continuance of this meeting will be released in the June newsletter as well as the website and social media.

We still have many vacancies on various boards, if you would like to serve on a board/committee and have questions, please do not hesitate to call or email my office at secretary@astribe.com. I will be more than happy to assist you.

As I conclude my article for this month, I would like to formally congratulate all of our graduates! I know some 2020 graduates are able to walk with the 2021 graduates and I could not be happier to see all of our graduates be acknowledged of their determination and dedication. To our AST graduates, may your graduation be the beginning of many more wonderful achievements in your life!!!

Ne yi wa.

Alicia “Aly” Miller
Tribal Secretary

TREASURER’S REPORT

Joseph Blanchard, AST Treasurer

Hello and good afternoon fellow Tribal Members,

I don’t know about you but is it really already May!?! As the weather begins to get warmer, it is that time of year when we get unexpected Severe Weather. Please pay attention to your local news sources for regular updates and changes. I don’t typically worry about the tornado, but having to deal with the aftermath; specifically the loss of power and clean-up. Make sure to have extra supplies on hand such as bottled water, snacks, flashlights, and batteries. And follow the advice of David Payne, “Turn around, don’t drown.”

The month of May brings up many reasons for each of us to be excited and happy...our Bread Dance ceremonies, Mother’s Day, birthdays, the beginning of summer break, but more importantly, Graduations! I want to say “Congratulations!” to all the folks celebrating this month. Be proud of your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. As they say, it is an accomplishment no one can

take away from you.

At the time of this writing, this past week we had our 1st General Council since the Fall of 2019. I received a lot of good feedback from the membership on the job we’ve been doing, especially under these extreme circumstances. And to dispel a rumor, the EC did not move the meeting indoors to curtail the number of attendees, as was suggested. It was a proactive decision based on the weather projections, which were confirmed with 3 consecutive days of rain. The Powwow grounds had collected standing water and we did not want our Elders, many of which use wheelchairs, walkers, canes and strollers to get stuck or have a slip and fall. Again, if you would like to receive a copy of the Booklet, notify and submit a request to the Secretary’s office by phone or email. If you hadn’t heard, the meeting was “recessed” and will reconvene in June.

Other items of notation my office participated or handled this past month include: attended an update meeting with State and Regional FEMA personnel; attended weekly meetings to receive updates on

the remaining CARES dollars; received information and provided input regarding the potential Health Center expansion; attended and received updates at the Quarterly Health Shareholders meeting; and drafted the Resolution to provide an additional funding opportunity to assist tribal members with paying their utilities, utilizing CARES funds.

My final comment, the Pandemic has really created havoc within our system and local community; no one is more aware of that than me. I am the EC member who signs and authorizes the Funeral Assistance program for when one of our members passes. I highly encourage our People to continue following the CDC guidelines, to wear a mask, and receive your vaccinations. I have signed entirely too many applications for our families and will be glad when this crisis is complete.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or send me an email.

Ne yi wa!

Joseph H. Blanchard

VACANCY NOTICE

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe
is seeking qualified applicants
to fill the vacancy of the

OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE



Please submit letter of intent and resume to
Office of Tribal Secretary,
2025 S Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801,
secretary@atribe.com

All applicants must be able to pass background checks
from the Election Commission.

Deadline for submission is May 7, 2021

SEEKING ALTERNATES FOR ELECTION COMMISSION

The Election Commission is seeking
individuals to serve as alternates.
Alternates must meet the requirements
listed in the Election ordinance.

If you are interested, please submit your
letter of interest to Election Commission
Via E-mail Election.Commission@atribe.com
Once we receive your letter of interest, we will
begin the process.

The 86th Semi-Annual General Council will
reconvene on Saturday, June 19th, 2021 at 10
a.m.

The meeting will be at Thunderbird Casino,
Norman, OK.

From the family of Lieutenant Governor Kenneth Blanchard

We would like to express our appreciation for all of the kindness given to our family during our deepest sadness. Thank you for the flowers, the bringing of food, your time and overall support. It definitely hasn't been easy but the generosity you provided for our family has been of great comfort.

Ne yi wa.

Bernice, Leland, Sis and Rikki

FY-2020
YTD TAX COLLECTIONS
(thru 3/31/2021)

TAX CATEGORY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL	% OF TAXES COLLECTED
Sales (6%)	\$14,008.93	\$11,640.93	\$3,960.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,610.24	2.62%
Gaming % of free cash	\$313,044.00	\$313,044.00	\$313,044.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$939,132.00	83.14%
Employee (1%)	\$9,218.92	\$19,154.04	\$19,458.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$47,831.86	4.23%
Severance (8%)	\$1,518.24	\$138.23	\$2,714.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,370.80	0.39%
Motor Vehicle	\$19,181.75	\$10,674.19	\$25,882.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55,738.34	4.93%
Motor Fuel Taxes (Qtrly.)	\$37,389.68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$37,389.68	3.31%
Tobacco Refund	\$5,365.40	\$4,985.68	\$4,690.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,041.65	1.33%
TOTAL TAXES	\$399,726.92	\$359,637.07	\$369,750.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,129,114.57	
Miscellaneous	\$210.00	\$86.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$421.00	0.04%
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$399,936.92	\$359,723.07	\$369,875.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,129,535.57	100%

AST Tax Commission COVID-19 RECOVERY PLAN - PHASE 1 New Registration Options:



Payments Accepted:

- Check
 - Money Order
 - Cashier's Check
 - Debit/Credit Cards
- **No cash, please****



Renewal Options:



NO APPOINTMENTS AT THIS TIME -
THE CAMPUS IS CLOSED TO VISITORS

For additional information please contact us:
Email: tax@atribe.com or Phone: (405)481-8600

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL MEMBERS
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON ONE
OF THE FOLLOWING
BOARDS, COMMISSIONS,
COMMITTEES OR COUNCILS:

ASEDA
CULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
FOSTER CARE LICENSING COMMITTEE
TEC
NAGPRA

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR LETTERS OF INTEREST
WITH RESUME ATTACHED TO:



Tribal Secretary
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801
aliciam@atribe.com



ASTHS May 2021 Monthly Update

Understanding Your Pharmacy Program: Whether you are a patient at an I.H.S. Facility (direct services) or with a Tribal Health Facility (compacted services), such as the AST Tribal Health System, or an Urban Indian Clinic, Pharmacy price calculations are a complicated subject with many factors to be considered. However, some basics are consistent with the majority of businesses. Inventory cost + direct cost + indirect cost + profit margin = retail price with Pharmacies in general. Pharmacies purchase medications from wholesalers and receive volume discounts. The IHS pharmacies, who are on a group purchase agreement (GPA), regardless of what type of health entity as an ITU, receive additional discounts. **Wholesale cost is substantially lower than the retail price displayed.**

Pharmacies have direct and indirect costs like all businesses, and these must be accounted for in order to succeed long term as an organization. A profit margin is factored in as well, something the vast majority of businesses do. This benefits the owners of the business, in this case, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Pharmacies use software that will take all of these variables into consideration, and calculate a retail price for display on the receipt ticket.

IHS (or ITU) pharmacies, however, are unique in a few key ways.

Items Provided:

- Non-IHS pharmacies do not process over the counter (OTC) medications and vitamins as prescriptions (RX).
- The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System provides these items as an additional benefit to its members, and their families, that they serve. Additionally, it does so to a larger degree than the vast majority of other tribes in Oklahoma or elsewhere.
- These items are processed as prescriptions in our software programs. This is largely for inventory tracking purposes as well as patient medication profiles and pharmacy software loads these retail prices in for each medication.
- This can result in retail prices substantially higher than what one could purchase these items for in the non-IHS world (i.e., the private sector for non-Natives and non-Veterans). However, this is largely pointless due to how I.H.S. pharmacies are paid.

