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Pictured (l-r): AARP Oklahoma Associate State Director Mashell Sourjohn, AARP National Policy Council Member Michael Bird, Mr. Spybuck and AARP Oklahoma State President Marjorie Lyons.

Larry Spybuck Among Honorees At 5Th Annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors

Absentee Shawnee tribal member Larry Spybuck, second from right, was among those recognized at the Fifth Annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors held recently in Oklahoma City.

October 7. 2013

Absentee Shawnee Tribal member Larry Spybuck was among those honored at the event.

Larry Spybuck – Absentee Shawnee – as tribal chief of police he was instrumental in developing new policies that resulted in better relations with the FBI, local law enforcement, city, county and other tribal police departments. His leadership, care and concern for tribal leaders is backed by his pride in his Indian heritage and traditions. He attended Haskell Indian Nations University where he graduated with a degree in Criminal Justice and is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. In addition, he served as tribal gaming commissioner.

AARP Oklahoma State President Marjorie Lyons said this event, which has grown into the largest celebration of older Native Americans in the state, is a tribute to the venerated position of honor and respect tribal nations give to their elders.

"Though they come from different backgrounds and cultures, we see in tonight's honorees, the common bond they share – respect, dignity and service to their fellow man," she said. "Tonight, we add these names to the distinguished list of past honorees. We say 'thank you' and we give thanks for the ways they have touched so many lives in their families, communities and in our state."

In the past five years, AARP has honored 250 Indian Elders from all 39 federally recognized tribes and nations headquartered in Oklahoma, she said.

Other honorees this year included spiritual and cultural leaders, a world-record power lifting champion, dancers, veterans and a nationally known chef who creates healthy recipes inspired by indigenous foods.

AARP State Director Sean Voskuhl, who emceed the event, says the Indian Elder Honors is the cornerstone of the association's on-going work with Native Americans in the state. Among other projects he highlighted include: a comprehensive survey of the needs and wants of Native Americans in Oklahoma, healthy cooking seminars, food security programs and health care law education for Native Americans.

"AARP's vision of a society in which all people live with dignity and purpose is also the Indian way," he said. "We are excited about how we can continue working to make that vision a reality in Oklahoma Indian Country as we continue to build relationships."

veteran's Day Boyerser 11

TRIBAL COMPLEX WILL BE CLOSED NOVEMBER 27TH AT NOON.

Health Insurance Enrollment Information

and much much more!!!!!



GOVERNOR'S

Let's Build For the Future (BFF)

Asyou and the many thousands across the nation have heard the federal government was under a shutdown for 16 days. The tribe was concerned but we worked through it. My Office worked with the Treasurer and the Controller and they assisted us in outlaying a plan of action that ensured the continuation of programs, functions, services and activities within the tribe. This plan diminished the concerns and helped our programs to carry out the needed services for our people.

In October we had General Council and 113 Tribal members attended based on records kept by the enrollment office. I'm glad that those who could come did so. Issues were discussed and I told you about what I would be doing to correct the concerns that you have told me about. I didn't hear or receive any communication during or afterward General Council that you disagreed with those plans. One of these actions involves the Health Board.On November 7th there will be a special meeting of the Shareholders Representative. What is a Shareholder's Representative - I had to ask legal so that I would be clear on what this is. It is defined as the Executive Committee members in office at the time of a duly called meeting of the Board of Directors'. This meeting will take place in the Tribe's Executive Conference room in Building #2 at 10:00 a.m. At that meeting the Health Board bylaws for the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Authority, Inc. will be amended. The second part of this meeting will be to ratify, remove and/or appoint Health Board of Director members. If you are interested in serving on the Health Board send your resume to Secretary Vera Dawsey, no later than close of business on November 5th.

Another issue that was brought up during General Council was the budget for the Election Commission and the need for them to meet and the reasons as to why they meet. These concerns will be addressed. The Executive Committee met with the Attorney General (AG) on the Election Commission issues and the AG is to meet with the Election Commission to explore their concerns. This issue will be clarified and information is forthcoming to you.

This past month I learned of another concern. It is with our Child Support Enforcement services. Contrary to our understanding, the Modoc tribe has been providing those services under a federal grant that allows it to provide child support enforcement and legal services to tribes that enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement with the Modoc. We found that the same legal group that was providing services to the Tribe under our former Attorney General contract also provides services for this agreement, but does so as counsel for Modoc, not for AST. We, as a Tribe, chose not to continue services with that legal firm. In our initial discussions with the Modoc's we were advised by their grant staff that AST could select their own legal firm based on the terms of the grant.

We were then later advised, by these same Modoc staff, that we had no choice but to go with the legal firm the Modoc tribal leader chose. We are a Self-Governance tribe with a strong history in self-determination and self-governance and we make our own choices. We will begin working on developing our own Child Support Enforcement

will begin working on developing our own Child Support Enforcement services so that eventually we won't have to rely on another tribe for those services and can make our own decisions. In the meantime, we are exploring the options for our tribal people to continue to have child support enforcement services of some type.

If you should hear rumors or get misdirected on these issues call me so we can discuss them.

Emergency Management

The weather has begun to change and that means the Tribe must consider and prepare for cold weather and the impact it may have. To this end, Emergency Management is looking at increasing our emergency supplies and coordinating with maintenance to ensure equipment is ready and inventory is conducted and supplies purchased.

Linda Day is the designated disaster Emergency Manager, who is located within the Police Department substation in Little Axe. She is the contact for this program. If she is unable to resolve your concerns please communicate with my office.

Law Enforcement

The Police department for Halloween is hosted a Halloween Safety Carnival on Wednesday, October 23rd at the AST Police Department on their south parking lot. We will give you more details next month on this fun filled event and the staff involved with it. The coordinator of this project was Shawn Crowley who did a lot of volunteer work in an effort to offer this activity for children in a safe environment.

The point of contact for this program is Police Chief, Brad Jackson. If he is unable to resolve your concern communicate with my office.

Building Blocks

Billie Thompson, an enrolled Absentee Shawnee tribal member, was hired this month as the Shawnee Building Blocks Director. Billie graduated from Little Axe High School in 1992. She is married to her husband of 19 years and has 3 boys (whom she is very proud of). She has been in childcare for 18 years. Her experience ranges from working in child care centers, head start to the operation of her own home child care for 13 years. Billie's education includes an Associate's degree in Psychology with an emphasis in Child Development, Bachelors in Criminal Justice and a Master's degree in Counseling. She has expressed that she enjoys working with children and families and has made it her life's purpose to improve their lives as

often and as much as she can. That is also her goal for all of the children, families and staff there at the Building Blocks program.

Briana Ponkilla, the former acting Building Blocks Director, has been placed into a different role with the Tribe. She will be working as the CCDF Consultant and will provide all quality activities relative to and related to the implementation of functions required by the CCDF grant.

The new Little Axe Building Blocks is progressing well. I went out approximately 2 weeks ago and looked at the site and visited the contractor and one of his AST contracted staff. The storm shelter is well reinforced and large enough to hold both the children and the staff should there be a need

The point of contact for the Building Blocks program in Shawnee is Billie Thompson. The contact for the Little Axe Building Block's program and CCDF is Brianna Ponkilla. If they are unable to correct and/or advise you on these issues communicate with my office.

Education

This program has been actively involved with our area schools, attending meetings with schools and institutions, continuing scholarship awards and helping those students in need of direction to get into programs that will help them meet their educational goals. Next month I plan on highlighting the Education program and some of their initiatives.

The point of contact for this program is Tresha Spoon, Education Director. Please feel free to communicate with her and if she is unable to assist you then contact my office.

Gaming

The Gaming Commission has been holding their meetings. They are finding that being a small Commission limits their abilities in some ways. This Office is working with the Gaming Commissioners so that we can understand how operations works and how we can best assist the Tribe to meet regulatory and gaming rules and ordinances. This is a challenging area and one I look forward to learning more about in the days ahead. This past month we had one Commissioner attend the G2E conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

I have been interviewing for a Compliance Officer, Internal Auditor and Executive Director of Gaming. We hired a new Compliance Officer and it is hoped that we will hire an Internal Auditor and Executive Director in the next 2 weeks

If you have questions in this area I may be contacted at 405-275-4030.

Health

This month the Health Board hired a new Executive Director for health. This individual has expressed his interest in working with the Tribe and my Office as the oversight authority for the Indian Health Service function. This is encouraging and it will be a welcome change to be afforded the opportunity to provide input and assist with direction setting.

The Health Board is pleased to announce the arrival of Mr. Mark Rogers, the new Health Program Director. Mr. Rogers is an active member of the Cherokee Tribe and his family is originally from Tahlequah, OK. Mr. Rogers is a Gulf War Veteran and he continues to serve within the USAF Reserves at Tinker AFB as the hospital/clinic administrator. Some of the highlights of his career and experience that should be an asset to the health program are:

- Deployed health administrator for the IHS at Fort Peck in Wolf Point, Montana for the Public Health Corps servicing the Sioux and Assiniboine Nations.
- Responsible for Air Force Reserve Native American outreach efforts as member of the AF Reserve Command Human Resources Development Council for 3 consecutive years.
- Served as a specialized healthcare consultant to the Chief, Choctaw Nation, regarding Choctaw Management Services Enterprise contract healthcare with US Armed Forces.
- Former Surgeon General, Reserve Officer's Association (ROA), Oklahoma Department.
- Experience as CEO of three short-term hospitals and three long-term care hospitals in Oklahoma, including 18 months as a Board Vice President and two Ex-Officio Board Positions.

Mr. Rogers has a Master's Degree in Strategic Leadership from Bellevue, Nebraska, and a Graduate Level Certificate in Healthcare Administration from the USAF. He has also attended Harvard University School of Public Health where he participated on a healthcare policy panel representing rural healthcare program development efforts. We look forward to working with Mr. Mark Rogers and anticipate that through his leadership ability and knowledge base we will move the health program in the right direction.



In conclusion – change is good. Every day is a challenge and an opportunity and although difficult actions at times have to be taken there isn't a day that goes by that I don't welcome them. It may be repetitive but I am happy to be here working with you and for you, our Absentee Shawnee tribal members! WE, meaning you, the people of the Tribe, and I, your elected Governor, are indeed Building For the Future (BFF) now! I wish you all good health this month and look forward to telling you next month what we achieved at the tribe.

LT. GOVERNOR'S

-Report

Greetings tribal members.

I hope you are all doing well as we transition into the Fall season of the year.

I would like to take a moment to give some recognition to several people who I have come to admire for their career as AST Employees and their desire to provide the best services to the tribe as a whole.

Clarice Vieux



Sadly, we lost Clarice last month, as her passing was an unexpected loss to her family and all her co-workers her at the AST. Clarice began her career with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe back in 1974 as a court clerk. Over the years her duties changed and increased with different administrations that came in and out of our tribal government. The change and duties of her career came to see her become the BIA/Self Governance Specialist for the tribe. Her priority was to make sure that annual negotiations between the tribe and the Federal Government were beneficial in receiving the funding necessary to provide the services through our

BIA Programs. Clarice was a member of the Citizen Pottawatomie Nation but felt right at home amongst the AST and was well accepted and well liked by all who came to know her. She was a professional diplomat for our tribe and represented our tribe with great honor when dealing with Local, County, State, Federal and other Tribal Governments.

I am going to miss Clarice greatly, as she was the first one I asked to work with me and she was glad that I had asked and she accepted. Not only will her knowledge and experience be missed, only by me, but by all those that knew her as a friend and a co-worker.

Steve Colungo

Recently, we recognized Steve Colungo's dedication to the tribe for nearly 20 years of service. He worked in the Maintenance Department during those years and filled many roles in providing services necessary for the upkeep of the Tribal Complex and the limited services provided to our tribal members. He filled the role as the Interim Maintenance Director when asked, to ensure that the department continue its' duties.

Unfortunately, Steve had to take an early retirement due to health reasons. But he assures us that he is enjoying life and his family. He is grateful for the years he worked the tribe, all the friendships created over the years, and for all the things he was able to do for tribal members. I was glad to work with Steve in the Maintenance Dept. and was grateful for his dedication and service to the tribe.

Reta Harjo

I have been fortunate to work with some good people who are dedicated **Actual Sales Numbers** to providing the best services possible to our tribal members. Reta is a good example of that person. She has been working for the AST for nearly 23 years. She has worked in several departments over the years and knows and understands the attempt the tribe makes to provide quality services. She currently works in the Maintenance Dept. as the Office Administrator taking phone calls and work orders, keeping up with purchases of supplies, maintaining budgets, personnel and any other duties we ask of her. I am thankful that she has the desire and willingness to continue working, and working with my office to assist me in being helpful to our tribe. Thank vou Reta!

I just wanted to take a moment to express my gratitude by giving a few words of recognition to those that work for the tribe.

We here on the complex know of our co-workers

achievements, I just wanted to share with all that read our Tribal Newsletter of the dedication and commitment that our tribal employees put forth when tending to their duties. I would like to thank all those who attended the General Council at the beginning of October. Some good questions were asked of all 5 Executive Committee members.

As I said I would, I've submitted an article giving a history of the Registered Black Angus Project and hope that it informs you of the goals and objectives of the project.

If you have any further questions, I will be glad to sit down and visit with

In closing, we are in the process of locating someone to fill the position for the BIA Roads Program, but as you all know these are big shoes to fill. We will do our best to find a qualified person in a timely manner.

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!

Respectfully,

Isaac Gibson

Lieutenant Governor

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Registered Black Angus Cattle Project

In late September of 2011, and opportunity was offered to the Lt. Governor's office for the sale of registered Black Angus cattle. Because the summer of 2011 brought on a drought that affected numerous cattle operations. many owners were looking to sell many heads of cattle well below market value so that they wouldn't incur the cost of feeding them through the winter months. Because of the drought, hay production for that year was way below normal and hay bales were scarce and costly.

On October 6, 2011 a proposal was made by Lt. Governor Isaac Gibson and Representative Jeff Gibson for the purchase of 30 cows and one bull. The Executive Committee as a whole, made a decision to make the purchase and investment, so on October 10, 2011 the following transaction was made:

Initial Cost in 2011

Cows bred to calf in March	30	\$30,000
Bull	1	<u>\$ 1,500</u>
Total cost of cows and bull		\$31,500

Land Lease: Bermuda and wheat to feed

Cows six months, 180 acres grazing on both Total for herd and land lease \$40.100

The following information was passed out at the General Council in

Cattle Operation Numbers

<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
1 Bull	1 Bull
30 cows	40 cows
24 calves	38 calves

Cattle Value

3-4 yr. old Cows	Pregnant Value	*\$1,200-\$1,500
Cow and Calf pair	Value together	*\$2,000-\$2,200
Calves 600-700 lbs.	Average Value	*\$1.40-\$1.55 lb.

