

THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE NEWS

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AST Food Pantry Grand Opening





Left Photo (L-R): Representative DeWayne Wilson; Executive Assistant to the Governor Alvina Barnes; Lt. Governor Ezra DeLodge; Secretary Alicia Miller; Governor John Johnson; Agriculture Coordinator Andrew Warrior; Food Bank Manager Falon Powell; Food Bank Office Manager Sarah Pederson; Office Manager to the Governor Kim Porter. Rigth Photo: Tribal member Tyrone *Thorpe and Governor Johnson at the grand opening of the AST Food Pantry.*

The Absentee Shawnee Food Pantry celebrated their grand opening on September 29th. It is located at 40210 Benson Park Road in Tecumseh.

The project has been in the works for over a year and was created by Governor John Johnson. "I am really glad we were able to do this for our Tribal members. Many of them lost income due to COVID and I feel this will really help them out." Johnson said.

Tribal member Tyrone Thorpe was the first to receive his box of nonperishable goods. "Anything we can get, it's really a blessing." he said.

In its first week, the food pantry served over 35 families. The longterm goal is to get USDA funding and provide services to the community. Currently the food pantry only serves note they are closed from 12-1 pm for Absentee Shawnee tribal households. lunch. At this time there are no income

requirements. All tribal households will qualify.

Distribution dates are once a month and available by appointment only.

Interested Tribal members will need an application on file to start receiving food. With the initial application, tribal members will need to bring their CDIB card, social security card, driver's license or state ID, proof of income for the last six months and proof of residency (must be in applicant's name).

Applications are available online, www.astribe.com or by calling the Food Pantry at (405) 481-8640. There are also applications located outside of the food pantry.

Food Pantry office hours are Monday-Friday 9 am to 4 pm. Please



Governor Johnson distributing the first box of items to Tribal member Tyrone Thorpe.

Tribal Members' Work Takes Flight Across The World

In a nondescript metal building in Moore, Oklahoma, Tribal members Burke Thorpe and his sister Lorrie Thorpe are helping the United States Air Force fighter jets stay in the air. The Davis Thorpe Company manufactures airframe parts and assemblies to support the US Air Force's legacy and fighter aircrafts.

For over 20 years, he has produced aircraft parts for the Air Force. Thorpe started out as a CNC machinist working for a defense contractor. After attending a seminar about contract opportunities for minorities, he set out to create his own company. "If it wasn't for the Cherokee Nation through Cherokee Nation Businesses, business would not exist." Thorpe explained.

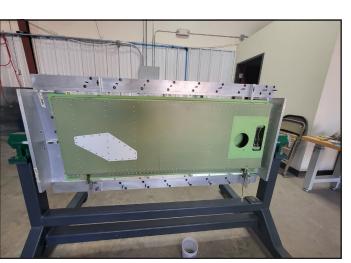
"Aerospace and defense companies are seeking to partner with Native American tribes to benefit from the SBA's 8(a)

program. Aerospace significantly impacts the state and its communities, whereas there are too many opportunities for Native American tribes to ignore. "He said.

One might not associate aerospace with Oklahoma. But there are more than 1,100 aerospace entities operating in Oklahoma. In fact, they are one of the state's largest employment generators.

Despite employing so many, Thorpe says the workforce is still lacking. "Baby boomers are phasing out by retirement and the younger generation does not have the experience needed. Knowledge is not being passed down."

But Thorpe has no plans to retire. As long as the Air Force is flying, Thorpe will keep outfitting the more than 1,400 fighter jets that help keep America safe.









Above Photos: A-10 Warthog and A-10 Warthog front side view with parts manufactored by The Davis Thorpe Company. Far Left Photo: AWACS E-6 Aircraft Door. Left Photo: B52 Nose Dome.



GOVERNOR John Johnson



Since there has been a rise in COVID cases throughout Oklahoma, the EC has decided to continue with the current phase, modified phase 2, for the tribal complex. I know this is inconvenient but in order to keep all tribal members and employees safe, appointments will need

GOVERNOR'S REPORT

John Johnson, AST Governor

to be made 24 hours in advance to be allowed onto the complex. We ask while on campus you wear a mask and practice social distancing. Employees on the complex are working split shifts and will continue to be COVID tested each month to ensure safety.

On September 27th, the COVID vaccination incentive program started. All applications and requested documents will need to be submitted on or before Friday November 19th to receive your \$100 gift card and T-shirt. The T-shirt design came from the winner of the WIA summer youth contest. These kids were asked to design a shirt that would promote receiving the vaccine. The EC and I had a hard time selecting the winner due to all

the great entries. If you were one of the summer youth workers that entered the contest, I want to thank you, you all did an amazing job!

The AST Food Pantry is open and ready to serve all AST households. If you have not submitted an application please go by the Food Pantry at 40210 Benson Park Rd or call 405-481-8640 for more information. If you have already received a food box in October be sure to set up your next appointment for the month of November.

As I come to a close, I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope the time spent with family is wonderful and the food is delicious. Stay safe and use caution when being around large groups of people.



Lt. GOVERNOR Ezra DeLodge



SECRETARY Alicia Miller



TREASURER Joseph Blanchard

LT. GOVERNOR'S REPORT Ezra DeLodge, AST Lt. Governor

Tribal Members,

I hope we are all doing well, and safely enjoying our time as much as possible. Now that the holiday season will be upon us it is important to make sure we are and continue to follow safety protocols. Again, I ask please get vaccinated if you already haven't done so, the numbers and data indicate the vaccine is working.

A few department updates to report within my oversight and in no particular order, they are as follows.

Agriculture Dept. Update

The new Agriculture Department is in the beginning stages of implementing a Food Sovereignty Project that will eventually serve as a direct field-to-table food supplement program. Equipment is in the process of being ordered and delivered, so that the process of land clearing, improvement and management can be accomplished for either purpose of livestock grazing or planting seed.

During the upcoming winter months, the department plans on initiating a survey to any tribal member who would like to submit suggestions for produce to be planted, educational classes or literature, garden plot preparation and any other activities associated with food production.

Under the definition of Food Sovereignty, not only does it recognize the primary steps of food production such as-soil preparation, planting, maintaining, and harvesting- it recognizes the steps after harvest. Those steps include preserving (canning or freezing) and cooking (on stove top or open fire) which classes can be held to educate any tribal member interested.

Any questions about the department or the Food Sovereignty Project can be directed to Andy Warrior, ext. 6263.

OEH Update

OEH has been awarded federal funding through EPA for 106 Water Pollution Grant, 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Grant, 128 Tribal Response Grant and EPA General Assistance Plan Grant for fiscal year 2021. We are currently in the process of closing out and delivering final reports to EPA for fiscal year 2020.

The Tribal Youth Camp Phase II is currently underway and is on schedule to be completed early 2022. Procurement of architects for specifications and floor plan for the Police Safety Center is currently underway and we plan to begin construction later this year. We are also in the process of developing the application for FY 2022 ICDBG for the Youth Camp Multipurpose Building and that application will be submitted to HUD for funding prior to October 25.

OEH has also hired Kevin Arthur for the vacant Environmental Grants Manager. Kevin has over 10 years of experience in the environmental sector and we are excited for what he will bring to OEH and the Tribe.

The Tribal Recycling Program has been very busy. We are producing roughly 1 ton of recycled cardboard every two weeks and about 1 ton of shredded paper per month. Before the end of the year, we plan to purchase additional recycling bins to place at additional Tribal facilities to expand the program and maximize our landfill waste diversion.

Maintenance Dept. Update

Maintenance has been taking care of the campus lawn and installed new road signs for the BIA roads program and staying on top of all work orders that come in on the complex.

BIA Self-Governance Office Update BIA Roads:

BIA Funding for interlocal agreement with Cleveland County to resurface 5 roads in Cleveland County using BIA funds passed by Resolution E-AS-2021-79 in the amount of \$656,320.96. Cleveland County has started working on

Lindsey from 192nd to County Line. Tribal Housing Improvement Program (THIP):

Funding for the new Tribal Housing Improvement Program, using BIA ARP funds passed by resolution E-AS-2021-90 in the amount of \$2,000,000.00. We are working on hiring a carpenter and maintenance tech to service the program. Land Management (Wood Cutting Program):

Funding for the new Land Mgmt. Program (Wood Cutting), using BIA CARES funds passed by resolution E-AS-2021-80 in the amount of \$929,976.00. We have hired one employee and he will start work on 10/18/21. I would still like to hire 2 more employees. Once we get a supply of cut firewood, we will advertise log pickup and delivery by request only.

