Law Governing Adoptions of Native American Children Upheld

By KEVIN McGILL

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A 1978 law giving preference to Native American families in foster care and adoption proceedings involving American Indian children is constitutional, a federal appeals court ruled Friday, reversing a lower court judge in a case fought with emotional arguments over adoptive families being “torn apart” and the urgency of protecting tribal families and cultures.

The decision from a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans upholds the Indian Child Welfare Act in a lawsuit involving non-Native American families in multiple states who adopted or sought to adopt Native American children.

Opponents of the law called it an unconstitutional race-based intrusion on states’ powers to govern adoptions. But the 5th Circuit majority disagreed, saying the law’s definition of an “Indian child” is a political classification.

The opinion by Judge James L. Dennis said the U.S. Supreme Court has long recognized that Congress has broad power to regulate Native American tribes. And it said the act’s definition of Indian child is broad.

“As Defendants explain, under some tribal membership laws, eligibility extends to children without Indian blood, such as the descendants of former slaves of tribes who became members after they were freed, or the descendants of adopted white persons,” Dennis wrote. “Accordingly, a child may fall under ICWA upheld pg 4

Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Norman and Shawnee continue to work on renovations on the interior and exterior of both casino facilities.

In Norman the upcoming projects are to coincide with the new exterior paint and mural completed back in July; additional renovations will include rocked accents areas, new signage, and a redesigned parking lot.

We are currently reviewing bids for border lighting, up lights for the mural area selecting the best candidate to complete the work. Currently under construction is a scenic rocked retaining wall that is being erected at the entrance, we have included with this article photos of the work in progress.

The Shawnee casino will be getting a fresh look indoors with an added video wall for showing sporting events and a larger seating area for enjoying our already great food options. The change will enhance our Food & Beverage offered and bring an improved sense of entertainment to the facility.

Thunderbird Entertainment Center, Cleveland County Sheriff’s Office

The changes will be impactful to casinos by presenting an updated look and inviting atmosphere thus, translating into more traffic and business to both casinos.

Lisa D. Frader, Marketing Director

As part of the cross-commissioning of Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police and the Cleveland County Sheriff’s Office, several officers took the CCSO oath of office today administered by Undersheriff Blake Green and committed to uphold our Mission, Vision and Values while working in our jurisdiction.

The Cleveland County Sheriff’s Office has served the citizens of Cleveland County since 1889. Under Sheriff Todd Gibson, our Mission: Putting others before ourselves as we compassionately serve and courageously protect is something we live daily. The Sheriff’s Office is committed to Transparency, Integrity, Relationships with the community and other agencies to increase efficiency, innovation to improve training and learning opportunities and continuously improve.

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police and Cleveland County Sheriff’s Office

Established 1845

Pictured left to right are: Undersheriff Blake Green, Officer Rickey Jones, Capt. Steven Crisp, Officer Trevour Story, Officer Jason Reid, Officer Russell Hopp, and Officer James Woolbright.

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The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is in the process of renaming the turnpike in naming the turnpike “The Kickapoo Turnpike”. We congratulate the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma for this great honor and the recognition of the State.

As everyone is aware, there has been a letter of approval in support of the naming of “Kickapoo Turnpike”. We congratulate the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma for this great honor and the recognition of the State.

Gaming COMPACT

October is the month of the September newsletter, Tribal Leaders have met and sent out the September 10, 2019 to the Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General – Mike Hunter (AG). As this issue continues, most of all, if not in tribal nations in Oklahoma, are still standing together as one. The Tribal Leaders Meeting was held at the Citizens Casino, Oklahoma City on September 10, 2019 at 1:00 pm.

Tribe that was present: Absentee Shawnee Nation Pawnee Nation Eastern Shawnee Tribe Ottawa Tribe Sac & Fox Nation Kickapoo Tribe Iowa Tribe Comanche-Arapaho Tribe Alabama Quassarte Tribe Town Quapaw Nation Eastern Band Cherokee Nation Comanche Nation Tsalagi Band of Cherokee Nation Fort Sill Apache One-Mississippi Nation Mescalero Apache Nation Citizen Potawatomi Nation General Council Comanche-Nobisku Nation Cherokee Nation Seminole Nation Chickasaw Nation Choctaw Nation Muscogee (Creek) Nation Kie Nation Tonkawas Tribe Seneca Nation Shawnee Nation Shawnee Tribe Wichita & Affiliated Tribes of Alpha Nation & Wichita Tribe Wyandotte Nation Potawatomi Nation Kiowa Tribe Ponca Tribe Tribe that was not present: Cherokee Nation of Georgia Mci, a member of the tribe, has been busy coordinating this month’s edition. We can all agree that the Tribe is taking an active role in the tribe’s future development.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe has partnered with United for Oklahoma (Unkt) to help raise funds for the tribe. With the help of contributions from tribal members, the tribe is able to provide resources and support to its members.

I, Governor-elect John Johnson and Treasurer Phil Ellis continue to work with our tribal members to ensure that the tribe is able to provide the best possible services and resources to its members.

The tribe is committed to ensuring that all of its members receive the best possible care and support.

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October 2019

Please Bring the Following to your Appointment:

- Drivers License or Tribal or State Issued ID.
- Full Names and Dates of Birth of your children and grandchildren.
- Any paperwork regarding your Indian land.

For more information on your Indian land, contact:

OST Beneficiary Call Center at

1-800-678-6836

The American Indian Wills Clinic will provide no—cost estate planning services to Tribal Members who live in Oklahoma.