*OKC Stockyards, Mid America Market-Bristow

The AST sent 24 calves to market on 1/28/2013

Number	AVG	Price	Total	Dollar
Cattle	WGT	CWT	Weight	Amount
1	330	188.00	330	620.40
9	589	147.00	5300	7791.00
8	599	157.50	4790	7544.25
6	700	150.00	4200	<u>6300.00</u>
			TOTAL	\$22,255.65
Stockyard I	Handling Fees	;		<u>-\$ 459.36</u>
	AVG/HEAI	908.18	TOTAL	\$21,796.29

On 1/31/2013, The AST bought 13 pregnant cows at a price of \$1,500 each. The total was \$19,500. These new cows brought our total herd number up to 40 cows. In 2013, the cows dropped 38 calves, 18 heifers and 18 steers. We plan on feeding these calves to an average weight of 700 lbs. then taking them to market for sell.

The ultimate goal of this project is to establish a 100 head herd: 4 bulls

50 head in Little Axe

50 head in Earlsboro

Then each year, on average sell anywhere from 70-80 one year old calves at market. Then selling 10-15 one year old bull calves in our own sale. Bull calves alone can bring anywhere from \$3,000-\$4,000 a piece.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office and I will be glad to discuss more about this project.

Lt. Governor Isaac Gibson

REPRESENTATIVE'S

Hello tribal members, I hope this month finds you all in good health.

Fall season has come and we are enjoying the change in weather. The Fall ceremonial dances were held October 16-20 and everything went good. There was a good turn out at the dance considering how cold the weather got a couple of those nights. Culture and Preservation did a good job delivering rations as usual, so thank you to them.

Carol Butler is new on staff at Culture Preservation and we want to welcome her.

Music man Phil Bradley has been out due to health reasons, so remember him during this time.

We have enlisted a fill in for him, in the mean time, but are expecting him to return back to work sometime during the month of December. I'm sure his students are missing him and anxious for him to return back to work as well.

Happy Birthdays and Happy Anniversaries to all those with birthdays and anniversaries during the month of November.

Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday! Sincerely,

Jeff Gibson

Tribal Representative

SECRETARY'S

Greetings Tribal Members

I hope that this letter finds everyone doing fine. The weather is starting to turn a little chilly, so I hope everyone has had their furnace checked out. Once again I would like to Thank Everyone who attended the General Council this month, there were 111 tribal members present that day, a very good turnout.

We have had approximately 1108 new applications for enrollment with the tribe since the blood quorum has been change, but only 990 have been verified and accepted by resolution as of the writing of this report. I have been busy with a few projects other than the secretary duties as prescribed

by our constitution. One is development of some policy and procedures for the disbursement of the FEMA trailers; I know some of you tribal members are waiting on some to be delivered; we are working as diligently as possible to accomplish this. We should have this done in about two weeks or so, the finale stage of receiving the trailers is a cost work up sheet, when we get to that stage we will call the tribal member in to sign the cost reimburse sheet then be able to deliver the mobile homes. We, the EC are pleased to announce a new Health Director, his name is Mark Rogers, and He brings a wealth of experience with him, because of that, a lot of new doors will be open to us in many ways.

We have set the foundation now let's build off of it, there is no way but up from here. We have a new TERO assistant. Bridgette Wilson is in the office now so please stop by for a visit and renew your applications or do an update, if your phone number has changed, please notify the Tero office. We do get request for skilled labor from time to time, so list all of your skills and certifications that you may have. I hope you have a safe and Happy Halloween.

Thank You. Vera Dawsey Secretary

TREASURER'S

Greetings Tribal Members,

Thanksgiving is the beginning of the holidays, shopping, thankful times, spending time with loved ones, friends and remembering and recognizing our veterans. At last, the government shutdown is over! Continue to pray for our veterans, president and congressman on their decisions, and American Indians across the United States.

We were deeply saddened at the loss of one of our deeply, respected, long time AST employee, Clarice Vieux. Our prayers and thoughts go out to her family and our AST families, who have lost loved ones this month.

- <u>ASTHA and LSWN Health Board Meeting</u>. The health board meets every third Tuesday of the month. They discuss administrative reports, financial, credentialing, and any other item that needs to be addressed. Announcement and welcome to Mr. Mark Rogers, as the new Health Programs Director, He comes to us with many years and experience within the health field. He is a retired air force.
- <u>Financials for Health Monthly Mtg</u>, Monthly tribal finance, health finance, clinical administrators, and business office meet to review monthly financials and collections of the health clinics in Little Axe and Shawnee.
- Monthly Program/Departmental Directors meeting. Each director comes every third Monday and gives a monthly update on their program/department. Court, Cultural Preservation/Gift Shop, Education, Domestic Violence/Family Services, Enrollment, Human Resources, Finance, Maintenance, Music, MIS, Police, Procurement, Realty, Probate, Social Services, Tag, TERO, Title VI, Building Blocks, Indian Child Welfare, Housing, Media, OEH/OEP, and Health Programs. We, as the Executive Committee, appreciate these departments who take the time to come and give us an update on activities and events monthly and prepare monthly written reports. We understand they may have circumstances occur that prevent them from coming to the monthly meetings and appreciate the fact that they let us know or send someone in their place when they cannot attend. THANK YOU!
- **REGULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**, Every third Wednesday of the month, except for times, when it is essential that it be moved to another day and time. Tribal Members are encouraged and welcome to come listen to the business that the Tribes does monthly.
- TREASURER'S OFFICE, participated in the Halloween Safety Carnival, Wed., Oct 23, 2013, 5-8pm, AST Police Department sponsored with a Tic Tac Toe game and goodies for the participants who attended.
- <u>Elders' Monthly meetings</u> are held every third Saturday, either at AST Resource Center or Title VI Bldgs, 10 am. If you are 55 years and older, please come join us for fellowship, food, and fun times together. Fund raisers, outings, and cultural activities are planned monthly. Activities and Events the Elders have hosted are: Veterans' Pow Wow in November, Inaugural Ball, attended various cultural events in Canada, Iowa, New Mexico, South

Dakota, etc., in and around the state of Oklahoma. The officers are Dan Little Axe, President, Mary Birdtail, Vice-President, Cynthia Longhorn, Secretary, and Betty Watson, Treasurer. If you would like more information about the Absentee Shawnee Elders Council, please call Cynthia Longhorn, 405/273-4137.

- <u>Financials for Health Monthly Mtg</u>, Monthly tribal finance, health finance, clinical administrators, and business office meet to review monthly financials and collections of the health clinics in Little Axe and Shawnee
- <u>Thunderbird Casino Monthly financial meeting</u> with General Manager, Dillon Byrd, Controller, myself, and/orother Executive Committee Member, who are available, to go over the monthly financials of both casinos in Little Axe and Shawnee.
- Internal Revenue Service, VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance). VITA is a program for free tax preparation for tribal members, Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit components, targeted toward low-income families with children (Adjusted Gross Income Limit-AGI-\$58,000) and tax counseling for elders. Training for volunteer preparers and screeners, will probably start around middle of November. SEE VITA Flyer in this newsletter. TBD filing period will start in January and run through April 15, 2014. If you have questions, or interested in becoming a volunteer preparer or screener, please call Eddie Brokeshoulder, 405275-4030 x148, or email eddieb@astribe.com
- NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS ANNUAL CONFERENCE (NCAI), TULSA, OK, NCAI was established in 1944 in response to the termination and assimilation policies the US government forced upon tribal governments in contradiction of their treaty rights and status as sovereign nations. To this day, protecting these inherent and legal rights remains the primary focus of NCAI. The NCAI Mission is to: Protect and enhance treaty and sovereign rights; Secure our traditional laws, cultures, and ways of life for our descendants; Promote a common understanding of the rightful place of tribes in the family of American governments; And to Improve the quality of life for Native communities and peoples. NCAI sessions included briefings on the issues most critical to tribal governments: sovereignty protection, economic development, federal funding, tribal-state relations, health care, education, housing, elder care, youth services, emergency management training for tribal leaders, and cultural presentation. Also, NCAI's Native Vote initiative will be highlighted. This was the 70th anniversary of NCAI. Committee Structure consists of: Human Resources, Land & Natural Resources, Litigation & Governance, Economic, Finance & Community Development Committee, Veterans, Rules & Credentials, and Resolutions committees. Annual elections of Executive Officers and 12 AREA Vice-Presidents were conducted.
- NATIVE FASHION FOR ACTION, Tulsa, OK, Designer Shayne Watson and other local designers came together and put this benefit for the Oklahoma Council for Indian education (OCIE) and Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women (OFIW). Emcees were Mark Wilson and John Ann Thompson. Special Guests were Miss Indian Oklahoma-Robynn Rulo, Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma-Nikki Amos, and Kansas State Representative Ponka-We Victors. Highlighters were tribal traditional men and women dress regalia and contemporary fashions with native designs emphasis.
- <u>CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution) Native American CDFI Assistance (NACA)</u>. Grant was submitted February 28, 2013 and we were one of 35 awarded. The grant was awarded at \$92,290. If any tribal member is interested in being on steering committee, board of directors, or loan committee, please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder, 275-4030, Ext. 148 or email eddieb@astribe.com.
- <u>Constitutional Revision Committee</u> (CRC): We would appreciate your input, suggestions, or come to the monthly meetings. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder, 405-275-4030 Ext 148. Or contact Briana Ponkilla, her email address: brianaponkilla@yahoo.com.

NEWS FLASH

- <u>Cobell Update (http://www.indiantrust.com)</u>: Have questions call the Info Center: 1-800-961-6109.
- <u>Interior</u>: <u>Secretary Jewell</u> welcomes back Department of the Interior employees as they return to work after the 16-day government shutdown. 70,000 Interior employees are back on the job, as national parks, wildlife refuges, public lands, energy bureaus, and BIA offices begin to re-open.

Senator Begich Introduces Legislation to Streamline the **Definition of Indian in the Affordable Care Act**, "On October 16, 2013, Senator Mark Begich (D-AK) with Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI), Senator Al Franken (D-MN), and Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) introduced a bill (S.1575) that would streamline the Definition of Indian in the Affordable Care Act. This is an important first step in ensuring that all American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) receive the benefits and protections intended for them in the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The "Definitions of Indian" in the ACA are not consistent with the definitions already used by the Indian Health Service (IHS), Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) for services provided to American Indians and Alaska Natives. The ACA definitions, which currently require that a person is a member of a federally recognized Tribe or an Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) corporation, are narrower than those used by IHS, Medicaid and CHIP, thereby leaving out a sizeable population of AI/ANs that the ACA was intended to benefit and protect. National Indian Health Board Chair Cathy Abramson said, "On behalf of the 566 Tribal nations we serve, the National Indian Health Board would like to express the deepest gratitude to Senators Begich and Baucus for introducing this important legislation. This bill will help to create parity in the American Indian and Alaska Native community with respect to provisions contained in the Affordable Care Act. If enacted, this measure will ensure that everyone is eligible to receive the protections and benefits that are designed to enhance health care access for all American Indians and Alaska Natives." Unless the definition of Indian in the ACA is changed, many AI/ANs will not be eligible for the special protections and benefits intended for them in the law. These benefits include cost-sharing and monthly enrollment benefits.

This bill will also create statutory language to guarantee that AI/ANs are not subjected to tax penalties for not having insurance, even though they are eligible for Indian health care programs."

- The State Department of Education, children in prekindergarten through fifth grade from all Oklahoma schools are invited to attend. WHAT: ReadOK, a reading event to coincide with Oklahoma's 106th birthday. There will be authors and other dignitaries reading books as well as other entertainment, carnival-type games, face painting, and a giant birthday cake to celebrate Oklahoma's birthday. Reading is one of the foundational skills for all learning. We want to give all Oklahoma elementary students a reason to celebrate reading. Schools are welcome to bring sack lunches to enjoy on the Capitol lawn following the event. WHEN: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. November 15, 2013. WHERE: On the grounds of the State Capitol complex. (The event will be moved inside the Capitol if the weather is bad.)
- The State Department of Education. Who: The Anti-Bullying Collaboration of Oklahoma City-partners include: the State Department of Education, Oklahoma City Public Schools, Oklahoma PTA, and others. Expert panelists: Melissa White, Executive Director of Counseling and ACE with the Oklahoma State Department of Education; Joy Hermansen, Coordinator/Prevention Specialist with the Oklahoma State Department of Education: Tracy Alvarez, Federal Programs Coordinator for Climate. Truancy and Intervention with Oklahoma City Public Schools; Steve Hahn, Prevention and Safety Chair for the Oklahoma PTA; Rachel Yates, with HeartLine; and Gayla Westbrook, Family Builders. Jeff George, an anchor from Fox 25 News will moderate the panel discussion. Educators, parents and guardians and members of the public are invited to attend. Attendees are asked to register for the event at okcbullyingtownhall eventbright. com or at Facebook.com/OKPTA. What: The Anti-Bullying Collaboration of Oklahoma City is hosting a Town Hall meeting to discuss bullying prevention. The purpose of the town hall is to discuss new legislation --the School Safety and Bullying Prevention Act, Oklahoma House Bill 1661. The town hall additionally will highlight the training for administrators and school staff required by this legislation and detail several bullying prevention initiatives. Expert panelists will answer questions. When: 7 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2013. Where: Southern Oaks Library, 6900 S Walker Ave.

The Finance Department employees, Controller, Belinda Collins, Asst. Controller, Genevieve Foster, and Staff Accountant III, Deanna Wood, very much deserve special recognition as they daily continue the never ending processes for the financial side of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Without

their tireless diligence, dedication, and commitment we could not keep the financial transactions processes flowing!

Also, appreciation to the Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder, who continues to assist me with numerous projects, recommendations/ suggestions, attendance at meetings where I cannot attend, and consulting decisions in the office of Treasurer! Very special thanks to Arlene Herrera, who serves as Administrative Assistant in the office of treasurer and secretary.

We appreciate all your phone calls, emails, and visits. May God continue to bless you and yours! See below articles from AllNations Bank, Finance Department, and Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder.

Respectfully,

Kathy Deere Tribal Treasurer

"SUCCESS IS THE *ABILITY* TO GO FROM ONE FAILURE TO ANOTHER WITH NO LOSS OF ENTHUSIASM."

-WINSTON CHURCHILL

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance office continues our efforts in keeping the day to day activities flowing effectively and efficiently through communication between the Finance office and Programs. In working together, we have found the most time effective and cost effective processes for transacting business.