Youth Camp Access Road:

We have started clearing the trees for the new access road. Our guys cleared trees up to the dining hall and contractors will start next week clearing tree roots and widening the road all the way around the loop. Surveys are being conducted for the new road and a boundary survey has been requested for the whole property. Civil Engineering Designs are being constructed by CLS and will be given to Goldsby Construction for the constructing of the Road. Road to be completed middle of 2022.

Driveway Program:

We have received a total of 66 applications. We have completed 17 driveways, 8 are under construction, and 40 are approved/ pending. Only one application was rejected because they did not own their home.

Other Projects at the Youth Camp:

The modular building is almost fully set up. The IT guys are still working on getting fiber to the building for internet ac-

Phase II of the youth camp (cabins, bath-

house, parking lot around dining hall and entry way sign) is under way. The contractors are framing the cabins and bathhouses now. Funding for Phase IV of the youth camp the activity areas, using CCDF funds passed by resolution E-AS-2021- in the amount of \$2,000,000.00. Those funds will be used to construct a softball field, basketball court, tennis court and playground area. OEH is preparing an application to HUD to construct a Multi-purpose building to the west of the dining hall. The application is due October 25, 2021.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me by email ezrad@astribe.com, call my office 405-275-4030 x 6253 or cell 405-432-0733.

Respectfully, Lt. Governor DeLodge



REPRESENTATIVE DeWayne Wilson



SECRETARY'S REPORT Alicia Miller, AST Secretary

Ho wa se ke sa ke!

Happy Native American Heritage Month! However, every day is a GREAT day to be Native!

As we enter the last quarter of 2021, we are all feverishly working to meet our end of year goals for our departments and programs. For a quick update, the Vaccine Incentive Programs (VIP) are growing at a satisfactory pace for both the tribal member and employee programs. To date, we have over 65% of our employee base vaccinated and the numbers are going up as we go along. The tribal membership VIP has locally issued about 700 cards. Both VIP program(s) are open until Friday, November 19, 2021, so there is some time to still apply. The ARPA General Welfare Program concluded at the end of October and at the time of this submitted article - roughly 90% have applied for the assistance, with over 80% having applied the first month when applications were made available. The EC has been long discussing ARPA planning for CY2022, CY2023 and CY2024. We had 502 complete the survey. Your submitted responses greatly assists us, the EC, in properly planning this spend down. Thank you for your participation. Your input works for the best benefit for all of our members, young and young at heart. The ARPA survey top results indicate we should address negative economic impacts, (you desire) food assistance, mortgage/rent assistance, housing services to support healthy living environments, develop affordable housing, student support, child care assistance, fill budget shortfalls for vital government services, improve water quality and pollution and provide broadband services to those who are underserved. I will also let you know the top 3 responses from the HAF survey (will be income based per the Treasury) to date are: utility assistance, mortgage payment assistance and assistance for payment of delinquent property taxes to prevent foreclosure.

I would like to commend my Domestic Violence Department for all their work in promoting Domestic Violence Awareness

month in October. COVID-19 has definitely put a damper to fully execute activities but they put in the effort and did what they could to promote this important issue. Ne yi wa to Mrs. Lopez and staff!

I want to wish each and every one of you a Happy Thanksgiving. It is typically a great time for food and fellowship with family and friends - however we are still amidst of a pandemic and flu season. Do what you can to protect yourself and your loved ones. To those who are experiencing the loss of a loved one during this holiday, my heart goes out to you. It will be difficult but always remember your loved one would want you to be happy and your loved one lives through you. Be happy, smile and enjoy yourself.

Si li no ke ka no la. Ne yi wa.

Respectfully,

Alicia Miller Tribal Secretary (405) 287-5247

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Joseph Blanchard, AST Treasurer

Hello fellow Tribal Members,

I hope all is well. Can you believe it is already November? Before too long, the majority of us will be sitting down with our loved ones to break bread over the Thanksgiving holiday. We all have much to be 'thankful' for but let's not forget how or why we're able to do this to begin with. We can never forget our Warriors who have done so much to enable and provide us with the freedom and opportunities we enjoy. Do not hesitate to express gratitude to our Veterans on their special day, to commemorate their service and sacrifice.

Likewise, do not forget, this is also **Native American Heritage Month**. Nor-

mally, there are lots of events going on throughout the community and at local schools. In years past, Cultural Preservation has hosted and presented cultural exhibitions to increase awareness about the history of our Absentee Shawnee People.

I want to quickly say "Thank you!" to those of our membership who made their way over for the Semi-Annual General Council meeting. The Executive Committee appreciates the input and suggestions. As I've said before, this provides us with ideas of the priorities from our membership and what we should focus on to improve our system and operations.

Since my last submission, I have not presented any new resolutions. This month, I anticipate submitting at least three (3), all of which are typical, year-

ly business related items. If all goes to plan, I will be presenting to the Executive Committee a resolution for the proposed 2022 General Fund budget, along with the Indirect Cost (IDC) and BIA budgets. Additionally, my staff and I have worked with the Health Administration to get their items approved as well. As I understand, these have never been presented this early before. This is a testament to the hard work of staff within both offices to get this accomplished and I am grateful for their efforts.

Also, I have recently hired two (2) new directors for Procurement and Realty. Essentially, it is the removal of the "Interim or Acting" label from their titles. Much fuss was made about the release of previous individuals and how it could be detrimental to these respective programs.

I am proud to say it has not affected our Departments production and things have only gotten better. Both Directors, Rebecca Kennedy and Taylor Carter, are AST tribal members. It has been my goal to help our membership attain the leadership skills and provide them with an opportunity to showcase their skillsets.

As I complete this month's article, I remind our folks to continue maintaining Social Distance protocol, washing your hands or using hand sanitizer, and wearing a mask. Please stay safe this holiday season and have a "Happy Thanksgiving!" As always, do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions or concerns.

Neyiawa!

Joseph H. Blanchard

REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

DeWayne Wilson, AST Representative

Hello Tribal Members,

I hope everyone is staying healthy. The Tribal Complex is still at Phase 2 Modified- Split Shifts due to the COVID 19 (Delta Variant) pandemic. I just wanted to report, we (Executive Committee) have a team oriented environment which will only increase the opportunities/ successes of our tribe. Again, I want to send out my heart- felt condolences out to all Tribal families who have lost loved ones.

In the Education Department this month, the Executive Committee passed a resolution approving the establishment of the AST Workforce Development and Career initiative Program. This program is designed to invest in tribal employees/

members who want to obtain a skill set that will not only benefit the tribal member but the tribe as well. I want to say "Thank you" to Lt. Gov. DeLodge and the Self- Governance Department for their assistance.

In the Cultural Preservation Department: Cultural Preservation Director, Ms. Carol Butler and I have been meeting/ discussing the ANA/ Language grant. We are having issues hiring a Linguist for the grant. I have been talking with tribal elders/ members about possible candidates for a Linguist. Cultural Preservation Program Director, Carol Butler, Devon Frazier-Smith and I attended the Grand Opening of the First Americans Museum and they gave a brief presentation about the Absentee Shawnee flag.

As for the Gaming Commission: I

attended both Gaming Commission meetings, where we were approve/ disapproved employee/ vendor Licensing requests and researched training opportunities for future employees. We also had two Special Gaming Commission meetings this month so we could interview applicants for the Executive Director and Compliance Officer positions.

Finally the Youth Camp: In Sept. the Executive Committee passed a resolution approving the installation of playground equipment and recreation facilities at the Youth Camp. I want to say "Thank You" to Gov. Johnson and Brianna Ponkilla (CCDF) for their assistance. Lt. Gov. De-Lodge and I have been working with Mrs. Kimberly Hazlett (Self- Governance) and Mr. Jarrod Lloyd (OEH) hoping to pass a resolution to make an application to

Housing and Urban Development / ICD-BG. If approved for the ICDBG program, we will be able to construct a Multi- purpose building at the Youth Camp in the future. We continue to work with CLS and Associates Landscape Architects in developing the next phases of the Youth Camp.

As always, I am glad to be here representing our tribe and our tribal membership. If anyone has any questions/concerns or if we can help you, feel free to contact me at office phone #405-275-4030, Ext. 6239 or by email: dewayne.wilson@astribe.com

Respectfully, DeWayne Wilson



AST Veterans Ride in Red Earth Parade

The AST Veterans Association were invited to participate in the 35th Annual Red Earth Parade. The parade was held October 16, 2021 in Oklahoma City. The Red Earth Parade hasn't made an appearance since 2019 due to COVID.



"ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS"

Social Service Department LIHEAP Cares Program

Fan, Heater, Throw Blanket or Air Purifier

These items are available to LIHEAP Participants
The application will have a choice of **ONE** item listed.

A **LIHEAP Application** will need to be filled out with a copy of your CDIB card, SS card, utility bill, income (check stub, social security, unemployment, TANF, etc.), and live in Cleveland and Pottawatomie Counties. The Application will have a choice of one item listed above. Application can be mailed, faxed, or emailed.

For Questions please contact:

Social Service Department at (405) 878-4723 or (405) 275-4030, ext. 6311 or ext. 6225.







With one of your Cooling/ Heating/Water bill Through the LIHEAP or LIHWAP Assistance Programs If you live in Pottawatomie or Cleveland counties And enrolled with any federally recognized tribe.

> LIHEAP - Heating / Electric LIHWAP - Water



Applications can be picked up at the Social Service Department or printed off the website of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. For any questions please call:

Social Service Department (405) 878-4723 Fax: (405) 273-7938 Email: awilson@astribe.com / NEdwards@astribe.com 4 www.astribe.com November 2021

Why They Serve

Native Americans make up only 1.4 percent of the U.S. population but they have the highest rate of any population in the U.S. military. They serve in the Armed Forces at five times the national average.

Despite the troubled relationship with the U.S. government, Native Americans have played a key role in all military conflicts. The dedication to service stretches back to revolutionary and even civil war days; long before many were even U.S. citizens. Before this land was called the United States of America, it was Indian Country. The first ones to inhabit this soil are the first ones to stand up and fight.

What compels Native Americans to remain steadfast in their service? For many Tribal members, it is honoring the Shawnee Warrior way.

Army veteran Michael Deer stepped up as did his Shawnee brothers before him. "I wanted to serve in the Spirit of our old Shawnee Warriors who fought long ago to preserve our Indian way of life. Back in the days when Shawnee men stood up and fought for the people"

"I joined the Army because my grandfather Francis Deer is a Marine. He fought in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. My great grandfather Josiah Deer fought for the Army in World War 2."

Jason Bender, Marine Veteran also answered the call to serve as his duty as a Shawnee warrior. "What made me serve was the tradition of my family from my grandfather Wayne Longhorn who fought in World War 2 to my dad First Lieutenant Edward Bender and my uncles who served."

Fellow Marine Veteran, Representative DeWayne Wilson followed tradition as well. He joined up in the footsteps of his grandfather and father before him. Wilson felt it was his responsibility to serve. Darrol Davis served in the Army because he wanted to follow family tradition.

Brothers Casey and Tyler Wenholm both answered the call to serve, following in their uncle's footsteps.

Casey explained, "My uncle was in the Air Force before me and I was always fascinated by his stories. I wanted to explore the world while having the privilege to serve the country." His brother Tyson joined the Marines after seeing Casey and his uncle serve.

Not all Shawnees joined because of tradition. Some found it as a way to a better life.

Twenty year-old Roy Charley found himself at a crossroads. He was in trouble for assault and battery and the judge gave him a choice – jail time or the military. Charley left the courthouse and walked into the first recruitment place he found. His decision led to a distinguished 20 year career in the Navy.

Army Veteran Rick Little Axe joined for a better life as well. "I was a young man with little experience in any kind of trade and I had my son to take care of." he explained. "It took me four times to drive up to the recruiter and found out it was the best decision I ever made."

The call to join the military is also answered by women. Native American women have a higher rate of service than any other groups. Nearly 20 percent of native service members are women. Their reasons also follow the men's – tradition and a better life.

Army veteran Esteline Schulenberg watched her three brothers serve in the military. She sought a life of adventure and wanted to go places. This girl raised in rural Cleveland County did go places. She joined the Women's Army Corp and traveled as far as Japan.

"When I was a young girl, I would see pictures of women in uniform. I wanted to dress like that. I wanted to go place too." Schulenberg remembered. "I wanted to serve my country too. And yes I consider myself a warrior."

Schulenberg also had an influence on her niece Twila Parker. "I remember when I was about 5 we got up early as a family we went to my grandma Agnes Sloan's house. My aunt Esteline Sloan was leaving for the military. I remember she looked so stylish."

Parker also remembers watching her uncles J.B., Ted and Wendell Sloan all leave home for the military. But her earliest and greatest memory was her dad, Ernest F. Longhorn talking about his service in World War II. "My dad talked about his duty to his family, his tribe and to his country."

"He reminded me when I graduated Business School there needed to be two of us from the family. My younger brother Ewell had already enlisted and left. So I enlisted and joined the Air Force where I became an air to ground radio operator." Parker recalls.

Channa Deer also came from a family full of veterans. She was a single mom, working and going to college. "I wanted to better my life for my child. I wanted something I could have all in one and the Air force did just that. I didn't want to be a statistic." she said.

Taren Wiliams family only had a few members who served in the military. She is the only female who has ever served. She joined the Navy for the opportunities it provided but quickly came to realize that she it means more to serve. "I have the ability to serve not just this country but also, my family, friends and community of my small town Little Axe."

Another Little Axe local who served was Jessie White. He was a Marine Captain from 2002-2015. His reason for joining stemmed from the horrific 9-11 attacks on our country.

Fellow Marine Henry Blanchard joined so each individual could have rights and freedom.

Thanks to the many brave tribal veterans who served and continue to serve, we still enjoy our rights and freedom. The cornerstone of this country was founded on freedom. But before this land was the United States, it belonged to the Native Americans. The ones who were here first are the ones who are first to stand up and fight for this land. They are the first to stand up and go to battle just as the Shawnee Warriors that came before them did.



AST Veteran Casey Wenholm



AST Veteran Tyson Wenholm



AST Veteran Jason Bender



AST Veteran Jesse White





AST Veteran Roy Charley



AST Veteran Twila Parker



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ASTHS November 2021 Monthly Update

Medicare Basics for the American Indian Elder: Tips for Seniors

With Medicare open enrollment upon us again, it is absolutely imperative for Seniors (Elders) to know and understand their benefits more than ever. But also equally important is that our family understands the type of Medicare plan we are on as well. Often times, we are caretakers for the Seniors (Elders) in our families, and nationally this trend is increasing, for our parents and grandparents. Discuss with your family what

your specific plan covers, so when you are hospitalized or need surgery, everyone knows what is covered. Doing so ensures no one is surprised at the time health issues arise, as the stress and distractions caretakers are under will leave families in a reactionary, versus a proactive, situation that often carry avoidable stress and confusion, at the worst possible time.

Medicare is a federal health insurance program for people who are 65 or older, certain younger people with disabilities, and people with certain diseases. Your Indian Health Service/Tribal/Urban health or Indian health provider, may help you apply for Medicare by seeing one of our trained Patient Benefit Advisors (PBAs). If you use Medicare at your Indian health care provider, Medicare pays them. That saves money that can be used for other Indian health services.

Medicare Part A is Hospital Insurance, and Part A helps pay for inpatient hospital stays, skilled nursing home care, hospice care, and some home health care. This is important to have as Purchase Referred Care (PRC), formerly Contract Health Services, has both limits and restrictions that Medicare does not have in providing for your health care needs.

Medicare Part B, your Medical Insurance, is the part that covers doctor visits, emergency room visits, lab tests, medical supplies, and more. Part B also covers 18 preventive services including: diabetes screening, glaucoma screening, tobacco use counseling, cancer screenings, a "Welcome to Medicare" visit, which is an annual wellness visit that the clinic will call you you're your flu shots, and more. Part B is optional, but very important for Native Americans who qualify for it; if you do not sign up when you are first eligible, you may have to pay a penalty later. Note: You can still use your Indian Health Provider or go to a non-Indian health care provider who takes Medicare. Your health care provider will bill Medicare for you, and Medicare will send you and EOB (Explanation of Benefits) describing your treatment and what was covered after the encounter, generally within 30 days after billing by your provider.

Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage Plans) are provided by many different companies. Part C is called Medicare Advantage (MA) Plans, and they are health plans approved by Medicare, and run by private health insurance companies. You must have both Medicare Part A and Part B to sign up for an MA Plan. You must usually get all of your care and tests from doctors, hospitals, and other places that are part of the MA Plan (or in "network"). The MA Plan replaces traditional Medicare, and you use a separate insurance card. Ask your Indian Health Provider if an MA Plan is right for you by scheduling an appointment with our PBAs.