To learn more about options for making arrangements for your Indian Land,

Please call (405) 208-5017 to make an appointment!

Domestic violence is not a Native American tradition.

Oklahoma Bar Foundation

JODI MARQUETTE
AMERICAN INDIAN WILLS CLINIC

Friday, October 18, 2019
Anadarko, OK ~ BIA Courtroom

Friday, November 8, 2019
El Reno, OK ~ Redlands Community College

Friday, November 15, 2019
Oklahoma City, OK ~ OCU School of Law

The American Indian Wills Clinic will provide no—cost estate planning services to Tribal Members who live in Oklahoma.

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This Project was made possible, in part, by a generous grant from the Oklahoma Bar Foundation.
Service Announces Landmark Revision to Eagle Retention Policy

In a monumental decision that underscores the agency’s commitment to honoring the wishes of federally recognized Tribes, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has revised its policy regarding the retention of eagle remains on lands within Indian Country. Federally recognized Tribes are now able to retain bald and golden eagle remains found on these lands under certain conditions and with the proper permits.

In 2017, the Service hosted numerous in-person and telephone consultation opportunities for federally recognized Tribes in the United States. During these consultation sessions, Tribal members requested the ability to retain bald and golden eagle remains found on their lands. The Service has revised its policy to accommodate this request.

The updated policy has three goals: authorize the retention of eagles found by a Tribe’s members in Indian Country, enhance eagle conservation on these lands, and avoid unnecessary human health or safety challenges that some deceased eagles pose.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is honored to have the ability to support Tribes’ spiritual, religious and cultural pursuits by authorizing the retention of eagle remains found on federally recognized Tribes’ lands. This updated eagle retention policy respects Tribal cultural and religious practices while protecting eagle populations now and in the future.

Under the updated policy, a federally recognized Tribe must receive a permit prior to possessing eagle remains found within Indian Country. When a Tribe member or employee of a federally recognized Tribe discovers eagle remains, he or she must report it immediately to Tribal or Service law enforcement officials.

Eagle remains found and reported may be eligible for return to the federally recognized Tribe for religious purposes after the Service completes any activities it deems necessary for law enforcement or for scientific management reasons. If the Service or a Tribal law enforcement officer designated by the Service determines that the eagle was not taken intentionally and human health risks aren’t suspected or known, it may be transferred directly to the respective federally recognized Tribe as long as the proper permits are in place.

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Certain activities like harassing, killing or selling these species are strictly prohibited. Eagles that are unlawfully taken, discarded, poisoned or part of an ongoing investigation will not be eligible for distribution.

More information regarding the Service’s eagle retention policy update can be found at https://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/eagle-retention-policy.html.

Federally Recognized Tribes Can Retain Certain Eagle Remains Found on Their Land

Under ICWA’s membership eligibility standard because his or her biological parent became a member of a tribe, despite not being racially Indian.” The decision was a victory for the U.S. Justice Department, which defended the law, and supporters who say the law is needed to protect and preserve Native American culture and families.

“We are pleased that the court followed decades of legal precedent in its ruling, preserving laws that protect Indian children and allows them to retain their identity by staying within their families and tribal communities,” leaders of the Cherokee, the Mirogo Band of Mission Indians, the Oneida Nation and the Quinault Nation said in a joint press release.

Tyson Johnson, vice president of the tribal council of the Quinault Indian Nation in Taholah, Washington, was one of numerous tribal representatives who attended arguments in New Orleans in March. “This serves the best interest of our native children and families,” he said in a telephone interview.

The ruling’s immediate effect on adoptive families was unclear. Matthew McGill, an attorney who represented four families was not immediately available for comment Friday evening.

The lead plaintiffs in the lawsuit challenging the law are Chad and Jennifer Brackeen, a Texas couple who fostered baby eligible for membership in both the Navajo and Cherokee tribes. The boy’s parents voluntarily terminated their parental rights and the Brackeens petitioned to adopt him. After legal battles, they were able to keep him when a placement with a Navajo family fell through. They hope to adopt his younger half-sister, according to briefs.

McGill represents the Brackeens and a Minnesota couple, the Jason and Danielle Clifford, who were unable to adopt a child who lived with them after having been shuttled among foster homes. “The Clifford’s family was literally torn apart,” he told the appeals court judges during arguments in March.

Clifford asserts for a panel that also included judges Jacques Wiener and Priscilla Owen. A footnote in the opinion said Oman dissented in part and would soon file a separate opinion.

ICWA upheld continued from pg 1

More information regarding the Service’s eagle retention policy update can be found at https://www.fws.gov/nativeamerican/eagle-retention-policy.html.

Executive Committee

October 2019

$1,000 THROWS DOG DAYS

WIN $1,000 INSTANTLY

NORMAN

THUNDERBIRD CASINO

FRIDAYS • 5PM-10PM

ONE HOT SEAT EVERY HOUR

Hot Seats will be held at a random time each hour between 5pm and 10pm. Must be actively playing a slot machine to be eligible.
October is the official beginning of Flu season in the United States. Flu season occurs annually and runs from the month of October through March, although flu can occur any time of the year. If you’ve ever had the flu, you know how miserable it can be. Symptoms include, but are not limited to: Fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, muscle aches, headaches and fatigue. Flu sufferers can also have all of these symptoms, or some of them, and occasionally GI upset, like diarrhea, which can be severe.

