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Run Off Election June 16, 2012
 Absentee Ballot
 Request can be found on page 27.

**69th Semi-Annual
 General Council**
 Little Axe Health Center
 April 21, 2012
 10:00 a.m.

Health Fair throughout the clinic!

Grand Opening!
 Little Axe Health Center
 May 16, 2012
 1:30 to 3:30



Children's Easter Egg Hunt

April 7, 2012
 Starting at 10:00 a.m.
 Thunderbird Casino Complex
 Little Axe
 Picnic lunch will be provided

Executive Committee



GEORGE BLANCHARD
GOVERNOR



ISSAC GIBSON
LT. GOVERNOR



TERI REED
SECRETARY



KATHY DEERE
TREASURER



JEFFREY GIBSON
REPRESENTATIVE

Governor's Corner

Greetings fellow tribal members:

My prayers go out to those families who have lost family members, and to those who are ill, I hope for your quick return to good health. I receive regular phone calls inquiring about more FEMA Mobile Homes. This office inquires almost daily for information on the release of more of these homes from FEMA, but no new releases have been made by FEMA. As soon as we are notified of a release of more homes, those in need will be notified.

In March I attended a Tribal Economic Development tradeshow in Las Vegas and met with many other tribal leaders regarding economic issues. I found that we are in the same position as most other tribes: "We all need more money to help our people". We (tribes) are all depending on our Economic Departments (EDA) to bring in more businesses to our people. Like most tribes, our EDA is operating on very limited funds, and are struggling to bring in opportunities that require little or no monetary assets. This is extremely trying, and this conference brought to my attention the need for all of us to support our EDA in their efforts. I found it to be a very informative conference.

Our language class has been raising money to make a trip to Fort Pitt, April, 28-29, to visit the museum and attend a conference on "Woodland Indians in the early

years" a language and cultural trip for the class.

On 4-7-2012 the Executive Committee hosted an Easter egg hunt for all tribal children at the Thunderbird Casino Complex in Little Axe. This was submitted prior to that date, but I want to thank all the Executive Committee members, the Gaming personnel, and all other Tribal departments for their participation and support.

I hope to see everyone at the General Council meeting.

Ne yi wa, George Blanchard

1. Apple
Me sa me ni
2. Blueberries
Se ke pi ke me ni
3. Cookies
Ti ke qi na fi
4. Grapes
Me fo lo me
5. Peaches
Po ki mi ke
6. Plums
Po ki mi fi ke
(RED WILD PLUMS)
7. Onions
Sa ki qe si
(WILD ONIONS)
8. Blackberries
Me ni ke
9. Persimmon
Ma gi se me
10. Cake
Ma ma li se po qi ke ti ke qi
11. Strawberries
Ho ta ha me
12. Watermelon
Se ke ti ma ke

St. Governor's Secretary's Report Report

Hello to All,

I hope that you are all enjoying the nicer and warmer weather. As the season progresses, our outside activities will increase. We are already beginning to cut grass here on the complex. And we know, soon we will be cutting at tribal members homes. We are in the process of circulating applications for this service. We will be providing this service to tribal elders and those with physical handicaps. If you need to fill out an application, please contact Reta Harjo in the Maintenance Dept. or Andy Warrior.

The upcoming General Council Meeting will be held on April 21st at the new AST Clinic facility in Little Axe. This will be an opportunity for us to showcase the facility before it opens. This project will be a great attribute in providing Health Care services to the AST and Native American population. Please make plans on attending as it will be a different environment to express your concerns and hopefully hear some praises for the direction of the tribe.

/s/

Isaac Gibson, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor

Greeting Tribal Members:

In additions to some general announcements, I want to share with you some of the questions I've received from tribal members over the past few months. Some questions come up time and again, so I decided I might as well publish some of the questions/answers in hopes that sharing the information will alleviate some of the confusion.

LITTLE AXE HEALTH CENTER AND GENERAL COUNCIL

As I reported last month, the next General Council meeting will take place on Saturday, April 21st, at 10:00 a.m. and will be held at our new health complex in Little Axe. We will again feature a health fair during the day and there will be guided tours of the facility. Come early to have breakfast and visit the health fair. We have also scheduled the Grand Opening Ceremony for Wednesday, May 16th from 1:30 to 3:30. Please mark your calendars for these two important dates to celebrate our opening. They are adding the final touches to this first class facility. I think you will be very impressed with our new health center.

The Little Axe Health Center was awarded funding through a joint venture project in 2007 as a partnership between the Absentee

Shawnee Tribe and Indian Health Services. Out of the 16 tribes who applied, we were one of only two tribes in the United States that was awarded funding through this process.

AST GROCERY AND SMOKESHOP

We are in the process of changing the name of the store to better fit the way we are doing business today. For many years the store in Little Axe has been known as the AST Grocery and Smokeshop. This name confuses the public because they don't understand the acronym AST, and we are operating more as a convenience store than a grocery store. Thunderbird Express has been selected for the new name. We will begin transitioning to this name around the time we install the new pay-at-the-pump gas pumps. We are investigating the option of accepting Government EBT cards for food stamp purchases and cash benefits.

BIG JIM YOUTH AWARDS

By the time you receive this newsletter, our first recipients of the Big Jim Academic Achievement Awards and the Big Jim Athlete of the Year Awards will have been selected. Winners will be featured in the next newsletter. Each recipient will receive a \$500.00 award in the form of a scholarship.

The selection committee consisted of five individuals who are knowledgeable of education and sports. None of the members of the selection committee are Absentee Shawnee Tribal members. This was purposely incorporated into the program to maintain fairness to all of the applicants. We are excited about including these new awards for our youth and hope that will serve as an incentive to our youth to strive for excellence in their high school years as they prepare for higher levels of education.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

QUESTIONS - What prevents us from building casinos in other parts of the state or out of state?

ANSWER - In order to build a casino, Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) and the Tribal - State Gaming Compact require that Indian gaming be conducted on trust land. IGRA has different requirements for lands in trust prior to 1988 and lands acquired in trust post 1988. One of the things that prevents any Tribe from building casinos in other parts of the state is the limitation on trust land. In order to acquire trust land, a Tribe usually has to have trust land in their original jurisdiction. The Collier case has limited the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's ability to place lands in trust from fee status. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe does not have any trust lands currently outside the state of Oklahoma and the trust lands within the state of Oklahoma are limited.

QUESTIONS - Can we build riverboats casinos on a river?

ANSWER - No. The state of Oklahoma has not passed legislation that allows gambling on rivers. Only six states have passed legislation allowing gambling on riverboats. IGRA has limited tribal gaming to what is allowed in the state the tribe resides.

If you have a question or concern that you would like for me to address in the newsletter, please let me know.

Teri Reed – Secretary
teri@astribe.com
405-275-4030 Ext 104

Treasurer's **Report**

Greetings Tribal Members,

Spring is here! Hope you all had a blessed Easter Sunday activities with your families and friends!

Attending the 69th Annual General Council meeting at the new Little Axe Clinic, hope to see you all there for updates about your Tribe!

We are continuing progressing in the areas of economic development, educating our tribal members, and services for the tribal members. Below is the list of activities for the month:

- ASED Board Monthly meeting, as Ad Hoc non-voting member.
- Executive Committee had a regular scheduled meeting and Special Executive Committee Meeting. See Resolutions Page.
- Congratulations to Executive Committee's Employee of Month March Winner, Lyndale Waller.
- New Name, "Absentee Shawnee Health Systems", formerly the Health Board Authority and LSWNE meeting, as Ad Hoc non-voting member and Owners' Rep meeting. Grand Opening, May 16, 2012.
- Monthly Redstone Investment meeting. We have an excellent investor advisor, who continually keeps the committee updated on the tribe's investments. Investments are a good opportunity for you and your family to plan for the future, college for your children, and retirement.
- Attended Constitution Revision Committee meeting. Meetings were held March 11, 18, and 25th, 2012. On the website, newsletter, and presentation at the April 21st General Council meeting. They have considered revising the legislative branch of the AST government with Proposed Constitutional Change. Four options are being considered. As you will see on another page the proposed four (4) options.
- Congratulations to the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority (ASHA) on their recognition for the "extraordinary effort put forth in developing and implementing innovative methods to preserve and protect the integrity of federal programs and associated funds." Per letter received on March 09, 2012 from the U.S. Department of

Housing and Urban Development. The Southern Plains Office commended ASHA for its "cutting edge initiative in implementing an enterprising solution to an antiquated computer data system; keeping the ASHA on the forefront of modern technology, allowing them to better serve all Native Americans with their housing needs. The ASHA Directors and Executive Director, Sherry Beams were visited and were shown one of their housing units by delegates from Washington DC, Southern Plains Office, and other Housing Authorities across the state and nationwide.

- Attended the RES2012 (Reservation Economic Summit & American Indian Business Trade Fair. RES is the premier American Indian economic and business development conference in the nation. Over 3,000 attendees include American Indian and Indigenous entrepreneurs, tribal economic and business development decision-makers, tribal leaders, government and corporate Executives and Buyers seeking Indian suppliers and contractors. This year had the largest attendance. RES is structured as three days of business information and training delivered through more than 24 60-minute sessions that is geared specifically for native entrepreneurs, tribal enterprises, and organizations wishing to do business with American Indian Businesses. In addition, a 2-day trade fair provides opportunities for American Indian suppliers to meet corporate and government buyers to market their organizations and companies, network, and negotiate potential contracts.
- ALLNations had their First Anniversary Open House on Thursday, March 15th. Congratulations to the winners of prizes for the drawing! If you haven't been to the bank to open an account or loan, stop by and meet these folks, they

will treat you like royalty and are friendly folks!

- Donated some time to help at Little Axe Elementary to setup an OSU extension, "Farm to Farm" exhibit for the elementary students.
- Monthly Elders' Mtg at AST Resource Center. If you are 55 years and older, consider coming to the AST Elders Council Meetings every third Saturday of the month either at AST Resource center or TITLE VI bldg., 10am., except for April, since it will be General Council Saturday, they moved their meeting to April 14, 2012. They have a great time in fellowship, fundraising activities, and eating lunch together.
- Attended the Cultural Preservation Language classes held at Brendle Corner. This is a great opportunity to learn our language. We have great teachers and they are anxious to teach any tribal member young or old. So consider attending the class. They are held every Sunday afternoon either at Governor's Conference room or Brendle Corner. Call cultural preservation to know when and where the next class will be, 275-4030 X190.
- Auditors are on site for the 2011 audit. We expect to complete the audit in May 2012. All the Tribe's entities will be audited first and those will roll up into the Tribe's Government wide

financials; (ASEDA; ASEDA Fleet, AST Counseling Services, Store, Harrah Smoke Shop; and Restaurant: AllNations Bank: and Thunderbird Casino's Locations 1 & 2). The Audit will include the MD&A (Management Discussion and Analysis). The MD&A report is an informative report within the 2011 Audit; which is a brief review and explanation of the Audit. We expect to get another good "Audit for 2012".

Sincere appreciation goes out to the employees of the Finance Department and the Controller, Belinda Collins, as they daily continue the never ending processes for the financial side of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Without their tireless dedication and commitment we could not keep the financial transactions processes flowing!

Also, would like to extend my appreciation to the Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder, who continues to assist me with numerous projects, attend meetings where I cannot attend, and consulting decisions in the office of Treasurer!

Elections will be June 16, 2012, remember to get your absentee ballot request in as soon as it comes available. Lt. Governor, Treasurer and Representative Positions will be on the ballot. Hope you all feel your elected officials are doing a good job and please vote! We appreciate all your phone calls,

emails, and visits. May God continue to bless you and yours! See below articles from AllNations Bank, Financial Consultant, Eddie Brokeshoulder; and Finance Department.

Respectfully yours,
Kathy Deere, Treasurer

"I consider my ability to arouse enthusiasm among men the greatest asset I possess. The way to develop the best that is in a man is by appreciation and encouragement."
Charles Schwab

FINANCE DEPARTMENT APRIL 2012

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

Auditors are on site for the 2011 audit. We expect to complete the audit in May 2012. All the Tribe's entities will be audited first and those will roll up into the Tribe's Government wide financials; (ASEDA; ASEDA Fleet, AST Counseling Services, Store, Harrah Smoke Shop; Restaurant:

AllNations Bank: and Thunderbird Casino Locations 1 & 2). The Audit will include the MD&A (Management Discussion and Analysis). The MD&A report is an informative report within the 2011 Audit; which is a brief review and explanation of the Audit. The 2010 Audit was an "unqualified" audit; which when compared to an educational grading scale is an A; and it is my goal that the 2011 will be unqualified as well.

The Indirect Cost Proposal for 2012 has been signed and mailed to the National Business Center (NBC) for approval. NBC is six months behind whereas they had been only three months behind last year. The explanation is that they have had a budget cut; thus staff was cut. Our rate is up from 17.74% for 2010 to 21.98% for 2011 and we expect our rate to increase for 2012 however that is just an estimate. This estimated increased is based on the influx of activity deriving from the new clinic opening in 2012. I will write the Indirect Cost Proposal for 2013 once the audit is complete.

The finance department continues to complete accounting by the seventh day of the month and have been since August 2010; so that financial reports can be created for the Health Authority and Li Si Wi Nwi, Health Inc. boards for health programs both Shawnee and Little Axe. The Finance staff will begin February reconciliations for financial reporting on the first of March. It is imperative the accounting / bookkeeping continue to stay ahead of all of the accounting so that audits go smoothly so that Indirect Cost rates will stay up to date as well. Indirect cost proposals cannot be submitted without completed audits as the audit is used to calculate the proposal. We continue to explore avenues that will make accounting for the tribe's finances a smooth process including billing package for health programs. There are many processes in place in your Tribe's accounting department that ensure we keep accurate records of transactions. The Tribe's accounting processes must be in compliance



L to R: Treasurer Deere, Governor Blanchard, ASEDA Vice-Pres., Adam Proctor, Margo Gray-Proctor, Chairwoman, NCAIED Board of Dirs., ASEDA Pres. Dan Little Axe., Sr, and Gary "Litefoot" Davis, President, NCAIED Board of Dirs., and CEO

with GAAP; (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and GASB (Governmental Accounting Standards Board).