Medicare Part D (or your Prescription Drug Coverage), is a prescription drug plan. Medicare Prescription Drug Plans are approved by Medicare and are run by private health insurance companies. Part D plans help pay for prescription drugs. Elders should sign up for a plan that works with their regular Indian or Tribal Health Pharmacy so you can use that plan there. Because the Indian Health or Tribal Health Pharmacy can bill Medicare to get paid, there is usually no cost for the medicine if you use the Indian Health or Tribal Health Pharmacy that works with your Part D plan.

Questions our PBAs can answer for you are: "What will these insurance programs cost me?" "What is best for me and my family?" "What choices do I have on these plans?" When you use your Indian or Tribal Health Provider, you should not pay any costs yourself (deductibles, coinsurance, or copayments). Some programs have monthly fees. If you have limited income there may be help paying costs. Fees for some plans can be offset and information on the Extra Help or Medicare Savings Program is another reason visiting our PBAs, who can help you with making this huge life decision for your health care as an Elder. There may also be other programs in Oklahoma (and within our tribal community) to help with special situations such as disabilities. (Note: Enrolling in Medicare doesn't take away your right to receive care from your Indian Health or Tribal Health Provider). When you have Medicare and get covered services at your Indian or Tribal Hospital or Clinic, Medicare helps pay. You help your Indian and Tribal Health Provider and Tribe save money and pay for other services, and have more options, when you are covered. Tips to think about: 1). The type of coverage you need. Does the plan allow you to go to the doctors and hospitals you want? Does the drug plan cover your current medicines? 2). The cost of the plan. Prices are different. Compare costs. Find out if you can get help paying for the plan from your tribe or other sources. 3). The location. If you plan to use providers outside of the Indian Health Service or Tribal Health System, are they close to your home? Can you go to your preferred pharmacy?

Your situation may change after you sign up for Medicare. Think about your health and insurance needs every year. The first plan you sign up for may not be the best plan forever. You are not alone. Get help from family, our AST Health System PBAs, the Medicare website, or your local Oklahoma Health Insurance Assistance Program. Choosing the right plan today, alleviates headaches and stress tomorrow!

Join us in celebrating our November Monthly Employee Award Winners this month! These outstanding professionals and team players lead the way in making our programs succeed and with taking care of our patients!

November 2021 Health Employee Awards of the Month

Employee of the Month: Dustin Schmidt, AST Health IT Department

Team of the Month: AST Health System's IT Team

Special Leadership Award: Travis O'Dell, Health IT Director

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

Executive Director



NOVEMBER 2021

| Dates Closed: | Hours Closed: | Locations: | |
|---|---------------|--|--|
| Wednesday, November 4 th <u>Every 1st Wednesday each</u> <u>month</u> | Noon-5PM | All AST Health Facilities CLOSE at Noon PluseCare and Shawnee SameDay OPEN at 5PM until 8pm (last patient at 7:30 PM)LA pharmacy and Shawnee pharmacy OPEN at 5PM until 8PM. | |
| Thursday, November 11 th <i>Veteran's Day</i> | All Day | All AST Health Facilities CLOSED (LA Health Center [LAHC], LA Pharmacy, Shawnee Clinic and Shawnee pharmacy CLOSED) | |
| Wednesday, November 24 th | Noon-5PM | All AST Health Facilities CLOSE at noon | |
| Thursday, November 25 th Thanksgiving Day | All Day | Thanksgiving Day- All AST Health Facilities CLOSED | |
| Friday, November 26 th | All Day | ALL AST Health Facilities CLOSED | |

- Don't forget to request medication refills before closure: LAHC Pharmacy 405.292.9530/Shawnee Pharmacy 405.878.5859
- In the event of a predicted severe weather forecast, please call ahead for possible health system closure or delay: LAHC 405. 447.0300/ Shawnee Clinic 405. 878.5850/ PlusCare 405. 447.0477
- Health closures/delays are posted on the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System on Facebook and on ASTHS website at www.asthealth.org.
- Please remember the 1st Wednesday of each month our facilities are closed from noon to 5PM. PlusCare & Shawnee Clinic OPEN 5pm until 8PM (last patient at 7:30PM).





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NOVEMBER 2021

AFTERHOURS COVID-19 & ANTIBODY TESTING & VACCINE CLINIC

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER 405.447.0300

- <u>Testing</u>- 5:30pm-6:30pm: Thursday, Nov. 4th, & Nov. 18th
- ANTIBODY testing-5pm-6pm (LA only): Thursday, Nov.18th
- Vaccinations 5pm-7pm: Thursday, Nov. 4th, & Nov. 18th

SHAWNEE CLINIC 405.878.5850

- <u>Testing</u>- 5:30 pm-6:30pm: Tuesday, Nov. 9th, & Nov. 23rd
- Vaccinations 5pm 7pm: Tuesday, Nov. 9th, & Nov. 23rd

In the event of adverse weather, testing may not be conducted. Follow the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health System on Facebook or our website for updates at asthealth.org.



• Wear a mask (no cloth masks

For Your Visit...

- Bring identification.
- All clinics are open to the public, walkin only, no appointment needed.

For Antibody

Testing...

- Be prepared to
- have blood drawn. • Testing is available to anyone ages

For Vaccine Clinic...

- Vaccine is available to anyone ages 12+.
- Vaccine will be administered in two shots 3-4 weeks apart.
- You will be monitored 15-30 minutes after receiving.



HEALTH SYSTEM







Help Yourself, Help Your Tribe

SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR A \$0 COST HEALTH PLAN AT NO COST TO YOU OR YOUR TRIBE

2022 Open Enrollment | Did You Know?

OPEN ENROLLMENT Oct. 15-Dec. 7, 2021 **OPEN ENROLLMENT** Nov. 1-Dec. 15, 2021



- Patient Benefit Advocates and our contracted benefit advisers can help you qualify for a \$0 cost health plan via Health Insurance Marketplace or Medicare.
- You may also qualify for extra benefits such as Dental (including dentures or major services), Vision (exam/lenses), Hearing Aids, and more!
- Enrolling in a health plan expedites the Purchase & Referred Care referral process, providing you immediate access to specialized healthcare services and gives you peace of mind when you travel at zero cost to you and our tribal community, if eligible.
- Per Purchase/Referred Care guidelines, all Native American patients must apply for all available resources, if elegible.
- Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate to see if you are eligible for Native American Cost-Savings under the Affordable Care Act.

- The Tribe is only funded approximately 40% of cost to render care to patients? Most people think it is funded 100%.
- To add services, equipment, or help more people, we need your assistance.
- By signing up for a zero cost plan, you allow the tribe to bill for services and to be reimbursed by insurance companies. This frees up more dollars to help those who are not eligible for a zero cost plan helping Purchase & Referred Care dollars go further

We Can Help Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate

Little Axe Health Center 405.447.0300

Shawnee Clinic 405.878.5850

A contracted benefit adviser is also available to assist our tribal community with their open enrollment options free-of-cost.





Prevention. Progress. Pride.

www.asthealth.org







Working Together to Serve Our Veteran Warriors

VA Healthcare Services at ASTHS

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

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

Did You Know?

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

VA Benefits

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

OKC VA Native American Nurse Navigator: 405.456.3808

Apply for VA Health Benefits: 800.827.1000 **Apply for VA Benefits:** 855.488.8441 www.va.gov

Little Axe Health Center 405.447.0300

Shawnee Clinic 405.878.5850









www.asthealth.org



TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT CALL 405.701.7190

405.701.7600

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A 3RD DOSE OF **A COVID-19 VACCINE?**

MODERNA:

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is recommending that moderately to severely immunocompromised people receive an additional dose. This includes people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood.
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system.
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system.
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection. Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that
- may suppress your immune response.

PFIZER-BioNTech:

The CDC is recommending that only certain populations initially vaccinated with the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine can get a booster shot at this time:

- Older adults and 50-64 year old people with medical conditions.
- Long-term care setting residents aged 18 years and older.
- People with medical conditions aged 18-49 years.
- Employees and residents at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission.

People should talk to their healthcare provider about their medical condition and if they meet the above criteria for getting an additional dose.

For more information, please visit www.asthealth.org

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A \$0 COST HEALTH PLAN UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN.

Help yourself, help your tribe and see if you will qualify for coverage that will provide you and your family with immediate access to specialized healthcare at no cost to you or your tribe.