The Tribe's 2010, 2011, and 2012 Audits are "unmodified" opinion; which when compared to an educational grading scale is an A. The 2014 Indirect Cost Proposal has been submitted to the Interior Business Center (IBC) and I was notified this week that it is ready to be assigned to a negotiator. Our rate is up from 17.74% for 2010 to 21.98% for 2011 to 22.35% for 2012, and 27.39% for 2013.

We are preparing for the 2013 Audit which will begin early 2014 for all of the Tribe's entities [Casinos; Store; Restaurant; Smoke Shop's; ASEDA; ASTHA & LSWN which makes up Absentee Health Systems; and the Tribal Government.] All of the tribe's entities must be audited first and then they are combined with the Tribe's Governmental Audit.

The finance department, for 2013, is completing accounting by the 10th day of the month which has been extended from the 7th allowing the health finance to provide reports necessary for adjusting inventory and accounts receivable. Financial reporting for the Health Authority and Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Inc. boards for Absentee Health Systems, Shawnee and Little Axe (LSWN) continues monthly. The Finance staff has completed the September reconciliations for financial reporting. It is imperative the accounting staff continue to stay ahead of all of the accounting so that audits go smoothly, and Indirect Cost rates stay up to date. Indirect cost proposals cannot be submitted without completed audits as the audit is used to calculate the proposal. There are many processes in place in your Tribe's accounting department that ensure we keep accurate records of transactions. The Tribe's accounting processes must be in compliance with GAAP; (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board) and these rules are updated sometimes annually.

The Tribe currently has compact funds of BIA, I H S, and approximately 51 Grants. In addition, the Tribe operates a General Fund and an Indirect Cost Fund. The new clinic building payments are current and have not been late and projections are that they will continue to be current going forward.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Finance Department has very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them, the Treasurer's office and at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The Finance Department employs 14: with 7 (50%) being AST Tribal Members, 2 non-AST tribal members, and 5 (36%) being non-natives.

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 reach its accomplished goals and to continue with this effort. A special thanks and note of appreciation to Program Managers and Employees of the Tribe for their assistance and dedication in our continued group effort toward accomplishing our goal.

dedication in our continued group effort toward accomplishing our goal. If you have any questions or needs, please call 405-275-4030 ext 162 and I will be glad to assist you.

Respectfully,

Belinda Collins Controller

FINANCIAL CONSULTANT'S

Hello Tribal Members, Our 72nd Semi-Annual General Council Meeting of October 2013 has come and gone, with a very good turn-out being reported. The office of Treasurer was well represented with table of informative financial information. Tribal members were given a chance to win a drawing of \$50 Wal-Mart gift card for completing an AST Economic Development survey, as of this writing we had 49 completed surveys and results will be forth coming. Office of Treasurer would like to take this time to thank tribal members for coming by our table and completing our survey.

The following activities I have been involved and participated:

Financial Reports: Reviewed monthly encumbrance financial reports for General Fund and Indirect Cost.

Absentee Shawnee Economic Development Authority, Inc. (ASEDA): At our recent October meeting two companies Symbiotic Aquaponic, LLC and Business Growth Consulting both gave presentations to board members present. Symbiotic Aquaponic presentation began with "What is Aquaponics"? Aquaponics is a form of non-traditional agriculture that uses recirculating water system to raise and harvest all-natural plants and fish together in a symbiotic environment.

Symbiotic Aquaponic, LLC presented a live demonstration and answered questions on the aquaponic process and operation outside the eastside of Building #2.



Business Growth Consulting with offices in Oklahoma City, New York City and Dallas Fort Worth gave a presentation on an opportunity to workwith ASEDA board of directors in partnership of developing a business development plan and marketing our tribal business incentives in an effort to form mutual beneficial economic development relationships. Our next ASEDA board meeting is scheduled

for Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in building #2, tribal members and Executive Committee are welcome to attend open meeting.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT Absentee Shawnee Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) **Program**



The office of Treasurer is sponsoring a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program in partnership with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for tribal members of the community. The AST VITA program will place emphasis on Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Care Credit components and targeted towards low income families with children Adjusted Gross Income (AGI < \$58,000). We are currently recruiting volunteer screeners, volunteer tax preparers to assist in our operations. All volunteers must be trained and certified to an "Advanced Level" for return preparation.

So if you are interested in becoming a VOLUNTEER and making a difference in our tribal community please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder at 405-275-4030 x 148 or eddieb@astribe.com.

Absentee Shawnee Community Development Financial Institute (CDFI)



BREAKING NEWS

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe was recently awarded a technical assistance grant from the office of Treasury in Washington, D.C. in the amount of \$92,290. Since the Federal Government shutdown and now is re-open for business we were told forthcoming is our grant award and instructions on how we modify our budget. At the same time we are developing articles

of incorporation and by-laws that will conform to developing a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation to place our CDFI program. Also, we are developing our board of directors and will be in the process of hiring an Executive Director who is charged to create lending policies and procedures and creation of development services such as financial literacy and business development training/coaching and forming of a loan committee. Our Native CDFI program will focus on two loan products:

- ➤ Credit Builder Loans
- > Business Builder Loans

If you are interested in more information on our AST CDFI program, please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder at 275-4030 x 148 or eddieb@astribe.com. First Nations L.E.A.D. Institute Conference: Recently attended 18 Annual First Nations conference which featured people from many states, numerous non-profits, tribal foundation, companies and other organizations. The conference focused on Nonprofit Capacity Building, Native Economic Development and Native Agriculture and Food Systems. Attending this meeting allowed me to network with individuals that can assist our tribe in nonprofit, foundation, agriculture and food systems develop processes.

In closing, the office of Treasurer and I are excited for opportunities and services that will be beneficial to our people and will improve the overall quality of life in our tribal community.

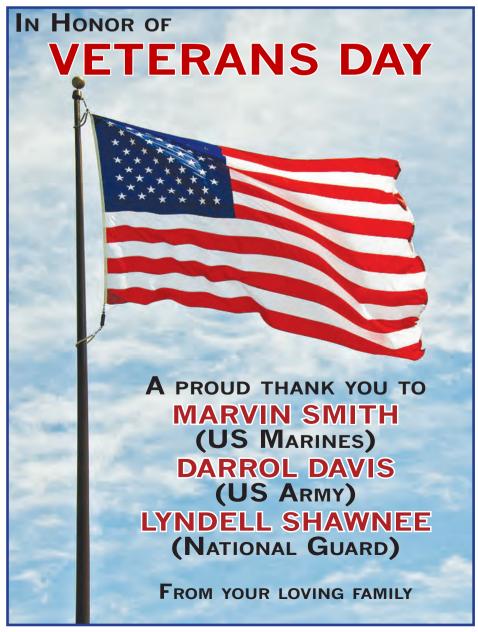
Respectfully.

Eddie Brokeshoulder Financial Consultant

AST CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE SEEKING VOLUNTEER TRIBAL MEMBERS

Are you interested in participating and being a part of a better tomorrow?

Are you an Elder or Youth willing to better the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, if so please contact: Eddie Brokeshoulder at 405-275-4030 x 148 or eddieb@astribe.com



Scenes From The Halloween Safety Carnival At Tribal Complex October 13, 2013

































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



AN ABSENTEE SHAWNEE ENTERPRISE

NOVEMBER NEWS...

I would like to introduce myself to everyone that does not know me. My name is Billie Thompson and I am the new Director at Building Blocks. I am very excited to be here! I'm still in the process of getting to know the children and families, but they, as well as the staff, have all made me feel very welcome. I have been assessing many areas of the center, such as staff concerns, employee policies, and center organization. We are definitely making improvements in a positive direction. Our open house was on Thursday, Oct. 17th and it was a huge success!! The teachers made each child a portfolio that consisted of information regarding the child's current developmental level, current classroom interests, recent art work, and information about the teacher. The children were so proud to have their own 'books' to show to their parents/grandparents. Families were also given a bag of resource information to include stress relief activities, poison control numbers, positive behavior & guidance ideas, a book to help deal with childhood illnesses, among many other topics. We also provided a large variety of delicious refreshments that the children and families really enjoyed!

We had a cleaning day on Saturday, Oct. 19th to thoroughly clean the center, rearrange classrooms, purge the facility of old/broken toys, and replenish classrooms with new materials. This was much needed!

Other dates to remember:

November 11: We will be closed for Veteran's Day

November 26: Thanksgiving lunch for Building Blocks children & families at 11:30am

November 27–29: We will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday

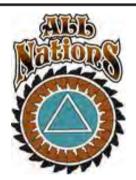
I would like to thank all of the Building Blocks staff for working so hard on the open house and for participating in the cleaning day, not to mention the hard work you all exhibit daily in caring for the children.

Many of you have proven your commitment to making our center a better place for the children and families.

Thank you,

Billie Thompson

Building Blocks Director



4th Annual **All Nations Rally**

November 8-9, 2013

Featuring Jamie R., Tulsa, OK Rustie M., Lawton, OK Donna A., Norman, OK Dina C., Albuquerque, NM

Cedar Smudging Ceremony, Native Flute Playing Sobriety & Serenity Countdowns, Flashlight

Meeting, oad of Happy Destiny" Bingo,

Indian Tacos, Indian Corn Soup w/Frybread, **Morning Meditation**,

OU/OSU/Thunder Tipi Raffles, Shirts/Hoodies for sale. Sobriety Ribbons

> Quartz Mountain Resort www.quartzmountainresort.com 22469 Lodge Road, Lone Wolf, OK 73655, 877-999-5567 Rooms \$79 until October 18, 2013

The 2013 All Nations	Rally Voice is Scott H., Edm	ond Group, Edmond, OK
Friday Evening	Saturday	Saturday Evening
	Morning/Afternoon	,
Registration opens @5	Meditation	Flute Playing
Hospitality Room Opens	Speaker, Rustie M. @ 9	Sobriety Countdown
Indian Tacos	Newcomer Spkrs @1030	Serenity Countdown
Flute Playing	Lunch	Speaker, Dina C. @8
Cedar Smudging	Long Timers @1	Tipi Raffles
Speaker, Jamie R. @ 8	Speaker, Donna A. @ 3	Closing
Flashlight Meeting	Indian Corn w/frybread	Night Owl Bingo
Sunday Morning @ 9 - W	rap Up Meeting to elect 201	4 ANR Planning Committee

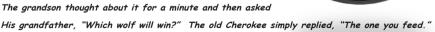
Registration \$20.00 (Pre-registrations will be included in drawing for OKC Thunder Tipi
Name (Please Print):
Address:
Email Address:
Would you like to donate to hospitality room? If so, how much?

A Message brought to you by the Absentee Shawnee Behavioral Health Department

A Native American tale told many times

An old Cherokee is teaching his grandson about life.

"A fight is going on inside me," he said to the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil - he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, Arrogance self-pity quilt resentment inferiority lies False pride, superiority, and ego." He continued. "The Other is good - he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, Humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, Truth, compassion, and faith. The same fight is going on Inside you - and inside every other person, too.



October is National Bullving Prevention Month

Here are Signs of Bullying

Unexplainable injuries

Lost or destroyed clothing, books, electronics, or jewelry

Frequent headaches or stomach aches, feeling sick or faking illness

Changes in eating habits, like suddenly skipping meals or binge eating. Kids may come home from school

hungry because they did not eat lunch.

Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares

Declining grades, loss of interest in schoolwork, or not wanting to go to school

Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situation

Feelings of helplessness or decreased self esteem

Self-destructive behaviors such as running away from home, harming themselves, or talking about suicide





This month my spotlight employee is the entire staff within the Building Blocks Center!!!!! I would like to recognize all of the teachers, cooks, floaters, van drivers, the assistant director and director for all their hard work. The Center staff provides a structured curriculum, fun activities and a clean, safe environment for the children to daily enjoy within the Building Blocks Learning Center. The employees play a vital and supportive role to and for our children who attend the center. On Saturday, October 19, 2013, employees voluntarily cleaned all the toys and their classrooms. The Governor's office provided pizza and soda. The pizza and soda were donated by Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Governor.

Let's Build For the Future (BFF)!

GOVERNORS SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE

Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe will be working with the six program department that she has oversight over and will monthly select an employee that is deemed to have contributed to their program and to the Absentee Shawnee tribe. The attributes to be considered are: Contributions to the community and the Tribe; leadership; performance and work ethic; teamwork. It is the intent of the Governor to recognize tribal employees who do a remarkable job and might not otherwise get recognized for their contributions. This special employee recognition program will be highlighted under my Office as the SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH program.

BUILDING BLOCKS STAFF BIOS

Alvina Barnes

Master Teacher for a 2 year old room, employed with BB for almost 3 years.

Liz Crawford

Teacher for the School age room, employed with BB for 2 months currently but was employed for a year previously.

Tammy Dennison

Master Teacher for one of the Toddler rooms, employed with BB for over 7 years.

Dakota Factor

Master Teacher for the 4 year old room, employed with BB for a year.

Amy Farley

Master Teacher for one of the Toddler rooms, employed with BB for over 2 years.

Shalynn Flanagan

Floater for the center, employed with BB for 6 months.

Ashley Fletcher

Master Teacher for a 2 year old room, employed with BB for one year.

Skye Foreman

Asst. Teacher for a Toddler room, employed with BB for 3 months.

Audrey Hedge

Master Teacher for a 3 year old room, employed with BB for 7 months.

Sierra McNear

Floater for the center, employed with BB for 2 months.

Rebecca Pickard

Floater for the center, employed with BB for 10 months.

Tara Redbird

Floater for the center, employed with BB for 5 months.

Glenda Sanders

Master Teacher for the Infant room, employed with BB for 5 months.

Julia Serena

Master Teacher for the School age room, employed with BB for 6 years.

Lindsay Shawnee

Floater for the center, employed with BB for almost 2 months.

Sherrie Sheppard

Food Prep Specialist for the center, employed with BB for 2 years.

Savannah Stacy

Master Teacher for a 3 year old room, employed with BB for 3 years.

Billie Thompson

Director for the center, employed with BB for a month.

Briana Ponkilla

Project Coordinator, employed with BB for almost 3 months.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTIONS THROUGH OCTOBER 21, 2013

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:

E-AS-13-83 10/02/13

Agrees to the appointment of and payment to Larry D. Ottaway as Co-Arbitrator on the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma tobacco compact dispute with the State of Oklahoma; authorizes and approves the Arbitration Retainer Agreement (attached); and designates Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe as the Tribal official with the signature authority to execute the contract on behalf of the Tribe, effective immediately.

E-AS-13-84 10/02/13

Agrees to the appointment of and payment to Shannon Jones as local attorney on the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma adoption/juvenile case in South Carolina; authorizes and approves the negotiated Retainer Agreement in substantial form (attached); designates the Attorney General to finalize remaining details of the Retainer Agreement with Ms. Jones, and further designates Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe as the Tribal official with the signature authority to execute the contract on behalf of the Tribe, effective immediately.