The Tribe currently has compact funds of BIA and IHS, 51 Grants, and the new Clinic business. In addition, the Tribe operates on a General Fund and an Indirect Cost Fund.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Finance Department has very hard working group of people and it is an honor to work with them, the Treasurer's office and at the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. The Finance Department employs 11; with 7 (64%) being AST Tribal Members and 4 (36%) being non-natives. This department, as always, would like to extend a special thanks and note of appreciation to the Executive Committee for providing the tools, resources and support to enable the finance staff to reach its accomplished goals and to continue with this effort. A special thanks and note of appreciation to Program Managers and Employees of the Tribe for their assistance and dedication in our group effort toward accomplishing our goal.

If you have any questions or needs, please call 405-275-4030 ext 162 and I will be glad to assist you in any way I can.

Respectfully,
Belinda Collins, Controller

**FINANCIAL
CONSULTANT**

Hello Tribal Members,

The office of Treasurer is looking forward to 69th Semi-Annual General Council Meeting. We will provide financial information on the status of the Tribe at our table. The office of Treasurer continues to provide sound financial reporting and in keeping with our fiduciary responsibilities provide you as Tribal members sound financial management decisions.

The following activities I have been involved and participated.

Financial Reports: Reviewed and analyzed monthly General Fund, Indirect Cost and Elder Council encumbrance monthly budget reports.

Absentee Shawnee Economic Development Authority, Inc. (ASEDA): Attended monthly ASEDA board meeting to discuss current business operations and future business development opportunities.

Redstone Investments: Attended monthly investment meeting, topics included status report of current investment's and future investment opportunities.

NeighborWorks Training Institute: Attended NeighborWorks Training Institute, February 26 – March 3, 2012, in Los Angeles, as a recipient of a scholarship. NeighborWorks and First Nations Oweesta Corporation collaborated to provide Native Financial Education Instructor Training and Native Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). Participants came from far away as Hawaii and Boston, make up consisted of reservation and non-reservation individuals. Financial Education Training consisted of role playing, reviewing and correcting credit reports, predatory lending, how to get an individual loan, figuring and calculation of interest rates on loans.

The CDFI training consisted preparing a market analysis of your tribal community consisting of a survey, demographics and size of your population. A question was discussed if the Absentee Shawnee Tribe had a large enough population to prepare an application of interest, knowing that Pottawatomini currently has in operation a CDFI program for all Tribes and has for the past five (5) years or more.

Native America Finance Organization Association, (NAFOA): Attended spring conference of NAFOA, March 20-21, New Orleans, LA, mission to improve the quality of financial and business

management of tribal governments and their business entities. The conference consisted of financial business leaders from Tribes, Chief Executive Officers (CEO), and Financial Institutions. The conference provided topics such as A Tribal View of Economic Challenges & Opportunities and Banking in Today's Climate and others. A more detailed report will follow in the month of May.

AST Constitution Revision Committee: Recently accepted point of contact person for the Constitution Revision Committee. I will be the person to assemble agenda's for upcoming meetings, prepare information in format for Tribal members, and other duties. I accepted this position for the reason of re-energizing this committee and completing the goal of reforming our Constitution. Current AST Constitution Revision Committee: Vera Dawsey, Jerry Little Axe, Betty Watson, Anita Chisholm, Briana Ponkilla, Shirley Adkins, Dan Little Axe, Augustine Johnson, Tribal Treasurer Kathy Deere, and Eddie Brokeshoulder.

In closing, I encourage tribal members to call, email or come by and visit our offices. Should you have any questions or concerns contact me at 405-275-4030 ext 148 or email eddieb@astribe.com.

Respectfully,
Eddie Brokeshoulder
Financial Consultant

ALLNATIONS BANK

Good day to our friends from all of us, at your bank, AllNations Bank;

A great big thank you from your bank family to all who attended our one year anniversary open house March 15, 2012. It has been a great year. We are serving 240 customers accounts between Checking, Savings, CD's, IRA's & Loans. We had a great turnout and congratulations to each of the winners of our Anniversary Cash Give

Away.

After winter we all look forward to spring when rain showers wash the salt and sand from the roads and erase the bad memories. But what happens to that water? Run-off from rain and melting snow flows over concrete and asphalt and collects dirt, debris, chemicals and pollutants washing them into the storm drains. This storm water runoff is directed untreated into local lakes, rivers and streams. Once there, the pollutants in the storm water can harm native plants, fish and animals. Protect our environment by following these very simple suggestions:

1. Check the undercarriage of your vehicle. Leaking motor oil and other auto fluids are picked up by rainwater and carried to the lakes, ponds and streams. When mixed with other pollutants, this can cause a toxic soup.

2. Scoop the poop. Pet waste is one of the major sources of bacteria in natural water bodies. If bacteria counts become too high, it can cause skin irritations and illness in recreational users.

3. Fertilize properly. If too much is applied, the excess fertilizer is carried to ponds and streams and can cause fish kills. Always read the instructions and use sparingly. Recycle all hazardous household wastes. The days of dumping used motor oil and paint thinners down the drain are over. Protecting our environment is a very important issue that no one should ignore. Most communities offer convenient ways to dispose of your hazardous household wastes.

Sincerely,
Gene, Eugene, Janice & Amber

Absentee Shawnee Tribe

Hello I hope everyone is in good health and enjoying this wonderful spring weather, it is always a good time of the year to watch everything blossom and bloom and also it's Baseball and Softball season for all ages and The talent of our members is always good to hear about when I can't get out to see any games but don't be surprised if I am seen watching your game cause its always good to see our members enjoy what they love to do plus it is good to visit with family and friends that I don't always get a chance to see. I would Like to wish everyone that has a Birthday in April to enjoy your special day and say Happy Birthday to you! General Council is around the corner and I am very excited to have the meeting in your New Health Clinic I have yet to see the inside of the Facility but I hear it is something to be very proud of.

The proposed New Building Blocks III that is soon to be built this summer is starting the process of meetings this month with the first Drawings and discussion on the New Facility I am very excited on the New Development and it will start our younger generation with different learning phases as they grow, something that is much needed as we all know children are learning alot more at a young age and I believe we teach them young to get them ready for this fast paced world.

Alot has happened in the first part of this year of 2012 and I expect to keep progressing in the Future. The Executive Committee has been working this first part of the year in good fashion and its a good feeling to have when the Committee agrees to move the Tribe towards a prosperous future.

As always if you need to talk to me about the Programs I see over feel free to call me or stop by my office and I will visit with you or I will return your call..."It feels good everyday to say I am an Absentee Shawnee"

Representative Gibson

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS:

E-AS-12-13 03/06/12

Authorizing and approving the installment sales contract with Kansas State Bank of Manhattan and authorizing Governor George Blanchard to sign any and all documents necessary to execute and deliver the contract. (Approving Lease Purchase of Health Systems Equipment)

E-AS-12-14 03/06/12

Authorizes the corrected blood degree change for **Lucia Jade McKinney**, and hereby makes it known that this individual is an enrolled Tribal Member and is now and forever the degree of Absentee Shawnee Indian blood as corrected and shown above.

E-AS-12-15 03/06/12

Approves and accepts **Lydia Annelise Warrior, Levi Stafford Warrior, Isaac Necon Warrior, Isac James Nice, Jonathon Lee Nice, Jr., Hunter Eli Nice, Choske Leylon Longhorn, Bradley Brian Longhorn, Keiton James Hill, Cruz David Merrell, Maddox Andre Merrell, Charlotte Jayne Kauley, Shawneecey Jordawna Squire, Takota Lynn Squire, Caiden Skye Whittaker, Brantley Jai Whittaker, Jalen Dean Deer, Robert Brent Armstrong, Jeremiah Dean Roberts, Evan Ryan Johnson, Keyondre Duane Brown, Kane Alexander Brown and Cullen Chase Nail** as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

E-AS-12-16 03/06/12

Rejects the application of **Tristan Haven Smith** for membership in the Absentee Shawnee Tribe due to Insufficient Blood Degree.

E-AS-12-17 03/21/12

Authorizes and approves the installation of a portable building from the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the Tribe to be utilized and occupied by the Tribal Police Department, effective immediately.

E-AS-12-18 03/21/12

Grants voluntary relinquishment of membership of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to **Michael Kevin Bradley**, effective Immediately.

E-AS-12-19 03/21/12

Approves and accepts **James Edward Robb, Amanda Carol Wilkerson, Skylor Georgeann Wilkerson, Brandon Keith Alae, Patricia Kay Donnell, Marrison Ashley Charley Whatley, Shea Alexis Little, Kathryn Jon-Nicole Larney, Amber Nichole Phillips, Kinsley Reece Breeding and Dorothy Jean Mickelburgh** as enrolled members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma as of the date of this resolution.

E-AS-12-20 03/21/12

Authorizing and approving the attached software financing agreement with Insight Direct USA, Inc. DBA Insight Global Finance and authorizing Secretary Teri Reed to sign any and all documents necessary to execute and deliver the contract.

E-AS-12-21 03/21/12

Approves and authorizes the Treasurer's Office and Finance Department to establish a bank account at AllNations Bank titled "Absentee Shawnee Tribe General Fund Operating 2" in the initial sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) with the signature requirements and authorized signers being the same as Tribal bank accounts to include the Executive Committee members as follows: Lieutenant Governor Isaac Gibson, Jr., Secretary Teri Reed, Treasurer Kathy Deere, and Representative Jeff Gibson, effective immediately.

Continued on next page. . .

AllNations Bank One Year Anniversary Open House March 15, 2012



L to R: Gene Davis, Janice Boettner, Amber Alexander, and Eugene Stidham



L to R: Johnnie Hagan, Rachel Howell, and Teri Reed



Artwork displayed within the AllNations Bank depicting Tecumseh (left) and Kish-kal-wa (right)



Resolutions

Cont.

E-AS-12-22 03/21/12

Authorizes and approves the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma to apply for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Grant for Domestic Violence Shelters/Grants to Native American Tribes (including Alaska Native Villages) and Tribal Organizations. (To provide services in the area of Family Violence Prevention)

E-AS-12-23 03/21/12

Adopts and approves the submission of an application to the U.S. Department of Justice Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation. (To provide and improve public safety and victim services)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS:

L-AS-12-02 03/21/12

Amends the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma Gaming Ordinance as provided for in the attachment "Exhibit A", effective immediately. (Attachment)

Campaign Letter . . .



Hello, it is that time of year again and I, Jeff Gibson am honorably being re-elected as your Tribal Representative. This first term as Representative is a wonderful experience and an honor to support our tribal people by phone and in person no matter what time it is. As Representative there is constant support for all our tribal people to uphold the integrity of the tribe whether it's during business or after hours. I sincerely believe in my heart that all ages of our tribal people are my concern and the needs have been met to the best of my ability. There have been so many changes since I have been in office and I am proud of the way the Tribe is effectively progressing. Each year there have been challenges all tribes are facing with cuts in funding, my goal is to help increase the tribe's economic stability and build our resources for a better financial future. The knowledge I have gained as your Representative, I feel, will help continue this progress. Here are some of the programs

that I have implemented or assisted in development while in office for you the Tribe:

- * Horseshoe Bend Remodel
- * Hiring of the New Health Director
- * Continued the Program from the past Representative and implemented the TERO Program
- * Apart of opening the All Nations Bank
- * Apart of opening the New Casino on the complex
- * Purchasing Registered Angus Cattle for the Tribe and worked the Lands owned by the Tribe in Earlsboro and Tecumseh
- * Started the After School Program at Horseshoe Bend Community center
- * Future site Building Blocks III Learning Center
- * Future Remodel of Brendle Corner
- * First year for your new Youth Award Program for Seniors in High School
- * and helped Tribal Members with various Projects

These are some of the Projects that I had part in while working for you. I believe the Absentee Shawnee Tribe has a Bright future and the direction its going is promising and it's great to work with a committee that envisions the same goals and working well together. If we don't see the same future for the Tribe then we take twice as long to reach our goals so let's keep the progress going and help me help you and let's make this Absentee Shawnee Tribe the Best..."I am Absentee Shawnee and Proud to work for you"

Jeff Gibson

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

MR. LYNDALE WALLER MARCH 2012



Lyndale Waller he helps with everything. He's good about following up...you just ask him one time and he does it for you. He has great knowledge of Tribal Government and Enterprise. He's always cheerful and always willing to help in any way possible.

Great Guy to have working for me, in addition with the duties he does for me. He helps all tribal members with their needs

and/or problems, etc., if he can. Person I'm glad I can call "Friend".