The premium assistance is in the form of a IRS Advance Premium Tax Credit taken in advance of the tax year, lowering or eliminating health insurance premiums for lower-and middleincome families. Signing up for a low-or-zero cost health plan allows tribes to receive reimbursement for services, which frees up more dollars to help those who are not eligible for costsavings programs, helping Purchased Referred Care dollars go

Native Americans must apply for all available resources, if eligible, to help augment the cost of tribal healthcare services. Program rules and continuity of care necessitates completion of an annual application for benefits to assure services are covered, even if ASTHS patient is already





Health Insurance Marketplace www.healthcare.gov 1.800.318.2596

WE CAN HELP Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate

Little Axe Shawnee Health Center 405.447.0300 405.878.5850 www.asthealth.org

🤼 HEALTH SYSTEM







Under 65? Apply for SoonerCare With New Medicaid Expansion.

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

services are covered, even if ASTHS patient is already insured.





WE CAN HELP Contact a Patient Benefit Advocate

Little Axe Shawnee **Health Center** 405.447.0300

405.878.5850 www.asthealth.org



Pharmacy Reminder



HEALTH SYSTEM

3 WAYS TO REFILL YOUR PRESCRIPTION

Call us with your prescription number ready at: Little Axe Pharmacy- 405.292.9530 Shawnee Pharmacy- 405.878.5859



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

ASTHS PHARMACY IS HERE TO SERVE YOU WITH NEW UPDATES



As of October 11, 2021, Pharmacy is no longer utilizing the RXtoGo Application for medication refills. Patients are now able to request refills with the RefillQuick Application available on Apple and Android devices. In the RefillQuick app you are able to select and save your default pharmacy by adding the phone number when you first open the app (LAHC- 405.292.9530 or Shawnee Clinic- 405.878.5859).

It is anticipated that wait times for the next few weeks may be longer than usual while staff gets familiar with the new refill system. We appreciate your anticipated patience during this transition. Thank you in advance.

Refill Requests can be made the following ways:

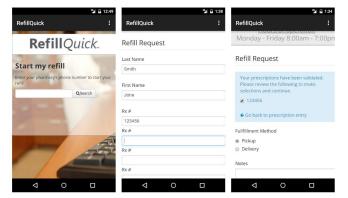
- 1. Calling via phone: LAHC 405.292.9530 & Shawnee Clinic 405.878.5859
- 2. Go to https://www.asthealth.org/services/pharmacy
- 3. Downloading the RefillQuick app on your Apple or Android device



REFILLQUICK APP STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Download the RefillQuick App on your Apple or Android device
- 2. Open the app and enter your preferred pharmacy phone number, this will be saved as your default Shawnee Clinic 405.878.5859 pharmacy in the future: LAHC 405.292.9530
- 3. Enter your information in the refill request boxes and submit
- 4. Once submitted you will see a prescription validation message. If you do not see this check your prescription numbers and for correct spelling of name





**For a "Pocket Profile" (list of all your medications) please request this verbally to our pharmacy staff

Ensuring hope & NATIVE Connections

WOMEN & YOUNG ADIES

MEDICINE WHEEL & 12 STEPS PROGRAM

To pre-enroll scan the QR Code or visit: https://forms.gle/ Dx5fhra6bBQF2 WhP6





 \mathbf{V} irtual 6 PM - 8 PM **Every Monday** Beginning September 20, 2021



FATHERHOOD IS SACRED; MOTHERHOOD IS SACRED **PARENTING CLASS**

PURPOSE

The fatherhood is Sacred & Motherhood is Sacred Parenting Enrichment Program was created by the Native American Fatherhood & Families Association (NAFFA) for fathers and mothers using a Native American approach. The purpose is to create positive change & to build a safe & happy family.

Outcomes

- Increase families and individuals ability to face life's challenges
- Build Person character & Integrity
- Become a more confident individual/parent
- Understand the importance of vision and how powerful it is
- Use critical thinking skills to explore ideas and solve problems within the family and communities.

COURSE CONTENT

SESSION ONE: INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAM **SESSION TWO: LAYING THE FOUNDATION** SESSIONT THREE: THE CREATOR **SESSION FOUR: CHOICE SESSION FIVE: ESSENTIAL PART OF CHOICE SESSION SIX: TEACHABLE**

SESSION SEVEN: BARRIERS TO BEING TEACHABLE **SESSION EIGHT: WISDOM SESSION NINE: SERVICE SESSION TEN: SELF-IDENTITY** SESSION ELEVEN: RELATIONSHIPS

SESSION TWELVE: NURTURING



AST DIABETES & WELLNESS

Center hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm,

through Fri-

Open by ap-

Please fill out

Fitness Bit



NOVEMBER 2021

POINTS OF 6 secrets to Staying Fit During The Holidays INTEREST Resource

- ple get busy during the holidays and exercise and fitness are not priorities. To keep yourself from getting discouraged, just keep moving. While waiting in line at the grocery store, do some calf raises, or walk in place. Sitting at a stoplight you can do a mini crunch. A mini crunch is sit up straight in your seat. Engage your core, and feel your belly button. Then imagine pulling it towards your spine. Tighten your abs as hard as possible, hold for a count of 8 and
- release. Like Dorie says "Just keep swimming" Be The Person With A Plan

- Schedule your exercise

like it is a meeting, and do

- NOT skip it. A boss doesn't skip a meeting!
- Make Lists, Exercise Early & Sleep-Making lists of things to get completed always helps me be more organized! The earlier in the day that you can exercise, the less likely you will skip it. As the day progresses, the busier people get and exercise seems to be the thing that gets deleted from the "To Do" list. SLEEP is very important for the body to recover and decrease stress. During the holidays, sleep decreases because there are too many things to get completed. Not
- Expect The Unexpected-Life gets in the way. Do not get frustrated if you miss a day of working out. Missing a day is not the end of the
 - world. Get Rid Of "All Or Nothing" Mindset-Doing some exercise during the holidays is better than doing none. If you have an entire routine that you usually do and do not have time for all of it, doing some is better than
 - Indulge For A Night, Not A Season- It is okay to have food that you do not normally get. Having one serving is fine. Having one or more servings several days in a row, in NOT okay.

skipping the whole thing!

Gobble Wobble



getting enough sleep will

and less productive.

make you sluggish, cranky

I use to participate in the Turkey Trot Race on Thanksgiving morning. After a few years, I wanted to get my family more active before they ate a big meal. About 12 years ago I started the Gobble Wobble 5K. We all meet at my Mother's house and I have mapped out a 3 mile route

We do it early enough in the morning that people would still have time to take a shower and get ready for the big day, plus they could start putting things in the oven before we took off The first year I had 8-12 people and the next year we had neighbors, friends that were in town

on leashes. This activity is still happening and it is bigger every year! We have had people stop and ask if this "event" was open to the public and how much it costs. It is a GREAT way to start the day, burn some calories and not feel as guilty about what you eat later in the day.





Pumpkin Touch





Pumpkin Up & Over

Wood Chop





Bent Over Row

MEALTH SYSTEM



ENSURING HOPE PROJECT

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

ELDER SUBSTANCE USE



Are elders impacted differently by alcohol and drugs?

Aging could possibly lead to social and physical changes that may increase vulnerability to substance misuse. Elders may be more likely to experience mood disorders lung and heart problems, or memory issues. lung and heart problems, or memory issues. Drugs can worsen these conditions, exacerbating the negative health consequences of substance use. It can also result in accidents and injuries which pose a greater risk to health in elders.

Prescription Medications

Chronic health conditions tend to develop as part of aging, and elders are often prescribed more medicines than other age groups, leading to a higher rate of exposure to potentially addictive medications. Other risks could include accidental misuse of prescription drugs, could include accidental misuse of prescription drugs, and possible worsening of existing mental health issues. Persistent pain may be more complicated in elders experiencing other health conditions. Up to 80% of patients with advanced cancer report pain, as well as 77% of heart disease patients, and up to 40% of outpatients 65 and older.





Do you know the risk factors for substance use in elders?



- Chronic Pain
- Physical **Disabilities**
- Reduced Mobility Transitions in
- living · Chronic Illness
- Avoidance coping style
- Previous or
- current mental illness
- Loss of a loved one
- **Forced**
- Retirement Change in Income
- **Poor Health Status** Taking a lot of
- medications and supplements History of
- substance use disorders
- Social isolation



If you or a loved one would like more information about elder substance abuse or mental health, please contact us or visit our website: https://www.asthealth.org/services/behavioral

-health

Ensuring Hope Project Director, Crystal Springer: (405) 878-4716 Little Axe Health Center: (405) 447-0300 Shawnee Clinic: (405) 878-4716





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

Building Blocks II

It's getting cooler outside and into the holiday season. Building Blocks had a fun October. We participated in Spooky Spirit week October 20th-29th. The children and staff enjoyed dressing up for Halloween and they had Halloween Parties on the 28th. Our teachers enjoyed decorating their bulletin boards for Halloween. Also, the children love to do art work especially for the holidays.