Payments Received and How I.H.S. Pharmacies are paid:

- Non-IHS pharmacies collect payment for service in 3 ways. Insurance reimbursement, patient copays (at time of service), and cash paying patients (non-insured).
- **IHS pharmacies do not collect direct payment from any native patient.** So **NO** patient is paying the retail price displayed on the receipt tag. Additionally, the retail price shown is **NOT** the price the pharmacy pays for the medications.
- I.H.S. pharmacies **ONLY** receive compensation from insurance companies. This compensation varies between insurance companies, but is always determined contractually. This means the calculated retail price plays no role whatsoever in what an insurance company pays; they have a volume discount at the negotiated price for their beneficiaries for each insurer via their contracts with the facility – and any other facility they do business with, Native or otherwise).

With the exception of OTC and vitamin items, the price you see calculated is an accurate representation of the value the Tribe is providing to the community. However, no one is actually paying this price in an I.H.S. setting.

Help us in congratulating our Monthly Employee Award Winners this month! We are proud of all of our professionals and team players, for all they do daily to make our programs succeed and take care of our patients! This month Title 6 and Diabetes Health and Wellness are being recognized for providing sustained meals to our program recipients on Title 6 services since the pandemic began and during the recent Artic Storm.

May 2021 Health Employee Awards of the Month

- Employee of the Month: Dos Owings, Title 6 Director
- Team of the Month: Title 6 and Diabetes Health & Wellness Combined Team
- Special Leadership Award: Robert Schoolfield, Guy Kowena, and Ted Watson

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

Remember: “Your mask protects me, my mask protects you, and immunizations protect us all!”



COVID-19 VACCINES AVAILABLE — BY APPOINTMENT ONLY —

BEGINNING MARCH 1st SERVING PHASE 3:

- **ACTIVE** patients and household members 16 years or older.
- **Open to all household members of AST Tribal members, patients, and employees.**
- **The vaccine will be administered in a series of 2 shots 3-4 weeks apart.**
- **You will be monitored 15-30 minutes after receiving the vaccine.**

RESOURCE CENTER NOTICE:

In order to reduce exposure to our tribal members, patients, and community members, the Little Axe Resource Center will remain closed to the public until further notice. This includes access to the gym and reserving space for private use.

Please continue to practice social distancing, wear your masks, and remain at home when you can.

Thank you,



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL
HEALTH SYSTEM
Prevention. Progress. Pride.

FOLLOW

US ON TWITTER

@ASTHEALTH

NOTICE MAY 2021

COVID-19 & ANTIBODY TESTING
(Please enter the clinic for testing)LITTLE AXE HEALTH
CENTER, 405.447.0300

COVID-19 testing

- 5:30pm-6:30pm:
- Thurs., May 6th
 - Thurs., May 20th

ANTIBODY testing

- 5:00pm - 6:00pm
(LA only):
- Thurs., May 13th

SHAWNEE CLINIC,
405.878.5850

COVID-19 testing

- 5:30pm – 6:30pm:
- Tues., May 11th
 - Tues., May 25th

For inquiries please call 405.695.1787. In the event of
adverse weather, testing may not be conducted.

Follow the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System on
Facebook or our website for updates asthealth.org.
Testing is open to the public.

For Your Visit
Please...

- Wear a mask
- Bring identification

For Antibody
Testing...

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

Working Together to Serve
Our Veteran Warriors

VA Healthcare Services at ASTHS

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

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

Did You Know?

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



va.gov/tribalgovernment | 405.456.3876



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL
HEALTH SYSTEM
Prevention. Progress. Pride.

www.asthealth.org

VA Benefits

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

OKC VA Native American Nurse Navigator:

405.456.3808

Apply for VA Health Benefits:
800.827.1000

Apply for VA Benefits:
855.488.8441
www.va.gov

Little Axe
Health Center
405.447.0300

Shawnee
Clinic
405.878.5850



Caring for...AMERICA'S HEROES
www.oklahoma.va.gov

Under 65? Apply for SoonerCare
With New Medicaid Expansion.

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

TO APPLY:

SoonerCare
www.mysooner.org

Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate

Little Axe Health Center 405-447-0300

Shawnee Clinic 405-878-5850

www.asthealth.org



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL

HEALTH SYSTEM

Prevention. Progress. Pride.



OKLAHOMA
Health Care Authority

Pharmacy Reminder



3 WAYS TO REFILL YOUR PRESCRIPTION

Call us with your prescription number ready at:

Little Axe Pharmacy- 405.292.9530
Shawnee Pharmacy- 405.878.5859



Request refills on the go using the
Rx2Go app for your mobile device!



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

Pharmacy Refill Requests:

Refills can be REQUESTED:

- NON-controlled medications – 7 days before you run out of your prescription.
- Controlled medications – 3 days before you run out of your medications (unless otherwise directed by provider)

Refills should be processed and READY for pick up after 2 business days (M-F).

This allows us time to order medications that may be out of stock. Medication delivery to our pharmacy doesn't occur on the weekend.



TITLE VI ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

During this COVID 19 PANDEMIC: TITLE VI IS ONLY OPEN ON MONDAYS

Mission Statement:

To provide a nutritional meal five days a week to our tribal members and other tribe affiliated members 55 or older who live in the jurisdiction. We also provide supportive services to members.

Requirements for the Title VI Program

- CDIB card from a federally recognized tribe
- 55 years or older
- Spouses of eligible elders
- Complete an intake form
- Individuals with disabilities who reside at home with older individuals eligible for services

HOME DELIVERED MEALS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS:

Elders should only be on the home delivered meal program if they are unable to leave their homes without great difficulty. Their inability to leave home may be because illness, disability, or general fragility. They may be home bound because they cannot ride comfortably in an available vehicle for the time it takes to get to the congregate site because of their fragility.

CONGREGATE MEAL SITES:

TITLE VI ELDERS WILL DRIVE THRU UNTIL FUTHER NOTICE.

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex Building #9, Shawnee Ok

Congregate Meals are served on Mondays Only- 10 am to 2 pm

Title VI Staff

Thomasine Owings, Title VI Director
Lula Bettelyoun, Cook
Donna Butler, Assistant Cook/Driver
Robert Schoolfield, Driver/Maintenance
Ted Watson Jr, Driver/Kitchen Assistant
Guy Kowena, Driver/Kitchen Assistant



Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma

2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801-0381

Title VI
Elderly Nutrition Program

Dear Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members

For many years The Title VI Department has provided gas to mow your lawns. We are updating the guidelines. The Title VI Grant provides gas as supportive services and for us to provide supportive service you must be a participant in the Title VI Program.

Guidelines:

1. Absentee Shawnee Member
2. Must be 55 years and older
3. Must be an Title VI Member, have a current intake form on file (FY-2021)
4. Must provide Proof of Residency (utility bill – in the applicants name)
5. Handicap/Disabled
6. NO RENTAL PROPERTY WILL BE MOWED

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

This year we are trying to get an early start on our grass mowing list,

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

Thomasine Owings

Thomasine Owings
Title VI Director



ELDER INTAKE FORM

TODAY'S DATE _____ REFERRAL SOURCE _____

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____ MI _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ MALE ____ FEMALE ____ VETERAN ____ YES ____ NO

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

SINGLE ____ MARRIED ____ DIVORCED/SEPARATED ____ WIDOWED ____ WIDOWER ____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____ SPOUSE'S DATE OF BIRTH _____

NAME OF EMERGENCY CONTACT (1) _____ PHONE _____

NAME OF EMERGENCY CONTACT (2) _____ PHONE _____

PRIMARY LANGUAGE ENGLISH ____ TRIBAL ____ OTHER _____

HOUSING ____ HOUSE ____ APARTMENT ____ COMMUNITY HOUSING ____ OTHER EXPLAIN _____

COMPOSITION ____ LIVES ALONE ____ LIVES WITH SPOUSE ____ LIVES WITH FAMILY/FRIENDS ____ OTHER EXPLAIN _____

NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD _____ WHO HELPS _____

HEALTH HISTORY ____ ASTHMA ____ ALZHEIMER'S ____ ARTHRITIS ____ CANCER ____ DEMENTIA ____ DIABETES ____ CHRONIC PAIN ____ HEARING AID ____ CHOLESTEROL ____ BLOOD PRESSURE

PRIMARY TRANSPORTATION ____ Own Car ____ Friend ____ Public Trans. ____ Senior Tran's ____ Family

PROSTHETIC DEVICES ____ Walker/Cane ____ Wheelchair ____ Hearing Aid ____ Glasses ____ Dentures ____ None

ARE YOU ENROLLED WITH A DIFFERENT TITLE VI PROGRAM? ____ YES ____ NO

IF YES, NAME OF PROGRAM & WHERE LOCATED: _____

HEALTH CONCERNS _____

SERVICES CURRENTLY BEING RECEIVED _____

EMAIL _____

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Title VI Department
2025 S Gordon Cooper Dr
Shawnee OK 74801
405-275-4030

CDIB # _____

Grass Mowing Application

D.O.B. _____

The Following are the requirements for this program:

1. Must be an Absentee Shawnee Member
2. Must be 55 years and older
3. Must be an Title VI Member (have an current intake form for the current year 2021)
4. Handicap/Disabled
5. Must provide Proof of Residency (utility bill must be in applicant's name)
6. NO RENTAL PROPERTY will be mowed

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Maintenance Department will **ONLY** mow and weed eat applicant's lawn. Maintenance will mow every two (2) weeks, weather permitting. Also, the maintenance workers will not trim trees or shrubs.