Lyndale serves as a positive example to all. His broad knowledge and experience of administrative procedures, professional competence, initiative, and sound judgment enabled him to accomplish all duties assigned in a superior manner, and make him a material contribution to the Office of the Governor and to the Absentee Shawnee Economic Development Board of Directors. We appreciate all Lyndale has done for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

FY-2012 YTD TAX COLLECTIONS MARCH

Run Date:
03/26/12

TAX CATEGORY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL	TAX COLLECTED
Sales (6%)	\$1,303.68	\$5,764.96	\$9,556.88										\$16,625.52	\$16,625.52
Gaming	\$109,331.00	\$105,500.00	\$84,000.00										\$298,831.00	\$298,831.00
Employee (1%)	\$1,771.92	\$6,921.68	\$19,027.03										\$27,720.63	\$27,720.63
Severance (8%)	\$1,033.85	\$19,231.62	\$12,197.33										\$32,462.80	\$32,462.80
M Vehicle	\$11,657.32	\$14,984.82	\$10,321.97										\$36,964.11	\$36,964.11
Tobacco Refund	\$9,662.76	\$11,107.79	\$9,231.53										\$30,002.08	\$30,002.08
TOTALS	\$134,760.53	\$163,510.87	\$144,334.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$442,606.14	\$442,606.14
Miscellaneous	\$1,290.00	\$330.00	\$130.00										\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00
TOTAL COLLECTED	\$136,050.53	\$163,840.87	\$144,464.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$444,356.14	\$444,356.14

Campaign Letters . . .



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and go over a brief history about me. First of all, my name is Alicia (Watson) Engler and I am a candidate for the upcoming election for Absentee Shawnee Tribe Treasurer. My family history includes my parents, Greg Watson and Martha (Tiger) Watson. My maternal grandparents are the late Webster Tiger and the late Geraldine (Panther) Tiger and my maternal great grandma was Irene (Longman) Panther. My paternal grandparents are the late Dan Watson and Frankie (Kaseca) Watson, and paternal great grandparents are the late Frank Kaseca and the late Cornelia (Mack) Kaseca and Winey Ellis. My educational background includes pursuing a degree in the health field from Oklahoma Baptist University and a certification in phlebotomy. My work experience is a collaboration of assisting in a medical office, engaging in retail/business practices and most recently working for the tribe for nearly the past five years. My work experiences at the tribe include working in the Cultural Preservation department, serving as an alternate on the election commission and currently the Tax Commission office. Finally, I would like to touch base on some of the primary objectives I hope to achieve if elected to office as Treasurer of the tribe. Below is a list of objectives:

- Explore and implement practices to cut wasteful spending and make our tribe function more efficiently.
- To build a solid financial plan so we can become more self supportive in these times of federal budget cuts.
- To research other tribe's operational strengths in order to better ours.
- To create a roadmap directing us to where we need to be five and ten years into the future.
- To learn from past experiences and improve the tribe for future generations.

I look forward to visiting everyone and would like to hear all recommendations, feedback, and concerns. I can be reached at (405)214-6125 or littleindianengler@hotmail.com. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Alicia Watson Engler
Candidate for AST Treasurer

RE-ELECT KATHY DEERE FOR TREASURER

I am Kathy Deere and it has been my honor to serve the Absentee Shawnee Tribe as Treasurer since June 2010. When I look back over the last year and half, I am proud and grateful. We have made a great deal of progress but there is more to be done. I remain committed to providing a prosperous future for our people.

Dr. William Claire Menninger said, "Six essential qualities that are key to success are Sincerity, personal integrity, courtesy, humility, wisdom, and charity."

Respectfully,

Kathy Deere



Congratulations!



Miss Indian OKC 2012 - Brooke Larson

*Native American Woman of the Year 2012 -
Meredith Wahpekeche*

Jr. Miss Candidate 2012 - Breanna Kihoga

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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

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

- **Academic (K-12) Program:** assists with academic related expenses, and a portion of funds can be used for school-related athletic program expenses. Program has a maximum funding limit for the academic year.
- **Zahn Program:** established from a trust fund, program can help with some graduation expenses, and awards two (2) incentives: one for GED recipients and one for High School graduates. Program has a maximum amount of funding for graduation expenses.
- **Job Training Adult Education Program:** funds for vocational training at accredited vocational institutions. Program has a maximum funding limit for the calendar year or per program.
- **Higher Education: Education Incentive Award Program:** funds for undergraduate degrees, one associates or bachelors degree, at any accredited college or university. Funding levels are determined based upon grade point average and full-time or part-time status.
- **Graduate Scholarship Program:** funds for one master's degree or one doctoral degree, and can fund for one graduate admissions test. This program has funding levels based upon full-time and part-time status.

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

Attention:

Applications for fall 2012 must be received or postmarked by June 15, 2012.

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

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

FREE MUSIC LESSONS



The MSPI Creative Arts Program offers free music lessons all year round for Native American children from 6 years to 19 years old. Adults are also encouraged to participate. Come join the fun and learn to play the guitar, bass guitar, piano, or vocals.

Contact Phil Bradley, Music Instructor (405) 275-4030 Ext: 117 or Cell (405) 370-5576



At the Shawnee Campus from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Classes are made possible through AST Behavioral Health's Meth/Suicide Prevention Initiative Grant (MSPI) "Following in Our Footsteps"

Come enjoy music and have some fun too!

AST Youth Council

Middle School and High School Students:

WE NEED YOU!

Come and join the Absentee Shawnee Youth Council...

All middle school and high school youth are welcome!

We will be meeting once every month to cover topics that interest our youth.

We are involved with our communities through hands-on activities and projects.

For our April meeting, we will be discussing our upcoming volunteer projects for May and preparing for our last meeting of the school year.

Our 9th Meeting for the 2011-2012 school year will be Saturday, April 28th at 10:00 am in Building #3.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the AST Youth Council, please contact....
Tresha Spoon (405) 275-4030
ext. 121 or 193



FROM THE ELDERS CORNER . . .

by Cynthia Longhorn

The Elders Council of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe met for their regular monthly meeting on Saturday, March 17, 2012 at the Resource Center in Little Axe. All officers were present. Dan Little Axe, Sr., President, called the meeting to Order at 10:25 a.m. with Vice-President, Gene Parker; Cynthia Longhorn, Secretary; and Betty Watson, Treasurer present and available for input and information. A quorum of elders was established with twenty-nine (29) tribal members and eleven (11) visitors/guests in attendance. The invocation was given by Don Schulenberg, husband of tribal member Esteline (Sloan) Schulenberg. There was one birthday celebrant this month, that being Gertrude (Spybuck) Pickering.

Minutes of the **February 19, 2012** meeting were available for review and comment. Following the notation of needed corrections, a motion to approve such was made by Sue Blanchard and seconded by Mary Birdtail. The motion carried and the Minutes were approved. The Financial report for the month of **January 2012** was available (tabled from 2-1-2012) for review and comment. The Council fund raiser money balance was given to be \$727.89 and the AST balance was listed as \$1,391.80. A motion to approved the report was made by Serena Daugherty and seconded by Emily Longman. The motion carried and the January financial report was approved. The Financial report for the month of **February 2012** was presented for review also. The fund raiser account balance was listed as being \$1,355.54 and the AST balance \$9,256.10 A motion to approve was made by Sue Blanchard and seconded by Sadie Low. The motion carried and report was approved. During the discussion of the financial reports questions were heard from Council members about the promised “carry over” monies being made available to the Elders Council. It was learned that these monies will not be put into our budget at this time as was expected but the Tribal Treasurer, Kathy Deere, explained the process was for our Council to spend funds on needed items and then make a request to the Executive Committee for that amount. Governor George Blanchard was in attendance at the meeting and commented also on the state of confusion on this subject.

Old Business: The work continues on collecting recipes for the recipe/cook book and according to Sue Blanchard, a draft of this will be available at next month’s meeting. David Little, Jr. added that there will be more information on the golf tournament also at the next meeting with a tentative month of June for this event.

New Business: There was a lot of discussion on the possibility again of the Elders Council providing dinner for General Council, set for April 21, 2012. The asking price was discussed at length and it was agreed that the traditional food menu was still expected and appeared to be the favorite among tribal members. The OKC Princess Honor Dance that is happening this date was discussed and it was agreed that the Elders Council would attend and sell raffle tickets for items donated for such use. We heard, too, that the Health Program was planning to have a health fair at General Council. Items to be used in the display case at the new clinic at Little Axe are being solicited. The can be “loaned” to the clinic for short periods of time, if individuals were interested. The Language and Culture program is holding a raiser bingo game at Brendle Corner this date in their efforts to raise money for a trip to Fort Pitt, Pennsylvania. Tribal members heard that an elder, Kenneth Washington, is experiencing serious health issues. Money donated today was \$56.

The next meeting date is set for April 14, 2012 at the Title VI Building in Shawnee. The meeting date was rescheduled to accommodate the General Council which is set for our regular meeting date. A motion to adjourn was made by Emily Longman and seconded by Elroy Alford. The meeting adjourned and most everyone stayed and enjoyed the fund raiser chili dinner. For questions or comments, contact Cynthia Longhorn at (405) 273-4137, Secretary, Elders Council.

The Creek Family would like to thank the Lieutenant Governor’s office, the Representative’s office, and Maintenance for all their help with the services they provided in our time of need.

New Research Reveals Medications Are the Leading Cause of Accidental Poisoning Deaths Among Children Today

“Safe Storage, Safe Dosing” Campaign to Focus on Medication Safety

March 20, 2012

Washington, DC – Today Safe Kids Worldwide released a new research report that found while the death rate among children from poisoning has been cut in half since the late 1970s, the percentage of all child poisoning deaths due to medications has nearly doubled, from 36 percent to 64 percent.

Safe Storage, Safe Dosing, Safe Kids: A Report to the Nation on Safe Medication examines trends in morbidity and mortality of medication poisoning among children ages 14 and under. The report underscores the challenge of medication-related poisoning among children and offers solutions that will reverse the trends. Safe Kids also proposes specific roles that parents and other caregivers, industry, governments, and the medical community can play in improving medication safety through safe storage and safe dosing.

“About 165 kids -- or roughly four school busloads of children -- are seen in emergency rooms for medication-related treatment every day in the U.S.,” said Kate Carr, President and CEO of Safe Kids Worldwide. “Every one of those trips was preventable. We can and must do better.”

Among young children, 95 percent of medication-related poisoning visits to emergency departments are caused by a child ingesting medication while unsupervised and approximately five percent are due to dosing errors made by caregivers. “Ultimately, safe storage and safe dosing mean safe kids,” said Carr. “Together with our partners, Safe Kids Worldwide is dedicated to reducing unintentional medication ingestions and medication dosing errors in children, as well as strengthening the poison control center infrastructure in case these poisonings still occur.”

The report launches an effort by Safe Kids to help prevent unintentional medication exposures, injuries and deaths in children. At both the national level and through its powerful U.S. network of 600 coalitions and chapters, Safe Kids will educate parents, grandparents and caregivers about the behavioral changes they need to make related to safe medication storage and dosing. This public education will be accomplished through a strategy involving community events, traditional and social media outreach, and full partnership in the Up and Away and Out of Sight educational program led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Did you know?

- Medications are the leading cause of child poisoning today.
- Each year, more than 500,000 children under the age of five experience a potential poisoning related to medications.
- More than 60,000 children are treated in emergency departments due to accidental unsupervised ingestions each year.
- Currently, more children are brought to emergency departments for medication poisonings than for motor vehicle occupant injuries.
- Among young children, one of every 150 two-year-olds is being seen in the emergency department for medication-related poisoning.
- From 1979 to 2006, the poisoning death rate was cut in half, declining from 0.35 to 0.17 per 100,000 children. Yet, among all child poisoning deaths the number attributable to medications increased from 36 percent to 64 percent.

The report offers several reasons for the medication-poisoning: more medications than ever are in the home, especially prescription pain medication; the pace of today’s lifestyle may prevent caregivers from immediately putting medicines away in a high, out of sight and locked location after every use; a rise in multi-generational households in which children may now have greater access to grandparents’ medications; working and single parents relying on multiple caregivers, who may not coordinate closely on the timing of children’s dosages; and formulation of children’s medications that are designed to taste good but may entice children to take them when unsupervised. The report also urges government to enhance the structure and stabilize funding for poison control centers.

- Always put medicines and vitamins away after every use. Never leave them on the counter between dosings. Don’t be tempted to “keep them handy” in a purse, backpack, or briefcase, or in an unlocked cabinet or a drawer within a child’s reach.
- Always read and follow label instructions when giving medicines to children.
- Only use the dosing device that comes with the medication. Never use a household utensil, such as a teaspoon or tablespoon, to measure medication.
- Up to 20 percent of pediatric poisonings involve a grandparent’s medication. Make sure that all medications in the child’s environment are stored out of reach and out of sight.
- Program the nationwide poison control center number (1-800-222-1222) into your phones.

Tooth Sensitivity

Tia Danker RDH

Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Dental Clinic

Most Common cause of tooth sensitivity in adults is the exposed tooth roots due to receding gums. Do your teeth hurt when you eat something cold or hot? When you breathe in really cold air? Then you might be suffering from tooth sensitivity.

Tooth sensitivity happens when the vulnerable under layer of your teeth- the dentin- is exposed. This allows the tubules that run from the dentin to the nerve to carry pain sensations.



CAUSES:

- Brushing too hard
- Receding gum line allowing the root to be exposed
- Excessive use of tooth whiteners and abrasive toothpaste
- Mouthwash or foods with high acidity

How to care for sensitive teeth?

Key is to keep your teeth and gums healthy. Reducing the pressure you use on the toothbrush if you are a scrubber. Use an antibacterial rinse to keep bacteria low and keep your mouth feeling clean. Use a soft toothbrush and if needed use sensitive toothpaste.

Diabetes & Wellness

announces
APRIL
is foot health month

Foot Care Tips

Take care of your feet for a lifetime

- ❖ Keep diabetes under control.
- ❖ Check your feet every day.
- ❖ Wash your feet every day.



- ❖ Keep the skin soft and smooth.
- ❖ Wear properly fitting shoes and socks at all times.



- ❖ Protect your feet from hot and cold
- ❖ Be more active.