E-AS-13-85 10/02/13

Approves the reappointment of Governor Edwina Butler-Wolfe and Vera M. Dawsey to the Board of Directors of the Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area (CTSA).

E-AS-13-86 10/21/13

Agrees to join the amicus brief to be filed by Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP, in the case of Michigan v. Bay Mills Indian Community, and authorizes the contribution by the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of up to \$5,000 toward the costs of preparing the amicus brief.

E-AS-13-87 10/21/13

Accepts Vanessa Lynn Yoder, William Hunter Kirby, Robert Wesley Bryant, Jr., Andrea Gail Mooneyham, Raizo Alexander Young, Brooklyn Pearl Shawnee, Jaylee Anne Shawnee, Noah Lee Kernell, Braisley Saranda Key, Mariana Lillian Blanchard, Angela Kay Mondragon, James Andrew Houston, Dezmond Solomon Augustine, Kalanii Marie Marshall, Maeliah Lachelle Shawnee and Jazlynn Shae Hartfield as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

E-AS-13-88 10/21/13

Grants voluntary relinquishment of membership of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to Geraldlain Jon Leroy provided that she is accepted into the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

E-AS-13-89 10/21/13

Grants voluntary relinquishment of membership of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to Violet Joyce White provided she is accepted into the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

E-AS-13-90 10/21/13

Approves the re-appointment of Jenifer Sloan for a two (2) year term expiring October 31, 2015, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

E-AS-13-91 10/21/13

Approves the reappointment of Jackie Denny to the Absentee Shawnee Foster Care Licensing Committee for a two (2) year term expiring October 31, 2015, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

E-AS-13-92 10/21/13

Approves the appointment of Augustine Johnson to the Absentee Shawnee Foster Care Licensing Committee for a two (2) year term expiring October 31, 2015, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

E-AS-13-93 10/21/13

Approves the selection of Bledsoe & Associates, P.L.L.C. to complete the Absentee Shawnee Tribe 2013, 2014, and 2015 Annual Audits in accordance with the terms outlined in the Audit Engagement Letters, and hereby authorizes Kathy Deere, Treasurer of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, and Edwina Butler Wolfe, Governor of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe, to sign the Audit Engagement Letters agreeing to the selection of Bledsoe & Associates, P.L.L.C. for the 2013, 2014, and 2015 Annual Audits of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

E-AS-13-94 10/21/13

Authorizes the negotiation and purchase of the original allotment of Charley Starr, AS 201-C, described as surface and surface rights only in a tract of land located in the SW/4 NE/4 of Section 4, Township 9 North, Range 4 East of the Indian Meridian, Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma containing 40.00 acres, more or less, with the negotiated purchase price not to exceed ten (10%) percent of its appraised price being allocated from the revenue of General Fund.

FY-2013 YTD TAX COLLECTIONS (thru 8/31/13)

TAX Category	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	YEAR-TO-DATE Total	% OF TAXES	
Sales (6%)	\$5,320.89	\$5,961.53	\$10,318.20	\$5,250.35	\$6,199.63	\$5,694.53 \$10,621.	7 \$1,015.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,381.46	1.97%	
Gaming % of free cash	\$414,328.00	\$408,888.00	\$225,370.00	\$224,409.00	\$0.00	\$258,496.00 \$368,744.	00 \$260,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,160,235.00	84.47%	
Employee (1%)	\$29,238.39	\$4,799.87	\$4,314.16	\$20,146.42	\$11,097.65	\$11,469.05 \$8,437.	34 \$736.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,239.82	3.53%	
Severance (8%)	\$15,812.22	\$5,128.09	\$0.00	\$21,426.59	\$12,234.71	\$0.00 \$19,054.	\$10,289.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$83,945.90	3.28%	
Motor Vehicle	\$14,481.54	\$13,521.61	\$15,001.64	\$13,851.28	\$13,034.02	\$0.00 \$14,605.)8 \$13,974.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$98,469.32	3.85%	
Tobacco Refund	\$10,087.72	\$12,244.26	\$8,474.55	\$9,091.57	\$11,494.05	\$10,776.45 \$9,807.	70 \$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71,976.30	2.81%	
TOTAL TAXES	\$489,268.76	\$450,543.36	\$263,478.55	\$294,175.21	\$54,060.06	\$286,436.03 \$431,269.	\$286,015.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,555,247.80		\$2
Miscellaneous	\$970.00	\$250.00	\$106.75	\$230.00	\$155.00	\$0.00 \$140.	00 \$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,021.75	0.08%	
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$490,238.76	\$450,793.36	\$263,585.30	\$294,405.21	\$54,215.06	\$286,436.03 \$431,409.	38 \$286,185.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,557,269.55	100%	\$2

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA) PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Greeter/Screener Tax Preparer Make A Difference:

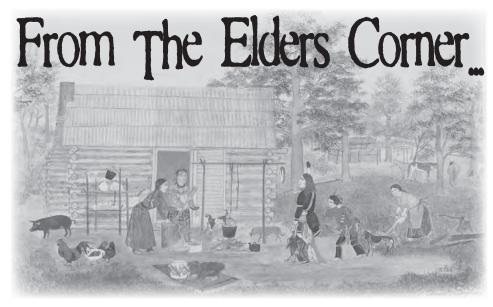
As a volunteer, you'll interact directly with people who need help in preparing their own tax returns at no cost to them. don't know much about taxes? The IRS will provide the necessary training to become a certified volunteer based on position you choose. **THE HOURS ARE FLEXIBLE, THE TRAINING IS FREE, AND TIME COMMITMENT IS MINIMAL.**

If you are interested in becoming a **VOLUNTEER** please contact Eddie Brokeshoulder at 405-275-4030 x 148 or eddieb@astribe.com.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO SUBMIT AN AD OR ARTICLE:
Give us a call at (405) 598-1279 or (405) 481-0558
or send us an e-mail to
stiger@astribe.com

ALLARTICLES FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE ARE DUE BY THE 20TH OF THE CURRENT MONTH

Unfortunately, we can only accept one picture per birthday person, not per birthday wish.



By: Cynthia Longhorn, Council Secretary

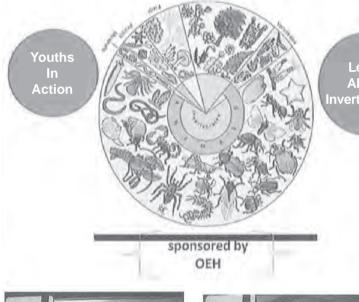
The Absentee Shawnee Elders Council met for the regular monthly meeting on Saturday, October 19, 2013 at the Title VI Building on the Tribal complex in Shawnee. All officers were present, they include; Dan Little Axe, Sr. President; Mary Birdtail, Vice--President; Betty Watson, Treasurer and Cynthia Longhorn, Secretary. A quorum was had with nineteen Elders and seven guests. The invocation was offered by Gerry Roller. David Little, Jr. was only Elder present to celebrate a birthday this month. A limited agenda was proposed this day in order to allow Tribal members to participate in traditional events at Tribal grounds in Little Axe area.

- 1. Yellow Rose Dinner Theatre trip planned for Saturday, October 26th was the first item of discussion. A sign up list for event had been compiled since the last meeting and details were discussed. Vans to transport Elders will be available and departure sites and time was heard. Reservations have been made for an estimated forty--five (45) member group.
- 2. Veterans Day Pow Wow set for Saturday, November 16,2013 was the second item of discussion. This date had been agreed upon by both the Elders Council ant the AST Vets. Site for this event is St. Gregory's University in Shawnee. Secretary Longhorn informed the members present that Council offers had met with Mr. Dillon Byrd, General Manager of Thunderbird Casino and a donation had been secured and volunteers and donations are still needed. During discussion, it was heard that the AST Vets will pay one-half the rental cost of the facility for the event.
- 3. Elders sponsoring the July 4,2014 Pow Wow at Thunderbird Casino--was the third item brought up for discussion at this time. President Little Axe stated that during recent discussions with Mr. Byrd, it was suggested that the Elders Council consider taking over this event and hopefully generate funds that will enable the Council to continue in a manner they wish in having a Veterans Day dance and/or event in 2014. After some discussion and comments, a motion to that effect was made by Wanda Tiger and seconded by Sadie Low. More information and details will be discussed in the future.

The donation from the Council this date was \$47.00, the door prize drawing of \$20 cash (provided by Council officers) was won by Mary Birdtail. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. with birthday cake for David Little, Jr. being served to those still in attendance following the meeting.

The next Council meeting is set for Saturday, November 9, 2013 Site will be made known prior to that date as Resource Center is still undergoing repair and improvements. Brendle Corner or Warrior Room in Thunderbird Casino are likely sites for next meeting.

 $For questions \ or \ comments \ on \ anything \ in \ this \ meeting \ summary, \ please \ feel \ free \ to \ call \ Cynthia \ Longhorn, \ Council \ Secretary \ at \ (405) \ 273-4137.$











OEH WORKS WITH AST YOUTHS

OEH had the pleasure to work with the Absentee Shawnee Youths this summer. It is part of Water Quality staff to introduce different invertebrates that are in the ambient water as part of the outreach program. At one event at the MSPI youth camp, the participants learn about the invertebrates on the land and water, depending on what kind of invertebrates found in the water will determine the water quality. The youths collected the insects near the camp and drew it, with a \$50.00 certificate would be granted for 1st Place. Sherman Tiger, media director, donated the awards certificates for the top winners.

The OEH staff used Title VI building to display the art work and the Seniors help to judge the photos. It turned out to have four top winners, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place winners. All ten participants were winners.

Acknowledgements

Youth participants
MSPI Youth Camp
Title VI/Seniors
The Absentee Shawnee News

NOVEMBER

MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Biscuit Sausage Gravy Scrambled Eggs	2
TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR!!!!	Chicken Salad Sandwich Lett, Tom Chips/ Mac Salad Pears	5 Roast Red Pot. Carrots Roll Jell-O w Fruit	6 Meatloaf Mashed Pot/Gravy Green Beans Bread Pudding	7 Salmon Patties Veggies Bread Salad Bar*	8 French Toast Sausage Patty Fruit	9
10	11 Veterans Day AST Complex Closed	12 Chicken Strips Mashed Pot/Gravy Green Beans Bread Applesauce	Tamales Spanish Rice Refried Beans Crisp	14 Stew Cornbread Cinnamon Rolls	15 Oatmeal Bacon Toast	16
17	Cold Cut Sandwich Lett, Tom, Veggie Soup Fruit	Taco Casserole Tossed Salad* Chips & Salsa	20 Ham Black-eyed Peas Dressing/Gravy Rolls Pie	White Beans w/ ham Cornbread Steak fries Peaches	22 Scrambled Eggs Biscuit Sausage Gravy	23
24	25 Hamburger Lett, Tom, Pickles Pot. Salad Apricots	26 Cereal Boiled Egg Sausage Patty Fruit	27 Title VI Closed Attending Employee Thanksgiving Dinner	Happy Th	anksgiving	30

NOT GOING TO BE HOME LET US KNOW AT 405-275-4030 EXT 169 OR NOTIFY YOUR DRIVER LUNCH SERVED MONDAY – THURSDAY 11AM TO 1PM

BREAKFAST SERVED ON FRIDAYS 9AM TO 11AM

NOVEMBER 2013

Title VI wishes everyone a very blessed and safe Thanksgiving. Spend time with family and friends make each moment a precious memory.

November 3, REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR!!!

November 11, Veterans Day, AST Complex will be closed and there will be no lunch served or delivered.

November 27, Title VI will be closed to attend our Employee Thanksgiving Dinner; homebound will receive a sack lunch for this day on November 26.

November 28 & 29, AST complex will be closed for Thanksgiving & Title VI will not be serving or delivering lunch.

If you have any questions or concerns you can contact us at 405-275-4030 ext. 149 or 169.

appy Thanksgivi

From the Title VI Staff

2013 ABSENTEE SHAWNEE FITNESS CHALLENGE











CONGRATULATIONS

1ST KARA LOWE 2ND BARBARA SPOON **3RD DEBRA NANAETO**

Not pictured (Barbara Spoon)

WINNERS!!!

1ST BLAKE GOODMAN 2ND BRANDON GOODMAN **3RD MOOSE BLANCHARD**

my cholesterol is normal."

"It kept me motivated! Without it, I probably would not have stayed focused on a healthy lifestyle."

"I am more aware of what I eat. I eat healtheir than before. I cut out soda and drink a lot more water."

"Leat healtheier and eat smaller portions. CONGRATULATIONS "The challenge brought me awareness of TRIBAL MEMBERS AND Calories consumed vs. calories burned." **EMPLOYEES!**

"I sleep better at night."

"I exercise more often. I eat healthier. I keep track of what I am eating and how many calories I am burning."

A SPECIAL **THUNDERBIRD** CASINO!

THANK YOU TO 289.6 TOTAL POUNDS LOST IN THE FINAL QUARTER!!!









The AST Fitness Program would like to extend an invite to all tribal members looking to increase their levels of physical activity and learn more about fitness and exercise. The AST Fitness Facility at the Resource Center is fully equipped with state of the art treadmills, elliptical machines, stationary cycles, dumbbells, isolation strength machines, and a cable machine. Our facility is also equipped with freestanding striking bags, medicine balls, exercise balls, fitness mats, resistance bands, BOSU balls, and other various exercise apparatus for your preferred workout. The AST Fitness Program currently provides free fitness classes to all tribal members. Classes include: Kickboxing, Circuit Training, Chair Exercise, Tai Chi, Boot camp, and Aerobic Fitness. The AST Fitness Program is here to help you get started on increasing your levels of physical activity and exercise. We invite you to come visit our fitness facility and see what our fitness program can provide for you.