The best protection from the flu that you can give yourself is to always wash your hands, cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze and GET VACCINATED. Employees of the tribal health system receive their flu shots free of charge through employee health and are encouraged to get the mandatory vaccination as early as possible. Each AST clinic will have flu shots available, and taking anti-viral medications if you were exposed to the flu before being vaccinated.

Flu season coincides with the cold weather season in the United States. Flu is just a bad cold. Influenza may cause bad cold symptoms, like sore throat, runny nose, sneezing, heaviness, and cough. But in the United States alone, 56,000 people die and more than 200,000 are hospitalized each year from the month of October through March. Flu season is HERE!

Flu shot required for attendence at Compliance Training. Flu shot also required for anyone with Childcare

From the Harvard Medical School website, here are 10 common myths about the flu.

1. MYTH: You can catch the flu from the vaccine.

The flu shot is made from an inactivated virus that can’t transmit infection. So people who get sick after receiving a flu vaccination were going to get sick anyway, it takes a week or two to get protection from the vaccine. But people assume that because they got sick after getting the vaccine, the flu shot caused their illness.

2. MYTH: Healthy people don’t need to be vaccinated.

While it’s especially important for people who have a chronic illness to get the flu shot, anyone — even healthy folks — can benefit from being vaccinated. Current CDC guidelines recommend yearly vaccination against influenza for everyone older than 6 months of age, including pregnant women.

3. MYTH: Getting the flu vaccination is all you need to do to protect yourself from the flu.

There are a number of steps you can take to protect yourself during flu season besides vaccination. Avoid contact with people who have the flu, wash your hands frequently, and consider taking anti-viral medications if you were exposed to the flu before being vaccinated.

4. MYTH: The flu is just a bad cold.

Influenza can cause bad cold symptoms, like sore throat, runny nose, sneezing, heaviness, and cough. But in the United States alone, 56,000 people die and more than 200,000 are hospitalized each year because of the flu.

5. MYTH: You can’t spread the flu if you’re feeling well.

Actually, 20% to 30% of people carrying the influenza virus have no symptoms.

6. MYTH: You don’t need to get a flu shot every year.

The influenza virus changes (mutates) each year. So getting vaccinated each year is important to make sure you have immunity to the strains most likely to cause an outbreak.

7. MYTH: You can catch the flu from someone with cold weather without a coat, with wet hair or by sitting near a drafty window.

The only way to catch the flu is by being exposed to the influenza virus. Flu season coincides with the cold weather. So people often associate the flu with a cold, drafty environment. But, they are not related.

8. MYTH: Feed a cold, starve a fever.

If you have the flu (or a cold) and a fever, you need more fluids. There’s little reason to increase or decrease how much you eat. Though you may have no appetite, “starving” yourself will accomplish little. Adequate nutrition will not help you get better.

9. MYTH: Chicken soup will speed your recovery from the flu.

Hot liquids can soothe a sore throat and provide much needed fluids. But chicken soup has no other specific qualities that can help fight the flu.

10. MYTH: You have a high fever with the flu that lasts more than a day or two, antibiotics may be necessary.

Antibiotics work well against bacteria, but they aren’t effective for a viral infection like the flu. Then again, some people develop a bacterial infection as a complication of the flu, so it may be a good idea to get checked out if you have symptoms dragging on or worsen.

Source: https://www.health.harvard.edu/diseases-and-conditions/10-flu-myths
**Economic Development Community Event**

**Come join us for an economic development session focused on Highway 9 in Little Axe, OK**

- We want to hear from you!
- Provide a Project Overview of new C-Store; Restaurant, Outpatient Pharmacy and Health Plaza
- Learn about future Job Opportunities

**Date & Time:** Friday, October 4th (11am – 1pm)

**Location:** LA Health Center – Conf. Room A & B

**Lunch is provided!**

---

**Bingo on this Multi-Purpose Building 10 am October 19, 2019**

**DAY OF UNITY ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE HEALTH MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING**

**SAVE THE DATE 6th ANNUAL AMERICAN INDIAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY OF UNITY**

**Absentee Shawnee Tribe Health Multipurpose Building 2029 S. Gordon Cooper Drive | Shawnee, OK 74801**

**10:00 am - 3:30 pm**

“ENDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOGETHER”

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**Title VI**

**OCTOBER!!!**

Now how these months have flown by!! October 2, The Title VI Staff will be attending the Tankersley Food Show in Fort Smith Arkansas

October 19, AST General Council Multi-Purpose Building 10 am

October 25, 2019 - Title VI General Council Multi-Purpose Building 10 am

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**Happy Birthday to Sidney Foreman, Katrina Foley, Lydia & Vernice Longhorn Ryan Davis**

We wish you all a wonderful day and enjoy your family.

LOVE THE KASECA’s

LOVE GRANDY RONDA

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**Help Wanted**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Staff Accountant I</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance Office Manager</td>
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<td>AST Shawnee, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen School Worker</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<td>Surveillance Technician #1</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<td>Surveillance Operator #1</td>
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<td>Food Prep Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ultrasound Technologist</td>
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<td>Radiologic Technologist</td>
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<td>RN Case Manager</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<td>Travel Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Clerk</td>
<td>Shawnee, OK</td>
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<td>Health Human Resources Specialist</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<td>Pharmacy Tech</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fitness Technician</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveillance Operator</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrollment File Clerk</td>
<td>Shawnee, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Quality Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Patient Scheduling</td>
<td>Norman, OK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receptionist/Phone Operator</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Applications and Resumes**

A complete list of opportunities, detailed information and a downloadable application are available at [www.astribe.com/employment](http://www.astribe.com/employment). Applications can also be picked up at the Human Resources Department located at the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex, 2029 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK.