You can prevent damage to your feet by looking for

- Blisters
- Cuts or scratches
- Ingrown toenails
- Red or black spots
- Dryness



DIABETES & WELLNESS

Call us today to schedule a foot exam

Little Axe Clinic
15702 E. Highway 9
405 360-0698
Shawnee Clinic 405 878-5850



Oklahoma Inter-tribal Diabetes Coalition

SAVE THE DATE

3rd Annual Benefit Golf Scramble

Friday, April 20, 2012

8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start
(Rain cancellation date – Friday, April 27)

Firelake Golf Course

1901 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801
(405) 275-4471

- 4 Man Scramble (\$200/team or \$50/person)
- 1st, 2nd, 3rd Flight Prizes Awarded
- Proximity Contests – Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Straightest Drive
- Hole in One Prize
- Door Prizes – T-shirts, gift certificates, and maybe even a kitchen sink!

Come and support the Coalition's efforts in raising awareness and advocating for diabetes prevention in Oklahoma.

Deadline to register – Friday, April 13, 2012 by 5:00 p.m.



Sponsorship Packages Available

To register, contact:

Lea Caufield
580-421-4532 x82266
Lea.caufield@chickasaw.net



For event and sponsorship details, contact:

Duane Meadows
918-695-1325
Duane.meadows@creekhealth.org



AST FITNESS PROGRAM

Warm Weather is Here! Let's Get Moving!



As spring approaches, it is now a good time to start preparing for some outdoor activities. One of the most easiest and basic forms of physical activity is walking. We walk when we go shopping, we walk at work, we walk to check the mail, and we walk for many other reasons. We pretty much walk all of the time. However, walking for exercise can be different. Walking may be performed at many levels of intensity. In order for walking to become an exercise, we must walk for certain periods of time with variety of intensities. A good way to begin a walking routine is to begin with finding a safe area for you to walk. Walking with a partner is a great way to maintain good support and safety. Once you find area suitable for safe walking, begin you walk with a moderately paced stride for 5-10 minutes, for a good warm-up. A warm-up is crucial to allow your muscles and cardiovascular system to become adjusted to physical activity. After your 5-10 minutes, slowly increase your speed to a level that gets your breathing and heart rate up, at least slowly above resting level. Try to stay at this level for at least 15-20 minutes. If you are having difficult time maintaining this pace for 15-20 minutes, work at small intervals. Intervals combine short bursts of higher intensities with slow recovery periods. So work at walking faster for 1 minute, then slow down for the next 1 or 2 minutes, then repeat this process for 10-20 minutes. After you have finished your walking exercise it's time to cool down. Continue to walk for 5-10 minutes at a slower pace. Allow your body to recover and return to normal levels. Finish your exercise with some basic stretching. Remember to drink plenty of water. Hydration is very important in replacing fluids for the body. Have a great day walking!



Glute stretch
(15 seconds)



Standing hamstring stretch
(15 seconds)



Quadriceps stretch
(15 seconds)



Calf stretch
(15 seconds)

New clinic close to completion

The new clinic at Little Axe is nearing completion. The last of the touch up work is being completed and furniture and equipment are being delivered on a daily occurrence. There is a lot of activity at the new site and many new employees are being hired to staff the facility. The planned first day to start seeing patients will be Monday, April 30, 2012. Because of the need to move employees from the current location to the new clinic, the old clinic at Little Axe will close during the week of April 23-27th. This includes the pharmacy. So please plan accordingly with any refills. We will be moving all medications from the old clinic to the new clinic and pharmacy staff will be doing an inventory of the current medications. All the pharmacy staff from Little Axe will be involved with the move. If you have medication to pick up, please make plans to pick it up before April 23rd. We will not be able to allow patients in the clinic during that week due to movers coming in and out moving supplies and employees from one building to another. During the closing of the old clinic, you will be able to call the Shawnee clinic for urgent care. Any chronic or follow-up appointments will be rescheduled for another time.

We plan to have the General Council meeting in the new clinic. We will be serving breakfast in our employee break area and will have the health fair throughout the clinic. Each department will have a booth set up so make sure you attend the meeting to see the new clinic and to get some great health information. You will also have the chance to meet many of the new providers and employees. We are so proud of the facility and know that as a tribe, this is a great accomplishment. In order to help with the beautiful nature of the building, we will be putting Native American artwork throughout the building. We have a large display case in the main waiting area. If you would like to donate artwork for the building or items for the display case, please contact Beverly Felton, Little Axe clinic administrator at 405-447-0300. We would love to have items that represent the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and its people. Each donation will have a small sign denoting who the artist is or who donated the items. We will also be asking local tribal artists if they would like to showcase their artwork in the facility. What a great way to get recognized.

The grand opening for the clinic will be held on May 16, 2012 beginning at 1:30 pm. We are inviting many tribal, local, state, and official dignitaries. This event will be a one of a kind event and we are hoping for many of those invited to attend. Currently, we have invitations out to individuals with Indian Health Service, the state and city elected officials, and many other federal agencies. We are also inviting many different tribal leaders to see our new facility. A full agenda is scheduled for the event. Make plans now on coming out to the grand opening on May 16, 2012 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

The Behavioral Health Department welcomed a new member to the staff this month. Monte Blake is a Licensed Professional Counselor, LPC, with 26 years of experience in mental health and social services. Utilizing a cognitive behavioral approach to therapy coupled with an empathic understanding of the psychodynamic influence of early childhood experiences and the complexities of life, Monte has provided therapeutic services to a wide range of populations and people of all races and walks of life. Monte has worked in mental health centers, mental health hospitals and public schools. He has provided therapeutic services in the home and spent ten years providing services to incarcerated men in a medium security prison.

A prevailing philosophy for Monte has been the belief that people are capable of positive change in their life, regardless of their personal struggle, if they are willing to afford themselves an honest self evaluation through reflection, contemplation and examination of their internal dialogue and behavioral choices.

Monte has been married for 31 years and has two wonderful adult children, He and his wife Ruth live on 11 acres which requires a lot of tender loving care to develop and maintain.

Monte is excited about the opportunity to serve the Absentee Shawnee Clinic.



PHARMACY NEWS



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL PHARMACY

• **OUR NEW LITTLE AXE LOCATION WILL SOON BE OPEN!! OUR LITTLE AXE LOCATION WILL BE CLOSED THE WEEK OF APRIL 23-27 IN ORDER TO MOVE IN TO THE NEW FACILITY. PLEASE PLAN YOUR REFILLS ACCORDINGLY IF YOU FILL AT THAT LOCATION SO THAT YOU DO NOT RUN OUT OF YOUR MEDICATIONS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING DURING THIS EXCITING RELOCATION!**

• As of January 1, 2012, Oklahoma State Law mandates a current photo ID is required for EVERY time ANY controlled medication being picked up.

• Both Shawnee and Little Axe pharmacy locations both fill prescriptions for members of all tribes, but outside prescription orders are restricted to Absentee Shawnee Tribal citizens with established charts.

• If you would like to receive a text message to your cell phone when your medications are ready for pick-up, please alert the pharmacy staff and provide us with a current cell phone number.

The following are a few tips to help us be more efficient in our delivery of pharmacy services to you:

- ✓ Present insurance cards each time you pick up or drop off a prescription
- ✓ Keep us informed of changes in address, phone number and other contact information.
- ✓ Let the Pharmacy staff know if the prescription is going to be picked up or needs to be delivered.
- ✓ When requesting refills, please provide 24 hours notice and either the refill number, which is located above your name on the prescription label, or the names of your medication.

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

New Hours of Operation for the Pharmacy:

Shawnee: 7am-6pm Monday-Friday

Little Axe: 7am-5:30pm Monday-Friday

We are open through the lunch hour!!

****Both pharmacy departments are closed the first Wednesday of each month to complete administrative duties****

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

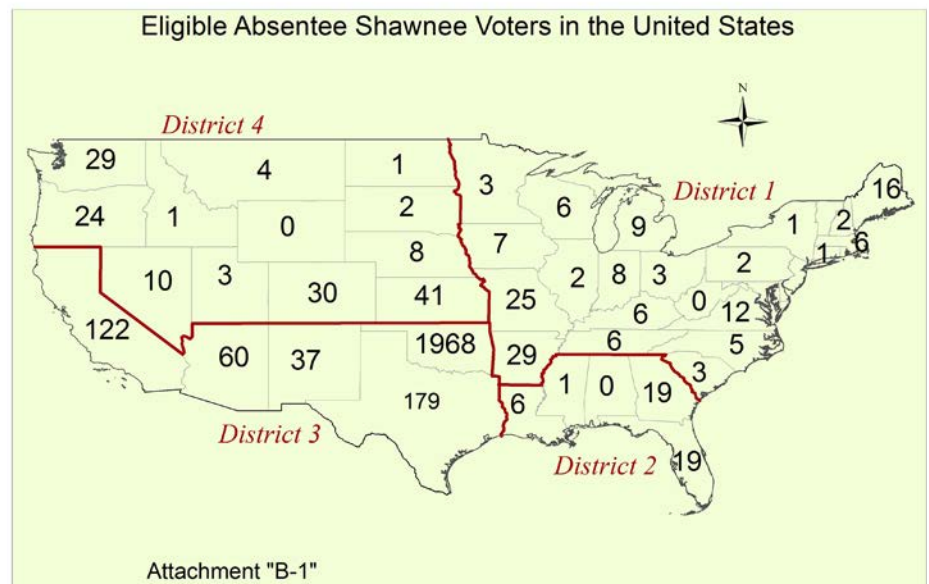
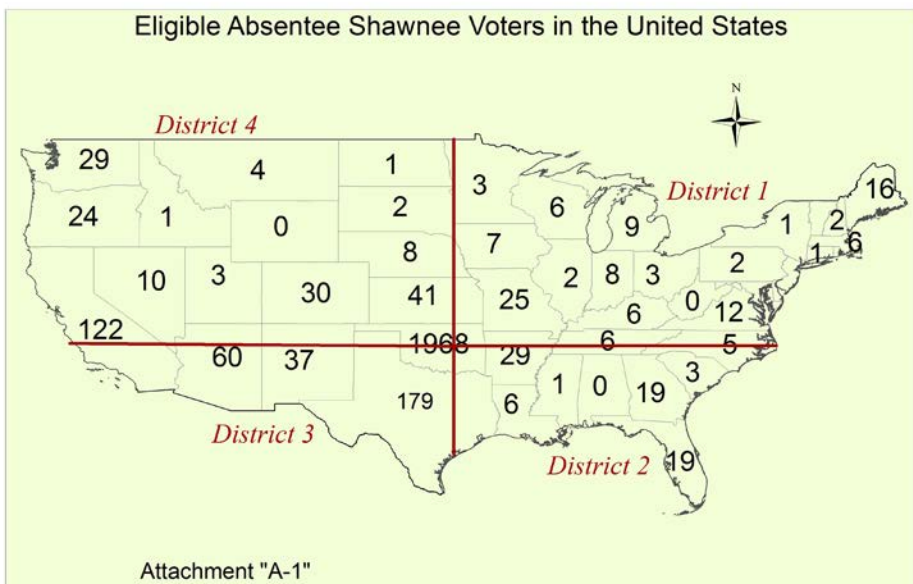
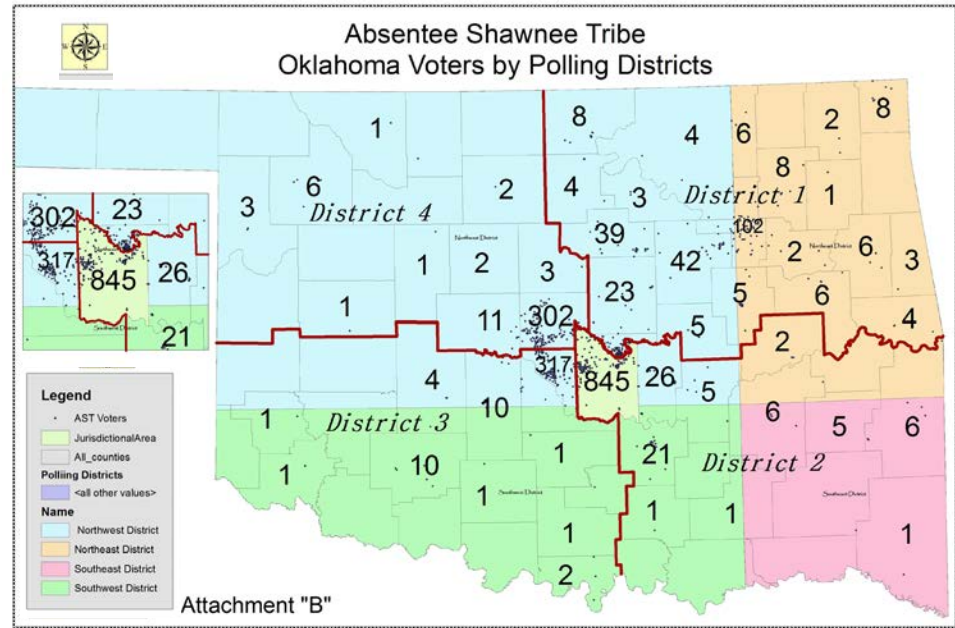
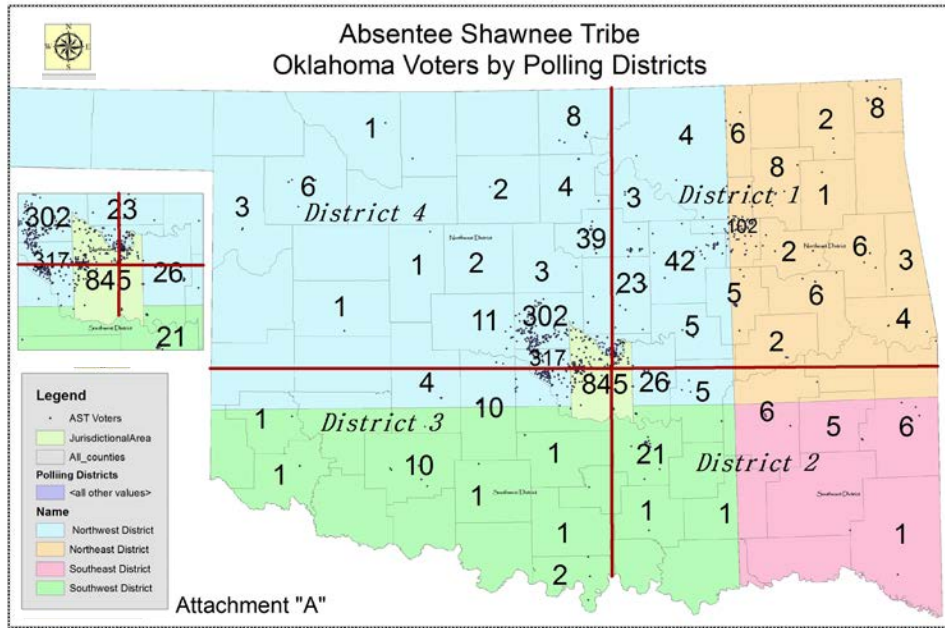
The AST Constitution Revision Committee has been recently started meeting again. As our process of revising the AST Constitution we are interested in getting feedback from the Tribal Members so that everyone has a voice in the revisions. Last year we addressed the revision issue of reducing the blood quantum at a Special General Council. At this year's April General Council we would like to present our ideas on revising the Legislative branch of the AST Government. Currently the Executive Committee hold both Executive and Legislative branches. Our recommended revision is to split the Executive and Legislative powers into two different branches. The Legislative powers, or law making powers, would be given to the Tribal Legislators who serve as representatives for the Tribal Members. The issue at hand is how we will structure the legislature- We are proposing four (4) options as stated below. Please give us your input and which option you feel best works in the revision of the AST Constitution.