AST Fitness Facility Hours

Monday through Thursday 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Saturday/Sunday **CLOSED** 405-364-7298









NOVEMBER 2015 BIRTHDAYS

Aguinaga, Jessika Lyn Aguinaga, Julia Dawn Aguirre, Daniel Enrique Alexander, Tammy Lynn Alford, Glen Tecumseh Alford, Reagan Elizabeth Alford, Rebecca Marie Alford, Thaddeus Ethan Alvarez, Amanda Leigh Anderson, Darlene Alberta Araujo, Jonathan Jose Arms, Cameron Blake Arms, Dakota James Atwell, Danielle Elyse Baker, Makaiah Lashaun Balch, Emily Twila Kay Banning, Carole Sue Bates, Casey Mae Bettelyoun, Cathern Mae Marie Bible, Jessica Ranae Billie, Kathrine Blanchard, Ashlynn Shay Blanchard, Cayanna Dee Blanchard, John Michael Blanchard, Lisa Ann Blanchard, Matthew Ryan Blanchard, Norman Neal Blocker, Bailey Marie Boatman, Mark James Boston, Carl Kent Box. Jodie Gayle Bradley, William Lee Brandon, Sean Patrick Breeding, Joshua Adam Brewer, Rockey Darren Brinson, Allen William Brokeshoulder, Rita Gayle Brown, Keyondre Duane Brown, Shandalyn Shermain Bryant, Lorraine Morton Bryce, Emily Danielle Buckheart, Felise Maria Bump Jr., Richard Dewitt Campbell, Lousetta Spriggs Carolina, Jammie Leann Carter, Andrea Dawn Caudillo, Robert Lee Chisholm, Cole Nathanial Clark, Gerald Raymond Collett, Dillon Wayne Colungo, Antonio Joaquin Creek, Kaydence Rae Crossley, Joseph Tyner Crow, Anabeth Sophia Ximara Crow, Randon Matthew Danner, Latonia Marie Davis, Eli Joel Davis, Hannah Starr Davis, Kayelah Janea Blair Day, Darnell Ann

Deere, Karena Louise Detwiler, Tanya Elaine Dietrich, Tricia Lynn Dodds, Cody Ralph Donnahoe, Leah Jane Doussett, Flossie Jean Spoon Doussett, Gabriella Diane Draper Jr., Russell Lee Drywater, Sherry Lyn Duboise, Rebecca Kay Eckiwardy, Selena Monica Eckiwardy, Victoria Destiny Edwards-Fletcher, Atheda Edwards, Chet Edwards, Cutke Lashelle R. Ellis Mahardy, Paul Samuel Ellis, Phillip Steven Ellis, Scott R. Foreman, Robert Wade Foreman, Thomas Henry Fuentez, Ariana Yasmine Garretson, Christopher P. Gibson, Anthony Duane Gibson, Dante' Jamison Gibson, Pamela Ann Gibson, Wilfred Lew Goombi II, John Duane Goss, Melody Naomi Gower, Jon Paul Gray, Jared Christapher Gray, Jeffrey David Greenfield, Precious Dawn Guttmann, Rosemary (Bradley) Hadjiconstantinou, Brent Christopher Hale, Alisha Marie Harjo, Brittany Marie Harjo, Jacqueline Rhea Harjo, Tawanna Jo Harman, Amy Marie Harp, Tara Rae Harris, Kallie Dahn Harvey, Ronnie Troy Hatcher, Donald Ray Haumpy, Olivia Huerta Haumpy, Zaylee Jew'el Hayes Ponkilla, Briana Cynthia Heisley, Robert Egan Hemphill, Justin Travis Hernandez, Isabella Lois Herrera Jr., Ruben Pilar Hicks, Emily Nicole Hood, Allison Rachelle Hood, Stefanie Michelle Hopper, Deborah Ann Houston, Sherry Lynn Humphrey, Jo Lynne Isaacs, Jon Edwin Jacobs, Tiffanie Marie Johnson Stephenson, Alyssa Cyndel

Johnson, Anthony David

Johnson, Evan Ryan Johnson, Jackie Dean Johnson, Jaylin Lee Johnson, Michael Thomas Johnson, Nizhoni Naim River Johnson, Rayanna Kay Jones, Easton Allen Kaniatobe, Guy Eliot Kaseca Jr., Frank Linn Keith, Joni Cheryl Keith, Lisa Gaye Kilmer, Cheyenne Lashell Kilmer, Kayla Marlene Kinnamon Andersen, Sherri Kaye Larney, Patti Mae Larney, Walter Lee LaSarge, Clarence James Leath, Timothy Coates Leitka, Devin Lance Limon Jr., Richard Martin Limon, Jocelyn Marie Lindsay, Seth Ryan Little Axe Sr., Troy Lee Little Axe, Brandon James Little Axe, Katherine Pauline Little Axe, Paiden Taylor Little Bear, Newman Little Charley, Buck Little Charley, Kieri Leeann Little Charley, Rebecca Ann Little Creek, Lindsey Denise Little Creek, Lynda Carol Little Jim, Caleb Frank Little Jim, Clint Jason Little, Dee Ann Little, Lisa Ann Littlebear, Clifford Newman Littlebear, Josheau Alan Littlecreek, Lily Ann Marie Littlecreek, Sammi Louise Littlehead, William Bill Loeks, Betty Lou Marx Logan, Terri (Sloat) Longhorn, Joel Boyd Longman Jr., Henry Daniel Lovins, Garrett Scot Lowrance, Eaan Zane Mack, Darrin Wayne Mann, Loretta Lynn Mann-Shopteese, Wanda Gayle Martin, Skyla Reyann Martin, Tiffany Ann Martinez, Clayton Dale Martinez, Tiana Rae Masquas, Jeanlene McBride, Allison Lorraine McBride, Marshall Dylan McBride, Travis Eugene

McGonigal, Michael Shawn McGuire II, Wayne Lloyd Megehee, Sheyenne Nicole Miller, Charles Ray Miller, Kayci Dawn Mills. Barbara Gail Mills, Lindsey Gayle Minnck Larney, Kayla Leeann Mitchell, Meegan Mohawk, Joni Marie Montgomery, Stephany Sky Moore, Sophia-Marie Linda Morlan, Derek Thomas Morris, Miracle Marie Morton, James Cristian Morton, Rebecca Lynn Muench, Rose Ann Musick, Charles A. Musick, Charles Randall Nail, Andrea Elaine New Moon, Jessica Lynn Nice Jr., Jonathon Lee Ortiz, Isaiah Faustino Panther Jr., Donald Eric Parker, Whitney La Rae Perez-Vargas, Joel Encarnacion Pitner-Panther, Eliazbeth La Rayne Ponkilla, Mary Frances Ponkilla, Sharon Renee Raadmae, Tina Nicole Ramirez, Tiffany Elyse Reed, Mary Ann Richard, Frances Ann Roberts, Siera Brooke Robertson, Velisa Allyn Robinson, Sieanna Gail Robison, Laynee Elizabeth Salazar, John Thomas Santa Cruz, Briana Danae Schoenebaum, Daxton Ryder Sherod, Daemon Marcus Shields, Brent Fremond Siemon, Hudson Kennedy Sinks, Robert Elmer Sloat, Amanda Renee Sloat, Jami Lynn Smith, Alfred L. Smith, Anna Mae Smith, Carolina Elizabeth Smith, Garett Allen Snakeman, Sandra Kay Soap, Taziah Jayson Lee Spoon, Ariana Nicole Spoon, Christopher Scott Spoon, Joel Lee Spoon, Tresha Dawn Squire, Lauresa Cerise

Squire, Michael Lee

Stacy, Daelin Shey

Stewart, Arvel Eugene

Stinger, Elizabeth Juanita Stoliby, Daniel A. Stone, Heide Nichole Stuckey, Wade Dexter Switch, McKenzie Ranee Switch, Michael Dwight Taylor, Ryan Aaden Thorpe, Gary Allen Thorpe, Iris Nahla Tiger, Dion Anthony Tiger, Joseph Little Chief Tiger, Nakota Cotcha Tilley, Nelson Vaughn Tyner Jr., Daniel Ray Tyner, Michael Roy Upman, Belva Ann Vasquez, Makai Isaiah Villalobos, Francisco Javier Voyles, Devin Robert Wakley, Stacy Ann Wakolee, Garry Lavar Wakolee, Jerry Lamar Walker, Kurtis Robert Walker, Ty Dewayne Owen Wallis, Coltin Bryan Wallis, Dawn Marie Warrior, Aaron Duane Warrior, Debra Faye Wasley, Mandella Dawn Watson, Brent Randall Watson, Gavin Layn Watson, McKenna Ann Webb, Paul Kenneth Werst, Nelda Jayne Westberry, Justin Doyle White Jr., Robert White, Daniel Lee White, Dustin Lee Wilburn, Sonya Leigh Wilkerson, Dorotha Fallon Williams, Anfernee Isiah Williams, Ella Ann Williams, Erik Braden Williams, Heath Jared Williams, Katharine Melina Williams, Nathan Barrett Wilson, Isaac Lane Wilson, Joseph Scott Wilson, Savannah Colette Wilson-Ongaco, Tristen Xavier Wolfe, Stormy Ray Wolfe, Tina Marie Wyatt, Ashley Dawn Yandell, Raymond Lloyd

McEwin, Henry Bill

McGirt, Ricky Lee





Makaiah Baker

We love you! Momma, Papa and Nana. Aunt Becca. Darrol and the boys.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Anna Smith,

Keilani Tahah

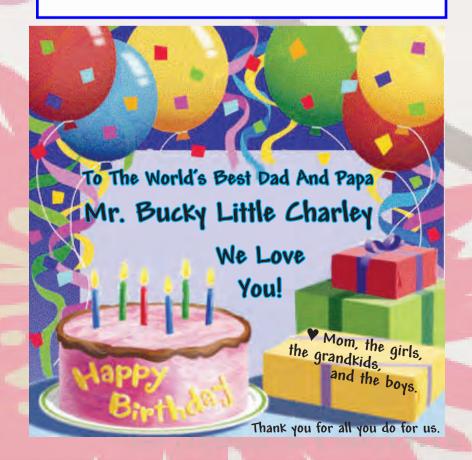
& Eli Davis



From









HORSE SHOE BEND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM NOVEMBER 2013 NEWS



The tutors at the Horse Shoe Bend after school program have been working hard with students on their homework assignments. As the holidays get closer and the first semester of school is close to an end, students will be having more activities and homework. I would like to thank Stuart Rolette and Randall Watson for stepping up to making sure this program is functioning on its daily operation. And, I also extend a 'thank you' to each of our tutors from Oklahoma Baptist University and Seminole State College because without them our program wouldn't work.

We are looking at finding additional grant funding for other after school programs and it will take time some time to set up two more centers with one being in Shawnee and the other in Little Axe. As many may be aware there is a great need for programs of this type for our youth to be given tutoring support



on their school studies. During my recent attendance at the National Congress of American Indians in Tulsa, I met with the Seminole Nation tribal leader and we will be exploring mutually beneficial tutorial service opportunities in the near future.

On October 12, 2013, David McAfee placed 1st in the White Turkey 5K Run. This is his second year to win first place. **CONGRATULATIONS, DAVIDUM**

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

If you should have any questions pertaining to this program please call 405-481-0397.

Edwina Butler-Wolfe

Governor

Coach pitch 7 and under.

My son James Wallace (Tribal Member) scored the winning run for the Shawnee Scorpions.

First year to play fall ball.

The team is 8-0 this fall season.

So proud of my lil man!

Tambi Parish (Tribal member)



LITTLE AXE AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAMS

Due to a loss of funding from a grant previously held by the Tribe, the after school tutoring program at the Little Axe Resource center started October 7th rather than at the beginning of the school year. First, we would like to thank the Governor and the rest of the Executive Committee for ensuring our programs will continue in the Little Axe area. Our program is open to enrolled tribal students in grades K-5 and open to all students in grades 6th-12th.

We currently have 3 staff members, two interns who are currently going to college and the Coordinator who has a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in Education. We currently have a few students enrolled and have been working with the school to advertise and get information to students who need it. We are in the process of working with Little Axe High School to get a few volunteers for the program. Also we are trying to work with the University of Oklahoma to get some Education majors as volunteers. Our program provides tutoring and assistance in any subject area and does its best to meet each student's learning needs. We also cover prevention topics and teach healthy lifestyles. The program runs Monday-Thursday from 3pm-6pm and will be open for the remainder of the school year.

We also offer a Diversion Program. This program has been set up with Little Axe Schools to give students who get into trouble an alternative to long term punishment or suspension. This program is open to anyone who would like to participate. It is designed to teach youth life skills, specifically mental life skills, such as becoming better communicators, learning about relationships and boundaries, violence and anger management, rules and laws, problem solving and decision making. The program takes place at the Little Axe Resource Center. The program requires parent and youth attendance to help facilitate a better relationship. This program is 8 sessions and has a very flexible schedule. Typically we run the program Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6pm-8:30pm.

Our AST Youth Council is a free program and open to any students in middle school and high school. We hold youth council meetings each month. Our meetings take place at the AST complex in Shawnee one Saturday a month from 10am-12pm. Usually, we meet once a month and we try to take one trip or have an activity every other month. We are focusing on teaching the youth how to give back to their community as well as trying to encourage them to look at their educational opportunities for the future.

If you or your youth are interested in any of these programs or opportunities please contact Tresha Spoon, 275-4030 ext 121, or Blake Goodman, 364-7569, and they can answer any questions you have.

To: Tribal Members From: Election Commission Date: September 12, 2013 Re: Challenges Facing the Election Commission

FUNDING

Within the past few years, the Commission has experienced a continual decrease in its budget. This has resulted in the Commission's office hours being reduced to 8 hours a week. The office hours are from 1 to 5 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Currently, the 2013 budget proposed by the Executive Committee barely met the Commission's required operational hours for the election process (i.e. being open during periods mandated by the Election Ordinance such as filing and protest periods). These hours equal 376 hours (\$6219.04). The budget provided \$6880.00, this left \$660.96 for the Commission to operate for the remaining non-election periods.

The Executive Committee did adjust our budget to cover 704 hours, which allows us to operate this year on 8 hours a week. The Election Commission wants to inform tribal members that 8 hours a week are not sufficient for the Commission to conduct business. On several occasions, Commissioners had to work in the office just to meet an obligation.

The Election Ordinance provides for the GENERAL COUNCIL OR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE to establish a budget for the Election Commission. A discussion needs to be held by the General Council about setting a base budget for the Election Commission. There are two primary reasons: First, the Election Commission cannot operate independently and effectively without funding issues or conflict with the Executive Committee, and second, the Tribe's Attorney General has informed the Commission, they will not handle anything the Commission needs without fully informing or getting permission from the Executive Committee.

ORDINANCE

The Ordinance was updated in 2007 and addressed violations of the oath. The Ordinance states that any elected official be held accountable to the terms in the oath they take. If they violate their oath and are found guilty, the Ordinance specifies their judgement. We have never had a tribal member officially challenge that an elected official has violated their oath, UNTIL NOW.

TRIBAL MEMBER COMPLAINT

When a tribal member filed a complaint utilizing one of the new sections in the Ordinance, each individual Commission member had a different perspective about application of certain sections of the Ordinance, the Commission's authority, and the Commission's ability to address the complaint. The Commission agreed to seek further guidance since the Commission did not have a consensus.