If you have any questions, please contact Dos Owings at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6227

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ MESSAGE PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

FINDING DIRECTIONS TO HOME:

*DISCLAIMER

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



Nutrition Corner

AST DIABETES AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

What is so special about fiber?

Fiber is an important part of our daily dietary intake because of the roles it plays in the body. Fiber can help keep the bowels regular and keep the bowels healthy, lower risk for heart disease, and reduce risk for Type 2 Diabetes. Some studies show that fiber may also help individuals live longer! The recommended amount of fiber to consume in a day varies based on age and gender. Men who are older than 50 should eat at least 30 grams per day. Women who are older than 50 should eat at least 21 grams per day. Dietary fiber is a great addition to the diet since it helps us stay healthy!

Foods that are high in dietary fiber:

- Whole-grain products
 - Pasta
 - Bread
- Fruits
 - Raspberries
 - Pears
 - Apples
 - With skin
- Vegetables
 - Green peas
 - Broccoli
 - Brussels Sprouts
- Beans, peas, and other legumes
 - Split peas
 - Lentils
- Nuts and seeds

What are examples of refined or processed foods?

- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Pulp-free juices
- White breads and pastas
- Non-whole-grain cereals

Why do refined or processed foods not have more fiber?

- When foods, such as breads and pastas, are processed, the outer coating of the grain, called the bran, is removed. The bran being removed then decreases the fiber content.
- Enriched, or fortified, foods have some vitamins and minerals added back into the product after processing. However, fiber is not among the list.
- Since some foods that are stripped of most of their vitamins and minerals during processing, we recommend consuming whole wheat or non-processed foods. These foods still contain their original vitamins and minerals.

What about fiber supplements?

- Consuming vitamins and minerals is preferred over supplements. However, some people may need a fiber supplement due to other conditions. Talk with your doctor before starting a fiber supplement.

Illustration of diverse elderly people interacting with technology and each other.

Communities of Strength

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

COMMUNITIES OF STRENGTH: MAY 2021

ACL.GOV/OAM

ACL

Cultural Preservation Department

The Cultural Preservation Department has continued to carry out essential day to day operations to ensure the department continues to function properly. Currently, all staff members are available either full time or part time in the office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Gift Shop

In accordance with the Tribe's protocols, in-store shopping at the gift shop is currently unavailable. However, we are allowing curbside pick-up. Please call the Gift Shop Manager, Mrs. Merry Rodriguez, for more details.

For the last month, the Gift Shop Manager has been working diligently to inventory and refill the current stock. We have an assortment of new merchandise such as the items featured in the picture to the left.



In addition to the new products, we still have a few Pendleton and Minnetonka items on sale. So, if you have any questions, please call Mrs. Rodriguez. She can be reached at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6310.

Library

The Library is still currently closed to all visitors. However, the librarian, Ms. Casey Wilson, is currently looking into ways for patrons to view the library collections online. Please be on the lookout for announcements on the Tribal website and Facebook page.

Also, we are happy to present to the youth a new program Read for Adventure. Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden have partnered up with OG&E to promote Oklahoma Libraries. This year's program features a new, original children's book "Juniper's Butterfly Garden--A Small Start for a Better World." This book, written by Oklahoma City resident and OKC Zoo's marketing coordinator Autumn Heigle and illustrated by Nadia Ronquillo, follows a child's journey as she learns about monarch butterflies and how she can help conserve this important pollinator in her own backyard.

On April 13th, Ms. Wilson traveled to Building Blocks III in Little Axe to read this book to the youth. All youth received a voucher, for up to 4 people, redeemable for free admission to the OKC Zoo. We are excited to announce that we have offered this experience to 30 families so far and will continue to offer this program until we are out of tickets. However, as the Library is not open to the public or to tribal members at this time, we will be posting further instructions online. So, please be on the lookout. Zoo admission vouchers are redeemable through June 30, 2021. To learn more about the program and for a list of participating libraries, visit www.okczoo.org/readforadventure.



THPO

The THPO Program continues to make great strides and advancements. The THPO staff has steadily been receiving Section 106 projects from various Federal Agencies. Over the past month, the THPO Department has received 85 new Section 106 projects for review. In conjunction with receiving projects, 25 projects have been consulted on. The THPO Department has also taken part in numerous

FCC/TCNS

In lieu of the shutdowns from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the incoming workflow of new and modified telecommunications projects has been steady for the TCNS program. The THPO Specialist, Ms. Ashley Brokeshoulder, has been busy reviewing, researching and given recommendations to the telecommunications industry. Over the past month, she has received 89 new telecommunications facility projects for review. In conjunction with receiving projects, she has reviewed, researched and gave recommendation for the clearance of 80 telecommunications projects.

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

AllNations Bank

Ask about "AST Preferred Checking" and our debit card that honors the Absentee Shawnee Tribe!



You can either be an Absentee Shawnee Tribe Member or an Employee of the Tribe or one of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's businesses. Account features include:

- ❖ Free Value Checks
- ❖ .25% rate reduction with auto debit on consumer loan rates
- ❖ Interest bearing account
- ❖ \$25.00 minimum to open the account
- ❖ No minimum to earn interest
- ❖ No monthly maintenance fee
- ❖ Free direct deposit option
- ❖ Free ATM/Debit Card
- ❖ Free Online Banking & Bill Pay
- ❖ Free Online Electronic Banking Statement
- ❖ Free check images with statement
- ❖ Free 1 year rental of a 3x5 safe deposit box or 6 months free rental of a 5x10 safe deposit box (based on availability)
- ❖ Free Notary Service
- ❖ FDIC Insured

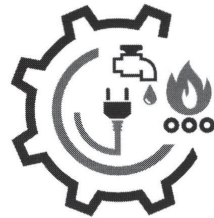
Contact bank staff for more information
2023 S. Gordon Cooper Dr., Shawnee, OK 74801, PH (405) 273-0202
114 E. Main St., Calumet, OK 73014, PH (405) 893-2240

Member
FDIC

ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS

Social Service is accepting TEA Application on a daily basis and can be found on the AST website under service-social/service/tea. Then send by email: awilson@astribc.com or NEdwards@astribc.com, fax: (405) 273-7938 or mail: 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee OK 74801.

Tribal Energy Assistance (TEA) AST Tribal Members Only!



Let us help...

Come and apply for help with your utility bill, this program runs from January through December for tribal members who reside in the United States or until funds are depleted. This Program in on a first come first serve basis.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Enrolled member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe (signature of Tribal member required)
- 18 years of age or older **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- Utility bill(s) must be in the tribal member's and/or spouse's name (if in spouse name, spouse must reside in the home) **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- **TOTAL RESIDENCE** income must not exceed a net pay of \$2,800.00 per month
- Attend and complete classes (as required)

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION:

- Social Security cards for **ALL** members residing in the residence
- CDIB cards for **ALL** members residing in the residence (if applicable)
- Current utility bill and/or disconnect notice
- Current 30 days income verification (i.e. check stub, social security, unemployment, TANF, etc.)
- Unemployed persons must complete self-certification form provided by case worker

BENEFIT AMOUNT: Assistance is limited to a one time payment of **\$150.00 per year, per residence** and is a "use it or lose it basis."