The Constitution Revision Committee is considering revising the legislative branch of the AST government. Below are the four options that are currently being considered, which option do you feel would best represent the Absentee Shawnee Tribe:

- A. Districts based on two geographical lines that would intersect the entire U.S. represented here based on Highway 9 and Highway 18 through Shawnee, OK. This option would have four districts with equal representation based on the number of voters in each as stated above. (See Attached "A" Map)
- B. Districts based on separating the counties of Oklahoma into four districts and separating the states to coincide with these districts as well so that the Districts are easier to distinguish. District 1 is the northeast portion of Oklahoma and the US, District 2 is the southeast portion of Oklahoma and the US. District 3 is the southwest portion of Oklahoma and the US. District 4 is the northwest portion of Oklahoma and the US. District 2 and District 3 with the most eligible voters will have two legislators each and District 1 and District 4 will have one legislator each for a total of 6 legislators. (See Attached "B" Map)
- C. Districts based on the two historical bands of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe: the White Turkey and the Big Jim Bands. Each eligible voter will have to choose a historical band to be a registered voter based on their family association with the band. Those who can claim both must choose which they wish to be affiliated. Each band will have 3 legislators each.
- D. The final option is to not have a separate legislative branch and leave the legislative powers with the Executive Committee as it is now.

I would like to thank members of the AST Constitution Revision Committee for their time and effort and thank Kenny Jones, OEH-OHP for the Maps. Should you have any questions, if I cannot answer them, I will direct them to the committee, please contact me 405-275-4030 ext 148 or email eddieb@astribe.com.

Respectfully,
 Eddie Brokeshoulder
 Point of Contact
 AST Constitution Revision Committee



Happy Birthday!

April Birthdays

Alberty, Shannon Venita
Alexander, Rachel Paulette
Alford Jr., Eugene Ray
Alford, Jaci Lanae
Alford, Ray Wildcat
Arms, Steven Anthony
Armstrong, Tina Marie
Bacon, Misty Twilight
Barnes, Hollin Kade Eugene
Bates, Johnna Suzanne
Batson-Vasquez, Amber
Danielle
Berry, Collin Michael
Bethell, Shelby Ann
Bettelyoun, Cameron
Jake
Bierd, Baley Andrea
Blanchard II, Clifford Ray
Blanchard II, Norman Neal
Blanchard, Harry James
Blanchard, Jahkahri Hay-
Léroy
Blanchard, John Christopher
Blanchard, Norah Gisele
Boyd, Xavier Tyrik
Bradley, Willard Lee
Bradshaw, Jana Marie
Brady, Scott Edgar
Brinson, Christopher Allen
Brokesoulder Jr., Clifton
Brokesoulder, Eddie K.
Brown, Jennifer Leah
Bryce, Shayla Maelyn
Buckley, Dawna Michele
Byers, Reanna Nicole
Byers, Zachary Elias
Byrd, Lyndell D Armond
Caires, Vanessa Little Axe
Chaney, Brittni Lynn
Charley Whatley, Jordan
Eugene
Charley, Mary Serene
Chisholm, Carly Nicole
Clark, Dallas Joseph
Clark, Dave George
Clutter, Ramona Lynn
Coddington, Aubriana Marie
Coddington, Kyle Clarence
Coddington, Michael Richard
Coffee, Sahaunie Nicole
Coon Jr., Stacy William
Creek Sr., Albert
Creek, Amber Lee
Creek, Eunice Marie
Creek, Stevie Eli

Cryder, Michael Lawrence
Davis Sr., Edward Leroy
Davis, Jyquale Lee De`shon
Deere, Neva Lee (Larney)
Dibler, Dale G.
Doussett, Delisha Ann
Draper Sr., Russell Lee
Draper, Reuben James
Eason, Braxton Noah
Ellis, Ariel Raquel
Ellis, Russell Bruce
Evans, Kayla Marie
Fife, Andrew Jacob
Frank, Janice Arlene
Garcia, Josiah Elias
Garfield, Alicia Raejhaun
Garretson, Riley Dean
Gibson, Darianne Alexander
Gibson, Jaysan Baylee
Gibson, Mary Ann
Gibson, Melonie Dian
Gibson, Norma Jean
Gilman III, Thomas Eugene
Gilman, Robert Everett
Goodwin, Dawn Marie
Goodwin, Larry Tiger
Gouge Jr., Marg
Gouge, Courtney Waynell
Graham, Charles Robert
Grass, Solomon Wayne
Griffin, Ladawn Abraham
Hamon-Breeden, Katie Marie
Harjo, Timothy A.
Harris, Monte Lee
Harvey II, Johnny Troy
Haumpy, Ariann Renee
Haumpy, Gage Allen
Haumpy, O-Day Tah`lee
Eugene
Healy, Spencer James
Hernandez, Curtis David
Hill, Trent David
Hoepfer, Emily Danielle
Holderness, Samantha Grace
Hollenbeck, May Angela
Hood, Randolph Paul
Hudson, Latasha Kay
Hunt, Leona Lucile
Hurst, Maegan Nicole
Jackson, Fallon Kay
Jacobs, Maria Elena
Jacobs, Stormie Raelein
James, Na`chelle Ardena
Mae
Johnson Jr, David Lee

Johnson, Adison Graci Mae
Johnson, Justice Lonewolf
Johnson, Richard Michael
Johnson, Shoshanna Louise
Johnson, Victoria Maria
Johnson, Zachary Howard
Jones, Anita Louise
Judd Jr., Thomas Ray
Kaniatobe, Marjorie Ann
Kelsey, Leigha Marie
Key, Christian Trey
Kickapoo-Johnson, Lux
Olyvia
Kilmer, Lelia Lashell
Kinnamon Jr, Larry Leon
Kinsey, Margie
Lee, Audrey Catherine Sung-
hee
Leffler, Claudia Jo
Leyva, Marisela Isabelle
Mariah
Little Axe Jr., Troy Lee
Little Axe, Diane Gail
Little Axe, Jordan Kane
Little Axe, Joshua Taylor
Little Axe, Kaylee Jean
Little Axe, Shiloh Blue
Little Charley, Evelyn Lavon
Little Creek, Alex
Little Creek, Lawrence Keith
Little Jr., Gilbert Boyd
Littlebear, Tonya Lynn
Littlecreek, Samantha Jolene
Littlecreek, Thomas Eugene
Longhorn, Darrell Wayne
Longhorn, Leonard Wayne
Longhorn, Vincent Wade
Longman, Cherokee Dakota
Longman, Trina Ann
Lowe, Justin James
Mack Sr., Thomas James
Mack, Cylas Ledarix
Malone, Riley
Mann, Raymond Freeland
Mann, Richard Freeman
Mann, Savannah Nicole
Mann, Taylor Lawrence
Markwardt, Franklin Thomas
Martin, April Denise
Martin, Kinley Rae
Martinez, Amaya Rynae
Martinez, Danielle Lynn
Mason, Suzanna Rachel
Powell
Masquas, Phillip Jon

Masquat, Iola Renee
Massey, Karen Sue
Mattingly, Alana Irene
Mayo, Melba Mary
McBride, Alice Jean Dirt
McDaniel, Karen Diane
McGirt, Dana Dale
McGuire, Kyla Marie
Meek, Phillip Edward
Megyesi, Charles Stevens
Milburn, Heather Renee
Miller, Lillian Grace
Mills, Brian Richard
Mohawk, Curtis Roy
Monroe, Pamela Sue
Montgomery, Peiress Awmae
Morgan, Summer Dawn
Morton, Joshua David
Morton, Makayla Lynn
Nakamoto, Gina Jessica
Nelson Jr, Daniel Lee
Ness, Mary Ellen
Nowlin, Pak Louise
Ochoa, Alejandro Juan
Ortega, Kristin Lace
Oxley, Stephanie Renee
Pack, Christie Lorraine
Panther, Nickolas Wayne
Parker, Elizabeth Isabelle
Parker, Sarah Lynn
Parker, Twila Olene
Petit, Sherri Ann
Phillips, Amber Nicole
Ponkilla, Yvonne Diane
Powell, Tammy Marie
Richey, Jennifer Lynn
Robb, James Edward
Robertson, Winifred L.
Rolette, Gregory Shawn
Rolette, Hanna Grace
Roller, Geraldine M Bradley
Runsabove, Bryce Leigh
Ryder, Vanessa Louise
Sanchez, Bailey Marie
Sanchez, Citlali
Sanchez, James Andrew
Skylar
Sanchez, Victoria Nicolette
Seaton-Blanchard, Stephen
Anthony
Sellers, Levi Dalton
Sexton, Jacob David
Shawnee, Jaxon Avery
Shawnee, Sharon Dale
Sherrill, Penelope

Sloan, Jenifer
Sloat, Morgan Elaine
Smith, Joshua Dean
Smith, Noah Ryan
Snake, Archie Ellis
Soap, Alpha Christine
Soap, Terayana Maxine
Spoon, Ashley Donelle
Spoon, Marques Dwyane
Spoon, Samuel Lee
Spriggs, Brian Lee
Spybuck, Adrienne Eileen
Spybuck, Larry Eldon
Spybuck, Thomas Mark
Squire, Billie Gene
Squire, Samson Robert
Squire, Wilbur James
Starr-Fuentez, Olivia Angelina
Stephens, William Lee
Steves, Madelyn Louise
Stewart, Sandra Leigh
Stone Sr., James Lee
Stone, Dawn Michelle
Sullivan, Tiffany Chantele
Sumka, Lena Darcille
Switch, Traci Lynn
Switch, Charles William
Taryole, Trevor Seth
Tascier, Timothy Andrew
Tenner, Taylor Denise
Thompson, Rhonda Gail
Thornhill, Westly Lynn
Thorpe, Brady Wayne
Thorpe, Mary Catherine
Tieyah, Lavern Wilson
Tiger, Patricia Ann
Tiger, Stephon Michael
Wabaunasee, Thelma Jean
Wallace, Kay Laverne
Walley, Johnny Ray
Wallis, Baryn Clinton
Walters, Shirley Ann
Warrior, Marcellus James
Washington, David Axe
Washington, Kenneth
Washington, Kevin Bryan
Washington, Samantha Lynn
Watkins, Autum Paige
Watson, Frankie Louise
Kaseca
Watson, Jayden Tyler Scott
Wenholm, Casey Andrew
Whinery, Pamela Jean
White, Brenda Kaye
White, Wesley Shane

Whited, Kimberly Diane
Whittington, Charlene E.
Williams, Seth Andreas
Wilson, Alize` Jade
Wilson, Damon Allen
Wilson, Drake Kenneth Rylee
Wilson, Ethan Hawke
Wilson, Gabriel Ahboah
Wilson, Harold Wayne
Wilson, Howard Gene
Wilson, James Wayne
Wise, Keeley Ava Lynn
Witt, Joseph Andrew
Wunderlin, Travis Rece
Yellow Eagle, Angela Marie

Happy Birthday to my son,
Ben
April 25th

Happy Birthday Shorty
April 22nd

Love, Amy & Family

Happy Birthday

RAMONA

From

Sherry & Marvin

Happy Birthday & April
Fools

Sharon Shawnee
Have a great Day!
Love
Marvin & Sherry

Happy 21st Birthday
Zachary Elias Byers
We Love you
From

Aunt Sherry, Uncle Marvin,
Uncle Shawn, Aunt Marilyn
& all your cousins



Happy 20th Birthday

Lindsey James

April 8th

Lindsey is currently serving
her second year in the Navy
and stationed at Everett
Washington, we just want to
let her know that we love her,
miss her very much and we are
very proud of her.