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND RESUMES TO:

email: HR@astribe.com

fax: 405-273-2710

or mail to:

Absentee Shawnee Tribe-HR Department 2029 South Gordon Cooper Drive

Shawnee, OK 74801
October 2019

AST Veteran’s Princess

Now accepting biographies

Candicate must be of Absentee Shawnee decent
Age 13 to 18 years of age
One family member (veteran living or deceased)
Submit a biographical showing applicant’s knowledge of the Absentee Shawnee heritage, veteran background and accomplishments
Dancing ability
Must be full regalia and be present at time of selection
No Cohabitation
No children

For further information or questions please contact the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Veteran’s Association at 405-275-4030 ext 6416.

The Absentee Shawnee Veterans and Cultural Preservation Department will be selecting the AST Veteran’s 2019-2020 Princess. We are now accepting biographies from all interested young ladies who meet the following criteria. The princess will be announced and crowned at the Veteran’s Gourd Dance on November 2, 2019.

For more information
Casey Wilson 405-275-4030 ext. 6416
e-mail: cwilson@astribe.com

ELDERS COUNCIL CHRISTMAS BASKETS
APPLICATION FORM

Qualifications:
1) Must be Absentee Shawnee Tribal Member
2) Must reside within the counties of Pottawatomie, Cleveland, Lincoln or Oklahoma
3) Must be 50 years old or above
4) Must be nominated by a member of the Elders Council

NAME: ________________________________________________
ADDRESS: ____________________________________________
PHONE NUMBER: ______________________________________
NOMINATED BY: _________________________________________
REASON: □ Nursing Home □ Home bound □ No transportation □ Health issues □ Other: __________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Submit application no later than NOVEMBER 29, 2019
Mail Application to: AST Elders Council
2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801
Alternative: Drop-Off application at the Tribal Complex Building #1, Receptionist Office use only:
Date received: _______________________ Received by: ____________________________
Delivered by: ________________________ Date of delivery: _________________________

For further information or questions please contact the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Veteran’s Association or Cultural Preservation Department at 405-275-4030 ext 6416.

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Please include address and phone number. All biographies must be submitted to the Absentee Shawnee tribe at 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801. Any Cultural Preservation or emailed to cwilson@astribe.com. Deadline for submission is October 28, 2019. All qualified applicants will be considered.

THE TRIBAL LIBRARY IS NOW ARCHIVING PHOTOS!

Come to the Cultural Preservation Building and have your pictures scanned and handed right back to you.

Together we can make a living history.

We would like to film our people’s history in their own words and keep it here at the library for future generations to be able to access, and learn from.

For more information
Casey Wilson 405-275-4030 ext. 6416
email: cwilson@astribe.com
AST Health Employee Appreciation - Week Sept. 3-6

AST Health’s commitment and unwavering service rises above, dedicated to our patients, tribe and community. Health Administration honored our health employees with an appreciation week. The week was filled with goodies, treats, food and games. During Town Hall, we fired up the grill and we let the games begin! With our sleeves rolled up and fierce competition, staff participated in games of Corn Hole, Uno, Jenga and a Minute to Win it Relay.

Quality of care and unyielding service is the guiding principle of our health system and we are thankful to have such an outstanding staff that plays a key role in making AST Health top notch in our community.

Winners of Corn Hole were Liyahna Bender and Kyerra Blanchard. Uno Champion Eshtakaba Lafromboise and Maintenance Department won the Minute to win it Relay.

Make sure you get the next issue!

Issues come back to us not being delivered... make sure your address is correct! Don’t miss a minute of tribal news and information! Anyone needing to be on the mailing list Please Call!

UPDATE your address Call Sherman Tiger AST Media Director 405-598-1279 stiger@astripbe.com
Turkey Chili (serves 8):

- 6 tbsp. canola oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. oregano
- Salt and pepper
- 1 tsp. tapioca starch
- 2 lbs. lean ground turkey
- 1 green pepper, chopped
- 1 yellow pepper, chopped
- 2 red bell peppers, chopped
- 1 can (16 oz) diced tomatoes, drained
- 1 can (28 oz) tomato sauce
- 1 can (15 oz) red kidney beans, drained
- 1 can (14.5 oz) chicken broth
- 1 tbsp. apple cider vinegar
- 1 tsp. honey
- Toppings of choice.

**DIRECTIONS**

1. In a large skillet, add oil and heat over medium-high. Add onion, garlic, chili powder, cumin, oregano and salt and pepper. Stir and season paste, diced tomatoes, beans, jalapeños, canned green chilies, chili powder, oregano, and cumin. Stir and season with salt and pepper.

2. Add bell peppers, red kidney beans, tomato sauce, diced tomatoes and chicken broth. Stir to combine. Bring to a boil and reduce heat.