Any questions please call (405) 878-4723 or (405) 488-5162 (Social Service cell phone)

Social Service is now accepting LIHEAP Application for your electric and gas this application can be found on the AST website under service-social/service/LIHEAP. To be eligible for the LIHEAP program you will need to live in the Cleveland and Pottawatomie Counties and be an enrolled member of any tribe. Please send all applications by email: awilson@astribc.com or NEdwards@astribc.com, fax: (405) 273-7938 or mail: 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee OK 74801.

Tribal LIHEAP ASSISTANCE

Let us help...

Come and apply for help with your utility bill:
Cooling May thru September
Heating November thru March



All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements and criteria which is approved by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Enrolled member with a federally recognized tribe (signature of Tribal member required)
- Must reside in CLEVELAND and POTTAWATOMIE COUNTIES
- 18 years of age or older **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- Applicants' combined household income for the 30 days prior to application is at or below Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Utility bill must be in the tribal member's and/or spouse's name (if in spouse name, spouse must reside in the home) **NO EXCEPTIONS**

List of Priority:

- Elderly
- Disabled
- Homes with young children
- Single individuals with no dependents and AST employee are low priority for assistance

Department of Social Services
(405) 878-4723, ext. 6225 or 6311

Other Social Service Applications that are on line are as follows: General Assistance, Burial Assistance (AST tribal members only), School Clothing Allowance Program (AST tribal members only)

Please make all copies of your documents and attach to all applications. IF you have any questions, please give Social Service a call at (405) 878-4723 or (405) 488-5162-Social Service cell phone.

Thank you!

Fostering Among The Shawnee

May is National Foster Care Month and this observance strives to highlight the importance of fostering. Native American families are four times more likely to have their kids taken away and placed in foster care. In the state of Oklahoma, 21% of all foster children are Native American.

The numbers keep going up yet the number of available native foster homes is not.

“We desperately need Tribal members to foster our Tribal kids.” said Shawnee Martinez, Interim ICW Director for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. “Without Tribal families opening up their homes, it also makes it difficult for ICW to stay in compliance with ICWA in regards to placement.”

“If you look at our mission statement, we want them to stay connected for their Kinship, Culture and Community.” Martinez explains. “We want to encourage Tribal members to foster our Shawnee children to uphold our tribal emblem LI-SI-WI-NWI, “Among the Shawnee”. We can’t call ourselves a Tribe when we don’t give our own children a place among their people. Too often our foster kids will lose their connection to our Tribal customs.”

The sad reality is that ICW needs more Tribal families to foster. In an interview with an AST foster parent who has fostered more than once, the main reason they did it was family.

“I didn’t want them lost in the system or go to a family that isn’t culturally aware of our native children or people. I felt the need to step up for my family.”

They went on to say that we are their voice. “The main goal is to make it work out for the foster child. It helps when the whole body involved does their part to help succeed for that child.”

Martinez says family stepped up for her and her brothers. “My grandparents fostered for 20 years. My siblings and I were fortunate to be placed with our kin. My grandpa and grandma are the reason I wanted to become a foster home.”

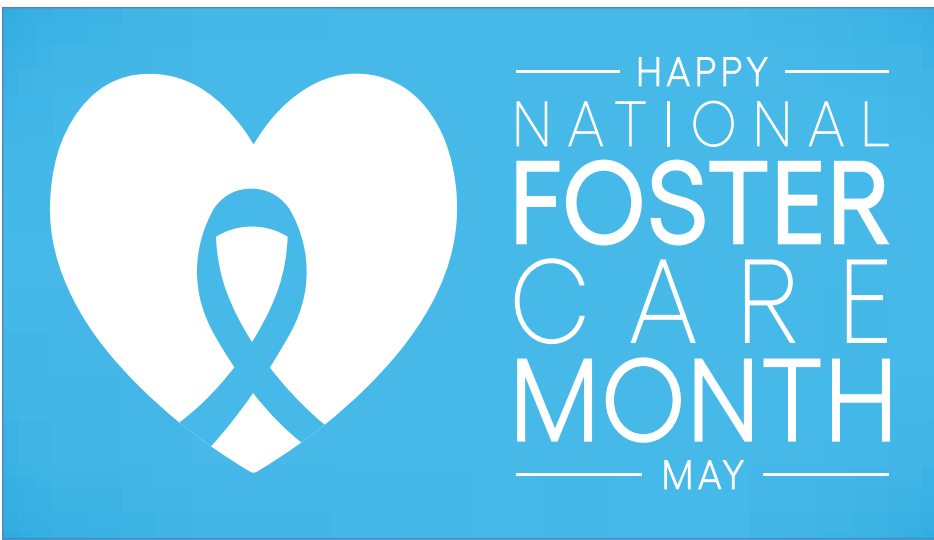
She has fostered for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and the state for 16 years, retiring in 2019. “Now I have the opportunity to fight for AST children on another level.” Martinez said.

The children needing a foster home aren’t bad kids. “Most of these kids were taken from their homes through no fault of their own. A lot of times, people might think they are damaged or have issues.” Martinez explained. “What these kids need is a home and preferably a home where their Tribal customs don’t get lost.” Martinez stresses the importance of Tribal traditions. “These customs are passed down to us by our families. These kids need to be in a home where they can experience their culture. It makes me sad to think about the customs that our children are losing by not being in a native home.”

Studies have shown that Native children in foster care who stayed connected to their culture continued to thrive and those who weren’t were at greater risk for behavioral problems.

“I want these kids to experience what my own kids have gone through. All of our Tribal traditions have a deep meaning. These kids need to know what we do and why we do it. This is our heritage and it belongs to the kids.” said Martinez. “It’s important we try and get more Tribal members to open their homes to these kids. Martinez said, “The end goal is always reunification; however sometimes that is not always the reality. And if we can keep them in Tribal homes while we are doing that and keep their Tribal customs close to them; it’s an even better outcome.”

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact ICW at (405) 395-4490 or email, ICW@astribes.com.



Domestic Violence Department

April was Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We would like to take the time to thank those who were able to participate in our activities for the month. Be sure to follow us on Facebook @ASTRisingWarrior to keep up with our activities. If you ever have any questions about our services or if you or someone you know needs assistance, please call us at 405.273.2888.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence Department

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

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

Our services are confidential and include:
Safety Planning
Emergency Assistance
Court Advocacy
Shelter Placement Assistance
Referrals

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

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

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

Contact Us:
Office Line 405.273.2888
Fax 405.273.1192
Webpage <https://www.astribes.com/domestic-violence>
Link to intake <https://www.astribes.com/forms/victim-intake>
 @ASTRisingWarrior
For emergencies call 911 or AST PD @ 405.275.3200

#ASTBelieves

STARTBYBELIEVING.ORG

It's Not Just April

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Tie Dye Event 2021

This project was supported by grant No. 2017-01-01 awarded by the Oklahoma Department of Justice, Office of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Agency Women.



class of 2021

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



Antonio J. Colungo
Dale High School



Kaitlyn Wilson
Dale High School



Braden Lee Elmore
Bethel High School



Naviah DeAnne Stoudemire
Southmoore High School



Keyondré Duane Brown
Midwest City High School



Micah RaShawn Anderson
Earlsboro High School



Kasi L. McGuire
Epic Charter School



Madelyn Steves
Epic Charter School

class of 2021
— CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES —



Joseph Edward Williams Jr.
Howe High School



Riley Ann Brokeshoulder
Shawnee Mission Northwest High School



Sutton Little
Edmond Santa Fe High School



Shane Pitner
Verden High School



Burke James Thorpe
Mid America Christian University
Bachelor of Business Administration



Jessica New Moon (Mí' t'aígé)
University of Central Oklahoma
Master of Science/ Dietetic Internship