Love you,

Fina, Mom, and the Harjo's

Happy 20th Birthday on
April 8th Lindsey James
We love you, miss you and
we are very proud of you.
Deke, Gina, Tara, Ray &
Tessa

Happy Birthday "Uncle"
I love you, Tessa



Happy Birthday Daughter.
Enjoy your day like you look
here!

Love Your Mom

Happy 26th Birthday
to my baby boy
Ray (Ravis) Battise
on April 3rd.
I love you, Mom

Happy Birthday Ray !
We love you
Gina, Tara, Karla & Kyle

Happy Birthday
Hollin Barnes!!
We Love You



Love

Bridgette, Brandon
& Bryleigh



Happy Birthday
to my older dearest Cousin!!
COURTNEY WAYNELL
GOUGE
Love, Leah Bates and family!!

Happy Belated 17th birthday

to my baby girl

Yahna Kayne!

We love you with all our
hearts!

Love your family!

(and Howler Monkey!)

Happy Belated Birthday
Thomas Bates!
We love you,
Leah, Kiarah, Yahna, Keegan,
Akiane, and Aria!!

Happy Belated Birthday
to Nylah Brown!
Love,
Auntie Fefe, Uncle Thomas,
and kiddos!

Amber Batson Vasquez
Happy Birthday Keauana;
or should we say "Cinnamon"
Ha! Ha! Have a great day.
We love & miss you.
The Herrera Family

Happy 8th Birthday "KD"
We love you, Tessa & Family

Happy 8th Birthday to
Kadence Harjo
on April 28th
We love you. Fina, Mom and
brothers & sisters

Happy Late Birthday Bralynn
& Happy Birthday Hollin
Love you guys bunches love,
Momma, Daddy & Jordan.

Happy Birthday to our daughter,
Pam Whinery

April 1

Love, Mom & Dad

Happy Birthday
to our granddaughter,
Leigha Kelsey

April 19

Love,

Mema & Papa Schulenberg

Happy Birthday

to my sisters

Marty Kaniatobe

April 10

&

Jenifer Sloan

April 28

Love,

Don & Esteline Schulenberg

Happy Birthday
Courtney Fonge,
Leonard Longhorn
and last but not least
Vincent Longhorn
from your family

Happy 5th Anniversary
Curtis & Sally Mohawk
From all the kids!

Happy Birthday
Frankie Watson
we wish you good health
love the Kasecas, Foremans

George and Sue Blanchard celebrate 50 years.



George and Sue Blanchard of Little Axe recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a party at Thunderbird Casino thrown by their children. George and Sue were married February 28, 1962 in Texas. After they were married, George began working as a laborer with a brick-laying business. While working in the bricklaying business, he was also a bus driver in the 60s at Little Axe Schools. He went on to work for the Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area training center in the mid-70's as a brick-laying instructor and after that, he and Sue started their own construction company. They worked together in that business, along with their children for a number of years. He later went on to work in the landscaping department at Griffin Memorial Hospital before becoming the Chief of security at Thunderbird Entertainment Center in Norman. After over 25 years in security, George was elected into office as Governor of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe in 2009 and was reelected in 2011, a position that he currently holds. Sue, the former Linda Sue Johnson, has worked as a cook with Little Axe Schools and Griffin Memorial Hospital. She has also had jobs working for Thunderbird Entertainment Center. She has also worked side by side with George during their days working with their construction company. Sue currently cares for three of their great-grandchildren while her granddaughter works.

George is the son of the late Lewis and Cynthia Blanchard of Newalla. He has 4 brothers and 4 sisters. Sue is the daughter of the Pauline Johnson of Norman and the late Henry Johnson, Sr of Norman. She has 3 brother and 1 sister. They have three children, Bob and Denise Blanchard of Moore; Beverly and Doug Felton of Newalla, and Tee Blanchard of Norman. They also have 6 grandchildren; Lacey and Joe Rudloff of Newalla, Zac Felton of Newalla, Brittany Shaver of Norman, Taylor and Chris Tenner of Newalla, Kaylee Blanchard of Moore, and Jordan Shaver of Norman. They also have 9 great-grandchildren; Dylan, Derek, and Emma Rudloff; Kandice, Wyatt, Aiden, and Kai Felton; Kirsten Tenner; and Easton Jones.

An anniversary celebration was held February 25, 2012 at Thunderbird Casino with family and friends in attendance including many out of town friends. After the dinner celebration, the Gary Gibson Band played for the couple and their guests in a private party with the couple having the first dance on the floor and then a champagne toast. They took a trip to Las Vegas for their anniversary.



TERO is looking forward to the months to come with so many opportunities arising. We encourage all tribal members currently seeking employment to apply with TERO. We are located in Building #1 on the second floor all the way to the right. Bring in any license, certificates, letters of recommendations, and any degrees you may have as well as your ID, Social Security Card, and CDIB. TERO will assist any applicant looking to update or make a resume or online job opportunities. We have a partnership with Express Personnel in the Shawnee area. They are currently seeking applicants for Diesel Mechanic, Stick Welders, General Labor, and Customer Service. If any applicant is interested in any of these positions contact TERO for more information. In this month, TERO will be attending the AST General Council which will be held on April 21st at The Little Axe Health Center in Norman, Ok. We will have plenty of applications and will be available to answer any questions you may have. We will provide a list of the current positions available within the tribe, local jobs, as well as all other employment opportunities. We encourage everyone to attend to support your tribe. In this past month TERO has received 121 phone calls, 42 walk ins, and we referred 12 applicants to various positions within the tribe. TERO attended the OSHA Training, a meeting with Seminole State College for Business & Information Systems Division, and attended a meeting with Jan Pro and we are glad to say they will be putting applicants to work. In the months to come TERO will be attending meetings with various companies in hopes to place more individuals in the workforce. We will be attending a Career Fair at OBU on April 4th, 2012. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the TERO office at 405-275-4030.

TERO STAFF

Randy Edge Ext: 135
TERO DIRECTOR

Bridgette Wilson Ext: 163
Office Assistant

I would like to take this chance, on behalf of my sister Francis Blanchard, to say thank you to our brother, Ralph Mann, for conducting the services for my nephew/son Conrad Blanchard. Also to the men from maintenance who set up the tarps, chairs, and port a potties. We truly appreciate all the help that was extended to us in this time of sorrow and need. As it was a tough time getting our love one home, Mr. Jeff Gibson, thank you for your help in these matters.

No Ki/ Nee Yaw way! Again Thank You!
Sherman Tiger



How Child Welfare Works with American Indian Families

The Voices of Zak's Aunt and Uncle

When we first found out that our nephew, Zak, (my brother's 2 year old son) was in foster care, we weren't sure what to do. He was in another state and his parents had been accused of physically abusing him. Even though he is an enrolled member of our tribe, he wasn't in an Indian foster home like the Indian Child Welfare Act requires. But at the time, that was the least of our worries. We just wanted to find out what we could do to help my brother, sister-in-law, and nephew.

Things didn't look too good. Even though the abuse charges were alleged, they hadn't been proven. But besides the abuse charges, my brother and his wife were pretty heavily involved in drugs and didn't seem to be doing anything to try to get their son back. My husband and I didn't think Zak would ever be returned to them because they really weren't working on their treatment plan. We were licensed foster parents on the reservation where we live. We figured we'd have a good chance to get our nephew placed with us when the permanent plan was decided. My brother and sister-in-law were ok about us having Zak placed with us. But the child welfare agency in their state thought we wouldn't protect him from his parents, so they left him in the non-Indian foster home.

At first the child welfare agency didn't notify our tribe about our family situation. My brother didn't tell the worker that he was a tribal member, and she didn't think Zak looked "Indian." If the agency worker had asked Zak's parents more about their Indian heritage, she would have found out that Zak was enrolled with our tribe. By the time the agency worker found out about Zak's Indian heritage and notified our tribe, Zak had already been in foster care for 3 months. The tribe intervened and told the child welfare agency that they wanted to transfer Zak's case to tribal court in our state. But the state court found "good cause" not to transfer and noted that Zak had bonded with the foster family. So Zak stayed in the non-Indian foster home where he'd been placed. We were able to visit him only about once every 6 to 8 weeks because it was a hard for us to travel out of state to see him. But we didn't want him to forget us so we kept visiting as often as we could. In the meanwhile, our tribe kept trying to get jurisdiction.

After a year, Zak's mom and dad had not finished their treatment plan and had done nothing to reunify with Zak. The agency worker decided that the permanent plan for Zak would be adoption. Even though she wanted the foster family to adopt him, we also wanted to adopt Zak since he's our nephew. Our tribal lawyer was able to show in court that the purpose of Indian Child Welfare Act is to keep Indian families together. He proved that the social service agency didn't follow the Indian Child Welfare Act from the beginning. He also showed that we had kept close connections with Zak with our visits, and we were bonded to him too. It took a long time, but finally the court ruled in favor of the ICWA and transferred jurisdiction to our tribal court, and we adopted Zak.

We know it was hard for his foster family to give him up, so we try to make sure he has visits with them sometimes. But now Zak is growing up with his cousins, grandparents, aunts, and uncles who live near us on the reservation. He is learning the traditions and ceremonies of our tribe.

If it hadn't been for the Indian Child Welfare Act, our family probably would have been separated forever.

What is the Indian Child Welfare Act?

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is an important federal law for Indian tribes. All state child welfare agencies and courts must follow the law when they are working with Indian families in child custody proceedings.

What does the Indian Child Welfare Act do for tribes?

ICWA gives Indian tribes the right to be involved in deciding what should happen for Indian children who may be placed in foster care or adoptive placements. Tribes, state agencies, and state courts don't always agree on what the best plan is for Indian children in foster care.

How does the child welfare agency know when ICWA applies?

To find out if you or your child is an American Indian, the agency worker should ask you if you are a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe. Sometimes, when parents aren't available to give this information, the agency worker may decide this might be an ICWA case if she learns that your family has connections to a Indian tribe, Indian organization, Indian Health Service, etc. Your friends or relatives may also provide information to the child welfare agency that gives them reason to believe they need to follow the Indian Child Welfare Act. The best information about your tribal enrollment comes from you. Without your help, agency workers will have to look for clues about your Indian heritage, and it will delay the notice that your tribe receives about the situation.

What rights does the Indian Child Welfare Act give Indian families, and what responsibilities does it give state child welfare agencies?

ICWA gives Indian parents certain rights. ICWA gives state child welfare agencies certain responsibilities:

- Before state child welfare agencies can take children from their families, ICWA requires the agency to make "active efforts" to help keep children at home. "Active efforts" means any kind of direct services and assistance that will help the family stay together. But if the situation is very dangerous, children can be removed immediately until it is safe for them to be returned.
- As an Indian parent or Indian custodian, you, and also your tribe, must receive "notice" by registered mail of all of the legal proceedings involving your children. If your child must be removed from home, the state child welfare agency and state court must notify you and your child's tribe(s). This must occur whenever a tribal member is involved in a child welfare proceeding. The notice must be sent to you and to your tribe by registered mail. No hearing can be held until 10 days after you and your tribe receive the notice. Then you and the tribe can request up to 20 additional days to get ready for the proceeding.
- If you are not able to afford legal counsel, under ICWA, you have the right to have legal counsel appointed by the court. If a state does not provide you with legal counsel, the court is supposed to notify the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. The Secretary is supposed to pay reasonable fees and expenses so that you will have legal counsel.
- Before removing your child from home, ICWA requires that an "expert witness" testify in court that this placement is necessary. The expert witness is a person who is American Indian or who is experienced in working with Indian families.

What happens if my child is placed in foster care?

If your child is placed into foster care, he must be placed with a relative. If a relative isn't available, he must be placed with a foster family who is a member of your tribe. If no foster family from your tribe is available, your child must be placed with an Indian foster family who is a member of another tribe. Unfortunately, there are often few, if any, Indian foster families available. As a result, Indian children are sometimes placed with non-Indian foster families, although this is not in compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act.

What happens if my tribe gets involved?

The tribe may decide to "intervene." That means that the tribe is in contact with the state child welfare agency and wants to get more information about your situation. The tribe may recommend where your child should be placed. The tribe may ask the child welfare agency to send court reports and other documents in order to stay informed about what is going on. ICWA gives the tribe a right to intervene and parents can't object to this. It is expected that the child welfare agency will cooperate with the tribe's request; however, the agency may choose a plan that is not in agreement with the tribe's plan. It is possible that the court will agree with the state, rather than with the tribe. The tribe may also request to "transfer" a child's case to tribal court, even if the tribe is in another state. Parents can object to the transfer to tribal court. If either parent objects, it will stay in state court. Sometimes children's cases are not transferred to tribal court because state courts find "good cause" not to transfer. "Good cause" may mean that your child has needs that can be met only in the custody of the state child welfare agency, such as extreme medical needs. Your tribe may disagree with the state's 'good cause' decision not to transfer. If the tribe disagrees, it may decide to appeal the decision in state court.