The Commission asked, and subsequently met with, the Executive Committee for funding to assist in obtaining counsel to obtain a court ruling. The Commission was directed to use the Attorney General who, in turn, advised that they cannot assist us if court action resulted in actions against the Executive Committee, as they may have to represent the Executive Committee if the issue proceeded to court.

In the meantime of trying to seek funding to resolve this issue and obtain an answer for the tribal member, the Election commission used the \$500.00 budgeted for legal counsel to seek out an attorney to read the complaint. The attorney provided a written opinion that the complaint had merit. However, no attorney will proceed on this matter without a significant retainer and a commitment of complete payment before pursuing in court. Again, the \$500.00 allowed each year for legal restricts us from any action.

Following the meeting with the Executive Committee, the Commission met with the Chief Justice of the Tribal Supreme Court. The Chief Justice's suggestion was to present in court to rule on how Oath issues are to be handled. THIS PUTS THE COMMISSION BACK TO THE NEED FOR AN ATTORNEY AND NO MONEY TO HIRE ONE. This complaint has been in limbo for almost three years.

The Ordinance places the Executive Committee and the Election Commission in a conflict of interest situation. The Election commission is given the authority by the Ordinance to find an elected official guilty of violating their oath. However, the Executive Committee has the ability to withhold funds which prevents the Election Commission from seeking a guilty/not guilty ruling from the court. With this conflict, the Executive committee can assure that no elected official is found guilty of violating the oath by withholding funds for court action. It is time to address this ongoing conflict. The only way to prevent this current conflict is to utilize the Ordinance allowing General Council to establish a budget (and hence funding for an independent attorney). THE ELECTION COMMISSION IS CREATED BY THE CONSTITUTION AS A SEPARATE INDEPENDENT BODY UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE TRIBE. WE SHOULD HAVE A BASE BUDGET AND INDEPENDENT LEGAL COUNSEL TO EFFECTIVELY AND INDEPENDENTLY CONDUCT BUSINESS.

Respectfully submitted, Election Commission

Mary Birtail meraion warpenere

FROM THE ELECTION COMMISSION:

The following positions will be open for the Elections to be held in 2014.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

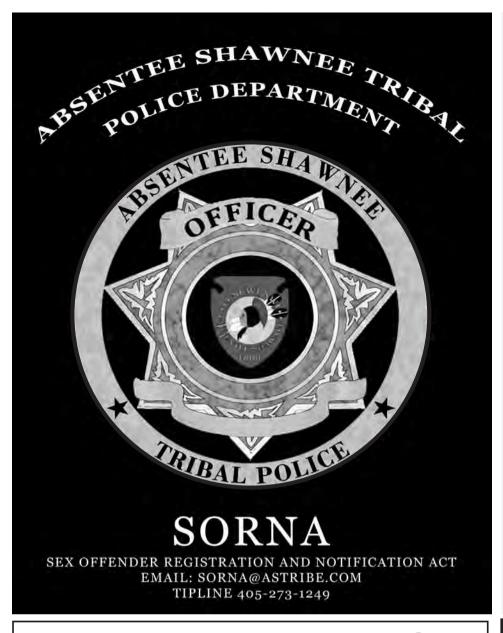
PositionFiling FeesTermLt. Governor\$500.00Two (2) YearsTribal Treasurer\$500.00Two (2) YearsTribal Representative\$500.00Two (2) Years

ELECTION COMMISSION

Position Election Commissioner Commission Member #2 Filing Fees \$ 84.00 (prorated) \$125.00 Term Two (2) Years (ends 2016) Three (3) Years

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A) An enrolled member of the tribe.
- B) An eligible voter for purposes of voting in tribal elections.
- C) Must be twenty-one (21) years of age on the date of the election for which he/she desires to be a candidate.
- D) Physically reside within the following Counties: Cleveland, Pottawatomie, Oklahoma, McClain, Garvin, Pontotoc, Seminole, Lincoln, or Okfuskee.
- E) In cases where a prospective candidate has been convicted of a felony, such person shall not be eligible for consideration as a candidate until at least five (5) years have passed following completion of the penalty for such conviction(s).
- F) Not more than (1) member of an immediate family shall be elected to the same tribal elective body except when running as a candidate for the same elective position.







AST PHARMACY NEWS

- Upcoming Pharmacy Department closures are as follows:
 - October 1, 2013 for inventory
- November 11, 2013 to observe Veteran's Day
- Deliveries of controlled medications are not allowed.
- Both Shawnee and Little Axe pharmacy locations fill prescriptions for members of all tribes, but outside prescription orders are restricted to Absentee Shawnee Tribal citizens with established charts.
- If you would like to receive a text message to your cell phone when your medications are ready for pick-up, please alert the pharmacy staff and provide us with a current cell phone number.
- When requesting refills, please provide 24 hours' notice until pick-up. We will need your refill number, located above your name on the prescription label, or the names of your medication in order to fill.
- Present insurance cards each time you pick up or drop off a prescription.
- Keep us informed of changes in address, phone number, and other contact information (changes at registration do not flow to pharmacy).

If you have any questions at any time, feel free to call either Pharmacy or stop by and speak with one of our Pharmacy staff. We are happy to assist you with your pharmaceutical needs!

Hours of Operation:

Little Axe: 8am-5pm (& 7:30a-5:30p Drive-Thru) Monday - Friday

• Phone - (405) 292-9530

Shawnee: 7am-5pm Monday-Friday

Phone - (405) 878-5859

We are open through the lunch hour!!

BOTH PHARMACY DEPARTMENTS ARE CLOSED WITH THE CLINICS THE FIRST WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON OF **EVERY MONTH TO COMPLETE ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES**

> -Thank you, **Pharmacy Staff**

CULTURAL PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

The AST Cultural Preservation Department would like to pass along the following information concerning updates to each of our programs. I'd like to remind Tribal members and employees of the hours of the gift shop as we are open from 8 to 5 as well as through the lunch hour.

Gift Shop

The Gift Shop continues to make progress in sales and new inventory. Word of mouth is spreading about the types of products that we are carrying, and this is in a constant state of change. Our fall merchandise is already arriving. We have received a shipment from Pendleton, and we have placed an order for hoodies and zip-ups which are expected to be in somewhere at the end of October. If you haven't stopped by lately, come in and browse around. If we don't have what you need, let us know, and we can 'special order' your request. For all other questions, please contact Esther at ext. 122 or email at elowden@astribe.com.

Due to the sudden resignation of Joshua Shawnee, all programs in connection with the library at the previous time are suspended until a suitable replacement can be

Cultural Preservation

At the time of submission, we had just finished delivering rations for the fall traditional dance ceremonies. We hope that everybody had a good time visiting. Also, on the third Saturday in December, we will be hosting a beaded collar class. If you are interested, please contact our offices and sign-up early so that we can make certain there are enough materials for participants.

THPO



At the time of submission, the THPO office was in Kinder, Louisiana completing the 80 hours of training to receive certification as a Heritage Resource Technician Paraprofessional. The THPO office has also added Carol Butler(photo) to the staff as the THPO Intern. Carol Butler is the daughter of tribal member Donna Butler. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Geography in May 2009 from the University of Oklahoma. At the current time, she is pursuing a Master of Arts degree in Geography with a concentration in Biogeography also at the University of Oklahoma. She will graduate in the spring of 2014.

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 in order to provide the best service to our customers. Thank you for your time.

Joseph H. Blanchard Cultural Preservation Director/ Tribal Historic Preservation Officer



AST COUNTRY KITCHEN

Sunday - 7am to 7pm Monday - 7am to 3pm Tuesday - 7am to 3pm Wednesday - 7am to 8pm Thursday - 7am to 8pm Friday - 7am to 9pm Saturday - 7am to 9pm

Check out our daily homemade lunch specials!

> Something different

Early Bird Breakfast \$4.99

2 Eggs/Bacon or Sausage/Hash

Browns Biscuits & Gravy or Toast & Coffee

(Not valid on Saturday or Sunday. 1 coupon per customer. With coupon.

No substitutions



every day!

Open 7 Days A Week!



366-7220

(In Front of Thunderbird Entertainment Center Next to AST Smoke Shop)



FROM THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE Police Department...

The Police Dept. recently received two grants totaling over \$800,000.00. These are funded through the U.S. Dept. of Justice. The grant from the COPS office will allow us to purchase vehicles, uniforms and other needed equipment for the Dept. These grants also provide continuing education for the AST officers. The grant from the SMART office will help fund our Sex Offender Monitoring program with desperately needed equipment. We will also be working with surrounding agencies as a Sex Offender Response Team. The purpose of this team is to better monitor the sex offenders that reside in our community and, we will be able to provide updated information to the public. For questions or concerns about sex offender registration either go to http:// astribe.nsopw.gov/ or call SORNA Officer David Spector at 405-275-3200.

We will be changing to a new version of our data management system that will allow the officers to more efficiently complete incident reports, daily logs and other documenting requirements. This will also allow them to fully utilize their vehicle mounted lap top computers. This will permit the patrol officers to stay out in the community patrolling instead of returning to the police department to complete reports.

Emergency Manager Linda Day has begun to prepare the upcoming winter season as well as continuing to work with FEMA on the reimbursement from the tornado.

For any questions or concerns contact either Chief of Police Brad Jackson or Assistant Chief of Police Trent Norton at 405-275-3200.

Birthday Honor Dance for Herbert Switch December 7, 2013

Thunderbird Casino, Event Center, 15700 East Highway 9 Norman, OK 73026 17 miles east of Norman on HWY 9

Emcee ----- Gary Kodaseet

Head Singer ----- Jim Anquoe, Sr.

Head Gourd Dancer ----- Melvin Miles

Head Lady Dancer ----- Joyce Miller

Head Man War Dancer ---- Gary Unah

Arena Director ----- T.B.A.

Co-Host ---- T.B.A.

Color Guard - Absentee Shawnee Tribe Color Guard

Other Clubs and Tribal Princesses are Invited

Arts and Craft Booth Space\$25.00

Vendor Information Contact Gwen Switch @405-204-9612

More Information Contact Kelly Switch @ 405-436-0424

Sponsors not responsible for accidents or Theft. (Security on Site)

NO ALCOHOL, DRUGS, OR FIREARMS PERMITTED

Sponsored by Kelly Switch

Thunderbird Casino is an Absentee Shawnee Tribe Enterprise and is not responsible for Accidents or Theft