Phyllis Leeann Nuno
Dallas College
Associate of Science



Megan June Larney
Pontotoc Technology Center
Practical Nursing Graduate



Sophia Michelle Switch
Fort Lewis College
Bachelor Degree in Journalism

2021 AST Graduates

Seth Williams	Little Axe High School	Amanda Elmore	Seminole State College
Kailas Mack	Varnum High School	Hunter Foremen	Southern New Hampshire University
Legus Mitchell	McLoud High School	David Greenfield	Oklahoma Christian University
Mariah Smith	Macomb High School	Gabriella Johnson	Rose State College
Eryn Johnson	North Rock Creek High School	Jalon Martinez	OSU-OKC
Katlyn Lewis	Stratford High School	Colby Mills	Central Oregon Community College
Karsen Granstrom	Midwest City High School	Anthony Warrior	Wayne State College
KeAuntre Jackson	Tecumseh High School	Cullen Ryan	University of Colorado-Denver (Graduate Student)
Tyler Brittain	Oklahoma Baptist University	Shelsie White Thunder	University of Oklahoma (Graduate Student)
Dana Arrieta	New Mexico State University	Jamie Foreman	University of New Mexico
Holly Davis	Rose State College		

**The Absentee Shawnee News sent out a request for grad photos. The photos included in this issue were sent to us by our deadline. This list may not include all AST 2021 graduates. The names were provided to us.*



AllNations Bank

AST High School Seniors
College Scholarship Entry Form

AllNations Bank is providing a \$1,000 scholarship to an AST high school senior to further their education after high school. The bank’s president, Steve Smith, is providing a \$500 scholarship. The information you provide below will be used to contact you regarding your entry. You will be notified if your name has been selected. The scholarship check will be issued directly to the school the student attends.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

- Required documents:
- Tribal Enrollment Card
 - Copy (must be the updated card)

Submit forms via fax, email, mail, or at the Education drop box on the AST Shawnee Complex.

DEADLINE: POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY
MAY 15, 2021 AT 5:00 PM CDT.

Education Department
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801
405.275.4030 Ext. 6242
405.273.7938 (fax)
tresham@astribes.com

Education Department

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

- Academic (PK-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.
- Johnson O’Malley Program:** assists Absentee Shawnee tribal members enrolled in any of our nine (9) school districts: Tecumseh, Bethel, Earlsboro, Wanette, Asher, South Rock Creek, Macomb, Dale, and Little Axe.
- 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 associate or bachelor 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 one graduate admissions test. This program has funding levels based upon full-time and part-time status.
- Big Jim Youth Award Program:** annual incentive for High School Seniors for Academic Achievement and Athlete of the Year. Applications are available and accepted beginning January 1st and the deadline for application submission is March 31st of each year.

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

Attention:

Applications for fall 2021 must be received or postmarked by June 15, 2021.

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

For more information, please call (405) 275- 4030, Ext. 6242 email Tresha Spoon at tresham@astribes.com.

Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Building Blocks C.D.C.
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, Ok. 74801
(405) 878-0633
Fax: (405) 878-0156



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

Building Blocks II

April was a busy and fun month at Building Blocks. Our children did lots of fun Easter art that our teachers displayed on their bulletin boards.

The children dyed Easter eggs and then we had egg hunts at Building Blocks on April 1st. They enjoyed hunting the eggs. Then on Saturday April 3rd, Building Blocks “egged” the children’s yards with plastic filled Easter eggs so they could hunt them the next morning.



We are ready for an exciting and fun May at Building Blocks. We are ready for warmer weather and excited to be able to go outside and play more.

Sunday, May 9th is Mother’s Day. We wish all mothers a wonderful Mother’s Day. Remember to spend time with your Mom.



Monday, May 31st is Memorial Day and Building Blocks will be closed.

We are working on getting bids for our playgrounds. We have had 2 playground companies start on our bids. We are going to be putting all new play equipment on both our playgrounds. It will be lots of fun new opportunities for our children to learn as they play.

Building Blocks is enrolling in some of our age groups. If you are a tribal employee and needing childcare please call us at 878-0633 to see if we have a spot for your child.



Building Blocks III

Greetings Building Blocks Families and Friends!

We sure have been enjoying all this rainy weather. For with rain all things bloom and blossom. “April showers bring about May flowers.”



With that said we have been doing a lot of planting in and around our wonderful facility we have gotten a beautiful new display of trees and shrubs.



Each classroom has been taking part in learning about plant life.

Planting seeds and watching them sprout, grow roots and stem when planted and watered and given sunlight to grow.



If you are interested in your child attending Building Blocks Child Development Center in Norman, OK please call (405)360-2710.

We are also currently looking for a few more team members, so if you or anyone else you know is interested in applying please visit our website at astribe.com or call for more information.

You can find us on Facebook at
AST Building Blocks Child Development Center III-Little Axe



Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Child Care Development Fund Programs
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, Ok. 74801
(405)432.8411 FAX: (405)878-0156



AST Newsletter- Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Programs
May 2021

We hope you and your family continue doing well. Due to this unprecedented national health emergency we have been doing what we can to keep the CCDF grant in compliance and learning about what we can do to assist families in this pandemic. We are still accepting applications for AST Child Care Assistance if you need child care assistance and would like to apply. The application is on the AST website under Services/Child Care. We offer assistance to any Native child with a CDIB who live in our service area of Cleveland, McClain, Oklahoma and Pottawatomie Counties. The parents or guardians must meet certain income guidelines but we would encourage anyone to apply. We offer co-payment waivers for essential staff/healthcare workers in need of child care. We can also offer services for families who are unemployed with a three (3) month job search eligibility period. The families can choose any OKDHS Licensed Child Care Provider that is convenient for them. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding eligibility.

We are also still offering the Relative Home Provider care type where a relative who lives in a separate residence can care for an eligible child. We will have the application and guidelines on the AST Website under the Services/Childcare page. Applicants who wish to utilize the RHP will need to be eligible for AST Child Care prior to RHP approval. Please contact me or LaNora Buswell, CCDF Specialist, if you have any questions.

We are waiting to decide about the summer school age program this year. We will provide notification as soon as a decision is made regarding reopening. We are still in contact with our ASP families and try to continue outreach. We are also hoping to open for Afterschool program in the fall. If you or your family needs afterschool child care assistance please contact us or apply through the child care assistance program and we can help find a provider that will be able to provide your child care needs.

Our goals through the CCDF grant, Building Blocks enterprise and the After School Programs is to provide quality child care to Native and non-native children in our communities. We do this by our innovative ideas on curriculum and staying abreast of all training and requirements to maintain higher levels of care. We strive to be the best and be better than the best every day.

If you are interested in any of these programs or have any questions please feel free to contact me or LaNora Buswell at the number above or by email, astchildcare@astribe.com.

Ni yi wa! (Thank you)
Briana Ponkilla
CCDF Coordinator



107 North Kimberly
Shawnee, OK 74801
(405) 273-1050
Website
www.ashousingauthority.com

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

- Low Rent
- Lease to Own
- Transitional Housing
- College Housing Rental Assistance
- Down Payment Assistance (AST Members Only)
- Home Rehab Assistance (AST Members Only)
- Rental & Lease to Own Homes for Over-Income

Providing Affordable Housing Programs for Native Americans with Preference to Absentee Shawnee Tribal Members