Practical Tips for Families

- ✓ Tell the state agency worker immediately if you are a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.
- ✓ Ask the agency worker if they have notified your tribe about your situation.
- ✓ Contact your tribe's social service program to find out if they know about your situation.
- ✓ If you're not sure of your tribal heritage, give the agency worker as much information as possible about your family heritage: your parent's names, where they live and what you know about your tribal connections.
- ✓ If your child is being placed in foster care, give the agency worker the names of family members who might be able to take care of your child.
- ✓ If you don't have relatives nearby, ask if your child will be placed with an Indian foster family.
- ✓ Ask for court-appointed legal counsel if you cannot afford to pay for a lawyer.
- ✓ Ask to see the reports and documents that have been filed with the court about the decision to place your child.
- ✓ Attend all the court hearings related to your child.
- ✓ If your child is going to be placed in foster care, ask the agency worker if an Expert Witness has recommended the placement.
- ✓ Ask to visit your child regularly while he is in foster care.
- ✓ Ask for help if you need assistance to follow your Service/Treatment Plan. This plan will describe why your child is involved in the child welfare system, your family's strengths and needs, your child's and family's goals, actions you and the child welfare system are to take, services you and your child are to receive and participate in, and a time period for working on these things. If your child is living at home with you, the service plan will describe what needs to happen so that he will be safe and can continue to live in your home. If your child is in foster care, the service plan states why he came into care. It will say what needs to happen for him to be returned home and for the child welfare agency to no longer be involved with your family.
- ✓ When you sign the service plan, it means that you agree with it. If you don't agree with it, you don't have to sign it. Instead, you could ask the agency worker to reconsider the parts that you don't agree with.
- ✓ Be sure to get a written copy of the service plan to keep.
- ✓ If available, seek help from tribal or off-reservation Indian resource programs to help you with your service plan.

**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE DEPARTMENT
(405)275-4030**



APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH
#PreventChildAbuse

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

5th Annual Preparing for the 7th Generation: The Journey Continues

**April 17, 18, 19, 2012
Reed Conference Center
Midwest City, OK**

Sponsored by:

Cherokee Nation, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Osage Nation, Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board, OU School of Community Medicine, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma Tobacco Research Center, American Legacy, American Heart Association

Keynote Speakers:

Tuesday, April 17:

**Jonathan Orens, MD
Professor Of Medicine
Chief of Division of Pulmonary & Critical
Care Medicine
Johns Hopkins Hospital**

Wednesday, April 18:

**Cynthia Hallett
Americans for Non-Smokers Rights**

**Tim Milbrandt
Mayo Clinic**

Thursday, April 19:

**Dr. Terry Cline
Commissioner of Health
Oklahoma State Department of Health**

**Kevin Collins
Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention**

REGISTRATION FORM ATTACHED

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Conference Location:
Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Rd., Midwest City, Oklahoma

REGISTRATION IS FREE
PLEASE COMPLETE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PARTICIPANT

Please check the dates that you plan to attend:

April 17 ___

April 18 ___

April 19 ___

Name: _____
(Please print legibly)

Organization/Tribe _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please let us know if you have any special needs:

To Register, please mail, fax or e-mail completed form to:

Linda Robertson
Office of Tribal Liaison
1000 N.E. 10th St.
Oklahoma City OK 73117
Phone: 405/271-9444 EXT 56420
Fax: 405/271-1225
Email: lindaj@health.ok.gov

To Book Lodging:

Sheraton at Reed Center (405/455-1800)

Or copy and paste the following link into a web browser

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1201190271&key=6994D>



11 Facts About Child Abuse

- In 2008, one out of every 601.4 children were victims of physical abuse, with parents of victims accounting for almost 80.1% of abusers.
- 2.34 children out of 100,000 die from injuries relating to their abuse, with 80.8% of deaths occurring in children under four years old.
- For every incident of child abuse or neglect that gets reported, it's estimated that two others go unreported.
- Neglect is by far the most common form of child abuse, accounting for more than 78% of all cases.
- Physical abuse accounts for 17.8% of documented child abuse cases each year.
- A fourth of all girls and a sixth of boys are sexually abused by an adult before the age of 17.
- 8 out of 10 sexual abusers are someone in the family or someone the child knows.
- Every month, at least 100 babies are born to drug-using mothers.
- Of kids who have a parent who uses drugs, one in 13 is physically abused regularly.
- Abused children are more likely to abuse alcohol and become addicted to drugs, and one third will later abuse their own children.
- Of all prison inmates, 84% were abused as children.

The following is a chart on types child abuse and their ranking

Neglect	62.8%
Physical abuse	16.6%
Sexual abuse	9.3%
Emotional/psychological abuse	7.1%
Medical neglect	2.0%
Other	14.3%

Sources

[Baltimore County](#)

[Way 2 Hope Home](#)

[Child Welfare League of America](#)

[Child Help](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human services

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ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE

Promoting Safe and Stable Families Parenting Classes

PSSF Program provides parenting classes to promote positive parenting, help with the understanding of child development and communication skills to strengthen the entire family.

The classes meet for ten weeks, every Wednesday evening from 6pm to 8pm. You must attend every class to receive a Certificate of Completion. Dinner will be provided at every class as well as a babysitter on site if needed. Classes are available for non tribal members at a small fee.

The next session is attentively set for May 9, 2012 to be held at Little Axe Resource Center if there are enough participants to hold at this location.

For more information or to sign up, call 405-275-4030 ext 114.

Sena Yesslith, PSSF Worker



FREE Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors still Available!!

OEH personnel will provide and install smoke alarms and/or carbon monoxide detectors for enrolled Absentee Shawnee tribal members living in Pottawatomie, Cleveland, or Oklahoma County.

Please complete an application/short survey form and schedule a time and date for installation. Application/survey forms are available at the OEH office and at www.astribe.com.

Please contact OEH at 214-4235 for more information.



2% milk served daily

April 2012

menu subject to change

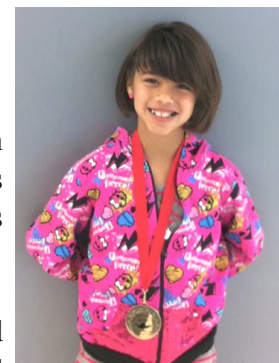
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Chicken & Rice Carrots Applesauce	3 Mexican Casserole Ranch Beans Spanish Rice Pineapples	4 Pizza Fruit Cocktail Salad Bar*	5 Biscuit Sausage Gravy Cereal	6 Good Friday AST Closed	7
8 <i>Easter</i>	9 Cold Cut Sandwich Lett, Tom Onion Mac. Salad Pears	10 Frito Chili Pie Onions Chez Sticks Fruit	11 Pork Chop Greenbeans Mashed Pot./Gravy Bread/Fruit	12 Ham Scallop Pot. Veggies Mixed Fruit	13 Waffles Sausage Links	14
15	16 Grilled Chez Sandwich Tator Tots Fruit	17 Oven Fried Chicken Mac n Chez Tossed Salad* Peaches	18 Goulash Spinach Crisp	19 Chef Salad Chicken Crackers Pineapples	20 Scrambled Eggs Ham Grits Biscuit	21 AST General Council 10 am The New Little Axe Health Center
22	23 Hamburgers Lett, Tom, Pickles Chips Pie	24 Beans w/ Ham Squash Cornbread Apricots	25 Fish Chips Coleslaw Salad Bar	26 BBQ Chicken Baked Beans Pot. Salad Pudding	27 Biscuit Sausage Gravy Scrambled Eggs	28
29	30 Beef Fingers Mashed Pot./Gravy Veggies Bread	<p>Not going to be Home!!! Call & Let us Know 405-275-4030 169 or Notify your Driver</p> <p>LUNCH SERVED MONDAY-THURSDAY 11AM TO 1PM BREAKFAST SERVED ON FRIDAYS 9AM TO 11AM</p>				

HORSE SHOE BEND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM:

As the school year is nearing the end, Representative Jeff Gibson, Rick Short and I will be discussing plans for summer tutoring and activities. Students at Horse Shoe Bend are getting ready for the state test to be starting in a couple of weeks. Report cards will be going out on April 4, 2012 as you know time will be passing very quickly and school will be out. I am very pleased with the outcome of the Horse Shoe Bend after School; the students are excited a program is in place for help with their studies.

North Rock Creek Award Assembly March 5, 2012

Leila Herrod was selected as the Achiever for the Month of February, in her First Grade Class. This is the second time in this school term that she has received the Achiever Award. Leila has improved in the areas of reading and math. She works hard and always ready to start on her homework. Leila is the daughter of Victor and Jennifer Castaneda. She has two sisters Desiree, Jayleen, and two brother Eryn, and Daniel.



Leila Herrod



Jayleen Castaneda

Jayleen Castaneda a First Grader, was awarded with the Achiever Award in her class. She has worked hard with her class work that she brings into the after school program. Jayleen is a good speller, and works independently. She is the daughter of Victor and Jennifer Castaneda. Jayleen has two sisters Desiree, Leila, and two brother Eryn, and Daniel.

HORSE SHOE BEND STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Gregory Hardin II, is named student of the month for March. He is a Eighth Grader at North Rock Creek and will be attending Shawnee High School in the fall. Gregory has shown a lot of improvement in his Algebra II Class. His homework and test scores has improved and he is maintaining an A average. Gregory plays the Trumpet in the North Rock Creek Band and he has won many awards in his music ability. I would like to thank Randall Watson who is one of the tutors at Horse Shoe Bend for all his help with Gregory. Gregory is the son of Gregory and Mary Hardin.



Gregory Hardin II

Gregory will receive a \$25.00 Wal-Mart Gift Card donated by the White Turkey Band.

GREGORY'S FAVORITES:

NBA team: Thunder nba player: James Hardin food: pizza hobby: playing the trumpet
place: being at home soda drink: sprite subject in school: band fruit: orange
movie: toy story III actor: Neil Patrick Harris color: Yellow automobile: chevy van

SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES AT HORSE SHOE BEND

March 19, 2012 plans was to take students to the OKC Zoo due to the weather, we went to the OKC Science Museum. Students watched the movie "Tornado Alley", at the Dome Theater. Students were able to see a variety of shows in the Planetarium such as the stars and the depths of the universe, and get the latest news and images from NASA.

There was just a lot of interactive science exhibits for students to do at the museum. One of the exhibits was a "Tinkering Garage" where you get to explore the tools and create your own project.

There were 23 students and 13 adult chaperons attend the activity to the Oklahoma City Science Museum.



Tuesday March 20, 2012, we went to the Shawnee Public Library. One of the Librarian Glenda who was the storyteller took time to show students where to find information throughout the library. The library had activities planned for spring break, and one of the activities was a storytelling session. Our younger students at Horse Shoe Bend had the opportunity to listen and participate in the storytelling session. The older students took advantage of their time with looking up information and checking out books.

Students had lunch at the Pizza Hut.

Afternoon students went bowling at the Fire Lake Bowling. We played one game and students received a \$5.00 Arcade Card to go play games.

24 Students attend the Shawnee Library and Fire Lake Bowling and 6 adult chaperons.



Leila Herrod and Janelle Watson

MORNING SESSION

Tutors and I planned activities at the Horse Shoe Bend Community Center for after school students. Wednesday, March 21, 2012.

Phil Bradley, Music and Arts, Community Health Service and Jennifer Sloan, MHR, MSPI Director from the Behavioral Health Services of the Absentee Shawnee Health. Gave students an informational presentations.



Brendan Winter

Phil Bradley briefly introduced the guitar and piano keyboard to the students. Some of the students did bring their own instrument. Gregory Hardin II played a short song on his trumpet and Dre Evans had Phil tune his guitar.

Jennifer Sloan talked about the Methamphetamine & Suicide Prevention Initiative (MSPI) Program and gave a prize to each student.

LUNCH

Students were served hot dogs, chips, and soda drink for lunch. I would like to thank Becky Prewett for all her help in shopping for our lunch and thank Jennifer Sloan for soda drinks and chips.

Thanks to Maintenance Department Steve Colungo, and Isaac Bettelyoun for delivering the cookout grill.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Absentee Shawnee Police Department Chief Brad Jackson and Officer Jason Brinker did a Stranger Danger Program with the students. Captain Trent Norton and Wolka the K-9 Dog made an appearance and the students were excited to see Wolka. Captain Norton discussed the role that Polka plays in the Police force and discussed street drugs in the area.

16 attended the morning and 18 in the afternoon session. 5 adult chaperons.

Thank you to the following:

Calvin and Annie Wilson
Steve and Wilma Colungo
John and Lorena Bynum
Robin Tiger
Jennifer Castaneda
Beverly Jackson
Marcus Wilson
Stuart Rolette
Randall Watson
Dustin Rolette
Patricia Brown
Elaine Brown
Gregory Hardin
Andy Warrior

Chief Jackson
Officer Jason Brinker
Captain Norton
Wolka
Jennifer Sloan
Phil Bradley
Isaac Bettelyoun
Becky Prewett
Michael Berry
Finance Dept.
Representative Gibson
Lt. Governor Gibson
Rick Short

If you have any questions or concerns please call 405 481-0397.

Edwina Butler-Wolfe, Director
Horse Shoe Bend After School



Eryn Johnson and
Tristan Bynum



Daniel Castaneda



Katie Bynum



Bralynn Barnes celebrated
her Birthday bowling
March 20, 2012
Happy Birthday Bralynn



Chief Jackson, Wolka, and
Captain Norton



Brendan Winter, Katie
Wilson, Ruben Wilson,
Daniel Castaneda,
Bralynn Barnes, Eryn
Johnson, Hollin Barnes



Captain Norton and Wolka



Gregory Hardin II and
Phil Bradley



Jeff Worthly



Jayden Robinson and
Katie Wilson



Damon Wilson



Janelle Watson, Wayne
Skinner, Dre Evans, Jayden
Robinson, David Skinner

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Department works daily with and for children of abuse and neglect.

What is Child Abuse?

Child abuse, or child maltreatment, is an act by a parent or caretaker that results in or allows the child to be subjected to death, physical injury, sexual assault, or emotional harm. Emotional abuse, neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse are all different forms of child abuse.

What are Child Sexual Abuse and Incest?