Daylight Savings Time Ends November 7th. Remember to set your clocks back for "Fall Back".

Building Blocks will be closed November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day

We will also be closed November 25th and 26th for Thanksgiving. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Have an awesome November and enjoy the holidays!











Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma **Child Care Development Fund Programs** 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee, Ok. 74801 (405) 432-8411 FAX: (405) 878-0156



AST Newsletter- Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Programs

November 2021

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

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

We opened the After School Program on the Shawnee Complex on August 16 but had to close on August 30 due to the closing of the complex. We hope to start again as soon as it is deemed safe by the EC and Emergency Manager Staff. If you or your family needs afterschool child care assistance outside of Shawnee, please contact us or apply through the child care assistance program and we can help find a provider that will be able to provide your child care needs.

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

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

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

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



Building Blocks III

We are currently ONLY enrolling children of AST employees. If you are interested in your child attending Building Blocks Child Development Center in Norman, OK please call (405)360-2710.

This past month our teachers and children have had fun decorating their classrooms/bulletin boards for the fall/spooky season. Our kids have enjoyed making yummy fall themed treats such as pumpkins pies, homemade bread, and Carmel apples to name a few. Our amazing teachers have worked so hard at creating purposeful hands on lesson plans. In doing this, the teachers are incorporating all five areas of child development along with several different forms of artwork, which relates to the changing season. enjoy a few of the moments we captured this past month.

October's Employee of the month is: Ms. Casey Infants Class

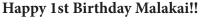
You can find us on Facebook @ AST Building Blocks Child Development Center III-Little Axe Page to see all the latest updates.

We look forward to meeting your childcare needs!















We Celebrated National Boss's Day! The Building Blocks staff would like to thank Our Director Skye Foreman & Assistant Director Renee Richardson for being absolutely wonderful boss's! We appreciate all you do!



AN ABSENTEE SHAWNEE ENTERPRISE

November 2021 www.astribe.com

Cultural Preservation Department

The Cultural Preservation Department has continued to carry out essential day to day operations to ensure the department continues to function properly. Since the last week of August, we have moved to a split shift schedule in which three staff members are available in the office every day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Gift Shon

In accordance with the change in operations, the gift shop is now only open to <u>Tribal members</u> for shopping. If possible, we do encourage curbside and porch shopping. We ask if you are wanting to shop <u>please make an appointment</u> with the Gift Shop Manager, Mrs. Merry Rodriguez, <u>24 hours in advance</u>. Also, upon arrival please check in at the checkpoint. Mrs. Rodriguez can be reached at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6310.

We have two locations for your shopping. Our Shawnee Gift Shop is located at the complex in the Cultural Preservation building, and our Little Axe Gift Shop is located in the lobby of the Little Axe Health Center. We are open in Shawnee Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and twice a month in Little Axe from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also, currently, we do not offer online shopping. However, we are looking into possibly making this an option for you in the future.

Further, to ensure the safety and protect the health of all, the Gift Shop has implemented the following 5 safety protocols that we ask visitors to follow:

- 1. All are required to cover their mouth and nose with PPE (masks) when shopping in the Gift Shop.
- 2. Occupancy Control for your safety and the safety of our employees, we are limiting the number of customers in the gift shop.
 - a. Only 2 customers will be allowed in at a time
- 3. Avoid close contact (Social Distance)
 - a. Please keep 6 feet between you and other customers
- 4. Use hand sanitizer as often as possible
- 5. Sorry...**NO** public restroom is available. Temporarily closed due to COVID-19.

We continue to make progress in new inventory, but please be patient with us if we are unable to get what you are looking for in-stock. Like other stores, we are experiencing shortages and delays with our vendors. However, we are excited to announce that we have received some of the new t-shirts. These new t-shirts can be seen to the left.

If you haven't been in our store recently, please make an appointment and get some early Christmas shopping done!



Library

Like the Gift Shop, the Library is open to Tribal members only. We ask that you follow all the protocols mentioned above, and that you call Ms. Casey Wilson, the Librarian, to make an appointment 24 hours in advance. She can be reached at (405) 275-4030 ext. 6416.

Further, for your safety, individuals are asked to use gloves while viewing books in the library, and to ensure that checked out books are properly sanitized, books are placed in a Ziploc bag and quarantined for four days upon return to the library.

Also, currently, we are still working on using OverDrive to get our collections online. We are hoping the online website is launched soon. Please reach out to the Librarian if you have any questions.

THPO

The THPO Program continues to make great strides and advancements. The THPO staff has steadily been receiving Section 106 projects from various Federal Agencies. Over the past month, the THPO Officer, Mrs. Devon Frazier-Smith, has received 296 new Section 106 projects for review. In conjunction with receiving projects, the program has consulted on 254 projects. These projects were completed in 11 of our 25 areas of interest/states. The THPO has also taken part in 11 teleconference calls as it concerns Section 106 projects as well as NAGPRA cases.

FCC/TCNS

In lieu of the shutdowns from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the incoming workflow of new and modified telecommunications projects has been steady for the TCNS program. The THPO Specialist, Ms. Ashley Brokeshoulder, has been busy reviewing, researching and given recommendations to the telecommunications industry. Over the past month, she has received 94 new telecommunications facility projects for review. These 94 individual projects will be completed in conjunction with 8 consulting firms in 8 of our 25 areas of interest/states.

In conjunction with receiving projects, she has reviewed, researched and gave recommendation for the clearance of 76 telecommunications projects. These 76 individual projects were completed in conjunction with 8 consulting firms in 8 of our 25 areas of interest/states. Also, 18 projects are awaiting clearance because their packages are lacking some information such as full archaeological reports, SHPO responses, or clear pictures.

EVENTS

With the change in the operations and out of concern for the safety of all, we have canceled all the workshops at this time. However, November is Native American Heritage Month, and the Cultural Preservation Staff are planning some activities to commemorate the month. Please be on the look-out for announcements on the website and Facebook.

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



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

EVERYONE

Shelter Placement Assistance

Referrals

Where we serve:

home/situation

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

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

Contact Us:

Office Line 405.273.2888

Fax 405.273.1192

Webpage https://www.astribe.com/domestic-violence **Link to intake** https://www.astribe.com/forms/victim-intake

f @ASTRisingWarrior

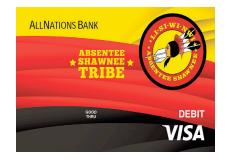
For emergencies call 911 or AST PD @ 405.275.3200

AllNations Bank

AllNations Bank announces added benefits for Absentee Shawnee Tribe members!!

Last year we partnered with the Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition, Inc. (ONAC) to establish the **Simply Safe Account**. This account makes banking accessible to everyone. AllNations Bank was the first Native American owned bank to offer this account, a certified Bank On account by The Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund. **Simply Safe Account** features are listed below:

• A debit card that honors the Absentee Shawnee Tribe – issued to AST members.



- Low balance to open
- Low monthly fee (Fee is now waived for AST members)
- Free direct deposit
- Free debit card
- Free online banking, bill pay & mobile app
- Free online monthly statement (\$2.00 fee for a paper statement)
- No overdraft fee (This is a check-less account. Account transactions are limited to Withdrawals at the Teller Window, Debit Card and ATM transactions, Online Bill Pay, Online or Mobile banking transfers.)

For any other questions about the Simply Safe Account features and benefits, please call AllNations Bank at 405-273-0202. Or go to our website www.anbok.com to download a new account application form and start banking with your Simply Safe Account today!