Income requirements are set by HUD annually on all low-income programs

Some services are dependent on funding availability





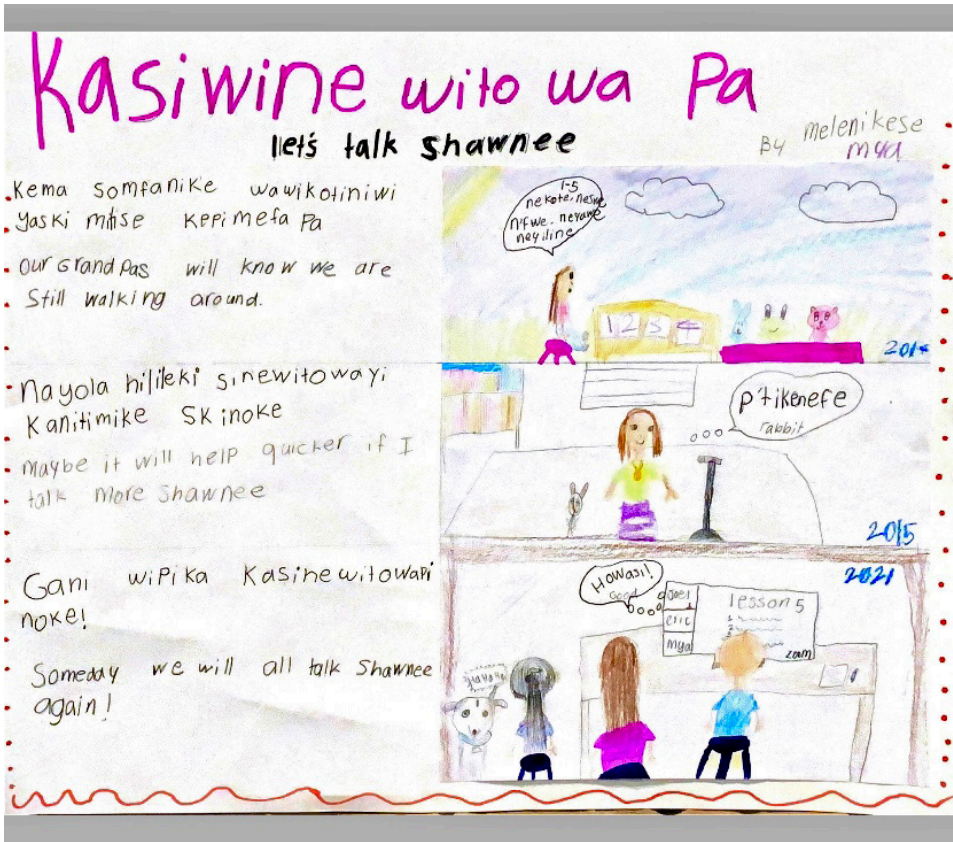
Congratulations!





Erika Blanchard, an 8th grade student at Bethel Middle School and member of Bethel FFA, recently competed in the Oklahoma Scholastic Shooting Sports, State Trap Competition. She set a new personal record and finished in 4th place. Along with her teammate, they are the 1st female shooters to qualify for State; 1st middle school students to qualify for State; and Erika is the 1st Native American to qualify for any State shooting competition at Bethel Public Schools.

Though this is only her first year to compete (did not begin live fire shooting until this past Fall), she is very grateful to her teammates, coaches and sponsors for pushing her to excel. Erika would also like to thank her parents, Joseph and Twyla Blanchard, for always driving her to practice and competition events, and supplying her with plenty of ammo and her weapon.



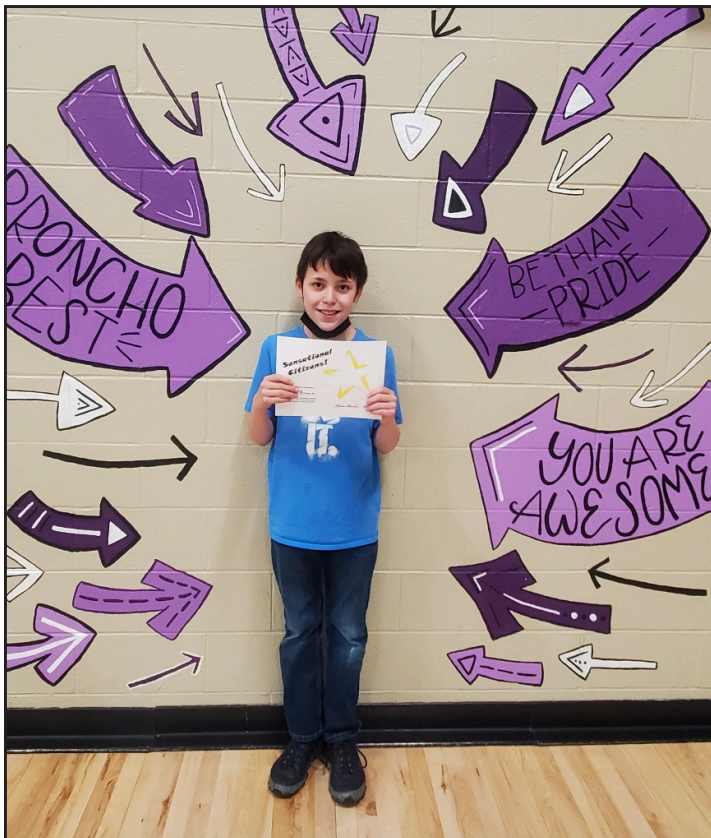


Congratulations!



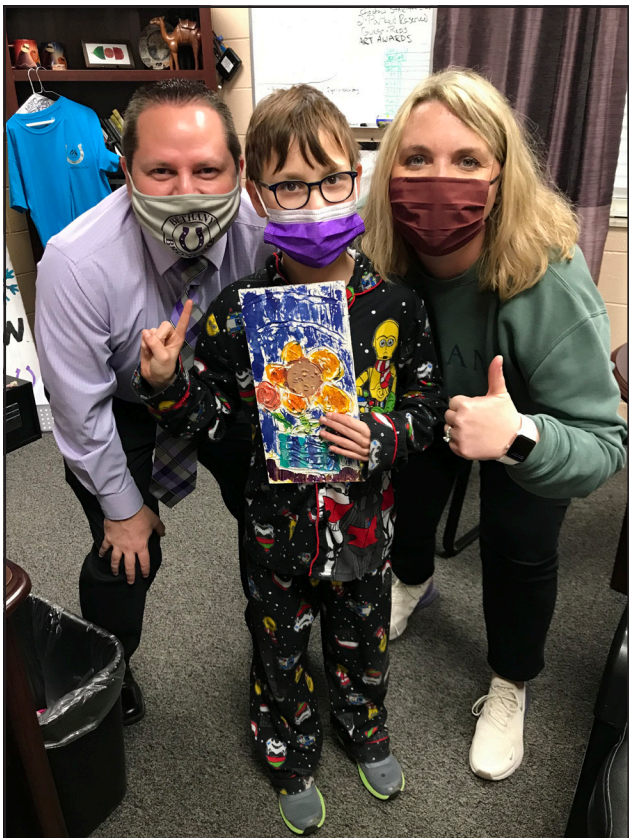
Mya Blanchard, daughter of Eric and Jessica Blanchard and granddaughter of Duke and Fredith Blanchard and Linda Cotten and Dirk Walker, recently placed second in the 3rd-5th grade Comic category at the 2021 Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair for her piece entitled “Kasiwine witowapa/Let’s All Talk Shawnee.”

Mya is a 3rd grader at Eisenhower Elementary, and she has participated in the language fair since she was three. She has been attending virtual language classes during the pandemic with her family (led by George Blanchard) and with the Shawnee Tribe (led by Joel Barnes).



Sensational Citizen Award

Absentee Shawnee member Eli Brown is a 5th grade student at Bethany Public Schools. Eli was named his class Sensational Citizen for the 3rd nine weeks. The sensational citizen award recognizes student who consistently show responsibility, respect and readiness for learning. He is the son of Adam and Tara Brown, grandson of Phyllis Harp and great nephew of Kenneth and Serena Daugherty.



Harper Brown is a 6th grade student at Bethany Middle school. She was an ensemble cast member for Bethany Public Schools’ All-school musical production of “Footloose: The Musical” in April. This was her first play production and she enjoyed being a part of the process. Harper is the daughter of Adam and Tara Brown, granddaughter of Phyllis Harp, and great niece of Kenneth and Serena Daugherty.



Sam Brown is an Absentee Shawnee member who attends Bethany Public Schools and is in the 4th grade. His texture board artwork was recognized by his class peers for an Art Award and was on display in the Principal’s office for the month of March. Sam is the son of Adam and Tara Brown, grandson of Phyllis Harp and great nephew of Kenneth and Serena Daugherty.