*****Schedule****

Gourd Dance ---- 2 PM

Supper ----- 5 PM

Gourd Dance ---- 6 PM

Grand Entry ---- 7 PM

Conclusion ----- 11 PM

~~~*Contest~~~

Men's Southern Straight **Men's Fancy Dance** Women's Southern Cloth Women's Southern Buckskin >>>Golden Age 59 Plus<<< **Men's Southern Categories**

Women's Southern Categories

Registration closes at Grand Entry. Dance Contestants MUST be in Grand Entry. All Judging is final.

AllNations Bank

Offers a large range of products to meet your banking needs. Come see one of our customer service representatives today.

Simply Free Checking

- \$ \$100.00 minimum to open
- Unlimited check writing
- No monthly maintenance fee
- Unlimited Teller Transactions
- ❖ Free ATM/Debit Card
- Free Online Banking
- Free check images with statements

Account holders are required to purchase checks. Charges will vary based on type and quantity ordered.

AllNations Senior Account

. Plus	All the same features of the Simply Free Account Free Checks (1Smart Pak per Year)
Plus	Free 3x5 Safe Deposit Box
Plus	Free Money orders and
	Cashier checks (limit 2 per month)

AllNations Now Account

- \$ \$100.00 minimum to open
- Unlimited check writing
- Unlimited Teller Transactions
- Free ATM/Debit Card
- Free Online Banking
- ❖ Free check images with statement
- \$750.00 minimum daily balance to avoid monthly maintenance fees. discretion of the Bank.
- Rates may change at the discretion of the Bank.

Account holders are required to purchase checks. Charges will vary based on type and quantity ordered.

Passbook Savings Account

- \$25.00 minimum to open
- Rates may change at the discretion of the Bank.
- Account must maintain \$1.00 minimum balance to obtain the disclosed annual percentage yield.
- Fees & Charges You may take 1 withdrawal per month. A \$2.00 fee will be charged for each subsequent withdrawal.

Tiered Money Market Account

- **❖** \$100.00 minimum to open
- Free Online Banking
- ❖ Free check images with statement
- Transfer limits Transfers from a Money Market account or to third parties by telephone, check, draft, debit card, or similar order are limited to six per month.
- Rates may change at the discretion of the Rank

Annual Percentage Rates

\$0 - \$2,499.99	0.15% APY
\$2,500.00 - \$9,999.99	0.25% APY
\$10,000.00 - \$99,999.99	0.35% APY
\$100,000.00 - 249,999.99	0.40% APY
\$250,000.00 & Above	0.45% APY

Commercial Checking Account

- \$100.00 minimum to open
- ❖ Free check images with statement
- ❖ \$5.00 monthly maintenance fee
- ❖ \$0.10 fee for each credit entry
- ❖ \$0.10 fee for each debit entry
- ❖ \$0.10 fee for each deposited item
- ❖ Earnings credit of \$0.30 per \$100.00 collected balance.
- ❖ Earnings credit may change at the discretion of the Bank.

Small Business Checking Account

- **♦** \$100.00 minimum to open
- Free check images with statement
- No monthly maintenance fee
- ❖ Transactions exceeding 200 per statement period including deposits, deposited items, checks/debits and non-POS electronic items will be charged at \$0.25 per item.

You're AllNations Bank Family,

Gene, Eugene, Amber, Diana & Devan

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

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE

RECYCLING MA-TERIAL THAT WE ACCEPT.

ENVELOPES, COL-ORED PAPER, JUNK MAIL, FAX PAPER, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPER, CARD-BOARD, AND ALU-MINUM CANS.

MATERIAL WE DO NOT AC-CEPT.

TONER, CARBON PAPER, FOOD WASTE, AND PLASTIC.

REMEMBER, WHEN IN DOUBT THROW IT OUT.

CONTACT INFORMATION

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS.

2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR. SHAWNEE, OK 74801

PHONE: (405) 214-4235

FAX: (405) 878-4701

Absentee Shawnee Tribe

Recycling Program

"To Establish a recycling program for municipal waste planning, reduction, and Recycling"

or processing of munici-

pal waste, and that removing certain materials



from the municipal waste stream will decrease the flow of solid waste to municipal landfills. AST Recycling Program used the knowl-

edge and information about recycling markets and market demand as well as information obtained from various publications and the internet to comprise an analysis of material the recycling program will address at the start of the program. AST Recycling Program Plan establishes a goal that, by year's end 2013, at least 25 % of the recyclable material produced by the Tribe will be recycled.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

The AST recycling Program will initially focus on the following waste stream material; High-Grade shredded paper, Assorted office paper,

The Office of Environ-

mental Health and Envi-

ronmental Program is

proud to announce the

start of a new recycling

program for the Absen-

tee Shawnee Tribe. The

recycling center is located in the yellow

metal building adjacent

to the OEH Depart-

ment. The Absentee

Shawnee Tribe (AST)

Recycling Program Pro-

gram declares that waste

reduction and recycling

are the preferable to the

Phone books, Magazines, Cardboard, Newspaper, and Aluminum cans. As the program and market develops, other recyclables will be sought. There is a cost associated with recycling, However, economic, social, and environmental benefits exceed these cost.

PSSF/ICW/FC Up Coming Events



November - Thanksgiving Food Baskets

We will be having our "Stuff a Family for Thanksgiving" event. Several boxes for donated food items will be placed throughout the Shawnee and Little Axe Complexes on Oct 21th and will be collected on November 18, 2013. Everyone is encouraged to donate any items from the list that will be posted with the boxes. Thanksgiving baskets will be put together and will be distributed to our ICW families as well as any tribal members who are in need





December - Angel Tree

The ICW department will be getting out the Angels to all their families this month. The Angels will be placed on the Christmas tree in Building #1 on November 25th. On the back of each Angel will be information for a child such as age, gender, size and wish list. As a reminder for those who take an Angel, please SIGN OUT your Angel and return the Angel with the new, <u>unwrapped</u> gifts to the ICW department by December 13, 2013.



January - Parenting Classes

Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program Practical Parenting Classes will begin its next session on January 8, 2014 in Building #16. The classes are held for 10 weeks every Wednesday evening from 6pm to 8pm. Dinner will be served and babysitter provided when needed.

For further information on any event please contact the ICW Department

Sena Yesslith
Absentee Shawnee Tribe
ICW Department
Promoting Safe and Stable Families
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, Ok 74801

(Office) 405-878-4702 (Fax) 405-878-4540

WE NEED YOU!!!

The Indian Child Welfare Program actively seeks Native American families to become foster parents for Native American children.

To find out how to become a foster parent for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe call 405-878-4702

After School Program 2013/2014

Come join us at the AST Resource Center!!!

♣ Free Tutoring in all subjects!

♣ Games and activities!

♣ Delinquency Prevention!

♣ Healthy Lifestyles!



And Much More!

OPEN TO ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Everything is offered with no charge....Little Axe bus will transport students to the AST Resource Center on Peebly Road and parents are responsible for picking students up at 6:00pm.

Duration: Starts October 7th and will run through the school year.

Monday-Thursday, 2:45pm-6:00pm

For more information and sign up please contact Blake Goodman at (405) 364-7569





After School Program 2013/2014

Come join us at the AST Resource Center!!!

Free Tutoring in all subjects!

Games and activities!

Delinquency Prevention!

Healthy Lifestyles!





OPEN TO GRADES K-5 for

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Students

Everything is offered with no charge....Little Axe bus will transport students to the AST Resource Center on Peebly Road and parents are responsible for picking students up at 6:00pm.

Duration: Starts October 7th and will run through the school year.

Monday-Thursday, 2:45pm-6:00pm

For more information and sign up please contact Blake Goodman at (405) 364-7569





Domestic Violence Awareness Month



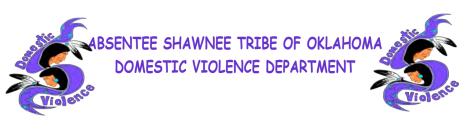
The Domestic Violence Department would like to thank those who participated in this years annual balloon release at the Shawnee and Little Axe locations for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. A special thank you goes to Governor, Edwina Butler-Wolfe for the declaration and reading of the proclamation and Secretary, Vera Dawsey for leading us in prayer prior to the event.

In addition to the balloon release the Domestic Violence Department also had flags flying at the clinics in Shawnee and Little Axe as well as at Building #1 on the Shawnee Complex. Awareness activities continued throughout the month and will continue throughout the year by the Domestic Violence Staff.

Although October is declared as Domestic Violence Awareness Month it is important to keep in mind that this type of violence happens everyday of the year in our community and possibly our families. If you or someone you know is affected by Domestic Violence and needs to leave their current situation please contact us at 405-273-2888. Below are the names and numbers of those who can help.

Jackie—(405) 432-9377 Melissa—(405) 432-9657 Linda—(405) 585-8348 Kimberly—(405) 365-9658

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma's Domestic Violence mission is to eliminate violence in Native Country and to strengthen Native families to end the cycle of violence.



Victim Advocacy

Assist victims by offering educational classes that focus on the dynamics of domestic violence and sexual assault, stalking and dating/violence. Each victim is helped with emotional support and resources both from Tribal programs and local community programs.

Court Advocacy

Assists survivors with domestic violence court related appearances as well as filing for emergency protective orders (EPO).

Housing and Utility Assistance

Assists victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and/or dating violence in emergency situations. This assistance may allow for a victim to either receive housing or utility assistance.

Referral Assistance

Assists with providing community resources to those who are in need of additional services outside the scope of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence Program.

Sexual Assault Advocacy

The AST DV Sexual Assault Program is on-call 24 hours per day to provide emotional support, advocacy and crisis counseling to sexual assault survivors at hospitals, police stations and throughout the legal system. The program also serves as a resource center to the community by offering educational information and referrals.

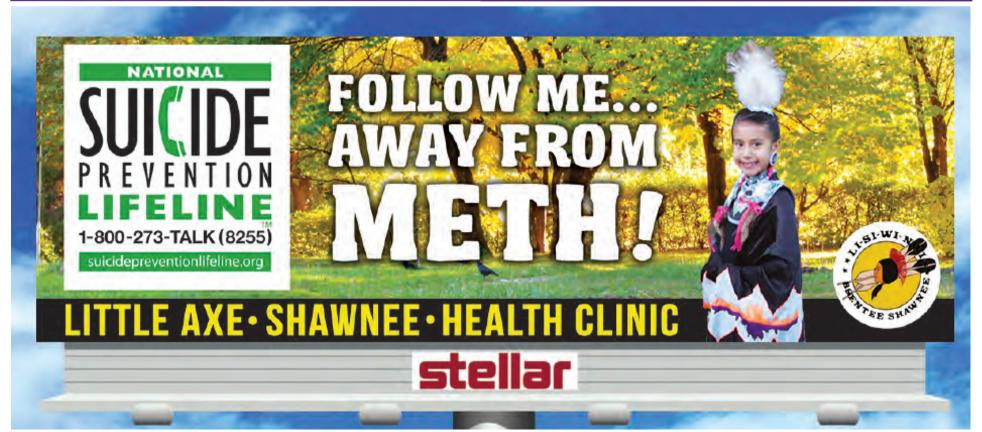
Shelter Placement Assistance

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence Program works with other shelters within Oklahoma in order to help victims obtain safe housing. Emergency transportation for the victim and children may also be available.

Community Outreach

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence Program offers educational trainings, informational displays, and community events in order to provide more awareness to both Tribal and non-Tribal communities.

For any questions regarding any of the above services please contact the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence staff at (405) 273-2888 Monday—Friday 8:00am—5:00pm. To be connected with an advocate in a Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault emergency after hours you may contact Jackie Denny – 405-432-9377, Melissa Lopez – 405-432-9657, Linda Gouge – 405-585-8348 or Kimberly Stephens – 405-365-5698.



White Turkey Band News

The third annual 5K Run And Walk was held October 12, 2013, at Horse Shoe Bend Community Center at 8:00 a.m.

We had over 30 participants for the run and the walk.



RESULTS OF THE 5K RUNNERS:

ADULT MALE

FIRST PLACE WINNER: **JOE BLANCHARD** SECOND PLACE WINNER: BRENT WATSON



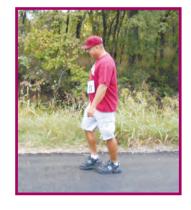
YOUTH MALE

FIRST PLACE WINNER: DAVID SKINNER-MCAFEE SECOND PLACE WINNER: JOSIAH FOREMAN THIRD PLACE WINNER: BRANDON BUTLER



ADULT FEMALE

FIRST PLACE WINNER: VICKI WILSON SECOND PLACE WINNER: LANA BUTLER



(NO YOUTH FEMALE)







ALL FIRST PLACE WINNER RECEIVED \$ 100.00 • ALL SECOND PLACE WINNERS RECEIVED \$ 75.00 • ALL THIRD PLACE WINNERS RECEIVED \$ 50.00

WHITE TURKEY MEETING HELD FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH! 10:00 A.M.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE ABSENTEE POLICE DEPARTMENT, MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT. ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF THUNDERBIRD OKLAHOMA. THE CASINO, INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT OF DAVID AND STELLA LITTLE, DAVID AND DANI, AND DEVON VOYLES, JENNIFER SLOAN OF THE MSPI PROGRAM, GWEN SWITCH, JANET JESKE, JUNE BUCKNER, CHARLOTTE ELLIS, KAY WALLACE, RANDALL WATSON, KELLY SWITCH, TWILA PARKER, RUSTY DAVID PARKER, ELAINE BROWN, RAMONA McCOY, AND ALL RUNNERS AND WALKERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE DAYS ACTIVITIES.

EDWINA BUTLER-WOLFE, PRESIDENT WHITE TURKEY BAND TWILA PARKER, SECRETARY GWEN SWITCH, TREASURER JUNE BUCKNER, ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR JANET JESKE, DECORATION AND ARTISTIC PRESENTATIONS

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL INDIVIDUALS, TRIBAL PROGRAMS, THUNDERBIRD CASINO, AND ALL INTERESTED IN PROMOTING HEALTHY ACTIVITIES FOR ALL FAMILIES, KIDS, ADULTS, AND WISHING TO INSTILL A HEALTHY PERSPECTIVE IN FACING LIFE IN BETTER PHYSICAL SHAPE.

Absentee Shawnee Housing



Introduction

The information being provided is to help families understand what programs are offered through the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority and how to apply.

Our programs target low income Native American families

who need housing assistance. The programs currently being provided are Rental, Lease to Own and Down Payment Assistance

Application Process

Our process begins with the completion of our housing application. When completing the application be sure and answer all the questions that pertain to you and sign all attached forms. If you should have any questions regarding the application; call or come by our office and ask our staff in the Programs & Admissions Department and they would be glad to assist you.

The application will also require documents to be attached in order Photo I.D.
 CDIB Card
 Social Security Card

- Birth Certificate
- Mariage License/Divorce Decree/Custody Decree (if applicable)
 Declaration of Section 214 (form is included with application)

Each household member must provide a birth certificate, social security card and CDIB card (if enrolled in a federally recognized tribe). The Housing Authority will conduct a criminal background check and credit check on all adult household members over the age of 18. A home visit is the final step in completing your application.

Waiting List

A letter will be mailed out once your application has been approved notifying you of the date your name was placed on the waiting list. It is very important to stay in contact and notify the Housing Authority anytime changes occur in income, household composition, or contact information.

In the event that your name is next in being offered a home; you will be notified by letter or phone.

Annual Updates required to remain on the waiting list.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

107 N. Kimberly Shawnee, OK 74801 P.O. Box 425 Shawnee, OK 74802-0425 Phone: 405-273-1050 Fax: 405-275-0678 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Eligibility for each program has income requirements; please be sure and review the current income limits on your application.

We will not be able to process your application if you do not meet the income criteria.



Low Rent Housing

Our low rent housing program is provided to families in need of housing in the Shawnee and Tecumseh area. Rental houses are furnished with kitchen appliances, central heat and air, and mini blinds all throughout.

In the Shawnee area, the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority In the shawnee area, the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authorry has two elderly/handicap communities. These areas have fully and partial handicap accessible units. A laundry facility is located in the community for tenant use only. Tenants in our rental program are provided services through our Maintenance Department; if any maintenance issues should arise

you would contact the Housing Authority and a crew member will come and do the repair

Lease to Own Program

The Lease to Own Program is available for any Native American family who has met our requirements and would like to purchase a home through the Housing Authority. The homes offered are ones currently in inventory and owned by the Housing Authority.

This program is designated for income eligible families who Inis program is designated for income eligible families who have been renting but now feel they are ready for the opportunity to purchase their own home. The application is the same as the rental; accept the income requirements are different. Be sure and specify when completing your application, that you are applying for the Lease to Own Program. If you have substantial rental history and meet the me requirements, your name may be placed on the

n Payment Assistance Program

This program offers a one-time grant of up to \$20,000 to assist with down payment and/or closing cost to purchase a home and is designed to make home mortgage payments more affordable Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant must be eighteen (18) years of age
- Must be Native American enrolled in a Federally Recognized Tribe, with priority given to enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma to apply
- Applicant must qualify as a low-income family, and must meet minimum income guidelines
- Applicant must be first-time homeowner

- Primary residences only
 Must be approved for home loan
 Dwelling Unit must pass environmental inspection



- All applicants are required to attend a counseling class conducted by our Resident Counselor before signing a lease.
- Annual Recertification are required for Rental/Lease to Own programs
- Inspections are performed on our homes annually



- MONTHLY RENT IS CALCULATED BY YOUR INCOME
- OUR LOW RENT LINITS HAVE 1 2 3 & 4 REDROOMS
- LEASE TO OWN HOMES HAVE 3 & 4 BEDROOMS



NEW RENTAL HOMES AVAILABLE!

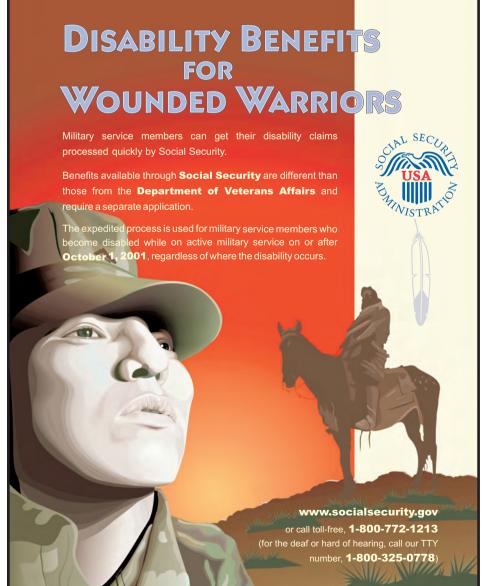
Applications are now being accepted for families that are over the income limits for our IHBG funded programs. Please contact our Programs & Admissions Department for further details. NOTE: There is limited homes available for this program.