2023 Gordon Cooper Drive Shawnee, OK 74801 FDIC Insured 10 www.astribe.com November 2021

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Aguinaga, Jessika Lyn Aguinaga, Julia Dawn Aguirre, Daniel Enrique Alexander, Tammy Lynn Alford, Glen Tecumseh Alford, Reagan Elizabeth Alvarez, Amanda Leigh Araujo, Jonathan Jose Arms, Cameron Blake Arms, Dakota James Badger, Casey Mae Baker, Makaiah Lashaun Balch, Emily Twila Kay Baldwin, Ayveri Mae Bates, Damion Christian Bettelyoun, Cathern Mae Marie Billie, Kathrine Blanchard, Ashlynn Shay Blanchard, Cayanna Dee Blanchard, Dawsyn Rain Blanchard, John Michael Blanchard, Lisa Ann Blanchard, Matthew Ryan Blanchard, Norman Neal Blanchard, Tobias Ray Blevins, Dakota Royce Blocker, Bailey Marie Boatman, Allyson Lyndi Boatman, Mark James Bockoven, Tina Nicole Boston Sr., Carl Kent Boston, Arthur Joseph Box, Jodie Gayle Bradley Jr., Carl Franklin Bradley, William Lee Brandon, Sean Patrick Breeding, Joshua Adam Brewer, Rockey Darren Brinson, Allen William Brokeshoulder, Rita Gayle Brown, Andrea Elaine Brown, Keyondre Duane Brown, Shandalyn Shermain Bryant, Corbin Ash Bryce, Emily Danielle Buckheart, Felise Maria Bui, Reilly Paul Bump Jr., Richard Dewitt Campbell, Lousetta Carolina, Jammie Leann Carter, Andrea Dawn Caudillo, Robert Lee Chisholm, Cole Nathanial Collett, Dillon Wayne Colungo, Antonio Joaquin Conner, Robert Neal Cortez, Alixus Renee Creek, Kaydence Rae Crossley, Joseph Tyner Crow, Anabeth Sophia Ximara Crow, Randon Matthew Danner, Latonia Marie Davis, Alexander Edward James Davis, Eli Ioel Davis, Hannah Starr Davis, Joshua Lee Davis, Kayelah Janea Blair Davis, Rebecca Ann Day, Darnell Ann Deere, Karena Louise Dennis, Kayci Dawn Detwiler, Tanya Elaine Dietrich, Tricia Lynn Dodds, Cody Ralph Dolchok, Carole Sue Donnahoe, Leah Jane Doussett, Gabriella Diane Downey, Tyler Preston Draper Jr., Russell Lee Drywater, Sherry Lyn

Edwards, Chet Edwards, Cutke Lashelle R. Ellis, Paul Samuel Ellis, Phillip Steven Ellis, Scott R. Embery, Aubrianna Marie Fazende, Isabella Jasya Keith Ferber, Makenzie Kalani Fixico, George Manual Fletcher, Atheda Foreman, Robert Wade Foreman, Thomas Henry Fuentez, Ariana Yasmine Garretson, Alavla Danielle Garretson, Christopher P. Gibson, Athena Elizabeth Gibson, Dante' Jamison Gibson, Pamela Ann Gibson, Wilfred Lew Gomez, Petra Maria Goombi II, John Duane Goss, Melody Naomi Gower, Jon Paul Gray, Jared Christapher Gray, Jeffrey David Greenfield-Novick, Precious Dawn Groves IV, Donald Eugene Hadjiconstantinou, Brent Christopher Hale, Alisha Marie Hale, Tyrena Skye Harjo, Brittany Marie Harjo, Jacqueline Rhea Harjo, Maliyah Kinsley Harjo, Tawanna Jo Harp Brown, Tara Rae Harris, Kallie Dahn Harvey, Ronnie Troy Hatcher, Donald Ray Haumpy, Olivia Huerta Haumpy, Zaylee Jew'el Haydon, Lorraine Heisley, Robert Egan Hemphill, Justin Travis Hicks, Emily Nicole Hill, Kambree Shaylyn Hood, Allison Rachelle Hood, Stefanie Michelle Hopkins, Tabia Renee Hopper, Deborah Ann Huerta-Carrillo, Jacob Jeremiah Hulett, Tiffany Gayle Humphrey, Jo Lynne Isaacs, Jon Edwin Iacobs, Tiffanie Marie Johnson, Evan Ryan Johnson, Jackie Dean Johnson, Jaylin Lee Johnson, Michael Thomas Johnson, Nizhoni Naim River Johnson, Rayanna Kay Johnson-Stephenson, Alyssa Cyndel Jones, Easton Allen Kaniatobe, Guy Eliot Kaseca Jr., Frank Linn Keith, Joni Cheryl Keith, Lisa Gaye Kilmer, Cheyenne Lashell Kilmer, Kayla Marlene Kirby, William Hunter Lackey, Oaklen Ray Lalehparvaran, William Majid Larney, Patti Mae Larney, Walter Lee Lasenberry, Khloe Dawn Leath, Timothy Coates Leetka, Addysen Grace Leitka, Devin Lance Lewis, Lynda Carol Limon Jr., Richard Martin

Little Jim, Caleb Frank Little Jim, Clint Jason Little, Dee Ann Little, Lisa Ann Littlebear, Clifford Newman Littlebear, Josheau Alan Littlecreek, Sammi Louise Littlecreek, Sharon Renee Littlecreek-Testerman, Skielar D'Wayne Littlecreek-Watts, Lily Littlehead, William Bill Loeks, Betty Lou Logan, Terri Sloat Longhorn, Joel Boyd Longhorn, Stevie Lynn-Rose Longman Jr., Henry Daniel Lovins, Garrett Scot Lowe, Skyla Reyann Lowrance, Eaan Zane Mack, Darrin Wayne Mann, Loretta Lynn Mann-Shopteese, Wanda Gayle Martin, Tiffany Ann Martinez, Clayton Dale Martinez, Tiana Rae McBride Robinson, Allison Lorraine McBride, Marshall Dylan McBride, Travis Eugene McDaniel, Cody Aaron McGirt, Elijah Ray McGirt, Ricky Lee McGonigal, Michael Shawn McGuire II, Wayne Lloyd Megehee, Sheyenne Nicole Miller, Charles Ray Miller, Isabella Lois Mills, Lindsey Gayle Minnck Larney, Kayla Leeann Mitchell, Legus Trent Mitchell, Meegan Mohawk, Joni Marie Montez, Megan Danielle Montgomery, Stephany Sky Montgomery, Zechariah Cyreke-Dean Moore, Sophia-Marie Linda Morlan, Derek Thomas Morris, Austin Jay Morris, Miracle Marie Morton, James Cristian Morton, Rebecca Lynn Mossbacher, Avery Jade Muench, Rose Ann Musick, Dr. Charles Randall New Moon, Jessica Lynn Nice Jr., Jonathon Lee Novick, Ridley Rose-Everly Ortiz, Isaiah Faustino Owens, Asher James Owens, Rhett Patrick Pannell, Amy Marie Panther Jr., Donald Eric Panther-Pitner, Eliazbeth La Rayne Perez-Vargas, Joel Encarnacion Pierce, Velisa Allvn Ponkilla, Briana Cynthia Ponkilla, Mary Frances Preciado, Oscar Gabriel Ramirez, Axel Bennett Ramirez, Tiffany Elyse Reynolds, Ryan Hunter Richard, Frances Ann Ridenour, Lydia Paige Roberts, Siera Brooke Robinson, Sieanna Gail Robison, Laynee Elizabeth Russell, Averie Rayne Salazar, John Thomas Santa Cruz, Briana Danae Sawinski, Ashley Dawn Schoenebaum, Daxton Ryder Sherod, Daemon Marcus

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Sloan, Whitney La Rae Sloat, Amanda Renee Smith, Alfred L. Smith, Anna Mae Smith, Carolina Elizabeth Smith, Garett Allen Smith, Taylor Logan Snakeman, Luther Soap, Taziah Jayson Lee Spoon, Ariana Nicole Spoon, Bruce Wade Spoon, Christopher Scott Spoon, Joel Lee Spoon, Kolee Raye Spoon, Tresha Dawn Squire, Lauresa Cerise Stacy, Daelin Shey Stewart, Arvel Eugene Stoliby, Daniel A Stone, Heidi Nichole Stuckey, Wade Dexter Switch, McKenzie Ranee Switch, Michael Dwight Taylor, Ryan Aaden Thompson, Jami Lynn Thorpe, Gary Allen Thorpe, Iris Nahla Thorpe, Jasper Pristine Thorpe, Jonah Azariah Thorpe, Vicki Jo Tiger, Dion Anthony Tiger, Joseph Little Chief Tiger, Nakota Cotcha Tillery, Trevor Ryan Tilley, Nelson Vaughn Townson, Lindsey Denise Trent, Danielle Elyse Tyner, Michael Roy Tyner, Wasalee Raine 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 Weaver, Dylan Micheal 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, Dominic Warrior Williams, Ella Ann Williams, Erik Braden Williams, Heath Jared Williams, Katharine Melina Williams, Nathan Barrett Wills, Jessica Renae Wilson, Isaac Lane Wilson, Joseph Scott Wilson, Savannah Colette Wilson-Ongaco, Tristen Xavier Wolfe, Stormy Ray Wolfe-Clark, Tina Marie Womack, Grayson Wallace Yandell, Raymond Lloyd Yoder, Vanessa Lynn Younger, Sandra Kay



Duboise, Rebecca Kay

Edgmon, Pacey Wyatt

Eckiwardy, Selena Monica

Eckiwardy, Victoria Destiny

Happy 4th Birthday, to the coolest guy we know.