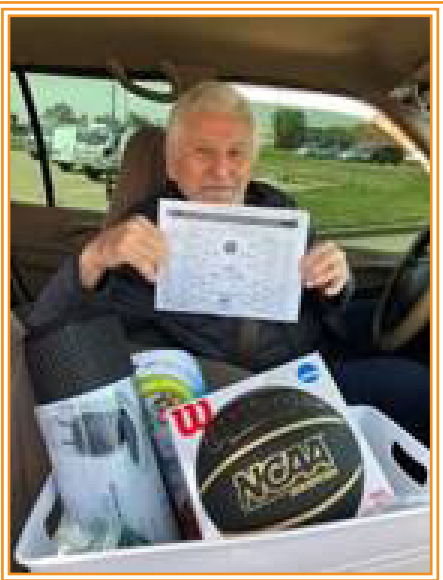
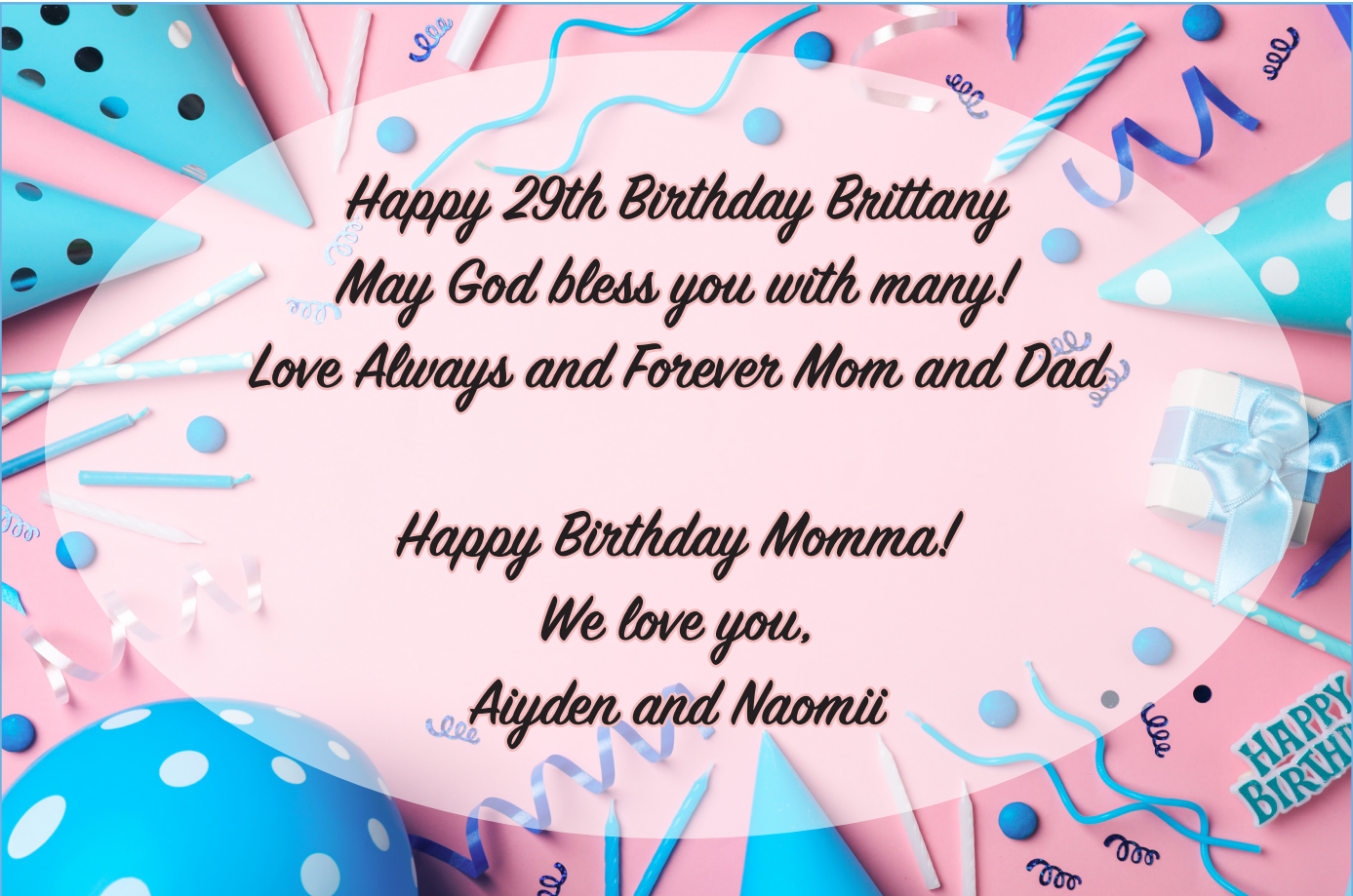
MAY BIRTHDAYS

Ahtone, Catlin Ray
Alford, Amy Dianne
Alford, Christian Shawnee
Alford, Magdalena Spaneta
Allen, Lucinda Nicole
Allen, Patricia Ann
Arnold, Keirstin Rene
Atchico, John Edward
Atwell, David Eugene
Atwood, Reagan Nicole
Barreras, Jenika Nicole
Barton, Trae Lee
Bates, Akiane Karee
Baughman, Brenda Jane
Belvin, Justin Ray
Bender, Leal Desma
Bennett, Blake Tristan
Bentley, Curtis Lee
Bettelyoun, Lula Mae
Black, Timothy Wayne
Black, Whitney Brooke
Blackburn, Gayle Ann
Blanchard, Caelynn Blu
Blanchard, Dakota Joshua
Blanchard, Glendine
Blanchard, Joey Edward
Blanchard, Joseph Henry
Blanchard, Mariana Lillian
Bradley, Jerry Dean
Bradley, Terry Don
Bradshaw, Alisa Marie
Brady, Lynn Marie
Brandon, Susanne Christine
Breeding, Sean K. C.
Brinson, Ariana Isabel
Brister, April Angela
Brocksmith, Chloe Elizabeth
Brown, Brittany Ciara
Bruner, Aidan Alex
Bryant III, Chester A.
Buckley, Gerald Wayne
Buckner, June Marie
Bullard, Adam Drew
Bullock, Royce Jaxxon
Bump, Karli Jessica
Burke, Lisa Feiffer
Bustamante, Andrea Nadine
Byers, Christian Daniel
Byers, Eric Nelson
Cagle, Alicia Nicole
Campbell, Charles Elbert
Caudillo, James Emanuel Dean
Caudillo, Jamie Lynn Ladeanna
Charley, Melloney Ann
Charley, Michael Arron
Clark, Summer Lynn
Clinesmith, Blake Weston
Coddington Jr., Kevin Dwayne
Collett, Bonnie Sue
Combs, Michelle Lynn
Conces, Lorena Olivia
Conover, Gloria Jean
Cook, Israel Aaron
Coon, Justin Kyler
Cope, Sawyer Dawson
Coyle, Dr. Sarah Michelle
Crenshaw, Jennifer Lois
Cripps, Anita Louise
Cuellar, Orietta Faith
Dankenbring, Bryce Thomas
Daugherty, Everly Grace
Davis, Dale Allen
Davis, Dannica Butch
De Jear, Bayleigh Ruth
Deere, Shawneen Estelline
Deere, Sky Nichole Christine
Denny, Jacqueline
Dospapas, Verna May
Downey, Zachary Layne
Ducharme, Kathon Clay
Ducharme, Lindsey Nicole
Ellis, Carmen Jean
Ellis, Gregory Scott
Ellis, Heather Ann