Child sexual abuse is any sexual act performed with a child by an adult or older child, with or without force or the threat of force. Child sexual abuse is most commonly committed by someone known to the child, including family members. In this case, the act may be considered incest. Incest is overt and/or covert sexual contact or acts between people who are related genetically, by marriage, by living arrangements, or in whom a child perceives a trusting relationship, for example parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, step-parents, foster parents. Incest is one of the most common forms of child sexual abuse. It may start as seemingly innocent touching and progress to more serious acts. It can continue for years. Other individuals who may commit child sexual abuse include neighbors, family friends, baby sitters, religious leaders, youth group leaders, or others with a power advantage of any kind over the child. Child sexual abuse may also be committed by a stranger. The acts can include: touching or non-touching, verbal seduction or abuse, anal or vaginal intercourse, oral sex, sodomy, manual stimulation, direct threats, implied threats, or other forms of abuse.

What is the Impact on Children Witnessing Domestic Violence?

The emotional toll on children who witness threats or violence against others can be substantial, especially when those involved are familiar to the child and the violence takes place in the home. Children may be affected when they witness domestic violence, regardless of whether or not they are directly abused.

Current research has found that children exposed to domestic violence are at an increased risk for emotional and behavioral problems, including anxiety, depression, and academic problems. The research also suggests that some children who have witnessed domestic violence show no symptoms of psychological distress.

Children's responses may depend on the severity and frequency of the abuse, the availability of family and community support, and the child's resilience. Once their safety is assured, most children can overcome the effects of trauma through professional counseling or other supportive interventions.

This section was adapted from materials provided by the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence: http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/?front_door=true

**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEPARTMENT**

Victim Advocacy

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

Court Advocacy

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

Housing and Utility Assistance

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

Transitional Housing

The AST DV Transitional Housing Program serves victims of Domestic Violence. Participants have up to two years to obtain education and job skills needed to begin a new life. Services include case management, counseling, and transportation. There area four homes all equipped with furniture and basic household items.

Referral Assistance

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

Sexual Assault Advocacy

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

Shelter Placement Assistance

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

Community Outreach

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



For any questions regarding any of the above services please contact the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Domestic Violence staff at (405) 275-4030.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month!!!

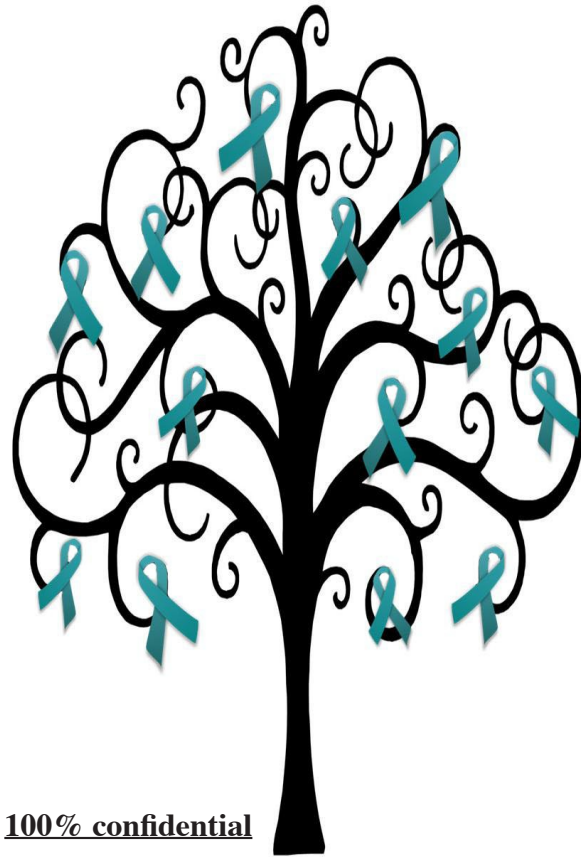
**Come join us for our 3rd Annual
Sexual Assault Awareness Event!!**

Balloon Release & Refreshments

Date: April 3, 2012

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: In front of Building 1 at the AST Complex



1 in 3 Native American women will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime.

1 in 6 women report rape or attempted rape at sometime in her life.

1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually assaulted by the age of 18.

**If you are currently a victim of Sexual Assault and are needing assistance
Please contact Linda Gouge, Sexual Assault Advocate
at 405-275-4030 ext. 206 or Cell 405-585-8348**

Our goal is to provide you with the best services possible. Everything at our agency is kept 100% confidential

PLEASE fill out **EACH BLANK** completely and return by the Deadline

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

I, _____, hereby certify that I am or will be an Eligible Voter
(Print Name)
of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe on or before June 16, 2012. I cannot physically be present to cast
my Vote at the **June 16, 2012 Run Off Election**, therefore, I am requesting an Absentee Ballot be
mailed to me at the following address.

Name (please print): _____ (first) _____ (middle) _____ (last)

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

CDIB#: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

All REQUESTS must be returned to the Election Commission by the deadline of
May 27, 2012

Mail to:

Absentee Shawnee Election Commission
P.O. Box 741
Tecumseh, OK 74873

Fax to:

Fax # (405) 273-1337 (Do not fax to any other fax #)

Phone: (405) 275-4030 ext. 150
Toll free number 1-800-256-3341 ext. 150

Deliver in Person to:

Election Commission Office
located in the Tribal Court Building

All eligible voters are entitled to vote either at the Polls or by Absentee Ballot.
For your convenience - This request may be duplicated

ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY

Received: _____ Approved: _____ Disapproved: _____

If Disapproved (reason): _____

Denial Letter Mailed: _____ Ballot Mailed: _____

Election Commission/Representative

Hello Tribal Members,

Could you please take a few minutes of your time to complete this survey and return it to the AST Domestic Violence Department? You may bring it directly to us (building #3 on the AST complex); mail it to 2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. Shawnee OK. 74801, fax it to (405-273-1192) or email it to Melissal@astribе.com (also found on website www.astribе.com). Please return by April 30, 2012 so that we can proceed in our efforts to provide you with services that meet your needs. If you have any questions you may contact Melissa Lopez or Linda Gouge with the Domestic Violence Department 405-275-4030. Thank you!

Teen Dating Violence/Sexual Assault Survey

1.Circle all that applies to you

- Tribal Member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe
- Employee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe
- Community Member of Little Axe/Norman Area
- Community Member of Shawnee/Tecumseh Area

2.Do you believe Teen Dating Violence is an issue in your community?

3.Do you believe Sexual Assault is an issue in your community?

4.Would you be interested in attending an informational training/workshop on Teen Dating Violence?

5.Would you be interested in attending an informational training/workshop on Sexual Assault?

If you answered yes to either question 4 or 5 what day and time would work best for you to attend? (Please check the box which corresponds to the day you would be able to attend you may choose more than one day)

<p>Monday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Morning: 8:00am to 11:00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon – 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evening – After 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anytime</p>	<p>Tuesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Morning: 8:00am to 11:00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon – 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evening – After 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anytime</p>	<p>Wednesday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Morning: 8:00am to 11:00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon – 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evening – After 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anytime</p>
<p>Thursday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Morning: 8:00am to 11:00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon – 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evening – After 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anytime</p>	<p>Friday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Morning: 8:00am to 11:00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon – 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evening – After 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anytime</p>	<p>Saturday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Morning: 8:00am to 11:00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon – 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evening – After 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anytime</p>
<p>Sunday</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Morning: 8:00am to 11:00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon – 1:00pm to 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Evening – After 5:00pm</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Anytime</p>		

Additional Comments or information that you would like for us to address in future trainings/workshops:



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL MEMBERS

EVERY WEEK RECEIVE \$10 FREE SLOT PLAY

JUST SHOW YOUR ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL CDIB CARD, TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OFFER.



EARN POINTS TOWARD YOUR TBUCKS

SEE PLAYER'S CLUB DESK FOR COMPLETE DETAILS

Foster Parents Needed!!!

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

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

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

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

If you find yourself and your family interested in Foster Care, please contact J.R. Wind
405-275-4030 ext. 195.



"Among The Shawnee"

Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority

107 N. Kimberly, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804

Phone: (405) 273-1050

Come in and visit with us about:

- ❖ Lease with Option to Purchase
- ❖ Rental for Over Income
- ❖ Rental
- ❖ Budget Counseling



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

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

For over 20 years, the month of April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

In continuing to educate the community about child abuse and how people can help, here is a list of potential warning signs if you suspect a child may be a victim of abuse.

Warning signs of Emotional Abuse in children:

- Excessively withdrawn, fearful, or anxious about doing something wrong.
- Shows extremes in behavior (extremely compliant or extremely demanding, extremely passive or extremely aggressive).
- Doesn't seem to be attached to the parent or caregiver
- Acts either inappropriately adult (taking care of other children/siblings) or inappropriately infantile (rocking, thumb sucking, tantruming).

**** Emotional abuse is verbal abuse or an attitude that is degrading a child. This can include name calling, screaming, shaming or negatively comparing a child to another "good" child. Emotional abuse can have long lasting effects on the social and mental health development of a child. ****

Warning signs of Physical Abuse in children:

- Frequent injuries or unexplained bruises, welts, or cuts.
- Is always watchful and "on alert", as if waiting for something bad to happen.
- Injuries appear to have a pattern such as marks from a hand or belt.
- Shies away from touch, flinches at sudden movements, or seems afraid to go home.
- Wears inappropriate clothing to cover up injuries, such as long-sleeved shirts on hot days.

****Physical abuse is an injury purposely inflicted upon a child. This can include kicking, biting, violent shaking, hair pulling, choking, burning or beating. These are just some of this type of abuse. Be concerned if a child has numerous fractures, welts, or bruises in various stages of healing, these can be good reason to be suspicious. If there is a pattern of injuries with explanations that don't add up, this is a serious red flag and should be brought to the attention of social services or some other authority in your area.****

Warning signs of Neglect in children:

- Clothes are ill-fitting, filthy, or inappropriate for weather.
- Hygiene is consistently bad (unbathed, matted and unwashed hair, noticeable body odor).
- Untreated illnesses and physical injuries.
- Is frequently unsupervised or left alone or allowed to play in unsafe situations and environments.
- Is frequently late or missing school.

****Neglect is failing to provide for a child the basic needs. This is can include inappropriate clothing for the weather, unhealthy food, or no food at all, lack of supervision, denial of medical care to a sick or injured child or denial of love and affection.****

Warning signs of Sexual Abuse in children:

- Trouble walking or sitting.
- Displays knowledge or interest in sexual acts inappropriate to his or her age, or even seductive behavior.
- Makes strong efforts to avoid a specific person, without an obvious reason.
- Doesn't want to change clothes in front of other, or participate in physical activities.
- An STD or pregnancy, especially under the age of 14.
- Runs away from home.

****Sexual abuse is any sexual act between a child and an adult. Actual intercourse does not have to occur for a child to be considered sexually abuse. Children can be forced to observe or participate in various sexual acts****

Important numbers:

Department of Human Services Hotline: 800-522-3511
 Absentee Shawnee Tribe ICW: (405)275-4030
 Absentee Shawnee Tribe Law Enforcement(405)275-3200



AST COUNTRY KITCHEN

366-7220

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

Early Bird Breakfast

\$4.99

2 Eggs/Bacon or Sausage/Hash Browns

Biscuits & Gravy or Toast & Coffee

(Not valid on Saturday or Sunday. 1 coupon per customer. With coupon. No substitutions)



Check out our daily homemade lunch special!

Something different every day!

Open 7 Days A Week!



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

Office of Environmental Health & Engineering

- **Tribal Housing Improvements Application**

The Tribal Housing Improvement Program's goal is providing sanitary, safe, and decent housing for its members by utilizing the following criteria to select the most "in need" tribal members with homes that are in disrepair but are still suitable for rehabilitation. All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements and criteria which is approved by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

THIP list all applicants by a priority list:

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

Other Programs available:

- **Sanitation Facilities Assistance Program**

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

Applications are available online on the website: www.astribe.com.

Submit completed application to:

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

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

Wills Clinic

April 19, 2012
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 Little Axe Resource Center

Call OILS at:
 (405) 943-6457 or 1-800-658-1497 to make an appointment. If anyone needs assistance with a will before then, call the same number to make arrangements for an appointment to meet with OILS attorney.



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As a part of **Absentee Shawnee Tribe**, you'll enjoy the **AT&T Sponsorship Program discount and all the other benefits of AT&T:**

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- Keep unused minutes from month to month with Rollover®, only from AT&T[®]
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ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE
OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR.
SHAWNEE, OK 74801

PRSR
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U.S. Postage Paid
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Shawnee, OK 74801

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

**2011
TRIBAL PHONE NUMBERS**

- Tribal Complex (405) 275-4030
- or 1-800 256-3341
- Building Blocks (405) 878-0633
- Health Programs (405) 878-4702
- or 1-877-878-4702
- Little Axe Clinic (405) 447-0300
- Little Axe Dental (405) 307-9704
- Shawnee Clinic (405) 878-5850
- Shawnee Pharmacy (405) 878-5859
- Behavioral Health (405) 878-4716
- LA Resource Center (405) 364-7298
- or (405) 364-7569
- LA Cultural Center (405) 447-3372
- AST Police (405) 275-3200
- or (405) 275-3432
- OEH/OEP (405) 214-4235
- AST Housing Authority (405) 273-1050
- Thunderbird Casino (405) 360-9270
- or 1-800-259-LUCK
- AST Tribal Grocery & SmokeShop Little Axe (405) 364-0668
- AST Country Kitchen (405) 366-7220
- AST Smokeshop in Harrah (405) 454-0055
- ASEDA (405) 878-6782
- or Fax: (405) 878-4542

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Cover art is a selection of Earnest Spybuck painting,
"Shawnee Home Life About 1890" ca. 1910