Limon, Jocelyn Marie

Little Axe, Brandon James

Little Charley Ramsey, Kieri Leeann

Little Axe, Paiden Taylor

Lindsay, Seth Ryan

Donnie "Bubba" Groves the FOURTH.

Mama and Sister, loves you so much!! You're the best Bubbas and son.



November 2021 www.astribe.com

AllNations Bank

News Release

To: The Absentee Shawnee News

From: **AllNations Bank** Date: 10-15-2021

Subject: Wade Stuckey Appointed to AllNations Bank Board

Wade Stuckey was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of AllNations Bank. He will also serve on the board of the bank's holding company, AllNations Bancorporation, Inc. He is filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Anita Chisholm.

Mr. Stuckey was born and raised in Shawnee, Oklahoma and is a member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. After graduating from Dale High School, he attended the University of Oklahoma where he received his B.A. in Business Administration. Wade Stuckey has been employed with Hobby Lobby for 17 years, and works as a manager within the Corporate Campus. He and his wife Kayla live in NW Oklahoma City and share 4 children. They are members of the South Yukon Church of Christ, and enjoy spending time with their family.

Steve Smith, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the bank, commented, "We are very pleased to have Wade join our leadership team. His experience in retail corporate management brings a new dimension to the board. With the bank exiting troubled status and looking to improve earnings and profitability, Wade's perspective will help us do that."



Wade Stuckey, new AllNations Bank board member.

News Release

To: The Absentee Shawnee News

From: **AllNations Bank** Date: 10-15-2021

Subject: Shane Jett Appointed to AllNations Bancorporation, Inc. Board

Oklahoma State Senator Shane Jett was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of AllNations Bancorporation, Inc. He is filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Tresha Spoon.

Senator Jett lives in Shawnee and is a Cherokee citizen. He served 11 years as an Intelligence Officer in the US Navy Reserve and has extensive background in government and finance. He has served in both the House and Senate in the Oklahoma legislature and is a Presidential appointee to an advisory board at the US Treasury. As CEO of the largest tribal Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), he raised capital from the federal government, banks, and private foundations with mission driven investment focus. Shane has served on national boards and two tribally owned bank boards. Shane speaks three languages, has an international business degree from Oklahoma Baptist University and an extensive international network. He has a certificate in Brazil Stock Market Operations from IBMEC Brazil and an Executive Education certificate in Legislative Leadership from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. In 2021, Shane graduated with a diploma from the ABA Stonier Graduate School of Banking and received a certificate in Leadership from The Wharton School. Shane serves on the Board of The Absentee Shawnee Economic Development. He and his wife, Ana, have been married for twenty years and have three daughters. They are members of Immanuel Baptist Church in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Steve Smith, CEO of AllNations Bank, stated, "We look forward to working with Senator Jett and drawing on his unique background as we continue the process of improving the bank's performance. His willingness to use his experience to serve on the bank holding company board is appreciated."



OBITUARY

Randolph Paul Hood

Randolph Paul Hood (Randy) was born in Los Angeles, California on April 23, 1956 and passed away peacefully on the morning of October 8, 2021. Randy was an enrolled member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and was also half Choctaw. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. Edgar Foster Hood (full blood Absentee Shawnee tribal member) and Mrs. Edith Wesley Hood (full blood Choctaw Nation tribal member).

The eldest of five children, Randy was born in Los Angeles, California. He was a gifted artist in many ways. He loved to draw and sketch and worked for a time as an illustrator for Walt Disney Animation. He taught himself to play classical guitar and enjoyed singing in several choirs and ensembles; in 1984 he performed with a group of choral singers during the opening ceremonies of the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. As a child he had his SAG (Screen Actors' Guild) card and was an extra in several films including "The Stalking Moon" with Gregory Peck and TV shows including "Bonanza!"

Randy enjoyed the simple things in life - he was an avid reader, loved movies and comic books and enjoyed spending time with family. He collected beautifully bound copies of classic literature and gifted them to the people he loved. He worked for a long time at the Escondido Public Library and enjoyed interacting with people from all different walks of life. He was smart, soft-spoken, generous and kind.

Randy is survived by his siblings, Flora Howe, John Hood, Lisa Burke and Richard Hood, many nieces and nephews and lots of cousins who will miss him, his strumming guitar and the baritone voice that filled the room.

COURT NOTICE

IN THE TRIAL COURT OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

In the matter of name Change of

Case No. CN-2021-09

AFFIDAVIT TO OBTAIN SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

being duly sworn upon oath states:

at she/he is the Plaintiff AShley Hudson above-named, and that on the 20 day +0000 ,2021 , said Plaintiff filed in this Court a Petition against October Defendant : and this is one of the class of cases prescribed by the Statutes of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, and is absent therefrom, and that with and after the exercise of due diligence, said Plaintiff is unable to make personal service upon said Defendant, William Smith, within the jurisdiction of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, and that Plaintiff wishes to obtain service upon the said Defendant by publication as provided by law. (AST CODE OF LAWS, Section 205, Section 206

Ashery Audson

My Commission Expires

CHELSEA LEA COPE Notary Public - State of Oklahoma Commission Number 20007225 ly Commission Expires Jun 17, 2024



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

<u>Programs Available</u>

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

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

Income requirements are set by HUD annually on all low-income programs Some services are dependent on funding availability

2 www.astribe.com November 2021

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

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| | Governor John R. Johnson 6308 Alvina Barnes | ELECTION COMMISSION Emily Longman6271 | POLICE DEPT |
| Š | Kim Porter | • | Jason Brinker |
| Gov. | | ENROLLMENT | Steven Crisp 6262 |
| | | Amanda Webb6292 | Linda Day 6261 |
| | Lt.Governor Ezra DeLodge6253 | Brittany Coughran6288 | James Woolbright |
| > | Diane Ponkilla6267 | Elicia Ramirez6290 | Russell Harjo |
| Gov. | Mike Bread6445 | FINANCE | Patrol Room |
| 4 | Andrew Warrior6263 | Kyle Coody | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT |
| _ | Fallon Jackson6236 | Jennifer Crenshaw6228 | Levi Walker 6426 |
| > | Secretary Alicia Miller6289 | Sandra Burnett6294 | PROCUREMENT |
| ar | | Tracey Dickson6279 | Dylan King |
| Secretary | Tina Ontiveros | Tina Fixico | Tara Battise |
| ec | Mary Ponkilla6446 | Courtney Green | Rebecca Kennedy |
| • | - | Holly Davis | Blake Wiggins |
| • | Treasurer Joseph Blanchard 6280 | Misti Casey | Lisa Camren |
| Treas. | Jan Ranft | Laina Martin | Brayden Queen 6339 |
| Ĺ | 6341 | Sheila King6344 | Dylan King 6244 |
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| ċ | Representative DeWayne Wilson 6239 | Conf. Room6397 | Taylor Carter 6246 |
| Rep. | 6240 | FOOD BANK | Cara Hamilton (Probates) 6248 |
| | | Falon Powell | Yecica Gutierrez6420 |
| RE | CEPTIONIST | Sarah Pederson6437 | Kimberlee Billie6235 |
| | 4030 | SW Office6439 | COCIAL CEDIMORO |
| | | NW Office6440 | SOCIAL SERVICES Annie Wilson (Director) |
| A — | TODNEY | GRANTS | Nancy Edwards 6225 |
| | TORNEY | Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi6338 | · |
| Ka | ndall Homburg6313 | Kryste Carter6284 | TAX COMMISSION / TAG |
| BIA | /SELF GOVERNANCE | Bronte Pearson6295 | Alicia Engler |
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| | itney Standing | Casey Adams | |
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NOTICE

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Unfortunately we can only accept **ONE PICTURE PER BIRTHDAY PERSON**,

not per birthday wish.

NOTICE

The Absentee Shawnee Complex will be closed November 11, for Veterans Day



The Absentee Shawnee Complex will be closed November 25 & 26 for Thanksgiving