Ellis, Holly Diana
Ellis, Sara Gabriel
Evans, Lisa Michelle
Factor, Jaremyah Jamez
Feeling, Lavonna Jean
Fenner, Titan Russell
Ferrell, Alyssa Kay
Ferrell, Amber Nicole
Ferrer, Joshua Lee
Fife, Gabriel Douglas
Fife, Teresa Laura Irene
Fink, Brayden Lee
Footracer, Lee Anna Gail Stubb
Foreman Jr., Leonard Dewayne
Foreman, Jacob Collin
Foreman, Jalen Hawke
Frazier, Rylan Ambrose
Fritsch, Joley Marie
Galloway, Zachary Adam
Garbarini Jr., Alfred Ralph
Gibson Sr., Roy Gene
Gibson, David Michael
Gibson, Jeffrey Wayne
Gilmore, Cheryl Jean
Godwin, Lucy G.
Gouge, Kara Joe
Granstrom, Cody James
Graves Pyrch, Karen Sue
Graves, Sharol Annette
Gray, Branden Tyler
Gray, Dakota Christian
Greeley, Carsyn Ryan
Griffin, Diane Sue
Groves, Mya Leighann
Hale, Kathy Sue
Hall, Emily Katherine
Harjo, Eric Wayne
Harjo, Hiyatike Star
Harjo, Myla Rosalie
Harris, Konner Lee Little Charley
Haumpy, Taj-Ah Billy
Heath, Spencer Blake
Hendrick, Luke Michael
Hill, Yvette Carmel
Hood Jr., Warren Wesleyon
Hood, Thomas Edgar
Humphrey, Carol Lee
Hunt, Dominique Annastasia Marie
Hutchinson, Velma Rae
Ibarra, Julian Giano Elias
Irvin, Steven Benjamin
Jackson III, Mark Sweeney
Johnson Jr., Richard Taft
Johnson, Coree Lee
Johnson, Curtis Ray
Johnson, Gabriella Kayann
Johnson, Joshina Leeshay
Johnson, Michael Scott Isaiah
Johnson, Nicholas James
Johnson, Tabitha Rose
Johnson, Walter Kirby
Jones, Aubrey Renee
Kaseca, Barry Alvin
Kaseca, Kantynn James
Kaseca, Roy James
Keese, Carter Aaron
Keith, Marshall Collins
King, Lynee Rue
Kirby-Gibson, Ian Jacob
Kitchen, Ruben Vincent
Kmatz, Mindy Lynnette
Knighten, Cassandra Renea
Kobs, Jennifer Ann
Kowitz, Michael Raymond
Laplant, Asher Jay
Lasenberry, Harper Rose
Leedom, Courtney Dawn
Little Axe, Sabrina
Little Charley, Terry Lee
Little Creek, Vernon Dale
Little, Jady Alise
Little, Madison Diane
Little, Stormy Autumn
Littlecreek, Anderson Doreece

Littlecreek, Dakota Dwight
Littlecreek, Tiffany Nicole
Littlecreek, Tristyn Denae
Longhorn, Sean Ray
Longhorn, Weda Louise
Lopez Jr, Rolando
Lovins, Earl Dean
MacGill, Georgia Sue
MacK, Rylan Emory
Malone, Marcus Jerome
Mann, Sallie Arlene
Masquat Jr., George
Masquat, Chelcy Nicole
Matthews, Mary Caroline
McAfee, Justin Samuel
McGowan, Patricia Lynn
McMillan, Shelly Kristin
Medina, Alyssa Pamela Lee
Megehee, Douglas Dewayne
Megehee, Tonia Lynn
Mendoza, Amanda Raneec`
Meyer, Doreen
Miller, Casey Ryan
Miner, Heather Rochelle
Minesinger, Scott Brooker
Mitchell, Desiree Rose
Molenhour, Lacey Rei
Mondragon, Angela Kay
Monk, Jaxon Eugene
Montez, Mireya Raine
Montgomery, Matthew Schyler Daugherty
Moore, Anniah Faith
Moore, Emily Renee
Morgan, Polly A Littlebear
Morton, Jeremiah James
Morton, Nora Jane
Munroe, Douglas
Neese, Lisa Marie
Neugent, Alena Dee
New Moon, Jake Lee
New Moon, Jennifer Brooke
Newton, Jessica Ann
Noyes, Paula Jo
Oldham, George Lynn
Onzawah, Deborah Kay
Orta, Jovanni Alejandro
Ott-Proctor, Lylli Lee Ann
Panther, Jeffery Wayne
Parker, Carla Marie
Parker, Shawn Ian
Pawpa, Donald Wayne
Pearl, Melvin Joe
Pitner, Kamryn Nicole
Powell, Kendall Lynn
Pyrch, Lauren Karly
Raisbeck, David Nathaniel
Ramirez Jr., Florentino
Ramirez, Elicia Marie-Alka
Ramirez, Jaxston Cole
Reavis, Ricci Donnice
Reynoso, Melissa Sue
Roach, Dakota Eugene
Robertson, Rita Jean York
Robison, Aiden James
Robison, Christian Charles
Robison, Morgan Tell
Robison, Thomas Aaron
Rochon, Gerald Wayne
Rock, Micheal Eugene
Rolette, Domini Antoinette
Rolette, Gilbert Earl
Rolette, Joshua David Michael
Ryan, Royce Liam
Salazar, Terry Lee
Salisbury, Lucas Holden
Salisbury, Mara Ann
Sanchez, Christopher
Sanders, Patty Ruth
Schulenberg, Donald Derek
Seaton-Blanchard, Sarah Shiloh
Sevier, Elliott Rose
Shawnee, Jarrett Lloyd
Simmons, Desirai Diann
Simpson, Wade James

Smith, Jeremiah Robert
Smith, Lily Kendrick
Smith, Richard Alexander
Smith, Trenn Talen
Smith, Valerie Ann
Smith, Vanessa Rae
Snake, Norma Louise
Soap Jr., John Lee
Soap, Kree Eugene
Soap, Roger Eugene
Speck, Haley Kalyn
Spicer, Amber Jo
Spoon Jr., Robert Ray
Spoon, Joplin Dupre
Spoon, Landon Joe
Spoon, Lexi Della-Ann
Spoon, Tinslee Jo
Spriggs, Warren Paul
Springer, Delores Ann
Spybuck, Easton Cade
Squire, Nathan Gene
Starr III, Henry James
Starr, Anthony Craig
Stevens, Laurence Paul
Stewart, Gracie Nicole
Stone Jr., James Lee
Strain, Cynthia Ann
Stuckey, Slade Wilson
Sultuska, Ella L.
Sultuska, Jerry Wayne
Sultuska, Rodney Steven
Surface Jr., Robert Monroe
Szoke, Debra Jean
Talbert, Elania Michelle
Talbert, Elliana Grace Elizabeth
Tallchief, John G.
Tarbox, Crystal Lynne
Taylor, Darwin Jacob
Tebe I, Mavrik West
Tebe, Priscilla Grace
Thompson, Bryanna Lotus
Thompson, Teresa Reneec`
Thornhill, Noah Hunter
Thorpe, Burke James
Thorpe, Jake Forrester
Thorpe, Sheelby Ahkeynay Jamesec
Tiger, Jennifer Diane
Tiger, Tru Anthony Shane
Trennepohl, Pacer Lynn
Uchida Jr., Stephen Robert
Vega, Jaslene Meliah
Wade, Chelsea Nicole
Walker, Jo Ann Louise
Wallace, Brenda Gayle
Warrior, Johnnie Andrew
Warrior, Kenneth James
Watkins, Jamie Lynn
Watson, Ambra Denise
Watson, Brittany LaDawn Paige Danielle
Watson, Janelle Ilise
Watson, Thomas Aaron
Wesley, Ula Mae Welch
White IV, Charles Daniel
White, Brooklyn Dee
White, Caitlyn Rose
White, Clayton Randall
White, Milo Everett
Wilkerson, Katie Evalyn
Williams, Colton Alexander
Williams, Heath Floyd
Wilson, Cecil Alan
Wilson, Christopher Blaine
Wilson, Diana Lynn
Wilson, Francis Lynn
Wilson, Helen June
Wilson, Lana Louise
Womack, Raelynn Lekay
Wood, Lillian Kay
Woods, Justin Matthew
Wucinski, Gary Ray
Yargee, Lizzie DeAnna-Jo
Young, Lynda Renee



Title VI
March Madness Winner
Kenneth Daugherty

ANOUNCEMENT

TIGER FAMILY REUNION

The family reunion has been set for May 30, 2021 (Sunday) at the Little Axe Pavillion at Thunderbird Lake. From 10am to 10pm!! Bring food, drinks, chairs, ice, your swimming clothes (lol), games, charcoal (if your grilling) and just about whatever else you want to bring. There will be horseshoes and cornhole games, so bring cash!! There may be a fee at the gate.

We ask friends and family to come visit and eat with the last remaining sibling from Jim Tiger and Annie Mann Tiger union....Nellie Tiger Maxwell. Who is 92 years old!! Any questions call Phyllis Tiger Johnson or Jan Maxwell (405-514-5520)

Melokami Spring Break Camp



Little Axe Soccer League