3. Cover and cook on High for 4 hours or low for 6 hours.

4. To serve, pour chili into a large bowl. Add toppings of choice. Serve warm!

**SERVING SIZE**

- Calories: 237 cal
- Fat: 5 g
- Saturated Fat: 1 g
- Cholesterol: 43 mg
- Sodium: 913 mg
- Potassium: 31 g
- Carbohydrates: 7 g
- Fiber: 9 g
- Sugar: 7 g

**NUTRIENT INFORMATION**

- 13% calcium, 3% Vit A, 5 % Vit C.
Fiscal Year 2019 - YTD Tax Collections (through 8/30/2019)

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Sales & Lodger's Tax

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe includes Sales & Lodger’s Tax (8%) on the gross rentals of any property in the Tribe's jurisdiction, including: • Renting rooms • Renting rooms • Renting rooms • Renting rooms

Soverance Tax

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe levies a Severance Tax (8%) on the gross market value of all oil and gas products severed from the land within the Tribe’s jurisdiction, in which it has mineral rights. The total market value is determined at the time the products are severed.

Posessory Interest Tax (PTT)

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe includes a Possessory Interest Tax (8%) on the gross volume of all oil and gas products severed from the land within the Tribe’s jurisdiction, in which it has mineral rights. The total volume of products severed is determined at the time the products are severed.

Vehicle Registration & Taxation

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe includes a Vehicle Registration & Taxation (8%) on the gross volume of all vehicles operated in the Tribe’s jurisdiction, in which it has mineral rights. The total volume of vehicles operated is determined at the time the products are severed.

Earnings Tax

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe includes an Earnings Tax (8%) on the gross earnings of any person engaged in the Tribe’s jurisdiction, in which it has mineral rights. The total earnings of any person engaged in business is determined at the time the products are severed.
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Schedule Closings

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dates Closed</th>
<th>Time(s)</th>
<th>Locations:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Oct. 2nd (1st Wed of Month) Noon to 5 PM</td>
<td>All AST Health facilities CLOSED</td>
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<td>- Shawnee Clinic OPEN at 5 PM until 9 PM (last patient at 7:30 PM).</td>
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<td>- PlusCare OPEN at 5 PM until 8 PM (last patient at 7:30 PM).</td>
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*In the event of a predicted severe weather forecast, please call ahead for possible health system closure or delay:
  Little Axe Health Center at (405) 447-0300, Shawnee Clinic at (405) 878-5850, or PlusCare at (405) 447-0477

**Health closures/delays are posted on the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Facebook wall “Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health”, & on ASTHS website at www.asthealth.org

ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY
COMMUNITY MEETING

Come join us for an informal session to learn about the work that has been done on the future AST Assisted Living Facility.

- We want to hear from you!
- Learn about the market research study
- Overview of locations and plans

Date & Time:  
Friday, November 15th  
(11:30am to 1pm)

Location:
LA Resource Center
1970 156th Ave NE
Norman, OK 73026

Lunch is provided!

VACCINES FOR TEENS
Keep your adolescent vaccinations up to date

Kids grow out of many things, but vaccines aren’t one of them. Every year in the U.S., 2.5 million people die from vaccine-preventable diseases. Because adolescents are at risk for many of these serious diseases, immunization is especially important. Ask your healthcare professional about all recommended vaccines to protect your child.

Remember
the 4

- HPV (human papillomavirus): The vaccine is most effective at preventing associated cancers for both boys and girls when given during preteen years.
- Menengococcal: Two types of menengococcal disease vaccines protect against the most common serogroups. Teens should start the ACWY vaccine at 11–13 years old, with a booster dose between 16 and 18 years. They may also get the meningococcal B vaccine at 16-18 years of age.
- Td (Toxemia, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (whooping cough)) and Tdap Booster (Diphtheria and Pertussis) Adolescents should receive a Tdap vaccine between the ages of 11-12. Regular boosters of Td vaccine are recommended every 10 years to protect these at risk.
- Flu: Flu season typically starts in October, and the virus can manifest each year. Annual vaccination is recommended.

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Cultural Preservation

The Cultural Preservation Department has been busy the past month with hosting events and being involved with other tribal programs. The following is a summary of the department’s most recent activities:

Special Events.
July 12th the Cultural Preservation attended the Health Fair at the Little Axe Health Clinic. The gift shop opened for extended hours during this time. Also, Cultural Preservation handed out pencils and drawing bags from the Cultural Preservation.

September 2019 Absentee Shawnee Cultural Preservation attended the Algonquin Language Festival held at the Jim Thorpe Memorial Gym in Stroud, Oklahoma. The language festival was a wonderful 2-day event and many tribes came together to discuss the importance of language preservation and new ways to reach that preservation goal. The event also consisted of a pow wow/traditional dance. The language festival also included a day of classes/workshops that included mocassin making, beadling, Indian Dize and yarn work.

The Cultural Preservation department staff was invited to the Chickasaw Nation Library and Cultural Center located in Ada, Sulphur, Oklahoma. A library tour was provided and the2 staff was given a guided tour of the library. This was provided useful insight on how the Chickasaw Nation has structured its library and the benefits and rewards that are gained for the Chickasaw Nation Tribal members. Sourcing this additional information will help in the further growth and development of our AST library and help in maximizing the use of grant funds that have been awarded to the CP Department. Also, a behind the scenes tour was given by the Chickasaw Nation Cultural Preservation Department and Library. This additional tour provided important sharing of valuable information that can be incorporated into the further development of our own Absentee Shawnee Cultural Preservation Department.

Trained/Conferences.
Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) Devor Franklin and THPO Specialist Ashley Brodershield attended training for GIS (Geographic Information System) software for Roseneuf, Colorado. GIS is a program that can be utilized to create different types of maps with layers, such as, a map containing our migration story from our ancestral homelands. This map could be accessible to our tribal members on the AST website upon completion.