Camp Nikoti Tribal Youth Program presents...

Melokami Youth Camp 2013

THANK YOU to all tribal program staff who helped make this year's camp a success and full of fun for the youth!





Foster & Adoptive 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 Amanda Lenora, CPS/Foster Care Worker - 405-878-4702

ASTribe Indian Child Welfare Department FOSTER CARE

This article appears in the Daily Times in Farmington, New Mexico. And even though this talks about the foster care program and tribal children in foster care, this article can speak on behalf of what the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Foster Care and other tribes are going thru. Finding foster homes is a necessary to not only protect AST children but to also maintain their cultural identity, heritage and traditions. The Absentee is a small tribe and we should be able to work as ONE TRIBE to care for the AST children. If you have any questions, contact the ICW department at (405)275-4030.

"Only two foster homes in San Juan County belong to American Indian families, but more than half of the 85 children in foster care now are American Indian. That means about 40 American Indian youths in the local foster system are living with non-native families. The Children, Youth and Families Department, charged with placing children in alternate homes if their own families are deemed unsafe for reasons of abuse or neglect, is having a hard time finding enough native families for the number of native children in the system.

The department does everything it can to match a child with a family of a similar background. That doesn't work when fewer homes than children are in the system, which means native children more often than not end up in non-native families. This is contrary to federal policy, which directs the department to make every effort to place children of American Indian descent in homes that nourish their cultural identity. But without more native families stepping up to offer a home for children, there is little the department can do to remedy this situation.

The Indian Child Welfare Act provides four placement options, which the department must pursue in descending order every time it places a native child. The first option is to place American Indian children with a relative who can provide a safe environment and who eventually attains a foster care license. The second option is for a child to be placed in a family from the same American Indian tribe. The third is for the child to be placed with a American Indian family not of the same tribe. The final option, and the one the CYFD most often uses, is matching native children with non-native families that simply have a foster care license.

This is a loss for children and for potential foster families. It's also a loss when it comes to efforts to revitalize native traditions and teach them to the children. We encourage all native families with the resources that can allow children a home to contact the Children, Youth and Families Department. Fostering a child is one of the most rewarding things a family can do."

In the state of Oklahoma alone, there are almost 3000 Native American children in the foster care program with a majority of these children placed in non-native placements. Now imagine if your son, daughter, grand children were placed in another home that didn't teach or understand the Absentee Shawnee traditions. What would happen to their identity, their sense of being a AST, their sense of belonging and being proud of being a Absentee Shawnee?

The AST ICW dept are in need to foster homes. Emergency homes, temporary homes, it doesn't matter. We have made it a goal to get certify at least 5 homes to be foster homes for the AST. With obtaining more every year from this point on. It takes ONE TRIBE to care for ONE CHILD. As the great Tecumseh said, "A SINGLE TWIG BREAKS BUT A BUNDLE OF TWIGS IS STRONG."

For more information about being a foster home, please contact: Indian Child Welfare Department (405)878-4702



Baby Deseray Removed From Bixler's Custody In South Carolina

Suzette Brewer 10/28/13

Indian Country has learned that Merry Rejoice Bixler, aka "Baby Deseray," was removed last week from the home of Bobby Bixler, 64, and Diane Bixler, 60, of Irmo, South Carolina. Sources in that state have reported that the five-month-old Oklahoma infant was taken into state custody and is in temporary foster care pending an emergency hearing today in Richland County.

SAFETY TIPS FROM...

- √ Never leave children alone in or around cars; not even for a minute.
- √ Put something you'll need like your cell phone, handbag, employee ID or brief case, etc., on the floor board in the back seat.
- √ Get in the habit of always opening the back door of your vehicle every time you reach your destination to make sure no child has been left behind. This will soon become a habit. We call this the "Look Before You Lock" campaign.
- √ Keep a large stuffed animal in the child's car seat when it's not occupied. When the child is placed in the seat, put the stuffed animal in the front passenger seat. It's a visual reminder that anytime the stuffed animal is up front you know the child is in the back seat in a child safety seat.
- √ Make arrangements with your child's day care center or babysitter that you will always call if your child will not be there on a particular day as scheduled.
- √ Keep vehicles locked at all times; even in the garage or driveway and always set your parking brake.
- √ Keys and/or remote openers should never be left within reach of children.
- √ Make sure all child passengers have left the vehicle after it is parked.
- √ When a child is missing, check vehicles and car trunks immediately.
- √ If you see a child alone in a vehicle, get involved. If they are hot or seem sick, get them out as quickly as possible. Call 911 or your local emergency number immediately.
- √ Be especially careful about keeping children safe in and around cars during busy times, schedule changes and periods of crisis or holidays.
- √ Use drive-thru services when available. (restaurants, banks, pharmacies, dry cleaners, etc.)
- $\sqrt{}$ Use your debit or credit card to pay for gas at the pump.

For additional information about ways to keep children safe in and around vehicles, visit our website at www.KidsAndCars.org.

Education Department

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

These are brief descriptions of current programs. Program guidelines are available in hard copy for at the Education Department office or for download at www.astribe.com.

- <u>Academic (K-12) Program</u>: 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.
- <u>Zahn Program</u>: 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.
- <u>Job Training Adult Education Program</u>: funds for vocational training at accredited vocational institutions. Program has a maximum funding limit for the calendar year or per program.
- Higher Education: <u>Education Incentive Award Program</u>: 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.
- <u>Graduate Scholarship Program:</u> 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:

There is still funding available in the Higher Education: Education Incentive Award Program for fall 2013. Please submit your application and required documents as soon as possible. The program is first come, first served as contingent upon the availability of funds.

Applications for the Higher Education: Education Incentive Award Program are due November 15, 2013 for the spring 2014 semester.

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

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

Dear Tribal Members.

I am calling to your attention the Health services provided currently by our tribal clinics. I have looked and listened to tribal members, tribal leadership of what we don't have and how services are provided. I have experience in health care and I am an LPN with a Master's Degree in Business Administration. I have built from the ground up home health agency branch offices, which included oversight as Administrator over Professionals, Paraprofessionals, support staff, multimillion dollar budgets, reviewed and revised policy and procedure, billing Medicare, Medicaid, Private pay.

I gave you knowledge beforehand about me to give a degree of credibility to my ideas. Cultivate change by thinking "Outside the box". Let us explore new ways to run the clinic different than the traditional model employed now. The traditional system is cumbersome to move forward in a timely manner. The billing, process can be streamlined by outsourcing more efficiently.

An innovative approach will create/hire a management team that possesses expertise in the healthcare fields with the business knowledge to guide the clinic in providing the healthcare needed by our tribal members and make it profitable at the same time.

The tribe utilizing a large insurance carrier to insure all tribal members (i.e., Blue cross Blue Shield); we have the clinic set up too handle Medicaid (Sooner care), Medicare, and private pay insurance. The tribe will pay a premium to cover the entire tribal membership we can use that private pay insurance in our own clinics. The Affordable Care Act (ACA) will also be another payer that the tribe can utilize to pay for services provided. I implore you to keep in mind that I do not have the insider information to give you accurate resolution to our healthcare issues, financially; I do have foresight of what we can accomplish with the right management team aboard who has our best interest at the core of the direction we wish to go.

Healthcare management team negotiates a partnership with the University of Oklahoma to bring resident doctors to our clinic. This same approach could be utilized to get other needed services such as behavioral health, dentistry, optometry, psychiatric care, pediatricians, top diabetic care, physical therapy, and podiatry and pain management under one roof. Upon discharge from the clinic a discharge planner is placed to review for home health care if you need and medically qualify for service.

That home health care agency will be located across the street at the old clinic along with ancillary services, such as dialysis, hospice care and an A.M. / P.M. clinic. The clinic will be open to non--members to grow our profit!

This is the tip of the iceberg there are many directions that we could go from there. I believe it can be done with our clinic but we have to change our way of thinking and our approach to healthcare, and I believe with a good healthcare management team with oversight of the clinic it can happen. We must look past the racial barrier. There are not many Native American doctors/ qualified healthcare administrators, so we need to put degreed professionals in these positions that have the insight, and innovative approach as well as foresight to see what we want and knowledge to forge the path to get us there.

With the new revenue generated we can pay for surgery to repair injury. We can place our diabetics on insulin pump, we can pay for lap band or stomach re-- sectioning to gain better control of their diabetes and/or possible remission. The long term the tribe will save money in medication alone not to mention provider care while provide a better quality of life and possibly return them to a functioning person in the work force and society. You and I need to demand that a new approach take place, because the traditional approach will take too long to place doctors. Time is of

the essence here and we as a tribe need to move quickly because we our losing patients because of the inability to provide care in a timely manner and the profit we lose daily.

A health care management team has these important services aboard or has avenues to quickly plug them into service for you. I believe that under current budget your health care management team can keep our clinic functioning to our satisfaction. With an open mind, these changes will occur but it can't occur without your support and it will not occur overnight, but it can become reality with your support, by contacting your leadership and the health board to open their minds to this approach.

Thank You for your valuable time.

John Al Little Axe MBA--LPN

405-343-8705

NAHSG

Assessment of Native American and Alaska Native and Alaska Native Housing Needs (NAHSG) this is an project that does in-person household survey in 40 tribal areas will describe housing conditions and needs of tribal families. The funding agency is the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD),Office of Policy Development and Research. Random lists of names of Shawnees will be compiled from USPS lists,Tribal lists and National Opinion Research Center listing.

The selected interviewers will be tribal members who will conduct Data Collection with a paper and pencil questionnaire of about 45 minutes in duration. This will include a brief inspection outside the dwelling. Data Collection will begin once the tribal/village approval has been informed and approved. This Data collection is projected to last about 8 weeks.

Selected Interviewers will go three phases of training prior to being provided lists of random names selected to participate in the Assessment of Native American and Alaska Native and Alaska Native Housing Needs. Interviewers will be in weekly contact with an assigned Field Manager that is overseeing the Data Collection process for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. As an incentive for participating in the Interview process each household will receive \$20.00 at the completion of the Interview.

Only those names selected for the Random Sampling will be contacted to participate in this specific Needs Assessment for the Shawnees. Betty Watson -405-637-5806 - Twila Parker -405-229-8052

Ms. Watson and Ms. Parker were selected through an application process of submitting resumes, training, and knowledge. Both applicants then were interviewed by phone then by Skype interviews and were hired. National Opinion Research Center plans to start the Needs Assessment Interviews in November. Absentee Shawnee Executive Committee received fact sheets as to the process of Data Collection, provided names of Contact People in the organization, and names of selected Field Interview Workers.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING HEALTHCARE OPEN ENROLLMENTS!!



AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Open Enrollment October 7 through December 7, 2013

his Annual Coordinated Election Period allows Medicare beneficiaries to This inaugural open enrollment period allows consumers to enroll in the hange prescription drug plans, change Medicare Advantage plans, return Affordable Care Act. You may qualify for health plan discounts and tax o original Medicare, or enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan. Enrollment hanges take effect on January 1, 2014. 1-800-MEDICARE.

Open Enrollment October 1, 2013 through March 15, 2014

credits. Health plans take effect January 1 for consumers who enroll by December 15, 2013. www.healthcare.gov, 800.318.2596

Your Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System Patient Benefit Advocates are Certified Medicare and Affordable Care Act Application Counselors. For more information contact:

Connie Bottaro Little Axe Health Center 405.447.0300

Lela Culley Shawnee Clinic 405.878.4702



Are you at risk for diabetes, have diabetes or know someone who does? Type 2 diabetes is the most common type of diabetes and affects millions of Native Americans. Many people are unaware that they have diabetes or pre-diabetes. Native Americans are twice as likely to develop

Type 2 diabetes than others. Some common signs and symptoms include:

- Frequent infections
- Blurred vision
- Cuts/bruises that are slow to heal
- Tingling/numbness in the hands/feet
- Recurring skin, gum, or bladder infections

Often people with type 2 diabetes have no symptoms.

Some ways to prevent and manage diabetes is through healthy lifestyle behaviors. One question that many people with diabetes or pre-diabetes often ask is "What can I eat?". The American Diabetes Association states that you do not have to be deprived or restricted. The key factors are learning what are the "superfoods", how much of it you can have and how often. Getting into the habit of eating a healthy diet helps you manage diabetes and prevent complications caused by diabetes.

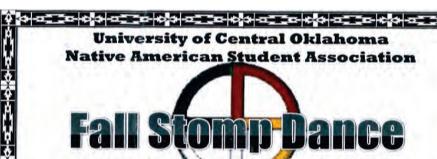
The following foods are listed on the American Diabetes Association web site as" superfoods". Try to incorporate as many of these foods into your daily meal plan to enhance the nutrient content of your meals.

The foods listed have a low glycemic index (causes slower rise in blood glucose after eating) and provide key nutrients that are lacking in the typical western diet such as:

- calcium
- potassium
- magnesium
- fiber
- vitamins A, C, and E.

Beans,dark green leafy vegetables, citrus fruit, sweet potatoes, berries, tomatoes, fish high in Omega-3 fatty acids, whole grains, nuts, fat-free milk and yogurt. To learn more about eating these superfoods and recipes visit diabetes.org and sign up for Wellness and Healthy Eating classes at the Little Axe Clinic. Call Sidna McKane to sign up at 405 701-7977.

Source: American Diabetes Association at www.diabetes.org



Saturday, November 9, 2013 **UCO Wantland Hall Gym**

> 100 N. University Drive Edmond, OK 73034 *Watch for signs*

Master of Ceremonies: Kevin Mack

Dinner @ 6pm Stomp Dance @ 7-11pm

Prizes! Cakes! Raffles!

For more information or Vendor information, please contact: (918)814-7588- Courtney Peyketewa

Come out and support UCO's NASA for Native American Heritage Month! -Mvto!



TRUM TRUSTS

Saturday, November 23, 2013 9:00am - 3:00pm Little Axe Health Center

Festivities For All Ages

Raffles

Food & Games

Tai-Chi for Seniors

Live Music

Tribal Dance Performances

Tribai Dance Performances

Health Screenings & Medication Management

Health Insurance Enrollment Information and much much more!!!!!

\$5 FreePlay- Thunderbird Casino

Free Massages - Heritage College

Free Tai- Chi Lesson

Free Fall Assessment for Seniors



5K Fun Run/Walk benefiting Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
\$10 Registration Fee Pre-register at: http://jdrfevents.donordrive.com/event/fallfest/





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FOR A CHALLENGER How Many Entries Can You Earn By Saturday, November 30th 10:00pm 2014 Dodge Challenger Drawing? Earn Entries Every Promotion: **Match Play Day Points To Cash Birthday Month** New Membership Jackpot Winner
Just Being Here & Playing With Your Card At **Random Times**

Cover art is a selection of Earnest Spybuck painting, "Procession Before War Dance" ca. 1910

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE – SHAWNEE DEPARTMENT EXTENSIONS (405) 275-4030

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