Libraries, Cultural Preservation Tribal Librarian, Casey Wilson attended Strategic Planning. 101 workshop in Edmonton, Oklahoma. There Casey met with some other tribal nations to discuss how to develop a strong strategic plan for future grant funding opportunities for Oklahoma Department of Libraries and Oklahoma Historical Society. Casey has also made contact with the University of Oklahoma Librarian, Lina Ortigo. Discussions have been focused on early archives collections in the Western History Library and recordings for the Absentee Shawnee contest within the Indiana for Indiana radio show that was broadcasted in the early 1900’s. Casey has also been in contact with the University of Nebraska for making copies of published books created many years ago for copies to be held in the tribal library for tribal members to check out and read. Casey was awarded a scholarship to attend conferences for 20 college credit hours that will be held on September 24, October 9 and 22 to be a certified librarian specializing in adult reference.

Other Activities.
Listed below are upcoming events and classes schedule. My staff and I look forward to your continued support and participation at these events/workshops/classes.

- September 20, 2019 from 2PM – 4PM Cultural Preservation will host its 1st annual Art Show featuring native artists from all over the state of Oklahoma.
- Apsen Workshop **TD**
- Can Making Class Part II **TD**
- Fan Making Class **October**
- Gourd Making Class **November**
- AST/CPN Veteran Gourd Dance November 2nd, 2019 at the CPN Veterans Hall.

Also, please watch for more upcoming events and classes. As always, please feel free to contact me, Andrea, at 405-275-4030 Ext. 6245 or aellis@astribe.com.

Thank you! Your continued support and understanding is a valuable asset!
The health system was recognized again by the American Heart Association’s Gold status with our Target High Blood Pressure (HBP) study! Improvements in patients managing their HBP continue to show marked improvement with the collaboration with the clinic staff and patients with HBP. Health will be sponsoring its annual Breast Cancer Awareness events at both the Little Axe Health Center and Shawnee Clinics, complete with refreshments, and lists of breast cancer awareness information on the 14th and 21st of October with “Paint it Pink” events. We’re also going to tear up Selfie Stations for Indigenous Pink Day on Oct 17, raising awareness about the effects of breast cancer on the American Indian Population #IndigenousPink. The 6th Annual Zombie Run will be held this month, with more people than ever anticipated to participate in an evening of family friendly activities including music, health education, wellness activities, and good old fashioned Halloween fun with our Trunk or Treat at Lake Thunderbird’s Clear Bay area - we hope to see you there! As the flu season rapidly approaches again, it is imperative you get your flu shot. We’re having extended hours flu clinics 4 days in October (on the 7th, 9th, 28th, and 30th of October from 4-7pm), and we’ll be present before General Council on the 19th with flu shots until the meeting starts. All Flu Vaccine has been released, so the Public can come get flu shots. Plus care and Same Day Clinic will do flu shots as well. Plus care will vaccinate patients age 2 years of age and older. We will also be providing the flu shot at all of our clinics with nurse visits. Tests for the flu are indicating it has arrived early again beginning in late August, so please ensure you and your family are protected. The health system encourages everyone in the community to stay healthy this year by utilizing good personal hygiene, especially with good hand sanitation procedures.

If you know of any tribal member who is homebound and needs assistance medically, including home health services, please contact administration at (405) 701-7621 so we can assist as best possible with resources or coordinate assistance for these members in need. Thank you all for making our entire staff and employees feel appreciated and for using all of our wonderful services!

Our health system’s most valuable asset is our people! I’m always impressed with and proud of our outstanding star performers, and again this month, we thank them all for their contributions to our patients, their fellow employees, and the tribe! The health employees continue to accomplish outstanding feats for our patients and for each other, taking care of our internal and external customers/patients. Thank you all for making an important difference in the lives and health of all of our health system’s patients!

September 2019 Employees of the Month:

Employee of the Month
Rolanda Smith, Behavioral Health
LittleAxe Clinic

Team of the Month
AST Health Security Team

Special Leadership Award
Matt Jones, Provider, LittleAxe and PlusCare Clinics

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

Free Music Lessons
Keyboard
Guitar
Bass
Percussion
Ukulele
Voice
Open to all Native Americans w/ CDIB#
October 2019

Full is here! We at the AST CCDF Programs are excited for the things that are coming up in this new fiscal year and the start of the 2020-2022 CCDF Plan Prep will start on July 10/19 and continue until 9/30/22. This is a three-week prep window to become fully compliant with the CCBDR Act of 2014. The CCBDR Act of 2014 requires a full day to be included to: include: protect the health and safety of children in care. This is a chance to ensure that informed consumer choices; provide equal access to stable child care for low-income children and families; and inform the public about the quality of child care. This plan is currently being reviewed by the fostered Office of Child and it is a tool to: we will post the plan on the AST website for everyone to see and at the end of the fiscal year, it will be available in our offices if you would like a hard copy.

Starting October 1, to help with the compliance of quality child care, the CCDF Subsidy Program will be starting a new child care provider type for AST Child Care Subsidy families. Approved families will have the option of choosing a Relative Home Provider for their child care. In the past a relative provider had to be OKDHS licensed. Starting Oct, Relative Home Providers are exempt from having an OKDHS license but must be tribally licensed for child care. Relative Home Providers will provide care for children that they are related to and do not reside in the child’s home. RHPS will be authorized and tribally licensed based on their application, passing a background check, home inspection and other requirements. RHPS will have to meet certain guidelines and follow tribal standards for care including child to adult ratio. RHPS will be subject Monitoring and monitoring guidelines. We will have the application and guidelines on the AST Website under the Service/Childcare page or by Oct. 1. Applicants who wish to utilize the RHPS will need to be eligible for AST Child Care prior to RHPS approval. Please contact one LaNora Buswell, CCFD Specialist, if you have any questions. We are still accepting applications for families who may be interested in child care assistance and cannot get assistance through OKDHS. Children must have their own OKDHS cards or letters of application to a federally recognized tribe. Applicants can choose which child care provider that best fits their child care needs such as a Tribally Operated Center. Non-tribal providers will provide care for children that they are related to and do not reside in the child’s home. RHPS will be authorized and tribally licensed based on their application, passing a background check, home inspection and other requirements. RHPS will have to meet certain guidelines and follow tribal standards for care including child to adult ratio. RHPS will be subject Monitoring and monitoring guidelines. We will have the application and guidelines on the AST Website under the Service/Childcare page or by Oct. 1. Applicants who wish to utilize the RHPS will need to be eligible for AST Child Care prior to RHPS approval. Please contact one LaNora Buswell, CCFD Specialist, if you have any questions. We are still accepting applications for families who may be interested in child care assistance and cannot get assistance through OKDHS.

Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) Programs

At the Building Blocks located in Norman we currently have 35 children and in the process of enrolling more. We currently have 29 staff members and we are looking for more to expand the process to become new team members soon. We do currently have 29 children on our waiting list with hopes on enrolling all as soon as possible. Our center has been accredited through Cleveland County DHS as a Two-Star Facility. Two-Star programs meet additional quality criteria or are nationally accredited, whereas a One-Star programs meet minimum licensing requirements. We are looking for improvements to our playgrounds. We will soon see new shading, swings, and educational toys for the children outside. We are also going to have their own playground as soon as possible. We will be providing a safe and colorful space for our children to learn and grow.

Our kids’ 3, 4, 5 & 6 year olds enjoyed weekly trips to the library in July, to enjoy their summer reading program. We had a back to school bash with an ice cream party for our big kid’s before school started. We said goodbye to our friends who were starting elementary school, and are now welcoming new friends to our center. We are in collaboration with the Little Axe Public Schools this year again to provide pick-up and drop-off at our front door. This is not only a great safety measure but also convenience for our parents.

We are now looking forward to our yearly trip to the On the Farm Festival Pumpkin Patch on October 25th. We are also hosting a Halloween Carnival for our children this year on October 31st. It will be a fun filled day of entertaining games, prizes, and of course, the annual trick or treat outing. We will be trick or treating the clinic on Halloween October 31st. I am happy to announce that Building Blocks III has been receiving great reviews from our parents through our “Program Evaluations.” It has been busy fall, full of changes and we are all overjoyed to a bright future ahead for us.

The After School Program currently has 26 students, 17 are enrolled tribal members, 5 are of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, and 4 are non-tribal. Please contact us if you have any questions.

We offer 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 offer the innovative ideas on curriculum and staying abreast of all training and requirements to maintain higher levels of service. We strive to be the best and hope to 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 at the number above or by email, briana.ponkilla@astribme.com.

Hi ya’ll! (Thank you)
Briana Ponkilla
CCDF Coordinator
Our phone numbers have NOT changed.

PURCHASED REFERRED CARE NEWS

The AST Purchased Referred Care team is here to assist you.

Please follow the PRC guidelines. Keep a copy on hand and update your information.

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

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

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

BILLING & PAYMENT INQUIRIES
Little Axe Health Center & Shawnee Clinic
Donna Buchholz, Regional Director
Diane Cussins, Billing
Caitlin Ziegler, Internal Auditor
Jennifer Polk, PRC Specialist

INFORMATION
Little Axe Health Center
Donna Buchholz, Regional Director
Diane Cussins, Billing
Caitlin Ziegler, Internal Auditor
Jennifer Polk, PRC Specialist

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER
405.701.7951

SHAWNEE CLINIC
405.878.5850

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER PRC
405.701.7951

SHAWNEE CLINIC PRC
405.878.5701

ART SYSTEM
www.astribe.com

Greater Oklahoma Medicaid Program
Little Axe Health Center
405.701.7951

Closed to the public.

EMERGENCY CARE SERVICES

PRC for currently enrolled AST citizens who resides in the defined enrollment area and have auto insurance.
1. Call the On-Call nurse at 405.447.0300 option 9. You may leave a message.
2. Notify PRC of an ER visit and provide the date of service, time, and the name of the hospital. The On-Call nurse will review the provider’s referral and determine appropriate follow-up.
3. To ensure you receive proper care, please provide documentation that your hospital visit was medically necessary or of an emergency nature. You will need to provide medical information to the PRC to determine if your care was medically necessary or of an emergency nature.

EASY ACCESS
Purchased Referred Care is conveniently located in the Little Axe Health Center and in Shawnee Clinic, Building 17.

PRC phone number: 405.447.0300, or 405.878.4702 (Secondary)

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER PRC
405.701.7951

1.Mary Jane Sergent, PRC Specialist
2.Carrie Stanley, PRC Specialist, Medicaid Patients
3.Darla Gatzman, PRC Specialist, AST Patients/LPN
4.Jayne Werst, PRC Specialist, Medicaid Patients, PBA
5.Laurie Webber, PRC Specialist, IHS Patients/LPN
6.Kareena Deere, File Clerk
7.Glendine Blanchard, PRC Director
8.April Parton, PRC Health Specialist/LPN
9.Glendine Blanchard, PRC Deputy Director/RN
10.Debi Sloat, PRC Specialist, Medicaid Patients
11.Jennifer Wells, PRC Technician
12.Jayne Werst, PRC Specialist, Medicaid Patients/LPN
13.Carrie Stanley, PRC Specialist, Medicaid Patients/MA
14.Darla Gatzman, PRC Specialist/MA
15.Darla Gatzman, PRC Specialist, Medicaid
16.Jayne Werst, PRC Specialist, Medicaid
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113.Kareena Deere, File Clerk
114.Glendine Blanchard, PRC Director
115.Laurie Webber, PRC Specialist, IHS Patients/LPN
A Native Owned Business

Behavioral Health Services

Life comes with its share of challenges. As individuals, family members, friends, there are times when we all need some help to clear our minds and better the days ahead. The resources are here. Through our kind of focus, we understand the struggles you face. Phone call is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services

Honor Our Past With Promise for Our Future

LIFE is Beautiful Living Meth Free

National Suicide Prevention 1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

Absente SHSBEHAVIORAL HEALTH STRENGTH OF TRADITION PROJECT

Funded through SAMHSA Native Connections Grant in providing support by:

- Extending an outreach through community partnerships to increase awareness of Substance Abuse and Suicide Prevention in the community.
- Increasing the participation of youth, parents, tribal leaders, and health providers in developing mental health service and treatment options based on the cultural values and practice of the Native community.
- Easing the impacts of substance use, mental health illnesses, and trauma in Native communities.
- Supporting youth as they transition into adulthood.

If you would like to learn more about this project, please contact us!

Linda George
Grant Coordinator
(405)701-7985
Little Axe Health Center
15951 Little Axe Drive
Norman, OK 73069

Karen Hoven
Grants Coordinator
(405)701-7995

If you would like to learn more about this project, please contact us!

Victoria Andrews
Grant Assistant
(405)701-7995

“Looking for Foster Parents

“Share your Heart, Share your Home”

AST ICW is looking for those who have a loving heart to become foster parents. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent please contact AST ICW at 405-395-4490 for more information.

Funded through SAMHSA Native Connections Grant in providing support by:

- Extending an outreach through community partnerships to increase awareness of Substance Abuse and Suicide Prevention in the community.
- Increasing the participation of youth, parents, tribal leaders, and health providers in developing mental health service and treatment options based on the cultural values and practice of the Native community.
- Easing the impacts of substance use, mental health illnesses, and trauma in Native communities.
- Supporting youth as they transition into adulthood.

If you would like to learn more about this project, please contact us!

Victoria Andrews
Grant Assistant
(405)701-7995

This flyer was developed under a grant number SM080181 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The views, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or HHS.
ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS!!

The approved Legislative Resolution No. L-AS-2016-57 has been duly adopted by the Executive Committee, and the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Nations of Oklahoma Authorities and Approving an increase in the General Assistance amount for qualified and approved members to the amount of $51,000 and an increase of $10,455, effective October 1, 2016.

If you have any questions, please contact the Social Service Department at (405) 275-4080, ext. 6225 or 6255. All changes will be posted to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe website under Social Service.

When mailing in your application for any assistance through the Social Service Department, please put the Tribal and/or original CBIA, Driver License and Social Security number. Please attach copies of your ID’s only; if you are in the office cut will be made. Absentee Shawnee Tribe is not responsible for lost ID’s in the mail. If you have any questions, please call (405) 275-4080, ext. 6225 or 6255.

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER

OPTOMETRY

Contacts or non-prescription sunglasses these will be at their own expense. All charges will need to be pre-paid prior to services.

Additional products/charges outside of the allowed benefit schedule:

PHONE: 405.447.0300  FAX: 405.701.7080

ATTENTION PARENTS!!

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.

• Higher Education:
  - scholarships for vocational institutions. Program has a maximum funding limit for the calendar year or per student.
  - funding for one doctoral degree, and can fund one graduate admissions test. This
    funding is determined upon application.

• Other Programs:
  - awards in Science, Math, Reading, Art, Music, and Physical Education.
  - vocational/training programs. Program has a maximum amount of funding for graduation expenses.
  - Career and Technical Education.

If you have any questions, please contact the Social Service Department at 800-522-6870 or 405-227-2157.

 tsunami (Dose) Opioid (DF)

Lola Battle (Little Axe) ........................................................................ 6227

Alicia Engler ............................................ 6257

Shelby White ............................................. 6258

TITLE VI

Thomastie, Shawnee, Oklahoma in order to help victims obtain safe housing. Emergency transportation for

Sexual Assault Program

Sexual Assault Program

s also serve

Wava Anderson (918) 225-878

McKinley, Shawnee 74801

Norman

Oklahoma in order to help victims obtain safe housing. Emergency transportation for

Emotional support, advocacy and crisis counseling to survivors at hospitals, police stations and

the victim and children may also be available.

If you have any questions, please contact the Social Service Department at 800-522-6870 or 405-227-2157.

Please visit www.astribe.com.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT ONE PICTURE PER BIRTHDAY PERSON, NOT PER BIRTHDAY.